

Economic Outlook and Emerging Issues in Dentistry

Insights from Data from July 2022

Emerging Issues Polling

- Measuring the ongoing impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and other emerging issues in dentistry
- Over 3000 have opted to participate to date, roughly 1200 responded in the most recent wave
- Data was collected July 12-17, 2022
- Core measures: economic outlook, fullness of practice schedule, schedule barriers, recruitment needs and associated difficulty
- Questions of the month: dentists offering health insurance to employees, reasons for not offering health insurance
- Complete reports with breakdowns available at [ADA.org/HPI](https://ada.org/HPI)
- State dashboard now available!

State Dashboard



ADA American Dental Association®

Month	Location	Ownership Status	Practice Size	DSO Affiliation	Race/Ethnicity	Sex	Reset View
June 2022	(All)	(All)	(All)	(All)	(All)	(All)	

Below are results from the Economic Outlook and Emerging Issues in Dentistry study for dentists working in private dental practices. This dashboard allows users to view different cuts of the data filtering by month, state(s), ownership status, practice size, DSO affiliation, race/ethnicity, and sex. Unless noted otherwise, charts reflect the results from the latest wave of data collection. Results are only displayed if there were at least 30 responses for the data selected.

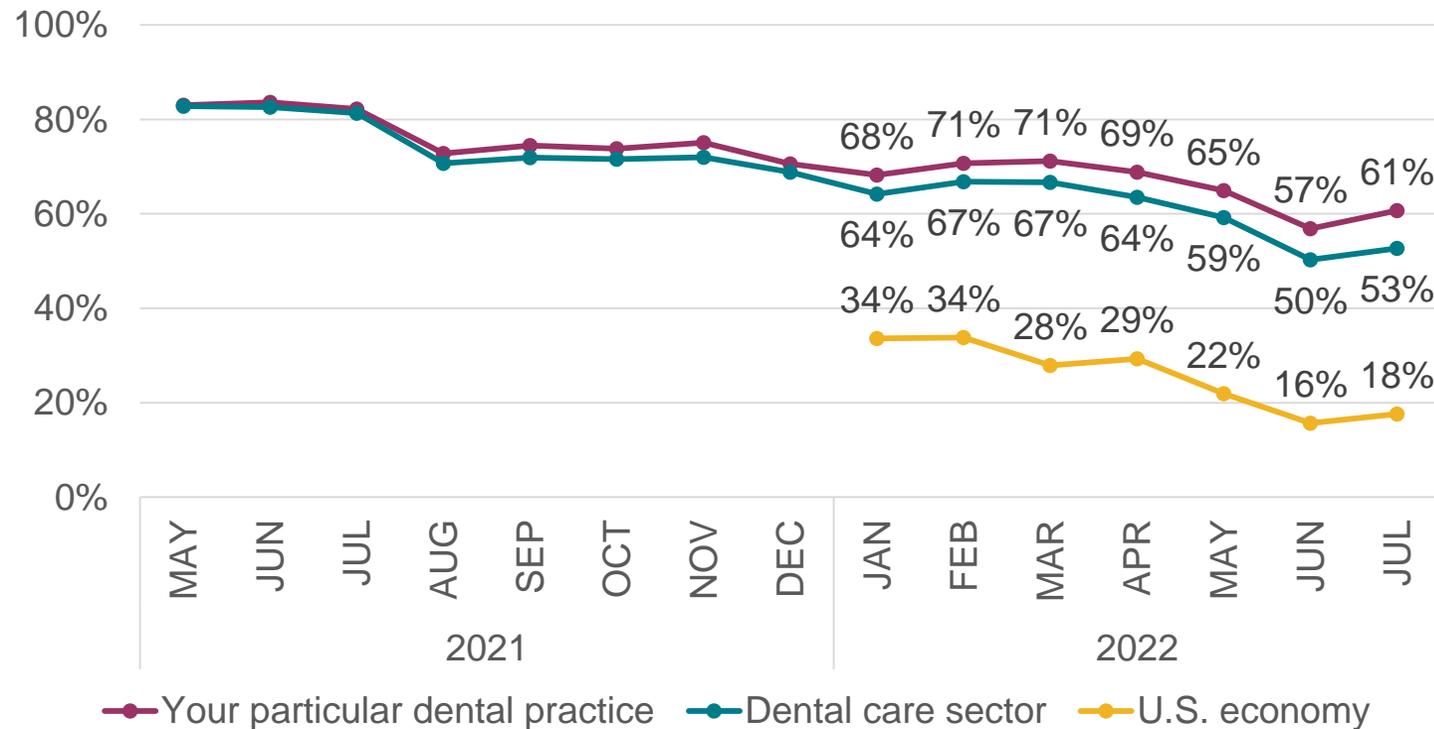
Looking ahead to the next six months, how confident are you in the recovery of:



<https://www.ada.org/resources/research/health-policy-institute/economic-outlook-and-emerging-issues/eoid-tableau-dashboard>

Economic Outlook

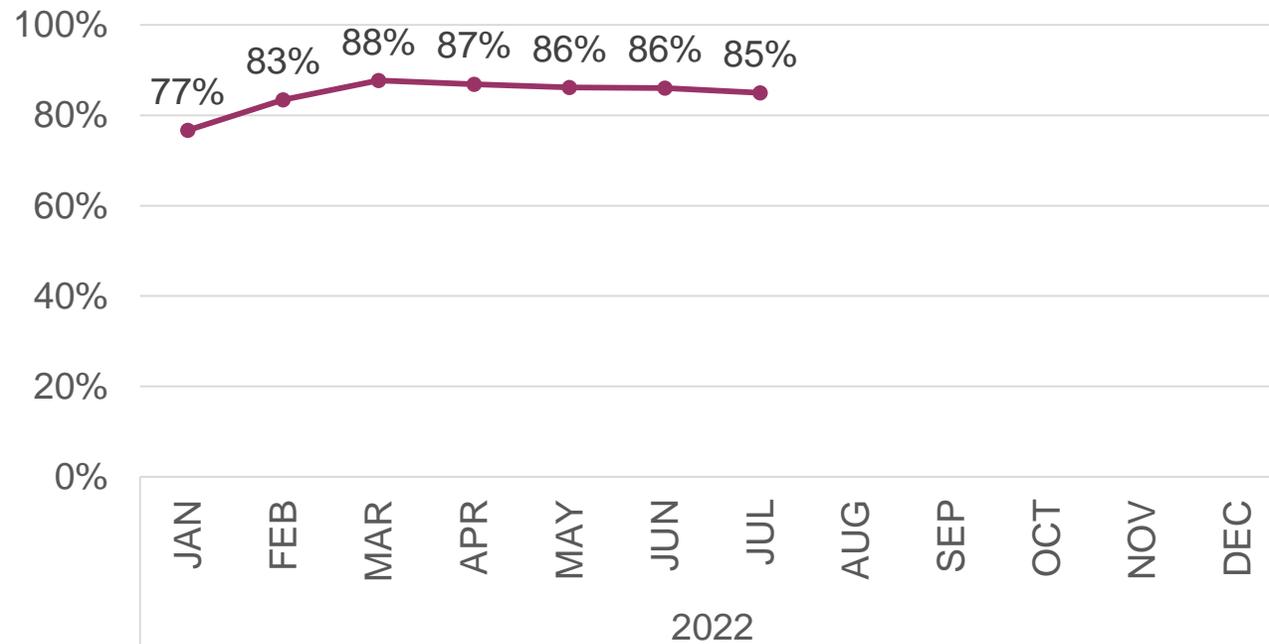
Looking ahead to the next six months, how confident are you in the recovery of the following? (Percentages indicating “very” or “somewhat” confident.)



Dentists’ confidence in the US economy had a precipitous drop in the first half of 2022. As we entered Q2, confidence levels reversed course and improved slightly.

Practice Schedules

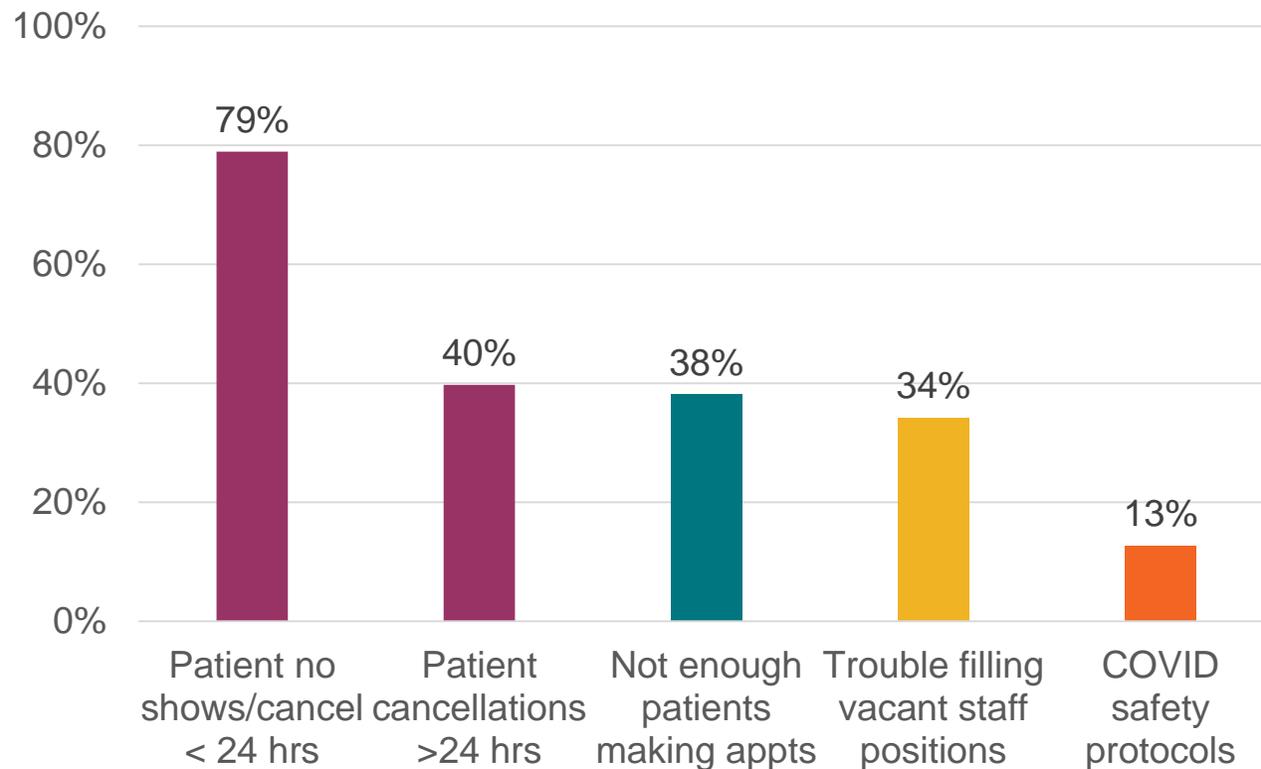
How full was your dental practice's appointment schedule last week?



Practice schedules have been steady the past few months. In July, dentists indicated that their schedules were 85% full, on average nationally.

Scheduling Barriers

Which of the following factors prevented your dental practice's appointment schedule from reaching 100% last week? (Select all that apply.)

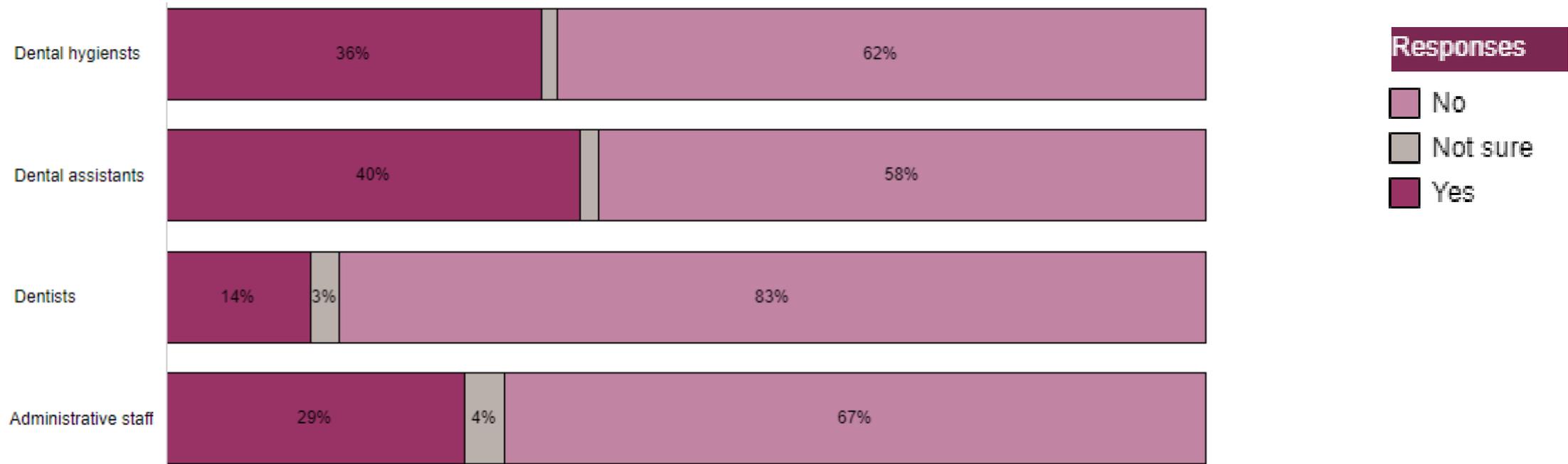


Patient no-shows and late cancellations are the predominant reason for unfilled appointment books in dental practices.

**Note new response options in July for patient cancellations.*

Dental Team Recruitment

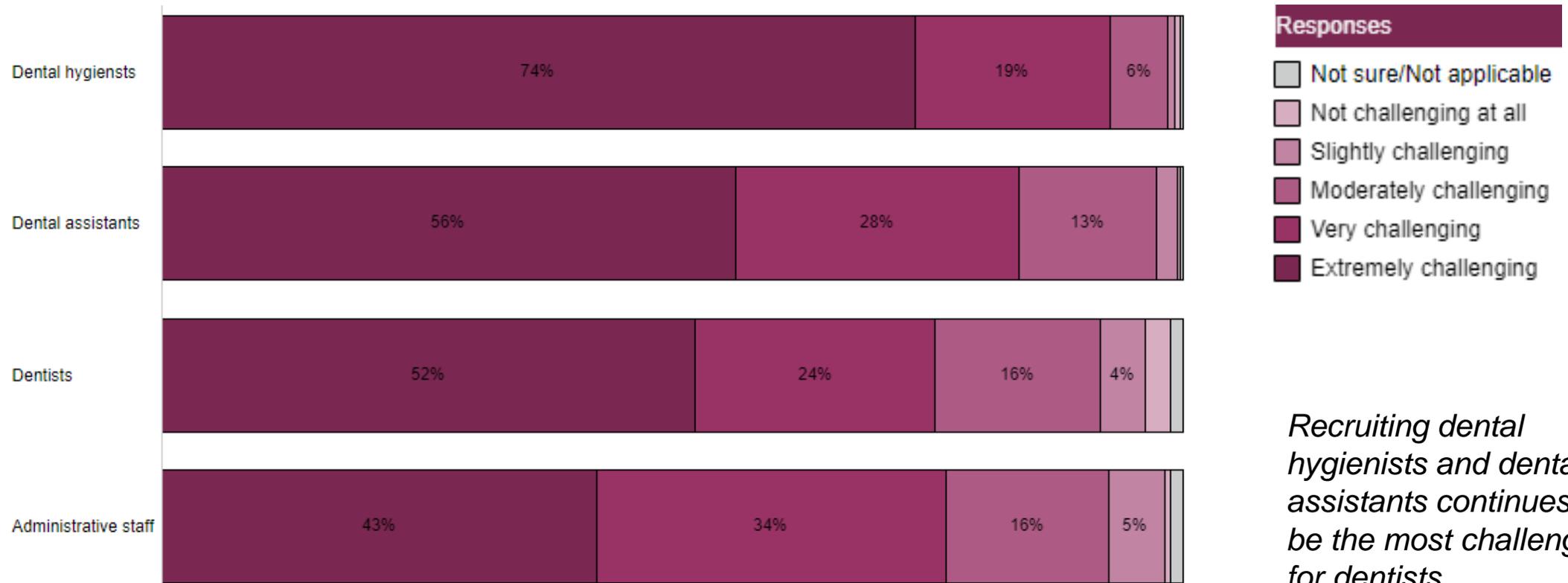
Have you recently or are you currently recruiting any of the following positions in your dental practice? (Percentages indicating “Yes.”)



Dental team recruitment needs have been steady the past few months. Dental assistants are the most in-demand member of the dental team, with roughly 4 out of 10 dentists currently or recently recruiting for this position.

Challenges Recruiting

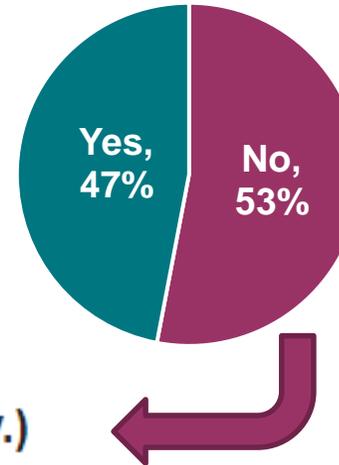
How challenging has it been to recruit the position(s) below?
(Percentages indicating “extremely” or “very” challenging.)



Recruiting dental hygienists and dental assistants continues to be the most challenging for dentists.

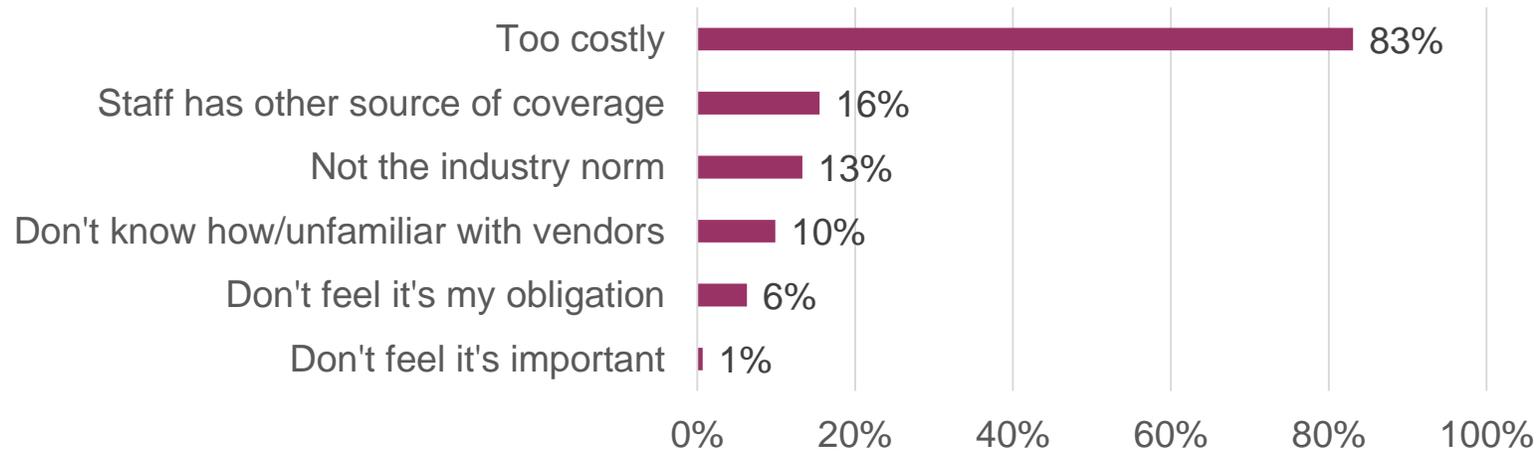
Health Insurance in Dental Practices

Do you offer health insurance to your employees?



Less than half of dentists offer health insurance to their employees.

Why do you not offer health insurance? (Select all that apply.)



The vast majority of dentists who don't offer health insurance to their employees indicate that cost is the primary reason.

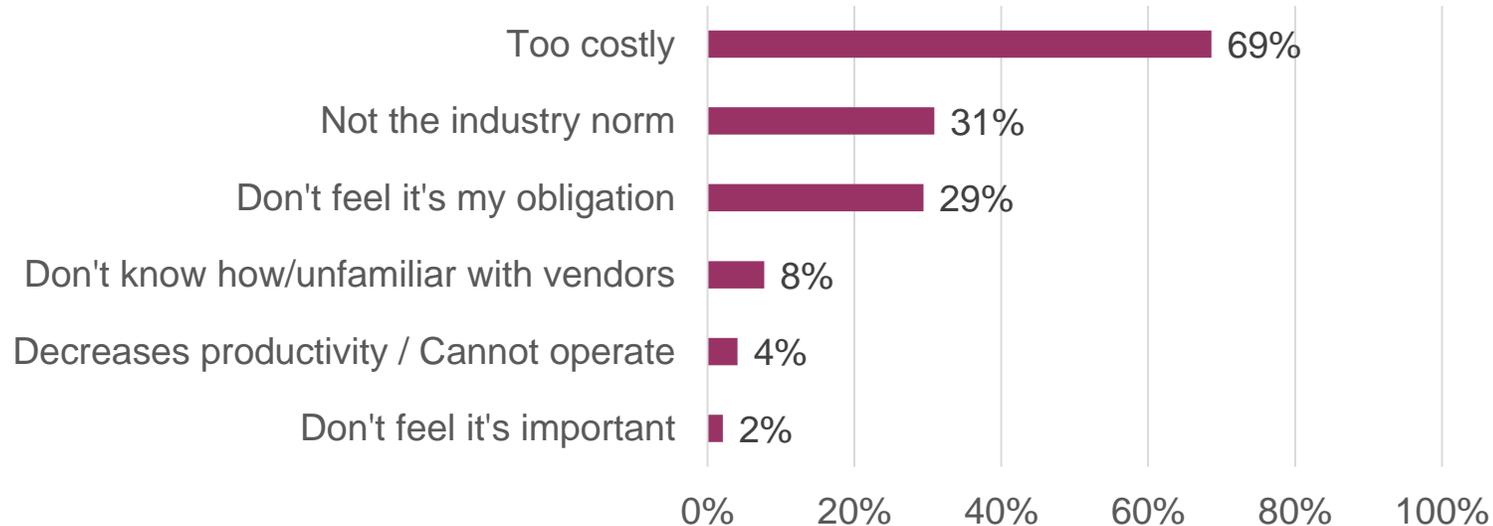
Paid Leave in Dental Practices

Do you offer paid leave to your employees?



**Take the results to this question with a grain of salt.*

Why do you not offer paid leave? (Select all that apply.)



Similar to health insurance, cost is the most common reason dentists do not offer paid leave to employees.

Roughly 3 in 10 dentists indicate they choose not to offer paid leave because it is not the industry norm, and/or it is not their obligation.

Key Takeaways

- **Practice Schedules:** Dental practice schedules have been steady the past few months. Schedules were 85% full on average in July. Patient no-shows and late cancellations are largely to blame for unfulfilled appointment slots.
- **Recruitment Needs:** Dental team recruitment needs remain steady in July. Dental assistants are the most in-demand member of the dental team, while recruiting dental hygienists continues to present the most difficulty for dentists.
- **Health Insurance:** Less than half of dentists offer health insurance to their employees. The vast majority of dentists not offering that benefit indicate that cost is the primary deterrent.
- **Paid Leave:** Similar to health insurance, cost is the most common reason dentists do not offer paid leave to employees. Roughly 3 in 10 dentists not offering paid leave indicate that is because it is not the industry norm.
- **Economic Confidence:** Dentists' confidence in economic recovery did not worsen in July, but it remains low.

Thank You!

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