

COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTERS DELIVER ESSENTIAL DENTAL CARE WISCONSIN SNAPSHOT

August 2026

In 2024, 7 million patients across the U.S. relied on Community Health Centers (CHCs) for dental services including school-based and mobile services, oral exams, sealants, cleanings, crowns and dentures, complex dental care, emergency services, and more.¹ Preventative care keeps patients out of expensive emergency room services, and avoids disruptions to school or work due to tooth pain. **Unfortunately, however, in 2024 there were over 30,000 oral health-related emergency department visits** in Wisconsin, and **less than half of children and one-fifth of adults enrolled in Medicaid received any oral health care services**, demonstrating the continued need for access improvements.²



430,000 Visits³
provided by Wisconsin CHCs



141 Dentists



99 Dental Hygienists



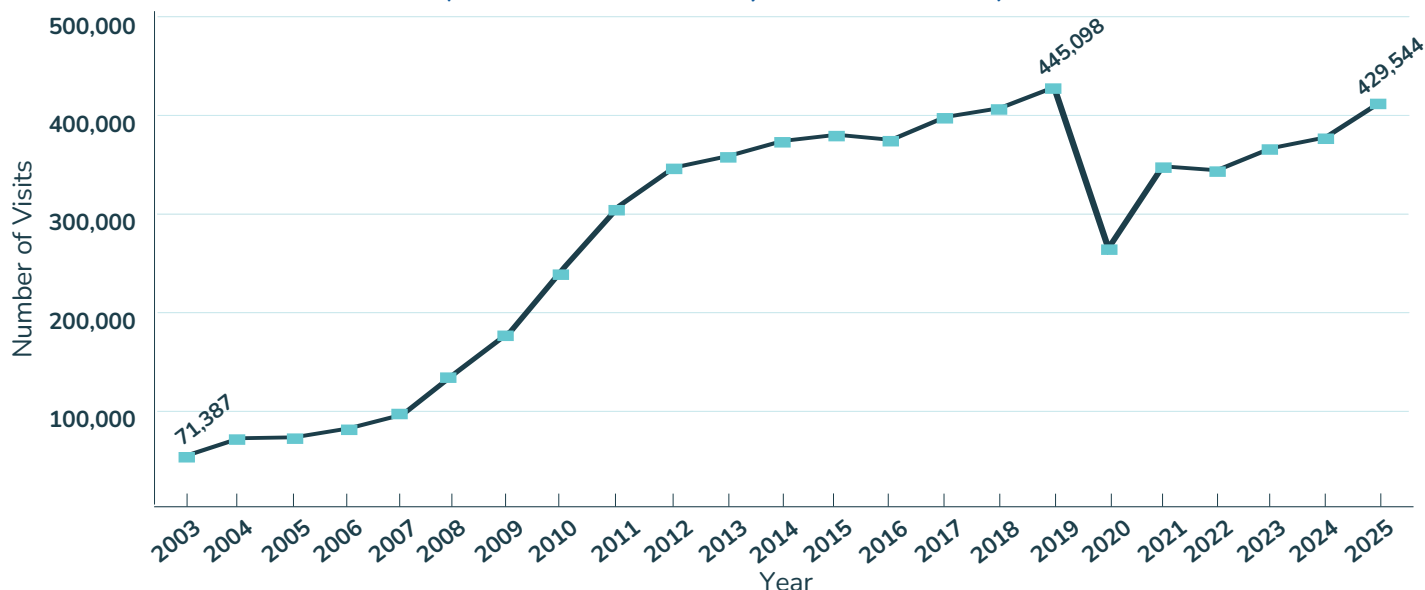
553 Dental Personnel⁴
(i.e. dental assistants)

employed by Wisconsin CHCs

In Wisconsin, CHCs are especially integral to the state's dental infrastructure and improving access to care, especially for Medicaid-enrolled and uninsured patients.

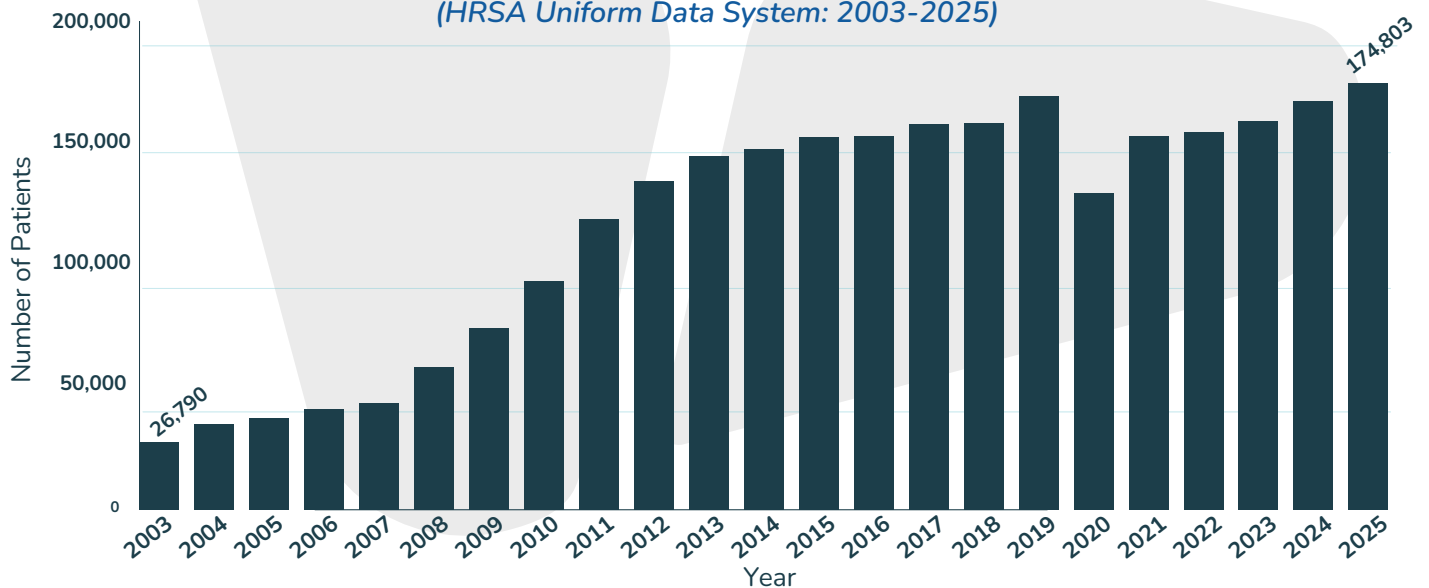
Oral Health Visits at Wisconsin CHCs

(HRSA Uniform Data System: 2003-2025)



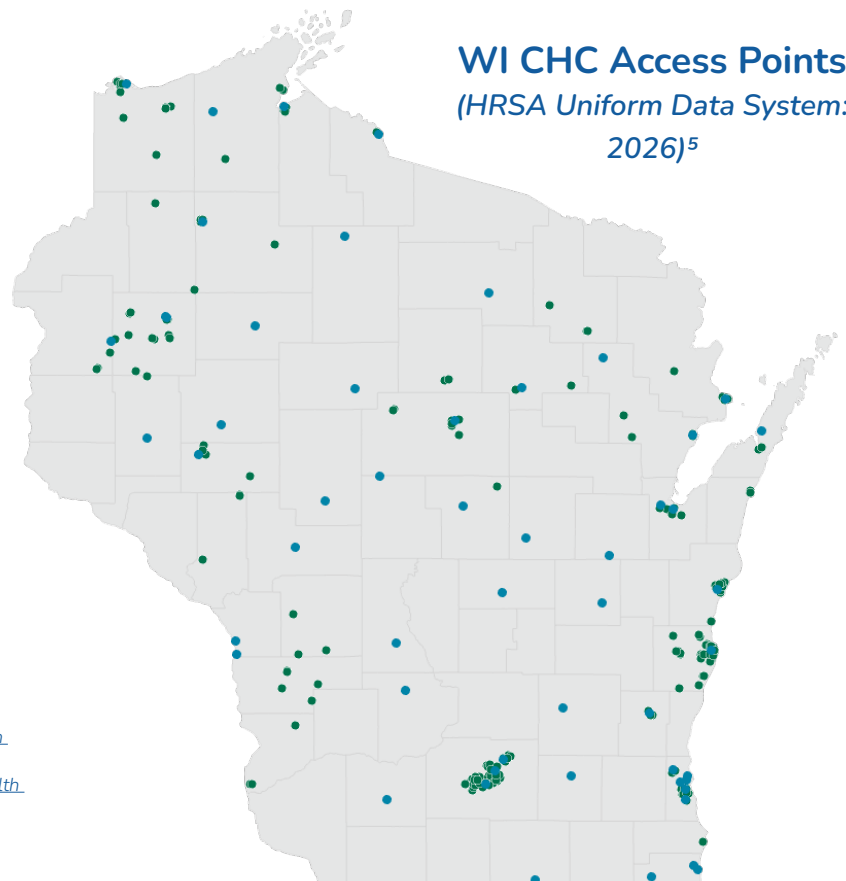
DENTAL PATIENTS AT WI CHCS HAVE INCREASED SIXFOLD SINCE 2003.

Dental Patients at Wisconsin CHCs
(HRSA Uniform Data System: 2003-2025)



**WISCONSIN CHCS
PROVIDE DENTAL
SERVICES AT MORE
THAN 100 SERVICE
SITES**

WI CHC Access Points
(HRSA Uniform Data System:
2026)⁵



- Brick and mortar sites
- School-based sites*
*Not all school-based sites provide dental services.
-  5 Mobile units

Sources

- ¹National Association of Community Health Center. [Community Health Centers Deliver Essential Dental Care. \(March 2026\)](#)
- ²Wisconsin Department of Health Services. [Environmental Public Health Tracking: Oral Health \(2024\)](#)
- ⁴WPHCA Analysis of [2025 UDS Data](#)
- ⁵WPHCA Analysis of 2025 UDS Data [Table 5](#)
- ³HRSA Uniform Data System (2026)