

Fifty schools in ND participated in a school-based sealant program during the 2021-2022 school year, making a difference in the oral health and well-being of nearly 1,200 students!

The North Dakota Oral Health Program (OHP) has established a school-based dental sealant program (SEALIND).

The program has been providing dental sealants, fluoride varnish applications, oral health education, dental screenings, and dental referrals for students throughout North Dakota (ND), dating back to 2012.

During the 2021-2022 School Year, there were:



50 schools that participated



1,684 students screened by a dental provider



2,460 applications of fluoride varnish



3,882 teeth protected with dental sealants



930 students referred for follow-up dental care

Percentages of students needing early or urgent dental care have never been as high as they were during the most recent school year, 2021-2022.

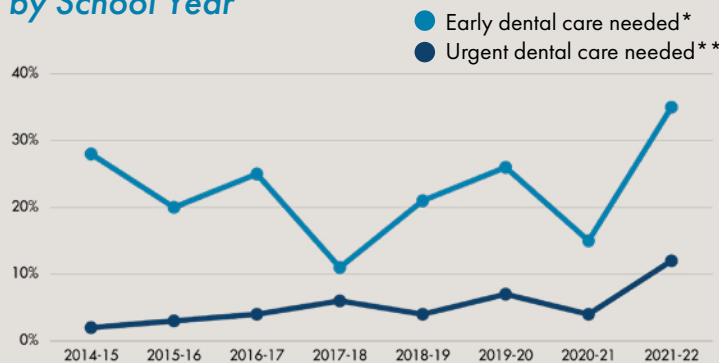
More than 1 in 3 students needed early dental care



Roughly 1 in 8 students needed urgent dental care



Percent of Students Needing Treatment by School Year



* Early dental care includes decay present without pain or swelling. Refer to a dentist for treatment.

** Urgent dental care includes pain, infection, large decay, abscess, or draining. Immediate referral for treatment.

Recommendations

Programs and providers in the state must identify opportunities to promote good dental hygiene among elementary and school-age children.

There is a clear need to continue educating dental teams on the need for, and benefits of, participating in school-based sealant programs.

Learn more about SEALIND at: hhs.nd.gov/SEALIND

For questions on evaluation data, email Shawnda.schroeder@und.edu