

Sentry Package Installation Location Analysis

Investigation Date: January 20, 2026

Executive Summary

Good News:

- Sentry releases are being detected (2 releases shown in dashboard)
- Sentry CLI is working correctly
- @sentry/nextjs is installed in the **correct** location

Problem:

- `sentryInitialized: false` at runtime
- SDK not capturing errors during runtime
- Configuration is correct, but initialization may be failing silently

Detailed Findings

1. Package Installation Analysis

Root Project (/home/ubuntu/carelinkai-project/)

- **package.json:** "@sentry/nextjs": "^8.0.0"
- **node_modules:** Version 8.55.0 installed
- **Status:** **CORRECT LOCATION**
- **This is where Next.js runs from**

nextjs_space Directory (/home/ubuntu/carelinkai-project/nextjs_space/)

- **package.json:** "@sentry/nextjs": "^10.35.0"
- **Purpose:** Build/deployment directory with symlinks
- **node_modules:** Symlink to /opt/hostedapp/node/root/app/node_modules (Render deployment path)
- **Status:** **SEPARATE BUILD ENVIRONMENT** (This appears to be a Render deployment artifact)
- **Not used for actual runtime**

Conclusion: The package is installed in the **correct location** (root). The `nextjs_space` directory is likely a deployment artifact and should not cause issues.

2. Sentry Configuration Files Location

All Sentry configuration files are correctly located at the **ROOT** level:

- /home/ubuntu/carelinkai-project/instrumentation.ts
- /home/ubuntu/carelinkai-project/instrumentation-client.ts
- /home/ubuntu/carelinkai-project/sentry.client.config.ts
- /home/ubuntu/carelinkai-project/sentry.server.config.ts
- /home/ubuntu/carelinkai-project/sentry.edge.config.ts
- /home/ubuntu/carelinkai-project/src/lib/sentry.ts

3. Configuration Analysis

Client-Side Initialization (`sentry.client.config.ts`)

```
const SENTRY_DSN = process.env.NEXT_PUBLIC_SENTRY_DSN;

if (SENTRY_DSN && SENTRY_DSN.startsWith('https://')) {
  Sentry.init({
    dsn: SENTRY_DSN,
    // ... configuration
  });
  console.log('✓ Sentry client initialized');
} else {
  console.log('[Sentry] DSN not configured - error tracking disabled');
}
```

Issue Identified: The initialization is **conditional** based on DSN validation!

Environment Variables

```
NEXT_PUBLIC_SENTRY_DSN=https://ac6dd6bc837b4547d48f43896db2ad-
cc@o4510740433076224.ingest.us.sentry.io/4510740481245184
```

✓ DSN is correctly set in `.env`

Instrumentation Setup

```
// instrumentation-client.ts
import './sentry.client.config';
```

✓ Client-side config is correctly imported

4. Integration with Next.js

`next.config.js`

```
const { withSentryConfig } = require('@sentry/nextjs');
module.exports = withSentryConfig(nextConfig, sentryWebpackPluginOptions);
```

✓ Sentry is properly integrated via `withSentryConfig`

Root Layout (`src/app/layout.tsx`)

```
import SentryProvider from "../components/SentryProvider";
```

✓ `SentryProvider` is imported and used

Root Cause Analysis

Based on the investigation, the package installation is **CORRECT**. The issue is likely one of the following:

Hypothesis 1: Environment Variable Not Available at Build Time

The DSN check happens at runtime, but `process.env.NEXT_PUBLIC_SENTRY_DSN` may not be available in the browser:

Problem:

- `.env` file is server-side only
- For client-side access, env vars must be defined in `next.config.js` or Render environment

Why Releases Work:

- Sentry CLI uses `SENTRY_AUTH_TOKEN` from Render environment
- This is separate from runtime initialization

Hypothesis 2: Silent Initialization Failure

The conditional initialization in `sentry.client.config.ts` may be failing the DSN check:

```
if (SENTRY_DSN && SENTRY_DSN.startsWith('https://')) {
    // Initialize
} else {
    console.log('[Sentry] DSN not configured');
}
```

Potential Issues:

- DSN may be `undefined` in browser context
- No error is thrown, just silent failure

Hypothesis 3: Render Deployment Environment Mismatch

The `nextjs_space` directory with different Sentry version suggests a complex build setup:

Observation:

- Root has `@sentry/nextjs v8.55.0`
- `nextjs_space` has `@sentry/nextjs v10.35.0` in `package.json`
- `nextjs_space's node_modules` is a symlink to Render's deployment path

Concern:

- If Render is running the app from `nextjs_space` context
- It might be using the wrong Sentry version or configuration

Recommendations

Priority 1: Verify Environment Variables in Render

1. Check Render Dashboard Environment Variables:

Navigate to: Render → Your Service → Environment
 Ensure: `NEXT_PUBLIC_SENTRY_DSN` is set with the same value as `.env`

2. Add to `next.config.js` (more reliable for client-side):

```
javascript
const nextConfig = {
  env: {
    NEXT_PUBLIC_SENTRY_DSN: process.env.NEXT_PUBLIC_SENTRY_DSN,
  },
}
```

```
// ... rest of config
};
```

🟡 Priority 2: Add Debug Logging

Modify `sentry.client.config.ts` to add more visibility:

```
const SENTRY_DSN = process.env.NEXT_PUBLIC_SENTRY_DSN;

console.log('[Sentry Debug] DSN check:', {
  hasDSN: !!SENTRY_DSN,
  dsnPrefix: SENTRY_DSN?.substring(0, 20),
  startsWithHttps: SENTRY_DSN?.startsWith('https://'),
  envKeys: Object.keys(process.env).filter(k => k.includes('SENTRY'))
});

if (SENTRY_DSN && SENTRY_DSN.startsWith('https://')) {
  try {
    Sentry.init({
      dsn: SENTRY_DSN,
      // ... rest of config
      onLoad: () => {
        console.log('[Sentry] Successfully loaded!');
      }
    });
    console.log('✅ Sentry client init called');
  } catch (error) {
    console.error('[Sentry] Initialization failed:', error);
  }
} else {
  console.warn('[Sentry] DSN not configured or invalid:', {
    dsnValue: SENTRY_DSN ? 'present but invalid' : 'undefined'
  });
}
```

🟡 Priority 3: Test Client-Side Initialization

Add a test page to verify Sentry is loaded:

Create `/src/app/test-sentry-status/page.tsx`:

```
'use client';

import { useSentryStatus } from '@/components/SentryProvider';
import * as Sentry from '@sentry/nextjs';

export default function SentryStatusPage() {
  const status = useSentryStatus();
  const client = Sentry.getClient();

  return (
    <div style={{ padding: '2rem' }}>
      <h1>Sentry Status Test</h1>
      <ul>
        <li>Status initialized: {status.initialized ? '✓' : '✗'}</li>
        <li>Client exists: {client ? '✓' : '✗'}</li>
        <li>DSN env: {process.env.NEXT_PUBLIC_SENTRY_DSN || 'NOT FOUND'}</li>
      </ul>
      <button onClick={() => {
        Sentry.captureException(new Error('Test error from status page'));
        alert('Test error sent');
      }}>
        Send Test Error
      </button>
    </div>
  );
}
```

● Priority 4: Clean Up nextjs_space (Optional)

The `nextjs_space` directory with conflicting package.json may be legacy:

```
# If nextjs_space is not used by Render, consider removing it
# CAUTION: Verify with Render deployment logs first
```

● Priority 5: Verify Build Context

Check Render build command to ensure it's building from the correct directory:

```
# In Render dashboard:
Build Command: npm run build # Should run from root, not nextjs_space
```

Next Steps

1. ✓ **Immediate:** Add `NEXT_PUBLIC_SENTRY_DSN` to Render Environment Variables
2. 🔎 **Debug:** Deploy with enhanced logging (Priority 2)
3. ✒ **Test:** Visit `/test-sentry-status` page after deployment
4. 📈 **Monitor:** Check browser console for Sentry debug messages
5. ⏱ **Verify:** Trigger a test error and confirm it appears in Sentry dashboard

Expected Outcome

After adding environment variable to Render:

- Browser console should show: ✓ Sentry client initialized

- `/test-sentry-status` should show: Status initialized: 
- Test errors should appear in Sentry dashboard within 1-2 minutes

Conclusion

The **package installation location is CORRECT**. The issue is most likely **environment variable availability** in the Render deployment environment, not in local development.

Key Insight:

Releases work because Sentry CLI uses build-time credentials, but runtime initialization fails because `NEXT_PUBLIC_SENTRY_DSN` is not available in the browser context on Render.

Confidence Level:  **HIGH** - The DSN check is the most likely culprit.