

Water Fluoridation Reporting Requirements



2018 States Ranked by Fluoridation Percentage

District of Columbia	100%
Kentucky	99.8%
Minnesota	98.8%
Illinois	98.2%
North Dakota	96.5%
Virginia	96.3%
Georgia	95.2%
Maryland	93.7%
South Dakota	93.7%
Ohio	92.5%
Indiana	92.4%
South Carolina	91.9%
West Virginia	90.7%
Iowa	90.3%
Connecticut	89.5%
Michigan	89.5%
Tennessee	88.8%
North Carolina	87.6%
Wisconsin	87.3%
Delaware	85.9%

CDC website - [cdc.gov/fluoridation/statistics/reference_stats.htm](https://www.cdc.gov/fluoridation/statistics/reference_stats.htm) - October 5, 2020.

Community water fluoridation is a safe, beneficial, cost-effective and socially equitable public health measure that can prevent dental caries in children and adults. The Iowa Dental Association (IDA) is urging legislators to **require communities to inform their citizens before voting to discontinuing water fluoridation.**

In the most recent rankings by percentage of the population served by community water systems (CWS) with fluoridated water, Iowa is 14th behind our neighbors in Illinois, North Dakota, Minnesota, and South Dakota.

Three Iowa counties, **Fremont, Monona, and Pocahontas**, do not have any fluoridated water programs. Three communities discontinued fluoridation programs in 2020, Akron in Plymouth County serving 1,369 Iowans, Clarion in Wright County serving 2,648, and Treynor in Pottawattamie County serving 866 Iowans.

Protecting Iowa's Children

Cavities and tooth decay are some of the most common childhood chronic diseases, affecting nearly 13 percent of Iowa children ages 6 to 11². **Low-income families are twice as likely to have cavities³.**

Cavities are preventable. Those living in communities with fluoridation programs have **25 percent fewer cavities** than those who do not, leading to:

- **Less Pain**
- **Fewer fillings and pulled teeth**
- **Fewer missed days of school and work⁴**

Decreased Healthcare Costs

For every \$1 communities invested in community water fluoridation programs, there is a return of \$20 resulting in **less expensive dental treatments, saving Iowa families money⁴.**

1. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (Reviewed September 8, 2020). 2018 fluoridation statistics. Retrieved from <https://www.cdc.gov/fluoridation/statistics/2018stats.htm>.

2. National Survey of Children's Health, 2018-2019. Retrieved from <https://www.childhealthdata.org/browse/survey/results?q=7712&r=17&g=789>

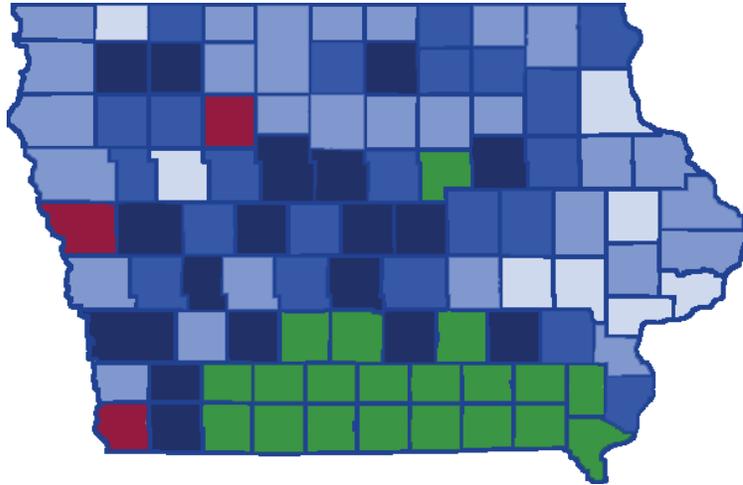
3. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (Reviewed May 14, 2019). Children's oral health. Retrieved from <https://www.cdc.gov/oralhealth/basics/childrens-oral-health/index.html>

4. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Communities benefit from water fluoridation. Retrieved from <https://www.cdc.gov/oralhealth/publications/docs/Infographic-Communities-benefit-from-water-fluoridation-h.pdf>

5. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. My water's fluoride. Retrieved from https://nccd.cdc.gov/DOH_MWF/Default/WaterSystemList.aspx.



Fluoridation in Iowa



Percentage of Properly Fluoridated Community Water Systems by County⁵



Funding to Help Keep Fluoridated Water Programs

The Delta Dental of Iowa Foundation has provided grants up to \$25,000 to cities to aid them with their fluoridation programs. The most recent recipient was the city of Independence. Funds may be used for supplies, automatic analyzer equipment, and updated equipment.

About IDA

Representing over 1,800 dentists, the IDA is the largest oral health association in Iowa. More than 80 percent of Iowa's practicing dentists are members of the IDA. The IDA's broad membership throughout the state and across all specialties reflects a unique commitment by dentists to work together to enhance their profession on behalf of their patients and all Iowans. Each member of the IDA is also a member of one of Iowa's 10 district dental societies and the American Dental Association.

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