

Dentist Shortages for Low-Income Populations Wisconsin - CY 2007

Highlights:

- No Wisconsin counties met the minimum federally recommended number of dentists per low-income population in calendar year 2007 (3,000 low-income population per 1.0 FTE dentist), based on the number of Medicaid paid claims for covered dentist services.
- 69 of 72 counties had “serious” shortages of dentists who provided general dental care to low-income populations. These counties had a population to dentist ratio that was greater than the federal threshold for designated dental shortage areas (4,000 low-income population to 1.0 dentist FTE).
- 3 counties had no dentists with paid Medicaid claims in CY 2007 (Burnett, Florence, Taylor)
- Based on data from the Medicaid Call-Center, there were 10 counties where dentists were not accepting new Medicaid patients as of April 2009 (Adams, Brown, Door, Green Lake, Juneau, Manitowoc, Marquette, Sauk, Sheboygan, & Walworth).

County	Pop < 200% Fed Poverty	# Paid MA Claims	Low Income Dentist FTE	Low-Income Pop to Dentist FTE
<i>Wisconsin total</i>	<i>1,214,968</i>	<i>639,298</i>	<i>159.8</i>	<i>7,603:1</i>
Adams	5,863	508	0.1	58,630 : 1
Ashland	5,697	2,374	0.6	9,495 : 1
Barron	12,862	3,468	0.9	14,291 : 1
Bayfield	5,312	1,175	0.3	17,707 : 1
Brown	43,674	10,892	2.7	16,176 : 1
Buffalo	3,594	1,385	0.3	11,980 : 1
Burnett	4,694	0	0	4,694 : 0
Calumet	5,592	123	0	5,592 : 0
Chippewa	14,173	15,212	3.8	3,730 : 1
Clark	11,589	1,575	0.4	28,973 : 1
Columbia	9,486	1,209	0.3	31,620 : 1
Crawford	5,352	995	0.2	26,760 : 1
Dane	85,688	29,676	7.4	11,579 : 1
Dodge	14,857	3,825	1.0	14,857 : 1
Door	6,711	947	0.2	33,555 : 1
Douglas	12,461	4,826	1.2	10,384 : 1
Dunn	11,275	3,038	0.8	14,094 : 1
Eau Claire	24,286	10,277	2.6	9,341 : 1
Florence	1,432	0	0	1,432 : 0
Fond du Lac	17,645	2,910	0.7	25,207 : 1
Forest	3,473	772	0.2	17,365 : 1
Grant	14,727	1,085	0.3	49,090 : 1
Green	7,007	1,168	0.3	23,357 : 1
Green Lake	4,567	1,848	0.5	9,134 : 1

County	Pop < 200% Fed Poverty	# Paid MA Claims	Low Income Dentist FTE	Low-Income Pop to Dentist FTE
Iowa	5,049	218	0.1	50,490 : 1
Iron	2,414	1,250	0.3	8,047 : 1
Jackson	5,584	306	0.1	55,840 : 1
Jefferson	13,267	5,100	1.3	10,205 : 1
Juneau	7,381	1,544	0.4	18,453 : 1
Kenosha	31,005	12,395	3.1	10,002 : 1
Kewaunee	4,184	742	0.2	20,920 : 1
La Crosse	27,510	12,581	3.1	8,874 : 1
Lafayette	4,572	366	0.1	45,720 : 1
Langlade	6,707	4,469	1.1	6,097 : 1
Lincoln	7,247	527	0.1	72,470 : 1
Manitowoc	16,312	3,746	0.9	18,124 : 1
Marathon	26,215	19,338	4.8	5,461 : 1
Marinette	12,365	3,687	0.9	13,739 : 1
Marquette	4,054	1,202	0.3	13,513 : 1
Menominee	2,706	1,602	0.4	6,765 : 1
Milwaukee	297,565	316,760	79.2	3,757 : 1
Monroe	12,559	7,177	1.8	6,977 : 1
Oconto	8,667	4,074	1.0	8,667 : 1
Oneida	9,552	678	0.2	47,760 : 1
Outagamie	25,994	8,401	2.1	12,378 : 1
Ozaukee	7,721	1,200	0.3	25,737 : 1
Pepin	2,000	107	0	2,000 : 0
Pierce	6,749	836	0.2	33,745 : 1
Polk	9,536	4,886	1.2	7,947 : 1
Portage	15,777	9,606	2.4	6,574 : 1
Price	4,647	1,162	0.3	15,490 : 1
Racine	39,586	22,865	5.7	6,945 : 1
Richland	5,817	1,581	0.4	14,543 : 1
Rock	31,416	18,134	4.5	6,981 : 1
Rusk	5,427	6,549	1.6	3,392 : 1
Saint Croix	8,673	4,422	1.1	7,885 : 1
Sauk	12,705	1,088	0.3	42,350 : 1
Sawyer	5,836	3,332	0.8	7,295 : 1
Shawano	10,371	6,558	1.6	6,482 : 1
Sheboygan	19,159	3,845	1.0	19,159 : 1
Taylor	5,374	0	0	5,374 : 0
Trempealeau	7,052	2,298	0.6	11,753 : 1
Vernon	9,758	2,819	0.7	13,940 : 1
Vilas	6,254	197	0	6,254 : 0
Walworth	19,957	1,488	0.4	49,893 : 1
Washburn	5,101	700	0.2	25,505 : 1
Washington	13,876	1,707	0.4	34,690 : 1
Waukesha	32,997	21,583	5.4	6,111 : 1

County	Pop < 200% Fed Poverty	# Paid MA Claims	Low Income Dentist FTE	Low-Income Pop to Dentist FTE
Waupaca	11,932	2,218	0.6	19,887 : 1
Waushara	6,716	2,358	0.6	11,193 : 1
Winnebago	30,739	6,767	1.7	18,082 : 1
Wood	16,866	5,541	1.4	12,047 : 1

Data Sources, Definitions & Notes:

Population below 200% of the federal poverty level from the U.S. Census - 2000 (American FactFinder)

<http://factfinder.census.gov/home/saff/main.html? lang=en>

Number of Paid Medicaid claims in calendar year 2007 for Medicaid-covered general dental services provided by general and pediatric dentists. Includes both fee-for-service and HMO claims, and excludes claims for specialty dental care (Wisconsin Medicaid Program 10/09). Claims are reported based on the place/location of service delivery not the patient's address.

Dentist FTEs:

The dentist full-time equivalent for low-income populations is calculated by dividing the total number of paid Medicaid claims by 4,000 and then rounding the dentist FTE to one decimal point. This method is used by HRSA's Office of Shortage Designation for the designation of dental shortage areas (Health Professional Shortage Areas – HPSAs) and has been used for over 20 years.

Population to provider ratio:

- The low-income population to dentist FTE ratio is calculated by dividing the low-income population by the dentist FTE (rounded to one decimal point). This ratio can be compared to the federal threshold for designation of dental health professional shortage areas (4,000 to 1.0 FTE dentist) where the larger the population the more severe the shortage of dentists.
- The population to provider ratio is a nationally standardized measure used by HRSA's Office of Shortage Designation to describe and compare the relative shortage of primary care physicians, dentists, and psychiatrists for a population in a defined service area, and this measure has been used for more than 30 years.

Notes:

- These data help describe the availability/shortage of dentist care for low-income populations throughout the state, e.g., geographic availability or shortage of Medicaid dentist services for low-income populations. These data do not describe the total state dental workforce or dental access for the entire state population, but do contribute to the larger analysis.
- Wisconsin does not currently have capacity to collect current and complete health workforce data, specifically survey data on all licensed health professionals which includes their practice address, practice specialty, direct patient care hours/week, and whether care is provided to patients covered by Medicaid/BadgerCare, Medicare or to uninsured patients on a sliding fee schedule. Thus, it is not currently possible to accurately calculate a population to dentist ratio for the state or each county.