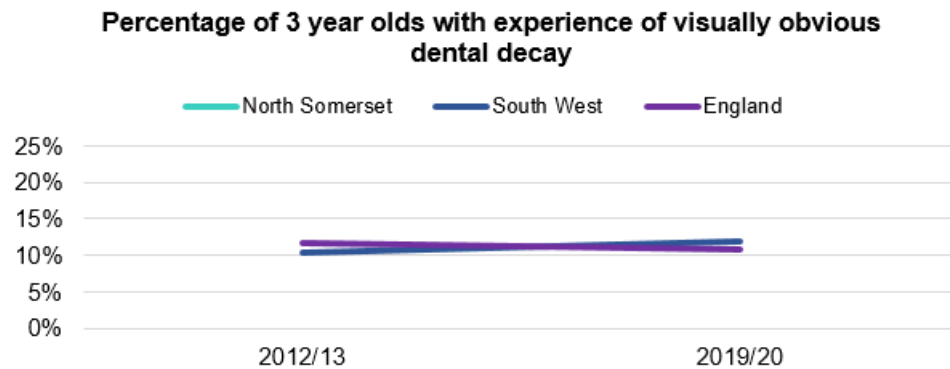


Spotlight report: oral health

Percentage of 3-year-olds with experience of visually obvious dental decay

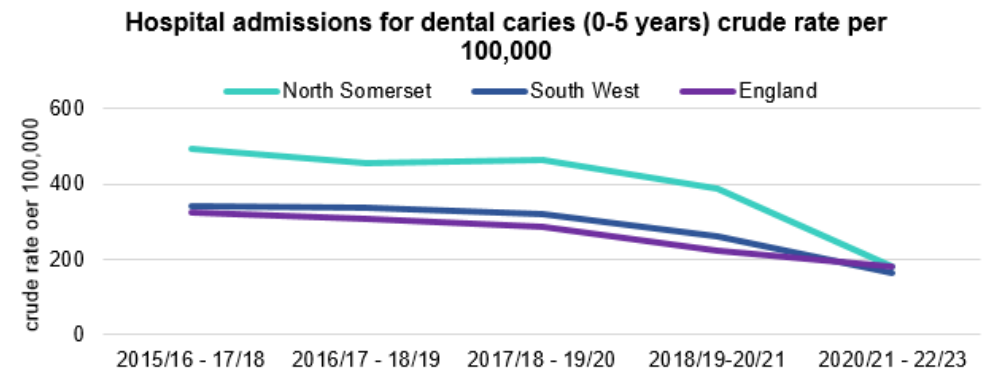
The Dental Public Health Epidemiology Programme for England surveys [three-year-old children](#) for signs of visually obvious dental decay. In 2019/20, 11.8% of three-year-olds surveyed across the South West had visually obvious decay compared to 10.7% nationally. Data is not available at North Somerset level due to the small sample size but was similar to regional and national averages in the last data set from 2012/13.



Percentage of 5-year-olds with experience of visually obvious dental decay

The Dental Public Health Epidemiology Programme for England surveys [five-year-old children](#) for signs of visually obvious dental decay. In 2020/21-22/23, the rate of five-year-olds surveyed across North Somerset with visually obvious decay decreased, similar to South West and England.

North Somerset has improved significantly since 2011/12 when 30% of five-year-old children had signs of visually obvious dental decay.



Children are more at risk of developing tooth decay if they are:

- Eating a poor diet,
- Brushing their teeth less than twice per day with fluoride toothpaste,
- They are from deprived backgrounds.

10.4% of children under the age of 16 years in North Somerset are from [low-income families](#) (absolute) compared to 13.1% in the South West and 15.3% nationally. The percentage of children in low-income families in North Somerset has decreased since 2014/15.

[Health matters: child dental health](#)

Children in absolute low income families (under 16s)

