



Oral Health in America: *A Forthcoming Surgeon General's Report*

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and Craniofacial Research

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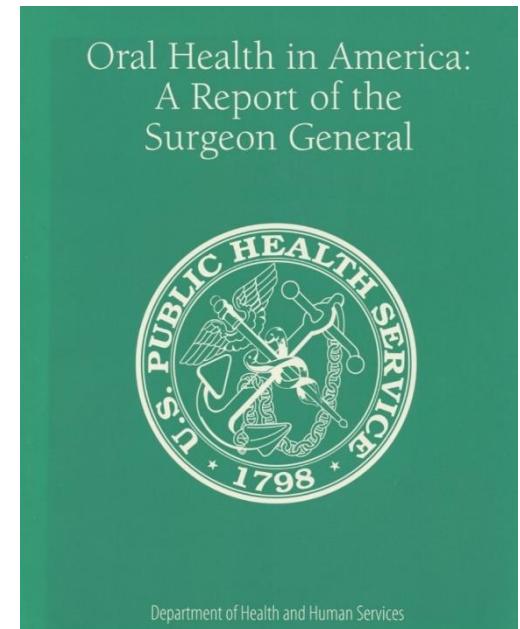
The SG Report on Oral Health (2000)

Oral health means much more than healthy teeth

Oral health is integral to general health

Safe and effective measures exist that everyone can adopt to improve ***oral health*** and prevent disease

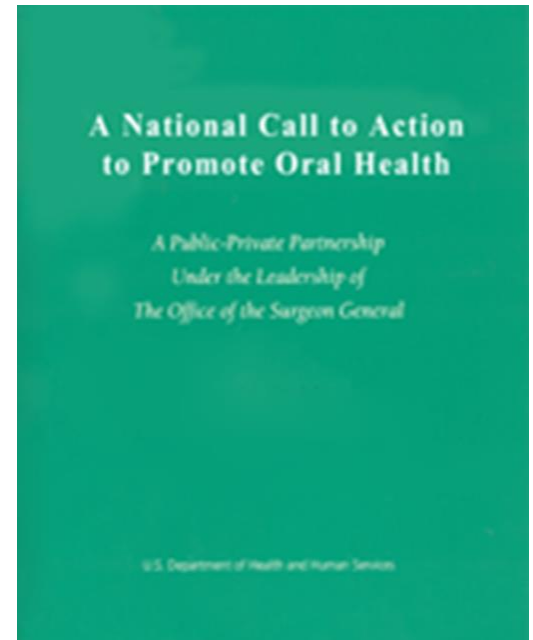
General health risk factors, such as tobacco use and poor dietary practices, also affect ***oral and craniofacial health***



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The SG's Call to Action (2003)

- Change perceptions of *oral health*
- Replicate effective programs
- Build the science base
- Increase oral health workforce diversity, capacity, and flexibility
- Increase collaborations



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Key Policy Initiatives Following First SG Report

Public Policy

- Congressional efforts to effect change—2009 CHIP reauthorization
Incentivized states to increase enrollment of eligible children in Medicaid

Professional Societies' Policies

- Adoption of various policies and guidelines by dental and medical organizations (ADA, AAPD, AAP)
 - Concept of a Dental Home*
 - Early first regular dental visit (Age 1)*
 - Clinical guidelines for risk-based dental caries prevention and management*
 - Guidelines for oral health care during pregnancy*

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The World we Live in has Changed Greatly in the Past 20 Years

Digitization of everything

- Communication and technology
- Information management - data



Delivery of services

- Consolidation – convenience and economic efficiencies
- Accountable care organizations

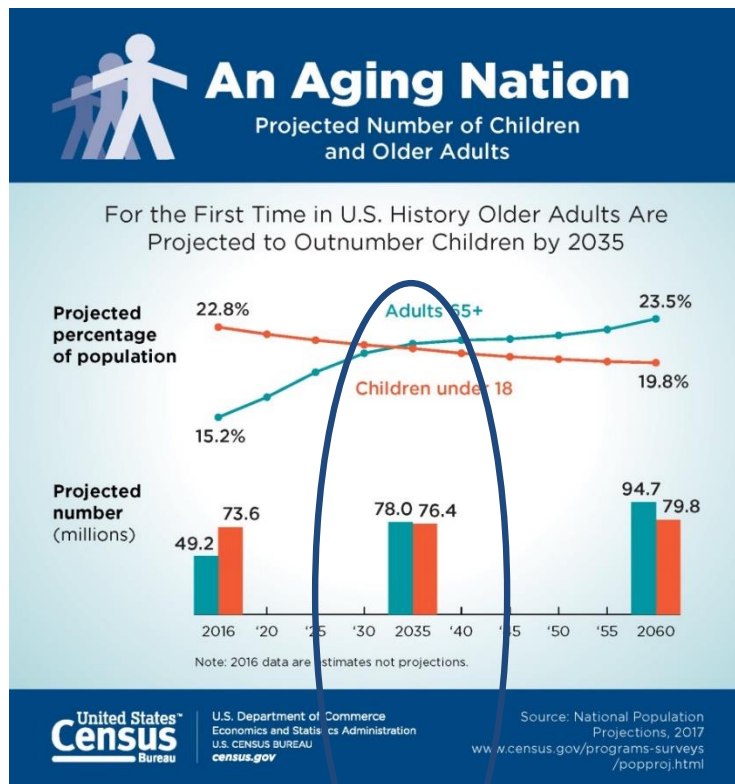
Demographic changes

- 45 million more of us
- We are more diverse, more urban, and older



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Aging of America is Very Important



By 2035 there may be more older adults than youth in the US

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Surgeon General's Priorities

- Opioids and Addiction
- Tobacco
- Community Health and Economic Prosperity
- Health and National Security
- Emerging Public Health Threats
- **Oral Health**



JEROME M. ADAMS, M.D., M.P.H.
Vice Admiral, U.S. Public Health Service
Surgeon General

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The Charge from the Surgeon General

The report will describe and evaluate ***oral health*** and the interaction between ***oral health*** and general health throughout the lifespan, considering advances in science, health care integration, and social influences to articulate promising new directions for improving ***oral health*** and oral health equity across communities.

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Main Sections of the Forthcoming SG Report

1. Effect of Oral Health on the Community, Overall Well-being, and the Economy
2. Oral Health in Children and Adolescents
3. Oral Health in Working Adults and Older Adults
4. Oral Health Integration, Workforce, and Practice
5. Effects of Addiction and Mental Illness on Oral Health
6. Emerging Technologies and Promising Science to Transform Oral Health

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What “Big” Questions We Would Like to Answer

We want the forthcoming Report to tell us:

- Where we are now,
- Where we have made advances since 2000,
- What challenges persist since the last report, and
- What are some promising new directions that give us hope for improvement in oral health over the next 2-3 decades.

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What We Want a New Report to Do

- Emphasize the importance of poor ***oral health*** as a public health issue
- Reinforce the importance of ***oral health*** throughout life
- Describe important contemporary issues affecting ***oral health***
- Outline a vision for future directions, and
- Educate, encourage, and call upon all Americans to take action

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- **SGROH January Webinar:**
<https://www.nidcr.nih.gov/news-events/webinar-surgeon-general-report-oral-health>
- **Questions:**
E-mail to: NIDCR-SGROH@nidcr.nih.gov

Free – Ask for one today

