

# at-a-glance

2016

Ohio Department of Health

## School-based Dental Sealant Programs

*Based on strong evidence of effectiveness, the Task Force on Community Preventive Services recommends that school-based/linked dental sealant programs be included as part of a comprehensive population-based strategy to prevent or control dental caries in communities. —The Guide to Community Preventive Services, Am J Preventive Medicine 2002;23(1S)*

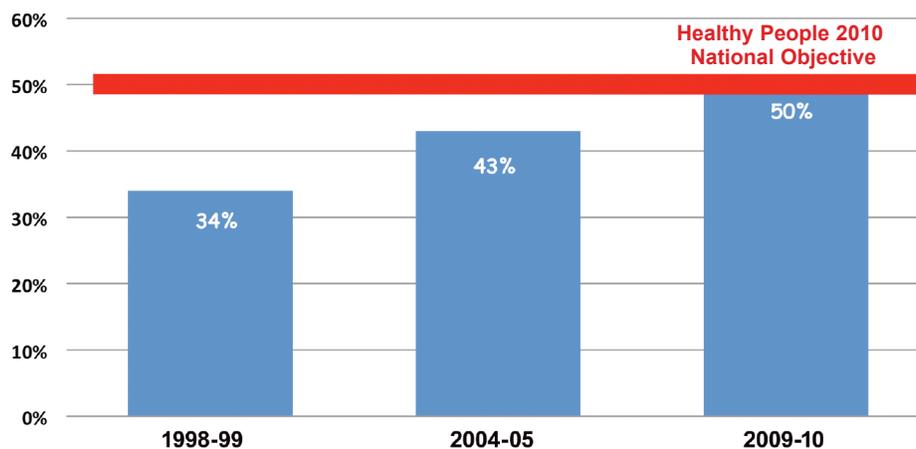
### School-based dental sealant programs (SBSPs) in Ohio typically:

- Provide dental sealants to children in school settings;
- Target schools where 40 percent or more of the students are eligible for the Free/Reduced Price Meals Program;
- Target second and sixth grades;
- With parental consent, have dental hygienist/dental assistant teams place sealants;
- Use portable dental equipment; and
- Check the sealants of third- and seventh-grade students who received sealants in second or sixth grades.



Scan to learn more about School-based Dental Sealant Programs.

### Percentage of Third Grade Students with at Least One Dental Sealant, Ohio, 1998-2010

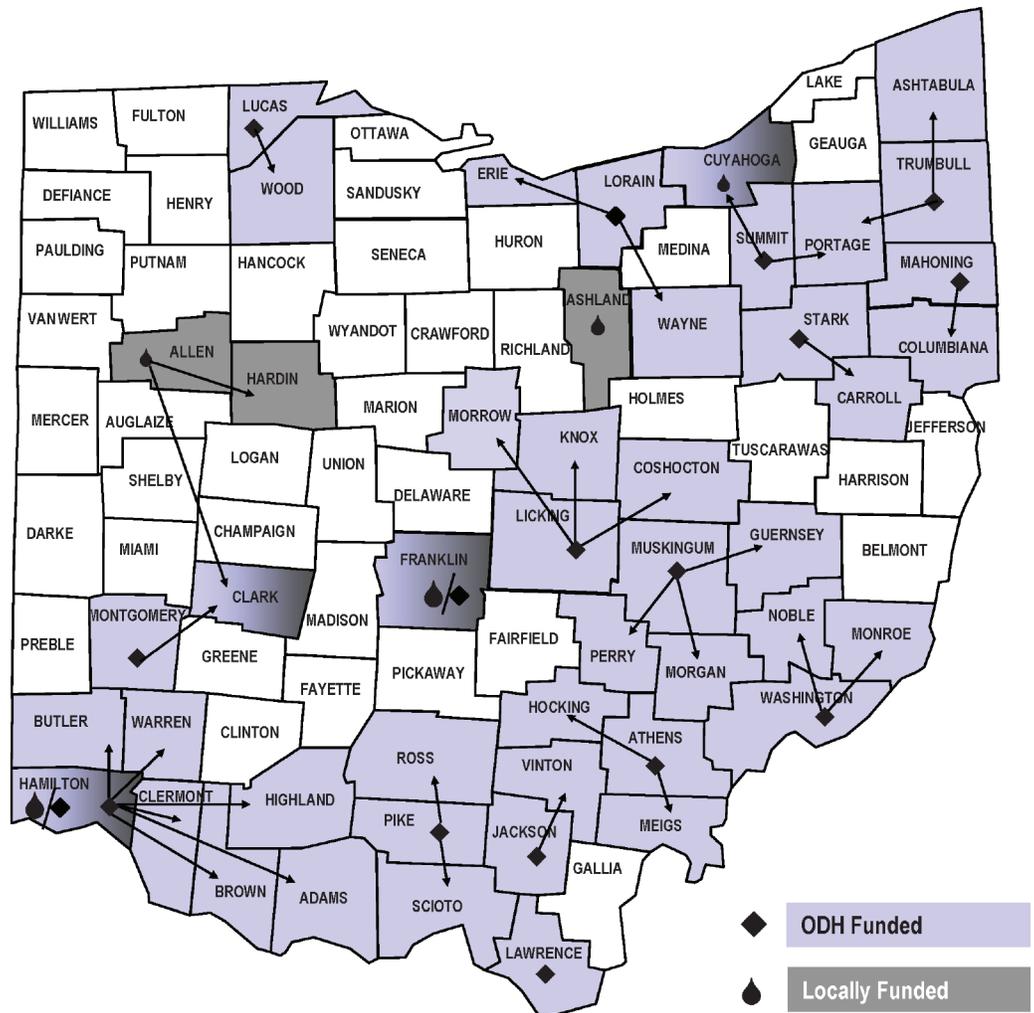


Data from three statewide surveys of Ohio third-graders show that the prevalence of dental sealants has consistently increased over the years. Ohio meets the national benchmark for the percentage of children with one or more sealants (50 percent).

# Ohio sealant programs over the years:

- Cincinnati City Health Department initiated the first Ohio SBSP in 1984.
- Since 1987, the Ohio Department of Health (ODH) has had a grant program to support SBSPs, focusing on highly urbanized and very rural areas. Grantees are local agencies and organizations.
- In 2015, more than 28,000 children received sealants through Ohio SBSPs, mostly through the 17 programs that receive all or part of their funding from ODH.

## School-based Dental Sealant Programs in Ohio, 2016



## Resources for School-based Dental Sealant Programs

The Oral Health Program (OHP) offers a web-based continuing education course on SBSPs on the [OhioDentalClinics.com](http://OhioDentalClinics.com) website. The OHP developed and offers the School-based Dental Sealant Program Manual which provides detailed

information on the expectations of, and standards for, ODH-funded SBSPs. ODH-funded SBSPs must comply with the requirements in this manual. The manual and other resources may be found on the OHP website.

For further information, please contact:



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