Dental Services at PA Free & Charitable Clinics: 2023 Survey Results



Free clinics are local safety-net healthcare organizations that utilize a volunteer/staff model to provide no-cost health services. Eligibility for services are often restricted to individuals who are uninsured and/or have inadequate access to health or dental care.

Pennsylvania Coalition for Oral Health (PCOH) collects annual data from free clinics across the state to track free dental services provided. Information is collected via online survey and may not represent all of the free care that takes place in the commonwealth.

Summary

The 2023 survey had 19 responses. Seven were from pop-up clinics, 10 were from permanent clinics, 1 from a Smile Saturday event, and 1 from the Donated Dental Services Program.*





10,000+ individuals served >> 47,000+ dental procedures performed

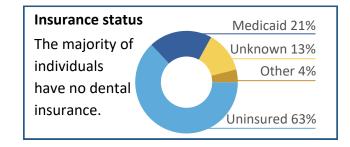


19,000+ volunteer hours



>> \$5.6 million in services provided

- 76% of individuals served were over the age of 18.
- 57% of individuals served were Hispanic or Latino.
- The average appointment wait time at a permanent clinic was 45 days.
- 1 in 3 individuals had an income below 200% of the federal poverty level.





- 15 of 67 Pennsylvania counties were represented in the survey, primarily from the southwest, southcentral, and southeast regions.
- 51 counties do not have a permanent free clinic providing dental services.

Comprehensive Dental Care

Most clinics provided these 5 services:

Exams and Screenings	Fillings	Tooth Extractions
X-rays	Cleanings/Preventive	Only six clinics provided dentures, root canals, and gum treatments.

More Information

- For more background on the charitable work tracking project and to see data from previous years, please review the PCOH 2018-2022 Charitable Work Tracking Report.
- To find a free clinic in your area, visit pacharitablehealth.org.

^{*}These values represent the 19 clinics which shared data for 2023. Actual values for the state will be higher.