

# The Impact of COVID-19 on the Dental Care Sector

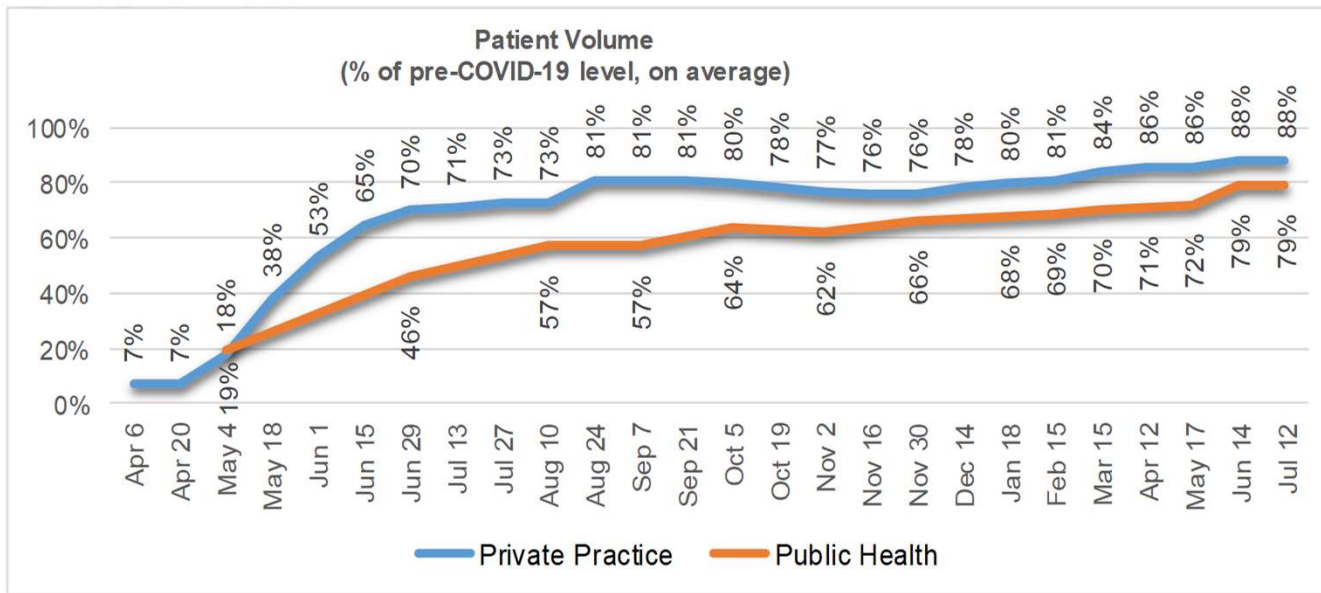
Insights from Data for the Week of July 12<sup>th</sup>

 Health Policy Institute

ADA American Dental Association®

# Core Questions

How does this week compare to what is typical in your practice, in terms of... \*



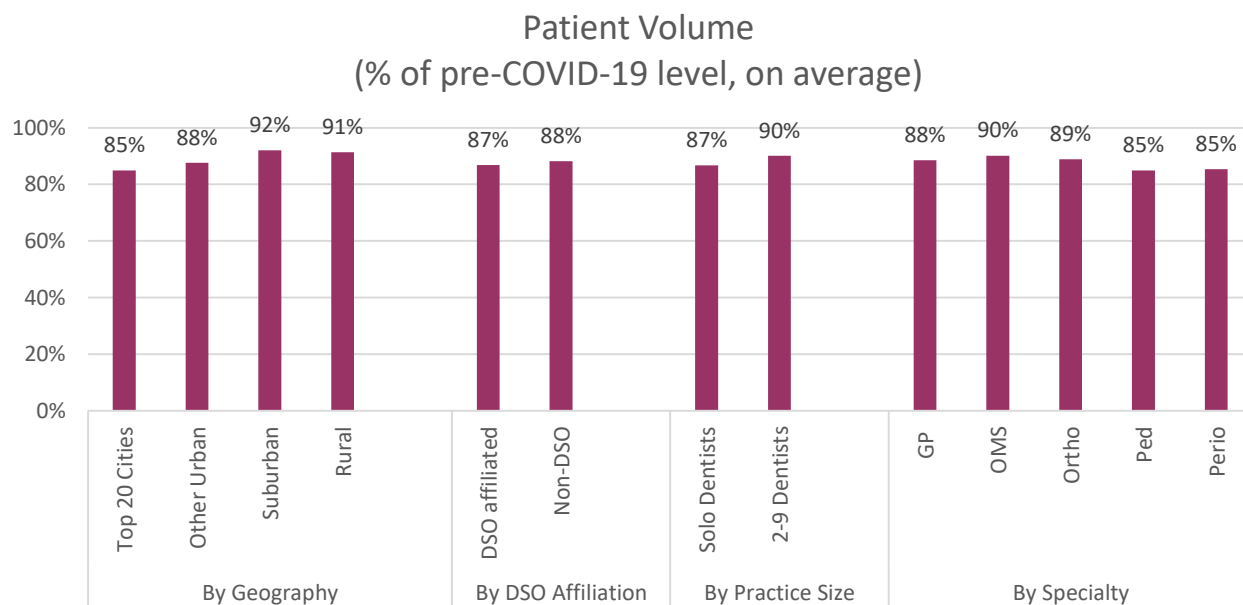
*Insight: Patient volume in private practices remained steady and was at 88% of pre-COVID-19 levels, nationally, as of the week of July 12<sup>th</sup>.*

*Patient volume in public health settings remained stable at 79% of pre-pandemic levels.*

# Core Questions

How does this week compare to what is typical in your practice, in terms of... \*

Total Patient Volume



*Patient volume varied to some extent by geography, DSO affiliation, practice size, and specialty.*

*The highest patient volumes as of the week of July 12<sup>th</sup> were reported by dentists practicing in suburban areas, small group practices, and by oral surgeons.*

# Core Questions

**[Owner dentists only]** In the next three months, do you intend to do any of the following?

## Hire more staff

● Definitely ● Maybe ● No



## Invest in new equipment or technology



## Acquire another practice



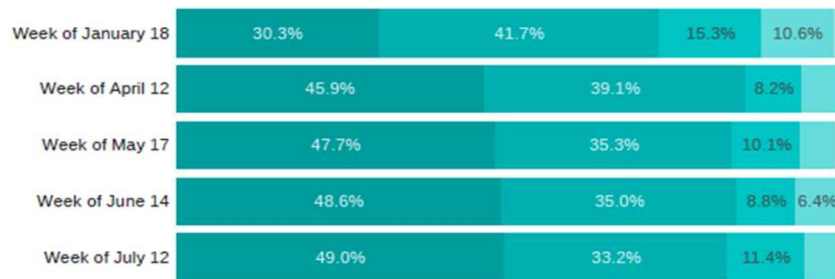
*Insight: Investment plans have remained consistent since early in 2021.*

*About one in four dentists plan to hire more staff in the near future.*

# Core Questions

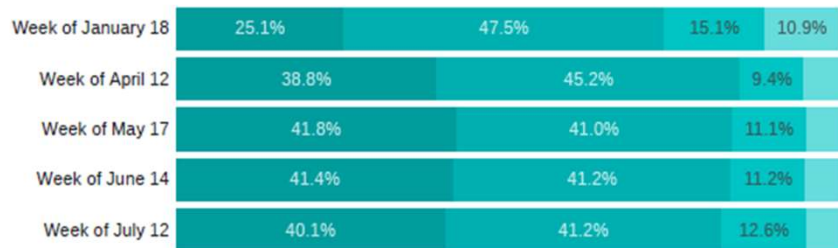
Looking ahead to the rest of this year, how confident are you in the recovery of...

Your particular dental practice?



*Dentists' confidence in their own practices remains slightly stronger than confidence in the dental care sector in general, although confidence in both remains high.*

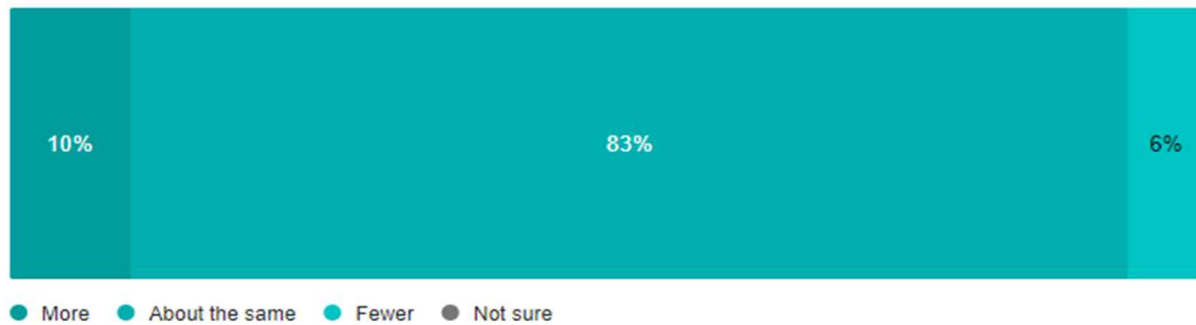
The dental care sector in general?



● Very confident 
 ● Somewhat confident 
 ● Neither confident nor skeptical 
 ● Somewhat skeptical 
 ● Very skeptical

# Questions of the Week

**[If GP]** Compared to before the pandemic, are you referring more, fewer, or the same number of patients to specialists?



*Insight: For the most part, general practitioners referring patients to specialists at the same rate as they did before the pandemic.*

*Dentists under age 35 and those practicing in rural areas are more likely to refer a greater share of patients to specialists.*

Thank You!

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