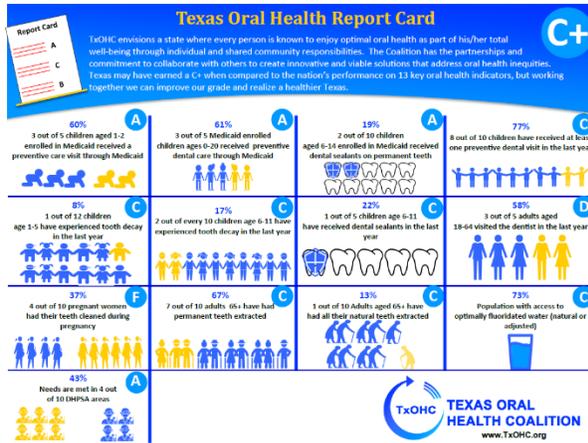


2022 Texas Oral Health Report Card

Change in Indicators Announcement



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The Texas Oral Health Coalition is pleased to release the [2022 Texas Oral Health Report Card](#) comparing Texas’ oral health grade to the nation’s across 13 indicators.

Texas has improved since last year receiving a C+ in 2022, showing that our state is doing many things right, but that we still have a long way to go to ensure that all Texans are able to achieve optimal oral health.

Data Trends from 2021

The 2022 Report Card uses the most recently available public data for each indicator, this means some data has not been updated for this report card, and updated data may still be a few years old. Despite the grade change from C to C+, few indicators changed their letter grade, and most grade changes involved new indicators (see the next section for details). Only one indicator dropped a grade level, indicator #8, "Adults aged 18-64 who visited the dentist within the last year" dropped from a C to a D.

The table below details the data trends of the continued indicators from last year's report card. Aside from Indicator #8, Texas data showed a decrease on indicators #4 and #13 showing that Texans have received fewer dental visits in 2020 and in 2021 fewer needs were met in DHPASAs. Texas data for indicators #9 and #12 improved from their 2021 data, showing that pregnant women in 2018 (the most recent data) had more dental visits than in 2017 and that more Texans have access to optimally fluoridated water in 2021. Many of the trends for this national data matched the state data, but indicators #9 and #13 trended in the opposite direction. While Texas ranks higher than the national average in 2021 on indicator #13, the trend shows Texas' average is decreasing while the national trend is increasing.

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#	Indicator	Desired Trend	TX Trend from 2021	US Trend from 2021	Trend from 2021 RC
4	Children ages 1-17 who have received one or more preventive dental visits in the last year	↑	-1.1	-2.1	↓↓
8	Adults aged 18-64 who visited the dentist within the last year	↑	-3.4	-0.1	↓↓
9	Pregnant women who had their teeth cleaned during pregnancy	↑	+3	-0.4	↑↓
12	Population with access to optimally fluoridated water (natural or adjusted)	↑	+0.5	Same data	↑ -
13	Needs met in Dental Health Provider Shortage Areas (DHPSA)	↑	-1.0	+1.5	↓↑

Changed Indicators

Unlike previous years there were major changes in the 2022 Report Card (as seen in the table below). Four of the indicators that had been used since 2017 have been changed to better compare the state and national datasets and use the most recent data from 2019-2021. One indicator "Medicaid providers applying fluoride varnish" was removed in 2022 due to the inability to acquire national and state data.

Specifically indicators #5, 6, and 7 previously used the CDC State Oral Health Survey data for Texas and the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES) data nationally. The most recent Third Grade State Oral Health Survey was for the 2017-2018 school year (with indicator #5's Head Start data dating back to 2013-2014) and the national data as found on the Healthy People 2030 website dates to 2013-2016. Additionally, HP 2030 changed its objectives and no longer breaks down the NHANES data by age group. For these reasons, the 2022 Report Card now uses the National Survey of Children's Health (NSCH) for these three indicators as they have more recent survey data (2019-2020), includes both state and national data from the same source, and breaks down the responses by age group.

Indicator #10 was also changed to match data reported by the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) and the new indicator #11 was added to provide additional information on older adult edentulism. The CDC [BRFSS Prevalence & Trends Data](#) website has changed how they show the responses to BRFSS question C07.02 and indicator #10 and the

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new #11th indicator have been changed to match their language. The final two indicators have been renumbered to facilitate the insertion of the new indicator.

#	2017-2021 Indicator	2022 Indicator
5	Children ages 3-5 with Caries Experience (treated and untreated tooth decay)	Children ages 1-5 with decayed teeth or cavities in the last year
6	Third Grade students with Caries Experience (treated and untreated tooth decay)	Children ages 6-11 years old with decayed teeth or cavities in the last year
7	Third Graders who have dental sealants in permanent molars	Children ages 6-11 who have received dental sealants in the last year
10	Adults 65+ who have lost all of their natural teeth due to tooth decay or gum disease	Adults 65+ that have had any permanent teeth extracted
11	N/A	Adults aged 65+ who have had all their natural teeth extracted

Strategies to Improve

TxOHC would like to host an oral health workshop in 2022 and have stakeholders collaborate to develop strategies to address some of the challenges reflected in the report card above and improve dental care services and policies to increase access to care for all Texans.

If you are interested in participating in this workshop, please complete this [short form](#) so we may contact you when we are ready to schedule the event.

We invite you to review all thirteen of the oral health indicators on the [report card](#), as they each have a story to tell about the oral health of Texans. Please join us in leading efforts to achieve optimal oral health across the lifespan for all Texans.