



Oregon Department of Education
Colt Gill, Acting Deputy Superintendent of Public Instruction

2017-2018 Oregon Schools Dental Screening Report



OREGON
DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION

OFFICE *of*
STUDENT SERVICES

Candace Pelt, Assistant Superintendent
Sasha Grenier, School Health & Sexuality Education Specialist

Executive Summary

Oral health is an important part of a student’s overall health. There are documented connections between overall health and a student’s academic performance and attendance. HB 2972 requires school districts to collect dental screening information for students 7 years of age or younger and who are beginning an educational program (includes prekindergarten) for the first time. Schools may perform dental screenings but are not required to. Schools must provide preventative dental care information to new students. Lastly, school districts shall report the percentage of students who fail to submit a screening certificate to the Oregon Department of Education by October 1 of each year. No later than December 1 each year, the Oregon Department of Education shall submit a summary to the Interim Legislative Committees on Education and to the Dental Director appointed by the Oregon Health Authority. Table 1 below provides dental screening data collected during the 2017-2018 school year:

School Year	Number of Students Enrolled (Oregon)	Number of Reporting Districts/Total Oregon Districts	Count of Qualifying Students *	Number of Dental Screening Certificates
2017-2018	580,684	121/197	47,153	21,011

*Age 7 and under who are new to a district.

Student Opt-Out Information.

Students are allowed to be opted out of the requirement to provide a dental screening certificate if the student provided a dental screening during the previous year; the student has a religious conflict; or obtaining a dental screening certificate is a burden. The number of students who opted out and why is represented in Table 2 below.

School Year	Total Students Who Opted Out of the Dental Screening	Screening Submitted the Previous Year	Religious	Burden
2017-2018	5,599	2,364	75	627

Provision of Dental Screenings

Oregon School Districts are not required to provide dental screenings to students. However, many choose to provide this service. Table 3 shows which districts have identified that they provide dental screenings to their students.

Table 3: District Provided Dental Screenings			
School Year	Number of Districts Reporting	Number of Districts Who Provided Dental Screenings	Number of Districts Who Did Not Provide Dental Screenings
2017-2018	121	97	25

Conclusion

ODE is committed to supporting districts in collecting data related to dental screenings. The 2017-2018 school year was the second time that ODE has collected this data. The Department expects to increase the overall district response as well as accuracy of reported data in subsequent reports.