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Results for the questions below are reported in two sections:

- All Respondents Combined includes overall results for all respondents.
- Select Breakout of Results includes results by ownership status, DSO affiliation, practice size, geography, sex, age, & race/ethnicity.

	All Respondents Combined	Select Breakouts of Results
Looking ahead to the next six months, how confident are you in the recovery of: (Your particular dental practice, The dental care sector in general, The U.S. economy)	3	7
How full was you dental practice's appointment schedule last week?	3	14
Which of the following factors prevented your dental practice's appointment schedule from reaching 100% last week? (Patient cancellations, Not enough patients making appointments, Trouble filling vacant staff positions, COVID safety protocols, Other)	4	14
[Owners only] Currently, how long does the average patient of record have to wait for an appointment (excluding emergencies)?	5	28
[Owners only] Currently, how long does the average new patient have to wait for an initial appointment (excluding emergencies)?	5	28
Have you recently or are you currently recruiting any of the following positions in your dental practice? (Dental hygienists, Dental assistants, Dentists, Administrative staff)	6	34
How challenging has it been to recruit the position(s) below? (Dental hygienists, Dental assistants, Dentists, Administrative staff)	6	34
Number of Responses by Wave/by Group		46



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 the 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. The number of respondents in each wave, along with the number of responses in each reporting category in the current wave, can be found at the end of this report.

Below are the results from the latest wave of this study, the week of September 12, for dentists working in private dental practices. The report includes breakouts by ownership status, DSO affiliation, practice size, geographic location, sex, age group, and race/ethnicity. Unless noted otherwise, charts reflect the results from the latest wave of data collection. **Please note that we only include graphics representing at least 30 responses.** Because of this, we were not able to include results for respondents in the following categories: under age 35, large group (10+ dentists), and Black dentists. The number of respondents by demographics can be found at the end of this report.

This report was published in September 2022 by the American Dental Association's Health Policy Institute.

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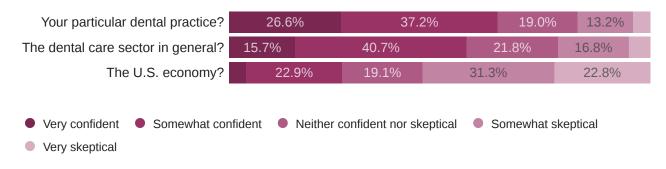
For more information on other publications, products and services, please visit our website, ADA.org/HPI.



All Respondents

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

1102 Responses



How full was your dental practice's appointment schedule last week? 12553 Responses

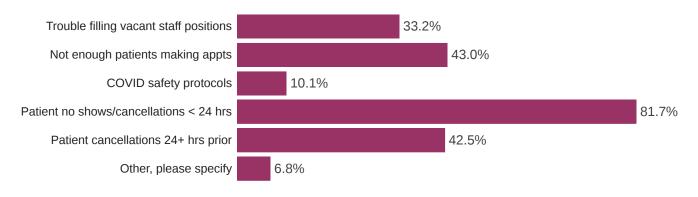


Mean % of appointment schedule filled

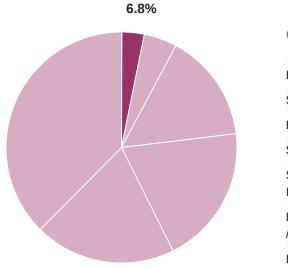


Which of the following factors prevented your dental practice's appointment schedule from reaching 100% last week? (Select all that apply.)

883 Responses



60 respondents (6.8%) selected "other, please specify." Their responses are categorized below.



Other, please specify:	Percentage of Responses
BEGINNING OF SCHOOL YEAR	35.0%
STAFF OUT ON VACATION / LEAVE	18.3%
BAD ECONOMIC CONDITIONS	10.0%
STAFF SHORTAGES	8.3%
STAFF OUT WITH COVID/QUARANTINE/OTHER ILLNESS	8.3%
DROPPED DENTAL PLAN / LOW REIMBURSEMENT / INSURANCE ISSUES	5.0%
PATIENT FEAR/HESITANCY TO VISIT DENTIST	3.3%
LOSING EXISTING PATIENTS	1.7%
MISCELLANEOUS	13.3%



[Owners only] Currently, how many business days does the average *patient of record* have to wait for an appointment (excluding emergencies)?

1020 Responses



Mean number of days

[Owners only] Currently, how many business days does the average *new patient* have to wait for an initial appointment (excluding emergencies)?

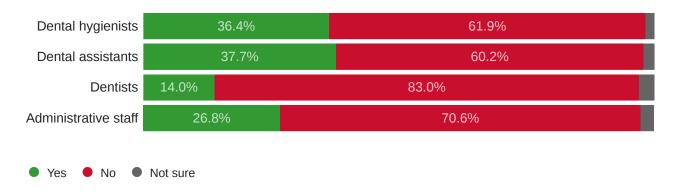
2148 Responses





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

1102 Responses



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

Dental hygienists 77.3% 17.5% Dental assistants 58.2% 28.8% 56.5% 21.4% Dentists 15.3% Administrative staff 45.1% 33.2% • Extremely challenging • Very challenging Moderately challenging Slightly challenging Not challenging at all Not sure/Not applicable

686 Responses



Select Breakouts of Results

Economic Confidence

BY OWNERSHIP STATUS

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

Owner

Your particular dental practice?	26.4% 36.7%		26.4%		′%	19.2%	13.4%
The dental care sector in general?	15.3%		40.7%		21.7%	17.2%	
The U.S. economy?	23.	.0%	18.9%	31.1	_%	23.1%	
 Very confident Somewhat confident Neither confident nor skeptical Somewhat skeptical 							

Non-owner

Your particular dental practice?	29.3%		43.9%		9.8%
The dental care sector in general?	20.7%	% 40.2%		2%	12.2%
The U.S. economy?	20.7%	20.7%	34.1%		18.3%



BY DSO AFFILIATION

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

DSO

Your particular dental practice?	46.5%		39	.5%	
The dental care sector in general?	30.2%		48.8%	11.0	6%
The U.S. economy?	11.6% 32.6%		20.9%	20.9%	14.0%
 Very confident Somewhat cor Very skeptical 	nfident 🖲 N	either confident no	r skeptical 🛛 🔍 So	mewhat skeptic	al

Non-DSO

Your particular dental practice?	25.8%	25.8% 37.1%		13.5%
The dental care sector in general?	15.1%	40.3%		17.2%
The U.S. economy?	22.5%	19.0%	31.7%	23.1%



BY PRACTICE SIZE

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

Solo dentists

Your particular dental practice?	22.7%	36.1%		20.7%	15.6%
The dental care sector in general?	12.3% 39.7%			23.3%	18.8%
The U.S. economy?	21.0%	18.2% 32.9%		9%	25.2%
 Very confident Somewhat cor Very skeptical 	nfident 🔍 Neithe	er confident nor ske	eptical 🗨	Somewha	t skeptical

2 to 9 dentists

Your particular dental practice?	33.2% 38.0%		%	16.1%	9.8%
The dental care sector in general?	20.5%	42.2%	19	.3%	14.1%
The U.S. economy?	25.4%	21.0%	28.5%		19.3%



BY GEOGRAPHY

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

Top 20 cities

Your particular dental practice?	25.0%	36.3%	22.5%	7.5% 8.8%
The dental care sector in general?	12.5%	48.8%	22.5%	12.5%
The U.S. economy?	37.5%	37.5% 13.8%		15.0%
 Very confident Somewhat cor Very skeptical 	nfident 🖲 Neithe	r confident nor skeptica	I 🛛 Somewhat ske	ptical

Other urban

Your particular dental practice?	25.6%	25.6% 36.8%		19.6%	14.2%	
The dental care sector in general?	16.3%	3% 38.9%		22.2%	16.9%	
The U.S. economy?	21.6%	20.3%	31.6	5%	22.2%	

Suburban

Your particular dental practice?	28.3% 43.4%			11.3%	13.2%
The dental care sector in general?	15.1% 41.5%		15.1%	22.6%	
The U.S. economy?	22.6%	% 11.3% 39.6		2	24.5%

Rural

Your particular dental practice?	31.6% 37.4%		17.0%		6 1	L1.1%	
The dental care sector in general?	14.6% 44.4%			21.	6%	16	.4%
The U.S. economy?	22.2%	22.2% 18.1% 26.9		9%		28.79	%



BY SEX

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

Male

Your particular dental practice?	26.8%	35.3	3% 19.49	% 14.4%
The dental care sector in general?	15.0%	38.5%	22.9%	18.6%
The U.S. economy?	19.1%	17.8%	33.6%	25.2%
 Very confident Somewhat cor Very skeptical 	nfident 🔍 Neithe	r confident nor sk	xeptical 🛛 Somewha	at skeptical

Female

Your particular dental practice?	26.3%	26.3% 40.5%		L8.2%	10.9%
The dental care sector in general?	17.0%	44.6%		5%	13.7%
The U.S. economy?	29.6%	21.0%	27.3%		18.5%



BY AGE GROUP

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

35 to 44

Your particular dental practice?	26.8% 46.9%			16.5%	0
The dental care sector in general?	16.5%	46.9%	19.	6% 1	.1.9%
The U.S. economy?	26.8%	24.2%	30.9%	⁄0	14.4%

45 to 54

Your particular dental practice?	27.9%		39.6% 1		18.5	%	10.9%	6	
The dental care sector in general?	14.0%	14.0% 43.8%		21.5%		14.	0%		
The U.S. economy?	20	20.4% 10		35.8%			2	3.4%	

55 to 64

Your particular dental practice?	26.3%	34.9%	18.3%	16.7%
The dental care sector in general?	17.7%	36.8%	21.0%	20.7%
The U.S. economy?	23.1%	19.1%	29.3%	23.1%
 Very confident Somewhat con Very skeptical 	fident	confident nor skepti	ical 🔍 Somewhat	skeptical

65 or older

Your particular dental practice?	24.2%	28.7%	24.2%	16.0%
The dental care sector in general?	12.7%	37.7%	26.2%	17.6%
The U.S. economy?	21.3%	18.0%	31.1%	27.9%



BY RACE/ETHNICITY

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

White

Your particular dental practice?	28.5%	36.1%		17.8%	13.8%
The dental care sector in general?	16.3%	40.9%	40.9% 20.2%		18.0%
The U.S. economy?	23.0%	17.5%	32.2%		23.3%
 Very confident Somewhat con Very skeptical 	ifident	confident nor sk	keptical 🖲 So	omewhat s	skeptical

Asian

Your particular dental practice?	16.3%	16.3% 46.9%		25.5%	
The dental care sector in general?	16.3%	6 41.8%		28.6%	10.2%
The U.S. economy?	23.	5%	32.7%	30.6%	9.2%

Hispanic

Your particular dental practice?	24.5%	40.8%		18.4%		12.2%	
The dental care sector in general?	10.2%	51.0%		18.4%		4.3%	
The U.S. economy?	26.5%	6 26.5%		24.5%		16.3%	



Appointment Schedule

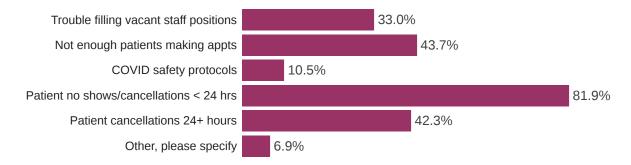
BY OWNERSHIP STATUS

Owner

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



• Mean % of schedule filled





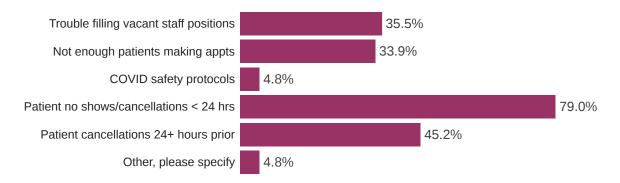
BY OWNERSHIP STATUS (continued)

Non-owner

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



Mean % of schedule filled





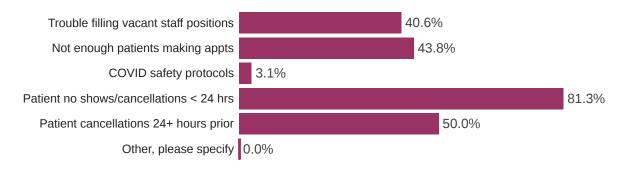
BY DSO AFFILIATION

DSO

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



Mean % of schedule filled





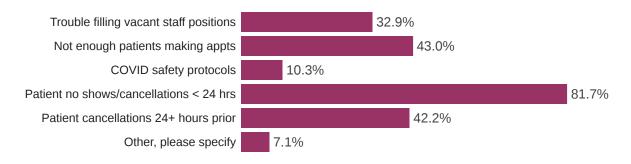
BY DSO AFFILIATION (continued)

Non-DSO

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



Mean % of schedule filled





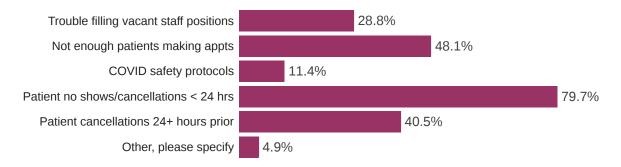
BY PRACTICE SIZE

Solo dentists

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



Mean % of schedule filled





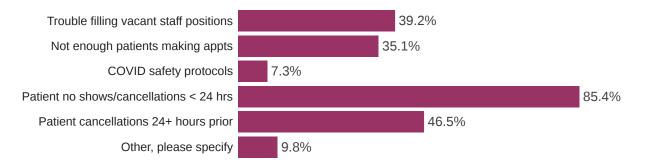
BY PRACTICE SIZE (continued)

2 to 9 dentists

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



Mean % of schedule filled





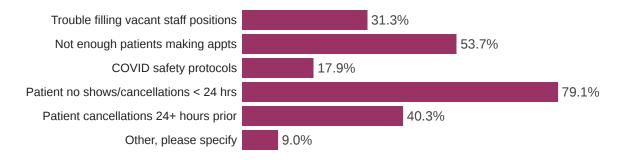
BY GEOGRAPHY

Top 20 cities

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



Mean % of schedule filled





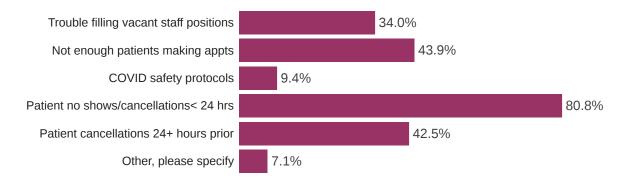
BY GEOGRAPHY (continued)

Other Urban

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



Mean % of schedule filled





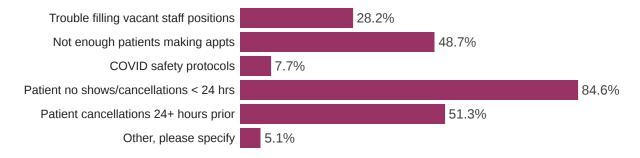
BY GEOGRAPHY (continued)

Suburban

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



• Mean % of schedule filled





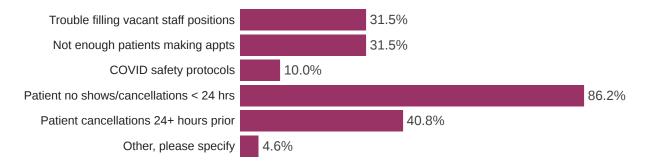
BY GEOGRAPHY (continued)

Rural

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



Mean % of schedule filled





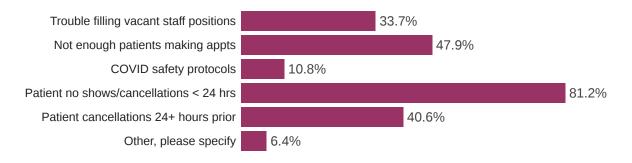
BY SEX

Male

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



Mean % of schedule filled





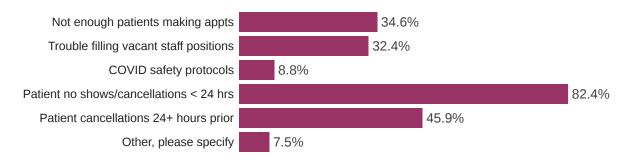
BY SEX (continued)

Female

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



Mean % of schedule filled

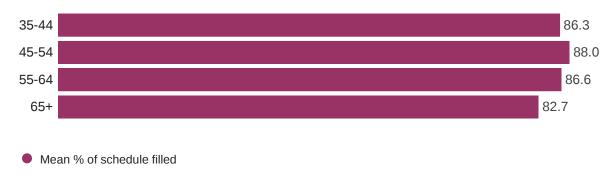




BY AGE

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

1093 Responses



Field	Trouble filling vacant staff positions	Not enough patients trying to make appointments	COVID safety protocols are limiting the capacity	Patient no shows/cancellations < 24 hrs	Patient cancellations 24+ hours prior	Other, please specify
35-44	35.2%	39.6%	5.7%	84.9%	49.1%	6.3%
45-54	30.4%	36.3%	5.4%	83.3%	45.1%	7.8%
55-64	33.7%	42.0%	11.0%	82.7%	41.0%	6.0%
65+	34.5%	55.5%	18.0%	75.0%	36.0%	6.5%



BY RACE/ETHNICITY

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

1092 Responses



Field	Trouble filling vacant staff positions	Not enough patients trying to make appointments	COVID safety protocols are limiting the capacity	Patient no shows/cancellations < 24 hrs	Patient cancellations 24+ hours prior	Other, please specify
White	31.7%	42.9%	8.4%	82.4%	40.8%	7.2%
Asian	34.2%	43.0%	20.3%	73.4%	53.2%	5.1%
Hispanic	41.5%	36.6%	14.6%	82.9%	56.1%	0.0%



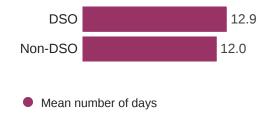
Patient Wait Times

BY DSO AFFILIATION

[Owners only] Currently, how many business days does the average patient of record

have to wait for an appointment (excluding emergencies)?

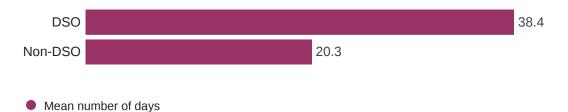
1020 Responses



[Owners only] Currently, how many business days does the average *new patient* have to

wait for an initial appointment (excluding emergencies)?

1020 Responses



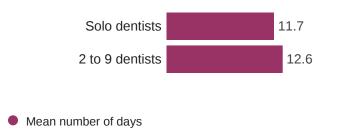


BY PRACTICE SIZE

[Owners only] Currently, how many business days does the average patient of record

have to wait for an appointment (excluding emergencies)?

1019 Responses



[Owners only] Currently, how many business days does the average *new patient* have to

wait for an initial appointment (excluding emergencies)?

1019 Responses



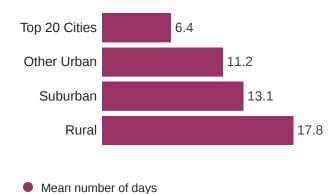


BY GEOGRAPHY

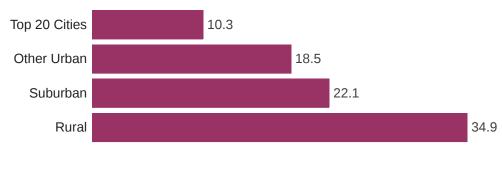
[Owners only] Currently, how many business days does the average patient of record

have to wait for an appointment (excluding emergencies)?

1020 Responses



[Owners only] Currently, how many business days does the average *new patient* have to wait for an initial appointment (excluding emergencies)?



1020 Responses

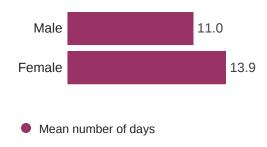


BY SEX

[Owners only] Currently, how many business days does the average patient of record

have to wait for an appointment (excluding emergencies)?

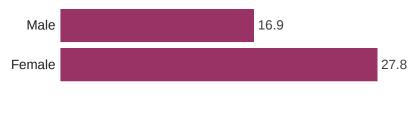
1020 Responses



[Owners only] Currently, how many business days does the average new patient have to

wait for an initial appointment (excluding emergencies)?

1020 Responses



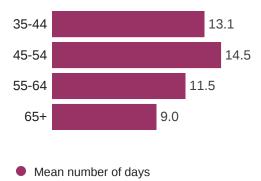


BY AGE GROUP

[Owners only] Currently, how many business days does the average patient of record

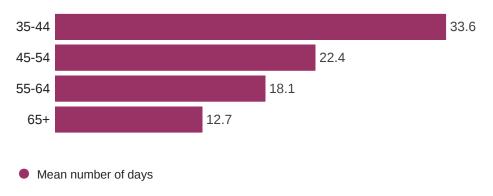
have to wait for an appointment (excluding emergencies)?

1020 Responses



[Owners only] Currently, how many business days does the average *new patient* have to wait for an initial appointment (excluding emergencies)?

1020 Responses



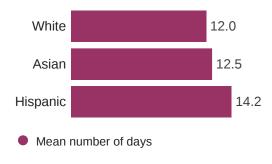


BY RACE / ETHNICITY

[Owners only] Currently, how many business days does the average patient of record

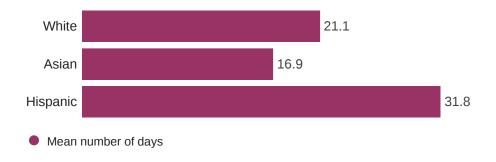
have to wait for an appointment (excluding emergencies)?

1019 Responses



[Owners only] Currently, how many business days does the average *new patient* have to wait for an initial appointment (excluding emergencies)?

1019 Responses



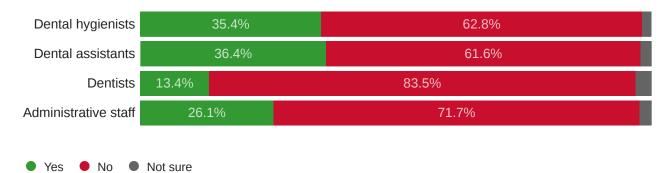


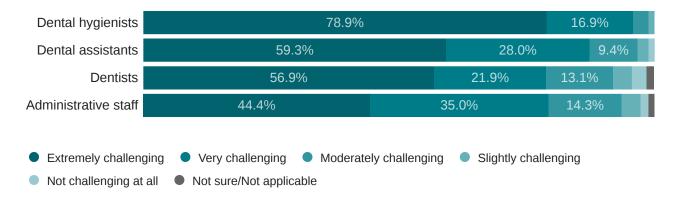
Staff Recruitment

BY OWNERSHIP STATUS

Owner dentists

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



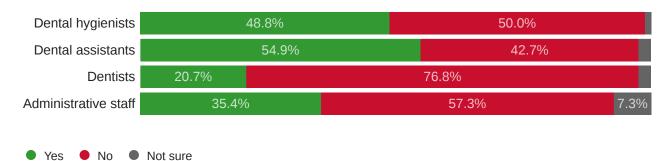


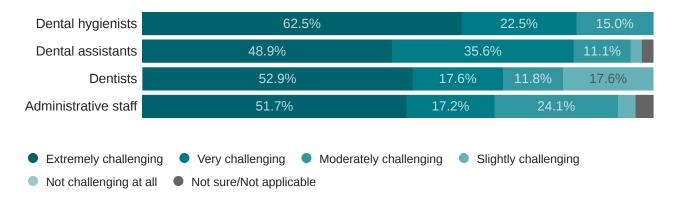


BY OWNERSHIP STATUS (continued)

Non-owner dentists

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





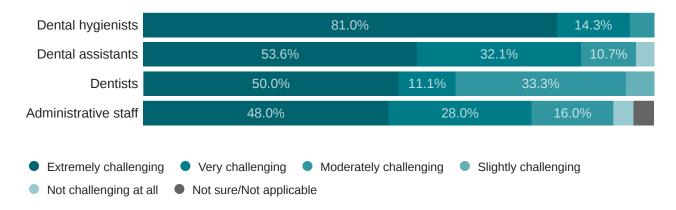


BY DSO AFFILIATION

DSO

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





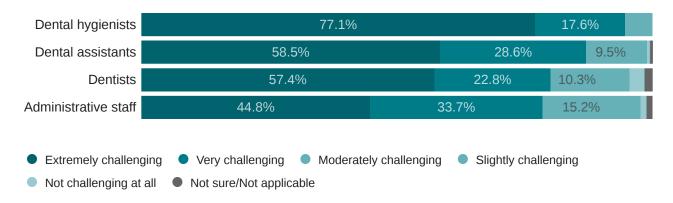


BY DSO AFFILIATION (continued)

Non-DSO

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







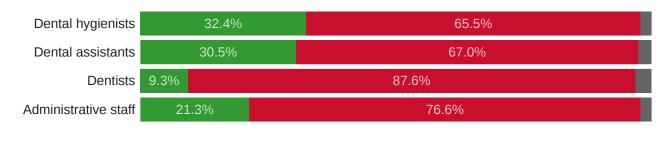
BY PRACTICE SIZE

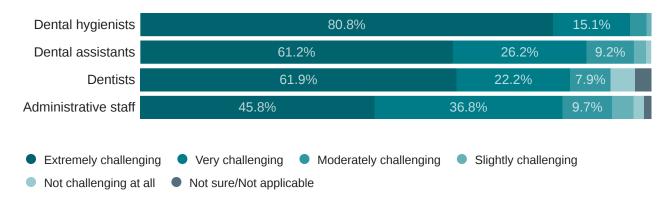
Solo dentists

• Yes

No Not sure

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



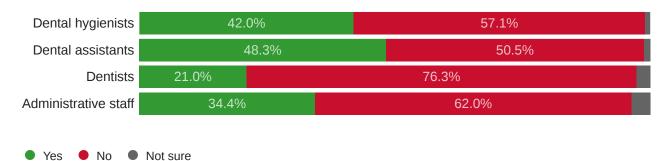


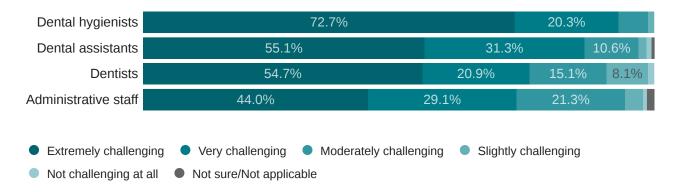


BY PRACTICE SIZE (continued)

2 to 9 dentists

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



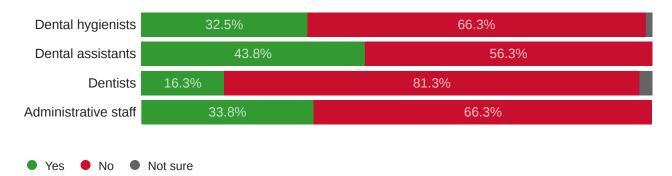


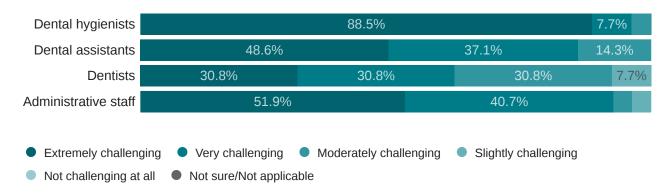


BY GEOGRAPHY

Top 20 Cities

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



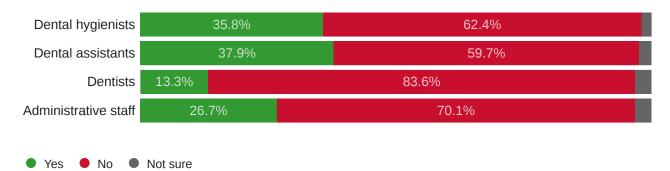


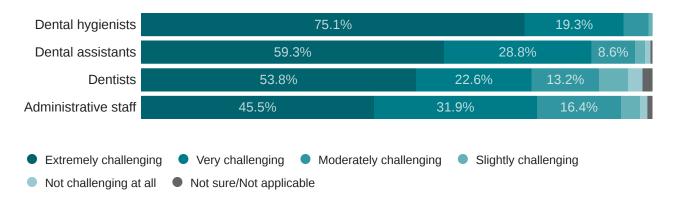


BY GEOGRAPHY (continued)

Other Urban

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



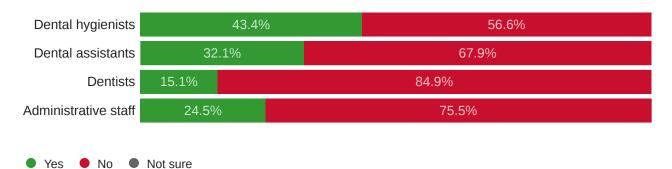


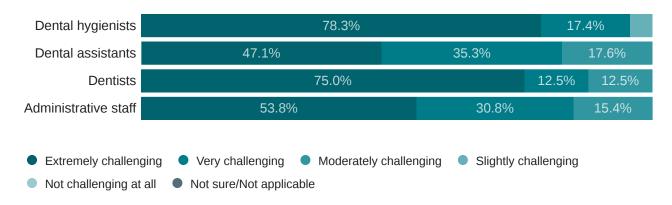


BY GEOGRAPHY (continued)

Suburban

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



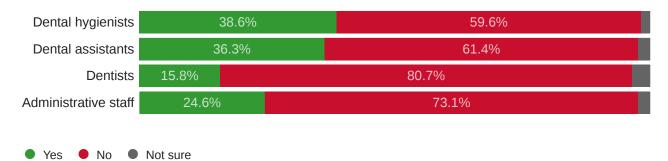


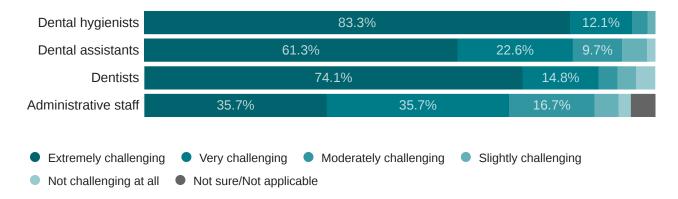


BY GEOGRAPHY (continued)

Rural

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



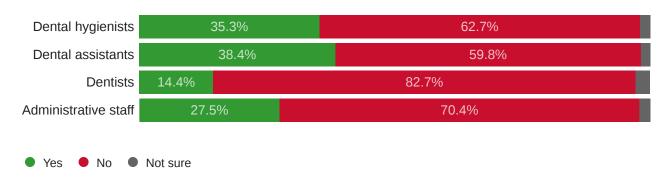


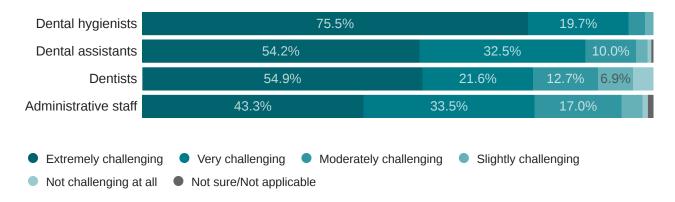


BY SEX

Male

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



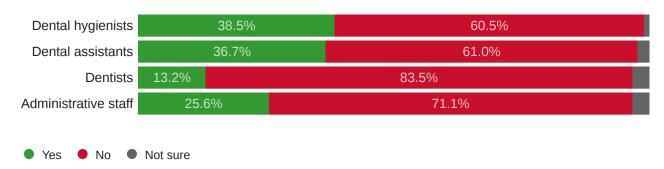


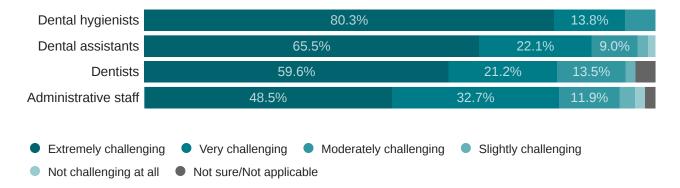


BY SEX (continued)

Female

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







410

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ADA American Dental Association®

Number of Responses by Wave

Field	Responses
2022JAN	1,883
2022FEB	1,386
2022MAR	1,916
2022APR	1,423
2022MAY	1,389
2022JUN	1,203
2022JUL	1,162
2022AUG	1,204
2022SEP	1,102

Number of Responses by Group - Week of September 12

Ownership staus	Choice Count
Owner dentist (i.e., sole owner, partner, or shareholder)	1,020
Employee dentist (nonowner)	36
Associate dentist (nonowner)	31
Independent contractor	15
DSO Affiliation	Choice Count
DSO	43
Non-DSO	1,059
Practice Size	Choice Count
Solo dentists	675

2	to	9	dentists
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Large group (10+ dentists)



Number of Responses by Group - Week of August 15 (continued)

Other Urban797Suburban53Rural171SexChoice CountMale706Female395AgeChoice Count<352735-4419445-5426555-6437265+244Race/EthnicityChoice CountWhite or Caucasian846Asian96Latino or Hispanic44Back or African-American11Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander11American Indian / Alaska Native32Other18Other18Other18Other18Other18	Geography	Choice Count
Suburban53Rural171SexChoice CountMale706Female395AgeChoice Count<35	Top 20 Cities	80
Rural 171 Sex Choice Count Male 706 Female 395 Age Choice Count <35	Other Urban	797
Sex Choice Count Male 706 Female 395 Age Choice Count <35	Suburban	53
Male700Female395AgeChoice Count<35	Rural	171
Male700Female395AgeChoice Count<35		
Female395AgeChoice Count<35	Sex	Choice Count
AgeChoice Count<35	Male	706
<35	Female	395
<35		
35-4419445-5426555-6437265+244Race/EthnicityChoice CountWhite or Caucasian848Asian98Latino or Hispanic49Black or African-American14Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander1American Indian / Alaska Native3Other18	Age	Choice Count
45-54 265 55-64 372 65+ Choice Cound White or Caucasian 848 Asian 98 Latino or Hispanic 99 Black or African-American 14 Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander 1 American Indian / Alaska Native 3 Other 199	<35	27
55-6437265+244Race/EthnicityChoice CountWhite or Caucasian848Asian98Latino or Hispanic49Black or African-American14Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander1American Indian / Alaska Native3Other18	35-44	194
65+ 244 Race/Ethnicity Choice Count White or Caucasian 848 Asian 98 Latino or Hispanic 99 Black or African-American 94 Black or African-American 14 Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander 1 American Indian / Alaska Native 3 Other 18	45-54	265
Race/EthnicityChoice CountWhite or Caucasian848Asian98Latino or Hispanic98Black or African-American14Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander1American Indian / Alaska Native3Other18	55-64	372
White or Caucasian848Asian98Latino or Hispanic49Black or African-American14Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander1American Indian / Alaska Native3Other18	65+	244
White or Caucasian848Asian98Latino or Hispanic49Black or African-American14Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander1American Indian / Alaska Native3Other18		
Asian98Latino or Hispanic49Black or African-American14Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander1American Indian / Alaska Native3Other18	Race/Ethnicity	Choice Count
Latino or Hispanic49Black or African-American14Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander1American Indian / Alaska Native3Other18	White or Caucasian	848
Black or African-American14Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander1American Indian / Alaska Native3Other18	Asian	98
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander1American Indian / Alaska Native3Other18	Latino or Hispanic	49
American Indian / Alaska Native3Other18	Black or African-American	14
Other 18	Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	1
	American Indian / Alaska Native	3
Unknown 70	Other	18
	Unknown	70