



Department
of Health &
Social Care

Supervised toothbrushing

LGA supervised toothbrushing webinar

7 October 2024

Removal of decayed teeth is the most common reason for a 5-9 year old child to be admitted to hospital in England

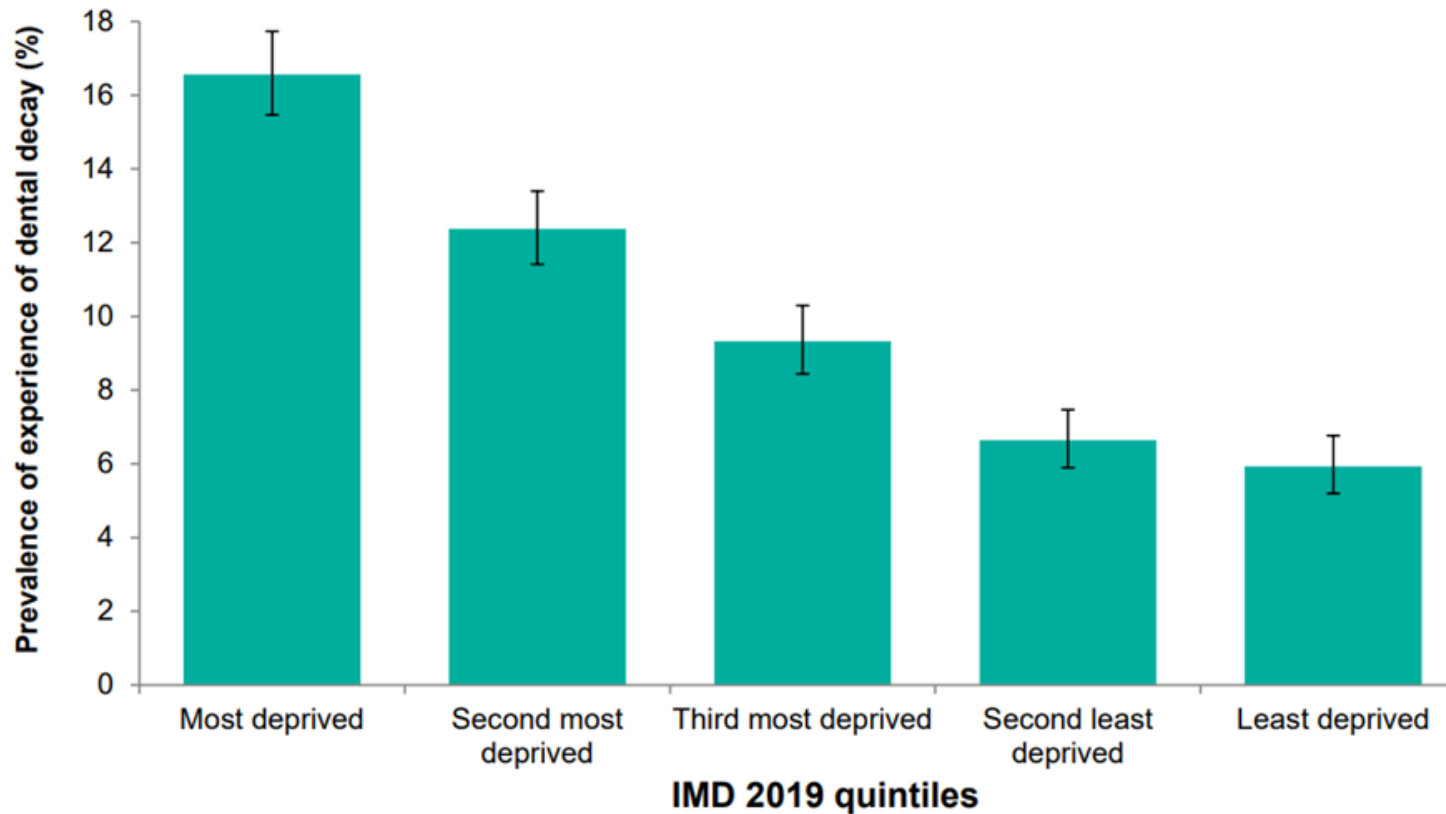


Image courtesy of British Society of Paediatric Dentistry

- Decay can cause pain leading to problems with eating, sleeping, communication and socialising, as well as resulting in time away from education and work for parent/carers.
- Good oral health a key indicator of school readiness.
- Dental disease is almost always preventable.

In England, 10.7% of 3-year-old children surveyed had experience of dental decay. Those in the most deprived areas of the country (16.6%) were nearly 3 times as likely to have experience of dental decay than those in the least deprived areas (5.9%)

Figure 16: Prevalence of experience of dental decay in 3-year-olds in England, 2020 by national Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) 2019 quintiles.

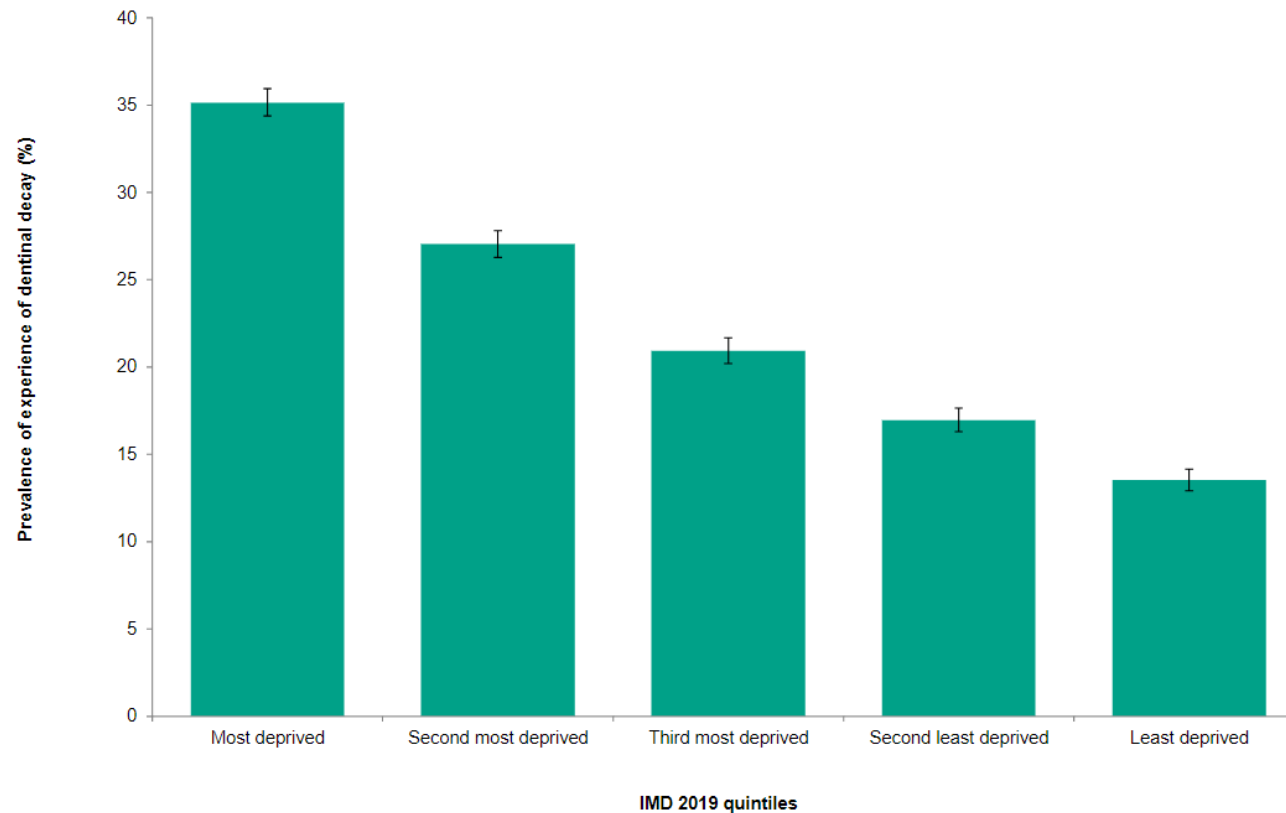


Note: error bars represent 95% confidence limits.



In England, 23.7% of 5-year-old children surveyed had experience of dentinal decay. Those in the most deprived 20% of areas of the country (35.1%) were 2.5 times as likely to have experience of dentinal decay as those in the least deprived 20% of areas (13.5%).

Figure 17: Prevalence of experience of dentinal decay in 5 year olds in England, 2022 by national IMD 2019 quintiles.



Targeted supervised toothbrushing programme for 3, 4 and 5 year olds

- Early Years Foundation Stage.
- Local oral health needs strategies and existing interventions.
- NHS Core20PLUS5.
- Budget 30 October.
- Existing local provision varied.
- Ensures this remains stable.
- Recognise capacity constraints. There are 'enablers'.
- Availability of implementation advice, practicalities and know-how.