

Diabetes and dental visits among North Dakota adults on Medicaid, 2024

Diabetes and oral health are closely connected. People with diabetes are more likely to have gum problems, dry mouth and other health issues. These problems can affect overall health and make blood sugar levels harder to control. That's why people with diabetes should see both their healthcare provider and dentist regularly.

North Dakota patients covered by Medicaid in 2024

- 6,455 North Dakotans ages 21 and older covered by Medicaid have been diagnosed with Type 1 or Type 2 diabetes.
- Only 33% had a medical checkup in the past year.
- Only 19% had a dental visit in the past year.



Four out of five adults covered by Medicaid who have diabetes did not visit a dentist in 2024.

Barriers to dental care for persons with diabetes who are covered by Medicaid

Individuals covered by Medicaid are less likely than those self-pay or who have private insurance to access dental care. Access to dental care is limited in part because the number of dental providers in the state who accept Medicaid patients is not sufficient to meet demand. In addition, few community health centers offer dental services on a sliding-fee scale, with priority given to households eligible for Medicaid.

Opportunities for medical-dental integration

- Provide patient education on the connection between diabetes and oral health and oral health, including oral home care instructions.
- Use bidirectional referral systems to communicate between medical and dental practices.
- Emphasize the importance of regular medical and dental appointments.

Toolkits for successful medical-dental integration

- Dental teams can identify patients at risk for diabetes, discuss the connection between oral and overall health and refer patients to medical providers for evaluation and testing. Tools such as the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's [Prediabetes Risk Test](#) can support chair-side conversations and help guide appropriate medical referrals.
- Medical providers should conduct oral health assessments of their patients. [Smiles for Life](#), a national oral health curriculum, offers various training to educate medical providers on oral health conditions and teach them how to do an oral health assessment.

More information

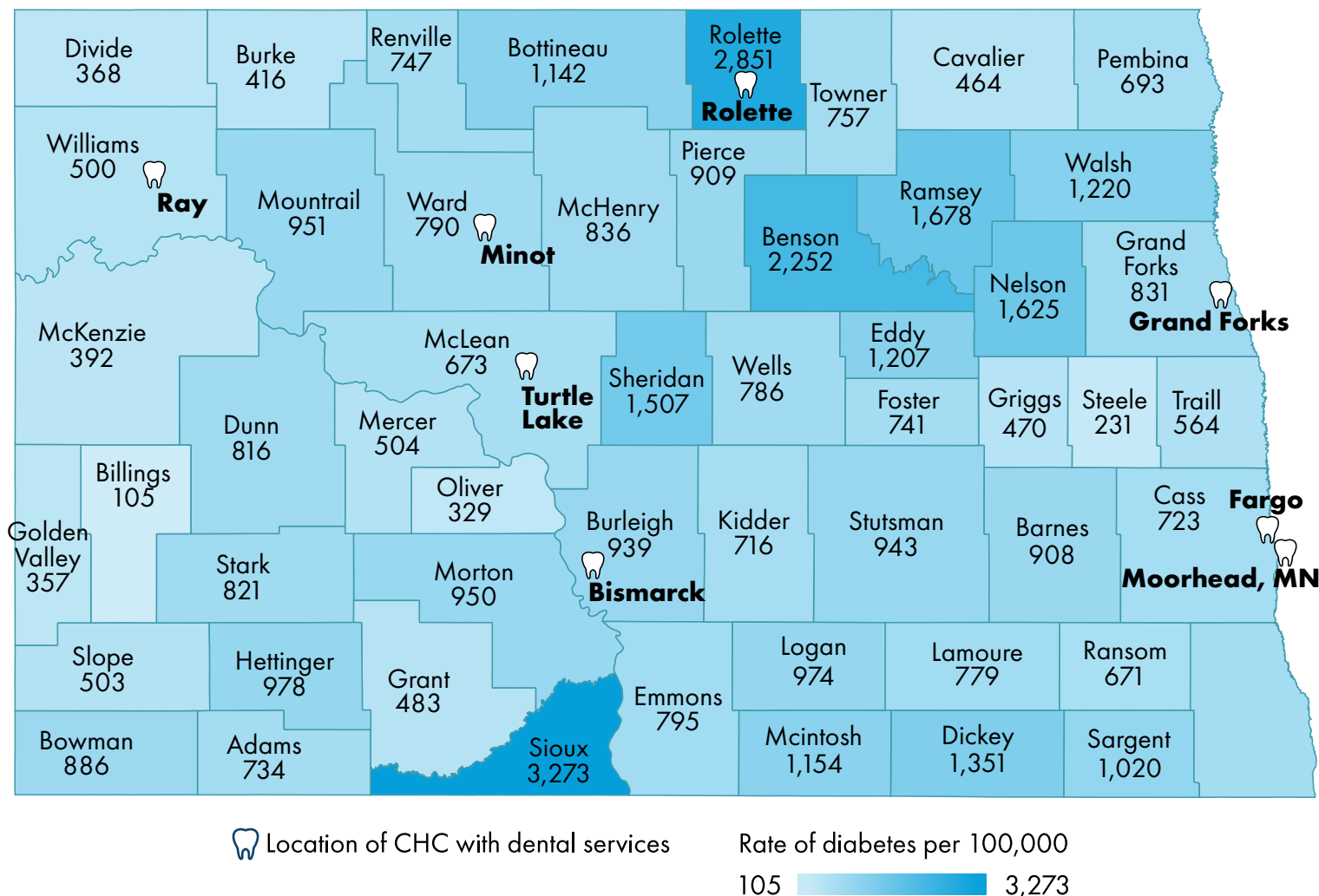
Find a dentist who accepts North Dakota Medicaid. Visit [Home](#) | [InsureKidsNow.gov](#)
[North Dakota Diabetes Prevention & Control Program](#) | North Dakota Health and Human Services

Contact

Oral Health Program: 701-328-4930 or 711 (TTY)

Diabetes Prevention & Control Program: 701-382-2698 or 711 (TTY)

Rate of diabetes per 100,000 for North Dakota Medicaid recipients in 2024 and locations of Community Health Centers (CHC) with dental services.



Map of North Dakota broken down by county. Each county shows the rate of diabetes per 100,000 for North Dakota Medicaid recipients in 2024 and locations of Community Health Centers (CHC) with dental services.

The image of teeth on the map show the locations of the CHCs with dental services.

Rate of diabetes per 100,000 by county (listed alphabetically) according to 2024 Medicaid data:

Adams: 734	Cavalier: 464	Grant: 483	McLean: 673	Ransom: 671	Steele: 231
Barnes: 908	Dickey: 1,351	Griggs: 470	Mercer: 504	Renville: 747	Stutsman: 943
Benson: 2,252	Divide: 368	Hettinger: 978	Morton: 950	Richland: 743	Towner: 757
Billings: 105	Dunn: 816	Kidder: 716	Mountrail: 951	Rolette: 2,851	Traill: 564
Bottineau: 1,142	Eddy: 1,207	Lamoure: 779	Nelson: 1,625	Sargent: 1,020	Walsh: 1,220
Bowman: 886	Emmons: 795	Logan: 974	Oliver: 329	Sheridan: 1,507	Ward: 790
Burke: 416	Foster: 741	McHenry: 836	Pembina: 693	Sioux: 3,273	Wells: 786
Burleigh: 939	Golden Valley: 357	McIntosh: 1,154	Pierce: 909	Slope: 503	Williams: 500
Cass: 723	Grand Forks: 831	McKenzie: 392	Ramsey: 1,678	Stark: 821	