Solomon Islands

**ORAL HEALTH COUNTRY PROFILE**

### ORAL DISEASE BURDEN

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prevalence of oral diseases (2019)$^3$</th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prevalence of untreated caries of deciduous teeth in children 1-9 years (%)</td>
<td>47.8</td>
<td>36.2</td>
<td>36.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prevalence of untreated caries of permanent teeth 5+ years (%)</td>
<td>2.3</td>
<td>5.2</td>
<td>5.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prevalence of severe periodontal disease in people 15+ years (%)</td>
<td>5.2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prevalence of edentulism in people 20+ years (%)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Lip and oral cavity cancer, all ages (2020)$^4$

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of new cases</th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Incidence rate (per 100 000 population)</th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1.8</td>
<td>2.9</td>
<td>2.4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### RISK FACTORS FOR ORAL DISEASES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Risk factors (2019)$^5$</th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Per capita availability of sugar (g/day)</td>
<td>...</td>
<td>...</td>
<td>29.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prevalence of current tobacco use, 15+ years (%)</td>
<td>19.6</td>
<td>53.9</td>
<td>36.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Per capita alcohol consumption, 15+ years (litres of pure alcohol/year)</td>
<td>0.6</td>
<td>2.9</td>
<td>1.7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### ECONOMIC IMPACT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Economic impact related to treatment and prevention of oral diseases (2019)$^6$</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total expenditure on dental healthcare in million (US$)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Per capita expenditure on dental healthcare (US$)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total productivity losses due to 5 oral diseases in million (US$)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Affordability of fluoride toothpaste</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of labour days needed to buy annual supply of fluoride toothpaste per person</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### NATIONAL HEALTH SYSTEM RESPONSE

#### Policies, measures and resources (2021)$^7$

- Implementation of tax on sugar-sweetened beverages (SSB): yes
- Existence of a national oral health policy/strategy/action plan (operational/drafting stage): no
- Presence of dedicated staff for oral health working on NCDs at the MoH: no
- Noma recognized as a national public health problem: no

#### Oral health workforce$^8$

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Data year</th>
<th>Total number</th>
<th>Per 10 000 population (2014-2019)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>0.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>0.7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Availability of procedures for detecting, managing and treating oral diseases in the primary care facilities in the public health sector (2021)$^9$

- Oral health screening for early detection of oral diseases: available
- Urgent treatment for providing emergency oral care & pain relief: available
- Basic restorative dental procedures to treat existing dental decay: available

#### Oral health interventions as part of health benefit packages (2021)$^{10}$

- Coverage of the largest government health financing scheme (% of the population): ...
- Routine and preventive oral health care: yes
- Essential curative oral health care: yes
- Advanced curative oral health care: yes
- Rehabilitation oral health care: yes
Total population in thousands (2020)
Population estimates as of 1 July 2020 presented in thousands. (Data source: United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA), Population Division. World Population Prospects 2022, Online Edition; 2022.)

Per capita current health expenditure in PPP int (2019)
Per capita current expenditures on health expressed in respective currency - international Purchasing Power Parity (PPP) dollar. (Data source: WHO Global Health Observatory; 2019.)

Prevalence of oral diseases (2019)
Estimated prevalence of untreated caries of deciduous teeth in children 1-9 years:
Rate of children between 1-9 years who have untreated caries in one or more deciduous teeth. Untreated caries is defined as a lesion in a pit or fissure, or on a smooth tooth surface, that has an unmistakable cavity, undermined enamel, or a detectably softened or floor or wall (coronal caries), or feels soft or leathery to probing (root caries).

Estimated prevalence of untreated caries of permanent teeth in people 5+ years:
Rate of persons older than 5 years with one more carious permanent teeth. Untreated caries is defined as a lesion in a pit or fissure, or on a smooth tooth surface, that has an unmistakable cavity, undermined enamel, or a detectably softened floor or wall (coronal caries), or feels soft or leathery to probing (root caries).

Estimated prevalence of severe periodontal disease in people 15+ years:
Rate of persons aged 15 years and older affected by severe periodontal disease, a chronic inflammation of the soft and hard tissues that support and anchor the teeth. Severe periodontal disease is defined as a gingival pocket depth equal or more than 6 mm, or Community Periodontal Index of Treatment Needs (CPITN) also referred to as Community Periodontal Index (CPI) score of 4, or a clinical attachment loss (CAL) more than 6 mm.

Estimated prevalence of edentulism in people 20+ years:
Rate of persons older than 20 years with complete loss of natural teeth.

Estimated prevalence of severe periodontal disease.
In people 15+ years:
Rate of persons aged 15 years and older affected by severe periodontal disease, a chronic inflammation of the soft and hard tissues that support and anchor the teeth. Severe periodontal disease is defined as a gingival pocket depth equal or more than 6 mm, or Community Periodontal Index of Treatment Needs (CPITN) also referred to as Community Periodontal Index (CPI) score of 4, or a clinical attachment loss (CAL) more than 6 mm.

Affordability of fluoride toothpaste (number of labour days needed to buy annual supply of fluoride toothpaste per person):
Number of labour days needed to buy the recommended annual supply of fluoride toothpaste for one person based on the daily wage of the lowest-skilled government worker. Fluoride toothpaste is categorized as affordable if one day or less (≤ 1) of labour is needed and as unaffordable if more than one day (> 1) of labour is needed to buy the annual supply for one individual. (Data source: WHO; 2019.)

National health system response
Policies, measures and resources (2021)
Implementation of tax on sugar-sweetened beverages (SSB): Status of implementation of taxes on sugar-sweetened beverages (SSB). “Yes” responses refer to the application of excise taxes and/or special VAT/sales tax rates.
Existence of a national oral health policy/strategy/action plan (operational/drafting stage):
Status of implementation of a policy, strategy, or action plan for oral health. “Yes” refers to a policy, strategy, or action plan for oral health that is operational or under development, and “no” refers to a policy, strategy, or action plan for oral health that is not in effect or where no response was given.

Economic impact
Total expenditure on dental healthcare in million (US$):
Estimate of total annual national expenditure on dental healthcare in outpatient dental care (public and private) in 2019.

Per capita expenditure on dental healthcare (US$):
Estimate of the annual national per capita expenditure on dental healthcare for outpatient dental care (public and private) in 2019.

Total productivity losses due to 5 oral diseases in million (US$):
Estimate of total productivity losses in 2019 resulting from combined impact of 5 untreated oral diseases including caries in deciduous and permanent teeth, severe periodontal disease, edentulism, and other oral conditions as defined by GBD.

Economic impact related to oral diseases, treatment and prevention (2019)
Total expenditure on dental healthcare in million (US$):
Estimate of total annual national expenditure on dental healthcare in outpatient dental care (public and private) in 2019.

Per capita expenditure on dental healthcare (US$):
Estimate of the annual national per capita expenditure on dental healthcare for outpatient dental care (public and private) in 2019.

Total productivity losses due to 5 oral diseases in million (US$):
Estimate of total productivity losses in 2019 resulting from combined impact of 5 untreated oral diseases including caries in deciduous and permanent teeth, severe periodontal disease, edentulism, and other oral conditions as defined by GBD.

Oral health interventions as part of health benefit packages (2021)
Inclusion of oral health interventions in public health Benefit Packages: The extent to which oral health interventions are included in the largest national government financing scheme. The term “largest” is defined as having the highest total population eligible to receive services, while the term “government” is defined as including any public sector scheme for health service provision, including coverage for groups such as the general population, public sector employees and/or the military. Interventions comprise:
• Routine and preventive oral health care
• Essential curative oral health care (including non- surgical extraction and drainage of abscesses)
• Advanced curative oral/dental care (including resin composite and dental amalgam including fillings, complex fillings, root canal treatment).
• Rehabilitative oral health care (including crowns and bridges, dentures, orthodontics, dental implants).

Oral health workforce
Dental assistants and therapists:
Dental assistants and therapists provide basic dental care services for the prevention and treatment of diseases and disorders of the teeth and mouth, according to care plans and procedures established by a dentist or other oral health professionals. The category of dental assistants and therapists also includes dental hygienist and dental nurses.

Dental prosthetic technicians:
Dental prosthetic technicians design, fit, service and repair dental devices and appliances following prescriptions or instructions established by a health professional. They may serve a wide range of support instruments to correct dental problems, such as dentures, and dental crowns and bridges.

Dentists:
Dentists diagnose, treat and prevent diseases, injuries and abnormalities of the teeth, mouth, jaws and associated tissues by applying the principles and procedures of modern dentistry. They use a broad range of specialized diagnostic, surgical and other techniques to promote and restore oral health.

Per 10 000 population (2014-2019):
Describes the ratio of the respective oral health professionals per 10 000 population (latest available data between 2014-2019). (Data source: The National Health Workforce Accounts (NHWA) data platform, WHO, 2020.)

Oral health interventions as part of health benefit packages (2021)
Inclusion of oral health interventions in public health Benefit Packages: The extent to which oral health interventions are included in the largest national government financing scheme. The term “largest” is defined as having the highest total population eligible to receive services, while the term “government” is defined as including any public sector scheme for health service provision, including coverage for groups such as the general population, public sector employees and/or the military. Interventions comprise:
• Routine and preventive oral health care
• Essential curative oral health care (including non- surgical extraction and drainage of abscesses)
• Advanced curative oral/dental care (including resin composite and dental amalgam including fillings, complex fillings, root canal treatment).
• Rehabilitative oral health care (including crowns and bridges, dentures, orthodontics, dental implants).

(Data source: WHO Health Technology Assessment and Health Benefit Package Survey; 2021.)