Chapter 10: Iowa Dental Association Studies Prior to the Iowa Dentist Tracking System





Appendix

Iowa Workforce studies prior to the Iowa Dentist Tracking System

For those who are interested in additional historical dentist workforce information, we have included information from the Iowa Dental Association Manpower Committee, which was active between 1978 and 1987. The following tables and figures are the highlights from that committee.

Table 13. Questions in annual lowa workforce study: 1979-1986

- 1. Sex
- 2. Birth Date
- 3. Race
- 4. Professional Education
- 5. Year graduated
- 6. Marital Status
- 7. Education: Highest degree or level attained in licensed field
- 8. How many years have you been active in licensed field?
- 9. Licensed by other states
- 10. Do you work in licensed field?*
- 11. Usual working status (self-employed; employed; not employed; retired)*
- 12. If self-employed (solo; group)
- 13. Type of practice (general; specialty type)
- 14. Primary work location
- 15. How long have you worked at present location?
- 16. Primary work location in licensed field twelve months ago
- 17. Not working twelve months ago
- 18. Work setting (21 categories)
- 19. Major form of employment (government; non-governmental; other)
- 20. Weeks worked in past 12 months
- 21. Total hours worked per week

Other recurring questions

- 22. How many individual patients did you, the dentist, treat in a typical month?
- 23. How many NEW patients did you accept into your practice during the past year?
- 24. How many patient visits do you, the dentist, provide in a typical week?
- 25. What change, if any, in the number of patient visits would you like to make? (# increase, # decrease, no change)

^{*} If not working in licensed field (Q10) or retired or not employed (Q11), then did not complete the remainder of survey.

- 26. What change, if any, did you make in personnel last year? (increase, decrease, no change)
- 27. How would you best describe your practice during the past 12 months? (too busy to treat all requesting appointments; provided care to all requesting it, but felt overworked; provided care to all requesting it, but did not feel overworked; not busy enough, would have liked more patients; practice limited, no new patients taken)
- 28. For the patients you treat, what type of payment do they use (in percent)? (private or industry insurance carriers; Title XIX, Medicaid, or similar programs; Delta Dental; private pay, fee for service)
- 29. Do you have a computer in your office? Do you use external computer services?
- 30. Do you have a satellite practice?

There was between 87.9% and 90.4% response to the annual surveys conducted by the Iowa Dental Association Manpower Committee during this time frame.

Table 14. Iowa workforce questions that were only asked once during annual survey, 1979-1986

Year	Type of Question					
1979	 Need for more dental specialists 					
1980	 Access for handicapped persons to the dental office 					
	 Dentists' time spent performing dental functions 					
	 Dental hygienist work patterns 					
1981	 Describe type of dental practice 					
	 Use of computer services 					
1982	 Patient need and acceptance of periodontal treatment 					
	 Time spent by dentist and hygienist to perform dental functions 					
	 Number of periodontal referrals 					
	 Number of patients with 6+ mm periodontal pockets 					
	 Dentist's office hours and any changes made 					
1984	 Treatment needs of patients 65 and older 					
	 Dental care provided in non-office settings 					
	 Problems patients 65 and older have regarding access to dental care 					
	Should dental hygienists be able to apply pit and fissure sealants under general supervision?					
1986	 Provided treatment to individuals with known diagnosis of infectious disease 					
	 Use of barrier techniques 					
	Types of aseptic systems					
	 Provision of peripheral systems (e.g., blood pressure, oral cancer screening, TMJ services) 					

Table 15. Demographic, education, and employment status of lowa dentists, 1982-1987

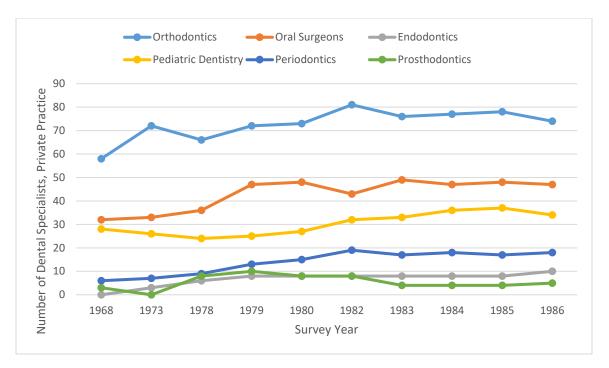
	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987
Male	98%	97%	97%		97%	96%
White	99%		99%		99%	
University of Iowa graduate	81%			80%	80%	79%
Self-employed*	90%	92%	92%		89%	91%
Solo practice			72%	72%	76%	76%

^{*} Options for usual work status: self-employed, employed, and not employed.

Source: Summary reports from annual Iowa Dental Association Manpower Committee

Table 16. Median number of weeks worked per year and hours worked per week, lowa private practice, 1973-1986

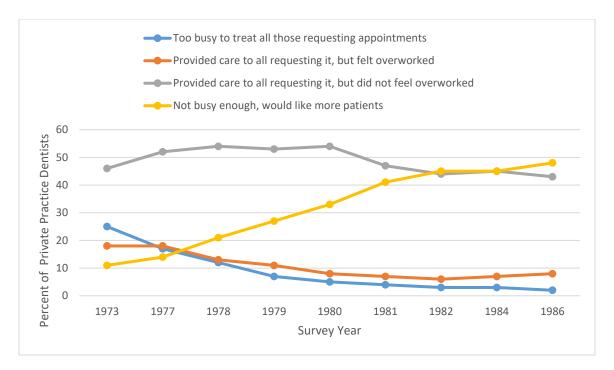
Year	Median Patient Care Hours per Week	Median Weeks Worked per Year
1973	38.4	47.3
1978	36.4	46.2
1980	36.5	47.4
1982	36.2	47.4
1984	36.9	48.1
1986	36.0	48.0



Source: Iowa Dental Association Manpower Committee

Figure 1366. Number of Iowa dental specialists in private practice, 1968-1986

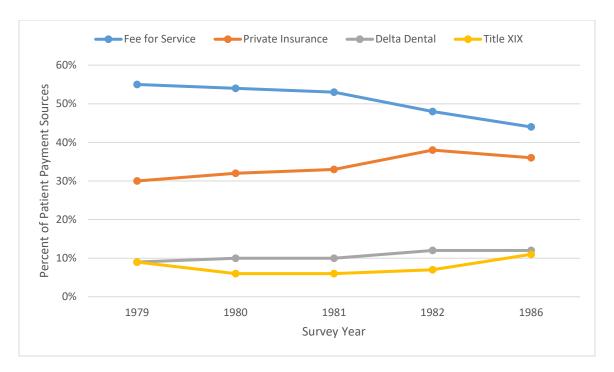
Note: The survey year dates on this graph are not consecutive.



Source: Iowa Dental Association Manpower Committee

Figure 1377. Iowa private practice perceptions about busyness, 1973-1986

Note: The survey year dates on this graph are not consecutive.



Source: Iowa Dental Association Manpower Committee

Figure 1388. Type of patient payment for dental services (%), Iowa private practice dentists, 1979-1986

Note: The survey year dates on this graph are not consecutive.