

How Will Covid-19 Impact Access To Dental Care for Vulnerable Populations?

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HPI Health Policy Institute

ADA American Dental Association®



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HPI Economic Impact of COVID-19 Tracking Poll

- Bi-weekly poll
- Started week of March 23rd
- Three core measures:
 - Status of your practice
 - Volume of patients and collections
 - Status of your staff
- “Question(s) of the Week”
- Representative sample of dentists in private practice (n=6,000+)
- HPI also fielded one wave of data collection from dentists working in public health settings May 6-19th (n=696)

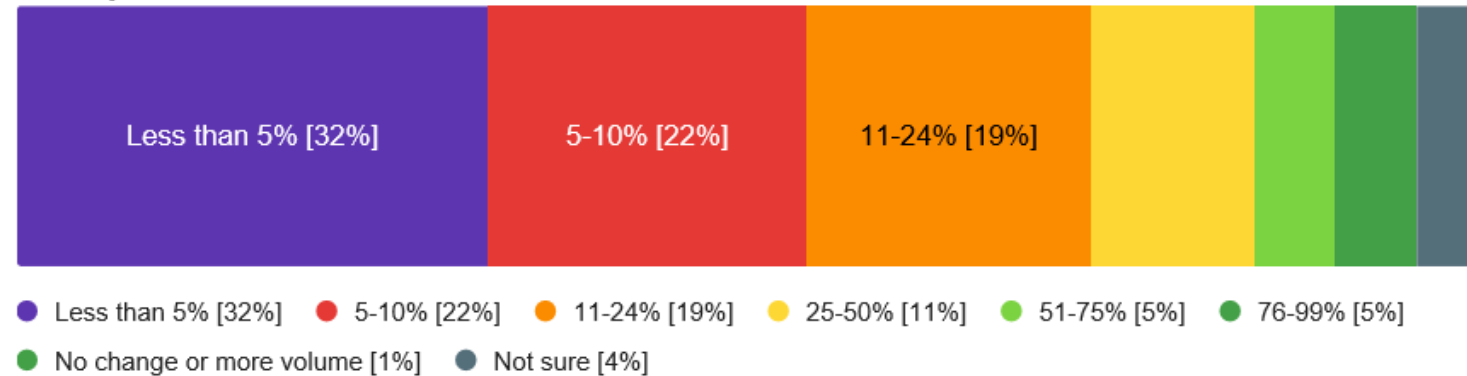
**COVID-19's
Impact on the
Dental Care Sector**



Core Questions

How does this week compare to what is typical in your clinic/health center's dental program, in terms of... *

Total patient volume?



Dentists in public health settings

Insight: Patient volumes decreased significantly during the period of postponing elective care. Private practices saw a larger decline than public health settings.

How does this week compare to what is typical in your practice, in terms of... *

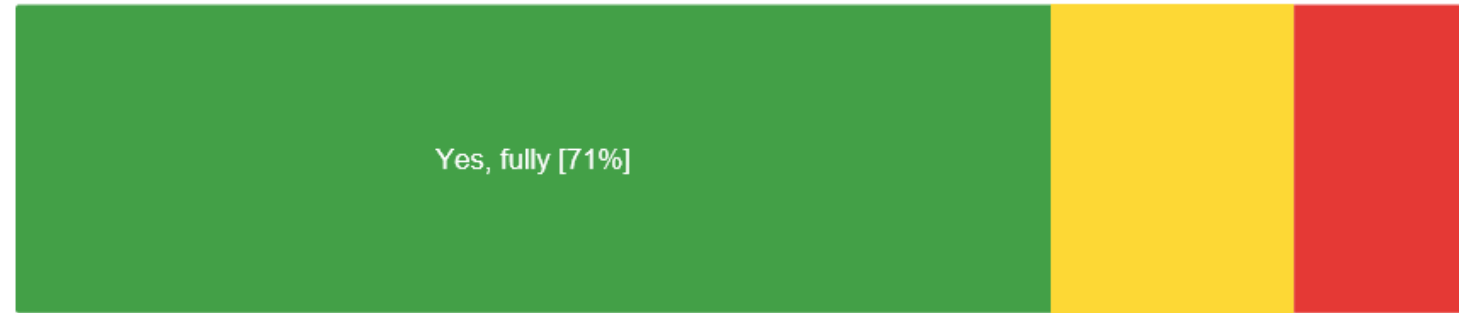
Total patient volume?



Dentists in private practice

Core Questions

Is your clinic/health center's dental program paying you your salary this week?



● Yes, fully [71%] ● Yes, partially [17%] ● Not being paid at all [12%]

Insight: Most dentists in public health settings were being paid.

Dentists in public health settings

[If not being paid at all] Are you currently receiving unemployment benefits?



● Yes [55%] ● I've applied, but have not received any benefits yet [30%] ● No, my application was not approved [3%]

● No, I have not applied [12%]

Core Questions

Insight: Most non-owner dentists in private practice were not being paid.

[If non-owner dentist] Are YOU being paid this week?



● Yes, fully [14%] ● Yes, partially [30%] ● Not being paid at all [56%]

Dentists in private practice who are non-owners

[If Not Being Paid at All] Are you currently receiving unemployment benefits?



● Yes [57%] ● I've applied, but have not received any benefits yet [20%] ● No, my application was not approved [8%]
● No, I have not applied [15%]

Core Questions

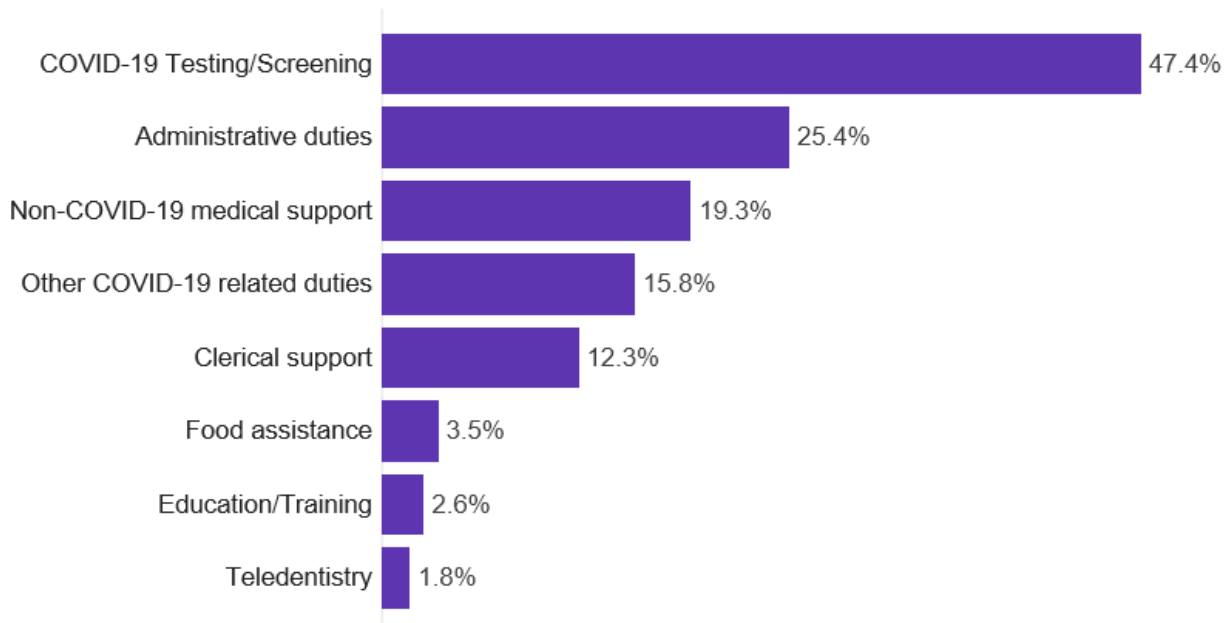
During the COVID-19 pandemic, have YOU worked in other departments within your clinic/health center while not performing dental procedures?



Insight: 27% of dentists in public health settings worked with other departments, primarily on testing and screening.

Please describe the type of work you have performed outside of the dental program.

114 Responses



Dentists in public health settings.

Core Questions

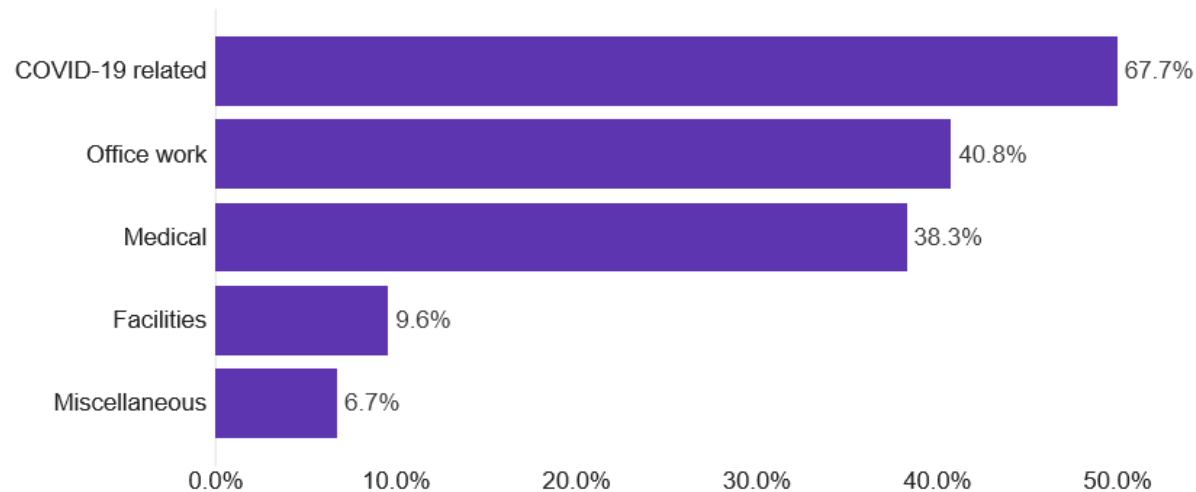
During the COVID-19 pandemic, have ANY OTHER DENTAL STAFF MEMBERS worked in other departments within your clinic/health center while not performing dental procedures?



Insight: 70% of dental team members in public health settings worked with other departments, primarily on testing and administrative support.

Please describe the type of work the other dental staff members have performed outside of the dental program. (Parent topics)

282 Responses



Dental team members in public health settings.

Core Questions

Insight: Dentists in public health settings were far more likely to embrace teledentistry.

Is your clinic/health center's dental program currently using virtual technology/telecommunications to conduct remote problem-focused evaluations (CDT Code D0140)?



Dentists in public health settings

Is your practice currently using virtual technology/telecommunications to conduct remote problem-focused evaluations (CDT Code D0140)?



Dentists in private practice

Thank You!



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