

# Expanding Access to Dental Care

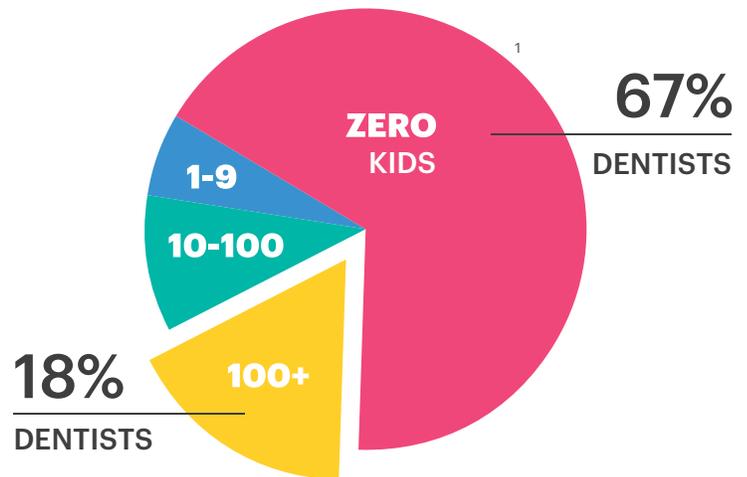
Every child deserves access to high-quality dental care and an equal opportunity to develop good oral health habits to help them thrive and live healthier lives. Unfortunately, there are many barriers to dental healthcare, especially for children living in the nation’s most vulnerable communities. Quality care often requires extensive travel — and too few dentists participate in Medicaid or Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP) for child dental services — leaving low-income families at an even greater disadvantage.

## Too Few Dentists Treat Kids on Medicaid

**43%** of U.S. dentists have signed up to participate in children’s Medicaid, but only **33%** of them treated any kids on Medicaid.

**67%** did not treat any kids on Medicaid.

Benevis is proud to be part of the **18%** of dental providers that manage 100+ child Medicaid visits each year.



<sup>1</sup>Nasseh K, Fosse C, Vujcic M. Dentists Who Participate in Medicaid: Who They Are, Where They Locate, How They Practice. Medical Care Research and Review. 2022;0(0).doi:10.1177/10775587221108751.

For **20 years** and counting, Benevis has opened our doors to the neediest neighborhoods in the U.S. Today, we proudly serve **100+** underserved communities with high-quality dental care.

## Medicaid’s Role in Children’s Access to Oral Health

Medicaid reimbursement rates for dentists remain low and vary widely by state. About **40%** of children ages **2-18** have dental benefits through Medicaid or CHIP,<sup>2</sup> but low reimbursement rates for these programs contribute to limited access to care. Without adequate reimbursement, fewer dentists are willing to accept Medicaid patients.

<sup>2</sup>American Dental Association. Dental Benets Coverage in the U.S infographic. ADA Health Policy Institute. 2015.

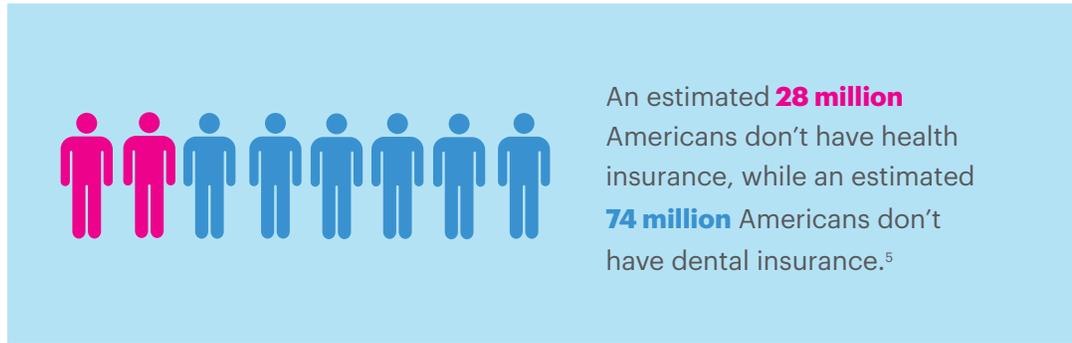
Benevis actively engages with dental advocacy groups and associations to advance Medicaid reimbursement rates and access to dental care. Although we have been successful in helping to improve rates for dental services in several states, there’s still considerable change needed to expand access. Nationally, Medicaid and CHIP programs pay just **61%**<sup>3</sup> of rates paid by private insurers for child dental health services. As a result, fewer dentists in the U.S. accept Medicaid or CHIP insurance.

<sup>3</sup>Reimbursement Rates for Child and Adult Dental Services in Medicaid by State infographic. ADA Health Policy Institute. October 2021.

## | 50%

Approximately **50%**<sup>4</sup> of kids on Medicaid did not receive dental care in the last year per the Health Policy Institute.

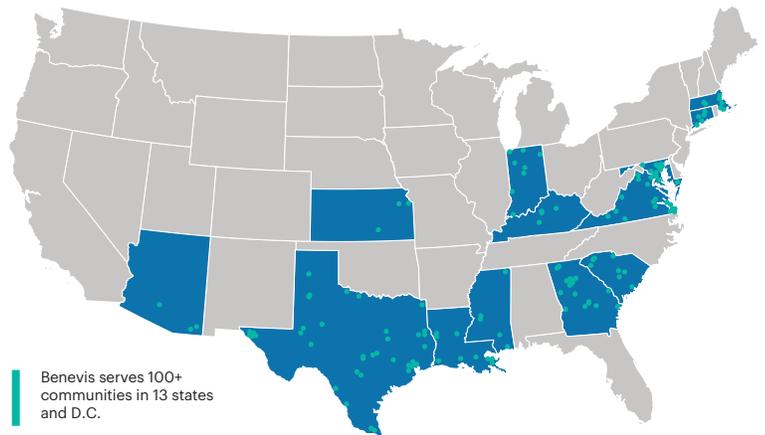
<sup>4</sup>American Dental Association. CMS Oral Health Initiative commits to increasing children’s access to care. ADA News website. <https://www.ada.org>. Published July 1, 2020.



<sup>5</sup>Keisler-Starkey, Katherine, and Lisa Bunch. “Health Insurance Coverage in the United States: 2020.” Census.gov, 14 Sept. 2021, <https://www.census.gov>.

## Close and Convenient Community Care

Access to quality dental care should be easy, especially when it’s essential. At Benevis, our clinicians deliver an experience that’s personalized to every patient’s health and lifestyle needs. We partner with Head Starts, schools, Federally Qualified Health Centers, and other public programs to ensure everyone has access to high-quality care. Plus, Benevis dental offices are conveniently located near underserved communities, making them that much easier to reach.



## Comprehensive Services

Here’s how we help children and their families smile with confidence:

- Preventive care
- Restorative care
- Orthodontics
- Oral surgery
- Emergency care
- Education

*“At Benevis, we’re working together with payers, providers, and policymakers to give every child in the U.S. access to quality dental care – especially the lower-income, disadvantaged Medicaid beneficiaries. This population represents the families and communities who need us most, and it’s our mission to help care for them.”*

Dr. Dale Mayfield, DMD, Chief Dental Officer at Benevis



**1.2M**  
PATIENT VISITS  
PER YEAR  
-82% Medicaid-

**750+**  
DENTISTS  
& HYGIENISTS

**100+**  
COMMUNITIES

**13**  
STATES  
& D.C.