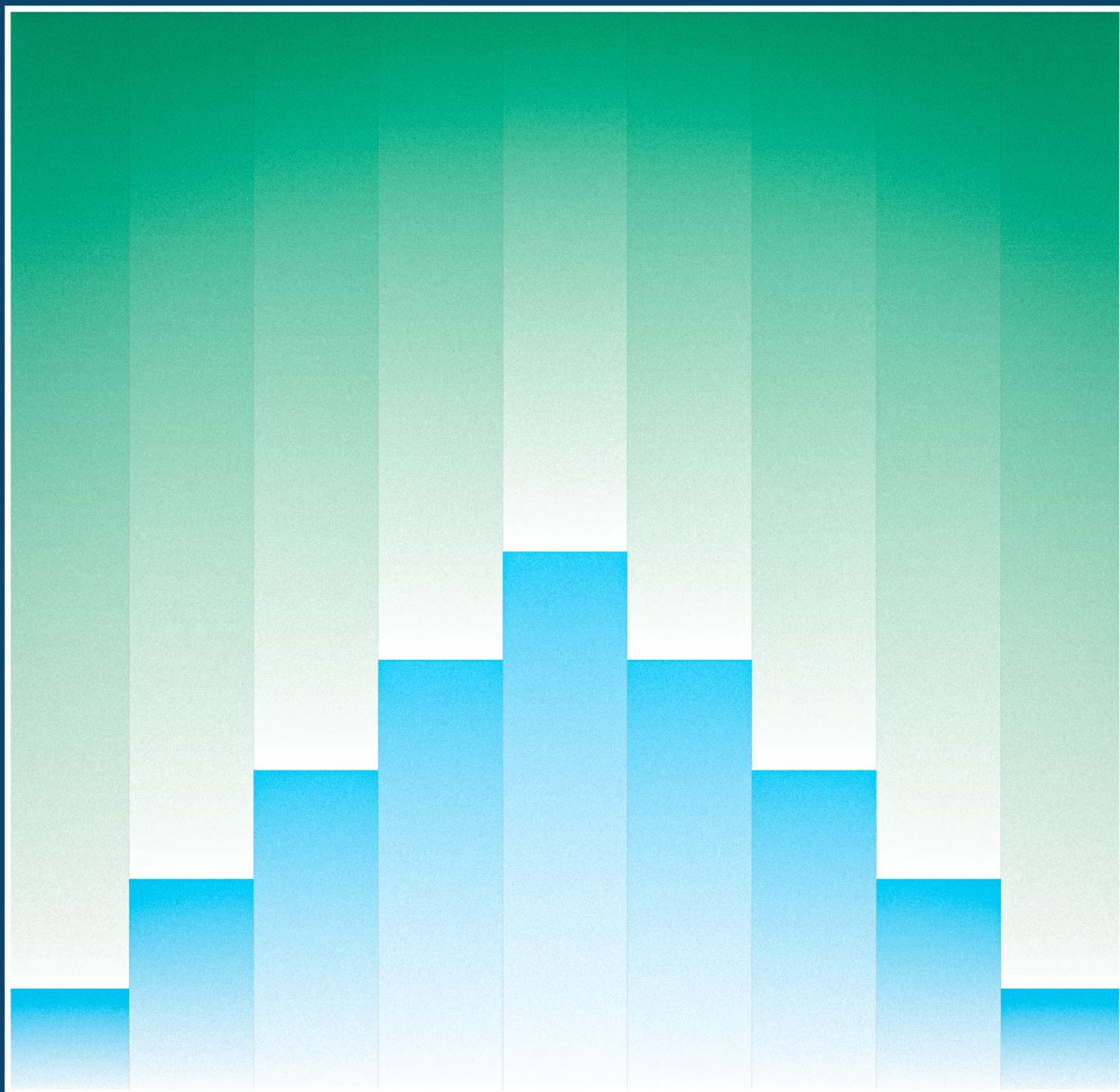


INDIANA ORAL HEALTH WORKFORCE

2024 DATA REPORT



INDIANA UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Bowen Center for Health Workforce Research and Policy would like to recognize the many individuals and organizations that contributed to making this report possible. The survey tool used to collect the data presented in this report was developed in collaboration with an expert advisory group and approved by the Indiana Health Workforce Council. The Indiana Professional Licensing Agency administered the survey questions in conjunction with the 2024 Dentist and Dental Hygienist license renewal process.

June 2025

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Executive Summary

Oral health is a critical component of overall health and well-being. Poor oral health conditions can lead to other significant health issues.¹ Therefore, regular dental care is not only crucial for preserving oral function but also for preventing system health problems.

The 2024 Indiana Oral Health Workforce Data Report provides an overview of the supply and characteristics of dentists and dental hygienists licensed by the state of Indiana, highlighting key findings related to their demographics, education, practice characteristics, and geographic distributions. Key takeaways from this report are listed below.

Demographics

- Indiana dentists predominantly identified as male (64.3%), White (81.2%), and not Hispanic or Latino (96.9%), while Indiana dental hygienists overwhelmingly identified as female (98.8%), White (94.3%), and not Hispanic or Latino (95.9%).
- Dentists were older than dental hygienists, with an average age of 48.7 years compared to 43.4 years.

Education

- About 66% of dentists reported completing dental school in Indiana, and 69.4% reported not completing a dental residency.
- Among dental hygienists, 83.0% reported receiving their qualifying education in Indiana. The majority also reported their highest education as an associate degree in dental hygiene (58.9%).

Employment Characteristics

- Most dentists practiced in general dentistry (77.2%), and nearly all dentists reported working as a general dentist or specialist (96.2%). Most dental hygienists were engaged in direct patient care (96.1%).
- Use of telehealth services remains limited among both groups—8.2% of dentists and 3.0% of dental hygienists reported providing such services.

Practice Characteristics

- Nearly half of dentists (48.9%) and just over half of dental hygienists (53.5%) reported their primary practice as a solo practice dental office.
- A little over a third (37.1%) of dentists reported accepting Medicaid at their primary practice, and only 7.4% offer a sliding fee scale.
- Among services commonly provided, 72.9% of dentists and 73.2% of dental hygienists offered dental sealants, while 81.0% of dentists and 77.9% of hygienists offered oral cancer screenings.

Geographic Distribution

- Dentists and dental hygienists were not evenly distributed across Indiana. Counties such as Switzerland, Union and

¹ Mayo Clinic (2021). Oral health: A window to your overall health. Accessed at <https://www.mayoclinic.org/healthy-lifestyle/adult-health/in-depth/dental/art-20047475#:~:text=Normally%20the%20body's%20natural%20defenses,tooth%20decay%20and%20gum%20disease>

Warren had no dentist or dental hygienist report that they provide direct patient care services in these areas, highlighting gaps in access to oral health care. In contrast, Floyd, Hamilton, and Bartholomew counties have much lower population-to-provider ratios, indicating better access to care.

Introduction

Oral health is a unique facet of physical health that can impact overall health. According to the National Institute of Dental Craniofacial Research, oral health can have an impact on a person's quality of life and management of related health conditions.² This demonstrates the importance of having regular access to preventive dental services. In Indiana, resources are made publicly available with the aim of increasing access to dental services.³

As a research entity, the Bowen Center for Health Workforce Research and Policy (Bowen Center) provides support to the State of Indiana in developing sustainable data management and timely publication of health workforce information. This report examines the demographic, educational, geographic, and professional characteristics of the dentists and dental hygienists who are licensed to practice in Indiana as of 2024.

Methodology

Data Collection

During the 2024 license renewal cycle, supplemental questions were administered to dentists and dental hygienists to collect information on demographics, education, practice, and geographic distribution. The most recent supplemental information fields administered to these professions can be found in the Indiana University Indianapolis ScholarWorks repository (<https://hdl.handle.net/1805/18431>).

The Indiana Professional Licensing Agency (IPLA) provided the supplemental data fields and administrative licensing data through a secure file transfer protocol around 30 days after the conclusion of the license renewal cycle.

Data Management Procedures

Supplemental data fields were cleaned and coded per processes outlined in the Bowen Center data management procedures (available at: <http://hdl.handle.net/1805/16704>). After completing these procedures, the supplemental data set was merged to the licensure data file by unique license number to create a 2024 master file for dentists and dental hygienists. Practice addresses and addresses related to individual licenses in the licensure file are validated and geocoded by Melissa Data, Inc.

Additional variables are generated through data management processes. Full-time equivalency (FTE) was assigned based on self-reported hours in direct patient care, as outlined in Table 1. The assignment of FTE is used for accurately measuring the capacity of health professionals.

² Jocelyne Feine. Oral Health Across the Lifespan: Working-Age Adults. Oral Health in America – April 2022 Bulletin, Section 3A Summary. National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research. Available at: <https://www.nidcr.nih.gov/research/oralhealthinamerica/section-3a-summary>

³ Accessing Care. Indiana Department of Health, Oral Health Division. Available at: <https://www.in.gov/health/oral-health/resources-for-the-public/access-to-service/>

Limitations

There are limitations that should be considered when examining the data in this report. First, the information presented in this report is largely based on self-reported information provided by dentists and dental hygienists during their license renewal. While this presents some level of response bias, both professions are required to attest that all information is accurate before completion of their license renewal.

Second, the percentages presented in the report tables have been rounded to the nearest decimal. As a result of this rounding, there may be instances in which the total percentage does not equal exactly to 100.

Report Structure

This report provides a snapshot of Indiana's oral health workforce and includes four sections:

Section 1: Total License Renewals

Section 2: Total Actively Practicing Dentists

Section 3: Total Actively Practicing Dental Hygienists

Section 4: Geographic Distribution of Indiana's Oral Health Workforce

To request additional information, please send a request to the Bowen Center online at www.bowenportal.org.

Section 1: Total License Renewals

This section provides a summary of the total dentist and dental hygiene licenses renewed in 2024. The license statuses included in the tables refer to the status after completion of license renewal. In Indiana, licensed health professionals can practice under a license status that is “active,” “valid to practice while reviewed,” or “probation.”

Dentists

In 2024, 4,273 dentists renewed their licenses and nearly all renewed under the license status of active (99.3%). A small percentage of these licenses were renewed offline (N=201; 4.7%), all of which were renewed under a license status that was valid for active practice. Among the remaining online renewals, all but 19 were renewed under a license status that was valid for active practice. Table 1.1 provides more information on dentists’ license status and renewal status.

Table 1.1 Indiana dentists’ license and renewal status

| | Survey Respondents (Online Renewals) | | Offline Renewals | | Total | |
|----------------------------------|---|------|------------------|------|-------|------|
| | N | % | N | % | N | % |
| | 4,072 | | 201 | | 4,273 | |
| License Status | | | | | | |
| Active | 4,048 | 99.4 | 194 | 96.5 | 4,242 | 99.3 |
| Valid to practice while reviewed | 0 | 0.0 | 6 | 3.0 | 6 | 0.1 |
| Probation | 5 | 0.1 | 1 | 0.5 | 6 | 0.1 |
| Non-active license status | 19 | 0.4 | 0 | 0.0 | 19 | 0.4 |

Source: Indiana Dentist License and Supplemental Survey Data, 2024

Employment Status

Of the total online license renewals, 93.6% reported actively practicing in dentistry, while 4.2% reported that they were retired (Table 1.2). Another 44 (1.1%) dentists reported that they were unemployed but seeking work in the field of dentistry.

Table 1.2 Indiana dentists’ reported employment status

| | N | % |
|---|-------|------|
| | 4,072 | |
| Employment Status | | |
| Actively working in a position that requires a dental license | 3,811 | 93.6 |
| Actively working in a field other than dentistry | 19 | 0.5 |
| Unemployed and seeking working in the field of dentistry | 44 | 1.1 |
| Unemployed and not seeking work in the field of dentistry | 27 | 0.7 |
| Retired | 171 | 4.2 |

Source: Indiana Dentist License and Supplemental Survey Data, 2024

Dental Hygienists

A total of 5,423 dental hygiene licenses were renewed in 2024 (Table 1.3). All but one of these licenses had an active license status. Additionally, most of these renewals were completed online (N=5,012; 92.4% of total license renewals). Of the remaining 411 offline renewals, all licenses had an active license status.

Table 1.3 Indiana dental hygienists' license and renewal status

| | Survey Respondents (Online Renewals) | | Offline Renewals | | Total | |
|----------------------------------|---|-------|------------------|-------|-------|-------|
| | N | % | N | % | N | % |
| | 5,012 | | 411 | | 5,423 | |
| License Status | | | | | | |
| Active | 5,011 | 99.98 | 411 | 100.0 | 5,422 | 99.98 |
| Valid to practice while reviewed | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Probation | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Non-active license status | 1 | 0.02 | 0 | 0.0 | 1 | 0.02 |

Source: Indiana Dentist License and Supplemental Survey Data, 2024

Employment Status

Table 1.4 provides a summary of Indiana-licensed dental hygienists' reported employment status. Most dental hygienists reported actively practicing in a position that requires a dental hygiene license (86.5%). Another 3.6% reported working in a dental hygiene-related field that does not require a dental hygiene license, while 1.7% reported being unemployed and seeking work in a position that requires a dental hygiene license.

Table 1.4 Indiana dental hygienists' reported employment status

| | N | % |
|---|-------|------|
| | 5,012 | |
| Employment Status | | |
| Actively working in a position that requires a dental hygiene license | 4,337 | 86.5 |
| Actively working in a dental hygiene related field that does not require a dental hygiene license | 181 | 3.6 |
| Actively working in a field that does not require a dental hygiene license | 155 | 3.1 |
| Not currently working, disabled | 10 | 0.2 |
| Not currently working, seeking work in a position that requires a dental hygiene license | 84 | 1.7 |
| Not currently working, seeking work in a position that does not require a dental hygiene license | 32 | 0.6 |
| Student | 12 | 0.2 |
| Leave of absence or sabbatical | 100 | 2.0 |
| Retired | 99 | 2.0 |
| Non-respondent | 2 | 0.04 |

Source: Indiana Dentist License and Supplemental Survey Data, 2024

Section 2: Actively Practicing Dentists

This section provides a summary of Indiana dentists who were identified as actively practicing in Indiana. All data presented in this section were reported by Indiana dentists during their license renewal.

Reporting Sample

To produce a reporting sample that accurately represents Indiana's dentist workforce, the following criteria were used to identify dentists who are actively practicing in Indiana as of 2024: 1) had an active license status, 2) renewed their license online and completed the supplemental information fields, 3) reported actively practicing in dentistry, and 4) reported having at least one practice in Indiana or providing teledentistry to Indiana residents. Figure 2.1 provides a breakdown of the report sample selection.

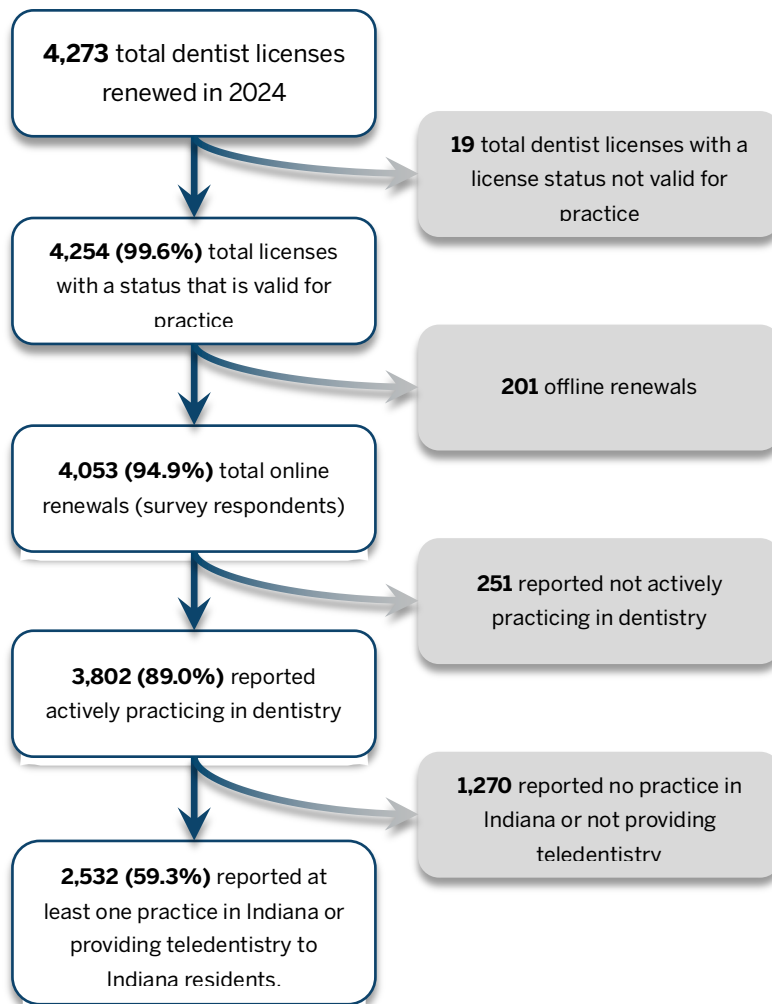


Figure 2.1 Results from report sample criteria

Demographics

Table 2.1 provides a summary of the reported demographic information of Indiana dentists. Overall, Indiana dentists had an average age of 48.7 years, and the largest percentage were between ages 35 and 44 (26.6%). Additionally, dentists primarily identified as White (81.2%) and not Hispanic or Latino (96.9%). Female dentists were generally younger than their male counterparts, having an average age of 44.0 as compared to 51.3. Despite this, the highest percentage of female and male dentists were between ages 35 and 45 (32.9% and 23.2%, respectively). Female dentists also had greater racial diversity, with 26.6% identifying as non-White.

Table 2.1: Dentist demographic characteristics

| | Female | | Male | | Total | |
|----------------------------------|--------|------|-------|------|-------|------|
| | N | % | N | % | N | % |
| Total | 904 | | 1,628 | | 2,532 | |
| Mean Age | 44.0 | | 51.3 | | 48.7 | |
| Age Groups | | | | | | |
| Under 35 | 230 | 25.4 | 241 | 14.8 | 472 | 18.6 |
| 35-44 | 297 | 32.9 | 378 | 23.2 | 674 | 26.6 |
| 45-54 | 205 | 22.7 | 339 | 20.8 | 544 | 21.5 |
| 55-64 | 142 | 15.7 | 340 | 20.9 | 482 | 19.0 |
| 65 and older | 30 | 3.3 | 325 | 20.0 | 355 | 14.0 |
| Not reported | 0 | 0.0 | 5 | 0.3 | 5 | 0.2 |
| Ethnicity | | | | | | |
| Hispanic or Latino | 44 | 4.9 | 35 | 2.2 | 79 | 3.2 |
| Not Hispanic or Latino | 860 | 95.1 | 1,593 | 97.9 | 2,453 | 96.9 |
| Race | | | | | | |
| White | 663 | 73.3 | 1,393 | 85.6 | 2,056 | 81.2 |
| Asian | 122 | 13.5 | 112 | 6.9 | 234 | 9.2 |
| Black or African American | 56 | 6.2 | 33 | 2.0 | 89 | 3.5 |
| Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander | 1 | 0.1 | 2 | 0.1 | 3 | 0.1 |
| American Indian or Alaska Native | 2 | 0.2 | 1 | 0.1 | 3 | 0.1 |
| Other | 31 | 3.4 | 55 | 3.4 | 86 | 3.4 |
| Multiracial | 29 | 3.2 | 32 | 2.0 | 61 | 2.4 |

Source: Indiana Dentist License and Supplemental Survey Data, 2024

Education and Training

The majority of Indiana dentists reported completing dental school in Indiana (66.0%), while 19.8% reported completing dental school in a contiguous state (Michigan, Illinois, Kentucky, or Ohio). The majority also reported not completing a dental residency (69.4%). However, 7.3% reported completing a residency in general practice, followed by 5.6% who completed a residency in orthodontics and dentofacial orthopedics. Table 2.2 provides more information on reported educational characteristics of Indiana dentists.

Table 2.2 Dentist educational characteristics

| | N | % |
|---|-------|------|
| Total | 2,532 | |
| State Where Dental Degree was Completed | | |
| Indiana | 1,671 | 66.0 |
| Michigan | 52 | 2.1 |
| Illinois | 177 | 7.0 |
| Kentucky | 227 | 9.0 |
| Ohio | 43 | 1.7 |
| Another state (not listed) | 344 | 13.6 |
| Another country (not U.S.) | 18 | 0.7 |
| Residency Completed | | |
| Dental school – No residency completed | 1,757 | 69.4 |
| Residency - Advanced Education in General Dentistry Programs (AEGD) | 67 | 2.7 |
| Residency – Advanced general dentistry education in dental anesthesiology | 2 | 0.1 |
| Residency – Advanced general dentistry education in oral medicine | 4 | 0.2 |
| Residency – Advanced general dentistry education in orofacial pain | 3 | 0.1 |
| Residency – Dental public health | 4 | 0.2 |
| Residency – Endodontics | 48 | 1.9 |
| Residency – General practice residency | 185 | 7.3 |
| Residency – Oral and maxillofacial pathology | 5 | 0.2 |
| Residency – Oral and maxillofacial radiology | 3 | 0.1 |
| Residency – Oral and maxillofacial surgery | 88 | 3.5 |
| Residency – Orthodontics and dentofacial orthopedics | 141 | 5.6 |
| Residency – Other | 17 | 0.7 |
| Residency – Pediatric dentistry | 121 | 4.8 |
| Residency - Periodontics | 57 | 2.3 |
| Residency – Prosthodontics | 30 | 1.2 |

Source: Indiana Dentist License and Supplemental Survey Data, 2024

Practice Characteristics

While most Indiana dentists reported practicing general dentistry (77.2%), another 5.1% reported working in pediatric dentistry (Table 2.3). Nearly all dentists reported working as a practicing dentist (96.2%). Another 2.2% reported working in academia as a dental educator. Finally, less than 10% of dentists reported providing teledentistry as part of their practice (8.2%).

Table 2.3: Indiana dentists' practice characteristics

| | N | % |
|--|-------|------|
| Total | 2,532 | |
| Dental Practice Type | | |
| General dental practice | 1,955 | 77.2 |
| Dental public health | 26 | 1.0 |
| Endodontics | 51 | 2.0 |
| Oral and maxillofacial pathology | 5 | 0.2 |
| Oral and maxillofacial radiology | 3 | 0.1 |
| Oral and maxillofacial surgery | 95 | 3.8 |
| Orthodontics and dentofacial orthopedics | 141 | 5.6 |
| Other | 35 | 1.4 |
| Pediatric dentistry | 130 | 5.1 |
| Periodontics | 56 | 2.2 |
| Prosthodontics | 28 | 1.1 |
| Not applicable | 3 | 0.1 |

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Table 2.3: Indiana dentists' practice characteristics

| | N | % |
|--|-------|------|
| Dental anesthesiology | 4 | 0.2 |
| Primary Role | | |
| Dental educator (academia) | 56 | 2.2 |
| Practicing dentist (general dentist or specialist) | 2,435 | 96.2 |
| Dental/Insurance industry consultant | 3 | 0.1 |
| Dental researcher | 5 | 0.2 |
| Federal services professional | 6 | 0.2 |
| Other - Dental related | 19 | 0.8 |
| Other - Non-dental related | 0 | 0.0 |
| Not applicable | 8 | 0.3 |
| Provides Tele-dentistry | | |
| Yes | 207 | 8.2 |
| No | 2,310 | 91.2 |
| Not applicable | 15 | 0.6 |

Source: Indiana Dentist License and Supplemental Survey Data, 2024

During the 2024 license renewal year, Indiana dentists were able to provide more detailed descriptions of their practice setting, which are summarized in Table 2.4. Nearly half of Indiana dentists reported working in a solo practice (48.9%), while 20% reported working in a partnership and 17.6% reported working in a group practice of 3 – 5 dentists. Just over 20% of dentists reported a secondary practice, and 7.1% reported working in a solo practice.

Table 2.4 Indiana dentist practice setting

| | Primary Practice | | Secondary Practice | |
|---|------------------|------|--------------------|------|
| | N | % | N | % |
| | 2,532 | | 2,532 | |
| Dental office practice - Solo practice | 1,237 | 48.9 | 180 | 7.1 |
| Dental office practice - Partnership | 506 | 20.0 | 123 | 4.9 |
| Dental office practice - Group (3-5 dentists) | 445 | 17.6 | 165 | 6.5 |
| Dental office practice - Group (6-10 dentists) | 82 | 3.2 | 20 | 0.8 |
| Dental office practice - Group (11-20 dentists) | 20 | 0.8 | 5 | 0.2 |
| Dental office practice - Group (21+ dentists) | 36 | 1.4 | 7 | 0.3 |
| Hospital/Clinic | 38 | 1.5 | 9 | 0.4 |
| Federal government hospital/clinic (includes military) | 14 | 0.6 | 5 | 0.2 |
| Health center (CHC/FQHC/HQHC look-alike) | 48 | 1.9 | 7 | 0.3 |
| Long-term care/nursing home/extended care facility (non-hospital) | 1 | 0.0 | 2 | 0.1 |
| Home health setting | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Local health department | 3 | 0.1 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Other public health/community health setting | 6 | 0.2 | 4 | 0.2 |
| School health service | 15 | 0.6 | 5 | 0.2 |
| Mobile unit dentistry | 5 | 0.2 | 9 | 0.4 |
| Correctional facility | 11 | 0.4 | 3 | 0.1 |
| Indian health service | 0 | 0.0 | 1 | 0.0 |
| Head Start (including Early Head Start) | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Staffing organization | 1 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Teledentistry | 0 | 0.0 | 1 | 0.0 |
| Other setting | 32 | 1.3 | 10 | 0.4 |
| Not applicable | 32 | 1.3 | 1,965 | 77.6 |
| Non-respondent | 0 | 0.0 | 11 | 0.4 |

Source: Indiana Dentist License and Supplemental Survey Data, 2024

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Dentists also reported their employment arrangement for their primary and secondary practices. Table 2.5 shows dentists' reported employment arrangements based on their reported primary practice setting.

Nearly half of dentists reported being a practice owner (N=1,248; 49.3%). Overall, the reported employment arrangement correlated with dentists' reported practice setting. For example, 96.3% of dentists who identified their employment arrangement as a sole proprietor also reported practicing in a solo practice. Dentists who identified their employment arrangement as being employed had the greatest diversity in practice settings.

Table 2.5 Indiana dentist employment arrangement - primary practice

| | Practice Owner | | Sole Proprietor | | Partner | | Employed | | Independent Contractor | | Volunteer | | DSO | |
|---|----------------|------|-----------------|------|---------|------|----------|------|------------------------|------|-----------|------|-----|------|
| | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % |
| | 1,248 | | 299 | | 313 | | 832 | | 109 | | 6 | | 153 | |
| Dental office practice - Solo practice | 904 | 72.4 | 288 | 96.3 | 23 | 7.4 | 182 | 21.9 | 31 | 28.4 | 0 | 0.0 | 61 | 39.7 |
| Dental office practice - Partnership | 198 | 15.9 | 5 | 1.7 | 218 | 69.7 | 147 | 17.7 | 24 | 22.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 39 | 25.5 |
| Dental office practice - Group (3-5 dentists) | 121 | 9.7 | 3 | 1.0 | 54 | 17.3 | 250 | 30.1 | 36 | 33.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 26 | 17.0 |
| Dental office practice - Group (6-10 dentists) | 12 | 1.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 9 | 2.9 | 59 | 7.1 | 4 | 3.7 | 0 | 0.0 | 5 | 3.3 |
| Dental office practice - Group (11-20 dentists) | 1 | 0.1 | 0 | 0.0 | 5 | 1.6 | 11 | 1.3 | 1 | 0.9 | 0 | 0.0 | 2 | 1.3 |
| Dental office practice - Group (21+ dentists) | 3 | 0.2 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0.96 | 24 | 2.9 | 1 | 0.9 | 0 | 0.0 | 18 | 11.8 |
| Hospital/Clinic | 1 | 0.1 | 1 | 0.3 | 0 | 0.0 | 33 | 4.0 | 1 | 0.9 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Federal government hospital/clinic (includes military) | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 9 | 1.1 | 0 | 0.0 | 1 | 16.7 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Health center (CHC/FQHC/HQHC look-alike) | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 45 | 5.4 | 2 | 1.8 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Long-term care/nursing home/extended care facility (non-hospital) | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 1 | 0.1 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Home health setting | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Local health department | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 3 | 0.4 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Other public health/community health setting | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 2 | 0.2 | 1 | 0.9 | 2 | 33.3 | 1 | 0.7 |
| School health service | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 12 | 1.4 | 1 | 0.9 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Mobile unit dentistry | 1 | 0.1 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 3 | 0.4 | 1 | 0.9 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Correctional facility | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 10 | 1.2 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 1 | 0.7 |
| Indian health service | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Head Start (including early Head Start) | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Staffing organization | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 1 | 0.1 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Teledentistry | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Other setting | 1 | 0.1 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 24 | 2.9 | 3 | 2.8 | 3 | 16.7 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Not applicable | 6 | 0.5 | 2 | 0.7 | 1 | 0.3 | 16 | 1.9 | 3 | 2.8 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |

Source: Indiana Dentist License and Supplemental Survey Data, 2024

Practice Hours and Patient Panel

Table 2.6 provides a summary of the hours per week dentists reported spending in direct patient care. Around half of dentists reported spending between 29 and 36 hours per week in patient care at their primary practice (48.2%). Just over 20% reported hours in direct patient care for their secondary practice, and just 5% reported working 5 – 8 hours per week in patient care.

Table 2.6 Indiana dentist hours per week in patient care

| | Primary Practice | | Secondary Practice | |
|---------------------------|------------------|------|--------------------|------|
| | N | % | N | % |
| Total | 2,532 | | 2,532 | |
| 0 hours per week | 9 | 0.4 | 74 | 2.9 |
| 1 - 4 hours per week | 34 | 1.3 | 80 | 3.2 |
| 5 - 8 hours per week | 62 | 2.5 | 124 | 4.9 |
| 9 - 12 hours per week | 48 | 1.9 | 63 | 2.5 |
| 13 - 66 hours per week | 121 | 4.8 | 92 | 3.6 |
| 17 - 20 hours per week | 143 | 5.7 | 63 | 2.5 |
| 21 - 24 hours per week | 218 | 8.6 | 20 | 0.8 |
| 25 - 28 hours per week | 255 | 10.1 | 4 | 0.2 |
| 29 - 32 hours per week | 609 | 24.1 | 16 | 0.6 |
| 33 - 36 hours per week | 609 | 24.1 | 12 | 0.5 |
| 37 - 40 hours per week | 317 | 12.5 | 11 | 0.4 |
| 41 or more hours per week | 58 | 2.3 | 2 | 0.1 |
| Not applicable | 49 | 1.9 | 1,959 | 77.4 |
| Non-respondent | 0 | 0 | 12 | 0.5 |

Source: Indiana Dentist License and Supplemental Survey Data, 2024

Table 2.7 summarizes dentists' reported characteristics of their patient panel. For their primary practice, 37.1% of dentists reported accepting Medicaid, and 7.4% reported offering a sliding fee scale. While 80.4% reported not having a secondary practice, another 10.9% with a secondary practice reported not accepting Medicaid.

Table 2.7 Indiana dentist patient panel

| | Primary Practice | | Secondary Practice | |
|--|------------------|------|--------------------|------|
| | N | % | N | % |
| | 2,532 | | 2,532 | |
| Percent of Patient Panel Covered by Indiana Medicine | | | | |
| Do not accept Indiana Medicaid | 1,297 | 51.2 | 277 | 10.9 |
| Have Medicaid but have no Medicaid patients | 16 | 0.6 | 7 | 0.3 |
| Indiana Medicaid accounts for >0% - 5% of practice | 146 | 5.8 | 23 | 0.9 |
| Indiana Medicaid accounts for 6% - 10% of practice | 100 | 4.0 | 17 | 0.7 |
| Indiana Medicaid accounts for 11% - 20% of practice | 138 | 5.5 | 15 | 0.6 |
| Indiana Medicaid accounts for 21% - 30% of practice | 124 | 4.9 | 31 | 1.2 |
| Indiana Medicaid accounts for 31% - 50% of practice | 187 | 7.4 | 54 | 2.1 |
| Indiana Medicaid accounts for greater than 50% of practice | 226 | 8.9 | 60 | 2.4 |
| Not applicable | 298 | 11.8 | 2,036 | 80.4 |
| Non-respondent | 0 | 0.0 | 12 | 0.5 |
| Percent of Patient Panel on Sliding Fee Scale | | | | |
| Do not offer a sliding fee scale | 1,264 | 49.9 | 305 | 12.1 |

Table 2.7 Indiana dentist patient panel

| | Primary Practice | | Secondary Practice | |
|---|------------------|------|--------------------|------|
| | N | % | N | % |
| Offer a sliding fee scale but have no patients on this schedule | 6 | 0.2 | 1 | 0.0 |
| Sliding fee patients account for >0% - 5% of practice | 40 | 1.6 | 13 | 0.5 |
| Sliding fee patients account for 6% - 10% of practice | 19 | 0.8 | 6 | 0.2 |
| Sliding fee patients account for 11% - 20% of practice | 20 | 0.8 | 4 | 0.2 |
| Sliding fee patients account for 21% - 30% of practice | 27 | 1.1 | 6 | 0.2 |
| Sliding fee patients account for 31% - 50% of practice | 32 | 1.3 | 7 | 0.3 |
| Sliding fee patients account for more than 50% of practice | 41 | 1.6 | 8 | 0.3 |
| Not applicable | 1072 | 42.3 | 2,170 | 85.7 |
| Non-respondent | 11 | 0.4 | 12 | 0.5 |

Source: Indiana Dentist License and Supplemental Survey Data, 2024

Table 2.8 presents data on Indiana dentists' acceptance of new Medicaid patients and the reasons some choose not to participate. Only 31.1% of dentists reported accepting new Medicaid patients, while 68.8% indicated they were not. Among those not accepting new Medicaid patients, the most frequently reported reasons was low reimbursement (11.8%), followed by a full patient panel (3.0%). Other less commonly reported reasons included practice policies, administrative burden, Medicaid patient management, and financial burden at practice.

Table 2.8: Indiana Dentists New Medicaid Patients

| | N | % |
|--|-------|------|
| Total | 2,532 | |
| Accepting New Medicaid Patients | | |
| Yes | 788 | 31.1 |
| No | 1,743 | 68.8 |
| Non-Respondent | 1 | 0.0 |
| Reasons for Not Accepting New Medicaid Patients | | |
| Low reimbursement | 206 | 11.8 |
| Full patient Panel | 52 | 3.0 |
| Administrative burden | 31 | 1.8 |
| Medicaid patient management | 20 | 1.2 |
| Not enrolled in Medicaid | 37 | 2.1 |
| Practice policy | 37 | 2.1 |
| Military/VA provider | 2 | 0.1 |
| Services not covered (e.g., orthodontics services) | 15 | 0.9 |
| Financial burden at practice | 18 | 1.0 |
| Not interested | 9 | 0.5 |
| Other reason | 17 | 1.0 |
| Not applicable | 24 | 1.4 |

Source: Indiana Dentist License and Supplemental Survey Data, 2024

Services Provided and Populations Served

This subsection summarizes the services dentists reported providing as part of their practice along with the populations they reported serving. Dentists were able to identify multiple services and populations that are included in their practice. The following tables examine the total counts of dentists who identified each service and population, cross-tabbed with their reported dental practice type.

Dental Services

Table 2.9 provides a summary of the dental services Indiana dentists reported providing. Overall, 1,961 dentists (77.4% of the report sample) reported providing at least one of these services. Of these, most reported working in general dentistry (87.9%), followed by pediatric dentistry (6.6%).

The highest percentage of Indiana dentists reported providing dental sealants (N=1,847; 94.2%), followed by silver diamine fluoride (N=858; 43.8%). Nine (N=9; 0.4%) dentists reported providing administration of immunizations, and 72 (3.7%) reported having an active practice agreement with dental hygienists.

Table 2.9 Services provided by dentists based on their dental practice type

| Dental Practice Type | Dental Sealants | | Silver Diamine Fluoride | | Administration of Immunizations | | Active Practice Agreement with Dental Hygienist(s) | | Tobacco Cessation Counseling | | Total Unique Dentists Providing Dental Services | |
|--|-----------------|--------------|-------------------------|--------------|---------------------------------|--------------|--|--------------|------------------------------|--------------|---|--------------|
| | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % |
| General dental practice | 1663 | 90.0 | 706 | 82.3 | 4 | 44.4 | 63 | 87.5 | 486 | 84.5 | 1,724 | 87.9 |
| Dental public health | 21 | 1.1 | 17 | 2.0 | 3 | 33.3 | 3 | 4.2 | 10 | 1.7 | 22 | 1.1 |
| Endodontics | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 2 | 0.4 | 2 | 0.1 |
| Oral and maxillofacial pathology | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 1 | 0.2 | 1 | 0.1 |
| Oral and maxillofacial radiology | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Oral and maxillofacial surgery | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 1 | 11.1 | 0 | 0.0 | 11 | 1.9 | 12 | 0.6 |
| Orthodontics and dentofacial orthopedics | 2 | 0.0 | 2 | 0.2 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 5 | 0.9 | 6 | 0.3 |
| Pediatric dentistry | 129 | 7.0 | 116 | 13.5 | 0 | 0.0 | 3 | 4.2 | 17 | 1.9 | 129 | 6.6 |
| Periodontics | 6 | 0.3 | 4 | 0.5 | 0 | 0.0 | 1 | 1.4 | 21 | 3.0 | 24 | 1.2 |
| Prosthodontics | 13 | 0.7 | 5 | 0.6 | 0 | 0.0 | 2 | 2.8 | 10 | 1.7 | 19 | 1.0 |
| Other | 10 | 0.5 | 6 | 0.7 | 1 | 11.1 | 0 | 0.0 | 11 | 1.9 | 19 | 1.0 |
| Dental anesthesiology | 1 | 0.1 | 1 | 0.1 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 1 | 0.1 |
| Not applicable | 2 | 0.1 | 1 | 0.1 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 1 | 0.2 | 2 | 0.1 |
| Total | 1,847 | 100.0 | 858 | 100.0 | 9 | 100.0 | 72 | 100.0 | 575 | 100.0 | 1,961 | 100.0 |

Source: Indiana Dentist License and Supplemental Survey Data, 2024

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Table 2.10 summarizes the preventive services dentists reported providing as part of their practice. A large percentage of dentists in the report sample reported providing at least one of these services (N=2,052; 81.0% of report sample). Nearly all of these dentists reported providing oral cancer screening (N=2,029; 98.9%), followed by 694 who reported providing screening for hypertension (N=694;33.8%). The smallest number reported providing HIV screening (N=51; 2.4%).

Table 2.10 Services provided by dentists based on their dental practice type

| Dental Practice Type | Diabetes Screening | | HIV Screening | | Hypertension Screening | | Oral Cancer Screening | | Screening for Substance Use | | Total Unique Dentists Providing Preventive Dental Services | |
|--|--------------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|------------------------|--------------|-----------------------|--------------|-----------------------------|--------------|--|--------------|
| | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % |
| General dental practice | 92 | 79.3 | 40 | 78.4 | 597 | 86.0 | 1,719 | 84.7 | 116 | 80.0 | 1,732 | 84.4 |
| Dental public health | 1 | 0.9 | 1 | 2.0 | 13 | 1.9 | 22 | 1.1 | 2 | 1.4 | 24 | 1.2 |
| Endodontics | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 7 | 1.0 | 13 | 0.6 | 1 | 0.7 | 15 | 0.7 |
| Oral and maxillofacial pathology | 1 | 0.9 | 1 | 2.0 | 1 | 0.1 | 3 | 0.2 | 1 | 0.7 | 3 | 0.2 |
| Oral and maxillofacial radiology | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Oral and maxillofacial surgery | 6 | 5.2 | 2 | 3.9 | 23 | 3.3 | 68 | 3.4 | 9 | 6.2 | 70 | 3.4 |
| Orthodontics and dentofacial orthopedics | 1 | 0.9 | 1 | 2.0 | 3 | 0.4 | 36 | 1.8 | 2 | 1.4 | 36 | 1.8 |
| Pediatric dentistry | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 3 | 0.4 | 75 | 3.7 | 6 | 4.1 | 75 | 3.7 |
| Periodontics | 4 | 3.5 | 1 | 2.0 | 23 | 3.3 | 43 | 2.1 | 1 | 0.7 | 46 | 2.2 |
| Prosthodontics | 5 | 4.3 | 3 | 5.9 | 10 | 1.4 | 22 | 1.1 | 2 | 1.4 | 23 | 1.1 |
| Other | 5 | 4.3 | 2 | 3.9 | 13 | 1.9 | 25 | 1.2 | 5 | 3.5 | 25 | 1.2 |
| Dental anesthesiology | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 1 | 0.1 | 0 | 0.0 | 1 | 0.1 |
| Not applicable | 1 | 0.9 | 0 | 0.0 | 1 | 0.1 | 2 | 0.1 | 0 | 0.0 | 2 | 0.1 |
| Total | 116 | 100.0 | 51 | 100.0 | 694 | 100.0 | 2,029 | 100.0 | 145 | 100.0 | 2,052 | 100.0 |

Source: Indiana Dentist License and Supplemental Survey Data, 2024

Populations Served

Table 2.11 summarizes the pediatrics populations dentists reported serving as part of their practice. Overall, 2,322 dentists reported serving pediatric populations, representing 91.7% of the report sample. The majority also still reported a specialty in general dentistry (78.1%). Of the dentists serving pediatric patients, 2,308 (91.2%) reported serving adolescents, followed by 2,104 (90.6%) dentists who reported serving children ages 2 – 10.

Table 2.11 Pediatric populations served by Indiana dentists.

| | Newborns | | Children (ages 2 - 10) | | Adolescents (ages 11 - 19) | | Unique Number of Dentists Serving Pediatric Populations | |
|--|------------|--------------|---------------------------|--------------|-------------------------------|--------------|--|--------------|
| | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % |
| General dental practice | 526 | 73.1 | 1,679 | 79.8 | 1,803 | 78.1 | 1,813 | 78.1 |
| Dental public health | 15 | 2.1 | 20 | 1.0 | 21 | 0.9 | 21 | 0.9 |
| Endodontics | 0 | 0.0 | 26 | 1.2 | 45 | 2.0 | 45 | 1.9 |
| Oral and maxillofacial pathology | 3 | 0.4 | 3 | 0.1 | 3 | 0.1 | 3 | 0.1 |
| Oral and maxillofacial radiology | 0 | 0.0 | 3 | 0.1 | 3 | 0.1 | 3 | 0.1 |
| Oral and maxillofacial surgery | 31 | 4.3 | 64 | 3.0 | 83 | 3.6 | 83 | 3.6 |
| Orthodontics and dentofacial orthopedics | 4 | 0.6 | 127 | 6.0 | 137 | 5.9 | 137 | 5.9 |
| Pediatric dentistry | 129 | 17.9 | 129 | 6.1 | 127 | 5.5 | 130 | 5.6 |
| Periodontics | 2 | 0.3 | 25 | 1.2 | 42 | 1.8 | 42 | 1.8 |
| Prosthodontics | 4 | 0.6 | 9 | 0.4 | 21 | 0.9 | 21 | 0.9 |
| Dental anesthesiology | 1 | 0.1 | 4 | 0.2 | 3 | 0.1 | 4 | 0.2 |
| Other | 5 | 0.7 | 14 | 0.7 | 19 | 0.8 | 19 | 0.8 |
| Not applicable | 0 | 0.0 | 1 | 0.1 | 1 | 0.04 | 1 | 0.04 |
| Total | 720 | 100.0 | 2,104 | 100.0 | 2,308 | 100.0 | 2,322 | 100.0 |

Source: Indiana Dentist License and Supplemental Survey Data, 2024

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Table 2.12 provides a summary of adult and other special populations that dentists reported serving. Overall, 2,413 reported serving these population groups, representing 93.2% of the report sample. The highest number of these dentists reported serving adults (N=2,338; 96.8%), followed by geriatric persons (N=2,168; 89.8%). On the other hand, the smallest number of these dentists reported serving individuals who are incarcerated (N=440; 18.2%).

Table 2.12 Adult and special population served by Indiana dentists.

| Dental Practice Type | Adults | | Geriatric | | Pregnant Women | | Individuals Who Are Incarcerated | | Individuals with Disabilities | | Individuals in Recovery | | Veterans or Members of the Military | | Unique Number of Dentists Serving these Populations | |
|--|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|----------------------------------|--------------|-------------------------------|--------------|-------------------------|--------------|-------------------------------------|--------------|---|--------------|
| | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % |
| General dental practice | 1,890 | 80.8 | 1,800 | 83.0 | 1,712 | 84.3 | 353 | 80.2 | 1,513 | 79.8 | 1,060 | 83.8 | 1,528 | 83.8 | 1,902 | 78.8 |
| Dental public health | 26 | 1.1 | 25 | 1.2 | 23 | 1.1 | 9 | 2.1 | 23 | 1.2 | 19 | 1.5 | 19 | 1.0 | 26 | 1.1 |
| Endodontics | 51 | 2.2 | 48 | 2.2 | 43 | 2.1 | 8 | 1.8 | 39 | 2.1 | 24 | 1.9 | 40 | 2.2 | 51 | 2.1 |
| Oral and maxillofacial pathology | 5 | 0.2 | 5 | 0.2 | 4 | 0.2 | 2 | 0.5 | 4 | 0.2 | 2 | 0.2 | 4 | 0.2 | 5 | 0.2 |
| Oral and maxillofacial radiology | 3 | 0.1 | 3 | 0.1 | 2 | 0.1 | 1 | 0.2 | 2 | 0.1 | 1 | 0.1 | 2 | 0.1 | 3 | 0.1 |
| Oral and maxillofacial surgery | 89 | 3.8 | 85 | 3.9 | 75 | 3.7 | 49 | 11.1 | 76 | 4.0 | 67 | 5.3 | 74 | 4.1 | 89 | 3.7 |
| Orthodontics and dentofacial orthopedics | 132 | 5.7 | 100 | 4.6 | 87 | 4.3 | 9 | 2.1 | 87 | 4.6 | 38 | 3.0 | 78 | 4.3 | 134 | 5.6 |
| Other | 31 | 1.3 | 25 | 1.2 | 16 | 0.8 | 6 | 1.4 | 18 | 1.0 | 13 | 1.0 | 18 | 1.0 | 31 | 1.3 |
| Pediatric dentistry | 28 | 1.2 | 3 | 0.1 | 11 | 0.5 | 0 | 0.0 | 79 | 4.2 | 3 | 0.2 | 4 | 0.2 | 87 | 3.6 |
| Periodontics | 54 | 2.3 | 46 | 2.1 | 38 | 1.9 | 1 | 0.2 | 34 | 1.8 | 24 | 1.9 | 32 | 1.8 | 55 | 2.3 |
| Prosthodontics | 26 | 1.1 | 26 | 1.2 | 19 | 0.9 | 2 | 0.5 | 20 | 1.1 | 13 | 1.0 | 23 | 1.3 | 27 | 1.1 |
| Dental anesthesiology | 3 | 0.1 | 2 | 0.1 | 1 | 0.1 | 0 | 0.0 | 2 | 0.1 | 1 | 0.1 | 1 | 0.1 | 3 | 0.1 |
| Not applicable | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Total | 2,338 | 100.0 | 2,168 | 100.0 | 2,031 | 100.0 | 440 | 100.0 | 1,897 | 100.0 | 1,265 | 100.0 | 1,823 | 100.0 | 2,413 | 100.0 |

Source: Indiana Dentist License and Supplemental Survey Data, 2024

Section 3: Actively Practicing Dental Hygienists

This section provides a summary of Indiana dental hygienists who were identified as actively practicing in Indiana. All data presented in this section were reported during their 2024 license renewal.

Reporting Sample

Figure 3.1 provides a summary of the results from the criteria used to identify dental hygienists actively practicing in Indiana. Of the 5,423 dental hygienists who renewed their license in 2024, 5,422 (99.98%) had an active license status; 5,011 (92.4%) renewed their license online; 4,336 (80.0%) reported actively practicing in Indiana; and 3,825 (70.5%) reported having at least one practice in Indiana or providing teledentistry to Indiana residents.

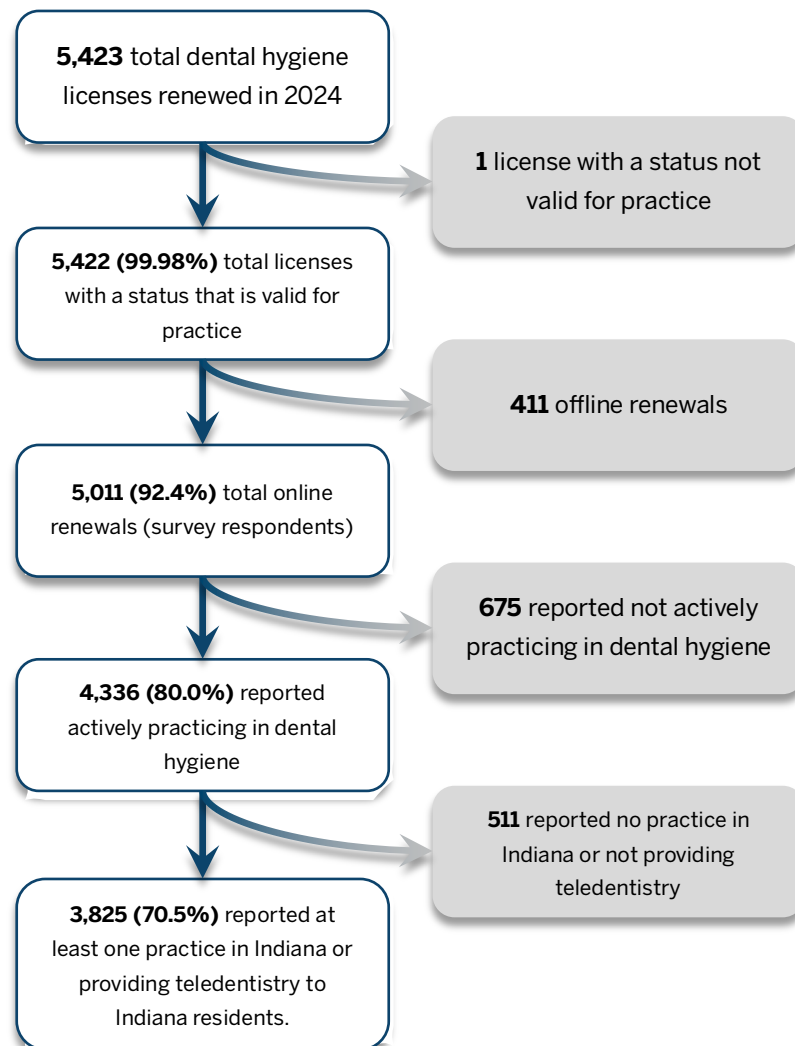


Figure 3.1 Results from report sample criteria

Demographics

Table 3.1 displays demographic characteristics of actively practicing dental hygienists in Indiana. Overall, Indiana dental hygienists predominantly identified as female (98.8%), non-Hispanic (95.9%), and White (94.3%), with an

average age of 43.4. Male dental hygienists were younger than their female counterparts, with an average age of 39.1 (versus 43.5 for female dental hygienists).

Table 3.1: Dental hygienist demographic characteristics

| | Female | | Male | | Total | |
|----------------------------------|--------|------|------|------|-------|------|
| | N | % | N | % | N | % |
| Total | 3,778 | | 47 | | 3,825 | |
| Mean Age | 43.5 | | 39.1 | | 43.4 | |
| Age Groups | | | | | | |
| Under 35 | 1,049 | 27.8 | 22 | 46.8 | 1,071 | 28.0 |
| 35-44 | 1,103 | 29.2 | 12 | 25.5 | 1,115 | 29.2 |
| 45-54 | 883 | 23.4 | 6 | 12.8 | 889 | 23.2 |
| 55-64 | 576 | 15.3 | 5 | 10.6 | 581 | 15.2 |
| 65 and older | 155 | 4.1 | 2 | 4.3 | 157 | 4.1 |
| Age unavailable | 12 | 0.3 | 0 | 0.0 | 12 | 0.3 |
| Ethnicity | | | | | | |
| Hispanic or Latino | 148 | 3.9 | 8 | 17.0 | 156 | 4.1 |
| Not Hispanic or Latino | 3,630 | 96.1 | 39 | 83.0 | 3,669 | 95.9 |
| Race | | | | | | |
| White | 3,572 | 94.6 | 33 | 70.2 | 3,605 | 94.3 |
| Asian | 34 | 0.9 | 2 | 4.3 | 36 | 0.9 |
| Black or African American | 53 | 1.4 | 6 | 12.8 | 59 | 1.5 |
| Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| American Indian or Alaska Native | 9 | 0.2 | 1 | 2.1 | 10 | 0.3 |
| Some other race | 52 | 1.4 | 4 | 8.5 | 56 | 1.5 |
| Multiracial | 58 | 1.5 | 1 | 2.1 | 59 | 1.5 |

Source: Indiana Dentist Hygienist License and Supplemental Survey Data, 2024

Notes: Age was calculated as the difference between the respondent's date of birth and the date of survey completion.

Education and Training

Tables 3.2 and 3.3 provide summaries of the qualifying and highest education reported by Indiana dental hygienists practicing in Indiana. The majority of dental hygienists identified an associate degree in dental hygiene (75.0%) as their qualifying education, followed by a baccalaureate degree in dental hygiene (24.2%). Additionally, most Indiana dental hygienists reported completing their qualifying education in Indiana (N=3,173; 83.0%). Regarding their highest level of education, 58.9% of dental hygienists reported having an associate degree in dental hygiene, followed by a baccalaureate degree (27.2%).

Table 3.2: Dental hygienist education characteristics

| Qualifying Education | Indiana | | Contiguous States | | Another State (not listed) | | Another Country (not US) | | Total | |
|---|--------------|------------|-------------------|------------|----------------------------|------------|--------------------------|------------|--------------|------------|
| | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % |
| Vocational/Practical certificate - dental hygiene | 1 | 0.03 | 4 | 0.8 | 3 | 1.8 | 0 | 0.0 | 8 | 0.2 |
| Diploma - dental hygiene | 9 | 0.3 | 5 | 1.0 | 3 | 1.8 | 1 | 33.3 | 18 | 0.5 |
| Associate degree - dental hygiene | 2,386 | 75.2 | 359 | 74.3 | 124 | 74.7 | 0 | 0.0 | 2,869 | 75.0 |
| Baccalaureate degree - dental hygiene | 775 | 24.4 | 114 | 23.6 | 35 | 21.1 | 2 | 66.7 | 926 | 24.2 |
| Master's degree - dental hygiene | 1 | 0.03 | 1 | 0.2 | 1 | 0.6 | 0 | 0.0 | 3 | 0.1 |
| Doctoral degree - dental hygiene | 1 | 0.03 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 1 | 0.03 |
| Total | 3,173 | 100 | 483 | 100 | 166 | 100 | 3 | 100 | 3,825 | 100 |

Source: Indiana Dentist Hygienist License and Supplemental Survey Data, 2024

Notes: Contiguous states include Michigan, Illinois, Kentucky, and Ohio.

Table 3.3: Dental hygienist highest education

| Highest Level of Training | N | % |
|---|-------|------|
| Vocational/Practical certificate - dental hygiene | 4 | 0.1 |
| Diploma - dental hygiene | 9 | 0.2 |
| Associate degree - dental hygiene | 2,252 | 58.9 |
| Associate degree - other field | 39 | 1.0 |
| Baccalaureate degree - dental hygiene | 1,040 | 27.2 |
| Baccalaureate degree - other field | 399 | 10.4 |
| Master's degree - dental hygiene | 8 | 0.2 |
| Master's degree - other field | 63 | 1.7 |
| Doctoral degree - dental hygiene | 1 | 0.03 |
| Doctoral degree - other field | 10 | 0.3 |

Source: Indiana Dentist Hygienist License and Supplemental Survey Data, 2024

Employment Characteristics

Table 3.4 presents the employment characteristics of dental hygienists practicing in Indiana. Most dental hygienists (92.4%) reported working more than nine months between April 2023 and March 2024. Most also indicated working in direct patient care – dental hygiene (96.1%). Additionally, most dental hygienists (96.9%) reported not providing telehealth services.

Further insights into employment plans are outlined in Table 3.5. Nearly all (98%) dental hygienists reported working their preferred number of hours per week. The majority (86.4%) also expressed plans to continue working in their current roles without changes. A small percentage (4.7%) indicated an interest in increasing their working hours, while 5.3% expressed a desire to reduce their hours.

Table 3.4: Dental hygienist employment characteristics

| | N | % |
|---|-------|------|
| Total | 3,825 | |
| Total Months Worked in Past Year | | |
| Did not work in dental hygiene in the past year | 8 | 0.2 |
| Less than 3 months | 54 | 1.4 |
| 3 months - 5 months | 76 | 2.0 |
| 6 months - 8 months | 151 | 4.0 |
| 9 months or more | 3,536 | 92.4 |
| Primary Field | | |
| Direct patient care – dental hygiene | 3,675 | 96.1 |
| Direct patient care – other | 34 | 0.9 |
| Education – Dental hygiene | 42 | 1.1 |
| Education – other | 5 | 0.1 |
| Administration – Dental hygiene | 26 | 0.7 |
| Administration – other | 6 | 0.2 |
| Research – Dental hygiene | 6 | 0.2 |
| Research – other | 2 | 0.1 |
| Other | 11 | 0.3 |
| Not applicable | 18 | 0.5 |
| Telehealth Services | | |
| Yes | 115 | 3.0 |
| No | 3,706 | 96.9 |
| Not reported | 4 | 0.1 |

Source: Indiana Dentist Hygienist License and Supplemental Survey Data, 2024

Table 3.5: Dental hygienist employment plans

| | N | % |
|--|-------|------|
| Total | 3,825 | |
| Working Desired Hours | | |
| Yes | 3,747 | 98.0 |
| No | 78 | 2.0 |
| More Hours per Week Desiring to Work | | |
| Less than 9 additional hours per week | 51 | 1.3 |
| 9 - 16 additional hours per week | 29 | 0.8 |
| 17 - 24 additional hours per week | 10 | 0.3 |
| 25 - 32 additional hours per week | 27 | 0.7 |
| 33 - 40 additional hours per week | 32 | 0.8 |
| More than 40 additional hours per week | 5 | 0.1 |
| Not applicable | 3,671 | 96.0 |
| Employment Plans | | |
| Continue as you are | 3,304 | 86.4 |
| Increase hours in patient care | 179 | 4.7 |
| Decrease hours in patient care | 203 | 5.3 |
| Seek employment in a field outside of patient care | 21 | 0.6 |
| Leave direct patient care to complete further training | 2 | 0.1 |
| Leave direct patient care for family reasons/commitments | 9 | 0.2 |
| Leave direct patient care due to physical demands | 7 | 0.2 |
| Leave direct patient care due to stress/burnout | 15 | 0.4 |
| Retire | 13 | 0.3 |
| Unknown | 72 | 1.9 |

Source: Indiana Dentist Hygienist License and Supplemental Survey Data, 2024

Practice Characteristics

Table 3.6 summarizes the reported practice settings of dental hygienists in Indiana in 2024. A little over half (53.5%) of dental hygienists reported working in a solo practice, while 23.2% reported working in a partnership. Regarding secondary practice settings, 85% of respondents selected “not applicable,” suggesting the majority of dental hygienists have only one practice. Among those who reported a secondary practice, the most common settings were also solo practice (8.7%) and partnership (3.1%).

Table 3.7 displays the weekly practice hours dental hygienists reported spending at their primary or secondary practice setting. In their primary practice, 24.5% of dental hygienists reported working 29-32 hours per week and another 22.9% reported working 33-36 hours per week.

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Table 3.6: Dental hygienist practice setting

| Practice Setting | Primary Practice | | Secondary Practice | |
|---|------------------|------|--------------------|------|
| | N | % | N | % |
| Total | 3,825 | | 3,825 | |
| Dental office practice – solo practice | 2,045 | 53.5 | 332 | 8.7 |
| Dental office practice – partnership | 888 | 23.2 | 119 | 3.1 |
| Dental office practice – group practice (3 - 5 dentists) | 578 | 15.1 | 59 | 1.5 |
| Dental office practice – group practice (6 - 10 dentists) | 95 | 2.5 | 8 | 0.2 |
| Dental office practice – group practice (11 - 20 dentists) | 14 | 0.4 | 3 | 0.1 |
| Dental office practice – group practice (21+ dentists) | 38 | 1.0 | 4 | 0.1 |
| Hospital/Clinic | 6 | 0.2 | 4 | 0.1 |
| Federal government hospital/clinic (includes military) | 8 | 0.2 | 1 | 0.03 |
| Health center (CHC/FQHC/FQHC look-alike) | 58 | 1.5 | 2 | 0.1 |
| Long-term care/nursing home/extended care facility (non-hospital) | 1 | 0.03 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Home health setting | 0 | 0.0 | 1 | 0.03 |
| Local health department | 5 | 0.1 | 0 | 0.0 |
| School health service | 14 | 0.4 | 11 | 0.3 |
| Mobile unit dentistry | 5 | 0.1 | 1 | 0.03 |
| Staffing organization | 0 | 0.0 | 1 | 0.03 |
| Correctional facility | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Indian health service | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Head Start (including early Head Start) | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Other public health/community health setting | 15 | 0.4 | 10 | 0.3 |
| Other setting | 17 | 0.4 | 17 | 0.4 |
| Not applicable | 38 | 1.0 | 3,252 | 85.0 |

Source: Indiana Dentist Hygienist License and Supplemental Survey Data, 2024

Notes: Dental hygienists who selected “not applicable” are not included in the counts for this table.

Table 3.7: Dental hygienist practice hours

| Practice Setting | Primary Practice | | Secondary Practice | |
|---------------------------|------------------|------|--------------------|------|
| | N | % | N | % |
| Total | 3,825 | | 3,825 | |
| 0 hours per week | 6 | 0.2 | 114 | 3.0 |
| 1 - 4 hours per week | 57 | 1.5 | 84 | 2.2 |
| 5 - 8 hours per week | 138 | 3.6 | 262 | 6.9 |
| 9 - 12 hours per week | 129 | 3.4 | 52 | 1.4 |
| 13 - 16 hours per week | 272 | 7.1 | 46 | 1.2 |
| 17 - 20 hours per week | 251 | 6.6 | 29 | 0.8 |
| 21 - 24 hours per week | 361 | 9.4 | 13 | 0.3 |
| 25 - 28 hours per week | 408 | 10.7 | 10 | 0.3 |
| 29 - 32 hours per week | 919 | 24.0 | 10 | 0.3 |
| 33 - 36 hours per week | 874 | 22.9 | 12 | 0.3 |
| 37 - 40 hours per week | 309 | 8.1 | 9 | 0.2 |
| 41 or more hours per week | 28 | 0.7 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Not applicable | 73 | 1.9 | 3,184 | 83.2 |

Source: Indiana Dentist Hygienist License and Supplemental Survey Data, 2024

Notes: Dental hygienists who selected “not applicable” were not included in the counts for this table.

Services Provided and Populations Served

As with dentists, Indiana dental hygienists were able to identify the multiple services they provide and the populations they serve. The following tables provide an outline of those dental hygienists identified as part of their practice, cross-tabbed with their reported primary practice setting.

Dental Services

Table 3.8 displays the preventive services Indiana dental hygienists reported providing. Overall, 2,955 dental hygienists (77.3% of the report sample) reported providing at least one of these services. Around half of dental hygienists reported practicing in a solo practice (50.8%). The highest number of these dental hygienists reported providing dental sealants (N = 2,164; 73.2%).

Table 3.8: Dental hygienist services – preventive

| | Administration of Local Dental Anesthetics | | Dental Sealants | | Tobacco Cessation Counseling | | Preventive Services Under an Access Practice Agreement | | Unique Count of Providing These Services | |
|---|--|--------------|-----------------|--------------|---------------------------------|--------------|--|--------------|--|--------------|
| Primary Practice Setting | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % |
| Dental office practice – solo practice | 884 | 47.9 | 1,072 | 49.5 | 714 | 51.1 | 1,200 | 52.8 | 1,794 | 50.8 |
| Dental office practice – partnership | 459 | 24.8 | 504 | 23.3 | 345 | 24.7 | 547 | 24.1 | 807 | 23.9 |
| Dental office practice - group (3 - 5 dentists) | 317 | 17.2 | 376 | 17.4 | 215 | 15.4 | 366 | 16.1 | 543 | 16.6 |
| Dental office practice - group (6 - 10 dentists) | 62 | 3.4 | 72 | 3.3 | 35 | 2.5 | 64 | 2.8 | 90 | 2.8 |
| Dental office practice - group (11 - 20 dentists) | 12 | 0.7 | 10 | 0.5 | 6 | 0.4 | 7 | 0.3 | 13 | 0.4 |
| Dental office practice - group (21+ dentists) | 27 | 1.5 | 27 | 1.3 | 16 | 1.1 | 20 | 0.9 | 36 | 1.2 |
| Hospital/Clinic | 2 | 0.1 | 3 | 0.1 | 3 | 0.2 | 2 | 0.1 | 5 | 0.1 |
| Federal government hospital/clinic (includes military) | 2 | 0.1 | 3 | 0.1 | 4 | 0.3 | 6 | 0.3 | 8 | 0.2 |
| Health center (CHC/FQHC/FQHC look-alike) | 41 | 2.2 | 48 | 2.2 | 27 | 1.9 | 28 | 1.2 | 54 | 1.8 |
| Long-term care/nursing home/extended care facility (non-hospital) | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Home health setting | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Local health department | 2 | 0.1 | 4 | 0.2 | 2 | 0.1 | 3 | 0.1 | 5 | 0.1 |
| School health service | 8 | 0.4 | 7 | 0.3 | 6 | 0.4 | 4 | 0.2 | 12 | 0.4 |
| Mobile unit dentistry | 1 | 0.1 | 4 | 0.2 | 1 | 0.1 | 2 | 0.1 | 5 | 0.1 |
| Staffing organization | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Correctional facility | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Indian health service | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Headstart (including Early Headstart) | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Other public health/community health setting | 10 | 0.5 | 10 | 0.5 | 6 | 0.4 | 9 | 0.4 | 13 | 0.4 |
| Other setting | 7 | 0.4 | 8 | 0.4 | 6 | 0.4 | 2 | 0.1 | 11 | 0.4 |
| Not applicable | 13 | 0.7 | 16 | 0.7 | 12 | 0.9 | 13 | 0.6 | 26 | 0.7 |
| Total | 1,847 | 100.0 | 2,164 | 100.0 | 1,398 | 100.0 | 2,273 | 100.0 | 3,422 | 100.0 |

Source: Indiana Dentist Hygienist License and Supplemental Survey Data, 2024

2024 Oral Health Workforce Data Report

Table 3.9 presents screenings dental hygienists reported providing. Overall, 3,045 (79.0% of the reporting sample) dental hygienists reported providing one of these services. Among these, screening for oral cancer was the most reported by dental hygienists (N=2,981; 77.9%), followed by hypertension screening (N=1,305; 34.1%,). The majority of these screenings were provided in solo practice settings (52.4%).

Table 3.9: Dental hygienist services - screenings

| | Diabetes Screening | | HIV Screening | | Hypertension Screening | | Screening for Oral Cancer | | Screening for Substance Use Disorder/ Addiction | | Unique Count of Dental Hygiene Providing These Services | |
|---|--------------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|------------------------|--------------|---------------------------|--------------|---|--------------|---|--------------|
| Primary Practice Setting | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % |
| Dental office practice – solo practice | 209 | 49.3 | 98 | 49.8 | 610 | 46.7 | 1,561 | 52.4 | 187 | 54.4 | 1,595 | 52.4 |
| Dental office practice – partnership | 110 | 25.9 | 50 | 25.4 | 316 | 24.2 | 728 | 24.4 | 79 | 23.0 | 737 | 24.2 |
| Dental office practice – group (3 - 5 dentists) | 67 | 15.8 | 34 | 17.3 | 217 | 16.6 | 453 | 15.2 | 52 | 15.1 | 464 | 15.2 |
| Dental office practice – group (6 - 10 dentists) | 9 | 2.1 | 5 | 2.5 | 46 | 3.5 | 73 | 2.5 | 6 | 1.7 | 76 | 2.5 |
| Dental office practice – group (11 - 20 dentists) | 3 | 0.7 | 1 | 0.5 | 9 | 0.7 | 12 | 0.4 | 1 | 0.3 | 12 | 0.4 |
| Dental office practice – group (21+ dentists) | 3 | 0.7 | 1 | 0.5 | 17 | 1.3 | 35 | 1.2 | 4 | 1.2 | 36 | 1.2 |
| Hospital/Clinic | 2 | 0.5 | 0 | 0.0 | 4 | 0.3 | 5 | 0.2 | 1 | 0.3 | 5 | 0.2 |
| Federal government hospital/clinic (includes military) | 1 | 0.2 | 0 | 0.0 | 4 | 0.3 | 7 | 0.2 | 0 | 0.0 | 7 | 0.2 |
| Health center (CHC/FQHC/FQHC look-alike) | 7 | 1.7 | 2 | 1.0 | 36 | 2.8 | 43 | 1.4 | 4 | 1.2 | 47 | 1.5 |
| Long-term care/nursing home/extended care facility (non-hospital) | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Home health setting | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Local health department | 1 | 0.2 | 1 | 0.5 | 3 | 0.2 | 3 | 0.1 | 0 | 0.0 | 3 | 0.1 |
| School health service | 2 | 0.5 | 0 | 0.0 | 7 | 0.5 | 7 | 0.2 | 0 | 0.0 | 8 | 0.3 |
| Mobile unit dentistry | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 2 | 0.1 | 0 | 0.0 | 2 | 0.1 |
| Staffing organization | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Correctional facility | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Indian Health Service | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Head Start (including early Head Start) | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Other public health/community health setting | 2 | 0.5 | 0 | 0.0 | 9 | 0.7 | 12 | 0.4 | 3 | 0.9 | 12 | 0.4 |
| Other setting | 3 | 0.7 | 0 | 0.0 | 9 | 0.7 | 13 | 0.4 | 2 | 0.6 | 13 | 0.4 |
| Not applicable | 5 | 1.2 | 5 | 2.5 | 18 | 1.4 | 27 | 0.9 | 5 | 1.4 | 28 | 0.9 |
| Total | 424 | 100.0 | 197 | 100.0 | 1,305 | 100.0 | 2,981 | 100.0 | 344 | 100.0 | 3,045 | 100.0 |

Source: Indiana Dentist Hygienist License and Supplemental Survey Data, 2024

Populations Served

Table 3.10 summarizes the total number of dental hygienists who reported serving pediatric populations at their practice setting. Among the 3,852 dental hygienists in the report sample, 3,608 (93.7%) reported providing one or more services to pediatric populations. Almost all of these dental hygienists reported providing services to adolescents ages 11-19 (N=3,588; 99.4%), followed by children ages 2-10 (N=3,439; 89.3%).

Table 3.10: Populations served, dental hygienists

| | Newborns | | Children (2 - 10) | | Adolescents (11 - 19) | | Unique Count of Dental Hygienists Serving Pediatric Patients | |
|---|------------|--------------|-------------------|--------------|-----------------------|--------------|--|--------------|
| Dental Practice Type | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % |
| Dental office practice – solo practice | 106 | 45.5 | 1,828 | 53.2 | 1,916 | 53.6 | 1,926 | 53.4 |
| Dental office practice – partnership | 46 | 19.7 | 816 | 23.7 | 842 | 23.4 | 844 | 23.4 |
| Dental office practice – group (3 - 5 dentists) | 50 | 21.5 | 533 | 15.5 | 554 | 15.4 | 559 | 15.5 |
| Dental office practice – group (6 - 10 dentists) | 11 | 4.7 | 89 | 2.6 | 93 | 2.6 | 93 | 2.6 |
| Dental office practice – group (11 - 20 dentists) | 0 | 0.0 | 9 | 0.3 | 11 | 0.3 | 11 | 0.3 |
| Dental office practice – group (21+ dentists) | 2 | 0.9 | 31 | 0.9 | 36 | 1.0 | 36 | 1.0 |
| Hospital/Clinic | 1 | 0.4 | 3 | 0.1 | 3 | 0.1 | 3 | 0.1 |
| Federal government hospital/clinic (includes military) | 2 | 0.9 | 4 | 0.1 | 4 | 0.1 | 4 | 0.1 |
| Health center (CHC/FQHC/FQHC look-alike) | 6 | 2.6 | 56 | 1.6 | 56 | 1.5 | 57 | 1.6 |
| Long-term care/nursing home/extended care facility (non-hospital) | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Home health setting | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Local health department | 2 | 0.9 | 5 | 0.1 | 5 | 0.1 | 5 | 0.1 |
| School health service | 2 | 0.9 | 10 | 0.3 | 9 | 0.2 | 10 | 0.3 |
| Mobile unit dentistry | 1 | 0.4 | 3 | 0.1 | 4 | 0.1 | 4 | 0.1 |
| Staffing organization | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Correctional facility | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Indian Health Service | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Head Start (including early Head Start) | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Other public health/community health setting | 1 | 0.4 | 10 | 0.3 | 10 | 0.3 | 10 | 0.3 |
| Other setting | 0 | 0.0 | 12 | 0.3 | 14 | 0.4 | 14 | 0.4 |
| Not applicable | 3 | 1.3 | 30 | 0.9 | 31 | 0.9 | 32 | 0.9 |
| Total | 233 | 100.0 | 3,439 | 100.0 | 3,588 | 100.0 | 3,608 | 100.0 |

Source: Indiana Dentist Hygienist License and Supplemental Survey Data, 2024

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Table 3.11 displays the total number of dental hygienists who reported serving adult and special populations at their practice. Nearly all dental hygienists in the reporting sample (n = 3,741; 97.1%) indicated they provide services to at least one of these groups. Most dental hygienists reported serving adults (n = 3,675; 96.1%), followed by geriatric patients (n = 3,486; 91.1%) and pregnant women (n = 3,233; 84.5%). Inmates were the least reported population served (n = 190; 5.0%).

Table 3.11: Populations served, dental hygienists

| | Adults | | Geriatric | | Pregnant Women | | Individuals Who are Incarcerated | | Disabled Persons | | Individuals in Recovery | | Unique Count of Serving These Populations | |
|---|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|----------------------------------|--------------|------------------|--------------|-------------------------|--------------|---|--------------|
| Dental Practice Type | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % |
| Dental office practice – solo practice | 1,981 | 54.1 | 1,876 | 53.8 | 1,738 | 53.8 | 89 | 46.8 | 1,460 | 52.3 | 548 | 51.8 | 2,011 | 53.8 |
| Dental office practice – partnership | 874 | 23.7 | 836 | 24.0 | 779 | 24.1 | 43 | 22.6 | 676 | 24.2 | 249 | 23.6 | 880 | 23.5 |
| Dental office practice – group (3 - 5 dentists) | 530 | 14.3 | 499 | 14.3 | 470 | 14.5 | 25 | 13.2 | 417 | 14.9 | 139 | 13.1 | 550 | 14.7 |
| Dental office practice – group (6 - 10 dentists) | 90 | 2.4 | 84 | 2.4 | 82 | 2.5 | 15 | 7.9 | 83 | 3.0 | 41 | 3.9 | 92 | 2.5 |
| Dental office practice – group (11 - 20 dentists) | 14 | 0.4 | 12 | 0.3 | 10 | 0.3 | 0 | 0.0 | 10 | 0.4 | 4 | 0.4 | 14 | 0.4 |
| Dental office practice – group (21+ dentists) | 34 | 0.9 | 36 | 1.0 | 30 | 0.9 | 3 | 1.6 | 25 | 0.9 | 14 | 1.3 | 36 | 1.0 |
| Hospital/Clinic | 5 | 0.1 | 4 | 0.1 | 3 | 0.1 | 0 | 0.0 | 5 | 0.2 | 1 | 0.1 | 5 | 0.1 |
| Federal government hospital/clinic (includes military) | 7 | 0.2 | 6 | 0.2 | 5 | 0.2 | 4 | 2.1 | 5 | 0.2 | 4 | 0.4 | 8 | 0.2 |
| Health center (CHC/FQHC/FQHC look-alike) | 58 | 1.5 | 57 | 1.6 | 57 | 1.8 | 7 | 3.7 | 50 | 1.8 | 34 | 3.2 | 58 | 1.6 |
| Long-term care/nursing home/extended care facility (non-hospital) | 0 | 0.0 | 1 | 0.03 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 1 | 0.04 | 0 | 0.0 | 1 | 0.03 |
| Home health setting | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Local health department | 4 | 0.1 | 4 | 0.1 | 4 | 0.1 | 0 | 0.0 | 2 | 0.1 | 1 | 0.1 | 4 | 0.1 |
| School health service | 12 | 0.3 | 10 | 0.3 | 9 | 0.3 | 0 | 0.0 | 8 | 0.3 | 4 | 0.4 | 12 | 0.3 |
| Mobile unit dentistry | 1 | 0.3 | 2 | 0.1 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 3 | 0.1 | 0 | 0.0 | 4 | 0.1 |
| Staffing organization | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Correctional facility | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Indian Health Service | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Head Start (including early Head Start) | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Other public health/community health setting | 15 | 0.4 | 15 | 0.4 | 10 | 0.3 | 0 | 0.0 | 10 | 0.4 | 4 | 0.4 | 15 | 0.4 |
| Other setting | 16 | 0.4 | 14 | 0.4 | 11 | 0.3 | 1 | 0.5 | 12 | 0.4 | 2 | 0.4 | 16 | 0.4 |
| Not applicable | 34 | 0.9 | 30 | 0.9 | 25 | 0.8 | 3 | 1.6 | 24 | 0.9 | 10 | 1.0 | 35 | 0.9 |
| Total | 3,675 | 100.0 | 3,486 | 100.0 | 3,233 | 100.0 | 190 | 100.0 | 2,791 | 100.0 | 1,058 | 100.0 | 3,741 | 100.0 |

Source: Indiana Dentist hygienist License and Supplemental Survey Data, 2024

Section 4: Geographic Distribution of Indiana's Oral Health Workforce

Dentists

Indiana dentists were able to report up to two practice addresses. In some instances, dentists reported a practice address in two different counties. Therefore, total counts of dentists practicing in a county may equal a number greater than the number of actively practicing dentists.

Table 4.1 and Map 4.1 provide summaries of the geographic distribution of dentists in Indiana. There are four counties with no reported practicing dentists (Brown, Switzerland, Union, and Warren counties), highlighting gaps in dental care access. Additionally, several rural areas, such as Spencer and Sullivan counties, had population-to-provider ratios (PPRs) that exceeded the Health Resources and Services Administration's recommended threshold of 5,000:1.⁴ In contrast, urban counties such as Floyd, Hamilton, Bartholomew, Boone, Howard, Delaware, Marion, and Hendricks have lower PPRs, indicating better dental care coverage.

Table 4.1 Geographic distribution of dentist capacity

| County | Population | Total Dentists | Total Dentists FTE | Population to Dentist FTE |
|-------------|------------|----------------|--------------------|---------------------------|
| Adams | 36,288 | 12 | 8.3 | 4,372.05 |
| Allen | 375,520 | 160 | 114.5 | 3,279.65 |
| Bartholomew | 83,280 | 46 | 33.7 | 2,471.22 |
| Benton | 8,695 | 1 | 0.7 | 12,421.43 |
| Blackford | 11,926 | 4 | 2.6 | 4,586.92 |
| Boone | 66,875 | 41 | 25.6 | 2,612.30 |
| Brown | 15,093 | 0 | 0.0 | - |
| Carroll | 20,137 | 4 | 3.3 | 6,102.12 |
| Cass | 37,727 | 9 | 5.2 | 7,255.19 |
| Clark | 117,410 | 47 | 28.9 | 4,062.63 |
| Clay | 26,231 | 5 | 3.5 | 7,494.57 |
| Clinton | 32,186 | 10 | 6.2 | 5,191.29 |
| Crawford | 10,582 | 1 | 0.8 | 13,227.50 |
| Daviess | 33,277 | 8 | 6.2 | 5,367.26 |
| Dearborn | 49,612 | 8 | 5.8 | 8,553.79 |
| Decatur | 26,587 | 7 | 5.2 | 5,112.88 |
| DeKalb | 43,193 | 14 | 9.9 | 4,362.93 |
| Delaware | 114,461 | 55 | 40.4 | 2,833.19 |
| Dubois | 42,534 | 24 | 16.6 | 2,562.29 |
| Elkhart | 205,184 | 65 | 44.3 | 4,631.69 |
| Fayette | 23,068 | 5 | 3.9 | 5,914.87 |

⁴ Sec. 215 of the Public Health Service Act, 58 Stat. 690 (42 U.S.C. 216); sec. 332 of the Public Health Service Act, 90 Stat. 2270-2272 (42 U.S.C. 254e).

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Table 4.1 Geographic distribution of dentist capacity

| County | Population | Total Dentists | Total Dentists FTE | Population to Dentist FTE |
|------------|------------|----------------|--------------------|---------------------------|
| Floyd | 77,879 | 60 | 43.1 | 1,806.94 |
| Fountain | 16,456 | 2 | 1.8 | 9,142.22 |
| Franklin | 22,750 | 5 | 4.5 | 5,055.56 |
| Fulton | 20,069 | 6 | 5.3 | 3,786.60 |
| Gibson | 33,711 | 10 | 7.2 | 4,682.08 |
| Grant | 66,055 | 28 | 19.7 | 3,353.05 |
| Greene | 32,174 | 11 | 6.1 | 5,274.43 |
| Hamilton | 330,455 | 242 | 162.8 | 2,029.82 |
| Hancock | 76,614 | 30 | 20.0 | 3,830.70 |
| Harrison | 40,164 | 14 | 9.0 | 4,462.67 |
| Hendricks | 166,806 | 81 | 57.1 | 2,921.30 |
| Henry | 48,158 | 16 | 7.6 | 6,336.58 |
| Howard | 82,486 | 42 | 30.1 | 2,740.40 |
| Huntington | 36,351 | 9 | 5.1 | 7,127.65 |
| Jackson | 44,077 | 19 | 12.6 | 3,498.17 |
| Jasper | 33,433 | 6 | 4.6 | 7,268.04 |
| Jay | 20,697 | 3 | 2.4 | 8,623.75 |
| Jefferson | 32,167 | 10 | 5.3 | 6,069.25 |
| Jennings | 27,639 | 4 | 3.3 | 8,375.45 |
| Johnson | 156,148 | 74 | 52.0 | 3,002.85 |
| Knox | 36,833 | 12 | 6.6 | 5,580.76 |
| Kosciusko | 79,156 | 19 | 14.2 | 5,574.37 |
| LaGrange | 39,537 | 11 | 7.9 | 5,004.68 |
| Lake | 485,983 | 256 | 161.7 | 3,005.46 |
| LaPorte | 110,026 | 43 | 28.7 | 3,833.66 |
| Lawrence | 45,552 | 11 | 6.3 | 7,230.48 |
| Madison | 129,486 | 51 | 33.1 | 3,911.96 |
| Marion | 957,337 | 507 | 333.7 | 2,868.86 |
| Marshall | 46,336 | 16 | 11.5 | 4,029.22 |
| Martin | 10,169 | 2 | 1.2 | 8,474.17 |
| Miami | 35,684 | 8 | 5.6 | 6,372.14 |
| Monroe | 147,318 | 56 | 38.4 | 3,836.41 |
| Montgomery | 38,295 | 13 | 9.6 | 3,989.06 |
| Morgan | 70,141 | 20 | 13.7 | 5,119.78 |
| Newton | 13,981 | 2 | 0.5 | 27,962.00 |
| Noble | 47,640 | 17 | 8.5 | 5,604.71 |
| Ohio | 5,890 | 2 | 0.8 | 7,362.50 |
| Orange | 19,552 | 3 | 2.4 | 8,146.67 |
| Owen | 20,854 | 2 | 1.9 | 10,975.79 |
| Parke | 16,912 | 3 | 2.2 | 7,687.27 |
| Perry | 19,091 | 6 | 3.6 | 5,303.06 |
| Pike | 12,364 | 1 | 0.4 | 30,910.00 |

Table 4.1 Geographic distribution of dentist capacity

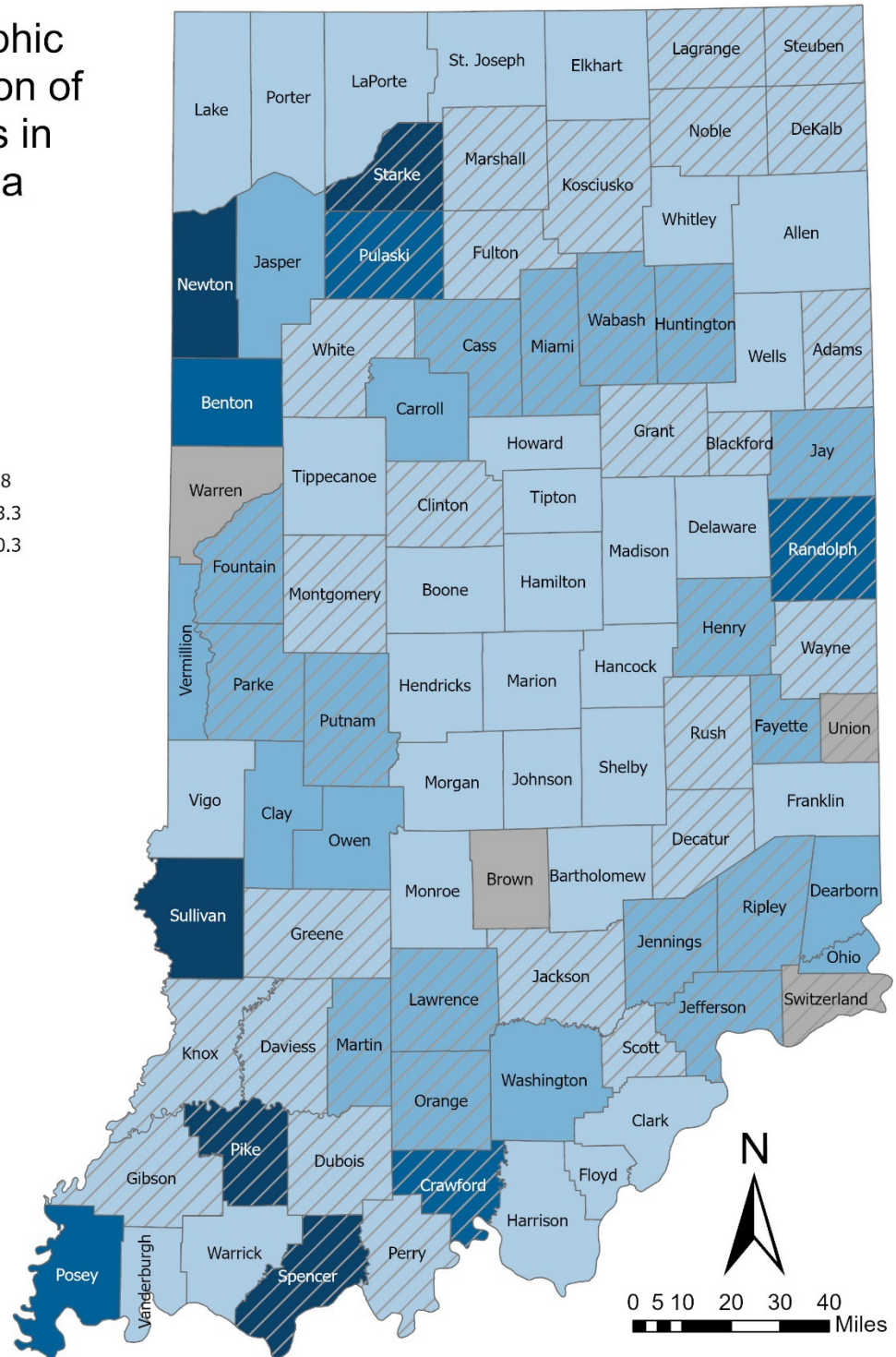
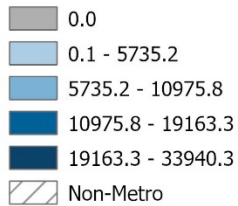
| County | Population | Total Dentists | Total Dentists FTE | Population to Dentist FTE |
|-------------|------------|----------------|--------------------|---------------------------|
| Porter | 169,482 | 82 | 52.1 | 3,253.01 |
| Posey | 25,480 | 2 | 1.7 | 14,988.24 |
| Pulaski | 12,482 | 1 | 0.7 | 17,831.43 |
| Putnam | 37,419 | 6 | 4.9 | 7,636.53 |
| Randolph | 24,694 | 2 | 1.8 | 13,718.89 |
| Ripley | 28,457 | 7 | 4.1 | 6,940.73 |
| Rush | 16,632 | 4 | 2.9 | 5,735.17 |
| Scott | 23,784 | 8 | 4.9 | 4,853.88 |
| Shelby | 44,559 | 15 | 11.9 | 3,744.45 |
| Spencer | 20,364 | 1 | 0.6 | 33,940.00 |
| St. Joseph | 270,882 | 112 | 77.8 | 3,481.77 |
| Starke | 22,996 | 3 | 1.2 | 19,163.33 |
| Steuben | 34,591 | 10 | 7.4 | 4,674.46 |
| Sullivan | 20,647 | 1 | 0.9 | 22,941.11 |
| Switzerland | 10,727 | 0 | 0.0 | - |
| Tippecanoe | 193,302 | 63 | 46.8 | 4,130.38 |
| Tipton | 15,154 | 7 | 4.0 | 3,788.50 |
| Union | 7,140 | 0 | 0.0 | - |
| Vanderburgh | 181,548 | 85 | 60.1 | 3,020.77 |
| Vermillion | 15,485 | 2 | 1.9 | 8,150.00 |
| Vigo | 107,305 | 35 | 26.5 | 4,049.25 |
| Wabash | 31,198 | 7 | 5.3 | 5,886.42 |
| Warren | 8,219 | 0 | 0.0 | - |
| Warrick | 62,608 | 19 | 15.5 | 4,039.23 |
| Washington | 27,942 | 4 | 3.4 | 8,218.24 |
| Wayne | 66,176 | 22 | 15.0 | 4,411.73 |
| Wells | 28,010 | 8 | 6.2 | 4,517.74 |
| White | 24,163 | 8 | 6.4 | 3,775.47 |
| Whitley | 33,899 | 11 | 6.5 | 5,215.23 |

Source: Indiana Dentist License and Supplemental Survey Data, 2024, 2024; U.S. Census Bureau, 2023 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

Note: Population-to-provider FTE ratios cannot be calculated for counties with no reported dentist FTE.

Geographic Distribution of Dentists in Indiana

Population to Dentist Ratio



Source: Indiana Dentist License and Supplemental Survey Data, 2024; U.S. Census Bureau, 2023 American Community survey 5-year Estimates
 Notes: Population-to-provider FTE ratios cannot be calculated for counties with no reported dentist FTE

Map 4.1 Geographic distribution of county-level dentist capacity

Distribution of Dental Hygienists

Table 4.2 and Map 4.2 summarize the geographic distribution of dental hygienists in Indiana. Three counties - Switzerland, Union, and Warren - reported no practicing dental hygienists. Several other counties, including Brown, Pulaski, Crawford, and Pike, have an especially high population-to-provider ratio, each exceeding 10,000 residents per provider. In contrast, urban counties such as Hamilton, Floyd, St. Joseph, Allen, Bartholomew, and Porter have much lower PPRs, with fewer than 2,000 residents per dental hygienist.

As with dentists, non-metro areas tend to experience greater shortages in dental hygiene services, which may impact residents' ability to receive regular cleanings, screenings, and other preventive dental services.

Table 4.2 Geographic distribution of dental hygienist capacity

| County | Population | Total Dentists | Total Dentists FTE | Population to Dentist FTE |
|-------------|------------|----------------|--------------------|---------------------------|
| Adams | 36,288 | 24 | 13.9 | 2,610.65 |
| Allen | 375,520 | 336 | 218.7 | 1,717.06 |
| Bartholomew | 83,280 | 65 | 44.9 | 1,854.79 |
| Benton | 8,695 | 4 | 3.7 | 2,350.00 |
| Blackford | 11,926 | 5 | 4.3 | 2,773.49 |
| Boone | 66,875 | 45 | 31.0 | 2,157.26 |
| Brown | 15,093 | 1 | 0.7 | 21,561.43 |
| Carroll | 20,137 | 11 | 5.2 | 3,872.50 |
| Cass | 37,727 | 13 | 9.0 | 4,191.89 |
| Clark | 117,410 | 67 | 39.6 | 2,964.90 |
| Clay | 26,231 | 6 | 4.7 | 5,581.06 |
| Clinton | 32,186 | 11 | 6.8 | 4,733.24 |
| Crawford | 10,582 | 2 | 0.8 | 13,227.50 |
| Daviess | 33,277 | 14 | 9.9 | 3,361.31 |
| Dearborn | 49,612 | 15 | 10.4 | 4,770.38 |
| Decatur | 26,587 | 12 | 9.4 | 2,828.40 |
| DeKalb | 43,193 | 31 | 19.1 | 2,261.41 |
| Delaware | 114,461 | 63 | 44.1 | 2,595.49 |
| Dubois | 42,534 | 44 | 29.3 | 1,451.67 |
| Elkhart | 205,184 | 139 | 88.7 | 2,313.24 |
| Fayette | 23,068 | 6 | 3.7 | 6,234.59 |
| Floyd | 77,879 | 80 | 49.0 | 1,589.37 |
| Fountain | 16,456 | 5 | 3.4 | 4,840.00 |
| Franklin | 22,750 | 9 | 5.9 | 3,855.93 |
| Fulton | 20,069 | 11 | 7.6 | 2,640.66 |
| Gibson | 33,711 | 23 | 13.9 | 2,425.25 |
| Grant | 66,055 | 26 | 19.3 | 3,422.54 |
| Greene | 32,174 | 24 | 12.9 | 2,494.11 |

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Table 4.2 Geographic distribution of dental hygienist capacity

| County | Population | Total Dentists | Total Dentists FTE | Population to Dentist FTE |
|------------|------------|----------------|--------------------|---------------------------|
| Hamilton | 330,455 | 360 | 228.7 | 1,444.93 |
| Hancock | 76,614 | 58 | 37.4 | 2,048.50 |
| Harrison | 40,164 | 16 | 10.7 | 3,753.64 |
| Hendricks | 166,806 | 126 | 81.9 | 2,036.70 |
| Henry | 48,158 | 22 | 15.2 | 3,168.29 |
| Howard | 82,486 | 59 | 39.3 | 2,098.88 |
| Huntington | 36,351 | 24 | 15.3 | 2,375.88 |
| Jackson | 44,077 | 21 | 15.8 | 2,789.68 |
| Jasper | 33,433 | 17 | 12.3 | 2,718.13 |
| Jay | 20,697 | 9 | 6.4 | 3,233.91 |
| Jefferson | 32,167 | 20 | 10.2 | 3,153.63 |
| Jennings | 27,639 | 8 | 6.0 | 4,606.50 |
| Johnson | 156,148 | 119 | 76.7 | 2,035.83 |
| Knox | 36,833 | 21 | 13.8 | 2,669.06 |
| Kosciusko | 79,156 | 42 | 28.9 | 2,738.96 |
| LaGrange | 39,537 | 14 | 8.3 | 4,763.49 |
| Lake | 485,983 | 339 | 212.8 | 2,283.75 |
| LaPorte | 110,026 | 48 | 31.5 | 3,492.89 |
| Lawrence | 45,552 | 20 | 11.3 | 4,031.15 |
| Madison | 129,486 | 66 | 40.1 | 3,229.08 |
| Marion | 957,337 | 531 | 332.6 | 2,878.34 |
| Marshall | 46,336 | 30 | 19.2 | 2,413.33 |
| Martin | 10,169 | 3 | 1.9 | 5,352.11 |
| Miami | 35,684 | 7 | 5.2 | 6,862.31 |
| Monroe | 147,318 | 92 | 62.5 | 2,357.09 |
| Montgomery | 38,295 | 25 | 16.6 | 2,306.93 |
| Morgan | 70,141 | 34 | 18.8 | 3,730.90 |
| Newton | 13,981 | 6 | 2.8 | 4,993.21 |
| Noble | 47,640 | 18 | 12.3 | 3,873.17 |
| Ohio | 5,890 | 2 | 1.2 | 4,908.33 |
| Orange | 19,552 | 8 | 4.7 | 4,160.00 |
| Owen | 20,854 | 4 | 2.5 | 8,341.60 |
| Parke | 16,912 | 6 | 4.3 | 3,933.02 |
| Perry | 19,091 | 7 | 5.2 | 3,671.35 |
| Pike | 12,364 | 2 | 1.0 | 12,364.00 |
| Porter | 169,482 | 138 | 89.7 | 1,889.43 |
| Posey | 25,480 | 8 | 5.3 | 4,807.55 |
| Pulaski | 12,482 | 1 | 0.7 | 17,831.43 |
| Putnam | 37,419 | 16 | 9.3 | 4,023.55 |
| Randolph | 24,694 | 12 | 7.7 | 3,207.01 |
| Ripley | 28,457 | 5 | 3.9 | 7,296.67 |
| Rush | 16,632 | 5 | 2.5 | 6,652.80 |

Table 4.2 Geographic distribution of dental hygienist capacity

| County | Population | Total Dentists | Total Dentists FTE | Population to Dentist FTE |
|-------------|------------|----------------|--------------------|---------------------------|
| Scott | 23,784 | 5 | 4.4 | 5,405.45 |
| Shelby | 44,559 | 26 | 17.0 | 2,621.12 |
| Spencer | 20,364 | 6 | 4.3 | 4,735.81 |
| St. Joseph | 270,882 | 254 | 166.1 | 1,630.84 |
| Starke | 22,996 | 8 | 5.4 | 4,258.52 |
| Steuben | 34,591 | 21 | 15.3 | 2,260.85 |
| Sullivan | 20,647 | 5 | 3.2 | 6,452.19 |
| Switzerland | 10,727 | 0 | 0.0 | — |
| Tippecanoe | 193,302 | 99 | 63.8 | 3,029.81 |
| Tipton | 15,154 | 10 | 6.6 | 2,296.06 |
| Union | 7,140 | 0 | 0.0 | — |
| Vanderburgh | 181,548 | 139 | 89.9 | 2,019.44 |
| Vermillion | 15,485 | 6 | 5.2 | 2,977.88 |
| Vigo | 107,305 | 57 | 41.1 | 2,610.83 |
| Wabash | 31,198 | 19 | 12.9 | 2,418.45 |
| Warren | 8,219 | 0 | 0.0 | — |
| Warrick | 62,608 | 39 | 30.5 | 2,052.72 |
| Washington | 27,942 | 7 | 4.1 | 6,815.12 |
| Wayne | 66,176 | 31 | 20.2 | 3,276.04 |
| Wells | 28,010 | 18 | 9.9 | 2,829.29 |
| White | 24,163 | 11 | 7.4 | 3,265.27 |
| Whitley | 33,899 | 22 | 14.5 | 2,337.86 |

Source: Indiana Dentist Hygienist License and Supplemental Survey Data, 2024; U.S. Census Bureau, 2023 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

Note: Population-to-provider FTE ratios cannot be calculated for counties with no reported dental hygienist FTE.

