

2026 PA PHDHP SURVEY

Public health dental hygiene practitioners (PHDHPs) are a vital part of Pennsylvania's oral health workforce. PA Coalition for Oral Health (PCOH) conducted a survey to gain information on the current PA PHDHP landscape and to improve access to care.

The survey was shared with 1,100 PHDHPs across PA and garnered 142 responses, resulting in a 13% response rate. Therefore, these results are not representative of all PA PHDHPs and data should be interpreted with this in mind and should not be used to represent the full field.

CERTIFICATION UTILIZATION

Primarily work in public health settings

41%

Practice in both private practice & public health settings

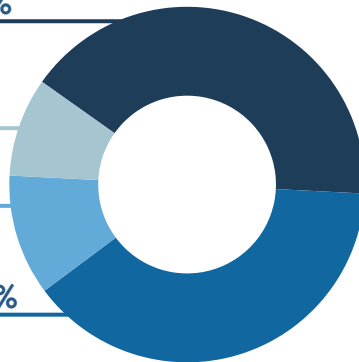
8.5%

Do not practice clinically

11.3%

Do not work in public health settings/do not use certification

39%



PUBLIC HEALTH SETTINGS WORKED IN*

Federally qualified health center (FQHC)

51%

School or school-based program

26.5%

Independent public health practice owner

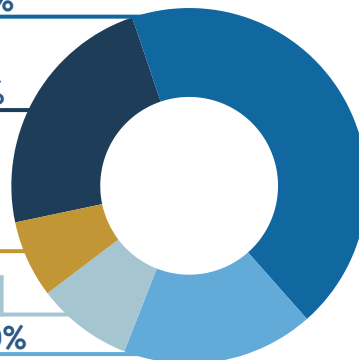
8.2%

Rural health clinic (RHC)

10.2%

Managed care organization (MCO)

20%



*Of respondents that work either primarily or part-time in public health settings

POPULATIONS SEEN

57% see children

Of the 57% that see children:

- » 62% start seeing children starting at age 1
- » 22.5% start seeing children starting at age 3
- » 15.5% start seeing children starting at 5 years/school-aged

48% see individuals enrolled in Medicaid

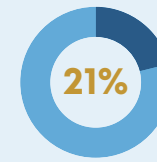
52% see individuals with disabilities

52% see uninsured individuals

23% see populations not listed

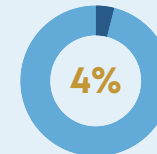


PA MEDICAID

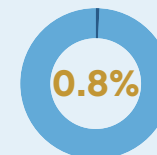


are registered with PA Medicaid as a provider (have a PA Promise ID number)

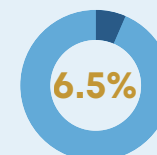
PA MEDICAID & CHIP BILLING



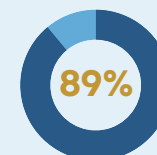
bill Medicaid for services as a PHDHP provider



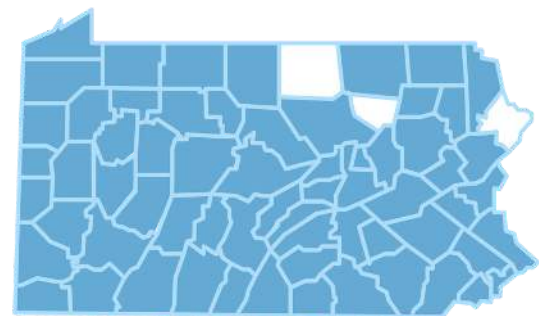
bill CHIP for services as a PHDHP provider



bill both Medicaid and CHIP for services as a PHDHP provider



do NOT bill Medicaid or CHIP for services as a PHDHP provider



64 out of 67 Pennsylvania counties represented

Not represented:
Pike, Sullivan, and Tioga