

Resources

Base of established data, networks and infrastructure  
Leadership and support from PADOH and PCOH  
Engagement from public health, medical and dental communities

Activities

**Focus Years 1-3**

**Health Infrastructure:** Support and expand the interconnected set of key structural elements (government, partnerships, individuals, and workforce) needed to ensure that there is a system capable of meeting the oral health needs of Pennsylvanians.

**Health Surveillance and Evaluation:** Develop and implement a state surveillance system in PA that is aligned with the CDC National Oral Health Surveillance System to measure key indicators of oral health for tracking purposes; inform use of evidence-based approaches that improve programs and policies; monitor oral health status, service delivery systems, and infrastructure needs and development; and improve collection, reporting, and availability of key data elements.

**Focus Years 4-10**

**Health Equity:** Improve the health of all Pennsylvanians and eliminate disparities across the lifespan by addressing healthy habits, prevention intervention, and determinants of health to attain healthy communities.

**Health Policy and Advocacy:** Support and enact state and local policies that address gaps in oral health service coverage, public understanding of the importance of oral health to overall health, payment and financing systems, oral health care delivery, oral disease prevention strategies, workforce capacity and integration, data collection and analysis, and infrastructure capability.

**Health Community:** Diversify and enhance the individuals, providers, and organizations that support and promote a health care system that values and integrates oral health and overall health.

Short-term goals (2030)

- A1. Increase percentage of people served by community water systems receiving optimally fluoridated water
  - A2. Increase preventive oral health care (dental visit) for children
  - A3. Increase preventive oral health care (dental visit) for children with special health care needs
  - A4. Increase preventive oral health care (dental visit) for pregnant women
  - A5. Increase preventive oral health care (dental visit) for adults
  - A6. Reduce the percentage of untreated decay in children
  - A7. Reduce incidence of tooth loss in adults 18-64
  - A8. Reduce incidence of tooth loss in seniors 65+
  - A9. Increase the percentage of third grade children with dental sealants
  - A10. Increase number of programs providing children ages 6-14 with sealants
  - A11. Increase number of underserved children with an age one dental visit
  - A12. Reduce the incidence of children receiving dental services under general anesthesia
  - A13. Reduce incidence of oral cancer and oropharyngeal cancer
- B1. Increase the percentage of hygienists, general dentists, and specialists participating in the Medicaid program
  - B2. Increase the number of general dentists who bill \$10,000+ per year in the Medicaid program
  - B3. Decrease the number of DHPSA county-level designations
  - B4. Increase the number of primary care medical providers who bill Medicaid for oral health services
  - B5. Increase the number of community health workers (or similar) providing oral health education to their clients either in community health centers or place of residence
- C1. Implement/maintain a comprehensive state oral health surveillance system (SOHSS) in accordance with the National Oral Health Surveillance System
  - C2. Foster and grow a diverse, sustainable, and collaborative state oral health coalition
  - C3. Evidence of effective cross-governmental partnerships with internal DOH and external government entities to develop and partner on educational initiatives, data collection, analysis and reporting, policy initiatives, and program priorities
  - C4. Establish a robust state oral health program with the capacity to meet the ASTDD's 10 Essential Dental Public Health Services created from the CDC model

Mid-term goals

- Decrease barriers to accessing dental care
- Increase preventive services across populations
- Improve the oral health literacy of healthcare providers and the general public
- Build a sufficient, diverse and competent oral health workforce
- Maintain a strong oral health program infrastructure to sustain proper state oral health surveillance

Long-term goals

Enhance the overall health of all Pennsylvanians through improved oral health