Child and Adolescent Oral Health in the District of Columbia

From the 2017 District of Columbia Oral Health Surveillance System (DC OHSS)

Healthcare Access

8 in 10 DC children (age 1-17) had a dental visit in the previous year (82.3%), reported by a parent.

SOURCE: National Survey of Children’s Health (NSCH) Survey Data, 2011/12

About 72% of the children (age 1-18) in DC were enrolled in Medicaid in 2015.

59.6% of Medicaid Children (age 1-18) had a dental visit in the past year.

56.0% of Medicaid Children (age 1-18) had a preventive dental visit in the past year.


School-Based Programs

All Seven (7) School-Based Health Centers (SBHC) provided oral health services during school year 2016-17.

4535 students were enrolled in schools with a SBHC.

6.2% of the students enrolled in schools with SBHC utilized the oral health services during the 2016-17 school year.

SOURCE: DC DOH School Health Center Data, School Year 2016-2017

34.9% of the students were referred out for restorative care.

DC’s SBOHP contracts with the vendors who provide preventive dental services in DC public and charter schools. Students who need restorative services are referred to community dentists.

4937 students received preventive dental care through the School Based Oral Health Program (SBOHP).

SOURCE: DC DOH School-Based Oral Health Program Data, School Year 2015-2016

Long-lasting Protective

21.5% (Age 6-9) Medicaid Children received dental sealants on one or more permanent molars.

23.9% (Age 10-14)

3362 SBOHP Participants (49.7%) received dental sealants on one or more permanent molars.


SOURCE: DC DOH School-Based Oral Health Program Data, School Year 2015-2016