## United **Concordia** dental

## Racial/Ethnic Oral Health Disparities in Children

## **Did You Know?**



**About half of all American children do not receive regular dental care** because of social, economic and geographic obstacles.<sup>1</sup>

Mexican American and non-Hispanic Black children are more than twice as likely to have untreated dental caries than non-Hispanic White children.<sup>2</sup>

American Indian and Alaska Native children have the highest rates of dental caries in the United States.<sup>3</sup>

Non-Hispanic White Children are more likely to have dental sealants than non-Hispanic Black and Asian children.<sup>2</sup>

On average, **over 34 million school hours are lost each year** in the United States because of unplanned dental care.<sup>4</sup>

Sources: 1. National Institutes of Health. Oral Health in America; Advances and Challenges. Bethesda, MD: US Department of Health and Human Services, National Institutes of Health, National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research, 2021. 2. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Oral Health Surveillance Report: Trends in Dental Caries and Sealants, Tooth Retention, and Edentulism, United States, 1999-2004 to 2011-2016; Atlanta, GA: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, US Dept of Health and Human Services; 2019. 3. Phipps KR, Ricks TL, Mork NP, Lozon TL. The Oral Health of American Indian and Alaska Native Children Aged 1–5 Years: Results of the 2018–19 IHS Oral Health Survey. Indian Health Service Data Brief; 2019. 4. Naavaal S, Kelekar U. School hours lost due to acute/unplanned dental care. Health Behav Policy Rev.; 2018.