

## About this Study

To better understand the economic and operational conditions in dental practices and public health clinics over time, and to measure the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and other emerging issues in dentistry, the ADA Health Policy Institute launched a tracking poll in January 2022. For this initial wave over the week of January 17, 2022, we invited nearly 80,000 dentists from across the U.S. to join a panel in which they will complete a survey once a month; over 3,000 have opted to participate.

This report features results from the latest wave of this study broken out by the following practice areas/specialties:

- General practice (GP)
- Pediatric dentistry (PED)
- Periodontics (PERIO)

Additionally, results are reported for dentists that practice in public health settings (DiPHS), regardless of specialty. (Please note that this group should not be confused with dental public health specialists.) **Please note that we only include graphics representing at least 30 responses.** Because of this, we were not able to include results for the following specialties in this report: oral and maxillofacial surgery, endodontics, orthodontics and prosthodontics. The number of respondents in each practice area/specialty can be found at the end of this report.

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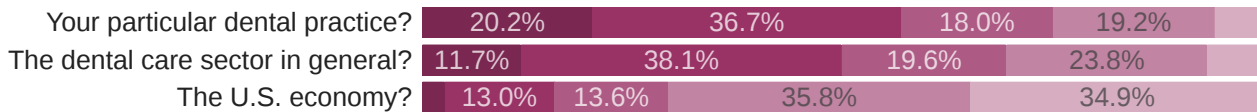
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## Economic Confidence

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

### General Practice

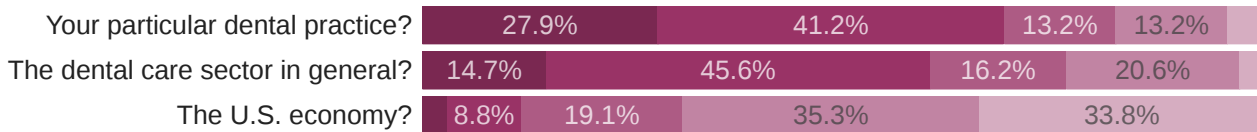
1016 Responses



- Very confident
- Somewhat confident
- Neither confident nor skeptical
- Somewhat skeptical
- Very skeptical

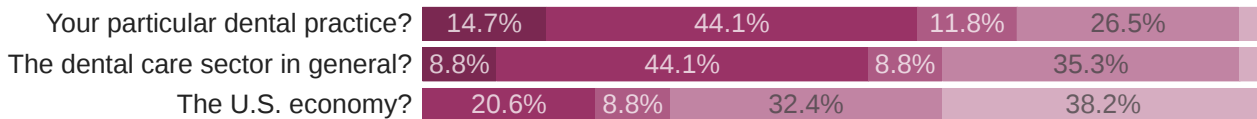
### Pediatric Dentistry

68 Responses



### Periodontics

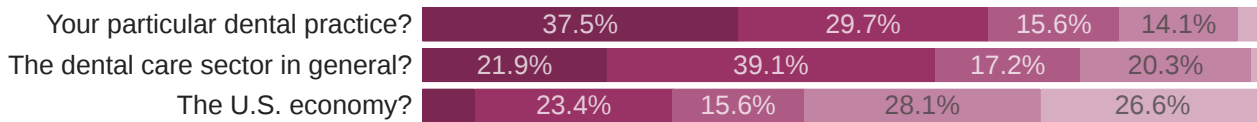
34 Responses



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

**Dentists in Public Health Settings**

64 Responses



## Appointment Schedule

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

Mean % of schedule filled

Dentists in private practice



Dentists in public health settings

62 Responses

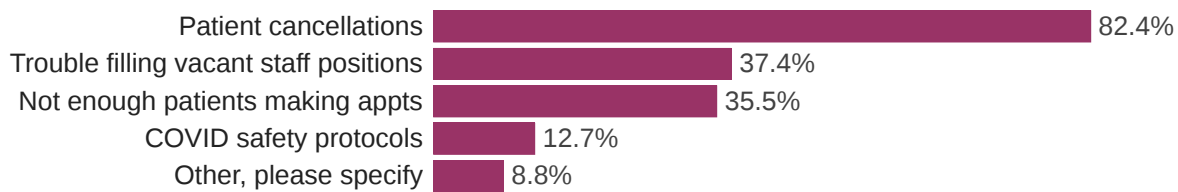


## Factors Preventing a Full Schedule

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

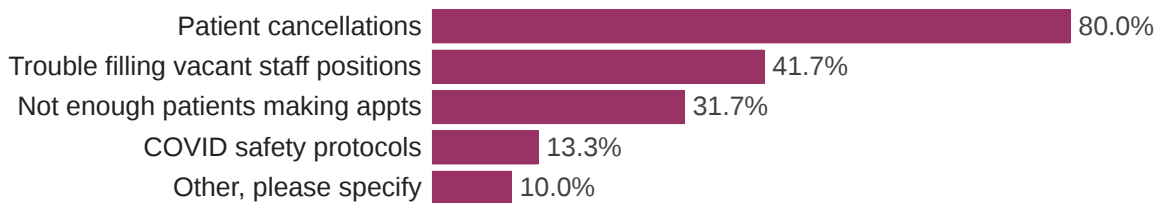
### General Practice

816 Responses



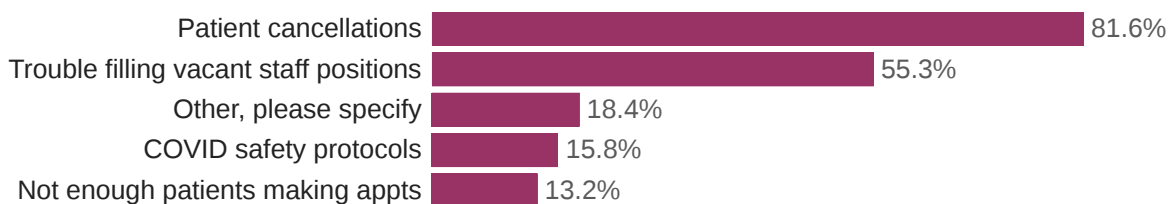
### Pediatric Dentistry

60 Responses



### Dentists in Public Health Settings

38 Responses

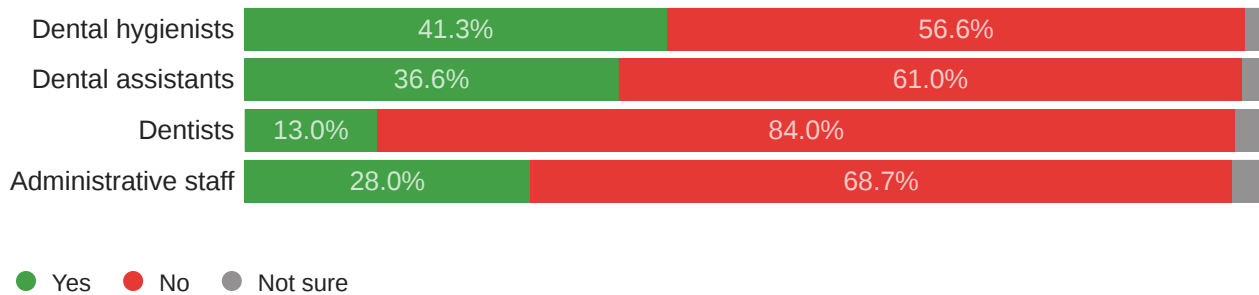


## Staff Recruitment

### General Practice

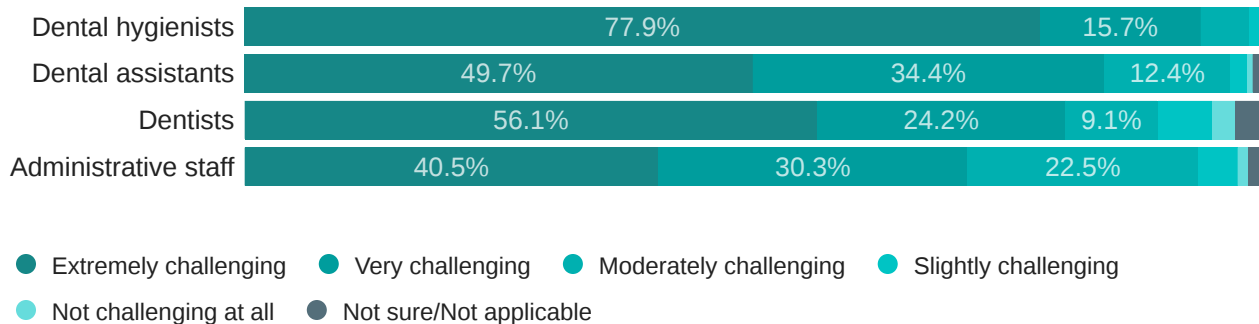
**Have you recently or are you currently recruiting any of the following positions in your dental practice?**

1016 Responses



**How challenging has it been to recruit the position(s) below?**

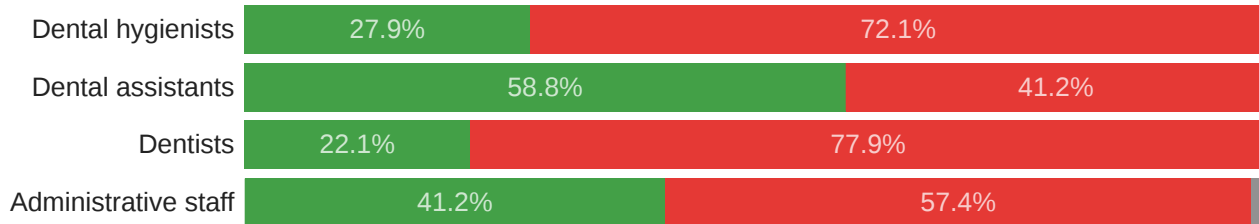
648 Responses



### Pediatric Dentistry

**Have you recently or are you currently recruiting any of the following positions in your dental practice?**

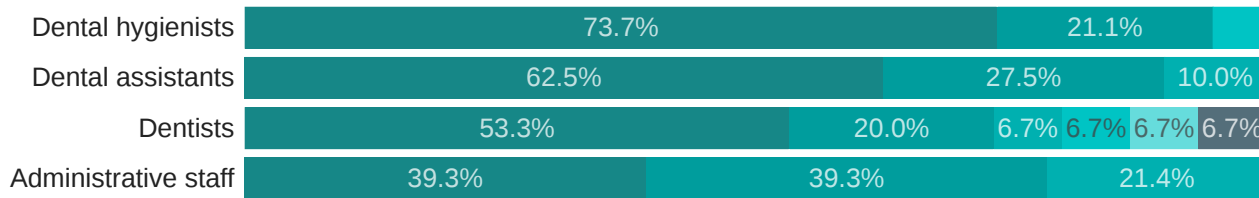
68 Responses



● Yes ● No ● Not sure

**How challenging has it been to recruit the position(s) below?**

52 Responses

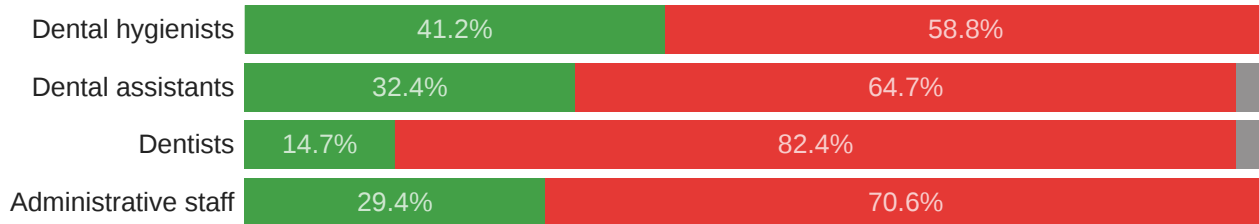


● Extremely challenging ● Very challenging ● Moderately challenging ● Slightly challenging  
● Not challenging at all ● Not sure/Not applicable

**Periodontics**

**Have you recently or are you currently recruiting any of the following positions in your dental practice?**

34 Responses



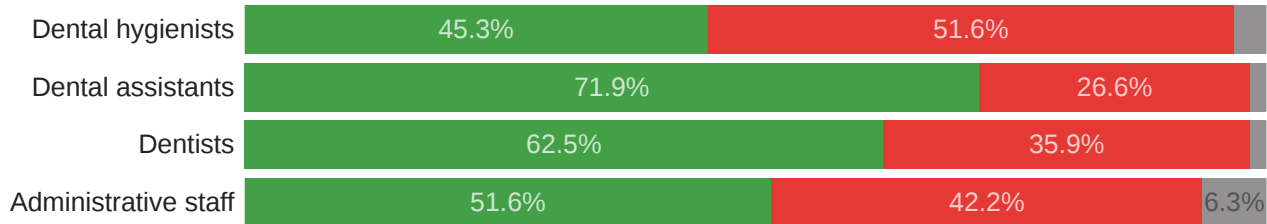
● Yes ● No ● Not sure



### Dentists in Public Health Settings

**Have you recently or are you currently recruiting any of the following positions in your dental practice?**

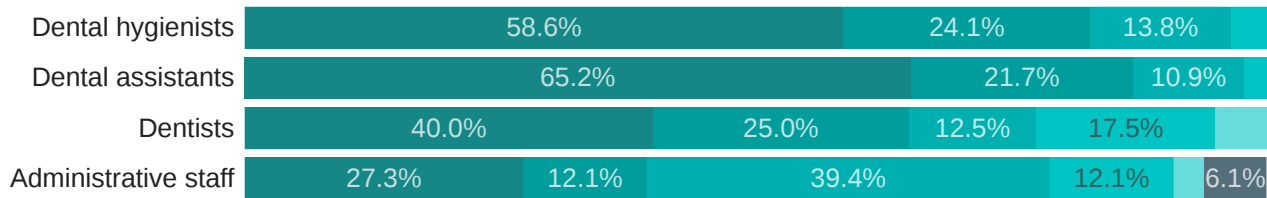
64 Responses



● Yes ● No ● Not sure

**How challenging has it been to recruit the position(s) below?**

57 Responses



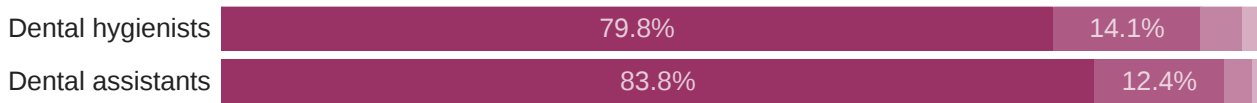
● Extremely challenging ● Very challenging ● Moderately challenging ● Slightly challenging  
● Not challenging at all ● Not sure/Not applicable

## Dental Hygienist and Dental Assistant Wages

### General Practice

**[Owner dentists] When did you last give dental hygienists and dental assistants on your staff a wage increase?**

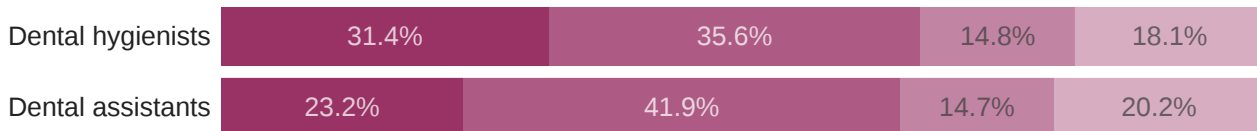
920 Responses



● Within the past year ● 1-2 years ago ● 3-4 years ago ● 5 or more years ago ● Never

**How much was the wage increase, on average?**

918 Responses

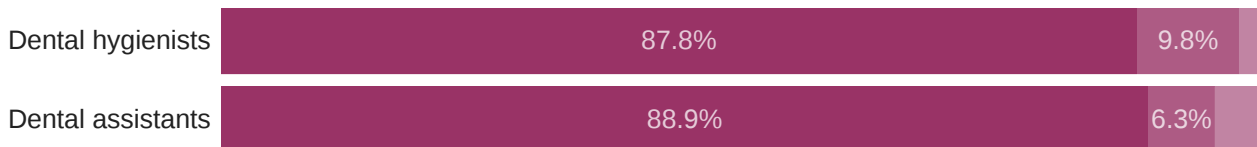


● 1-3% ● 4-6% ● 7-9% ● 10% or more

**Pediatric Dentistry**

**[Owner dentists] When did you last give dental hygienists and dental assistants on your staff a wage increase?**

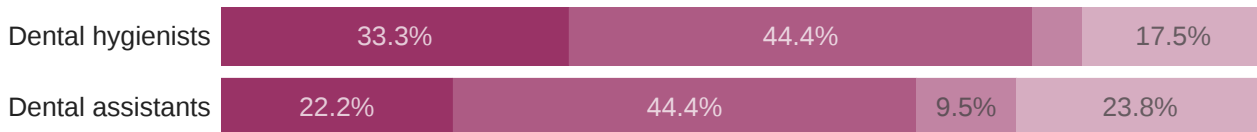
63 Responses



● Within the past year ● 1-2 years ago ● 3-4 years ago ● 5 or more years ago ● Never

**How much was the wage increase, on average?**

63 Responses

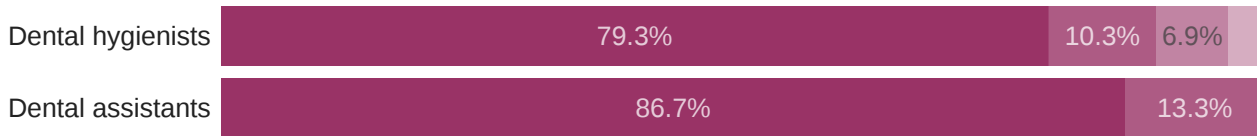


● 1-3% ● 4-6% ● 7-9% ● 10% or more

**Periodontics**

**[Owner dentists] When did you last give dental hygienists and dental assistants on your staff a wage increase?**

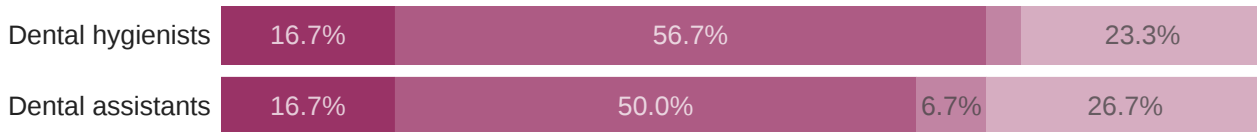
30 Responses



● Within the past year ● 1-2 years ago ● 3-4 years ago ● 5 or more years ago ● Never

**How much was the wage increase, on average?**

30 Responses

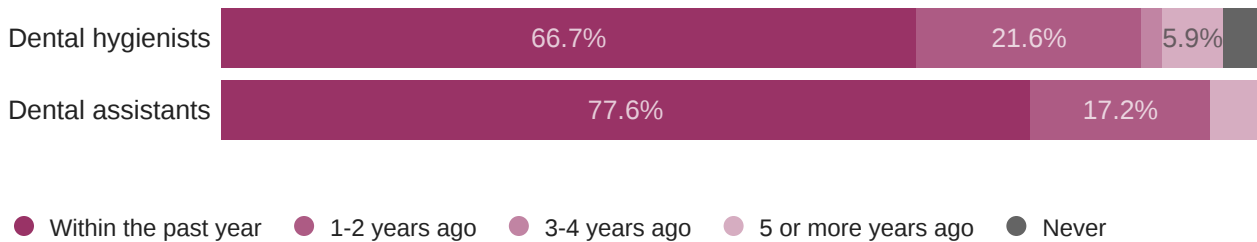


● 1-3% ● 4-6% ● 7-9% ● 10% or more

### Dentists in Public Health Settings

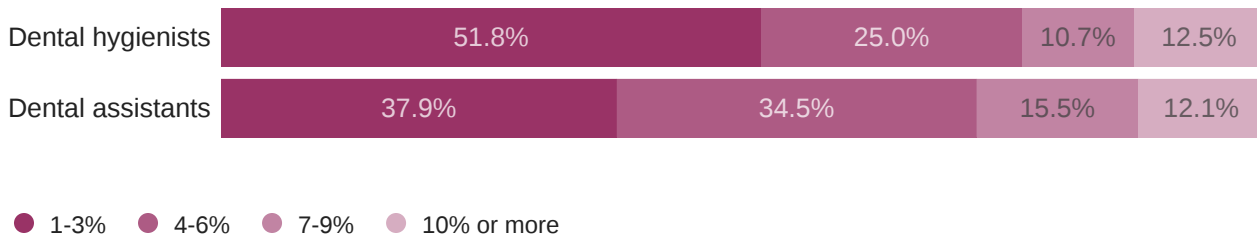
#### [Owner dentists] When did you last give dental hygienists and dental assistants on your staff a wage increase?

58 Responses



#### How much was the wage increase, on average?

58 Responses

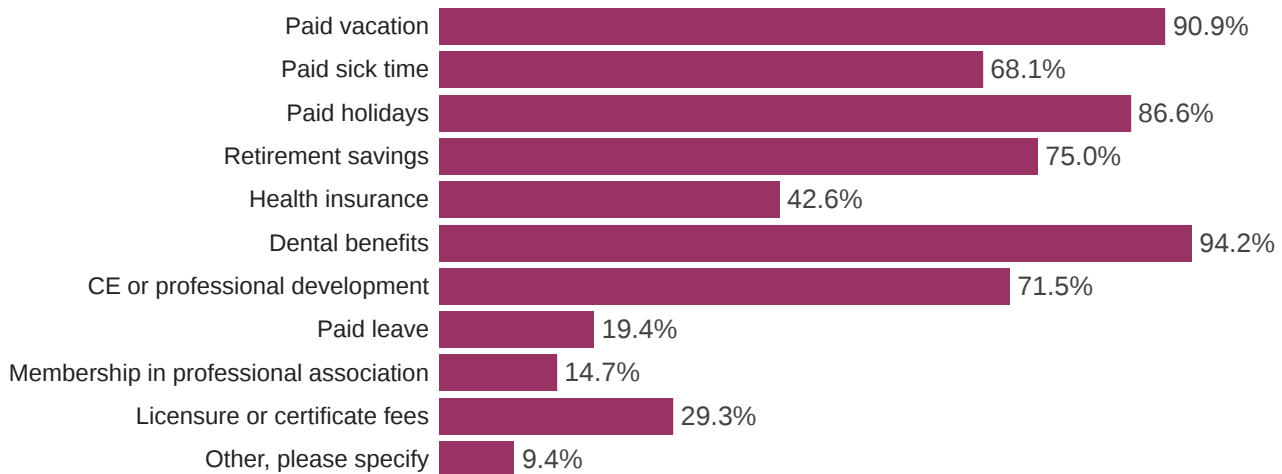


## Current Employee Benefits

[Owner dentists] Which of the following benefits do you offer to your employees? (Select all that apply.)

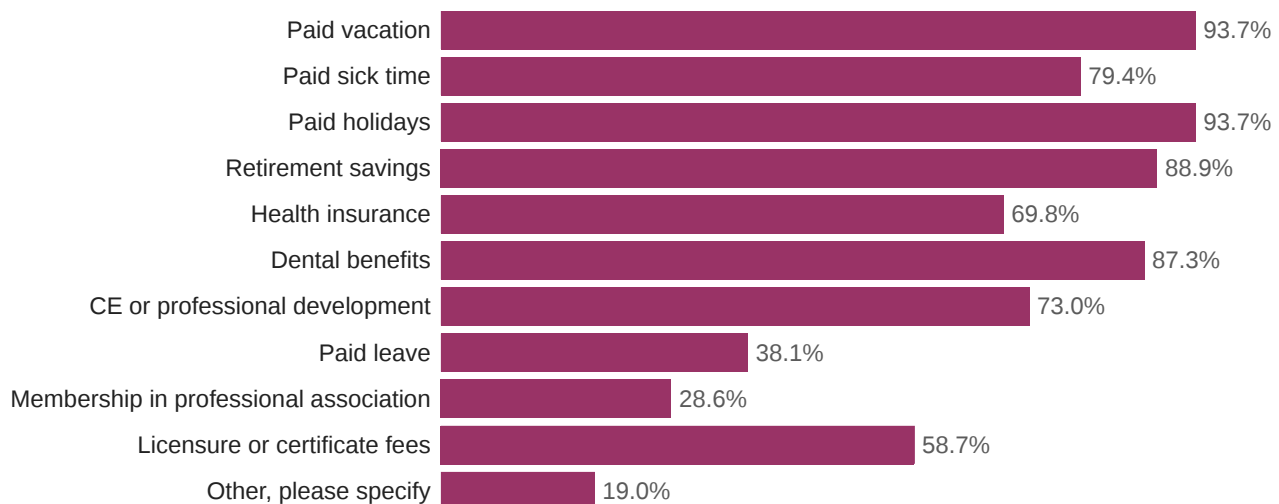
### General Practice

939 Responses



### Pediatric Dentistry

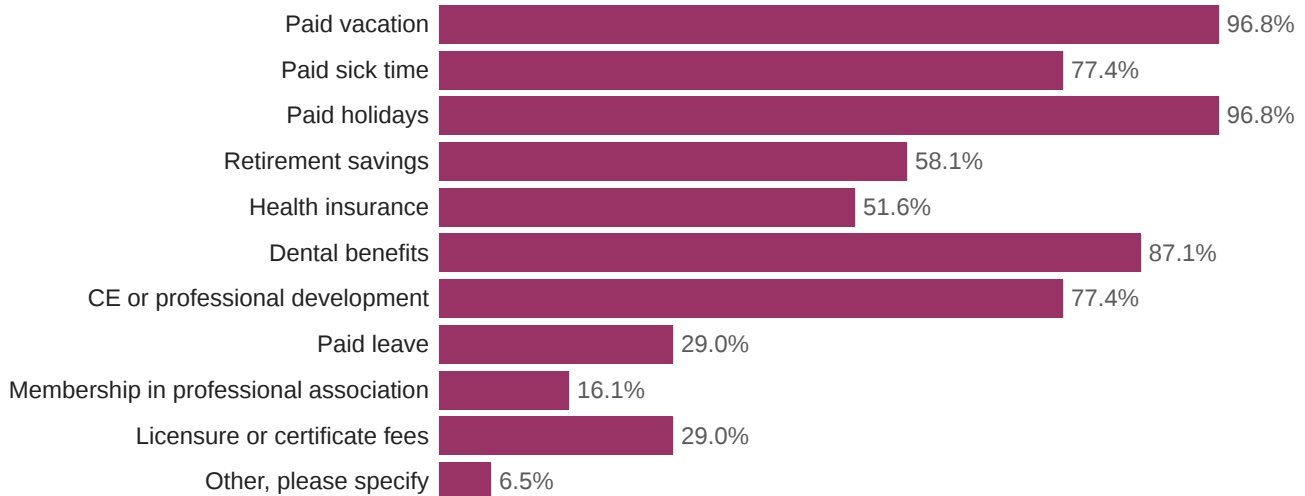
63 Responses



**[Owner dentists] Which of the following benefits do you offer to your employees? (Select all that apply.) (continued)**

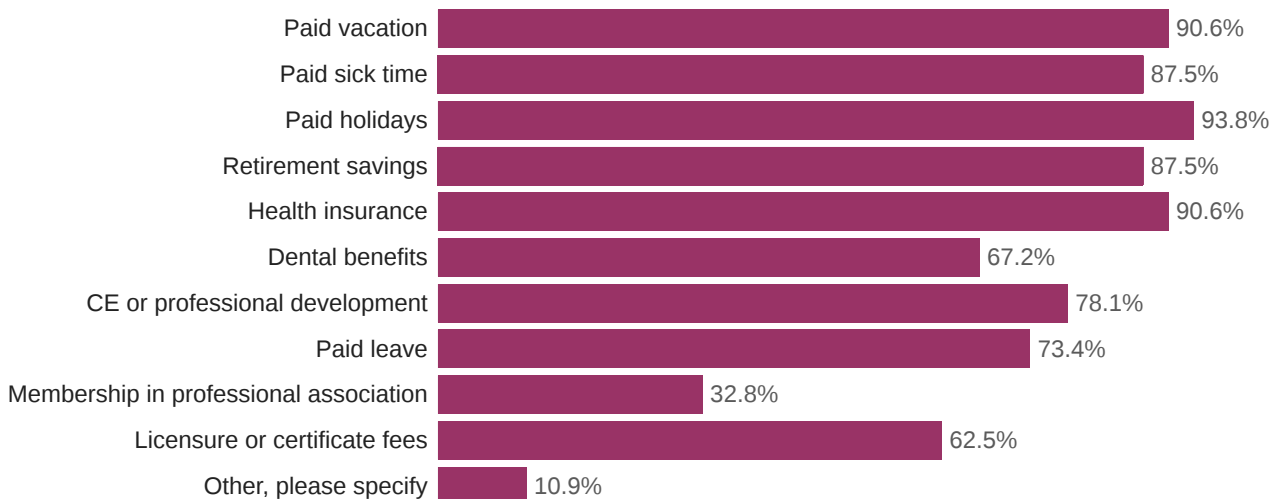
**Periodontics**

31 Responses



**Dentists in Public Health Settings**

64 Responses



## Number of Responses by Specialty

Dentists In Private Practice	Choice Count
General Practice (GP)	1,016
Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery (OMS)	23
Endodontics (ENDO)	22
Orthodontics (ORTHO)	24
Pediatric Dentistry (PED)	68
Periodontics (PERIO)	34
Prosthodontics (PROS)	12

Practice Setting	Choice Count
Dentist in private practice	1,203
Dentists in public health settings	64