

In Richmond upon Thames, just over 3 in 10 adults and just under 5 in 10 children have access to NHS dentistry.

**ADULT ACCESS** ^[1]



32.0%

of adults in Richmond upon Thames saw an NHS dentist

49,436 of 154,265 · April 2024 to March 2026

London 36.9% · England 40.0%

**CHILD ACCESS** ^[1]



48.3%

of children in Richmond upon Thames saw an NHS dentist

20,495 of 42,448 · April 2025 to March 2026

London 51.5% · England 60.0%

 NHS DENTAL PROVISION IN RICHMOND UPON THAMES ^[2] as at August 2026

**NHS PRACTICES**
18
With a GDS contract

**NHS DENTISTS**
89
Active in the borough

**CONTRACT VALUE**
£5,958,870
Total commissioned

**SPEND PER PERSON**
£30.29
Per resident

**NHS TREATMENT DELIVERED** ^[1]

86,243 COURSES OF TREATMENT, APR 2025 TO MAR 2026



Share

Band 1

Check-ups, scale and polish

66.1%

Band 2

Fillings, extractions, root canals

19.4%

Band 3

Crowns, dentures, bridges

3.9%

Urgent

Urgent appointments

10.6%

of which 2a 14.3% · 2b 4.8% · 2c 0.3%

URGENT CARE AS A SHARE OF UDAS



0% 6.5% 8.2% 13%

required from April 2026

UDAs weight each course by complexity, so urgent care is a smaller share of UDAs (6.5%) than of courses (10.6%).

**ACCESS WITHIN RICHMOND UPON THAMES** ^[1]

18 wards, adults

Whitton

44.1%

Heathfield

42.6%

West Twickenham

40.1%

Teddington

24.5%

Kew

24.3%

South Richmond

23.9%

Adult access ranges from 23.9% in South Richmond to 44.1% in Whitton, a gap of 20.2 points within the borough, wider than the gap between Richmond upon Thames and the England average.

WHAT WOULD MAKE THE BIGGEST DIFFERENCE LOCALLY

• Dentistry named in Integrated Neighbourhood Teams

• A route for practices into local prevention programmes

• Access to the NHS Spine and the Single Patient Record

 **CHILDREN'S ORAL HEALTH** ^[3] tooth decay is the most common reason a child under 10 is admitted to hospital

**FIVE YEAR OLDS WITH TOOTH DECAY**



17.5%

London 27.4% · England 22.4% · 2024 survey

**CHILDREN UNDER 10 ADMITTED TO HOSPITAL TO HAVE DECAYED TEETH REMOVED**



35

In 2024/25, down 46% on 2023/24 (65)

**HOW THE NHS DENTAL CONTRACT WORKS**



There is no NHS dental registration. A practice is contracted to deliver a set amount of activity each year and is paid for that activity, not for a list of patients.



Once that activity is delivered, a practice cannot take on more NHS patients. More patients means more contract value, which is a commissioning decision.



The contract is national and pays only for defined courses of treatment. There is no mechanism within it to fund prevention work or joint working with local services.

**ABOUT THE LDC CONFEDERATION**

The LDC Confederation is the membership body for London's four Local Dental Committees, the representative bodies for NHS dentists. Together we cover 22 boroughs and around 3,000 NHS dentists. South West London LDC covers Croydon, Kingston upon Thames, Merton, Richmond upon Thames, Sutton and Wandsworth. We bring dental intelligence into local planning, connect partners with practices in the borough, and cascade information and opportunities to them.



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 **A note on this data**
These figures describe people who were seen by an NHS dentist, not the oral health of those who were not, who are concentrated in the most deprived parts of the borough. Higher access is not in itself a good result: it does not show whether the people with the greatest need are being seen, or whether they are receiving the right care. London and England figures are context, not a benchmark. Being above an average does not mean residents are receiving the care they should.

Sources

1 NHS BSA, NHS Dental Statistics for England 2025/26

2 NHS BSA contract report, August 2026

3 OHID, oral health survey of five year olds 2024 and hospital tooth extractions to March 2025

LDC

Confederation

Provided to Local Dental Committees as part of LDC Confederation membership