

**THE MANDATED DENTAL
EXAMINATION COMPLIANCE AND
DENTAL HEALTH STATUS
OF ILLINOIS CHILDREN IN
KINDERGARTEN AND THE SECOND AND
SIXTH GRADES
FOR THE 2010-2011 SCHOOL YEAR**

**ILLINOIS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
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Foreword

Dental data are collected annually from Illinois public and nonpublic schools as required by Section 27-8.1 of the Illinois School Code (105 ILCS 5/27-8.1). This report is a compilation of the 2010-2011 data on the dental health of Illinois school-age children in kindergarten and second and sixth grades. The interpretations and conclusions expressed herein were based on the available data and do not necessarily reflect the official position or policy of the Illinois State Board of Education. Inquiries regarding this report should be directed to Mr. Md. Shafiqul Azam in the ISBE Division of Data Analysis and Progress Reporting at 217/782-3950 or mazam@isbe.net.

Background

As mandated by Section 27-8.1 of the Illinois School Code (105 ILCS 5/27-8.1), all children in kindergarten and second and sixth grades are to have dental examinations by May 15 of each year to be in compliance with the rules adopted by the Illinois Department of Public Health. In addition, the Illinois School Code requires all public school districts and nonpublic schools to submit completed surveys to the Illinois State Board of Education that summarize the dental compliance status of all children in kindergarten and second and sixth grades by June 30 of each year. This report provides a summary of the data collected.

Major Findings

The 2010-2011 dental examination status data reported for Illinois school-age children in kindergarten and second and sixth grades indicates the following:

- The compliance level of all students in all reported schools was 79.46 percent.
- The compliance level of public school students in all reported schools was 77.84 percent.
- The compliance level of nonpublic school students in all reported schools was 92.79 percent.
- A statewide total of 93,234 reported students (20.54 percent) of the total reported students (454,282) were in noncompliance with the dental examination mandates on May 15, 2011.
- The compliance level of all reported students in kindergarten was 85.46 percent. Compliance rates for public and nonpublic schools were 83.87 percent and 94.53 percent, respectively.
- The compliance level of all reported students in second grade was 76.82 percent. Compliance rates for public and nonpublic schools were 75.04 percent and 92.09 percent, respectively.
- The compliance level of all reported students in sixth grade was 76.47 percent. Compliance rates for public and nonpublic schools were 74.80 percent and 91.47 percent, respectively.
- Compliance levels obtained for nonpublic schools were much higher than those for public schools, by overall measure as well as by grade levels.

Limitations

The following should be considered when interpreting the results provided in this report:

- Dental data were submitted by 2,919 public schools and 830 nonpublic schools.
- Public school dental data represent 752 public school districts that serve any combination of kindergarten and second and sixth grades.
- In some instances, the total percentage may not add up to 100 due to rounding errors.

Procedures

Data collection instruments and procedures used to collect dental data were developed by Illinois State Board of Education staff, in consultation with Illinois Department of Public Health staff. Data have been collected via a Web-based online survey since the 2005-2006 school year. Only students entering kindergarten and second and sixth grades are required to have a dental examination.

School administrators are required to provide information on the number of children who have received the required dental examination, the number of children who have not received the required dental examination, the number of children who are exempt from the dental examination on religious grounds, the number of children who have received a waiver or exemption, and the number of children with scheduled appointments. Beginning with the 2006-2007 school year, additional data elements, such as counts on dental sealants, caries/restoration history, and untreated caries, were included in the data collection. The online dental survey must be completed no sooner than May 16 and no later than June 30 of each year.

Results

Compliance Data

Compliance for students (only those in kindergarten and second and sixth grades) were calculated based upon the information provided by Illinois school officials. Data reported by school officials show overall compliance with the requirements of the dental examination mandate. Second and sixth grade students in noncompliance may have their report cards withheld by school authorities.

Students were identified as being in compliance with state law if they presented proof of having a dental examination, had religious exemptions, had received a waiver for the dental examination due to undue burden or lack of access to a dentist, or if they were on an approved schedule for a dental examination.

Statewide Compliance

Table 1 shows the 2010-2011 compliance levels for all reported Illinois school-age children in kindergarten and second and sixth grades. The compliance level for the total 454,282 reported public and nonpublic children in Illinois was 79.46 percent. The data show 93,324 children (20.54 percent) in noncompliance because they did not have a completed dental examination or did not receive a waiver or exemption.

Public District Compliance

For Illinois public school districts, the compliance level for the total 405,054 reported children was 77.84 percent. (See Table 1.)

Nonpublic School Compliance

Of the 830 nonpublic schools that submitted dental data, the compliance level was 92.79 percent, which is significantly higher than that for public schools. (See Table 1.)

Table 2 shows statewide dental examination status information, including the number of students who obtained waivers, scheduled dental appointments, or obtained exemptions. Statewide, 78.29 percent of students completed dental examinations; 1.17 percent complied by obtaining a waiver, religious exemption, or approved schedules for a dental appointment; and 20.54 percent were in noncompliance.

Table 3 shows public school dental examination status information, including the number of students who obtained waivers, scheduled dental appointments, or obtained exemptions. Within public school districts, 76.72 percent of students completed dental examinations; 1.12 percent complied by obtaining a waiver, religious exemption, or approved schedules for a dental appointment; and 22.16 percent were in noncompliance.

Table 4 shows nonpublic school dental examination status information, including the number of students who obtained waivers, scheduled a dental appointment, or obtained exemptions. Within nonpublic schools, 91.16 percent of students completed dental examinations; 1.63 percent complied by obtaining a waiver, religious exemption, or approved schedules for a dental appointment, and 7.21 percent were in noncompliance. Compliance rates for nonpublic schools were much higher than the compliance rates for public schools.

Compliance by Grade Level

Tables 5, 6, and 7 provide dental examination status for kindergarten and second and sixth grade students (statewide, public, and nonpublic facilities), respectively.

Kindergarten—When public and nonpublic schools are considered, 85.16 percent of students were found to be in compliance (including those with waivers, exemptions, or with approved schedules for dental examinations). The compliance rate for public schools was 83.87 percent and the compliance rate for nonpublic schools was 94.53 percent, which is higher than the public school compliance rate.

Second Grade—A compliance rate of 76.82 percent was observed with combined public and nonpublic school students. The public school compliance rate was 75.04 percent and the nonpublic school compliance rate was 92.09 percent, which is higher than the public school compliance rate.

Sixth Grade—Compliance rates were 76.47 percent, 74.80 percent, and 91.47 percent for all schools, public schools, and nonpublic schools, respectively. There is a wide gap in compliance levels between public and nonpublic schools.

A close look at Tables 5, 6, and 7 reveals that for public schools, the compliance rate decreases sharply from kindergarten to higher grades.

Dental Health Status of Students with Complete Dental Examination

Table 8 provides dental health status (the number of students with or without dental sealants, the number of children with or without caries experience, the number of students with or without untreated caries, and the number of students who need urgent dental treatment) for statewide, public, and nonpublic facilities, respectively. A review of Table 8 indicates that among all examined public and nonpublic school students in kindergarten and second and sixth grades, 32.92 percent had dental sealants, 31.06 percent had caries/restoration history, 19.65 percent had untreated caries, and 2.07 percent needed urgent treatment. The corresponding figures for students from public educational entities were 33.42 percent, 31.79 percent, 20.83 percent, and 2.31 percent, respectively. For nonpublic students the corresponding figures were 29.46 percent, 26.01 percent, 11.51 percent, and 0.39 percent, respectively. Statistics indicate that, in general, nonpublic school students had better dental health indices.

Tables 9, 10, and 11 provide dental health status for students in kindergarten and second and sixth grades, respectively.

Table 1. 2010-2011 Dental Compliance Summary of Reported Educational Facilities

Compliance Status	Public Schools		Nonpublic Schools		All Schools	
	Number of Students	Percent	Number of Students	Percent	Number of Students	Percent
Students in compliance	315,278	77.84	45,680	92.79	360,958	79.46
Students not in compliance	89,776	22.16	3,548	7.21	93,324	20.54
All students	405,054	100.00	49,228	100.00	454,282	100.00

Table 2. 2010-2011 Dental Examination Status for All Reported Illinois Public and Nonpublic School Students

Compliance Status	Number of Students	Percent
In compliance with complete dental examination	355,651	78.29
Approved appointment scheduled	2,089	0.46
Religious exemption	88	0.02
Unable to complete a dental examination due to a medical reason	18	0.00
Unable to complete a dental examination due to disability	30	0.01
Waiver:		
Enrolled in the free and reduced price lunch program and not covered by private or public dental insurance (Medicaid/All Kids)	1,011	0.22
Enrolled in the free and reduced price lunch program and ineligible for public insurance (Medicaid/All Kids)	267	0.06
Enrolled in Medicaid/All Kids but unable to locate a dentist or dental clinic in the community able to see the child and who will accept Medicaid/All Kids	1,047	0.23
Does not have any type of dental insurance and there are no low-cost dental clinics in the community that will see the child	757	0.17
Students not in compliance	93,324	20.54
Total	454,282	100.00

Table 3. 2010-2011 Dental Examination Status for All Reported Illinois Public School Students

Compliance Status	Number of Students	Percent
In compliance with complete dental examination	310,776	76.72
Approved appointment scheduled	1,533	0.38
Religious exemption	65	0.02
Unable to complete a dental examination due to a medical reason	12	0.00
Unable to complete a dental examination due to disability	30	0.01
Waiver:		
Enrolled in the free and reduced price lunch program and not covered by private or public dental insurance (Medicaid/All Kids)	918	0.23
Enrolled in the free and reduced price lunch program and ineligible for public insurance (Medicaid/All Kids)	249	0.06
Enrolled in Medicaid/All Kids but unable to locate a dentist or dental clinic in the community able to see the child and who will accept Medicaid/All Kids	1,017	0.25
Does not have any type of dental insurance and there are no low-cost dental clinics in the community that will see the child	678	0.17
Students not in compliance	89,776	22.16
Total	405,054	100.00

Table 4. 2010-2011 Dental Examination Status for All Reported Illinois Nonpublic School Students

Compliance Status	Number of Students	Percent
In compliance with complete dental examination	44,875	91.16
Approved appointment scheduled	556	1.13
Religious exemption	23	0.05
Unable to complete a dental examination due to a medical reason	6	0.01
Unable to complete a dental examination due to disability	0	0.00
Waiver:		
Enrolled in the free and reduced price lunch program and not covered by private or public dental insurance (Medicaid/All Kids)	93	0.19
Enrolled in the free and reduced price lunch program and ineligible for public insurance (Medicaid/All Kids)	18	0.04
Enrolled in Medicaid/All Kids but unable to locate a dentist or dental clinic in the community able to see the child and who will accept Medicaid/All Kids	30	0.06
Does not have any type of dental insurance and there are no low-cost dental clinics in the community that will see the child	79	0.16
Students not in compliance	3,548	7.21
Total	49,228	100.00

Table 5. 2010-2011 Dental Examination Status of Kindergarten Students in All Reported Public and Nonpublic Educational Facilities

Compliance Status	Public Schools		Nonpublic Schools		All Schools	
	Number of Students	Percent	Number of Students	Percent	Number of Students	Percent
In compliance with complete dental examination	109,473	82.93	16,851	93.07	126,324	84.15
Approved appointment scheduled	389	0.29	167	0.92	556	0.37
Religious exemption	25	0.02	9	0.05	34	0.02
Unable to complete a dental examination due to a medical reason	4	0.00	4	0.02	8	0.01
Unable to complete a dental examination due to disability	6	0.00	0	0.00	6	0.00
Waiver:						
Enrolled in the free and reduced price lunch program and not covered by private or public dental insurance (Medicaid/All Kids)	210	0.16	32	0.18	242	0.16
Enrolled in the free and reduced price lunch program and ineligible for public insurance (Medicaid/All Kids)	82	0.06	6	0.03	88	0.06
Enrolled in Medicaid/All Kids but unable to find a dentist or dental clinic in the community able to see the child and who will accept Medicaid/All Kids	341	0.26	18	0.10	359	0.24
Does not have any type of dental insurance and there are no low-cost dental clinics in the community that will see the child	189	0.14	27	0.15	216	0.14
Students not in compliance	21,288	16.13	991	5.47	22,279	14.84
Total	132,007	100.00	18,105	100.00	150,112	100.00

Table 6. 2010-2011 Dental Examination Status of Second Grade Students in All Reported Public and Nonpublic Educational Facilities

Compliance Status	Public Schools		Nonpublic Schools		All Schools	
	Number of Students	Percent	Number of Students	Percent	Number of Students	Percent
In compliance with complete dental examination	100,239	73.98	14,302	90.48	114,541	75.70
Approved appointment scheduled	538	0.40	182	1.15	720	0.48
Religious exemption	25	0.02	8	0.05	33	0.02
Unable to complete a dental examination due to a medical reason	4	0.00	0	0.00	4	0.00
Unable to complete a dental examination due to disability	13	0.01	0	0.00	13	0.01
Waiver:						
Enrolled in the free and reduced price lunch program and not covered by private or public dental insurance (Medicaid/All Kids)	236	0.17	30	0.19	266	0.18
Enrolled in the free and reduced price lunch program and ineligible for public insurance (Medicaid/All Kids)	65	0.05	2	0.01	67	0.04
Enrolled in Medicaid/All Kids but unable to locate a dentist or dental clinic in the community able to see the child and who will accept Medicaid/All Kids	331	0.24	5	0.03	336	0.22
Does not have any type of dental insurance and there are no low-cost dental clinics in the community that will see the child	218	0.16	28	0.18	246	0.16
Students not in compliance	33,826	24.96	1,250	7.91	35,076	23.18
Total	135,495	100.00	15,807	100.00	151,302	100.00

Table 7. 2010-2011 Dental Examination Status of Sixth Grade Students in All Reported Public and Nonpublic Educational Facilities

Compliance Status	Public Schools		Nonpublic Schools		All Schools	
	Number of Students	Percent	Number of Students	Percent	Number of Students	Percent
In compliance with complete dental examination	101,064	73.47	13,722	89.59	114,786	75.09
Approved appointment scheduled	606	0.44	207	1.35	813	0.53
Religious exemption	15	0.01	6	0.04	21	0.01
Unable to complete a dental examination due to a medical reason	4	0.00	2	0.01	6	0.00
Unable to complete a dental examination due to disability	11	0.01	0	0.00	11	0.01
Waiver:						
Enrolled in the free and reduced price lunch program and not covered by private or public dental insurance (Medicaid/All Kids)	472	0.34	31	0.20	503	0.33
Enrolled in the free and reduced price lunch program and ineligible for public insurance (Medicaid/All Kids)	102	0.07	10	0.07	112	0.07
Enrolled in Medicaid/All Kids but unable to locate a dentist or dental clinic in the community able to see the child and who will accept Medicaid/All Kids	345	0.25	7	0.05	352	0.23
Does not have any type of dental insurance and there are no low-cost dental clinics in the community that will see the child	271	0.20	24	0.16	295	0.19
Students not in compliance	34,662	25.20	1,307	8.53	35,969	23.53
Total	137,552	100.00	15,316	100.00	152,868	100.00

Table 8. 2010-2011 Dental Health Status of All Students in All Reported Public and Nonpublic Educational Facilities

Dental Health Status	Public Schools		Nonpublic Schools		All Schools	
	Number of Students	Percent	Number of Students	Percent	Number of Students	Percent
In compliance with complete dental examination	310,776	—	44,875	—	355,651	—
Dental sealants: with	103,870	33.42	13,219	29.46	117,089	32.92
Dental sealants: without	200,537	64.53	29,103	64.85	229,640	64.57
Dental sealants: unknown	6,369	2.05	2,553	5.69	8,922	2.51
Caries experience/restoration history: with	98,792	31.79	11,673	26.01	110,465	31.06
Caries experience/restoration history: without	204,317	65.74	30,471	67.90	234,788	66.02
Caries experience/restoration history: unknown	7,667	2.47	2,731	6.09	10,398	2.92
Untreated caries: with	64,728	20.83	5,165	11.51	69,893	19.65
Untreated caries: without	237,279	76.35	36,773	81.95	274,052	77.06
Untreated caries: unknown	8,769	2.82	2,937	6.54	11,706	3.29
Needing urgent treatment	7,174	2.31	173	0.39	7,347	2.07

Table 9. 2010-2011 Dental Health Status of Kindergarten Students in All Reported Public and Nonpublic Educational Facilities

Dental Health Status	Public Schools		Nonpublic Schools		All Schools	
	Number of Students	Percent	Number of Students	Percent	Number of Students	Percent
In compliance with complete dental examination	109,473	—	16,851	—	126,324	—
Dental sealants: with	8,467	7.73	1,474	8.75	9,941	7.87
Dental sealants: without	98,572	90.04	14,330	85.04	112,902	89.37
Dental sealants: unknown	2,434	2.22	1,047	6.21	3,481	2.76
Caries experience/restoration history: with	24,410	22.30	2,837	16.84	27,247	21.57
Caries experience/restoration history: without	82,632	75.48	12,844	76.22	95,476	75.58
Caries experience/restoration history: unknown	2,431	2.22	1,170	6.94	3,601	2.85
Untreated caries: with	22,346	20.41	1,877	11.14	24,223	19.18
Untreated caries: without	84,151	76.87	13,799	81.89	97,950	77.54
Untreated caries: unknown	2,976	2.72	1,175	6.97	4,151	3.29
Needing urgent treatment	2,333	2.13	56	0.33	2,389	1.89

Table 10. 2010-2011 Dental Health Status of Second Grade Students in All Reported Public and Nonpublic Educational Facilities

Dental Health Status	Public Schools		Nonpublic Schools		All Schools	
	Number of Students	Percent	Number of Students	Percent	Number of Students	Percent
In compliance with complete dental examination	100,239	—	14,302	—	114,541	—
Dental sealants: with	37,917	37.83	4,632	32.39	42,549	37.15
Dental sealants: without	60,399	60.25	8,915	62.33	69,314	60.51
Dental sealants: unknown	1,923	1.92	755	5.28	2,678	2.34
Caries experience/restoration history: with	35,184	35.10	4,114	28.77	39,298	34.31
Caries experience/restoration history: without	62,592	62.44	9,377	65.56	71,969	62.83
Caries experience/restoration history: unknown	2,463	2.46	811	5.67	3,274	2.86
Untreated caries: with	24,086	24.03	1,790	12.52	25,876	22.59
Untreated caries: without	73,582	73.41	11,653	81.48	85,235	74.41
Untreated caries: unknown	2,571	2.56	859	6.01	3,430	2.99
Needing urgent treatment	3,237	3.23	74	0.52	3,311	2.89

Table 11. 2010-2011 Dental Health Status of Sixth Grade Students in All Reported Public and Nonpublic Educational Facilities

Dental Health Status	Public Schools		Nonpublic Schools		All Schools	
	Number of Students	Percent	Number of Students	Percent	Number of Students	Percent
In compliance with complete dental examination	101,064	—	13,722	—	114,786	—
Dental sealants: with	57,486	56.88	7,113	51.84	64,599	56.28
Dental sealants: without	41,566	41.13	5,858	42.69	47,424	41.32
Dental sealants: unknown	2,012	1.99	751	5.47	2,763	2.41
Caries experience/restoration history: with	39,198	38.79	4,722	34.41	43,920	38.26
Caries experience/restoration history: without	59,093	58.47	8,250	60.12	67,343	58.67
Caries experience/restoration history: unknown	2,773	2.74	750	5.47	3,523	3.07
Untreated caries: with	18,296	18.10	1,498	10.92	19,794	17.24
Untreated caries: without	79,546	78.71	11,321	82.50	90,867	79.16
Untreated caries: unknown	3,222	3.19	903	6.58	4,125	3.59
Needing urgent treatment	1,604	1.59	43	0.31	1,647	1.43