

REAL DENTAL COSTS · DATA & RESEARCH TEAM

Alabama

Dental Costs & Access Fact Sheet 2026 — procedure prices, insurance gaps, Medicaid acceptance and dentist shortages.

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Data edition 2026.1 · HRSA snapshot 2026-07-30

Alabama at a glance

\$3,759

SINGLE IMPLANT, AVG.

1/51

RESTORATIVE COST RANK

58.7%

DENTISTS TAKING MEDICAID

0

DENTAL-DESERT COUNTIES

- A complete single dental implant averages **\$3,759** in Alabama, \$748 below the \$4,507 national mean of our 51 markets — ranking Alabama **1 of 51** on the restorative cost index (1 = least expensive).
- **58.7%** of Alabama dentists accept Medicaid patients (rank 11 of 51), and the state provides **no** adult dental coverage.
- **No Alabama county meets the dental-desert definition**, which requires above-median prices; Alabama sits below that line. Access pressure is nonetheless broad: **53 of Alabama's 67 counties** (79%) carry at least one active Dental HPSA designation.
- Nationally, 288 of 3,144 counties qualify as dental deserts, and 2,601 carry at least one active Dental HPSA designation.

Procedure prices: Alabama vs the national mean

Every row is labelled with its data basis. **OBSERVED** = measured per-state prices. **ESTIMATED** = no per-state source; the national figure scaled by the restorative cost index. **NATIONAL** = no per-state source at all, so no geographic variation is invented.

Procedure	Alabama range	Alabama avg.	U.S. mean (51 markets)	Basis
Exam, cleaning & X-rays	\$40–\$290	\$170	\$203	ESTIMATED
Composite filling (1 tooth)	\$75–\$375	\$190	\$226	ESTIMATED
Deep cleaning (SRP, per quadrant)	\$140–\$290	\$200	\$242	ESTIMATED
Tooth extraction	\$60–\$665	\$250	\$300	ESTIMATED
Root canal	\$415–\$1,245	\$915	\$1,100	ESTIMATED
All-on-4 (per arch)	\$9,660–\$22,825	\$12,595	\$15,179	ESTIMATED
Professional teeth whitening	\$300–\$1,000	\$650	\$650	NATIONAL
Dental crown	\$800–\$1,780	\$1,046	\$1,369	OBSERVED
Porcelain veneer (per tooth)	\$460–\$2,665	\$1,626	\$1,759	OBSERVED
Braces (traditional, full case)	\$2,080–\$8,325	\$5,280	\$6,352	OBSERVED
Single dental implant (complete)	\$3,135–\$4,780	\$3,759	\$4,507	OBSERVED
Full set of dentures (both arches)	\$1,310–\$3,140	\$1,695	\$1,953	OBSERVED

What insurance actually pays in Alabama

Applied to Alabama averages: a typical full coverage plan structure (preventive ~100%, basic ~80%, major ~50%) against a \$1,500 annual maximum. This is an illustration of a common plan design, not a quote, and it is the subtraction carrier pages do not publish.

Procedure	Alabama avg.	Tier	Plan pays	You still pay
Composite filling (1 tooth)	\$190	basic	\$152	\$38
Root canal	\$915	major	\$458	\$457
Dental crown	\$1,046	major	\$523	\$523
Full set of dentures (both arches)	\$1,695	major	\$848	\$847
Braces (traditional, full case)	\$5,280	ortho	\$1,500 (cap)	\$3,780
Single dental implant (complete)	\$3,759	excluded	nothing	\$3,759

The annual maximum is consumed by the whole plan year, not reset per procedure. Orthodontics and implants are the two lines where the gap is widest: the first exhausts the cap on its own, the second is usually excluded outright.

Methodology & sources

Single implant (complete) — our own observed 51-market series, DOI 10.5281/zenodo.20531728 (CC BY 4.0).

Crown, porcelain veneer, braces, dentures — Average Procedural Cost Study by ASQ360° Market Research for Synchrony's CareCredit. Cited wherever displayed, not redistributed in our open dataset.

All other procedures — national figures scaled by the restorative cost index, labelled *estimated*. Cosmetic rows carry no state variation.

Medicaid acceptance and adult benefit level — DOI 10.5281/zenodo.20666358.

Shortage and dental-desert counts — HRSA Dental HPSA snapshot 2026-07-30, crossed with county median income and state price level; DOI 10.5281/zenodo.21707529.

This is pricing and market research, **not medical advice** and not an insurance quote. Figures are market averages for budgeting and comparison — your quote depends on your case, provider and plan document.

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<https://realdentalcosts.com/en/full-coverage-dental-insurance/alabama/>

Machine-readable data: **<https://realdentalcosts.com/api/v1/state/al.json>**

Web version: **<https://realdentalcosts.com/en/full-coverage-dental-insurance/alabama/>**

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