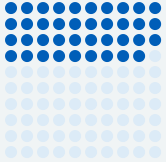


In Southwark, about 4 in 10 adults and just over 5 in 10 children have access to NHS dentistry.

**ADULT ACCESS** ^[1]

**38.6%**

of adults in Southwark saw an NHS dentist
100,434 of 259,986 · April 2024 to March 2026

London **36.9%** · England **40.0%**

**CHILD ACCESS** ^[1]

**54.3%**

of children in Southwark saw an NHS dentist
28,426 of 52,380 · April 2025 to March 2026

London **51.5%** · England **60.0%**

 NHS DENTAL PROVISION IN SOUTHWARK ^[2] as at August 2026

**NHS PRACTICES**
30
With a GDS contract

**NHS DENTISTS**
193
Active in the borough

**CONTRACT VALUE**
£19,972,573
Total commissioned

**SPEND PER PERSON**
£63.94
Per resident

**NHS TREATMENT DELIVERED** ^[1]

170,612 COURSES OF TREATMENT, APR 2025 TO MAR 2026

45.3%	33.0%	8.4%	13.2%
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Share

Band 1	Check-ups, scale and polish	45.3%
Band 2	Fillings, extractions, root canals	33.0%
of which 2a 22.0% · 2b 10.4% · 2c 0.6%		
Band 3	Crowns, dentures, bridges	8.4%
Urgent	Urgent appointments	13.2%

URGENT CARE AS A SHARE OF UDAS

0%	5.6%	8.2%	13%
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required from April 2026

UDAs weight each course by complexity, so urgent care is a smaller share of UDAs (5.6%) than of courses (13.2%).

**ACCESS WITHIN SOUTHWARK** ^[1] 23 wards, adults

Peckham Rye	50.7%
Nunhead & Queen's Road	47.3%
Rye Lane	47.1%
St George's	29.0%
Dulwich Village	27.5%
Borough & Bankside	22.6%

Adult access ranges from 22.6% in Borough & Bankside to 50.7% in Peckham Rye, a gap of 28.1 points within the borough, wider than the gap between Southwark 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**

**180**

In 2024/25, up 3% on 2023/24 (175)

**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 East London LDC covers Bexley, Bromley, Greenwich, Lambeth, Lewisham and Southwark.

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