



Pennsylvania School-Based Sealant Programs: 2022-23

What are sealants?

Dental sealants are clear or tooth-color coatings that fill the grooves of back permanent teeth (molar) and help keep out food and germs that cause cavities. They are painted on and only take a few minutes!



9 dental sealant programs
91 schools participated
75 schools were low-income



6,504 consent forms were distributed
1,927 children in **Grades 1-8** were screened



892 children had cavities
626 children had fillings

63% of children screened had sealants placed

11% of children sealed were 3rd-graders

6,363 teeth received dental sealants to prevent cavities



Priorities

- Increase the percentage of 3rd-grade children with sealants.
- Increase the number of programs providing children ages 6-14 with dental sealants.