

# Snapshot **FILLING THE GAP**

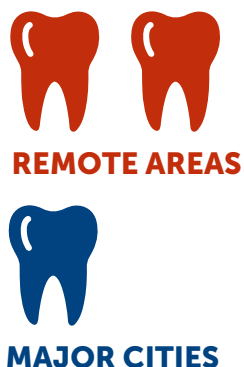


Royal Flying Doctor Service

## Startling facts regarding **ORAL HEALTH ACCESS IN COUNTRY AUSTRALIA**

### **CHILDREN IN REMOTE AREAS HAVE 2X MORE TEETH FILLED**

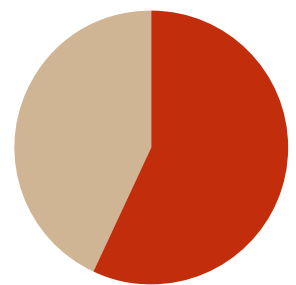
The number of filled teeth in remote area children is double than for children in major cities.



# 57%

### **OF INDIGENOUS AUSTRALIANS HAVE TEETH AFFECTED BY DECAY**

More than half (57%) of Indigenous Australians have one or more teeth affected by decay.



### **UNTREATED TOOTH DECAY**

**37%**

**REMOTE AREAS**

**23%**

**MAJOR CITIES**

A quarter (23%) of adults in major cities have untreated tooth decay, but this rises to one third (37%) of remote area residents.

### **CHILDHOOD CAVITY RATES**

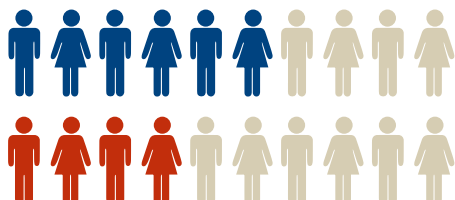


# 55%

**HIGHER FOR REMOTE AREA CHILDREN**

Childhood cavities are 55% higher for remote area children than children in major cities.

### **VISITED A DENTIST IN THE LAST YEAR**



**MAJOR CITIES**

**REMOTE AREAS**

Six in ten major city adults visited a dentist in a year, compared to little more than four in ten visiting a dentist in remote areas.

**Tooth decay in remote and regional Australia is entirely preventable.** Public policy, research, strategies and funding must give all Australians a fair go.

Data from multiple sources



**FILLING THE GAP**  
DISPARITIES IN ORAL HEALTH  
ACCESS AND OUTCOMES IN  
REMOTE AND RURAL AUSTRALIA  
Helen Lyne and Lee Wong

Research Report | September 2015



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