**Indicator Definition:** Percentage of third grade children with dental decay, caries, and sealants.

**Indicator Overview:**
- Tooth decay affects children in the United States more than any chronic or infectious disease.
- Tooth decay is preventable in children through a combination of dental sealants and fluoride.
- Untreated tooth decay in children may lead to problems such as eating, speaking, playing and learning due to the pain and infections that can occur.

**Percentage of Michigan Third Grade Children with Dental Decay, Caries, and Sealants, 2009-2010**

**Trends:** In Michigan, the Upper Peninsula is the region with the highest percentage of children who have received sealants. Wayne County is the region with the highest percentage of children who have untreated decay and second lowest region with percentage of children with caries.

**Links to Other Sources of Information:**

**Links to Related Public Health Programs:**
MDCH: Community Water Fluoridation Program: [http://www.michigan.gov/mdch/0,4612,7-132-2942_4911_4912_6226-112595--,00.html](http://www.michigan.gov/mdch/0,4612,7-132-2942_4911_4912_6226-112595--,00.html)
MDCH: SEAL! Michigan Dental Sealant Program: [http://www.michigan.gov/mdch/0,4612,7-132-2942_4911_4912_6226-112595--,00.html](http://www.michigan.gov/mdch/0,4612,7-132-2942_4911_4912_6226-112595--,00.html)