



# Healthcare Workforce Transformation Oral Health Workgroup Meeting

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# Review:

## Healthcare Workforce Transformation Oral Health Breakout Group, 10/7/2016



### Health System Goal: Expand access to dental care

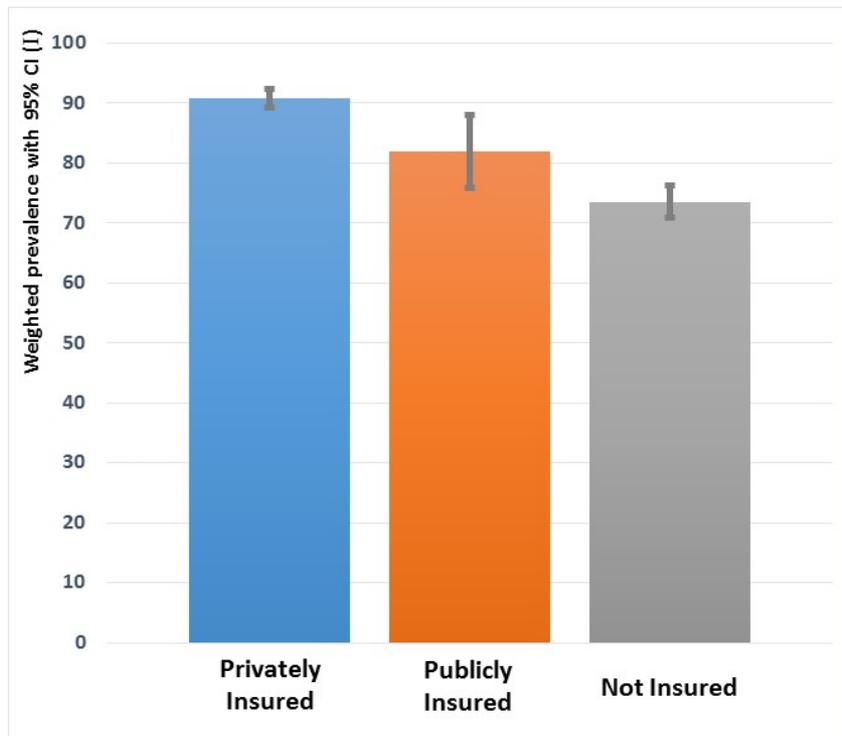
#### Areas for Improvement Discussed at 10/7/2016 Meeting *(in order of discussion, not importance)*

1. Establish licensure &/or education requirements for:
  - Dental Assistants
  - Laboratory technicians
2. Increase # of dental residencies (specifically oral surgery)
3. Establish/increase oral health training in non-dental healthcare education programs, such as MDs, RNs, LPNs, CNAs
4. Establish referral system between dental providers & non-dental healthcare providers
5. Change Medicaid reimbursement structure from fee-for-service to managed care
6. Increase opportunities for population-specific education for current oral health professionals; ideas include:
  - Special needs
  - Cultural competency
  - Pediatrics
  - Geriatrics

# Access to Dental Services for RI Children: Why Dental Insurance Coverage Matters

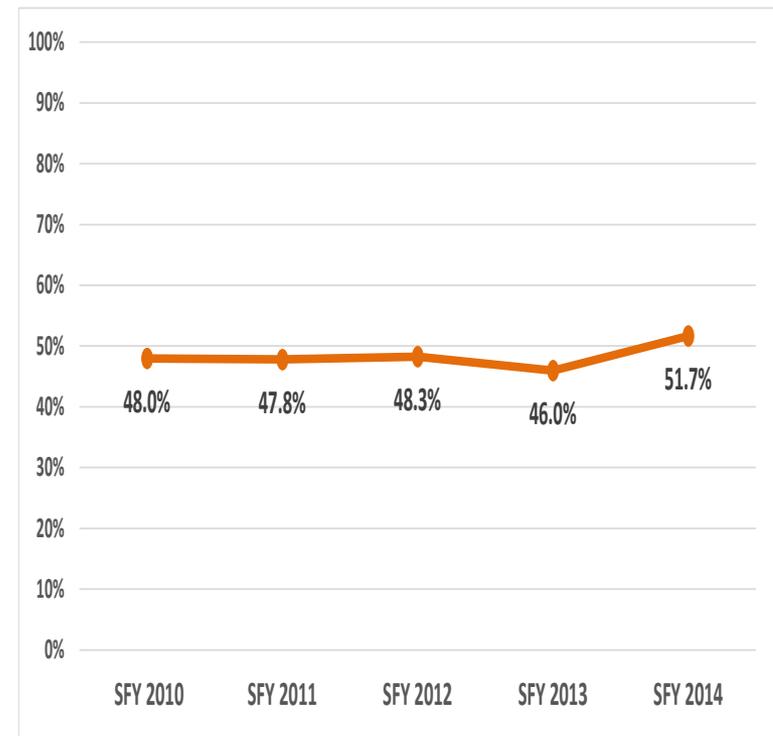


## Self-Report



**RI children (<18 years) who had a dental visit in the past year by dental insurance type, 2012 & 2014 BRFSS**

## Medicaid Claims

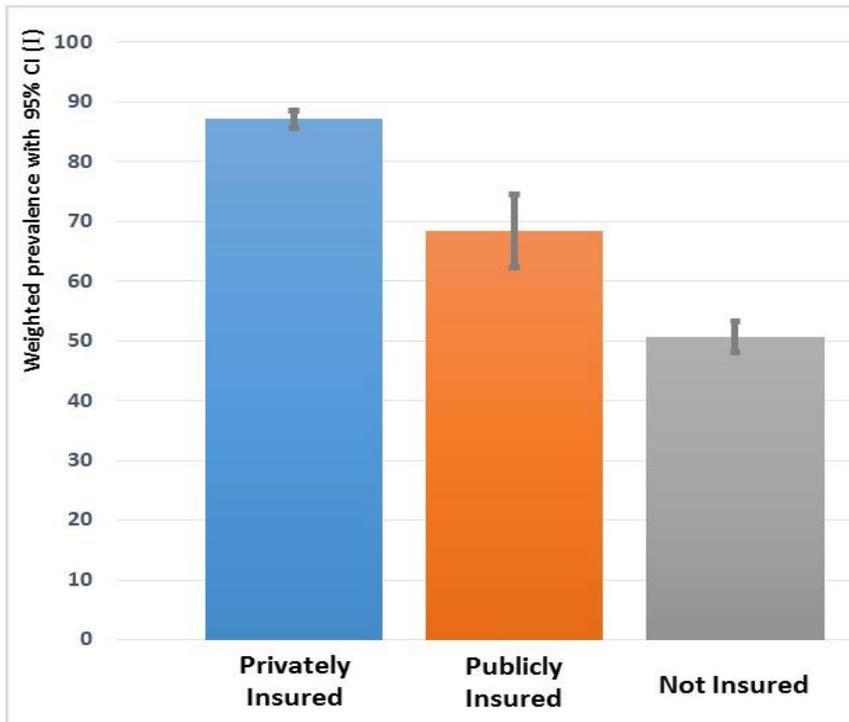


**RI children (<19 years) eligible for Medicaid who received a dental service, SFY 2010-2014, CMS 416-EPSDT Annual Report**

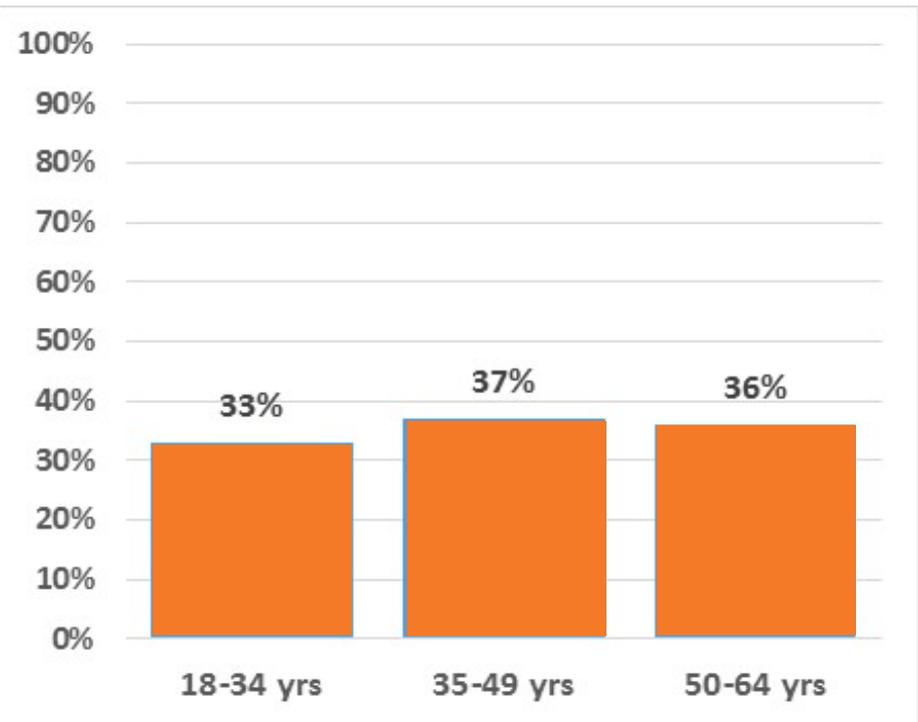
# Access to Dental Services for RI Adults: Why Dental Insurance Coverage Matters



## Self-Report



## Medicaid Claims



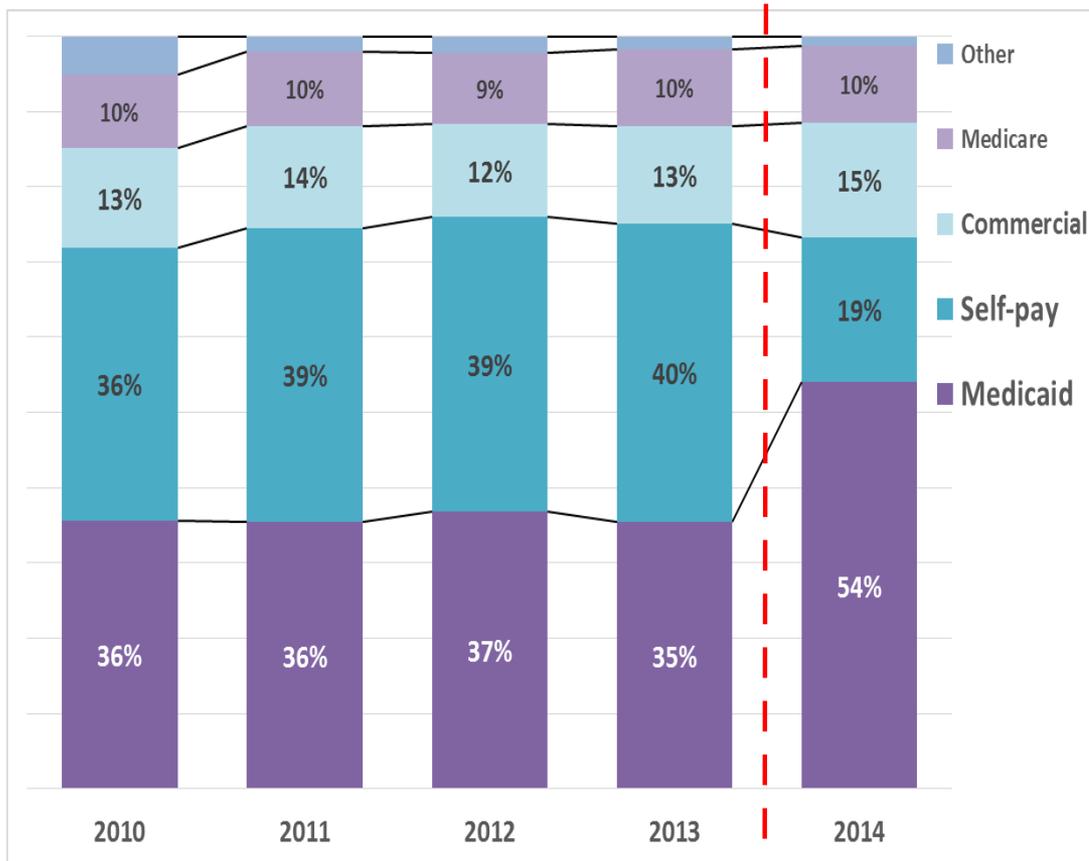
**RI adults ( $\geq 18$  years) who had a dental visit in the past year by dental insurance type, 2012 & 2014 BRFSS**

**RI adults (18-64 years) Medicaid enrollees who received a dental service, 2014 RI Medicaid Claim Data (Data Warehouse) & Monthly Enrollment Report**

# Access to Dental Services for RI Adults: Why Dental Insurance Coverage Matters (Benefits ≠ Access)



## Non-elderly adults' ED Encounters by dental insurance type 2010-14 Hospital Discharge Data



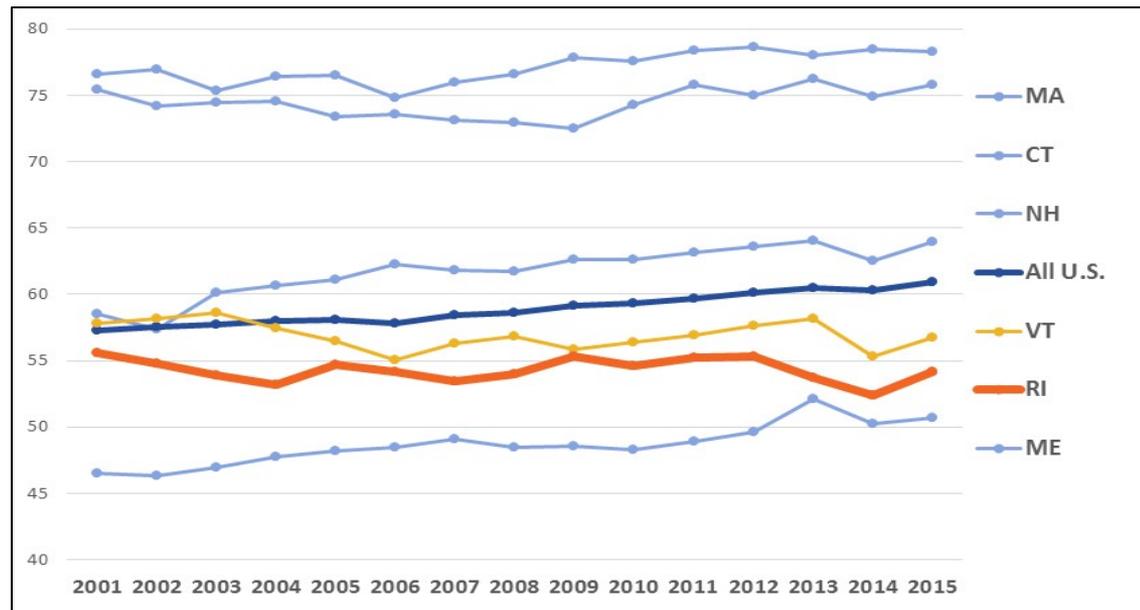
- ED charges increased by an additional ~\$1.5M for services provided for people with MCD
- Increasing # of adults with Medicaid that utilize the oral healthcare system rather than the ED will ↓ Medicaid costs & result in more definitive treatment outcomes for patients

# Dental Workforce - Dentists



- 572 dentists practice in RI, or 54 dentists per 100,000 residents (2015)
- RI's dent:pop ratio is ↓ than national average (61:100,000)
- RI's dent:pop ratio is 2<sup>nd</sup> lowest in New England, following Maine
- Rhode Island's dentist ratio has had a decreasing trend for the last 15 years, while US overall & most of other New England states' ratios have increased

## Rhode Island Dentist to Population Ratio (dent:pop), Compared with US, and other New England States, 2001-2015



# Dental Workforce – RDHs, DAs & Lab Techs



- Registered Dental Hygienists (RDHs)
  - 1,059 RDHs practice in RI (Feb 2016)
  - RI RDHs practice under “general supervision” - a dentist must authorize the procedures to be performed, but need not be present while the services are provided
  - Dental hygienists in other states - less restrictive supervision
    - e.g., independent practice, expanded function & mid-level providers
  - Public health dental hygienists were legislatively approved in 2015 – Rules & Regulations will be finalized soon
- Dental Assistants (DAs) & Laboratory Technicians
  - Not licensed, therefore, no reliable data on # in RI
  - DA registry legislatively approved in 2013, but no development or implementation to date

# Dental Workforce – Medicaid Participation



In 2012,  
6 dental practices accounted for  
45 % of all Medicaid claims payments.

# Dental Education in Rhode Island



- Dental Schools: 0
- Dental Hygiene Schools: 1 accredited
- Dental Assisting Schools: 1 accredited
- Dental Residency Programs: 3 accredited
  - Pediatric Dentistry
    - 2-year program, 4 openings/yr (8 total/year)
  - Advanced Education in General Dentistry
    - 1-year program, 2 openings/yr
  - Dental Public Health
    - 1 opening/yr
    - Dental Residency Programs: 3 accredited
- Continuing Education: Convened by RIDOH; dental, dental hygiene & dental assisting associations & online



# Dental Education in Rhode Island – Population Specific

- **RI Dentistry Mini-Residency Program**
  - 2-day continuing education event
  - Convened annually for 10 years
  - Targets private & community dental providers & office staff
  - Past topics include:
    - Pediatric Dentistry
    - Prenatal Dentistry
    - Special Care Dentistry
    - Oral Health & Systemic Health
    - Geriatric Dentistry
    - Dentistry for Vulnerable Adults
    - Adolescent Dentistry



# Dental Education in Rhode Island – Non-Dental Health Providers

- **Formal Training**
  - **MDs: not known**
  - **Registered Nurses (RNs):**
    - **Rhode Island College RN students received 3 hours of oral health training during 2016**
  - **LPNs & CNAs: not known**



# Referral System between Medical & Dental Providers

- Some community &/or hospital-based health centers have internal referral systems; few are written into internal policies
- No known established referral systems exist between private medical & dental providers



*~ Thank you ~*

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