



# 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.