More people drinking fluoridated water in the US than ever before

Information from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) shows that community water fluoridation schemes are serving a record total of 211.4 million people across the United States.

It means that 66.3% of the US population are now benefiting from this public health measure (or 74.4% of those connected to public water supplies).

The figures reflect the position as at 31st December 2014, following the latest CDC biennial survey of the extent of community water fluoridation coverage. http://www.cdc.gov/fluoridation/statistics/2014stats.htm

Figures in the three previous national surveys were 199.5 million in 2012; 194.2 million in 2010; and 186.7 million in 2008.

All water contains fluoride naturally. The figures quoted above exclude people whose public water supply has a natural fluoride content at or above the optimal level for oral health. In CDC’s 2014 survey, nearly 12 million people were found to be in this category.

States with the highest percentages of people supplied with fluoridated water (whether from community water fluoridation schemes or because they receive water with a naturally occurring fluoride content at the optimal level) included Kentucky (99.9%); Minnesota (98.8%); Illinois (98.5%); North Dakota (96.7%); Maryland (96.4%); Georgia (96.3%); Virginia (95.8%); Indiana (94.7%); South Dakota (93.6%); South Carolina (93.3%); Iowa (92.7%); and Ohio (92.6%).

Major US cities with community water fluoridation schemes include New York, Los Angeles, Chicago, Washington DC, Houston, Phoenix, Philadelphia, Boston, Atlanta, Dallas, Detroit, San Francisco, Seattle, Denver, Las Vegas, Miami and Minneapolis.