## Week of October 17, 2022

#### **Table of Contents**

	Page
About This Study	2

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 many business days does the average <i>patient of record</i> have to wait for an appointment (excluding emergencies)?	5	28
[Owners only] Currently, how many business days did the average <i>new patient</i> 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
Looking ahead the next six months, which of these concerns you more? (Dental team staffing shortages; not enough patient demand for care; neither)	6	46

## Economic Outlook and Emerging Issues in Dentistry Week of October 17, 2022

ADA American Dental Association®

## **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 October 17, 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), Black. The number of respondents by demographics can be found at the end of this report.

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

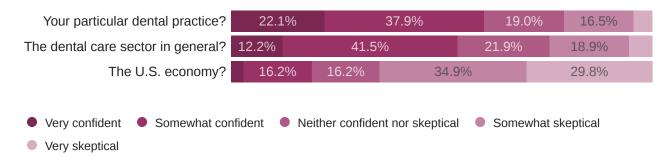
211 E. Chicago Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60611 312.440.2928 hpi@ada.org

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:

1170 Responses



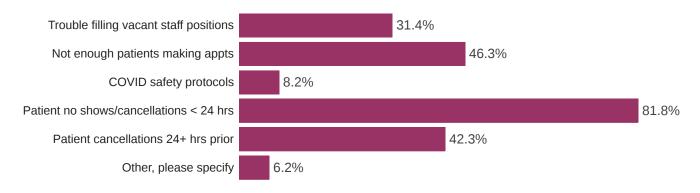
#### How full was your dental practice's appointment schedule last week?



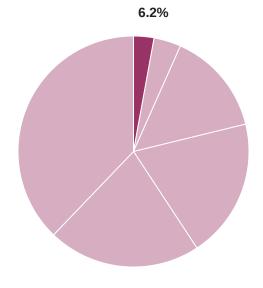
Mean % of appointment schedule filled

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

986 Responses



61 respondents (6.2%) selected "other, please specify." Their responses are categorized below.

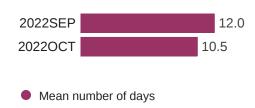


Other, please specify:	Responses
STAFF OUT WITH COVID/QUARANTINE/OTHER ILLNESS	23.0%
STAFF OUT ON VACATION / LEAVE	21.3%
BAD ECONOMIC CONDITIONS	14.8%
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT / ATTENDING DENTAL MEETINGS	9.8%
DROPPED DENTAL PLAN / LOW REIMBURSEMENT / INSURANCE ISSUES	9.8%
STAFF SHORTAGES	3.3%
INCLEMENT WEATHER	3.3%
SEASONAL LOW	3.3%
PATIENTS AWAY / OFFICE CLOSED FOR HOLIDAY	1.6%
LOSING EXISTING PATIENTS	1.6%
MISCELLANEOUS	11.5%

Dercentage of

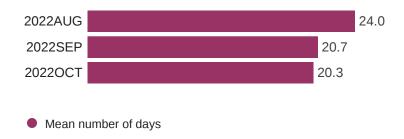
[Owners only] Currently, how many business days does the average *patient of record* have to wait for an appointment (excluding emergencies)?

2098 Responses



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

3226 Responses





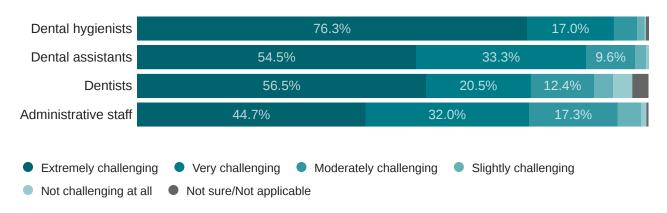
## Have you recently or are you currently recruiting any of the following positions in your dental practice?

1170 Responses



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

703 Responses



## Looking ahead the next six months, which of these concerns you more?

1167 Responses



#### **Select Breakouts of Results**

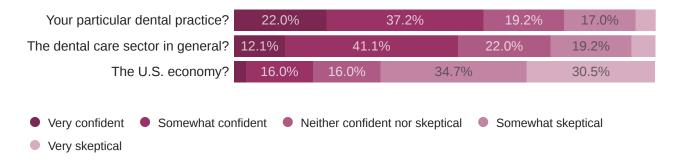
ADA American Dental Association®

#### **Economic Confidence**

#### BY OWNERSHIP STATUS

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

#### **Owner**



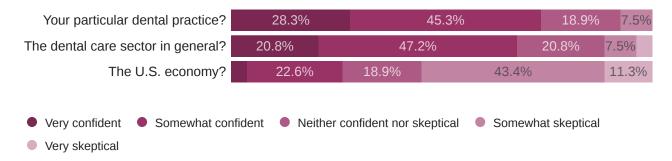
#### Non-owner

Your particular dental practice?	23.9%	46.7%			.3%	10.9%
The dental care sector in general?	14.1%	46.7%	20.7%	1	5.2%	
The U.S. economy?	19.6%	17.4% 37.09		%	2	1.7%

#### BY DSO AFFILIATION

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

#### **DSO**



#### Non-DSO

Your particular dental practice?	21.8%	37.6%		19.0	0%	16.9%	
The dental care sector in general?	11.8%	41.30	41.3% 21.9%			19.4%	
The U.S. economy?	15.9%	16.0%	34.59	%		30.7%	

## **BY PRACTICE SIZE**

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

## Solo dentists

Your particular dental practice?	17.4%	% 36.0%		22.2%	19.4%
The dental care sector in general?	9.3%	40.0%		23.3%	21.8%
The U.S. economy?	16.0%	15.1%	34.	5%	32.1%
<ul><li>Very confident</li><li>Somewhat cor</li><li>Very skeptical</li></ul>	ıfident • N	leither confid	ent nor skeptio	cal Some	ewhat skeptical

#### 2 to 9 dentists

Your particular dental practice?	29.3%		41.5%		13.6%	12.2%	
The dental care sector in general?	16.3%	44.	44.2%		3%	15.2%	
The U.S. economy?	17.2%	18.4%	34.2%			27.0%	

#### **BY GEOGRAPHY**

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

## Top 20 cities

Your particular dental practice?	20.8%	36.5%		19.8%	19.8%
The dental care sector in general?	9.4%	42.7%		21.9%	21.9%
The U.S. economy?	18.8%	20.8% 34.4%		4.4%	22.9%
<ul><li>Very confident</li><li>Somewhat con</li><li>Very skeptical</li></ul>	nfident • Neit	her confident nor	skeptical	<ul><li>Somewha</li></ul>	t skeptical

#### Other urban

Your particular dental practice?	21.4%	39.2%		18.7	%	15.9%	
The dental care sector in general?	12.5%	42.2%		21.4%		18.0%	
The U.S. economy?	16.8%	16.4%	35.29	<b>%</b>		28.7%	

#### Suburban

Your particular dental practice?	25.0%	% 37.5%		12	.5%	25.0%	
The dental care sector in general?	10.7%		41.1%	25.0%	6	19.6%	
The U.S. economy?	16.1%	8.9%	42.9%			32.1%	

#### Rural

Your particular dental practice?	25.6 <sup>0</sup>	6% 32.4%		22.2%	14.8%
The dental care sector in general?	13.1%	37.5%		23.3%	21.6%
The U.S. economy?	12.5%	14.2%	31.3%		38.6%

#### **BY SEX**

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

#### Male

Your particular dental practice?	23.3%	% 37.1%		19	9.5%	15.5%
The dental care sector in general?	12.3%	40.9%		22.7%	6	19.0%
The U.S. economy?	13.7%	16.4%	35.0%		32.1%	
<ul><li>Very confident</li><li>Somewhat cor</li><li>Very skeptical</li></ul>	nfident • Ne	either confid	ent nor skeptica	I ● Som	iewhat ski	eptical

#### **Female**

Your particular dental practice?	19.8%	39.8%	18.0%	18.3%	
The dental care sector in general?	12.1% 42.9%		20.3%	18.5%	
The U.S. economy?	21.3%	15.7%	34.4%	25.4%	

#### BY AGE GROUP

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

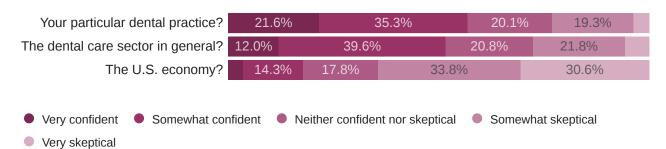
#### 35 to 44

Your particular dental practice?	24.5%	24.5% 44.3%			16.1°	%	9.9%	ó
The dental care sector in general?	13.5%	5% 45.8%		20.3%		13	.0%	7.3%
The U.S. economy?	20.3%	20.8%	33.9%			4	21.9%	ó

#### 45 to 54

Your particular dental practice?	23.1%	38.4%		19.6%		16.0%	
The dental care sector in general?	14.2%	40.9%		21.0%		19.6%	
The U.S. economy?	17.8%	12.5%	12.5% 33.5%			33.5%	

#### 55 to 64



#### 65 or older

Your particular dental practice?	20.4%		35.1%		18.9%	
The dental care sector in general?	9.1%	41.5	5%	26.0%	18.1%	
The U.S. economy?	14.7%	13.2%	38.9	%	30.9%	

#### BY RACE/ETHNICITY

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

#### White

Your particular dental practice?	23.6%	37.6%		18.	1%	16.3%		
The dental care sector in general?	12.3%	42.7	21.3%		18.7%			
The U.S. economy?	16.1%	15.8%	35.89	%	29.5%			
<ul> <li>Very confident</li> <li>Somewhat confident</li> <li>Neither confident nor skeptical</li> <li>Somewhat skeptical</li> </ul>								

#### **Asian**

Your particular dental practice?	20.4%	43.0%		22.6%		11.8%
The dental care sector in general?	16.1%	45.2%		20.4% 1		1.0%
The U.S. economy?	17.2%	25.8%	41.9%			12.9%

## Hispanic

Your particular dental practice?	15.5%	41.4%			20.7%	17.2%	
The dental care sector in general?	13.8%	41.4%			20.7%	17.2%	
The U.S. economy?	8.6%	22.4%	17.2%		4.1%	27.6%	



## **Appointment Schedule**

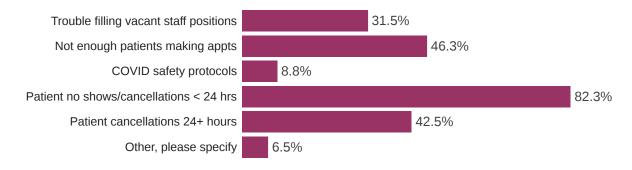
#### BY OWNERSHIP STATUS

#### **Owner**

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



Mean % of schedule filled



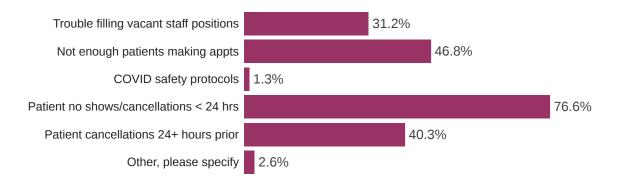
#### **BY OWNERSHIP STATUS (continued)**

#### Non-owner

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



Mean % of schedule filled



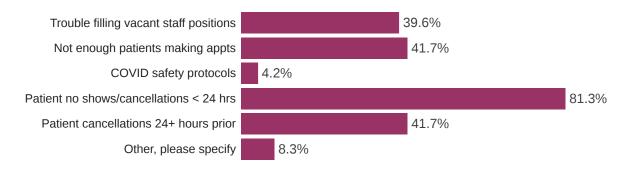
#### BY DSO AFFILIATION

#### **DSO**

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



Mean % of schedule filled



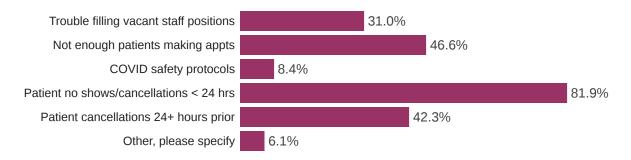
#### **BY DSO AFFILIATION (continued)**

#### Non-DSO

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



Mean % of schedule filled



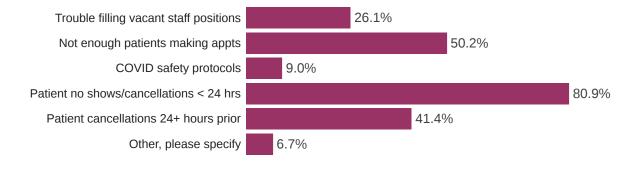
#### BY PRACTICE SIZE

#### Solo dentists

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



Mean % of schedule filled



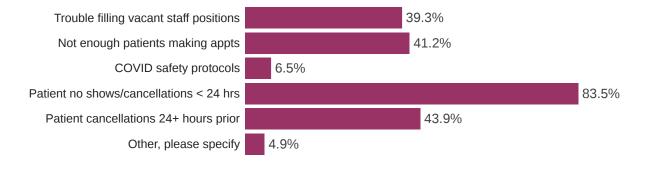
### **BY PRACTICE SIZE (continued)**

#### 2 to 9 dentists

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



Mean % of schedule filled



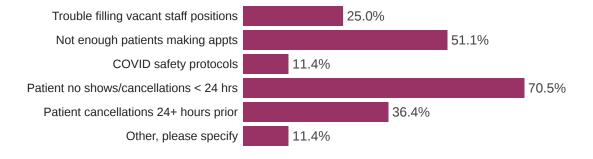
#### BY GEOGRAPHY

#### Top 20 cities

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



Mean % of schedule filled



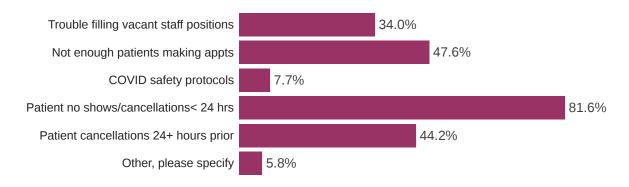
## **BY GEOGRAPHY (continued)**

#### Other Urban

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



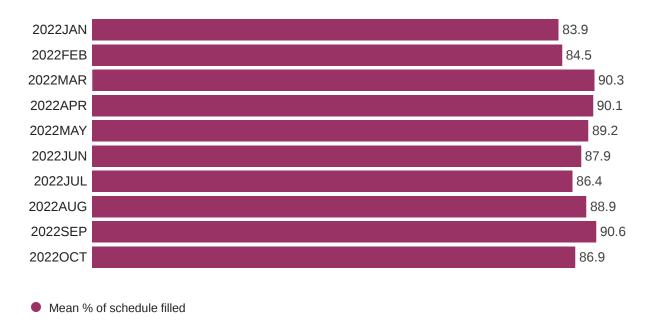
Mean % of schedule filled

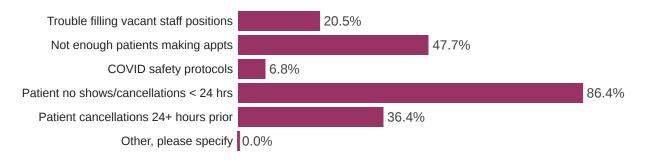


## BY GEOGRAPHY (continued)

#### Suburban

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





#### **BY GEOGRAPHY (continued)**

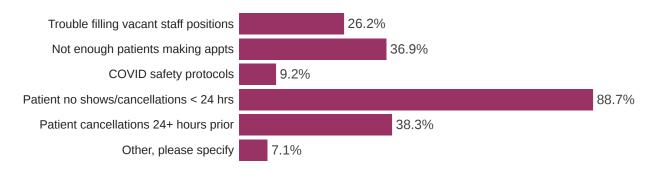
ADA American Dental Association®

#### Rural

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



Mean % of schedule filled



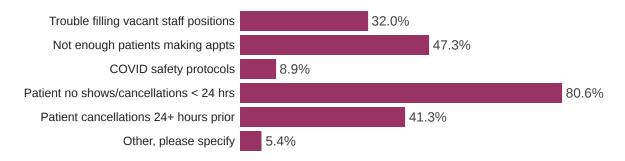
#### BY SEX

#### Male

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



Mean % of schedule filled



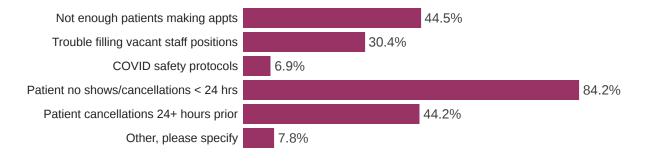
## **BY SEX (continued)**

#### **Female**

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

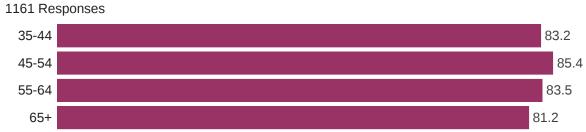


Mean % of schedule filled



#### **BY AGE**

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



Mean % of schedule filled

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	29.3%	42.7%	2.4%	85.4%	46.3%	3.7%
45-54	32.7%	40.8%	7.2%	83.4%	44.8%	7.6%
55-64	32.0%	44.6%	10.3%	83.0%	41.9%	6.5%
65+	30.5%	56.2%	11.5%	75.2%	36.3%	7.1%

#### BY RACE/ETHNICITY

## How full was your dental practice's appointment schedule last week? 1160 Responses



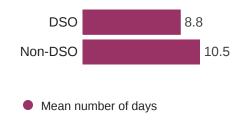
Field	Trouble filling vacant staff positions	Not enough patients trying to make appointments	covid safety protocols are limiting the capacity	Patient no shows/cancellations < 24 hrs	Patient cancellations 24+ hours prior	Other, please specify
White	31.1%	44.8%	6.9%	83.3%	42.5%	5.8%
Asian	29.7%	48.6%	20.3%	74.3%	50.0%	1.4%
Hispanic	24.0%	48.0%	14.0%	78.0%	30.0%	10.0%

#### **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)?

1078 Responses



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

1078 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)?

1077 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)?

1077 Responses

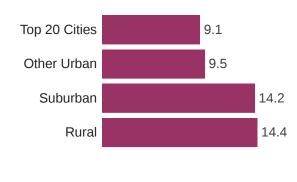


Mean number of days

#### **BY GEOGRAPHY**

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

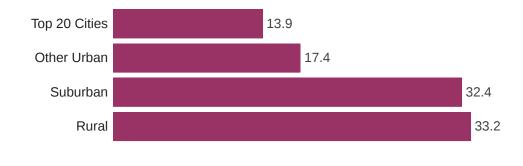
1078 Responses



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)?

1078 Responses

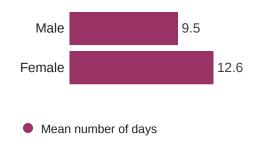


Mean number of days

#### **BY SEX**

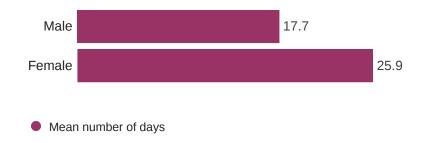
[Owners only] Currently, how many business days does the average *patient of record* have to wait for an appointment (excluding emergencies)?

1078 Responses



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

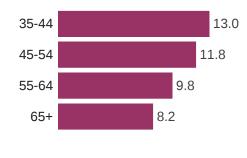
1078 Responses



#### BY AGE GROUP

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

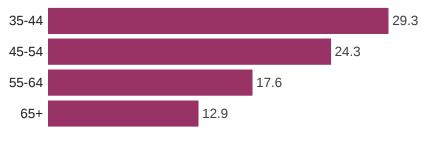
1078 Responses



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)?

1078 Responses

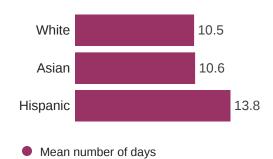


Mean number of days

#### BY RACE / ETHNICITY

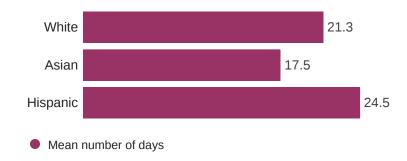
[Owners only] Currently, how many business days does the average *patient of record* have to wait for an appointment (excluding emergencies)?

1077 Responses



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

1077 Responses



### Staff Recruitment

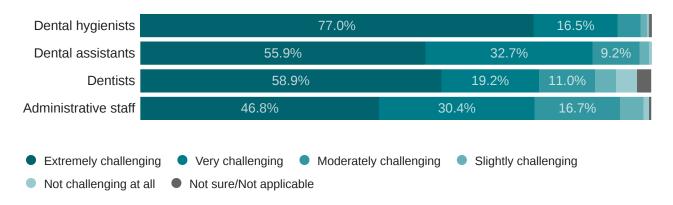
#### BY OWNERSHIP STATUS

#### **Owner dentists**

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



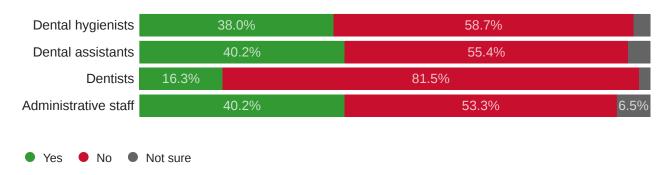
#### How challenging has it been to recruit the position(s) below?



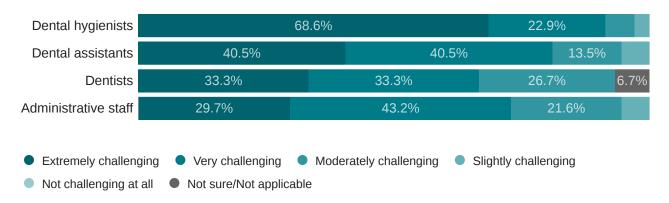
#### **BY OWNERSHIP STATUS (continued)**

#### Non-owner dentists

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



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



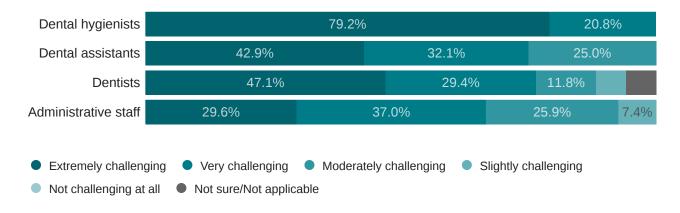
#### BY DSO AFFILIATION

#### **DSO**

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



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

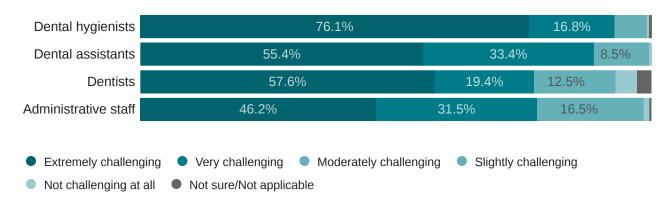


### BY DSO AFFILIATION (continued)

#### Non-DSO

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

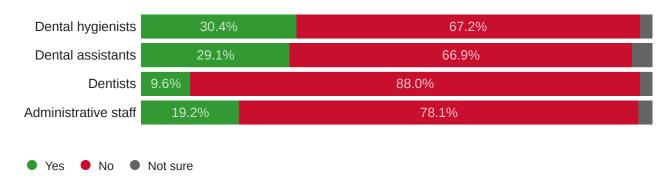


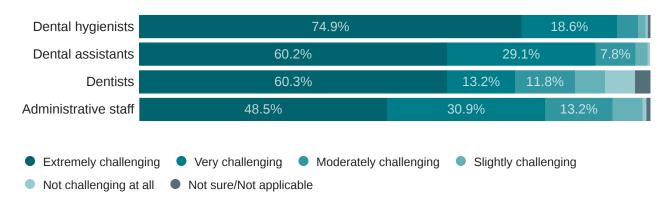


#### BY PRACTICE SIZE

#### Solo dentists

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

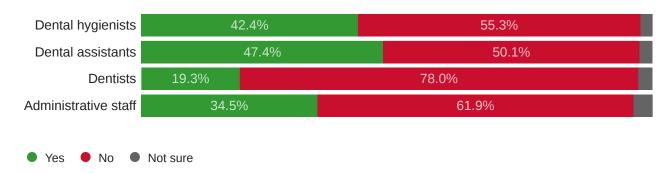


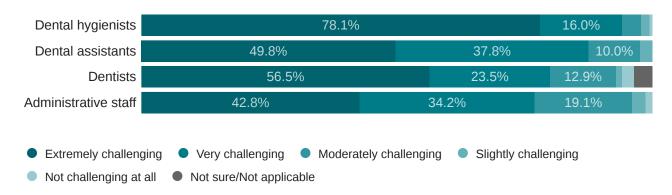


# **BY PRACTICE SIZE (continued)**

#### 2 to 9 dentists

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

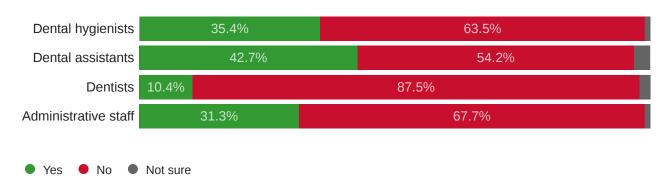


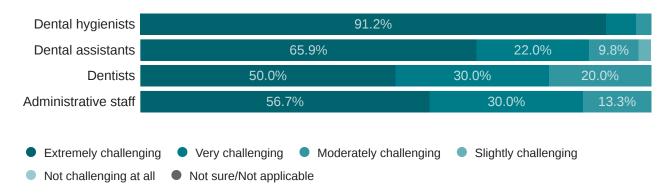


#### **BY GEOGRAPHY**

### **Top 20 Cities**

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

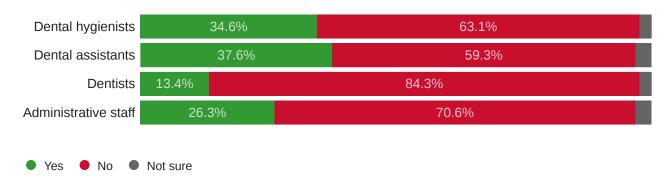


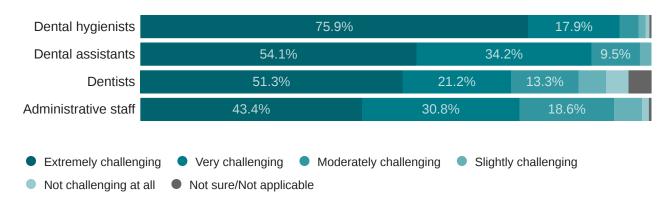


# **BY GEOGRAPHY (continued)**

#### Other Urban

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



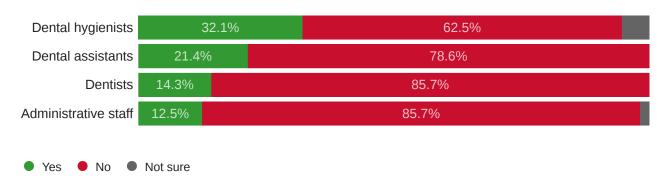


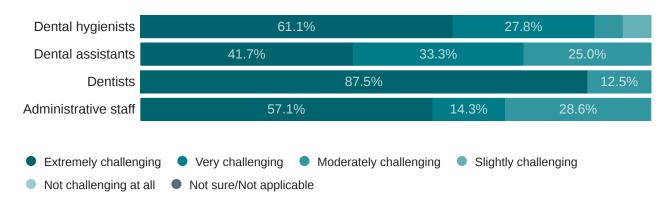


# **BY GEOGRAPHY (continued)**

#### Suburban

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

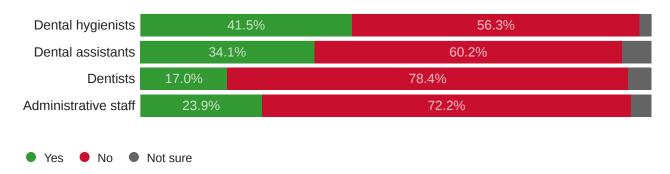


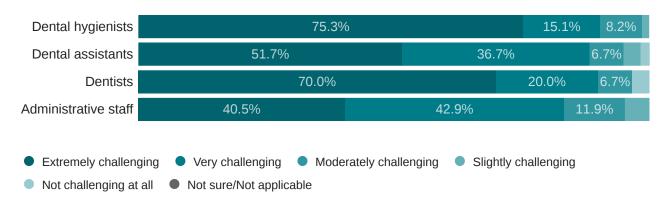


### **BY GEOGRAPHY (continued)**

#### Rural

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

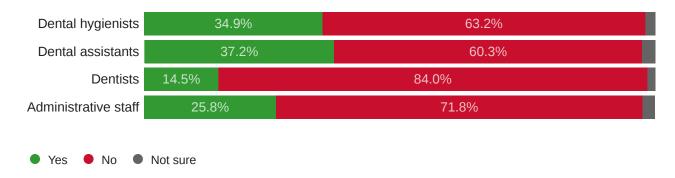


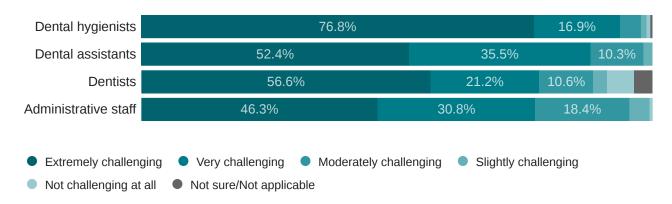


#### **BY SEX**

#### Male

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





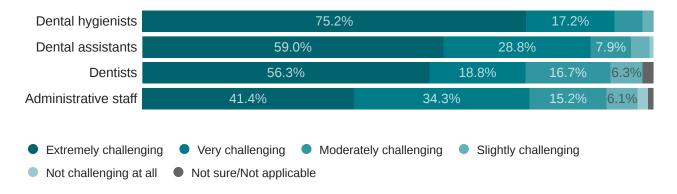


### **BY SEX (continued)**

#### **Female**

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



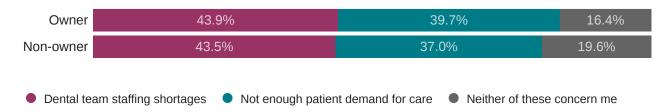


# **Question of the Week**

#### **Future Concerns**

### Looking ahead the next six months, which of these concerns you more?

### By Ownership Status



# By DSO Affiliation



### By Practice Size



### By Geography

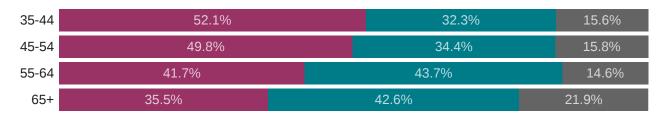


### Looking ahead the next six months, which of these concerns you more? (continued)

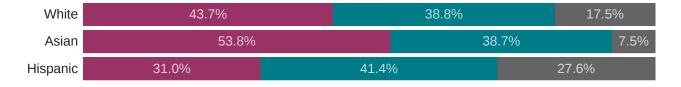
### By Sex



#### By Age Group



# By Race / Ethnicity



# Economic Outlook and Emerging Issues in Dentistry Week of October 17, 2022

# ADA American Dental Association®

# **Number of Responses by Wave**

Wave	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
2022OCT	1,170

# Number of Responses by Group - Week of September 12

Ownership staus	Choice Count
Owner dentist (i.e., sole owner, partner, or shareholder)	1,078
Employee dentist (nonowner)	39
Associate dentist (nonowner)	33
Independent contractor	20
DSO Affiliation	Choice Count
DSO	53
Non-DSO	1,117

# Economic Outlook and Emerging Issues in Dentistry Week of October 17, 2022

# ADA American Dental Association®

# Number of Responses by Group - Week of October 17 (continued)

Practice Size	Choice Count
Solo dentists	708
2 to 9 dentists	441
Large group (10+ dentists)	20
Geography	Choice Count
Top 20 Cities	80
Other Urban	797
Suburban	53
Rural	171
Sex	Choice Count
Sex Male	Choice Count 706
Male	706
Male	706
Male Female	706 395
Male Female Age	706 395 Choice Count
Male Female  Age <35	706 395 Choice Count 27
Male Female  Age <35 35-44	706 395 Choice Count 27 194

# Economic Outlook and Emerging Issues in Dentistry Week of October 17, 2022

# ADA American Dental Association®

# **Number of Responses by Group - Week of October 17 (continued)**

Race/Ethnicity	Choice Count
White	848
Asian	98
Hispanic	49
Black	14
Native Hawaiian / Pacific Islander	1
American Indian / Alaska Native	3
Other	18
Unknown	70