

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Vermont Ranked #1 State to Raise Healthy Kids

South Burlington, Vermont. The Vermont State Dental Society (VSDS) is proud to announce that Vermont was just ranked the #1 state for children's overall healthcare and the #5 state for children's oral healthcare, according to a new study referenced in a blog posted by the Public Assets Institute, a policy think tank in Montpelier. The [study](#) compared the health statistics of each state on the basis of 28 key indicators related to quality, access and cost. From those indicators, 3 categories – 1) children's health and access to healthcare, 2) children's nutrition, physical activity & obesity and 3) children's oral health – were established to determine the overall rankings.

Vaughn Collins, VSDS Executive Director, commented, "We are so pleased to see Vermont recognized for cultivating an environment where children are receiving the quality healthcare and dental care they need, and when they need it. As one of the 3 main categories of the study, we are thrilled that so much emphasis was placed on the importance of dental care to overall health."

Vermont ranked top 5 for several key indicators.

Vermont was consistently ranked in the top 5 for the key indicators reviewed by the study, including:

- Highest % of children in excellent & very good health
- Highest % of children with excellent & very good teeth
- Lowest % of uninsured children
- Lowest % of children with unaffordable medical bills
- Highest % of children with medical & dental preventative-care visits
- Most Pediatricians & Family doctors per capita
- Lowest Infant death rate

Let's keep up the momentum.

While the study reflects Vermont's proven, dependable and valued healthcare system for its children, there's still work to be done. VSDS and its member dentists are committed to helping continue strengthening and expanding our dental system of care through providing resources, educational information and support to Vermont communities. Learn more at VSDS.org.

About Vermont State Dental Society: The Vermont State Dental Society (VSDS) is Vermont's professional association for dentists. With just under 400 members, VSDS includes more than 85% of the practicing dentists in the state. VSDS works to enhance oral healthcare through providing resources, educational information and support for its members and the public, as well as advocating for public policies and systems to improve oral healthcare for all Vermonters.