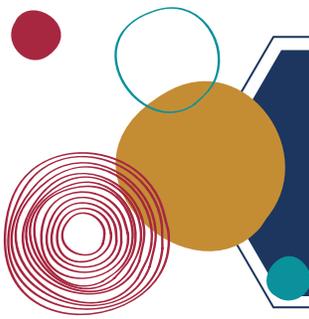


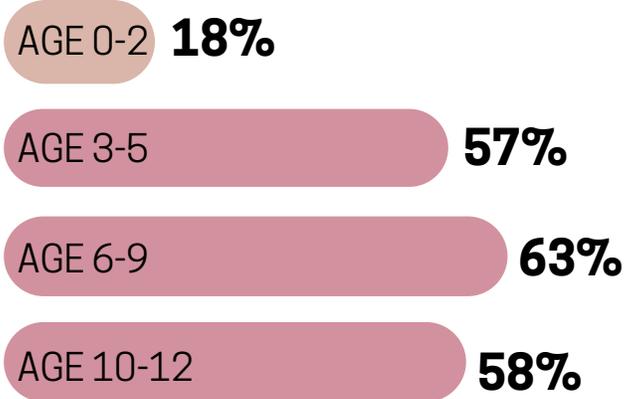
INSIDE I-SMILE™

2022 Update on Children's Oral Health in Iowa



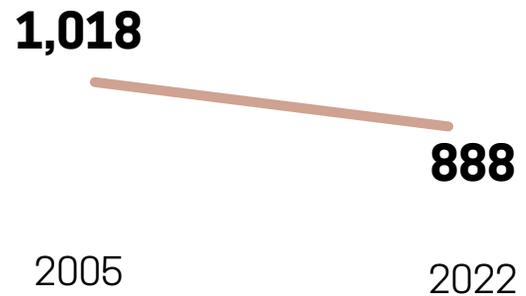
The I-Smile™ initiative connects Iowa children and families with dental, medical, and community resources to ensure a lifetime of health and wellness. Good oral health allows children the ability to eat well, grow and thrive, concentrate on learning, feel positive about their appearance, and improve social interactions, thus contributing to overall well-being and reducing future dental and medical costs.

Percent of Medicaid-enrolled Children Receiving a Service from a Dentist in SFY22



SFY22 Iowa Medicaid Paid Claims

Number of Dentists Billing Medicaid for Services Continues to Decline



CHILDREN'S ORAL HEALTH IN IOWA

SFY22 I-Smile™ program data

63,795

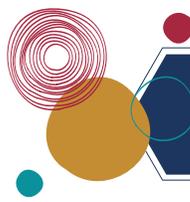
children received assistance from I-Smile™ for dental care in 2022; nearly 10,000 received specific personalized help for their dental needs

16%

of children receiving an oral screening from I-Smile™ had active tooth decay

2/3

of children receiving I-Smile™ services pay for dental care out-of-pocket or are on Medicaid



INSIDE I-SMILE™

2022 Update on Children's Oral Health in Iowa

I-Smile™ began in 2006. The Iowa Department of Health and Human Services administers I-Smile™ through contracts with public and private non-profit organizations as part of the statewide maternal and child health program. The contractors each employ a dental hygienist who serves as the local I-Smile™ Coordinator, **focused on preventing dental disease, identifying ways to help families address challenges so that underserved children may receive care from dentists, and promoting the importance of oral health within their communities** through:

- Developing relationships with dental offices to improve access to appointments for children;
- Assisting families with scheduling dental appointments and linking to needed community resources;
- Increasing awareness about oral health through partnerships with businesses, organizations, and schools;
- Participating in community events and meetings, incorporating oral health within health and social initiatives;
- Addressing oral health issues through partnerships with local boards of health;
- Training medical office staff to provide oral screenings and fluoride applications for children at well-child visits;
- Educating parents, children, and the public about oral health and preventing cavities; and
- Assuring that children have access to preventive care such as oral screenings and fluoride applications.

I-Smile™ Success - I-Smile™ Coordinators provide training for medical office staff as part of Cavity Free Iowa. **In 2022, 108 medical providers billed Medicaid for fluoride varnish applications for more than 2,600 children.**

"I-Smile™ Coordinators are so valuable to our communities. They are essential partners, integrating medical and dental care by training medical providers in the state how to assess and prevent oral diseases and by communicating the need for early referral to a dental home. This dual approach is critical for improving the health of children in Iowa." - Central Iowa Pediatrician

I-Smile™ continues to be a critical piece of Iowa's public health infrastructure - preventing dental disease, improving access to dental care for children, and linking with programs such as Count the Kicks and with health care providers such as physicians - ensuring that Iowa children are healthy and successful.

PARTNER SPOTLIGHT



Count the Kicks is a national campaign that empowers expectant parents to pay attention to baby's movements in the third trimester. In the past two years, **Count the Kicks** has partnered with the I-Smile™ program. In addition to incorporating more oral health education within their messaging for pregnant women, toolkits were shared with I-Smile™ Coordinators to distribute to dental offices. The toolkits included educational materials, helpful tips for talking to expectant women, FAQs, toothbrushes, frame magnets, and **Count the Kicks** wristbands.