



2017-2018 Workforce Survey of Dentists

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Acknowledgements

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Executive Summary

Florida statutes and administrative code rules require renewal of dental licenses every two years, including the biennial period which ended on February 28, 2018. Since 2009, the Florida Department of Health (Department) has administered a workforce survey for dentists. The fifth administration of this survey coincided with the licensure renewal deadline of February 28, 2018. All responses are self-reported. Approximately 86.7% of dentists with an active Florida license responded to the 2017-2018 survey.

This report will assist the Workforce Advisory Committee (Committee) in its efforts to provide evidence-based recommendations to the State Surgeon General and the Department on matters concerning dental workforce needs. The Committee is composed of representatives from the Department's Public Health Dental Program, the Florida Dental Association, and the Florida Dental Hygiene Association. The report identifies the supply of workforce professionals practicing in Florida and examines factors related to dental practice location and career plans. The report assists those in the oral health career industry and other decision makers to better prepare strategic efforts for enhancing the oral health care delivery system in Florida.

To better assist the Workforce Advisory Committee and those in the oral health career industry, this fifth report includes graphs comparing current findings with findings from the four previous Workforce Survey of Dentists Reports, which can help identify trends within the changing workforce over a 10-year period.

Key Findings

Key findings from this report include the following:

Demographics

- Of 15,254 dentists who applied for licensure renewal, 14,011 (91.8%) dentists were designated having "Active" license status; a total of 12,142 (86.7%) active dentists responded to the 2017-2018 workforce survey.
- Of the 12,142 active dentists who responded to the survey, 9,679 (79.7%) practiced in Florida.
- The largest age group for female and male dentist respondents actively practicing in Florida in 2017-2018 was between 40 and 49 years of age (23.6%).
- The proportion of active male dentist respondents decreased from 74.1% in 2009-2010 to 64.8% in 2017-2018. The proportion of female dentist respondents increased from 25.9% to 34.9% during the same time period.
- From 2009-2010 to 2017-2018, the state's licensed dentists who identified as White decreased by 15.0% (69.5% to 59.1%) while Hispanic, Asian, and Black dentists increased by 30.1% (18.3% to 23.8%), 29.5% (6.1% to 7.9%), and 23.3% (3.0 to 3.7%), respectively.
- The majority of dentists who identified as Hispanic (91.4%) reported speaking one or more languages other than English in 2017-2018.
- The language with the highest percentage of respondents actively practicing in Florida who spoke a language in addition to English in 2017-2018 was Spanish at 75.3% and the next highest was French at 7.1%.

Professional Education

- The percentage of dentists in Florida who graduated from an out-of-state school decreased from 88.4% in 2009-2010 to 56.7% in 2017-2018 (36.9% drop).
- In 2017-2018, the percentage of dentists who graduated from dental school programs in Florida were: 23.4% (n=2,220) from the University of Florida, College of Dentistry, 11.0% (n=1,042) from Nova Southeastern University, College of Dental Medicine, and 0.9% (n=84) from Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine, School of Dental Medicine.

Practice Characteristics

- Just under half of Florida's dentists (47.7%) reported having practiced more than 20 years in 2017-2018, down from 50.4% in 2013-2014; 17.3% reported five or fewer years of active practice in 2017-2018, up from 14.8% in 2013-2014.
- A majority of dentist respondents actively practicing in Florida (72.1%) reported that they practiced solely in the county in which they reside.
- The majority of dentists actively practicing in Florida (72.2%) reported working as general dentists during 2017-2018, a slight drop from 74.1% in 2009-2010.
- The most prominent practice type reported among dentists in Florida was General Private Practice (n=6,771), followed by Orthodontics (n=495), and Pediatric (n=432).
- The top three Florida counties with the most practicing dentist respondents were Miami-Dade (n=1,609), Broward (n=1,294), and Palm Beach (n=998).
- Approximately 2,793 dental specialty board statuses or specialty certifications were reported by Florida dentists.
- Florida dentists who reported solo practices decreased from 61.0% in 2009-2010 to 55.3% in 2017-2018, while group practices and safety net practices increased.
- Just under half of dentist respondents actively practicing in Florida (48.5%) were sole owners of their practice, a decrease from 54.5% in 2013-2014.
- Optimal dental office staffing patterns for dental auxiliaries varied among dental practices; however, most Florida dentists in 2017-2018 reported they employed at least one dental hygienist and one or more dental assistants. A large percentage of dentists (78.0%) utilized more than one dental assistant.

Productivity

- In 2017-2018, dentists in Florida (26.3%) most frequently reported that they had between 26 and 50 patient encounters in a typical week, a decrease from 36.2% in 2009-2010.
- The majority of respondents (88.1%) practiced between 11-12 months within the last year in 2017-2018.
- The majority of respondents (53.0%) indicated they typically worked between 31-40 hours per week over the past 12 months in 2017-2018.
- Nearly all of Florida dentists (96.1%, n=9,213) indicated they were accepting new patients on the 2017-2018 survey.

Services to Vulnerable Populations

- Of dentist respondents actively practicing in Florida, 59.3% reported performing volunteer services in 2017-2018, most commonly providing 1 to 8 hours of volunteer service in the last 12 months (24.0%).
- In 2017-2018, approximately 84.4% of Florida dentists reported they saw at least one patient having special health care needs (SHCN) in the last 12 months; but 37.8% of dentists reported seeing only between 1-5 patients with SHCN in the same period.

- In 2017-2018, 69.7% of dentists did not see any Medicaid patients in the previous 12 months, a decrease from 84.8% in 2009-2010. Dentists who saw 1-10 Medicaid patients per year increased by +200% from 2.1% in 2009-2010 to 7.7% in 2017-2018.
- The majority of dentists in safety net practices (83.6%) reported seeing Medicaid patients in 2017-2018; only 27.3% of dentists in private practice saw Medicaid patients.
- In 2017-2018, 78.2% of dentists reported they were not Medicaid providers; dentists cited “inadequate reimbursement” as the main reason (71.9%) for not enrolling in Medicaid or accepting new Medicaid patients. The second most cited reason (40.9%) was “too much paperwork.”
- In 2017-2018, 3.9% of respondents indicated they were not currently accepting new patients.

Retention and Attrition

- Overall during 2017-2018, 1,268 dentist respondents actively practicing in Florida (13.7%) reported they plan to end their practice of dentistry in Florida within the next five years, up from 10.0% in 2009-2010. They cited retirement (83.6%) as the main reason.
- Nearly 10.0% of dentists with an active license not practicing in Florida reported they were retired, 2.9% were currently seeking employment in dentistry, and 62.3% practiced in another state.
- Of dentist respondents with an active license not practicing in Florida, 80.4% stated they plan to relocate to Florida sometime in the future.

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Introduction

Florida statutes and administrative code rules require renewal of dental licenses biennially by the end of February of even-numbered years. The most recent renewal period ended on February 28, 2018. The Department prepared and administered a workforce survey of dentists to coincide with the license renewal process (see Appendix A for accompanying survey). As part of their online renewal, dentists were asked to voluntarily complete the survey. All responses are self-reported.

This report presents data from the 2017-2018 Workforce Survey of Dentists and historical data from the past four surveys. The survey was designed to obtain information concerning Florida's dental workforce that would better inform health care policymakers and shape oral health care policy development. Analysis of responses is guided by those objectives. In order to address the dental workforce as a whole, it is recommended that the results of this report be considered alongside the 2017-2018 Workforce Survey of Dental Hygienists results.

The survey consisted of questions soliciting responses regarding demographics, professional education, practice characteristics, productivity, services to vulnerable populations, and retention and attrition. The survey is designed to obtain an understanding of the changing landscape of the dentist workforce. The survey is not designed to address population growth and maintenance of the current level of service and does not address portions of the population not currently served.

Licensure data, maintained by the Department's Division of Medical Quality Assurance, provided additional data for this report. A more detailed statement of survey methods and data analysis is included in Appendix B. Any changes in dental practice status occurring between survey completion and the report reference date are not reflected in the data. Therefore, counts or estimates of dentists actively practicing or not practicing in Florida are approximate with respect to the report's reference date. It should be noted that the number of responses for individual questions varied greatly since the workforce survey contained skip patterns and respondents may not have completed all questions. Thus, the number of responses per question is provided for each applicable figure in the report.

For the purposes of data analysis and reporting for this report, survey responses were restricted to those dentists with an active license status; it does not include those with an inactive status which may include some retired dental practitioners. The response rate for the 2017-2018 Workforce Survey of Dentists among dentists with an active license was approximately 86.7%. Most of the report was restricted to those who indicated that they are currently practicing within the state of Florida.

Findings

Licensed Dentists Practicing in Florida - Demographics

Of the 9,679 dentists with active licenses practicing in Florida who responded to the 2017-2018 Workforce Survey of Dentists, the majority were 40 years of age and older, with 23.6% age 40-49 years, 22.8% age 50-59 years and 26.2% age 60 years and older (Figure 1). Only 4.3% of dentists were 20-29 years of age. Since 2009, the percentage of each age group of respondents has stayed relatively constant, except for respondents between the ages of 50-59 years (decreased from 26.6% to 22.8%) and 70 years and older (increased from 5.0% to 8.1%).

Figure 1. Age Group Distribution of Dentists Practicing in Florida by Survey Year

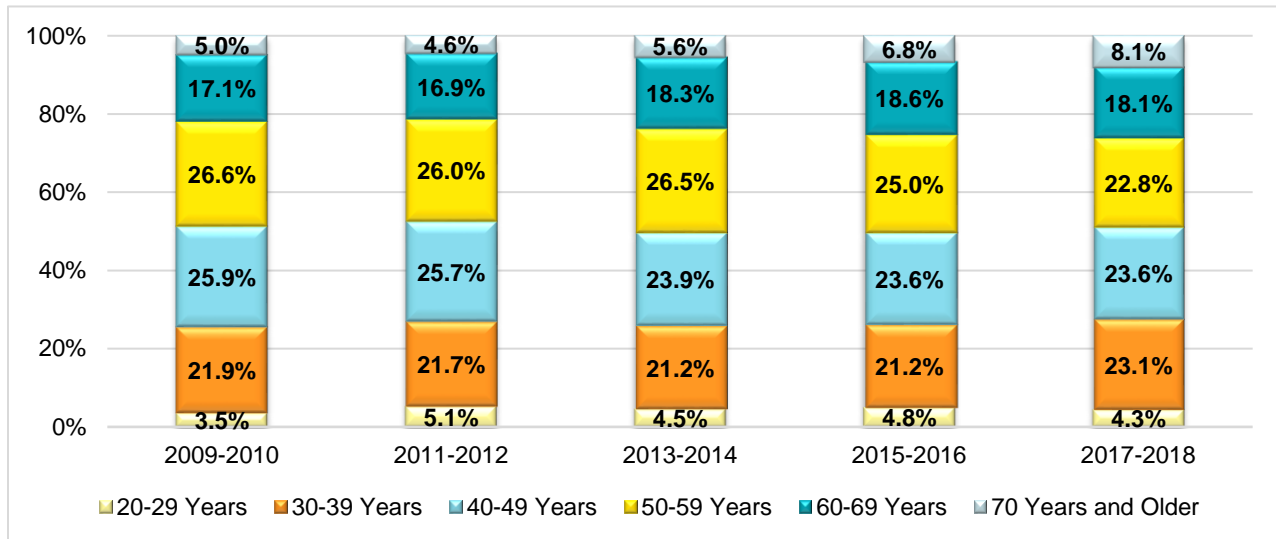
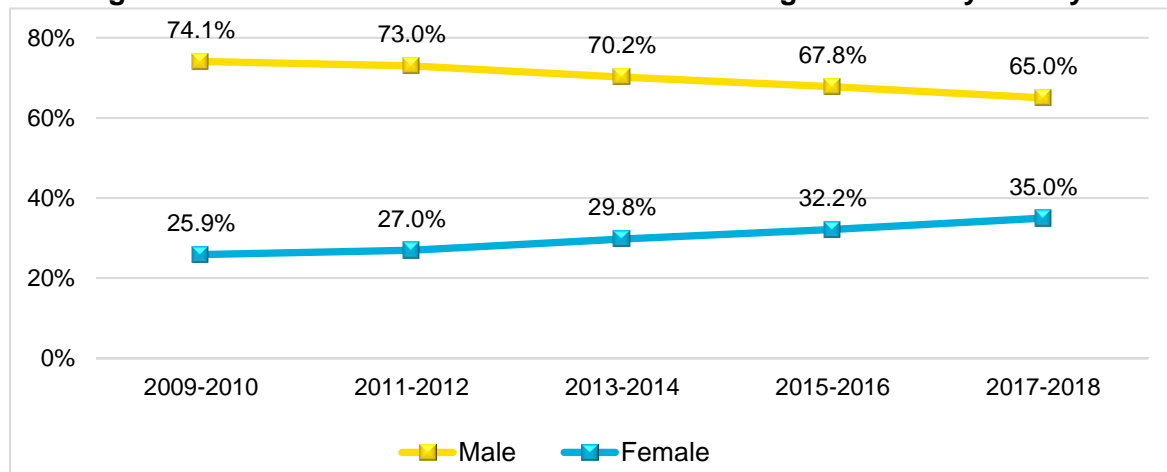


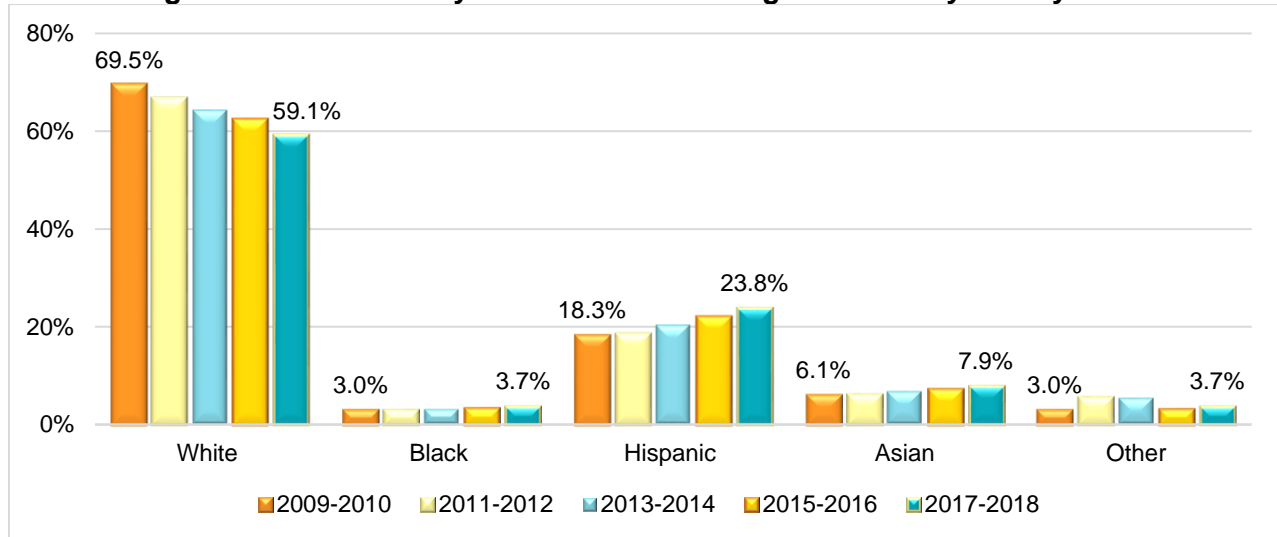
Figure 2 below highlights the gender distribution change of the respondents for each survey since 2009. The majority of practicing dentists in Florida are male; however, the percentage of male dentists has dropped 12.3% in the last 10 years from 74.1% in 2009 to 65.0% in 2018 while female dentists increased 35.1% from 25.9% to 35.0%.

Figure 2. Gender Distribution of Dentists Practicing in Florida by Survey Year



For the 2017-2018 survey, respondents practicing in Florida were predominantly White (59.1%) or Hispanic/Latino (23.8%) (Figure 3). Black and Asian dentists practicing in Florida comprised approximately 3.7% and 7.9%, respectively, of dentist workforce respondents. The percent of respondents who are White has decreased by 15.0% in the last 10 years while Hispanic, Asian, and Black dentists have increased by 30.1%, 29.5%, and 23.3% respectively.

Figure 3. Race/Ethnicity of Dentists Practicing in Florida by Survey Year



As shown in Figure 4, the percentage of dentists practicing in Florida during 2017-2018 who spoke one or more languages other than English was highest among Hispanics/Latinos (91.4%). Additional language proficiency also was high among Asian respondents (54.9%) and respondents in the Other group (53.3%). Approximately one in five White and Black respondents spoke a language other than English.

Figure 4. Percentage of Florida Dentists with Additional Language Speaking Ability by Race/Ethnicity (n=3,919), 2017-2018

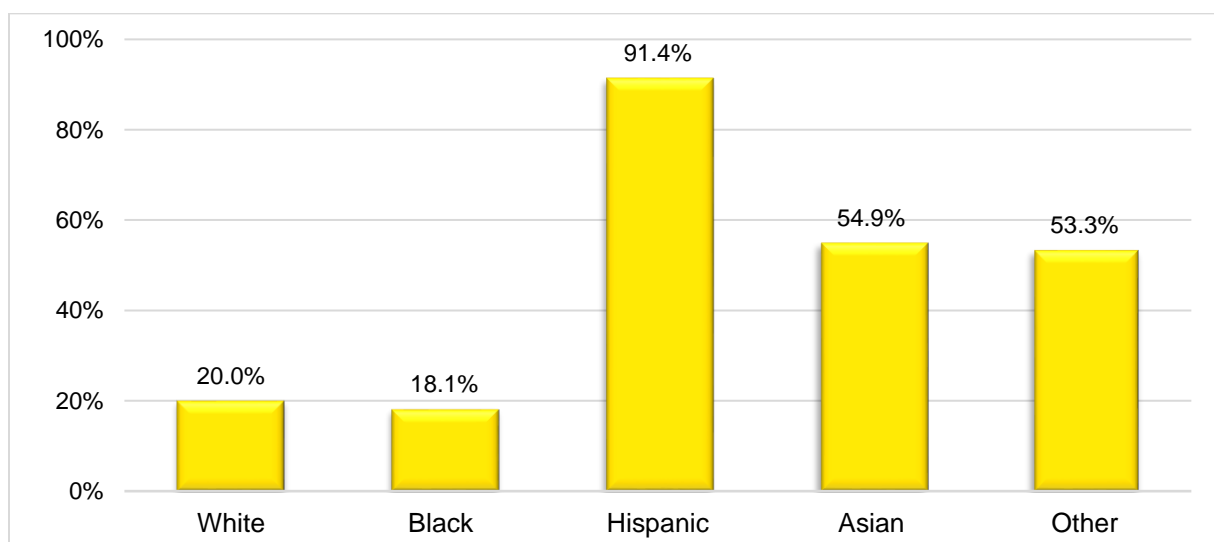


Table 1 details the additional languages spoken by respondents with active licenses practicing in Florida who reported speaking another language in addition to English (n=3,815). Overall, 41.5% of respondents spoke a language in addition to English. Approximately 75.3% of these respondents indicated they spoke Spanish. The second most common non-English language spoken by respondents was French (7.1%).

Table 1. Additional Languages Spoken by Florida Dentists (n=3,815), 2017-2018

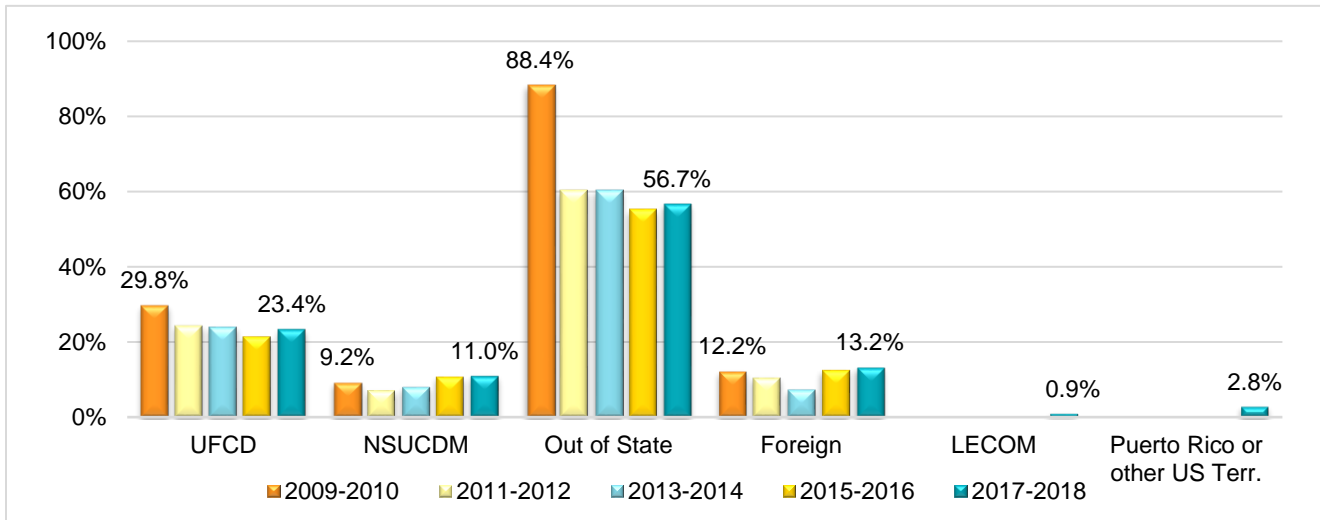
Languages	Count	Percent
Arabic	63	1.7%
Chinese (Mandarin or Cantonese)	63	1.7%
Creole	49	1.3%
French	270	7.1%
German	109	2.9%
Hebrew	84	2.2%
Japanese	9	0.2%
Italian	96	2.5%
Korean	34	0.9%
Other African Language	12	0.3%
Other Asian Language	203	5.3%
Other European Language	140	3.7%
Other Middle Eastern Language	66	1.7%
Other Language (unspecified)	79	2.1%
Polish	18	0.5%
Portuguese	169	4.4%
Russian	99	2.6%
Spanish	2,874	75.3%
Tagalog	30	0.8%
Vietnamese	114	3.0%

Licensed Dentists Practicing in Florida – Professional Education

Most practicing dentists (72.7%) indicated they received dental training outside of the state of Florida during 2017-2018. Figure 5 shows the distribution of respondents who earned a degree from out-of-state dental schools, foreign dental schools, Puerto Rico or other U.S. territory dental schools, and the following in-state schools: University of Florida, College of Dentistry (UFCD); Nova Southeastern College of Dental Medicine (NSUCDM); and Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine School of Dental Medicine (LECOM) for each survey cycle. From the number of responses in 2017-2018, 23.4% trained at UFCD, 11.0% trained at NSUCDM, 0.9% trained at LECOM, 56.7% trained at an out-of-state program, 2.8% trained at Puerto Rico or other U.S. territory, and 13.2% trained at a foreign dental school or program. The number of respondents who earned a dental degree from out-of-state schools drastically decreased by

36.9% from 88.4% in 2009-2010 to 56.7% in 2017-2018. It is important to note that LECOM is the newest dental school in Florida and graduated its first class during 2016. It is also important to note that a percentage of respondents have earned degrees from more than one school; therefore, the total percentages of schools where training occurred are over 100%.

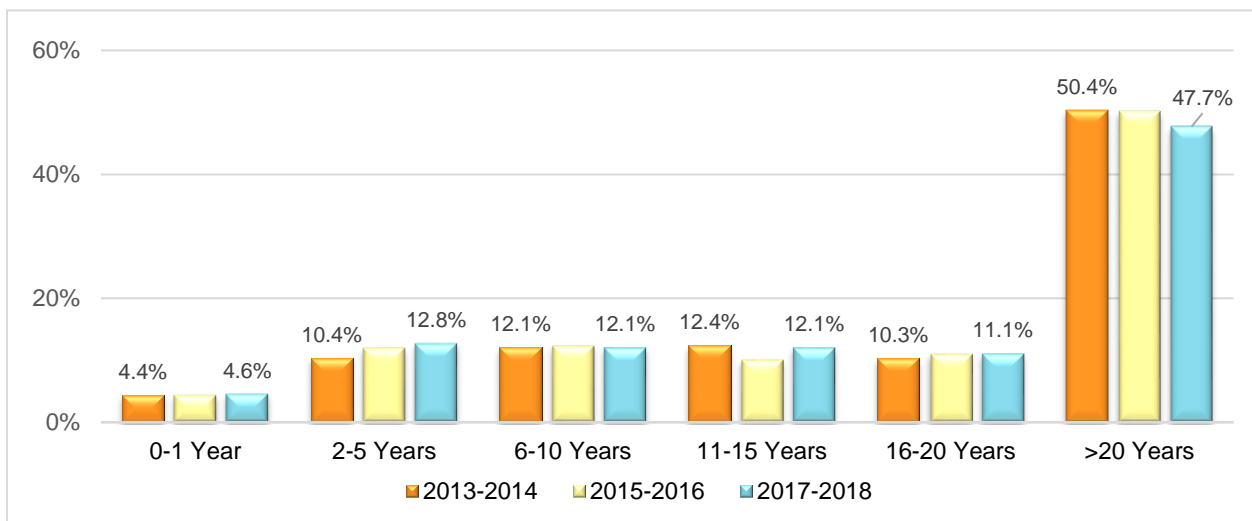
Figure 5. Program of Graduation among Dentists Practicing in Florida by Survey Year



Licensed Dentists Practicing in Florida – Practice Characteristics

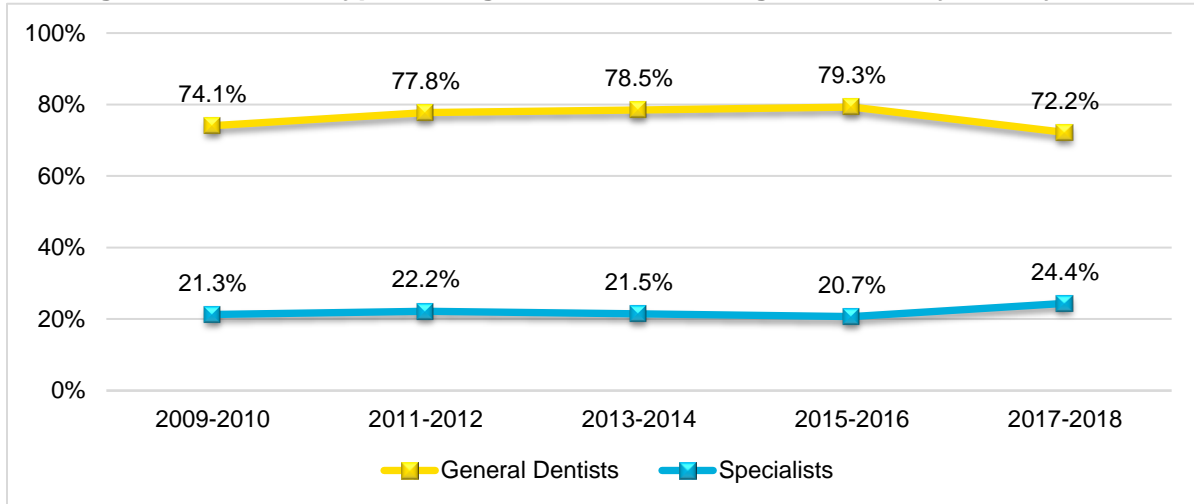
Most Florida’s dentists reported having practiced for more than 20 years (Figure 6). The percentage of dentists who reported more than 20 years of active practice slightly decreased from 50.4% in 2013-2014 to 47.7% in 2017-2018; 17.4% reported five or fewer years of active practice, an increase from 14.8% in 2013-2014. The majority of dentists (72.1%) practiced completely in the county where they reside and 12.3% of dentists practiced clinical dentistry in the county where they reside some of the time in 2017-2018 (data not shown).

Figure 6. Years of Active Practice among Dentists Practicing in Florida by Survey Year



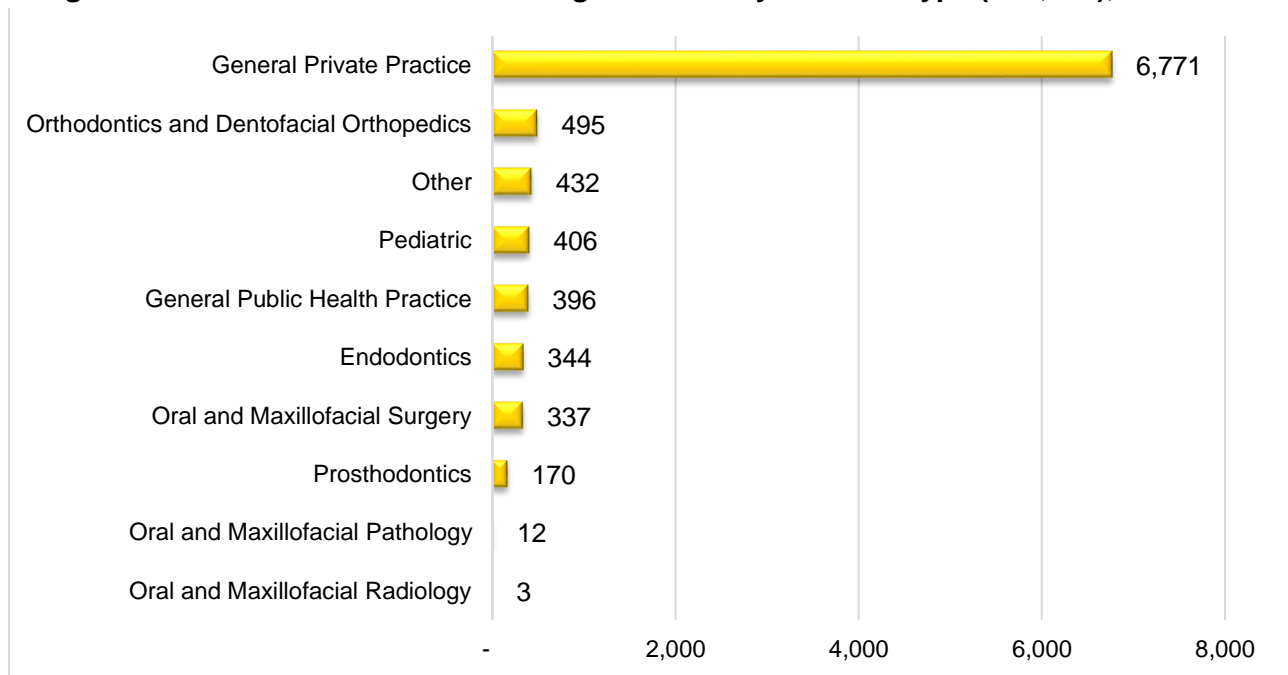
Over the last ten years that these surveys have been administered, the ratio of general dentists to specialists practicing in Florida has remained fairly constant (average 76.4% to 22.1%). However, the most recent survey, 2017-2018, shows a lower percentage of general dentists compared to 2015-2016 (9.0% decrease) and a 17.9% increase of specialists (Figure 7).

Figure 7. Practice Type among Dentists Practicing in Florida by Survey Year



For this survey year (2017-2018), most Florida's dentists worked in General Private Practice (Figure 8). The largest number of specialists practiced Orthodontics followed by Pediatric. The General Public Health specialty includes the five safety net categories: academic institutions, community health centers, county health departments, federally qualified health centers, and other state government clinical settings. The Other group includes non-clinical positions.

Figure 8. Number of Dentists Practicing in Florida by Practice Type (n=9,366), 2017-2018



The following maps show the number of overall dentists practicing in Florida by county (Figure 9), the number of dentists in General Private Practice by county (Figure 10), and the number of dentists in General Public Health Practice by county (Figure 11). It is important to note that some dentists reported multiple counties of practice.

Figure 9. Number of Dentists Practicing in Florida by County, 2017-2018

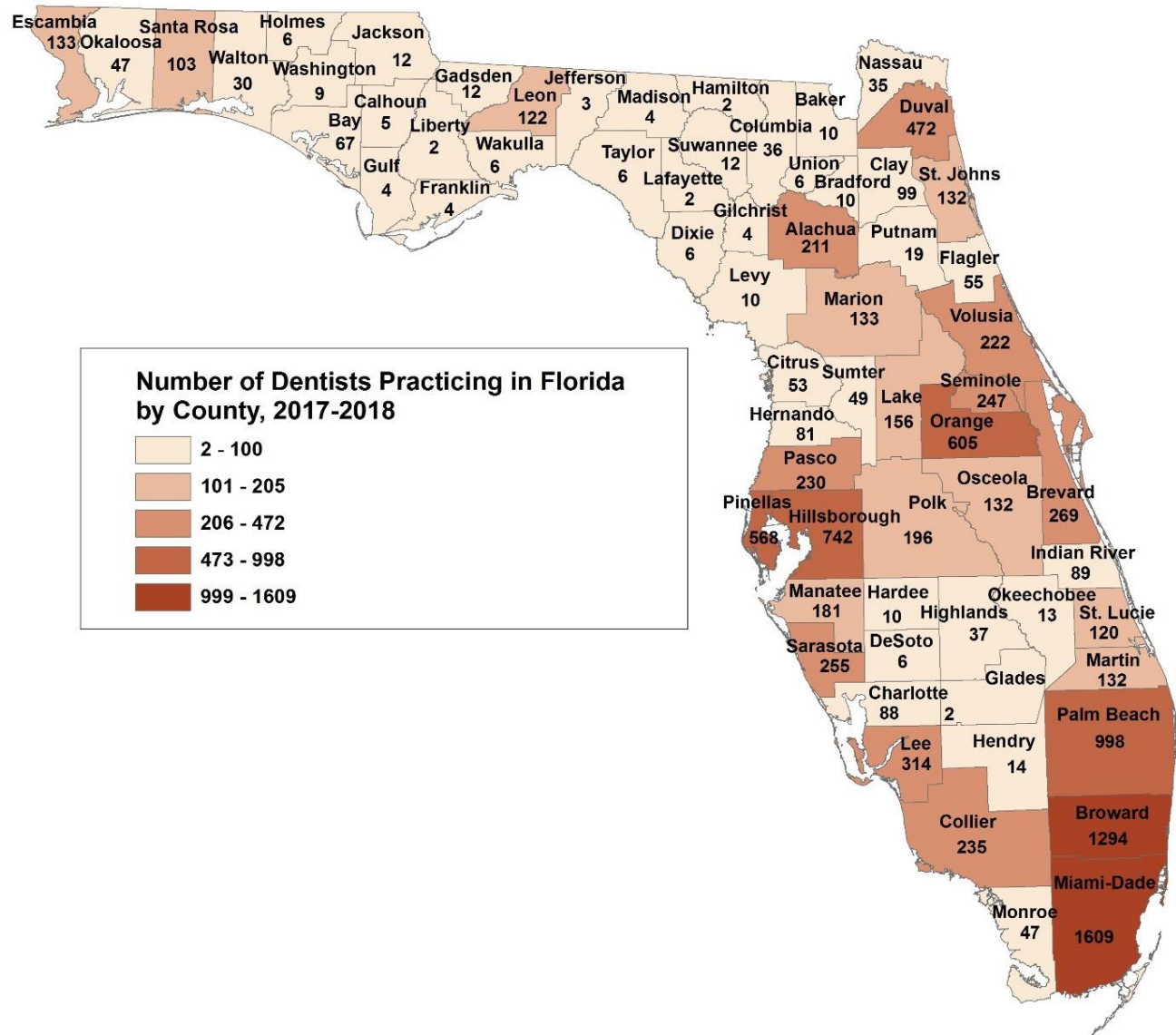


Figure 10. Number of Dentists in General Private Practice, 2017-2018

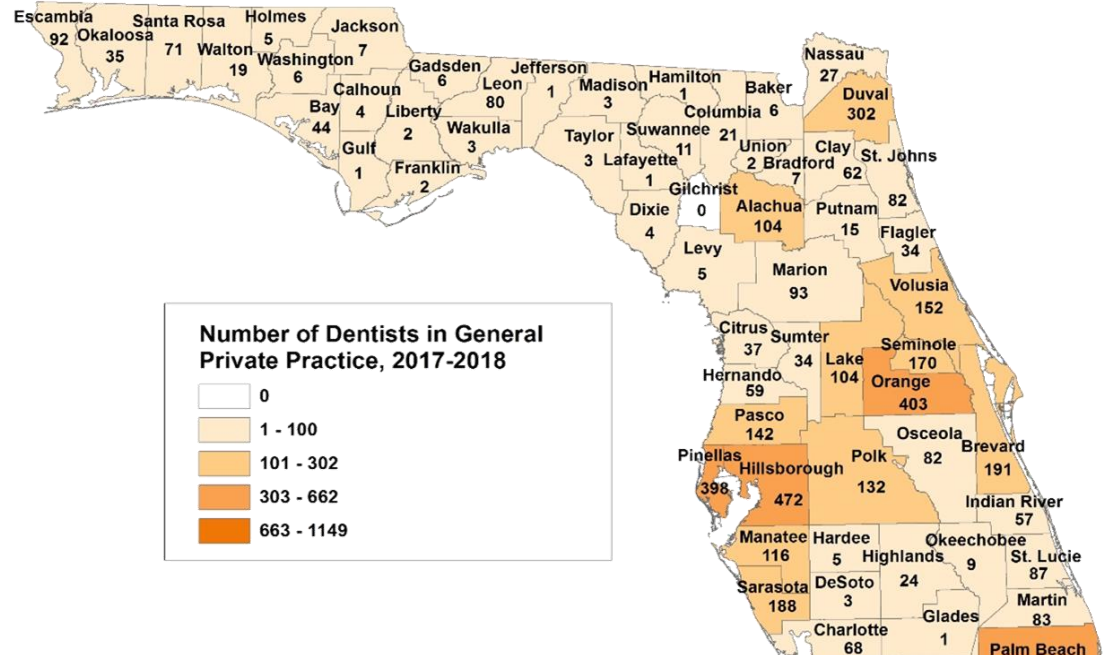


Figure 11. Number of Dentists in General Public Health Practice, 2017-2018

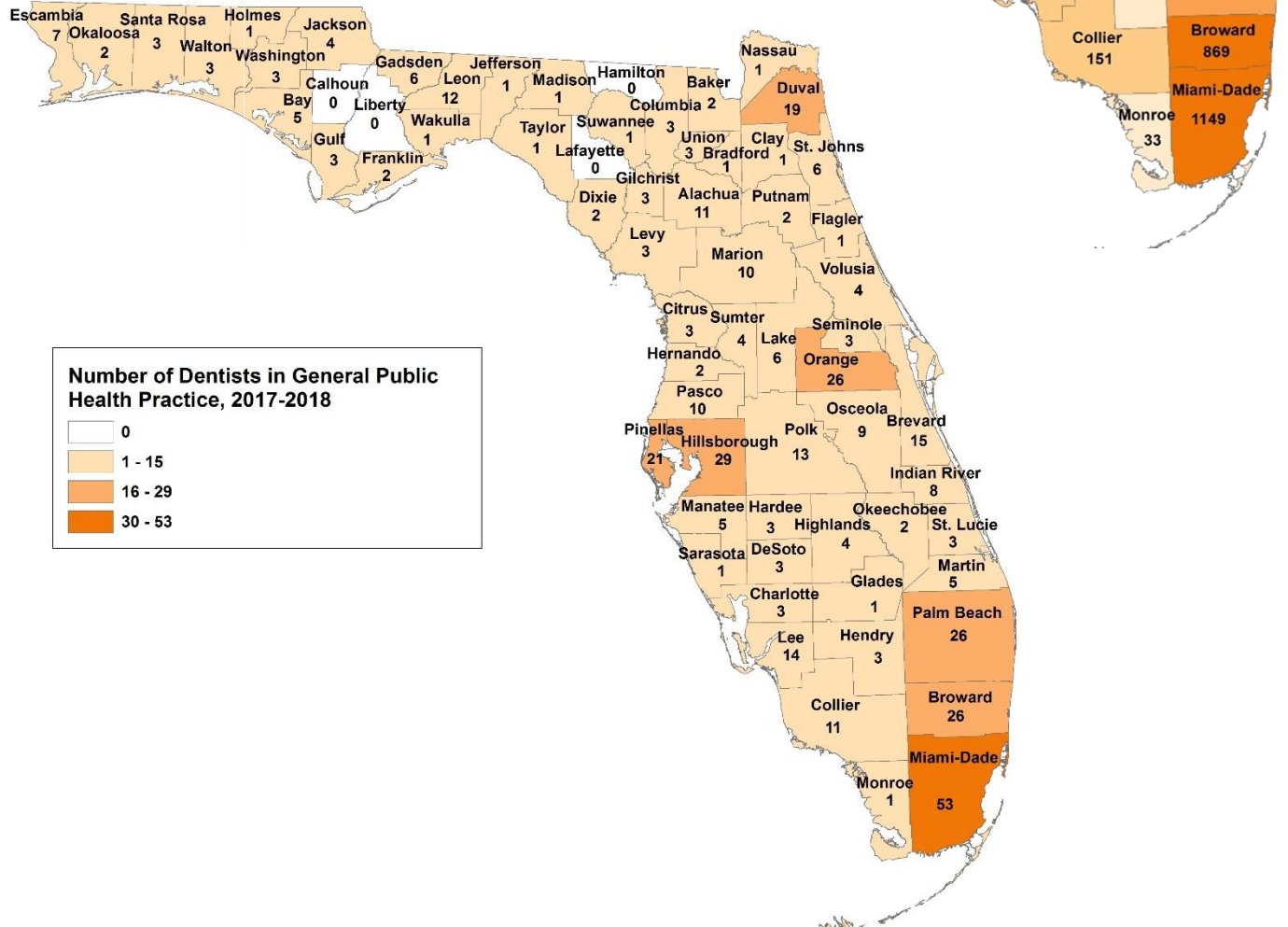


Table 2 shows the number of dentists working in Florida, by county, who self-identified as having specialty board or specialty certification. Approximately 2,793 dental specialty board statuses or specialty certifications were reported by dentists practicing in Florida on the 2017-2018 survey. Dentists could select more than one specialty certification and county of practice.

Table 2. Dentist Counts of Specialty Board and Specialty Certification among Florida Dentists by County, 2017-2018

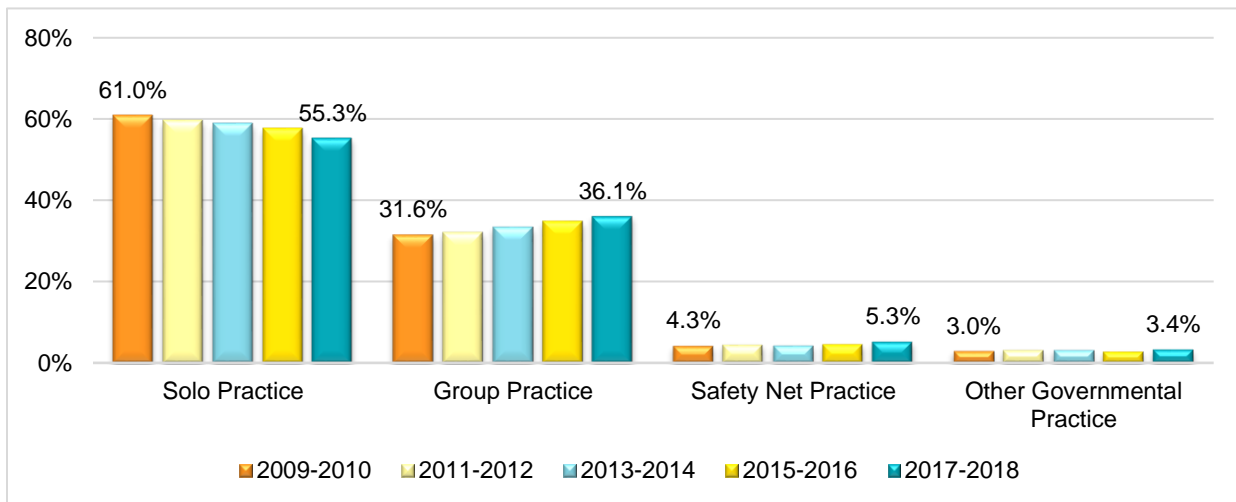
County	Dental Public Health	Endodontics	Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology	Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology	Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery	Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopedics	Pediatric Dentistry	Periodontics	Prosthodontics
Alachua	1	10	1	0	13	19	8	9	9
Baker	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Bay	1	3	0	0	3	5	3	2	3
Bradford	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Brevard	2	9	0	0	13	19	10	7	4
Broward	4	49	2	0	46	72	75	76	33
Calhoun	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Charlotte	0	3	0	0	2	5	2	3	0
Citrus	0	4	0	0	3	2	0	2	1
Clay	0	3	0	0	4	8	11	4	1
Collier	2	9	0	0	7	12	13	9	11
Columbia	0	1	0	0	5	4	0	0	0
DeSoto	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dixie	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Duval	1	15	0	1	24	35	24	21	11
Escambia	1	6	0	0	5	10	3	4	2
Flagler	0	7	0	0	4	5	2	2	3
Franklin	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gadsden	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Gilchrist	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

County	Dental Public Health	Endodontics	Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology	Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology	Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery	Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopedics	Pediatric Dentistry	Periodontics	Prosthodontics
Glades	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gulf	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hamilton	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hardee	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Hendry	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hernando	0	5	0	0	2	4	1	1	0
Highlands	0	1	0	0	1	2	1	1	2
Hillsborough	3	38	0	0	28	51	47	35	13
Holmes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Indian river	1	4	0	0	2	6	5	4	5
Jackson	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Jefferson	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lafayette	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lake	0	10	0	0	7	9	6	5	2
Lee	2	11	0	0	14	12	14	13	10
Leon	1	7	0	0	3	7	6	4	1
Levy	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Liberty	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Madison	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Manatee	1	10	1	0	5	17	6	7	2
Marion	1	7	0	0	4	7	2	5	3
Martin	1	5	0	0	11	9	6	8	1
Miami-Dade	9	43	0	0	42	84	65	65	38
Monroe	1	3	0	0	1	3	1	4	1
Nassau	0	1	0	0	3	3	0	0	1

County	Dental Public Health	Endodontics	Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology	Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology	Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery	Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopedics	Pediatric Dentistry	Periodontics	Prosthodontics
Okaloosa	0	5	0	0	5	11	1	2	1
Okeechobee	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0
Orange	2	26	2	0	28	39	23	26	10
Osceola	2	9	0	0	9	10	7	3	1
Palm Beach	8	45	1	0	39	53	34	66	39
Pasco	0	10	0	0	10	16	16	10	3
Pinellas	5	30	0	0	17	39	16	23	8
Polk	1	4	0	0	10	13	12	3	3
Putnam	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Santa Rosa	1	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	0
Sarasota	4	7	0	0	13	11	7	11	10
Seminole	0	7	0	0	13	24	11	6	7
St. Johns	1	9	1	0	6	16	11	3	3
St. Lucie	1	5	1	1	10	5	5	6	4
Sumter	1	2	0	0	2	1	0	4	1
Suwannee	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Taylor	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Union	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Volusia	0	16	0	0	7	14	9	6	5
Wakulla	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0
Walton	0	1	0	0	2	3	0	0	0
Washington	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<i>Total</i>	<i>60</i>	<i>440</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>424</i>	<i>679</i>	<i>465</i>	<i>461</i>	<i>253</i>

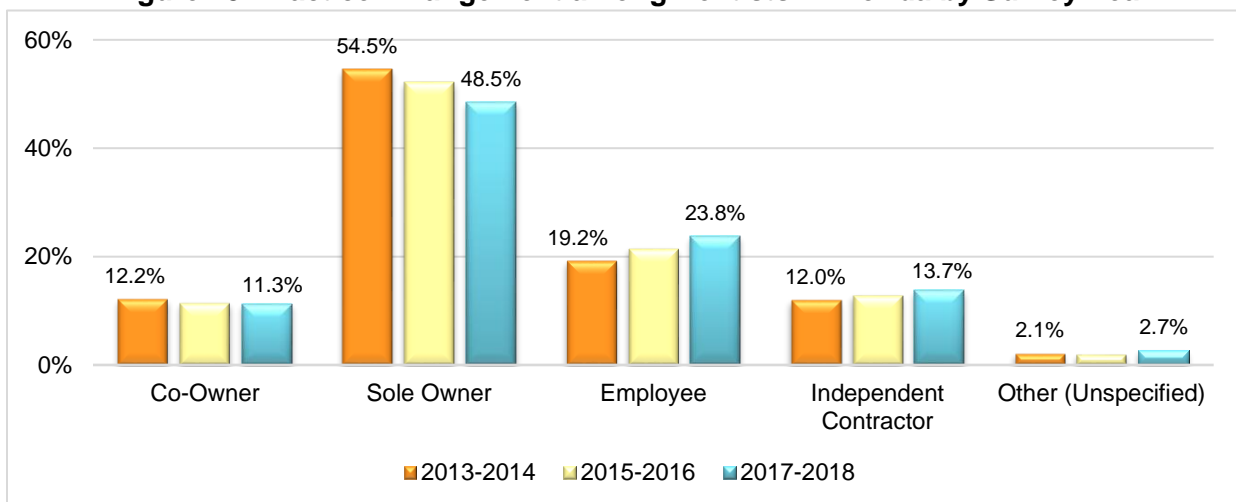
Over the last 10 years, more than half of dentists in Florida reported their primary practice setting is an office practice where they work solo; however, there has been a steady decline in the number of solo practices (9.3% decrease) with most of the corresponding growth seen in safety net practices (23.3% increase) and group practices (14.2% increase) (Figure 12). Safety net practices (i.e., academic institutions, community health centers, county health departments, federally qualified health centers, and other state government clinical settings) are for individuals who might otherwise lack access to dental care. Other governmental practices, which increased by 13.3% during the same period, consist of state or federal correctional facility clinics, military facility clinics, Veterans Affairs clinics, Indian Health Services, long-term care facilities (nursing homes), and other unspecified settings.

Figure 12. Primary Practice Setting among Dentists in Florida by Survey Year



When asked about their practice arrangement, 48.5% of Florida dentists reported they are the sole owner of their practice, while 23.8% reported they are employees in a practice during 2017-2018 (Figure 13). As the number of solo practices decreased over time and the number of group practices and corporate dental offices grew, the ownership of practices also changed to fewer sole owners or co-owners and more employees and independent contractors.

Figure 13. Practice Arrangement among Dentists in Florida by Survey Year



Optimal dental staffing patterns may vary according to a number of factors including the age and oral health needs of the patient population, type of dental practice, style of practice desired by the dentist(s), and allowable delegation of duties to dental staff in accordance with state statutes and rules. Respondents were asked to report the average number of dental hygienists and dental assistants per dentist who are typically on duty at their practice.

Figure 14. Distribution of Dental Hygienists per Dentist in Florida (n=9,522), 2017-2018

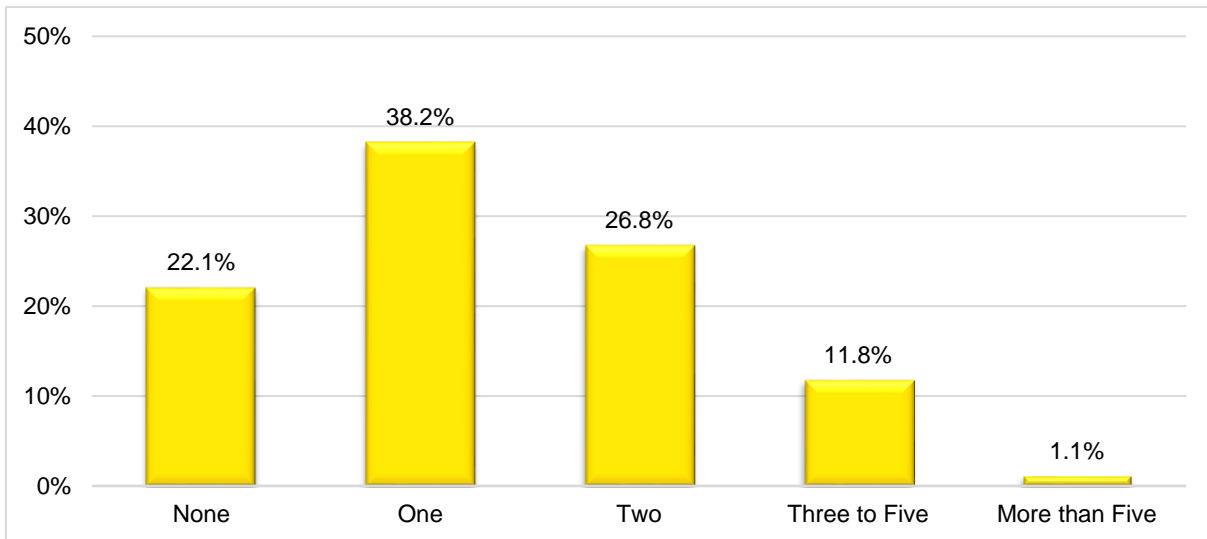
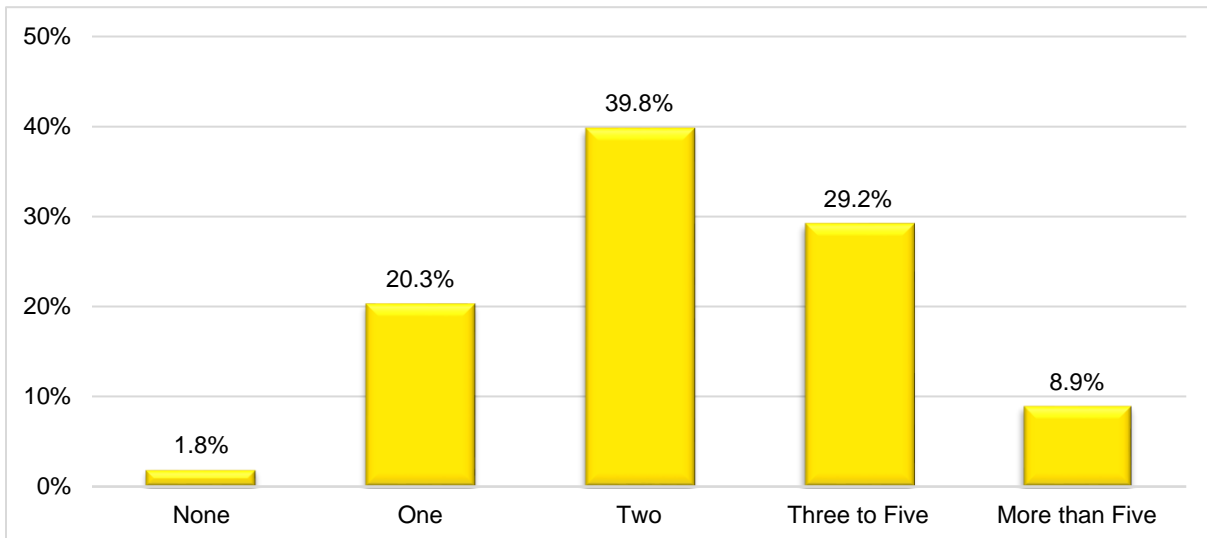


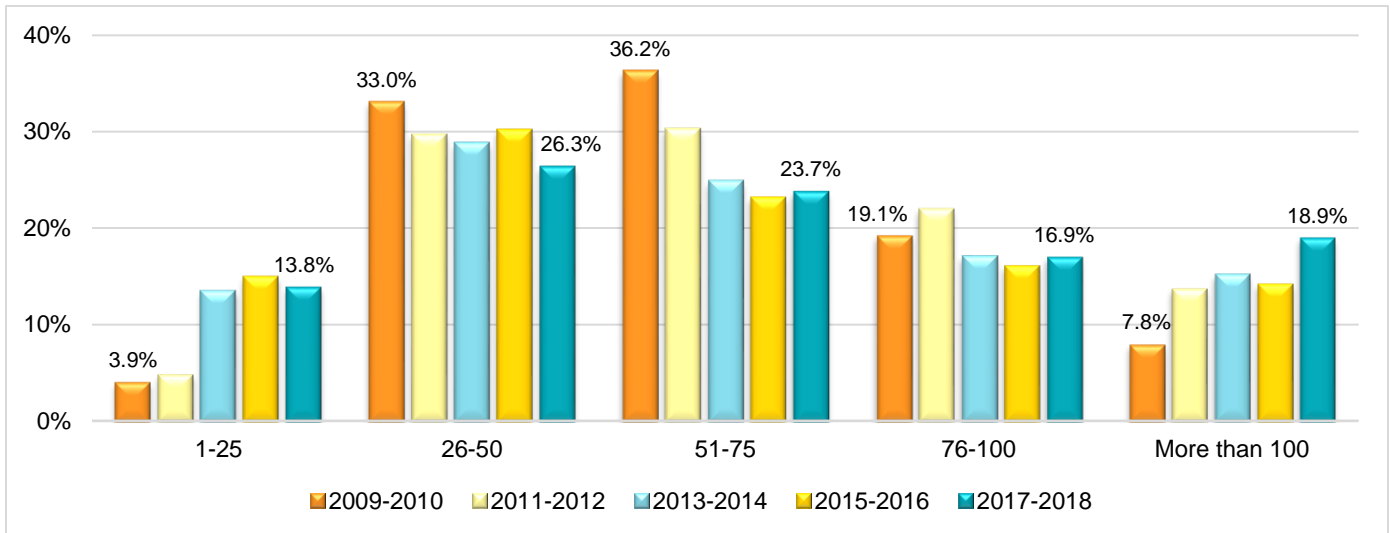
Figure 15. Distribution of Dental Assistants per Dentist in Florida (n=9,566), 2017-2018



Licensed Dentists Practicing in Florida – Productivity

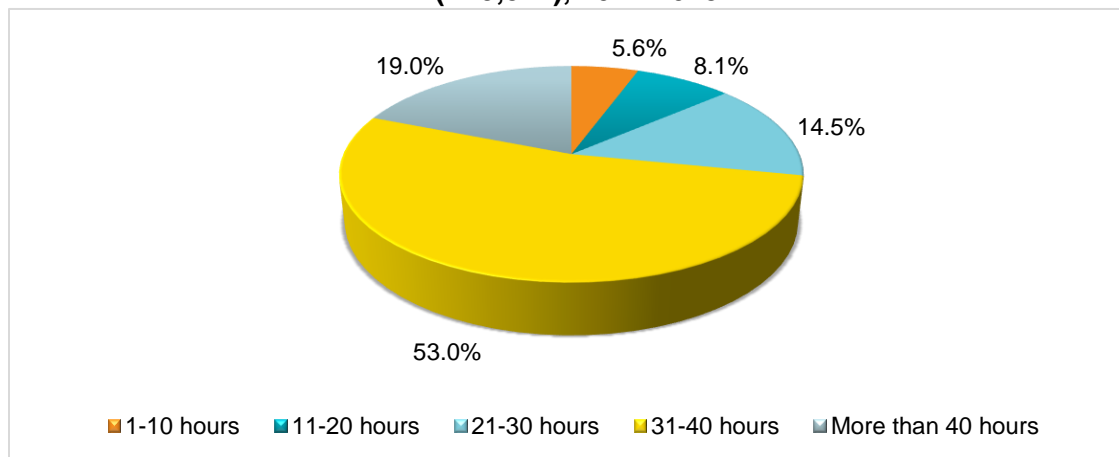
Patient volume is an important measure of dental practice productivity. Approximately 26% of respondents reported between 26-50 patient encounters in a typical week in 2017-2018 (Figure 16). The second most common response was 51-75 patient encounters per week (23.7%). It is interesting to note that over the last 10 years, 27.7% fewer dentists saw between 26-75 patients per week (69.2% to 50.0%) while dentists who had encounters with fewer than 26 patients per week or with more than 100 patients per week drastically increased by 254% (3.9% to 13.8%) and 143% (7.8% to 18.9%) respectively.

Figure 16. Distribution of Patient Encounters per Week among Dentists in Florida by Survey Year



Approximately 88.1% of workforce respondents reported practicing between 11-12 months within the last year (data not shown) during 2017-2018. The majority of respondents (53.0%) indicated they typically worked between 31-40 hours per week over the past 12 months (Figure 17). Almost one in five dentists indicated they worked more than 40 hours per week and approximately 14% worked part time (20 hours or less).

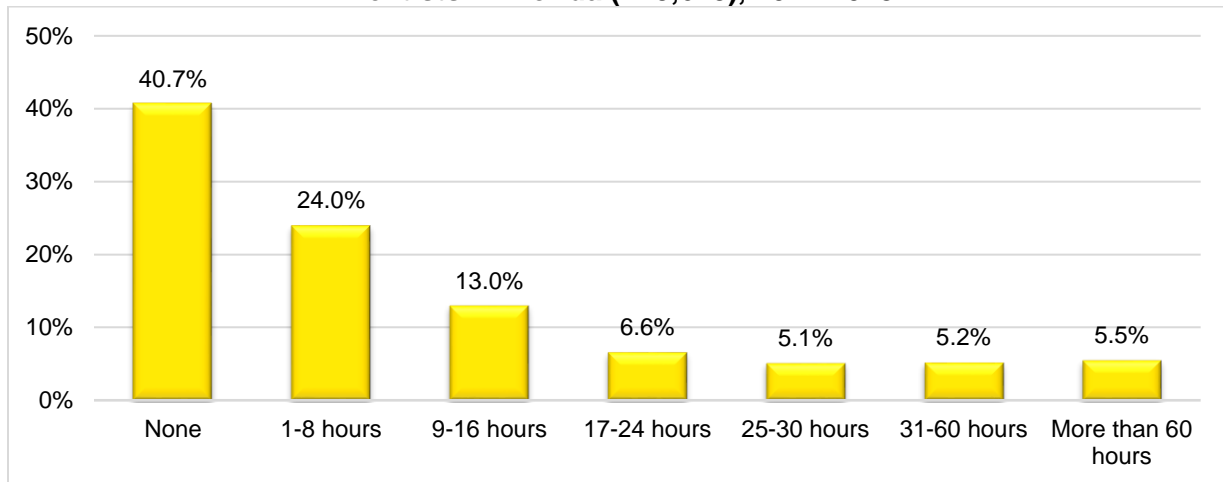
Figure 17. Hours per Week over the Past 12 Months among Dentists in Florida (n=9,322), 2017-2018



Licensed Dentists Practicing in Florida – Services to Vulnerable Populations

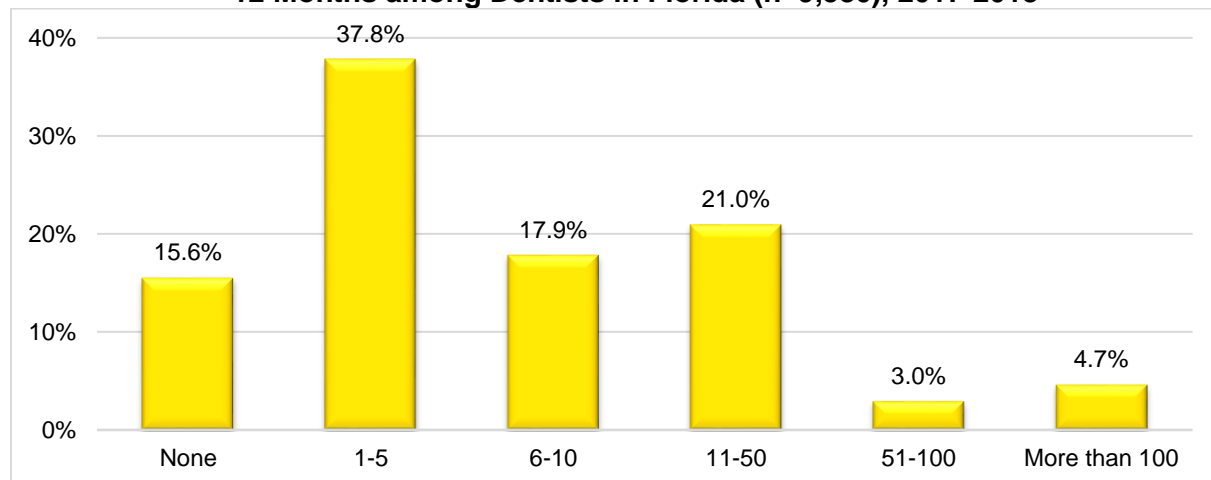
Volunteer hours of dental services help to provide access to care for low income Floridians (Figure 18). More than half of dentists in Florida (59.3%) reported having volunteered their time over the last 24 months to provide dental care. Approximately 16% of survey respondents indicated they had provided at least 25 hours of volunteer dental services over the last 24 months (2 years).

Figure 18. Distribution of Volunteer Hours Provided within the Last 24 Months among Dentists in Florida (n=9,613), 2017-2018



Persons with special health care needs (physically or mentally disabling) may be at an increased risk for oral diseases throughout their lifetime, and the oral health of an individual with special needs can have a direct impact on the overall health and well-being of that individual. Survey respondents were asked about the number of patients with special health care needs seen in the last 12 months. About 84.4% of Florida dentists indicated that they had seen at least one patient having special health care needs in the last 12 months; 37.8% of dentists had only seen between 1-5 patients in the past year (Figure 19).

Figure 19. Distribution of Number of Special Health Care Needs Patients Seen in the Last 12 Months among Dentists in Florida (n=9,580), 2017-2018



Respondents were also asked about the number of Medicaid patients seen in the past 12 months. The vast majority of respondents (69.7%) saw no Medicaid patients in the past 12 months during 2017-2018 (Figure 20). The ten-year change shows that there has been an 18% decrease in dentists who saw no Medicaid patients and therefore a growing percentage of dentists seeing Medicaid patients, especially among those seeing 1-10 Medicaid patients per year (267% increase), followed by dentists seeing 11-50 Medicaid patients per year (121% increase), and dentists seeing more than 100 Medicaid patients per year (67% increase).

Figure 20. Distribution of Number of Medicaid Patients Seen in the Last 12 Months among Dentists in Florida by Survey Year

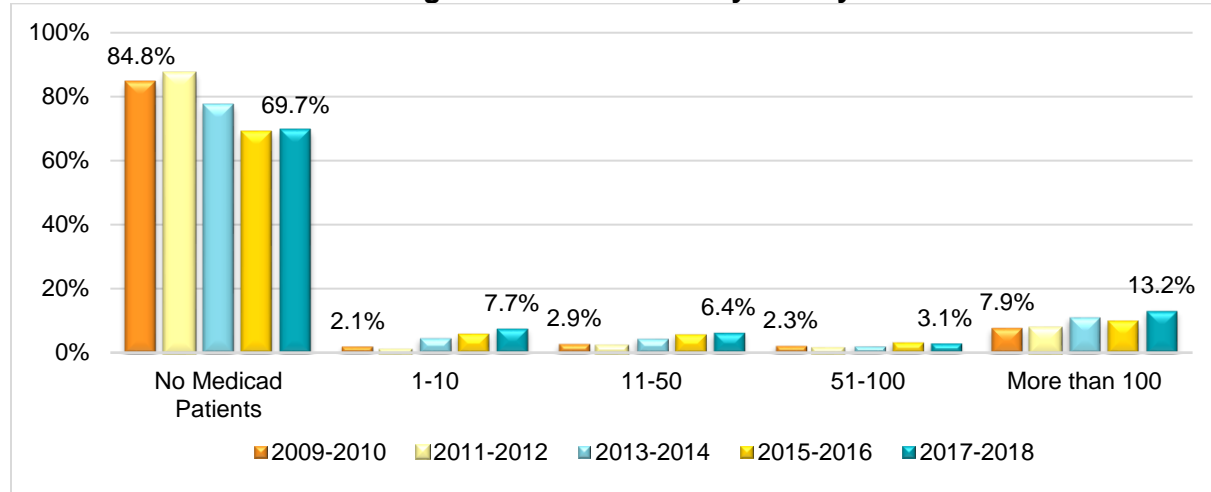
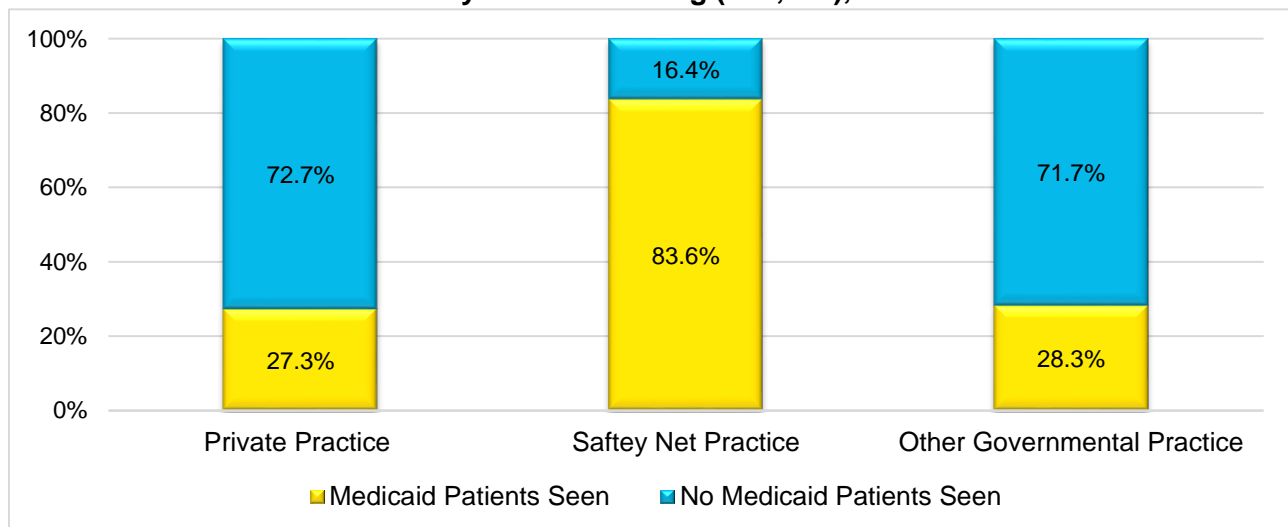


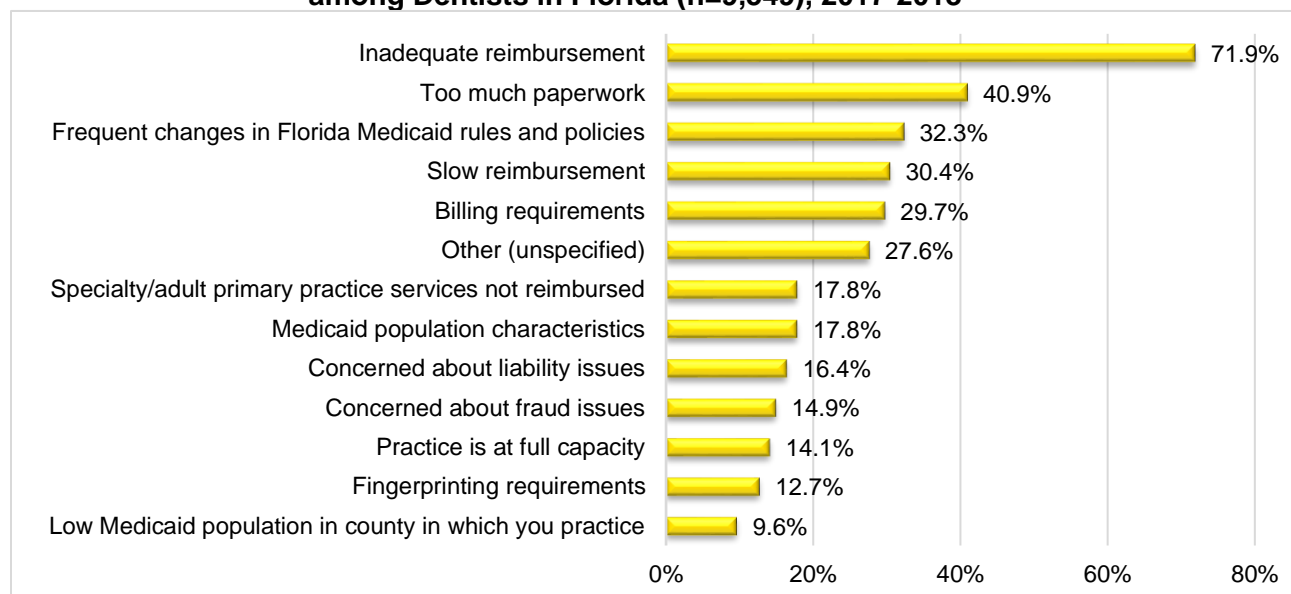
Figure 21 highlights the percentage of Medicaid patients seen in the last 12 months by practice type. The majority of respondents in safety net practice (83.6%) indicated they saw Medicaid patients during 2017-2018. Only 27.3% of dentists in private practice and 28.3% of dentists in other governmental practice reported seeing Medicaid patients in the past year.

Figure 21. Distribution of Medicaid Patients Seen in the Last 12 Months among Dentists in Florida by Practice Setting (n=9,172), 2017-2018



The majority of respondents (78.2%) indicated they were not enrolled as a Medicaid provider (data not shown) during 2017-2018. Respondents were asked to share the reasons why they were not enrolled in Medicaid or were not accepting new Medicaid patients. The most common response was “inadequate reimbursement,” followed by “too much paperwork” and “frequent changes in Florida Medicaid rules, regulations, and policies” (Figure 22).

Figure 22. Reasons for not Enrolling in Medicaid or Accepting New Medicaid Patients among Dentists in Florida (n=9,549), 2017-2018



Respondents indicated the patient populations they are currently seeing and whether they were accepting new patients in each of those categories (Table 3). Overall, 3.9% of respondents indicated they were not currently accepting new patients. Among those accepting new patients, the most common response was adults ages 19-59 years (92.0%).

Table 3. Patients Currently Seeing and Acceptance of New Patients by Population among Florida Dentists (n=9,540), 2017-2018

Population	Patients Currently Seeing	New Patients Accepted
Children age 1-18 years	83.6%	83.4%
Children age 1-18 years with special health care needs	43.1%	49.1%
Medicaid	21.8%	21.1%
Pregnant women	75.1%	76.3%
Adults age 19-59 years	91.8%	92.0%
Adults age 18 years or older with special health care needs	58.6%	59.7%
Older adults age 60 years or older	88.9%	89.1%

Licensed Dentists Practicing in Florida – Retention and Attrition

Of those dentists planning on ending their clinical dentistry practice in Florida in the next five years, the vast majority (83.6%) were due to retirement in 2017-2018. Approximately 10% indicated they plan to practice clinical dentistry in another state or country (data not shown). The percentage of Florida dentists who are anticipating retirement within the next five years grew 37% from 10% in 2009-2010 to 13.7% in 2017-2018 (Figure 23).

Figure 23. Percentage of Dentists in Florida Retiring Within the Next Five Years by Survey Year

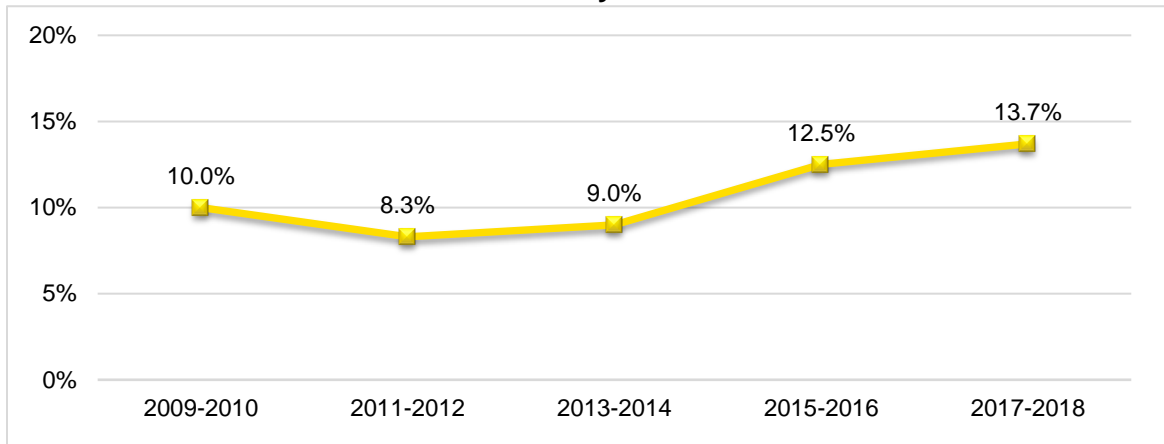


Table 4 shows the demographic characteristics among dentists planning to retire in the next five years. The majority of these dentists are male (85.6%), age 60-69 years (46.1%), and non-Hispanic White (78.8%). Approximately 22% of dentists who plan to retire in the next five years speak another language in addition to English.

Table 4. Demographic Characteristics of Florida Dentists Who Plan to Retire in the Next 5 Years (n=1,060), 2017-2018

Demographic	Percent
Gender	
Male	85.6%
Female	14.5%
Age Group	
Less than 50 Years	5.1%
50-59 years	13.8%
60-69 Years	46.1%
70 Years and Older	35.0%
Race/Ethnicity	
White	78.8%
Black	3.0%
Hispanic	10.0%
Other	8.2%
Speak Another Language	21.9%

Licensed Dentists Not Practicing in Florida

The majority of survey respondents with an active Florida license reported practicing in Florida (79.7%). Among those not currently clinically practicing in Florida (n=2,111), the most common reasons for not using their Florida license to practice in Florida were: currently practicing in another state (62.3%), other not specified (12.8%), and currently retired (9.9%). Of dentist respondents with an active license not practicing in Florida, 80.4% stated that they plan to relocate to Florida sometime in the future.

Conclusions

The Florida Department of Health is constantly committed to the measure, review, and evaluation of dental workforce attributes and needs in Florida. The Department makes every effort to collaborate with all state and national oral health partners to ensure the recruitment and retention of highly trained and diverse dentist professionals, especially in underserved communities.

The successful implementation of workforce survey assessments has the potential to provide policymakers with information regarding the clinical practice, geographic location, and scope of practice for Florida dentists. Continued refinement, evaluation, and reporting of these data will assist in the state's efforts to meet current and future dental workforce needs. Hopefully, the 10-year comparisons presented in this Workforce Survey Report will assist in evaluating these workforce needs. The Department continues to work with all professional health organizations to develop innovative, patient-centered, oral health care delivery system.

Appendix A: 2017-2018 Dentist Workforce Survey

Dentist Workforce Survey 2017/2018 26 Questions Total

Assessing Florida's current and future dental workforce is critical in shaping Florida's health care policies. Your responses, which constitute a public record, will be summarized in a Florida Dentist Workforce Report. Previous reports are available online at the Florida Department of Health's Public Health Dental Program website: www.flhealth.gov/dental/reports. We appreciate your time and effort in completing the survey questions.

Part 1: Demographics

1. Do you hold an active dental license in any location other than Florida? (Select all that apply).
 - No
 - Yes— another state (*include a drop down list of all states*)
 - Yes— Puerto Rico or another U.S. territory
 - Yes— out of country

2. Please indicate all of the dental schools or programs from which you received a DDS, DMD, or equivalent degree. (Select all that apply).
 - Lake Erie College of Medicine: Bradenton Dental School
 - Nova Southeastern University College of Dental Medicine
 - University of Florida College of Dentistry
 - U.S. dental school in another state
 - Puerto Rico or other U.S. territory dental school
 - Foreign dental school or program

3. How many years have you practiced clinical dentistry? (Select one).
 - a. 0 – 1 years
 - b. 2 – 5 years
 - c. 6 – 10 years
 - d. 11 – 15 years
 - e. 16 – 20 years
 - f. More than 20 years
 - g. Not applicable

4. At present, do you practice clinical dentistry in Florida or have you accepted employment for practicing dentistry in Florida? (Select one).
 - a. Yes (Continue to question 5). **Note: These respondents will complete the rest of survey.**
 - b. No (Continue to 4a and 4b). **Note: These respondents will be directed out of survey after they answer 4a and 4b.**

- 4a. The primary reason you are not using your Florida license to practice clinical dentistry in Florida is: (Select one).
 - a. I currently practice clinical dentistry in another state.
 - b. I currently practice clinical dentistry outside the U.S.
 - c. I teach dentistry in Florida and do not engage in clinical practice.
 - d. I teach dentistry outside Florida and do not engage in clinical practice.
 - e. I work in Florida in an administrative capacity related to dentistry but do not practice clinical dentistry.
 - f. I work outside Florida in an administrative capacity related to dentistry but do not practice clinical dentistry.
 - g. I am employed or self-employed in Florida in a job unrelated to dentistry.
 - h. I am employed or self-employed outside Florida in a job unrelated to dentistry.
 - i. I am currently unemployed and seeking employment related to the clinical practice, teaching, or administration of dentistry.
 - j. I am currently unemployed and seeking employment unrelated to dentistry.
 - k. I am currently retired.
 - l. Other (unspecified).

4b. If you do not currently practice dentistry in Florida, do you plan to practice dentistry in Florida in the near future? (Select one).

- a. Yes, I plan to practice clinical dentistry in Florida within the next 12 months.
- b. Yes, I plan to practice clinical dentistry in Florida in 1-2 years.
- c. Yes, I plan to practice clinical dentistry in Florida in 3-4 years.
- d. Yes, I plan to practice clinical dentistry in Florida, but I am not sure when.
- e. No, I do not plan to practice dentistry in Florida.

If you do NOT practice dentistry in Florida, or have NOT accepted employment for practicing in the state, you are now finished with the survey. Thank you for your participation.

5. Which languages do you speak? (Select all that apply.)

- English
- Arabic
- Chinese (Mandarin or Cantonese)
- Creole
- French
- German
- Hebrew
- Italian
- Japanese
- Korean
- Polish
- Portuguese
- Russian
- Spanish
- Tagalog
- Vietnamese
- Other African language
- Other Asian language
- Other European language
- Other Middle Eastern language
- Other language (unspecified)

Part 2: Clinical Practice Characteristics

6. How many months did you practice clinical dentistry in Florida in the last 12 months? (Select one).

- a. 0 – 2 months
- b. 3 – 4 months
- c. 5 – 6 months
- d. 7 – 8 months
- e. 9 – 10 months
- f. 11 – 12 months

7. How many years have you been in your current primary practice position? (Select one).

- a. 0 – 1 years
- b. 2 – 5 years
- c. 6 – 10 years
- d. 11 – 15 years
- e. 16 – 20 years
- f. More than 20 years

8. In a typical work week, approximately how many hours and in which Florida county(ies) do you practice clinical dentistry? You may select up to three counties. If you are employed to practice but have not yet started, select "Not applicable."

- 8a. County 1: (select county from drop down menu with all 67 Florida counties)
8aa. Hours for County 1: (Select one)
 - a. 1 – 10 hours
 - b. 11 – 20 hours
 - c. 21 – 30 hours

- d. 31– 40 hours
 - e. 41 – 50 hours
 - f. More than 50 hours
- 8b. County 2: (select county from drop down menu with all 67 Florida counties)
8bb. Hours for County 2: (Select one)
- a. 1 – 10 hours
 - b. 11 – 20 hours
 - c. 21 – 30 hours
 - d. 31 – 40 hours
 - e. 41 – 50 hours
 - f. More than 50 hours
- 8c. County 3: (select county from drop down menu with all 67 Florida counties)
8cc. Hours for County 3: (Select one)
- a. 1 – 10 hours
 - b. 11 – 20 hours
 - c. 21 – 30 hours
 - d. 31 – 40 hours
 - e. 41 – 50 hours
 - f. More than 50 hours

Or

- Not applicable- I have not started employment yet.

9. If you routinely practice clinical dentistry fewer than 40 hours per week, please select the reason(s) from the list below. (Select all that apply).

- Limited work hours are my personal preference
- Limited work hours allow time for volunteer (uncompensated) work
- Limited hours allow time for other compensated work
- Health-related issues limit my work hours
- I am phasing into retirement
- I adjust my hours to fit the patient workload
- My position is part-time
- Other (unspecified)

10. How many hours of clinical volunteer dental service did you provide in the past 24 months? (Select one).

- a. None
- b. 1 – 8 hours
- c. 9 – 16 hours
- d. 17 – 24 hours
- e. 25 – 30 hours
- f. 31 – 60 hours
- g. 61 – 120 hours
- h. More than 120 hours

11. Where did you provide clinical volunteer dental services in the past 24 months? (Select all that apply).

- I did not provide any clinical volunteer dental services
- In a private office(s), on my own
- In a private office(s), as part of an organized event (e.g. Give Kids a Smile Day)
- At a safety net clinic (e.g. county health department, community health center, Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC), Mission of Mercy)
- As part of a health fair
- As part of a school-based or school-linked event
- International charitable organization (mission trips outside of U.S.)
- Other (unspecified)

12. Indicate your primary type of practice. (Select one).

- a. General Private Practice (basic preventive, restorative, surgical)
- b. General Public Health Practice (basic preventive, restorative, surgical)

- c. Specialty Practice: Endodontics
- d. Specialty Practice: Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology
- e. Specialty Practice: Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology
- f. Specialty Practice: Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery
- g. Specialty Practice: Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopedics
- h. Specialty Practice: Pediatric Dentistry
- i. Specialty Practice: Prosthodontics
- j. Private Practice Administrative Services
- k. Public Health Administrative Services
- l. Other

13. Please indicate if you have received a certificate from a CODA-accredited specialty program or are board certified in an ADA-recognized specialty from the options below. (Select all that apply).

- Dental Public Health
- Endodontics
- Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology
- Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology
- Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery
- Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopedics
- Pediatric Dentistry
- Periodontics
- Prosthodontics
- None

14. Indicate your primary practice setting. (Select one).

- a. Solo Office Practice (Private Sector)
- b. Group Office Practice: Single Specialty (Private Sector)
- c. Group Office Practice: Multi Specialty (Private Sector)
- d. County Health Department
- e. Community Health Center
- f. Federally Qualified Health Center
- g. State or Federal Correctional Facility Clinic
- h. Other State Government Clinical Setting
- i. Military Facility Clinic
- j. U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Clinic
- k. Academic Institution
- l. Indian Health Service
- m. Long-Term Care Facility (Nursing Home)
- n. Other (unspecified)

15. What best describes your practice arrangement? (Select one).

- a. Sole owner
- b. Co-owner
- c. Employee
- d. Independent contractor
- e. Other (unspecified)

16. Do you practice clinical dentistry in the county where you reside? (Select one).

- a. Yes— all of the time (100%)
- b. Yes – some of the time (1-99%)
- c. No – none of the time (0%)

17. On average, how many patient encounters do you have in a typical work week? (Select one).

- a. 1 – 25 encounters
- b. 26 – 50 encounters
- c. 51 – 75 encounters
- d. 76 – 100 encounters
- e. 101 – 125 encounters
- f. More than 125 encounters
- g. Not applicable— I have not started employment.

18. Approximately how many special needs (physical or mental disability) and Medicaid patients did you see in the past 12 months? (*Complete separately for each patient population below*).

18a. Special health care needs patients— physically or mentally disabled (Select one).

- a. None
- b. 1 – 5
- c. 6 – 10
- d. 11 – 20
- e. 21 – 50
- f. 51 – 100
- g. 101 – 125
- h. More than 125

18b. Medicaid patients (Select one).

- a. None
- b. 1 – 5
- c. 6 – 10
- d. 11 – 20
- e. 21 – 50
- f. 51 – 100
- g. 101 – 125
- h. More than 125

19. Are you currently seeing any of these following patient populations in your primary practice setting? (Select all that apply).

- Children (age 1 – 18 years)
- Medicaid
- Pregnant women
- Adults (age 19 – 59 years)
- Older adults (age 60 years or older)
- Children (age 1 – 18 years) with special health care needs
- Adults (age 18 years or older) with special health care needs

20. Are you currently accepting **new** patients?

- a. No— I am not currently accepting any new patients (continue to question 21).
- b. Yes— I am accepting new patients (continue to question 20a).

20a. Are you accepting new patients from any of the following patient populations? (Select all that apply)?

- Children (age 1 – 18 years)
- Medicaid
- Pregnant women
- Adults (age 19 – 59 years)
- Older adults (age 60 years or older)
- Children (age 1 – 18 years) with special health care needs
- Adults (age 18 years or older) with special health care needs

21. Are you currently enrolled as a Medicaid provider?

- a. Yes (continue to question 23)
- b. No (continue to question 22)

22. Which of the following reasons best explains why you are not enrolled in Medicaid? (Select all that apply.)

- Inadequate reimbursement
- Slow reimbursement
- Frequent changes in Florida Medicaid rules, regulations, and policies
- Fingerprinting requirements
- Billing requirements
- Too much paperwork
- Practice is at full capacity
- Medicaid population characteristics
- Low Medicaid population in your county or counties in which you practice
- Concerned about fraud issues

- Concerned about liability issues
- Specialty or adult primary practice services are not reimbursed by Medicaid
- Other (unspecified)

23. Are you currently accepting new Medicaid patients?

- a. Yes (continue to question 25)
- b. No (continue to question 24)

24. Which of the following reasons best explains why you are not accepting new Medicaid patients? (Select all that apply.)

- Inadequate reimbursement
- Slow reimbursement
- Frequent changes in Florida Medicaid rules, regulations, and policies
- Fingerprinting requirements
- Billing requirements
- Too much paperwork
- Practice is at full capacity
- Medicaid population characteristics
- Low Medicaid population in your county or counties in which you practice
- Concerned about fraud issues
- Concerned about liability issues
- Specialty or adult primary practice services are not reimbursed by Medicaid
- Other (unspecified)

25. In your dental practice, how many dental hygienists and dental assistants per dentist are typically on duty at any given time during your work day?

25a. Dental hygienist(s):

- a. None (0)
- b. 1
- c. 2
- d. 3 – 5
- e. More than 5

25b. Dental assistant(s):

- a. None (0)
- b. 1
- c. 2
- d. 3 – 5
- e. More than 5

26. Regarding your practice of clinical dentistry in Florida within the next five years, which of the following apply? (Select one.)

- a. I plan to retire from clinical dentistry.
- b. I plan to end my clinical practice in Florida due to non-clinical employment in dentistry.
- c. I plan to end my clinical practice in Florida due to non-dental employment.
- d. I plan to end my clinical practice in Florida due to another reason.
- e. I plan to practice clinical dentistry in another state or country.
- f. I plan to reduce my clinical practice hours but continue practicing in Florida.
- g. I have no plans to end or reduce my Florida clinical practice within the next five years.

Appendix B: Survey Methodology and Analysis

Florida statutes and administrative code rules require renewal of dental licenses biennially by the end of February of even-numbered years. The most recent renewal period ended on February 28, 2018. The Florida Department of Health (Department) prepared and administered a workforce survey of dentists to coincide with the license renewal process. As part of their on-line renewal, dentists were asked to voluntarily complete the survey.

The survey was designed to serve as an assessment of Florida's current dental workforce to better inform and shape public health care policy and plan for future workforce needs. Licensure status is relative to the date the survey was closed. In contrast to licensure information, practice status as summarized in this report is not linked to a single, specific reference date. Information concerning practice status was obtained from the workforce survey. Changes in practice status occurring between survey completion and the report reference date are not reflected in the data. Thus, counts or estimates of dentists actively practicing or not practicing in Florida are approximate with respect to the report's completion date.

Given that practicing dentists are a subset of all dentists with active licenses, licensure information maintained by Department helps to screen respondents by identifying dentists who are ineligible to practice. At the time of the 2017-2018 survey, there were 14,011 dentists with active license status. For purposes of analysis, respondents with non-active licenses are of limited interest and are excluded from the analysis. The survey respondents with active licenses who practice in Florida (9,679) represent 79.7% of dentists with active licenses who responded to the survey.

Variations in the number of responses for each question are due in part to the actual number of questions asked of the respondent based on answers to specific prior questions (skip pattern within the survey). In addition, respondents do not always answer all the questions asked of them. The reason why a respondent may choose not to respond to a specific question or questions varies greatly. This is not uncommon for many state and national surveys whether voluntary or required. The information gathered provides insight into the practice characteristics of the profession and serves to better address the oral health needs of Florida's residents.

While the survey was open to all dentists applying for license renewal, the analysis centered on Florida active licensees practicing in the state. Non-response items are excluded from the analysis because all items were not completed by or applicable to all survey takers. The survey consisted of 26 items regarding the demographics, education, practice characteristics, productivity, services to vulnerable populations, and retention and attrition of respondents. Additional demographic information was obtained from the Department's Division of Medical Quality Assurance. Descriptive statistical techniques were used to provide the characteristic profiles of respondents using SAS 9.4. Marginal tabulations are reported for the summary descriptions and relationships presented throughout the report.