

REAL DENTAL COSTS · DATA & RESEARCH TEAM

# Alaska

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

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# Alaska at a glance

|                                        |                                       |                                          |                                    |
|----------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <b>\$5,450</b><br>SINGLE IMPLANT, AVG. | <b>48/51</b><br>RESTORATIVE COST RANK | <b>57.6%</b><br>DENTISTS TAKING MEDICAID | <b>7</b><br>DENTAL-DESERT COUNTIES |
|----------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|

- A complete single dental implant averages **\$5,450** in Alaska, \$943 above the \$4,507 national mean of our 51 markets — ranking Alaska **48 of 51** on the restorative cost index (1 = least expensive).
- **57.6%** of Alaska dentists accept Medicaid patients (rank 12 of 51), and the state provides **extensive** adult dental coverage.
- **7 of Alaska's 30 counties** (23%) meet the dental-desert definition — an active shortage designation, below-median county income and above-median prices at once. 30 counties 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: Alaska 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                          | Alaska range      | Alaska avg.     | U.S. mean (51 markets) | Basis     |
|------------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|------------------------|-----------|
| Exam, cleaning & X-rays            | \$60–\$425        | <b>\$245</b>    | \$203                  | ESTIMATED |
| Composite filling (1 tooth)        | \$110–\$545       | <b>\$275</b>    | \$226                  | ESTIMATED |
| Deep cleaning (SRP, per quadrant)  | \$205–\$425       | <b>\$295</b>    | \$242                  | ESTIMATED |
| Tooth extraction                   | \$90–\$970        | <b>\$365</b>    | \$300                  | ESTIMATED |
| Root canal                         | \$605–\$1,815     | <b>\$1,330</b>  | \$1,100                | ESTIMATED |
| All-on-4 (per arch)                | \$14,085–\$33,275 | <b>\$18,365</b> | \$15,179               | ESTIMATED |
| Professional teeth whitening       | \$300–\$1,000     | <b>\$650</b>    | \$650                  | NATIONAL  |
| Dental crown                       | \$1,255–\$2,800   | <b>\$1,644</b>  | \$1,369                | OBSERVED  |
| Porcelain veneer (per tooth)       | \$605–\$3,490     | <b>\$2,129</b>  | \$1,759                | OBSERVED  |
| Braces (traditional, full case)    | \$2,395–\$9,590   | <b>\$6,082</b>  | \$6,352                | OBSERVED  |
| Single dental implant (complete)   | \$4,545–\$6,930   | <b>\$5,450</b>  | \$4,507                | OBSERVED  |
| Full set of dentures (both arches) | \$1,830–\$4,395   | <b>\$2,371</b>  | \$1,953                | OBSERVED  |

# What insurance actually pays in Alaska

Applied to Alaska 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                          | Alaska avg. | Tier     | Plan pays     | You still pay |
|------------------------------------|-------------|----------|---------------|---------------|
| Composite filling (1 tooth)        | \$275       | basic    | \$220         | \$55          |
| Root canal                         | \$1,330     | major    | \$665         | \$665         |
| Dental crown                       | \$1,644     | major    | \$822         | \$822         |
| Full set of dentures (both arches) | \$2,371     | major    | \$1,186       | \$1,185       |
| Braces (traditional, full case)    | \$6,082     | ortho    | \$1,500 (cap) | \$4,582       |
| Single dental implant (complete)   | \$5,450     | excluded | nothing       | \$5,450       |

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.

## Cite this fact sheet

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