

## **Survey Answers: 2014 Community Water Fluoridation Survey**

Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey. This survey was prepared by the Michigan Department of Community Health. The purpose is to determine the knowledge and awareness among Michigan residents of community water fluoridation.

This survey consists of 12 questions and should take approximately 5 minutes to complete. Please answer each question to the best of your ability. If a question makes you feel uncomfortable you may skip it. Your responses will be confidential. We do not collect identifying information such as your name, email address or IP address.

If you have any questions about the survey please contact Susan Deming at [DemingS@michigan.gov](mailto:DemingS@michigan.gov)

*The following questions are about your knowledge of community water fluoridation. Community water fluoridation is the process of adjusting the natural fluoride level in drinking water to reduce dental decay. Please mark which answer best fits the question or statement and if you are unsure mark don't know.*

1. Community water fluoridation can reduce dental decay by 18-40% in populations.  
 **True: Depending on when and how long a person is exposed to fluoridated drinking water dental decay reductions vary by community. Even with other available sources of fluoride, studies show that water fluoridation reduces tooth decay by about 25 percent over a person's lifetime.**  
 False  
 Don't Know
2. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) listed community water fluoridation as one of the 10 greatest public health achievements of the 20<sup>st</sup> century.  
 **True: CDC is a strong proponent of community water fluoridation as a public health measure to reduce dental decay in populations. Data from 2012 shows 6 million more Americans are benefitting from community water fluoridation since 2010.**  
 False  
 Don't Know
3. The proposed optimal fluoride level for water systems as reported from the CDC is:  
 4.0 mg/L(ppm)  
 2.0 mg/L  
 1.0 mg/L  
 **0.7 mg/L Although still unofficial, the CDC will be releasing its recommendation of the optimal fluoride level in drinking water to .7ppm/ or mg/L instead of the current recommended range of .7-1.2 ppm sometime in 2014.**  
 Don't Know

4. Water systems that adjust for fluoride in their drinking water need to test their fluoride levels on an annual basis to insure optimal levels for dental decay reductions.
- True
- False: *Water systems should be testing fluoride levels on a daily basis!***
- Don't Know
5. Cost savings to larger communities that adjust for fluoride levels can be \$38 for every dollar spent on fluoridation.
- True: ... *This is based on a CDC study on larger communities that adjust for fluoridation***
- False
- Don't Know
6. There have been over 3,000 studies on the safety and effectiveness of community water fluoridation since its inception in Michigan in 1945.
- True: ...*See the links on last page to find the most credible information on fluoridation***
- False
- Don't Know

***Please read each statement below and decide which answer best describes your beliefs and attitudes on community water fluoridation. (No correct answers as these are opinion questions)***

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	Don't Know
7. Community water fluoridation is a health benefit for the public	1	2	3	4	5	99
8. Community water should be adjusted, if needed, for fluoridation for all water systems	1	2	3	4	5	99
9. I support my community adding fluoride to the public water supply	1	2	3	4	5	99

**This is the end of the survey! Thank you for taking the time to complete. If you would like more information on water fluoridation you can visit the following reliable website resources for information on community water fluoridation: *Take this section with you!***

*Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC):*

<http://www.cdc.gov/fluoridation/>

*Environmental Protection Agency (EPA):*

<http://water.epa.gov/drink/contaminants/basicinformation/fluoride.cfm>

*PEW Charitable Trusts:* <http://www.pewstates.org/research/analysis/water-fluoridation-frequently-asked-questions-85899379776>

*Michigan Department of Community Health:*

<https://www.michigan.gov/oralhealth>

*Michigan Oral Health Coalition:*

<http://www.mohc.org/files/2012%20CWF%20Community%20Toolkit.pdf>

**\*\* Get the answers to the questions in this survey and information on community water fluoridation at the Oral Health Program Website: [www.mdch/oralhealth](http://www.mdch/oralhealth)**