

# Economic Outlook and Emerging Issues in Dentistry

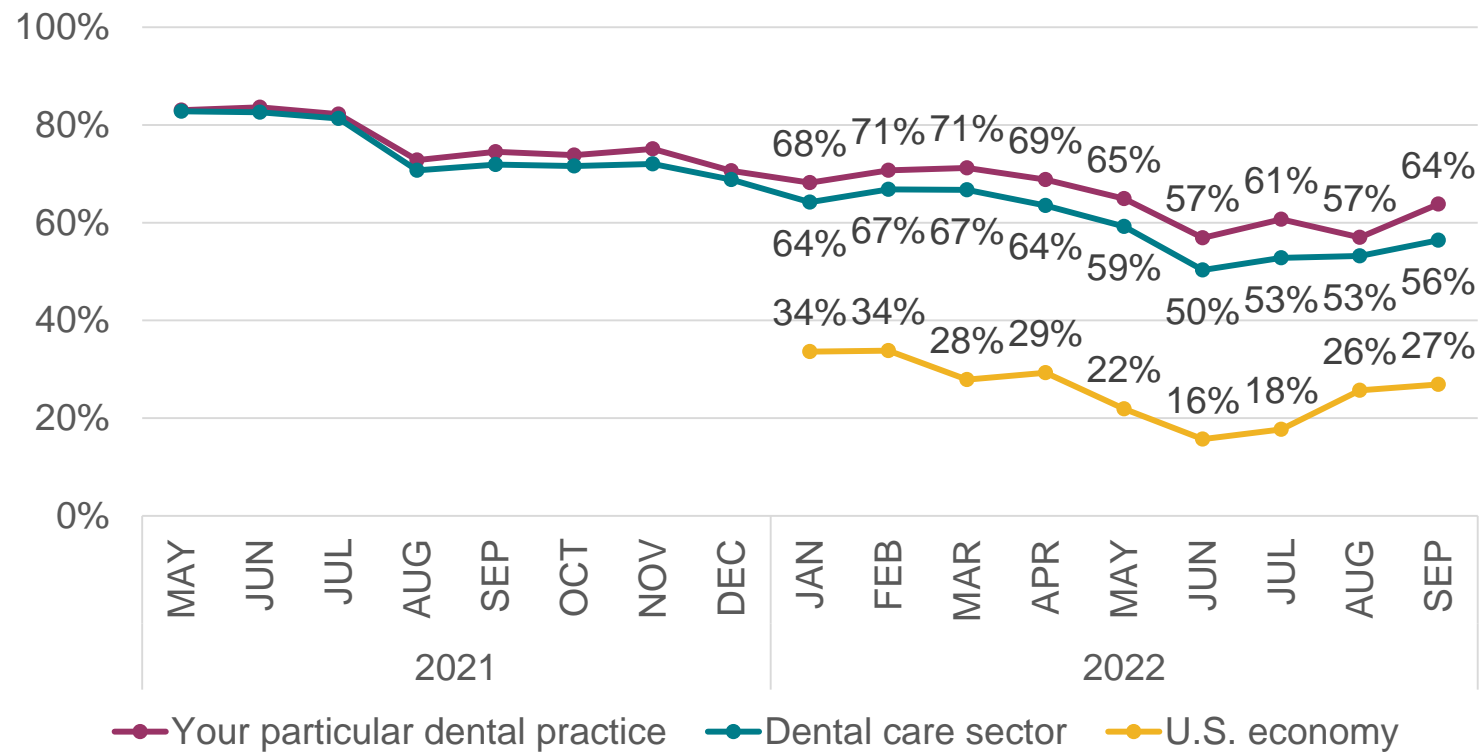
*Insights from Data from September 2022*

# 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 1100 responded in the most recent wave
- Data was collected September 13 - 18, 2022
- Core measures: economic outlook, fullness of practice schedule, schedule barriers, recruitment needs and associated difficulty
- Complete reports with breakdowns available at [ADA.org/HPI](https://ada.org/HPI)

# Economic Outlook

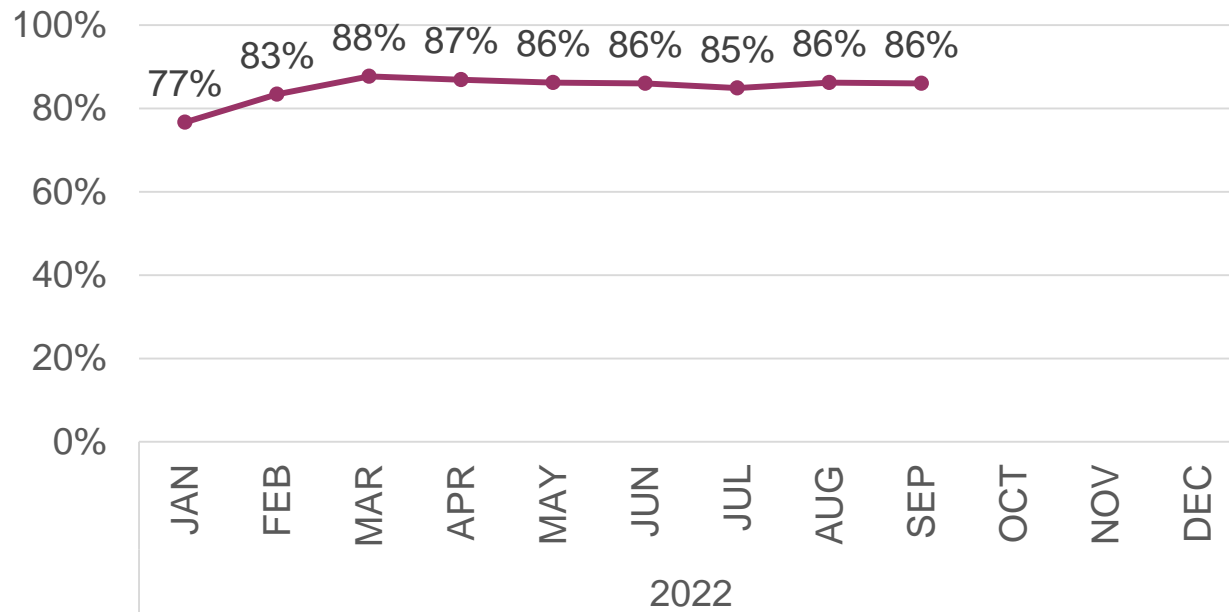
**Looking ahead to the next six months, how confident are you in the recovery of the following?** (Percentages indicating “very” or “somewhat” confident.)



*Dentists' confidence in economic recovery has improved modestly since its low in June 2022.*

# Practice Schedules

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

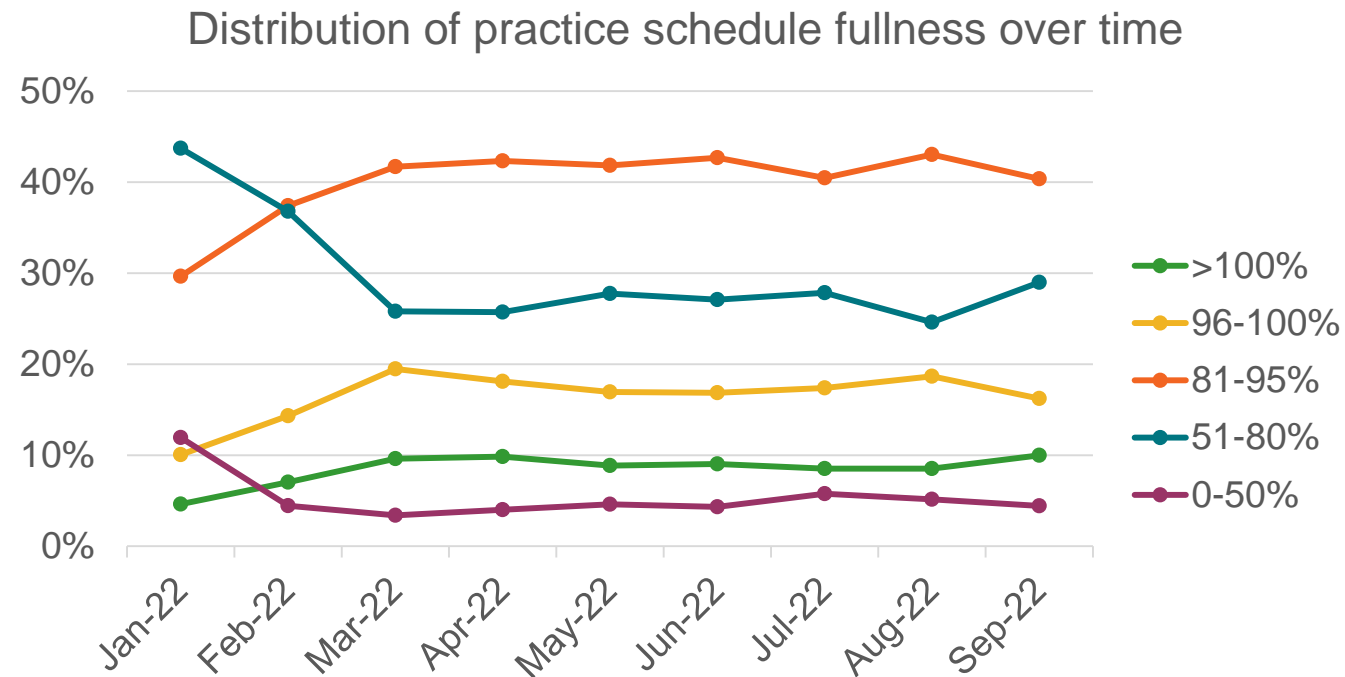


*Dental practice schedules have been in an steady state since early 2022.*

*In September, dentists indicated that their schedules were 86% full, on average nationally.*

# Practice Schedules

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

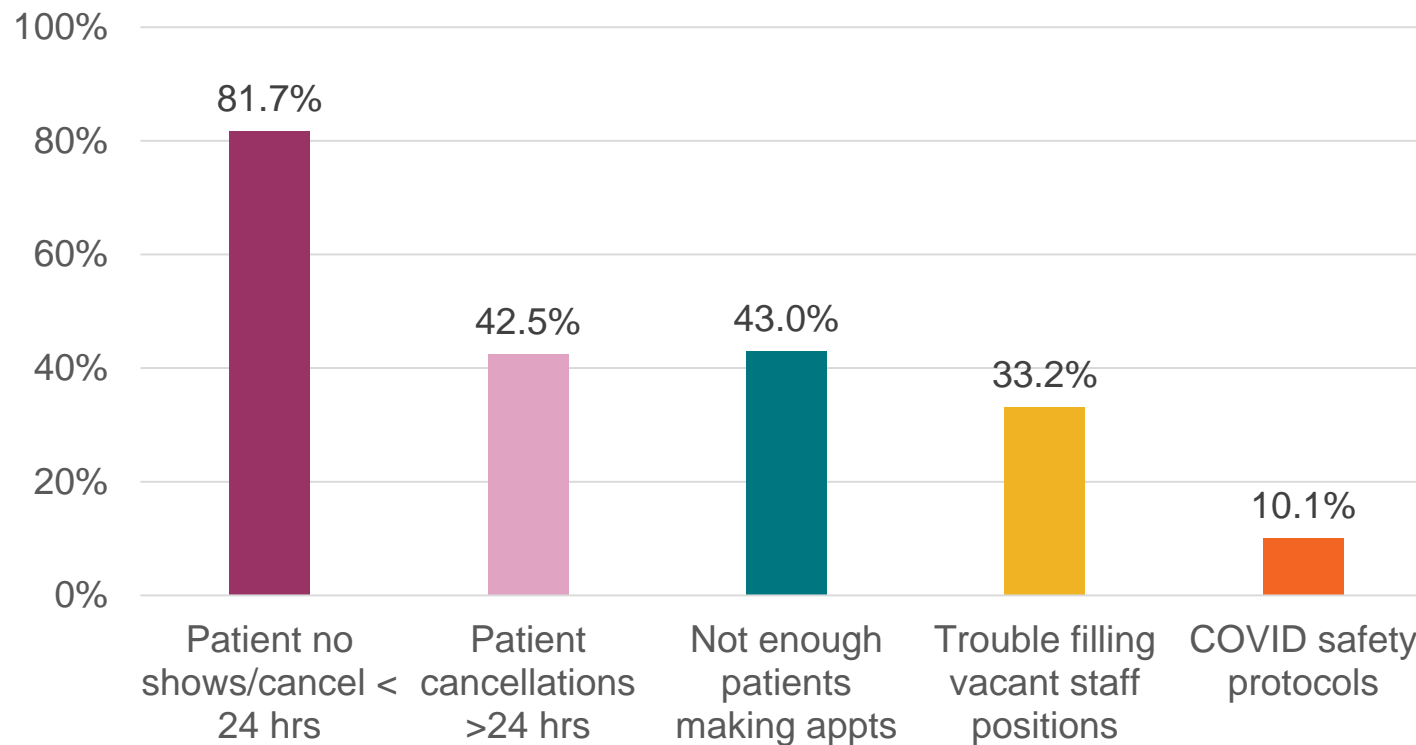


*On average, practices are busier now than they were in early 2022.*

*Since January 2022, there has been an increase in the share of dentists with practice schedules that are nearly at capacity (81-95% and 96-100% full), and a decrease in the share of dentists with practice schedules that are 80% full or less.*

# Scheduling Barriers

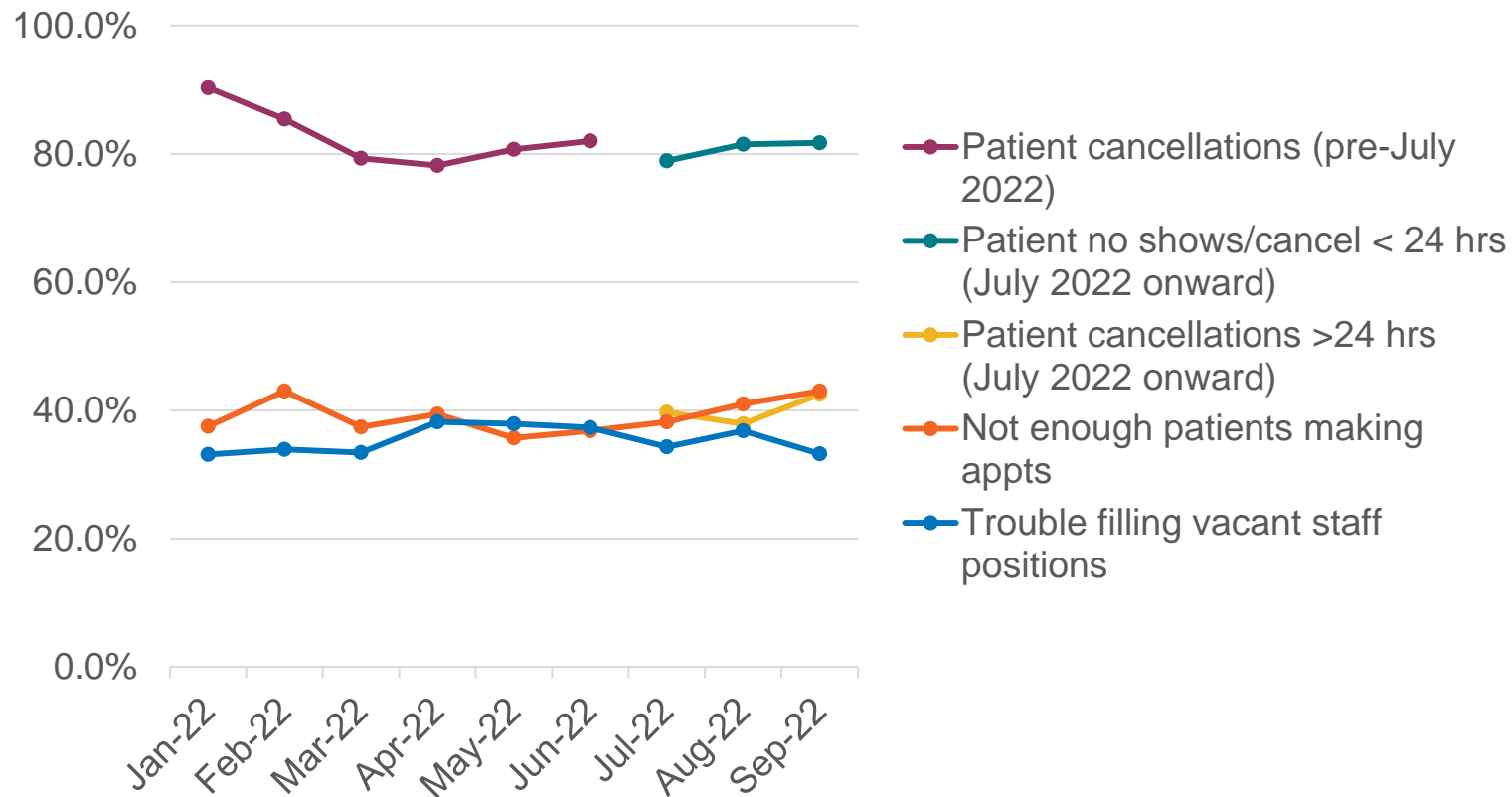
**Which of the following factors prevented your dental practice's appointment schedule from reaching 100% last week? (Select all that apply.)**



*Patient no-shows and late cancellations remained the most common reason for unfilled practice schedules in September.*

# Scheduling Barriers

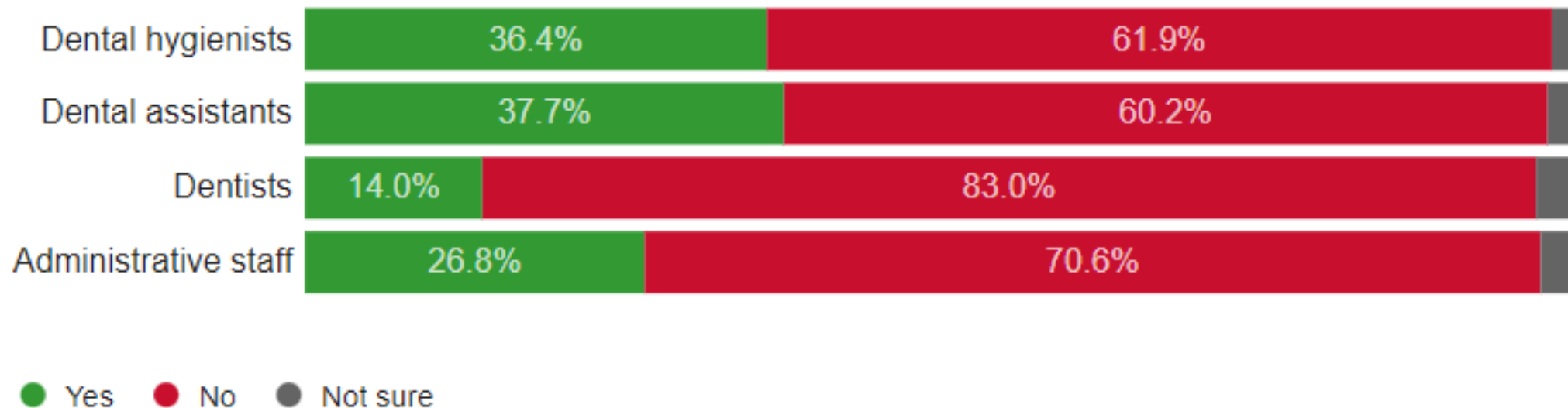
Which of the following factors prevented your dental practice's appointment schedule from reaching 100% last week? (Select all that apply.)



*There has been an increase in the share of dentists indicating low patient demand in recent months.*

# Dental Team Recruitment

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

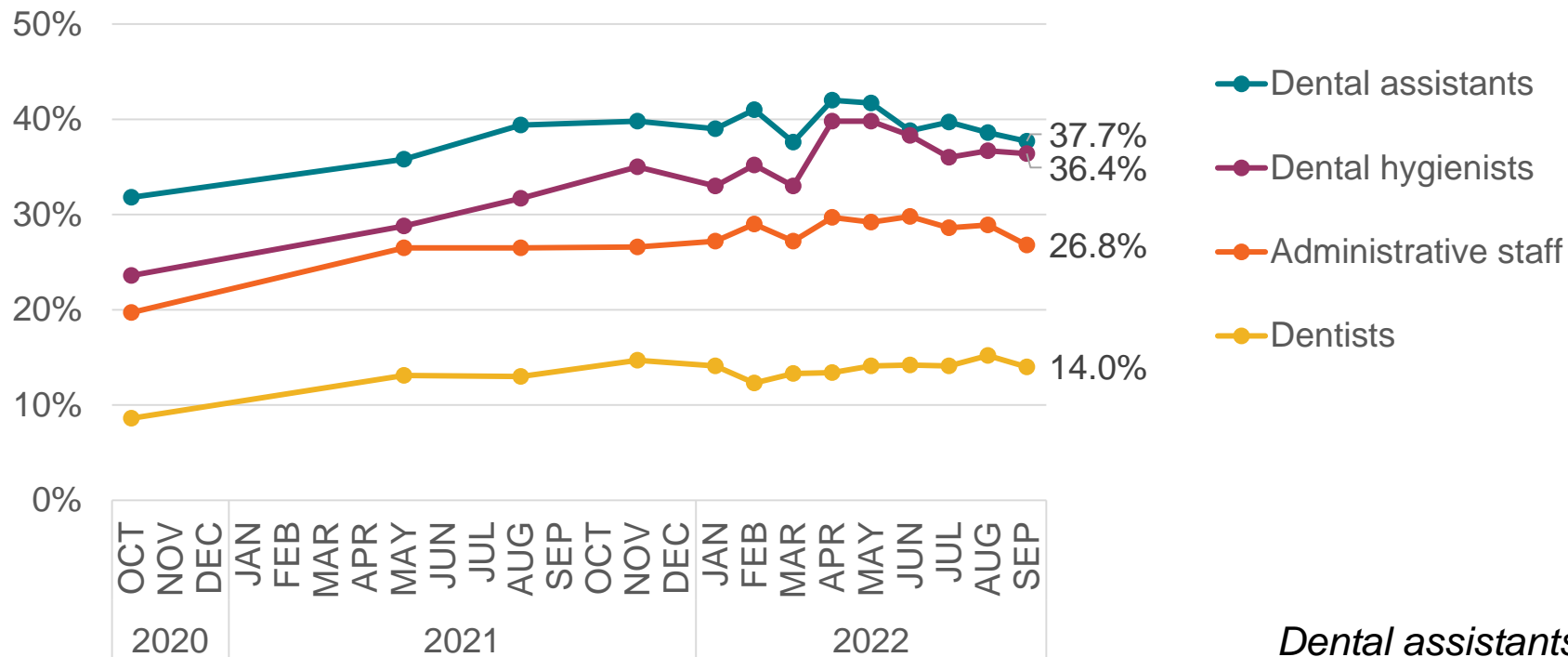


*Dental assistants and dental hygienists are the most in-demand members of the dental team, with nearly 4 out of 10 dentists currently or recently recruiting for these positions.*



# Dental Team Recruitment

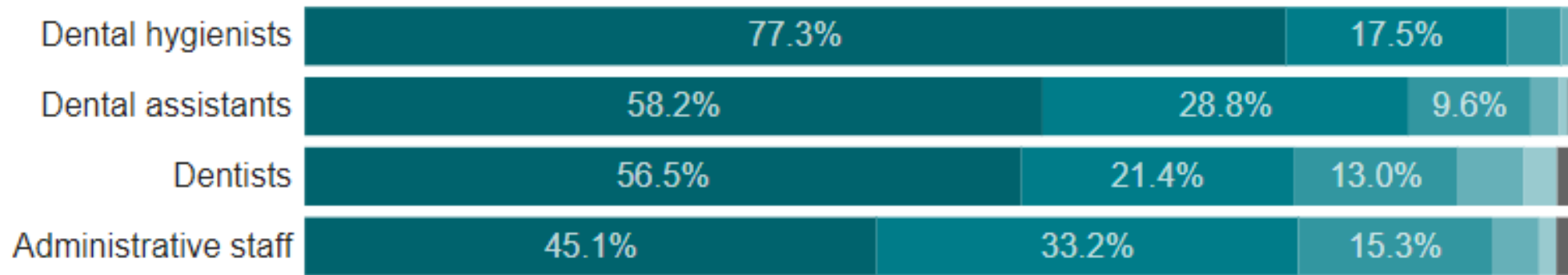
Have you recently or are you currently recruiting any of the following positions in your dental practice? (Percentages indicating “yes.”)



*Dental assistants and dental hygienists remain in demand in dental practices.*

# Challenges Recruiting

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



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

*Recruiting dental hygienists and dental assistants continues to be very challenging for dentists.*

# New Report Available

## Dental Workforce Shortages: Data to Navigate Today's Labor Market



*What keeps dental assistants and dental hygienists satisfied in their roles?*

*What workplace conditions are to blame for dental assistants and dental hygienists leaving their positions?*

*What levers are available to recruit and retain a high quality dental workforce?*

[www.ADA.org/HPI](http://www.ADA.org/HPI)

# Key Takeaways

- **Practice Schedules:** Dental practice schedules have been very steady for the past six months. Schedules were 86% full on average in September. Patient no-shows and late cancellations are largely to blame.
- **Low Patient Demand:** There has been an increase in the share of dentists indicating low patient demand for appointments in recent months.
- **Recruitment Needs:** Dental team recruitment needs remained steady in September. Dental assistants and dental hygienists are in high demand in dental practices, and dentists continue having difficulty filling these positions.
- **Economic Confidence:** Dentists' confidence in economic recovery has improved modestly since its low in June 2022.

# Thank You!

**@ADAHPI**

**ADA.org/HPI**

**ADA.org/HPIConsulting**

**hpi@ada.org**



**ADA** American Dental Association®