

The Vermont Department of Health

2005 DENTIST SURVEY SUMMARY REPORT

Guidance • Support • Prevention • Protection

 VERMONT
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

OUTLINE

- **Overview and Key Findings**
- **Survey Question Analysis**
- **Comparison with Previous Surveys**

SURVEY OVERVIEW

SURVEY DESCRIPTION

Mailed to dentists with the license renewal forms in late summer 2005

Followed-up via mail and phone calls

The final response rate was 99%

- 3 dentists did not respond to the survey

SURVEY DESCRIPTION (continued)

Questions asked of dentists included:

- Gender and age
- Practice type (specialty)
- Location, setting and hours of practice
- Availability to new and current patients
- Whether they work with hygienists
- Years worked in Vermont
- Efforts to hire an associate
- Retirement plans

KEY FINDINGS

- There were 352 dentists working in Vermont
- 79% were primary care dentists, including:
 - *269 in general dentistry*
 - *9 in pediatric dentistry*
- 14% work 40 or more hours per week, 56% work between 30 and 40 hours per week.
- The 352 dentists correspond to 267.1 Full Time Equivalent (FTEs)
- 200 of the dentists are 50 or older, and 142 of these are 55 or older
- 7 of the 9 pediatric dentists are 50 or older, and 2 of the 4 prosthodontists are 60 or older

KEY FINDINGS (CONTINUED)

As compared with 2003:

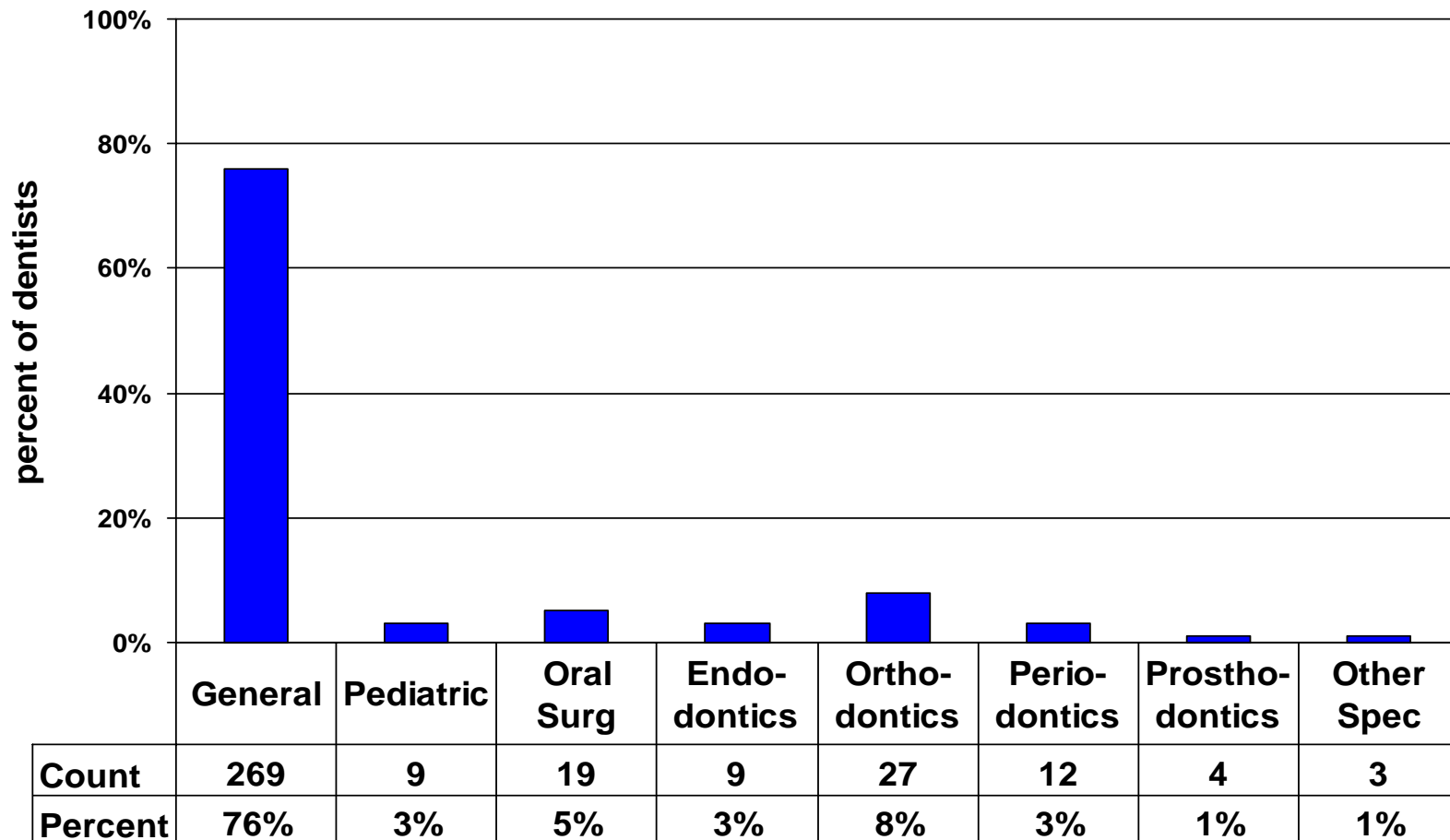
- *There are 15 fewer dentists in total*
- *Fewer dentists are working 40 hours or more, and fewer are working at more than one site*
- *There are 10.7 fewer FTEs in primary care*
- *There are 3.0 fewer FTEs in specialty care*
- *Percentage accepting new patients, and weeks wait for an appointment, have remained the same*

As compared with 2001:

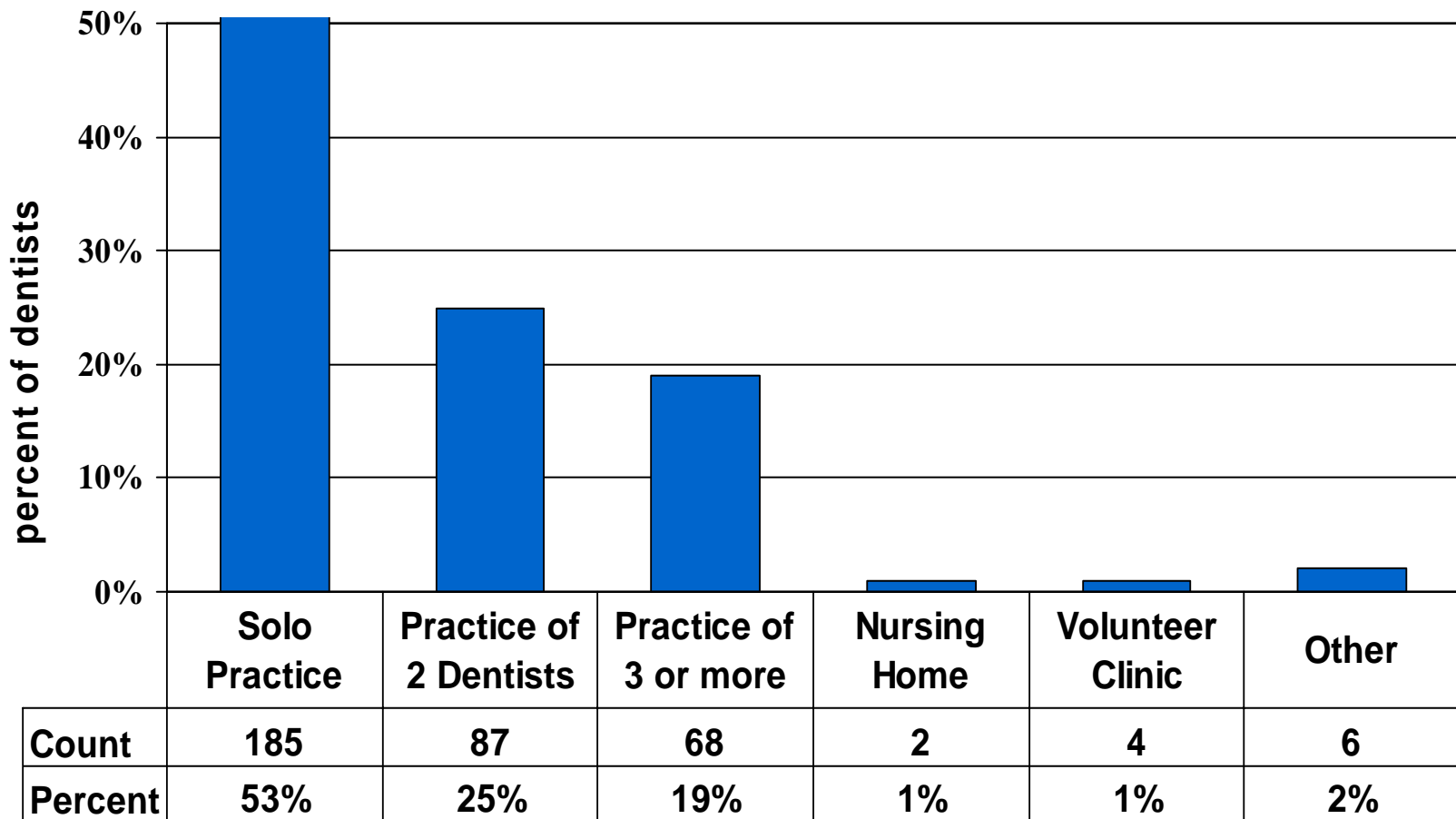
- *There are 15 fewer dentists in the 45 to 54 age range, and 40 more dentists 55 and older*

SURVEY QUESTION ANALYSIS

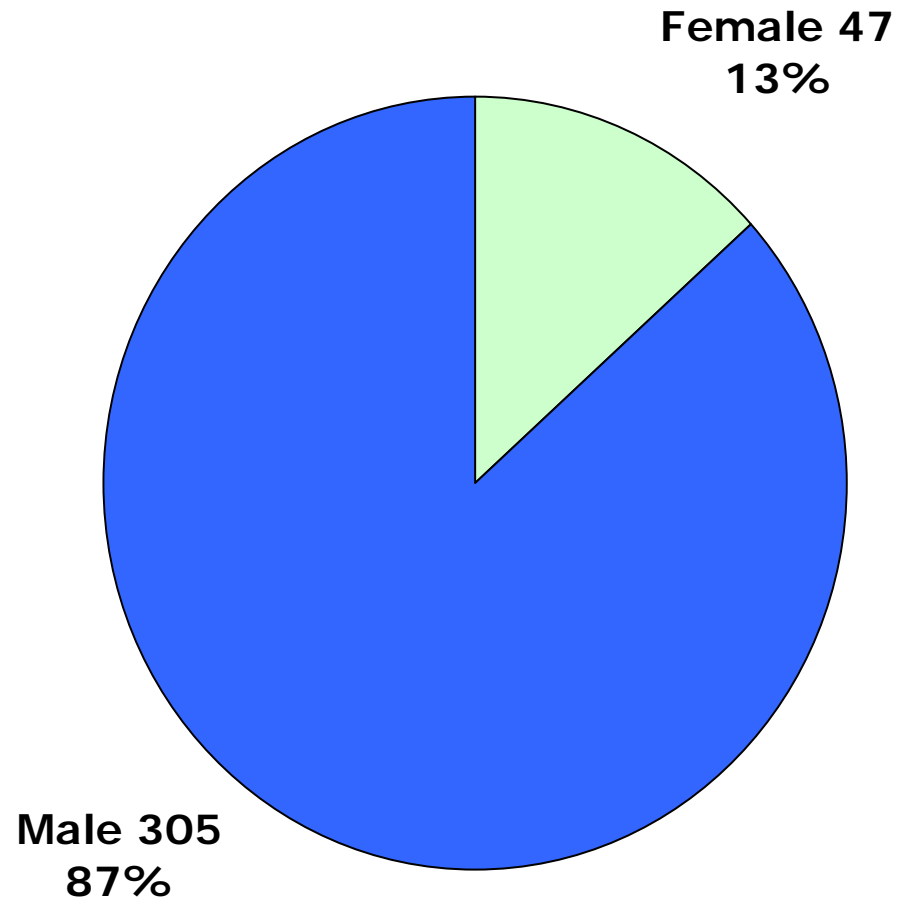
Practice Type (specialty)



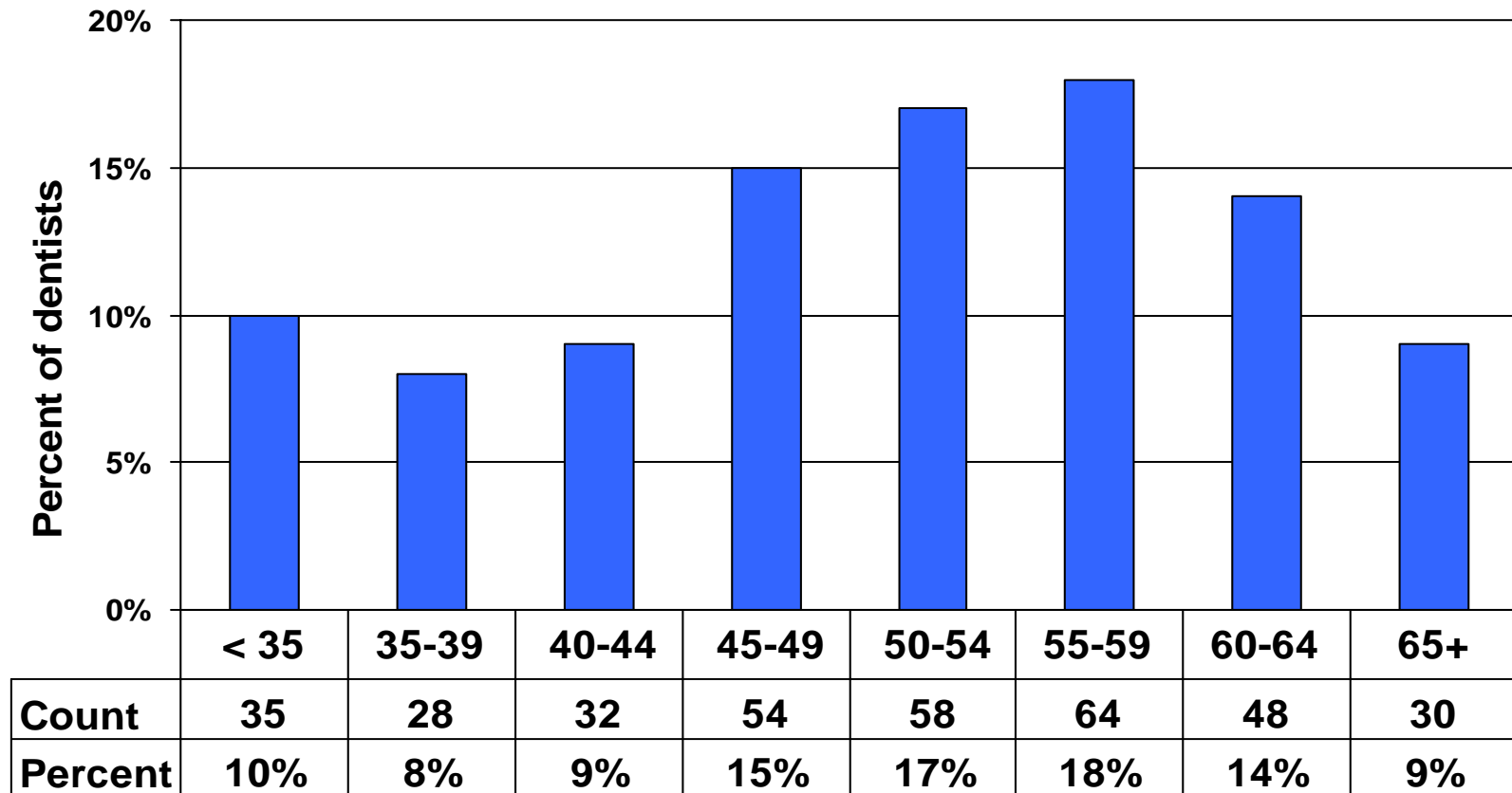
Practice Setting



GENDER

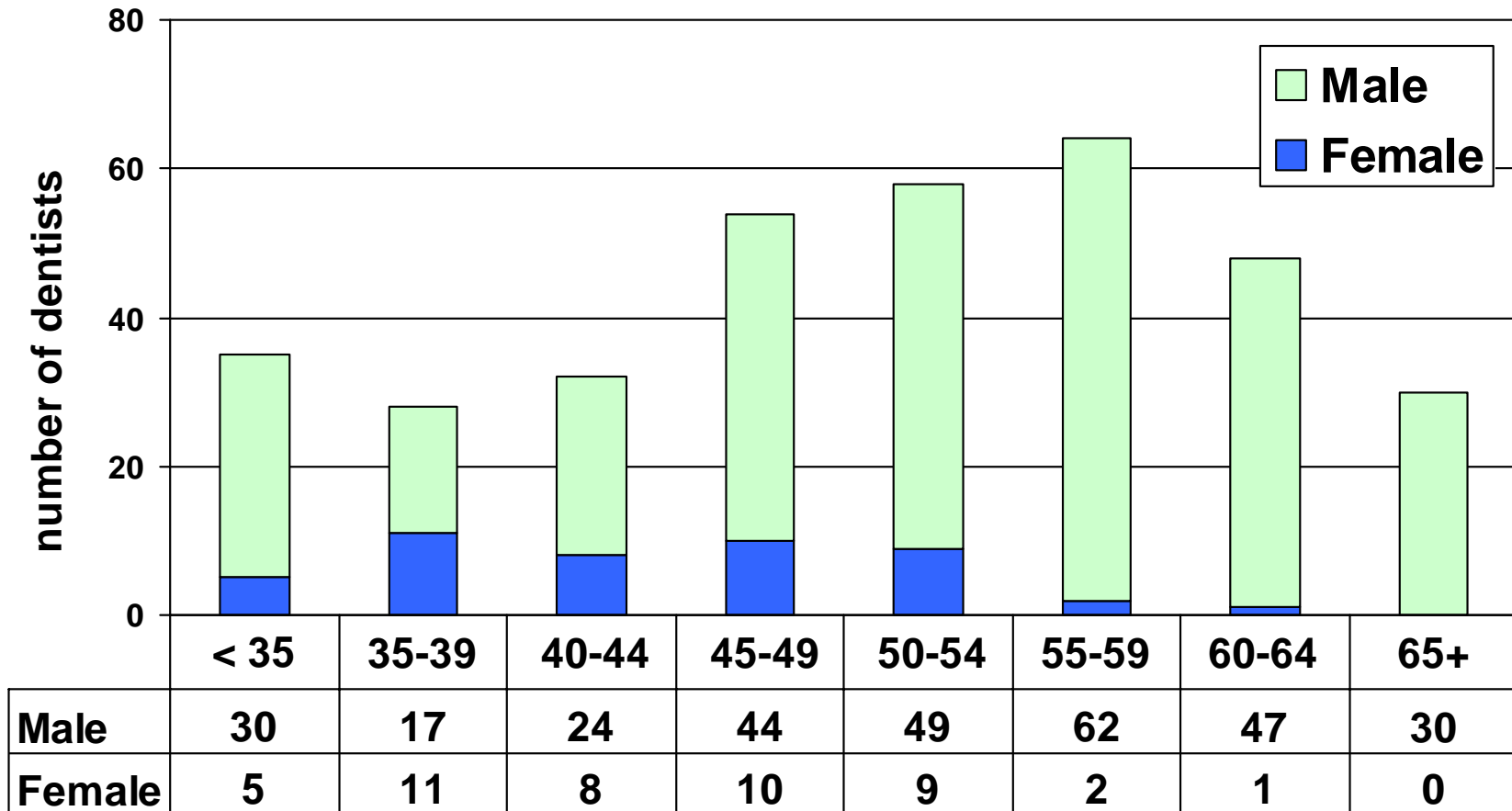


AGE DISTRIBUTION



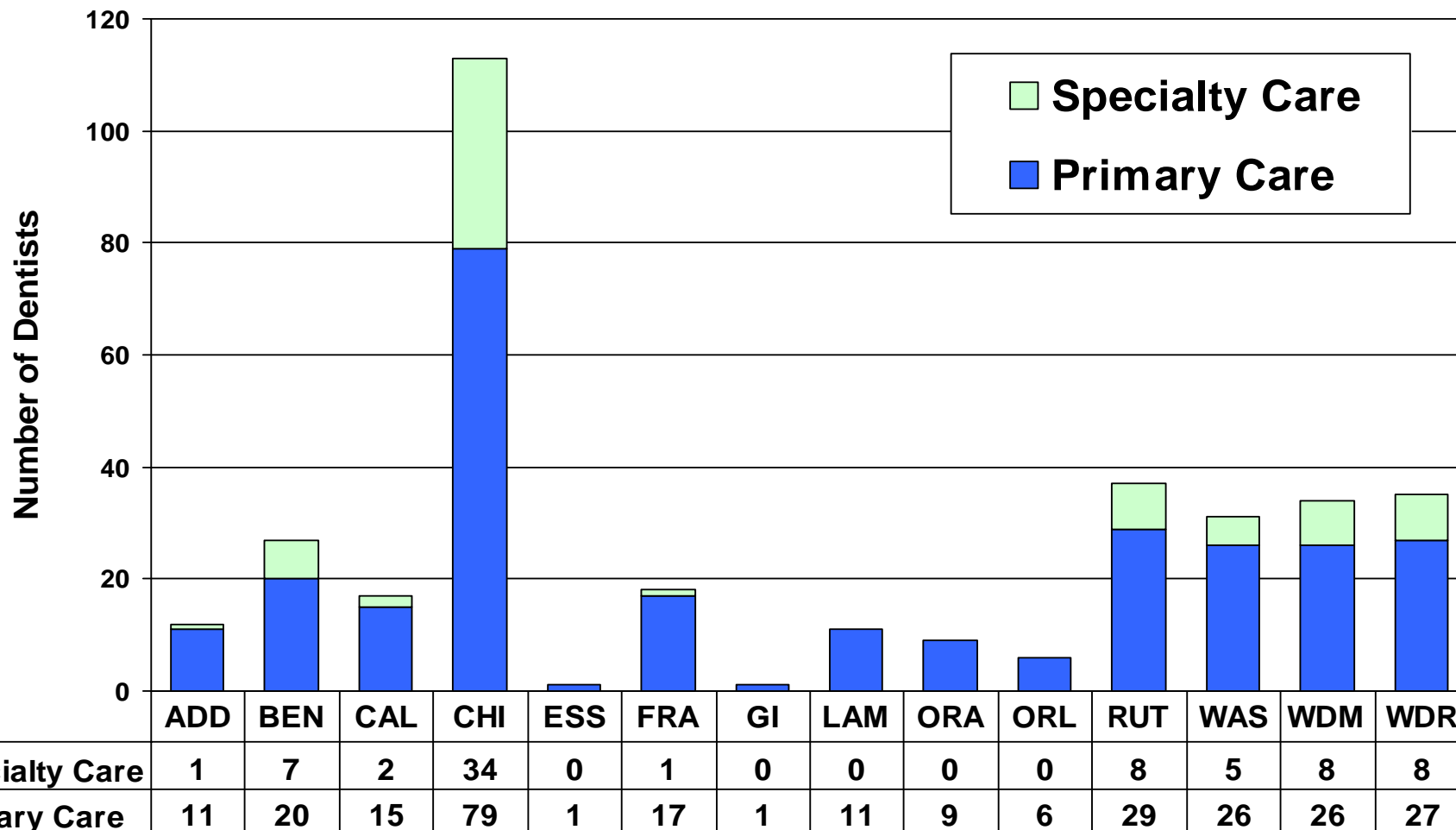
57% of all dentists, and 7 of the 9 pediatric dentists, are age 50 or older

AGE DISTRIBUTION BY GENDER

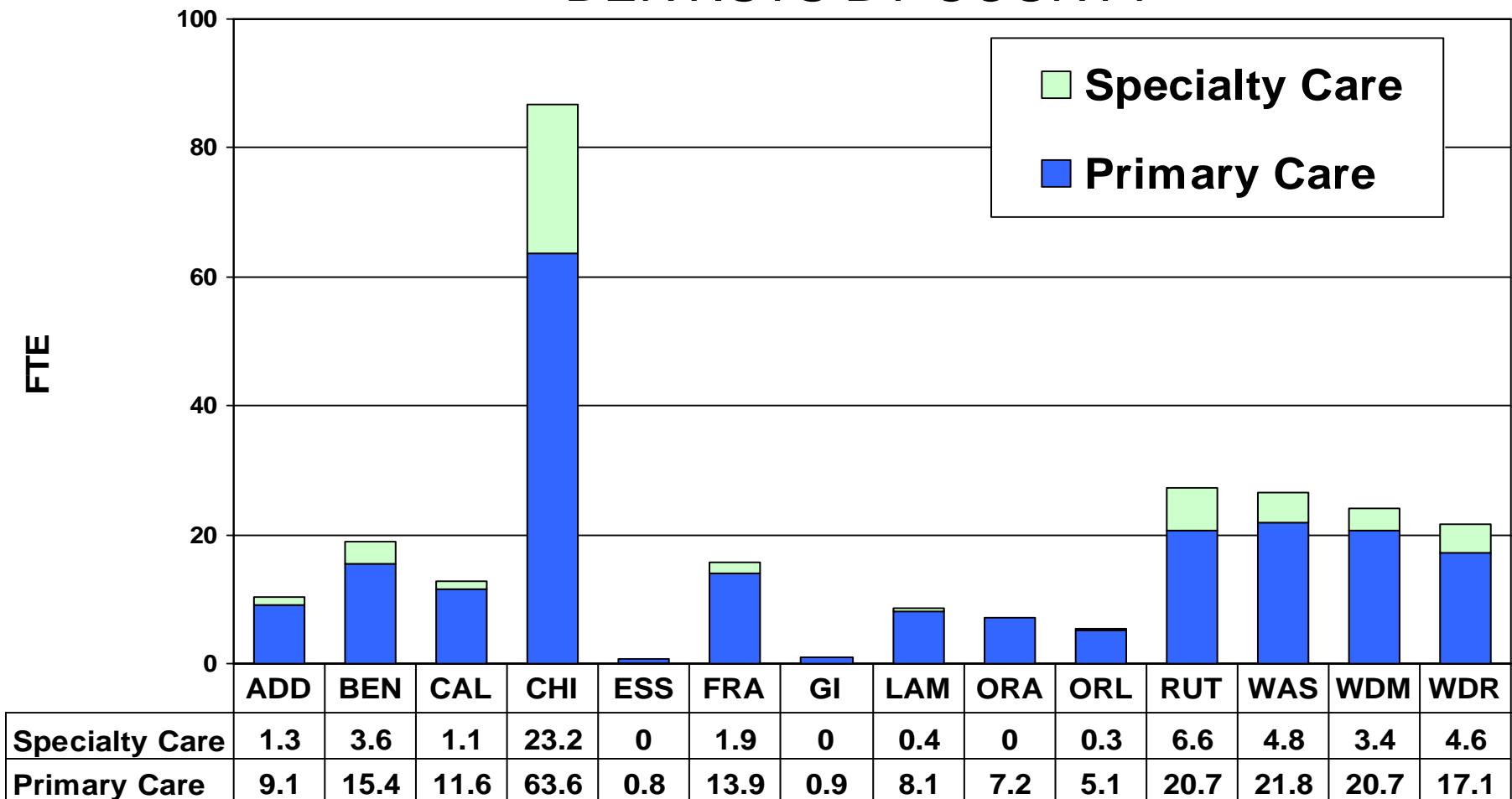


62% of the males, but only 26% of the females, are age 50 or older

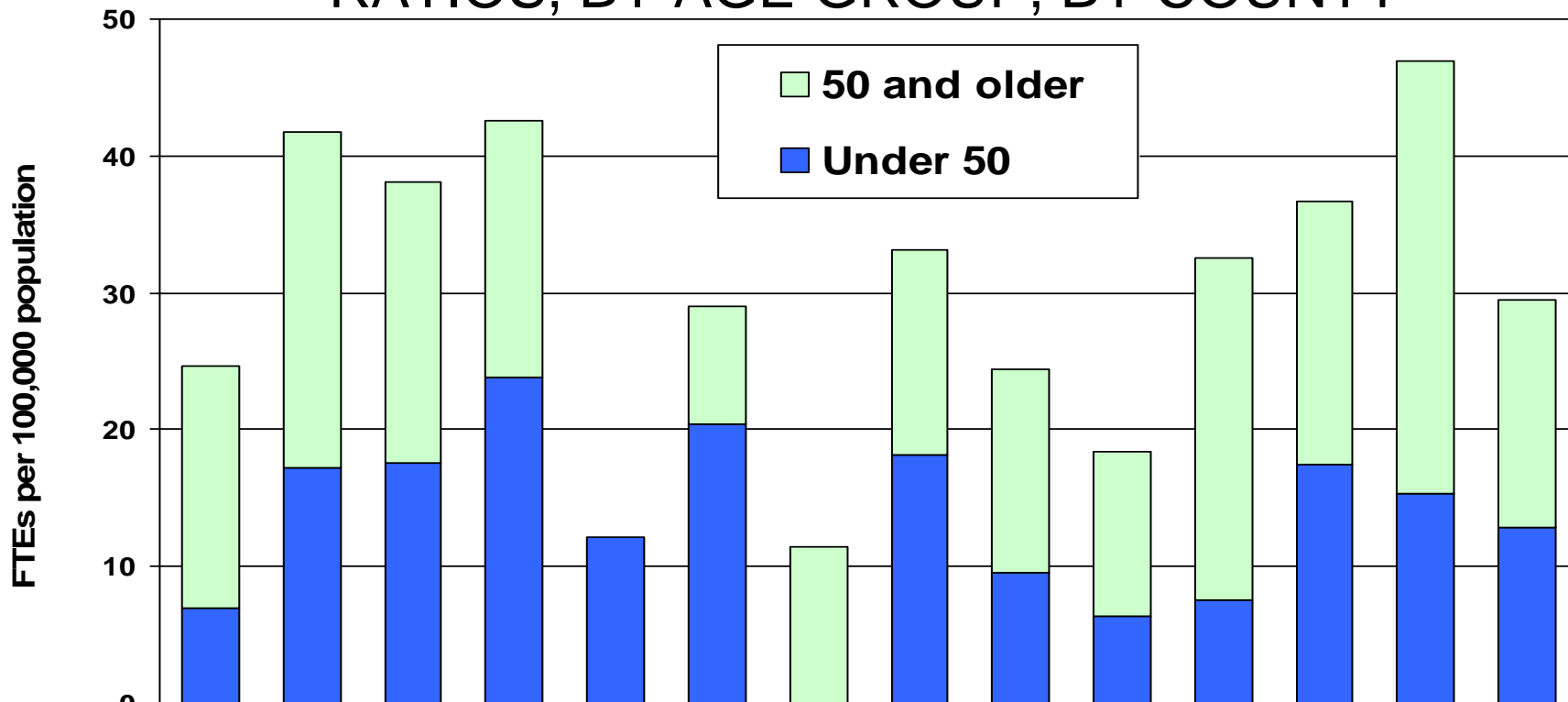
NUMBER OF DENTISTS BY COUNTY



NUMBER OF FULL TIME EQUIVALENT DENTISTS BY COUNTY

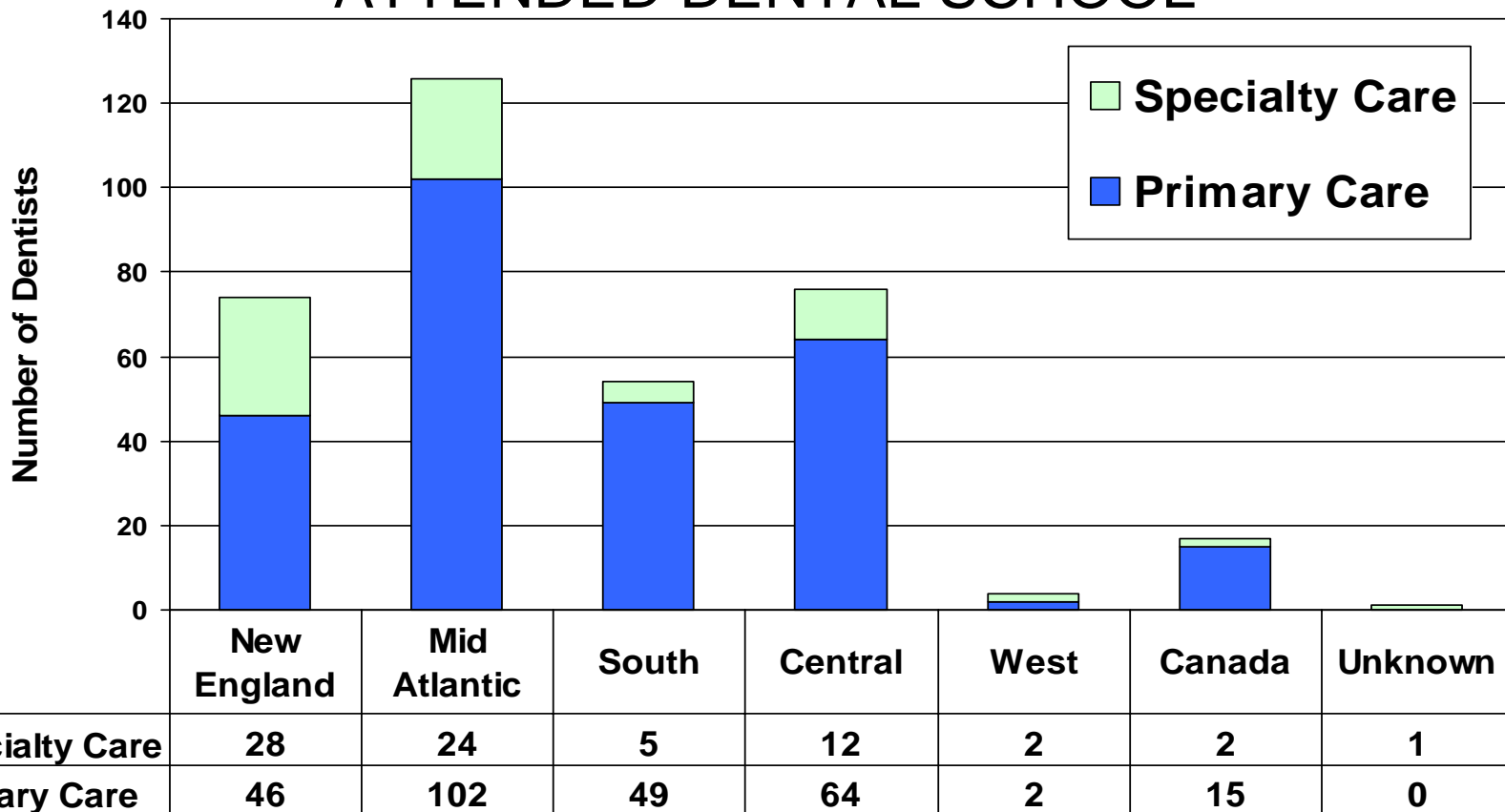


PRIMARY CARE DENTIST TO POPULATION RATIOS, BY AGE GROUP, BY COUNTY



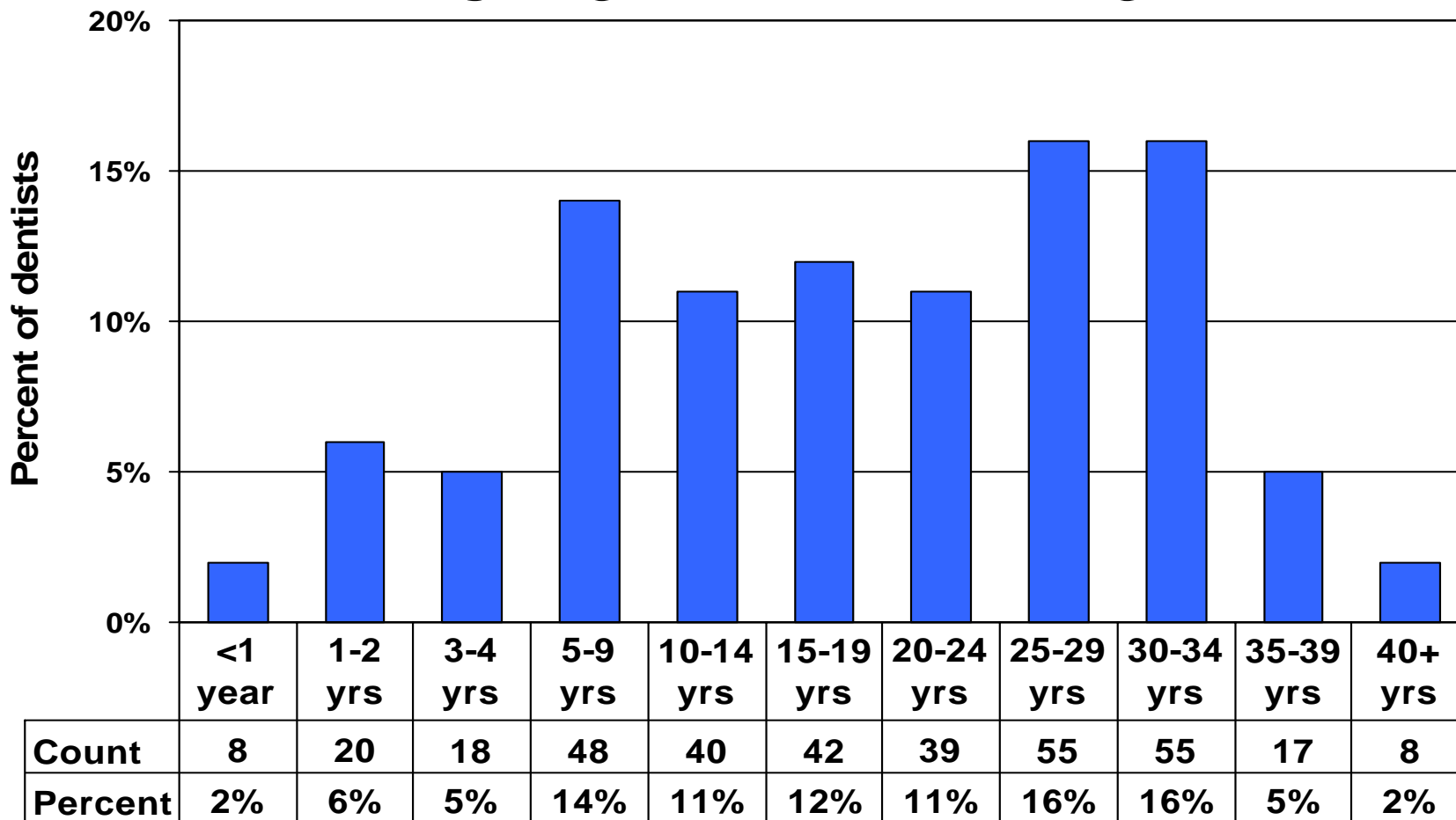
| | ADD | BEN | CAL | CHI | ESS | FRA | GI | LAM | ORA | ORL | RUT | WAS | WDM | WDR |
|---------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|-----|------|------|------|
| 50 and older | 17.8 | 24.5 | 20.4 | 18.7 | 0 | 8.56 | 11.4 | 14.9 | 14.9 | 12.1 | 25 | 19.2 | 31.6 | 16.7 |
| Under 50 | 6.93 | 17.2 | 17.6 | 23.8 | 12.1 | 20.4 | 0 | 18.2 | 9.56 | 6.33 | 7.5 | 17.4 | 15.4 | 12.8 |

WHERE VERMONT DENTISTS ATTENDED DENTAL SCHOOL

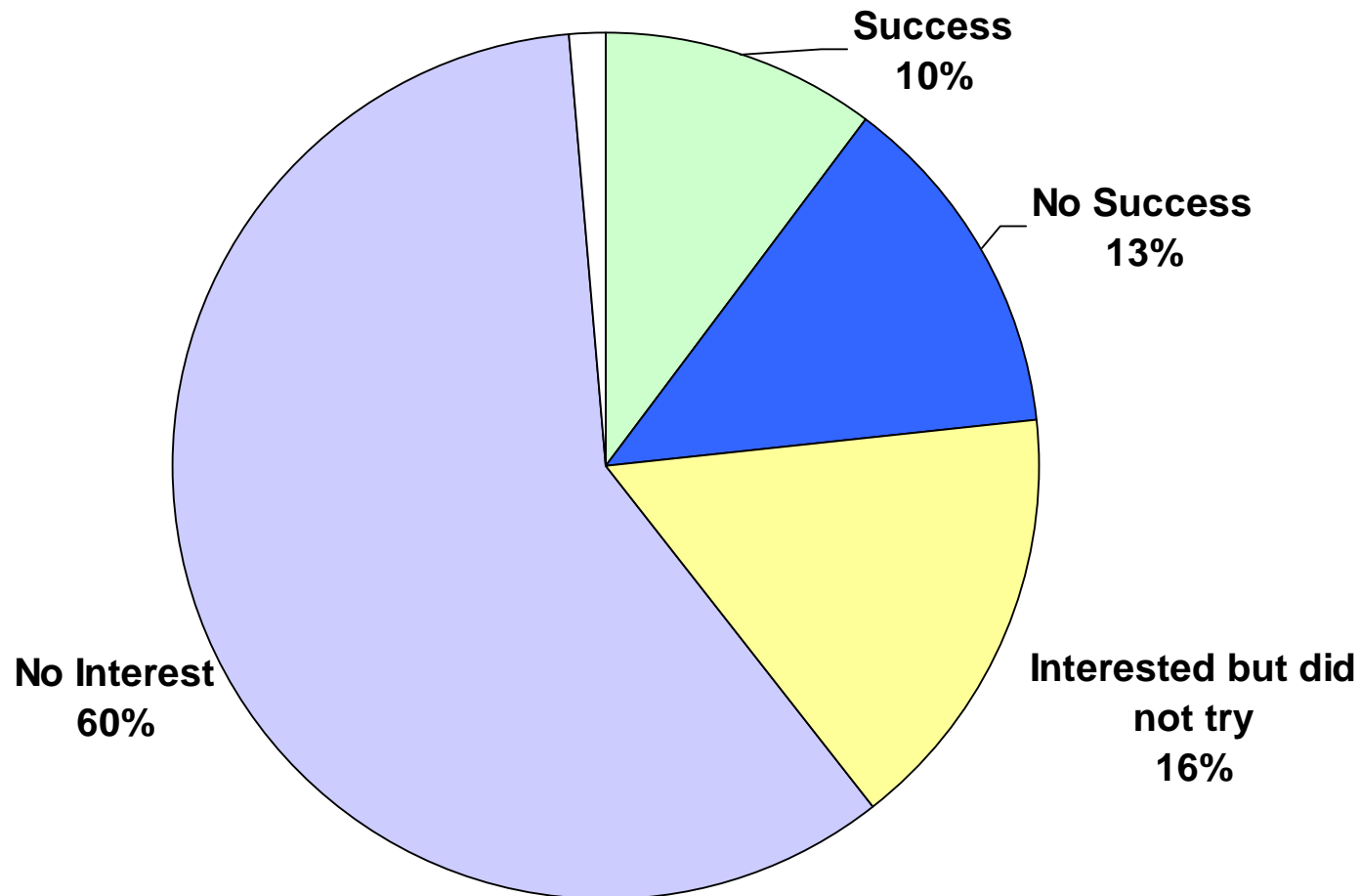


36% of all Vermont dentists and 37% of primary care dentists were trained in the mid-Atlantic region.
 38% of all specialty care dentists were trained in New England.

YEARS WORKED IN VERMONT

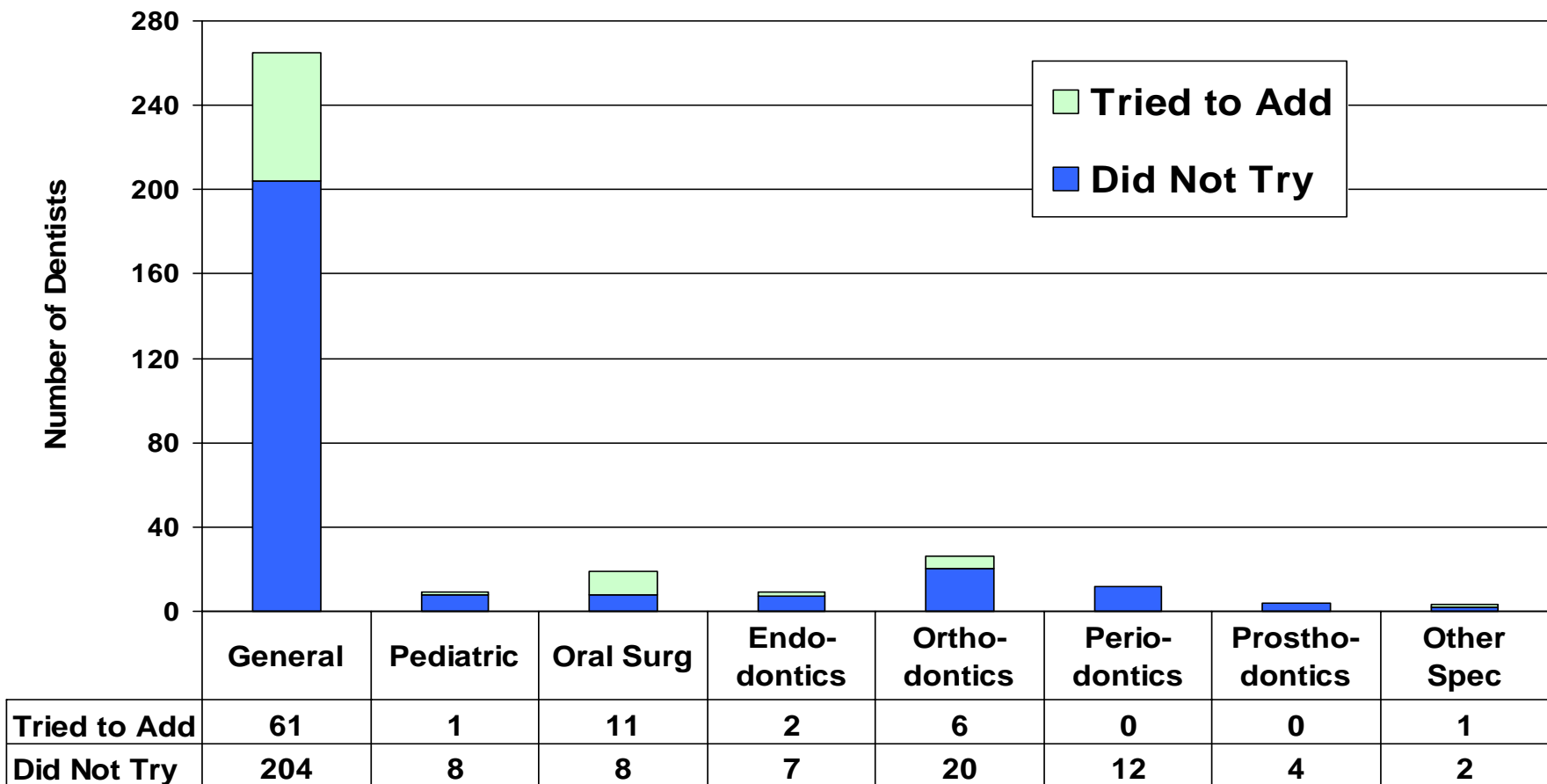


INTERESTED IN ADDING AN ASSOCIATE



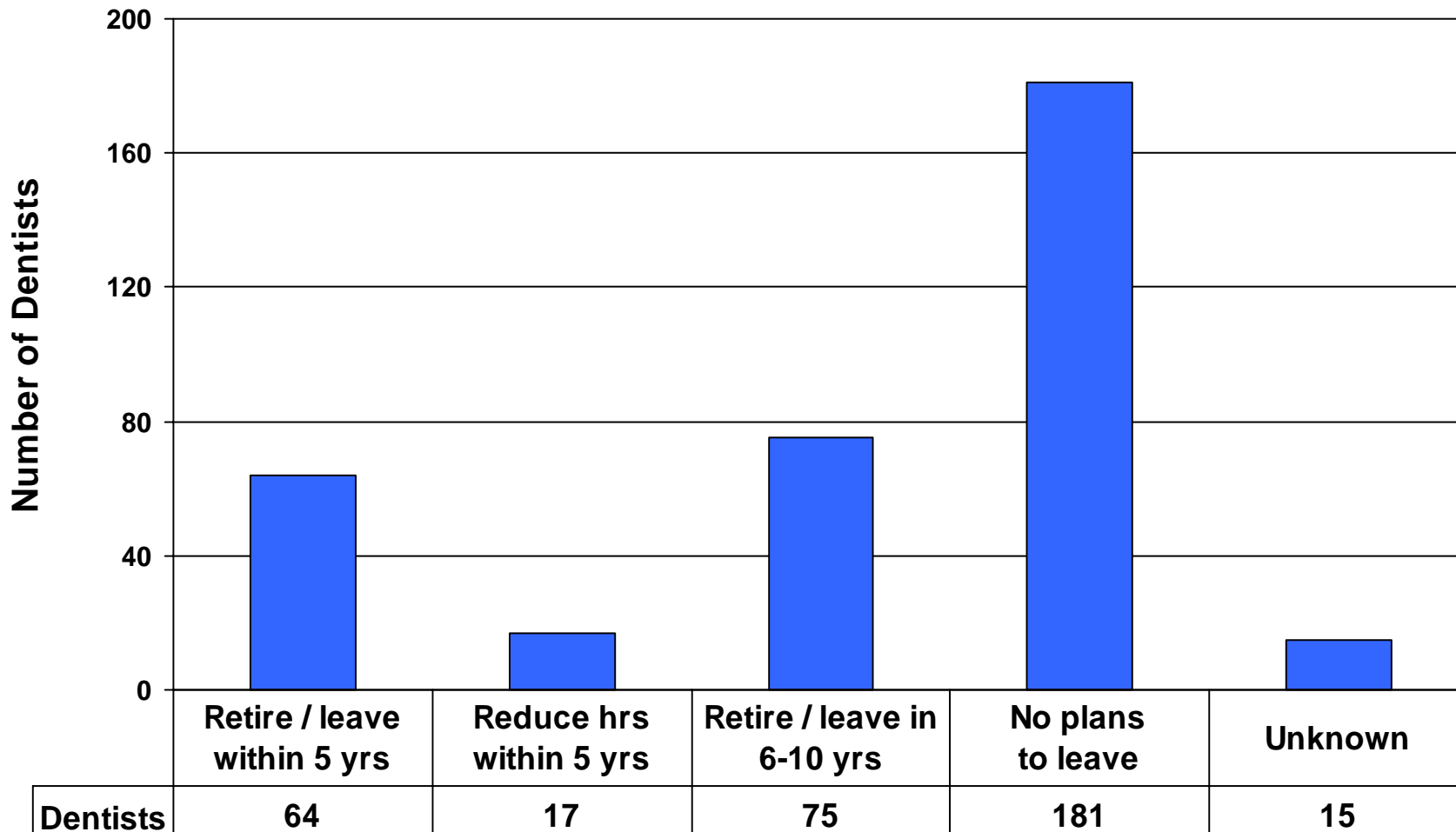
2005 Dentist Survey

INTERESTED IN ADDING AN ASSOCIATE

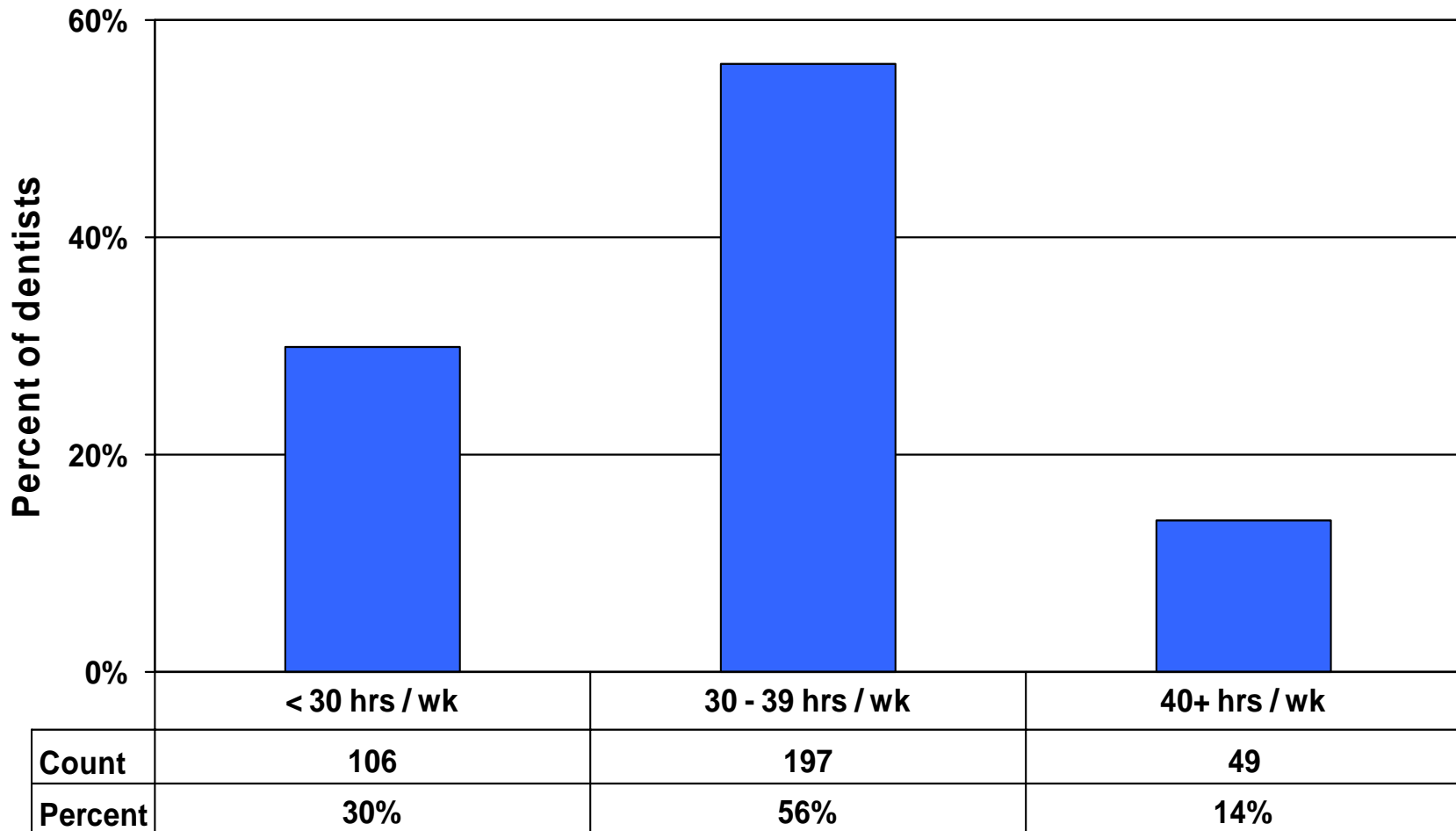


Tried to add - Includes responses "Success" and "No success".
 Did not try - Includes responses "Interested" and "No interest".

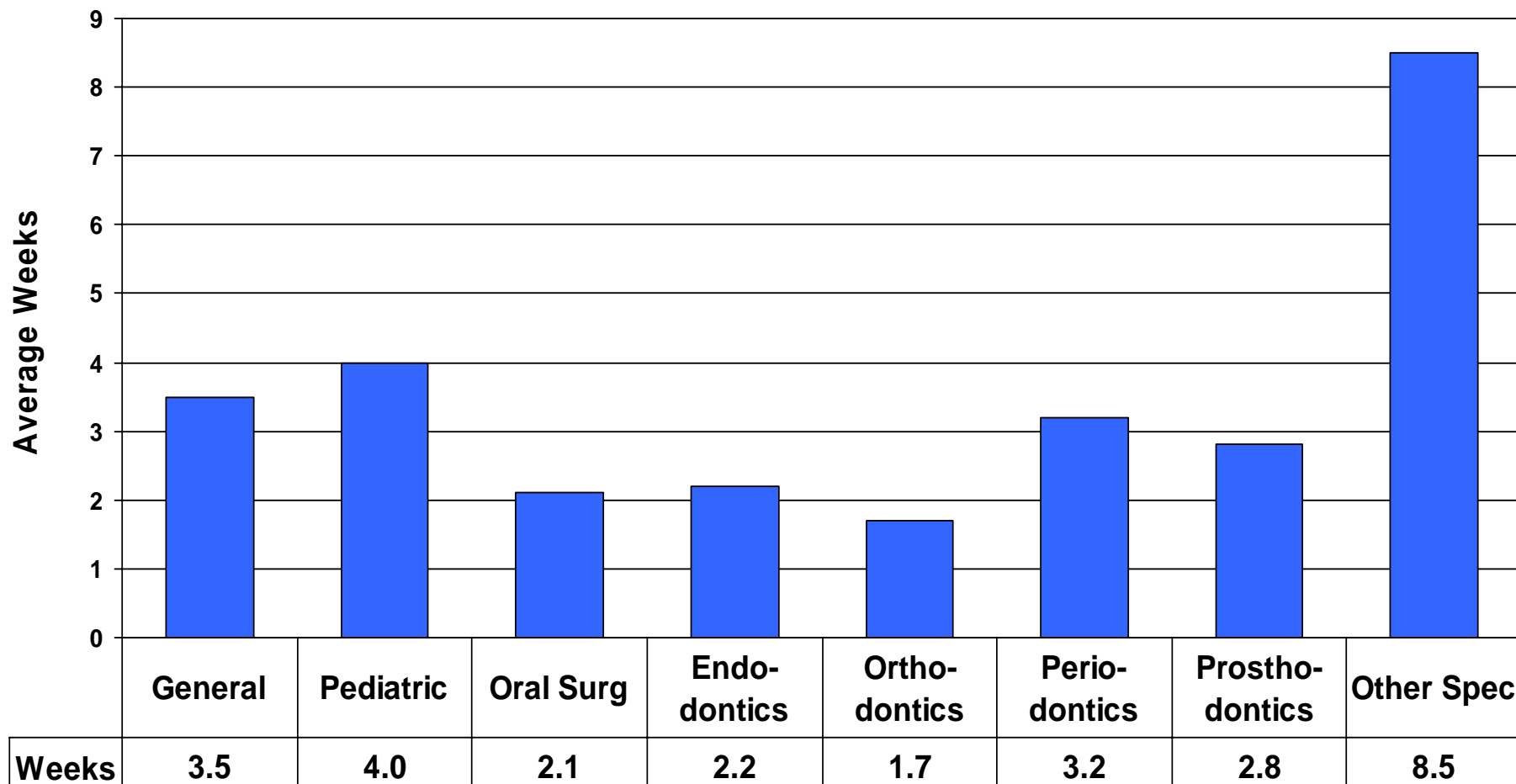
PLANS TO RETIRE, LEAVE, OR REDUCE HOURS



PATIENT CARE HOURS PER WEEK

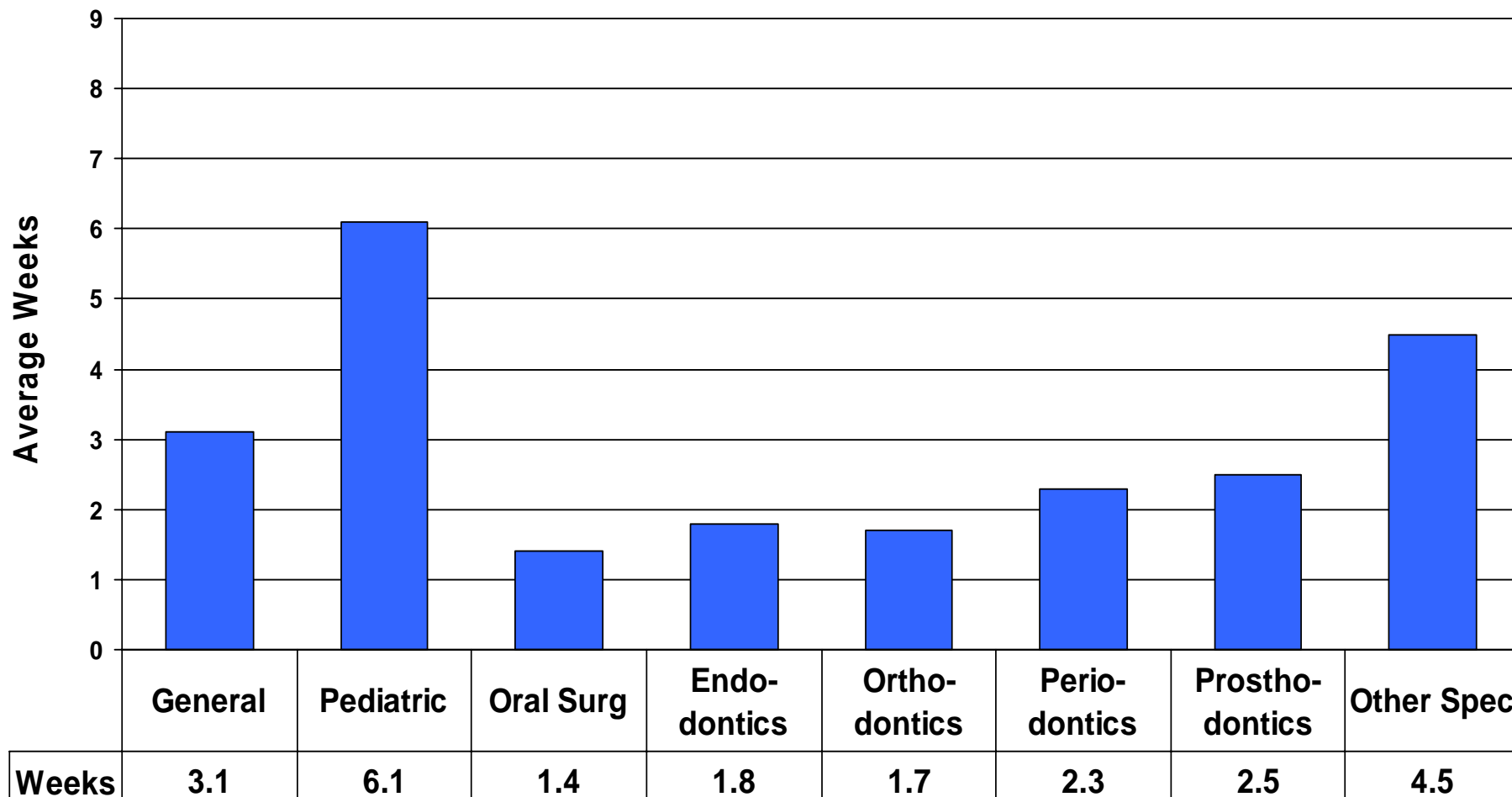


WEEKS WAIT FOR NEW PATIENT



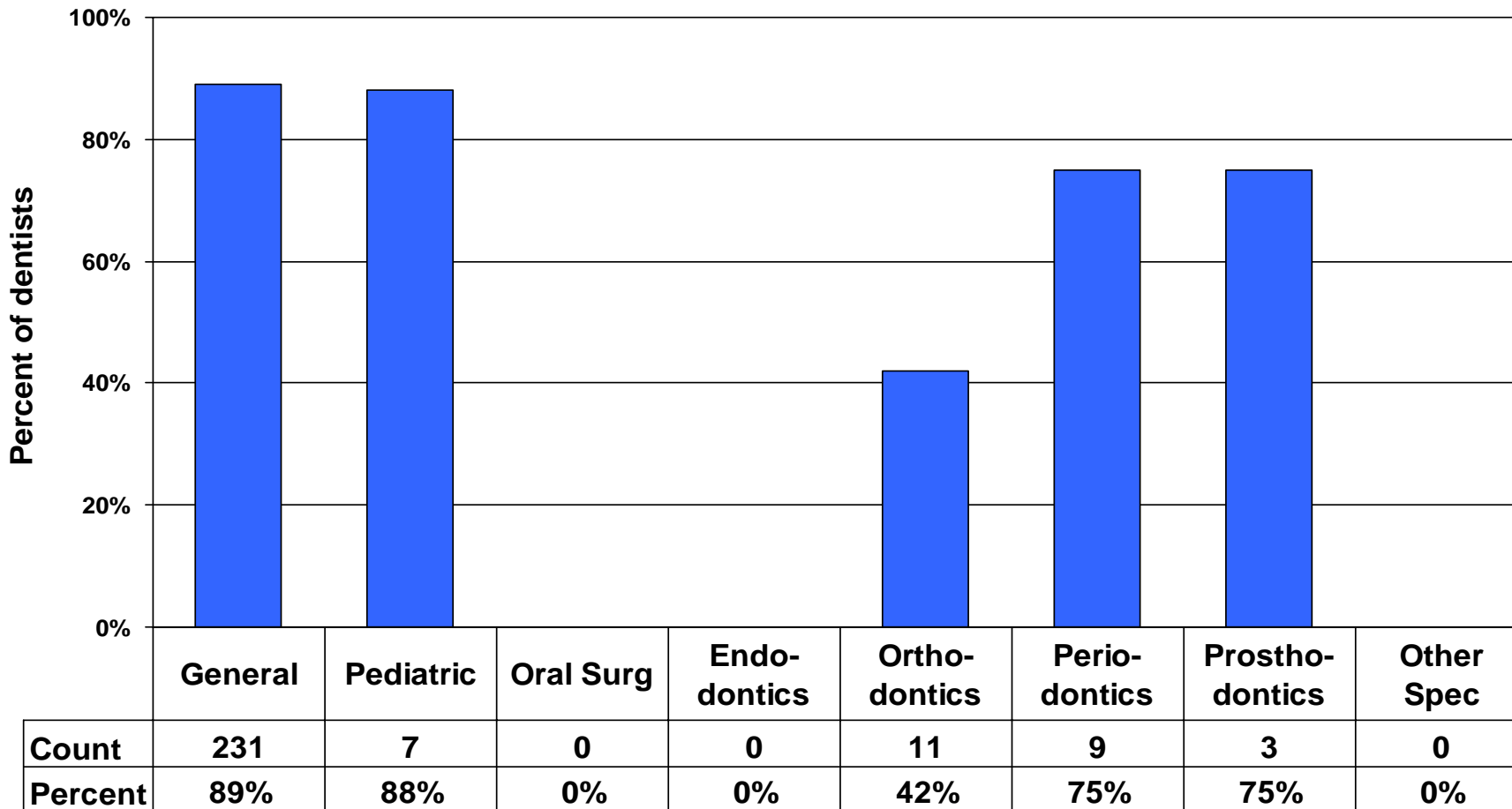
Average wait time for an appointment for new dental patients was 3.2 weeks.

WEEKS WAIT FOR CURRENT PATIENT



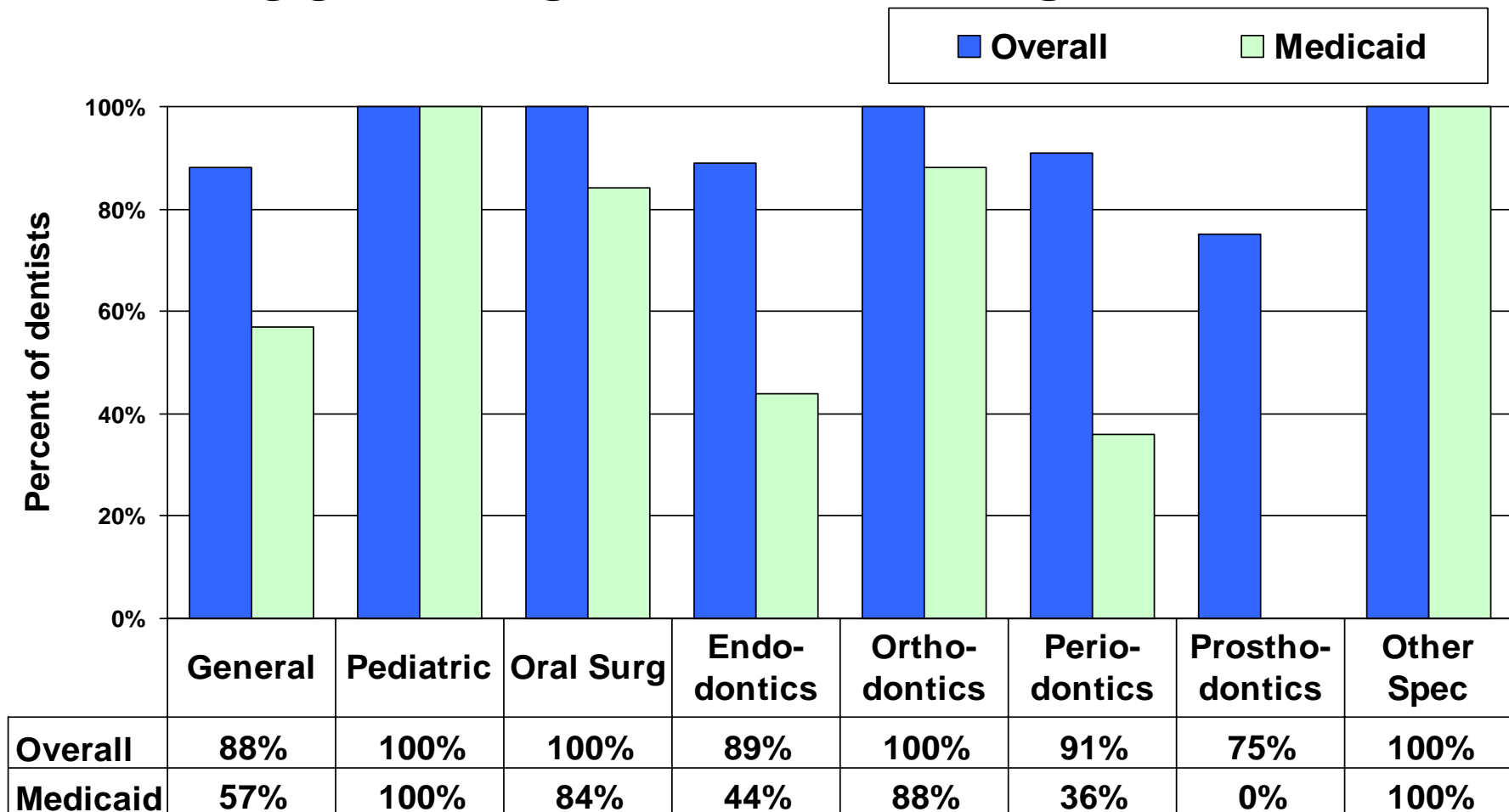
Average wait time for an appointment for current patients was 2.9 weeks.

WORK WITH HYGIENISTS



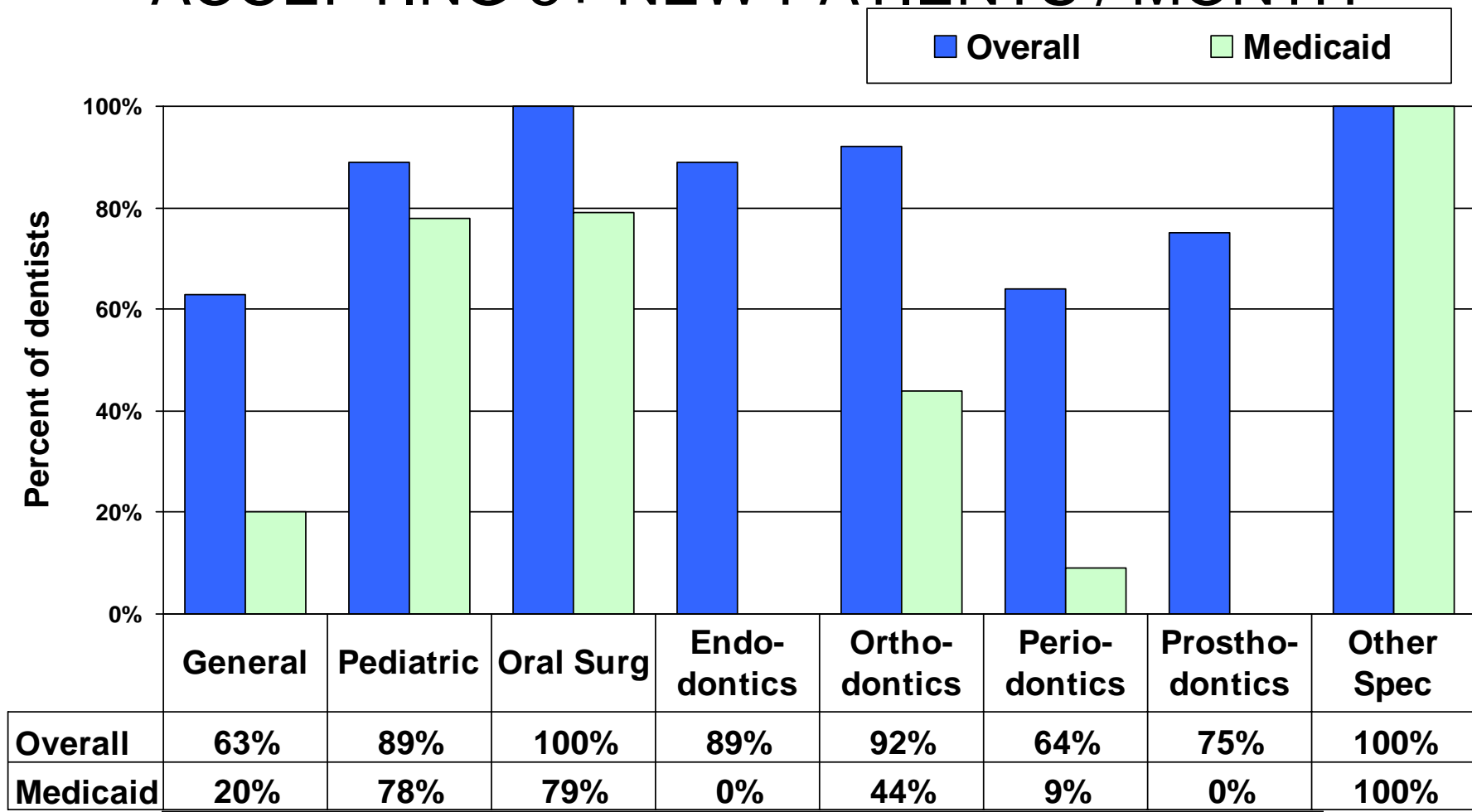
Overall rate was 76%.
Multiple Dentists may work with the same hygienist(s).

ACCEPTING NEW PATIENTS



90% accepted new patients overall, 61% accepted new Medicaid patients.

ACCEPTING 5+ NEW PATIENTS / MONTH



69% accepted 5+ new patients overall, 26% accepted 5+ new Medicaid patients.

COMPARISON WITH PREVIOUS SURVEYS

Numbers of Dentists in Each Specialty, 1999-2005

| | Count by main specialty | | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|------|------|------|
| | 1999 | 2001 | 2003 | 2005 |
| Total active dentists | 347 | 354 | 367 | 352 |
| Primary care dentists | 272 | 277 | 293 | 278 |
| General practice | 262 | 268 | 284 | 269 |
| Pediatric dentistry | 10 | 9 | 9 | 9 |
| Specialist dentists | 75 | 77 | 74 | 74 |
| Oral Surgery | 21 | 23 | 22 | 19 |
| Endodontics | 10 | 10 | 10 | 9 |
| Orthodontics | 28 | 27 | 26 | 27 |
| Periodontics | 12 | 11 | 10 | 12 |
| Prosthodontics | 4 | 4 | 3 | 4 |
| Other Specialties | - | 2 | 3 | 3 |

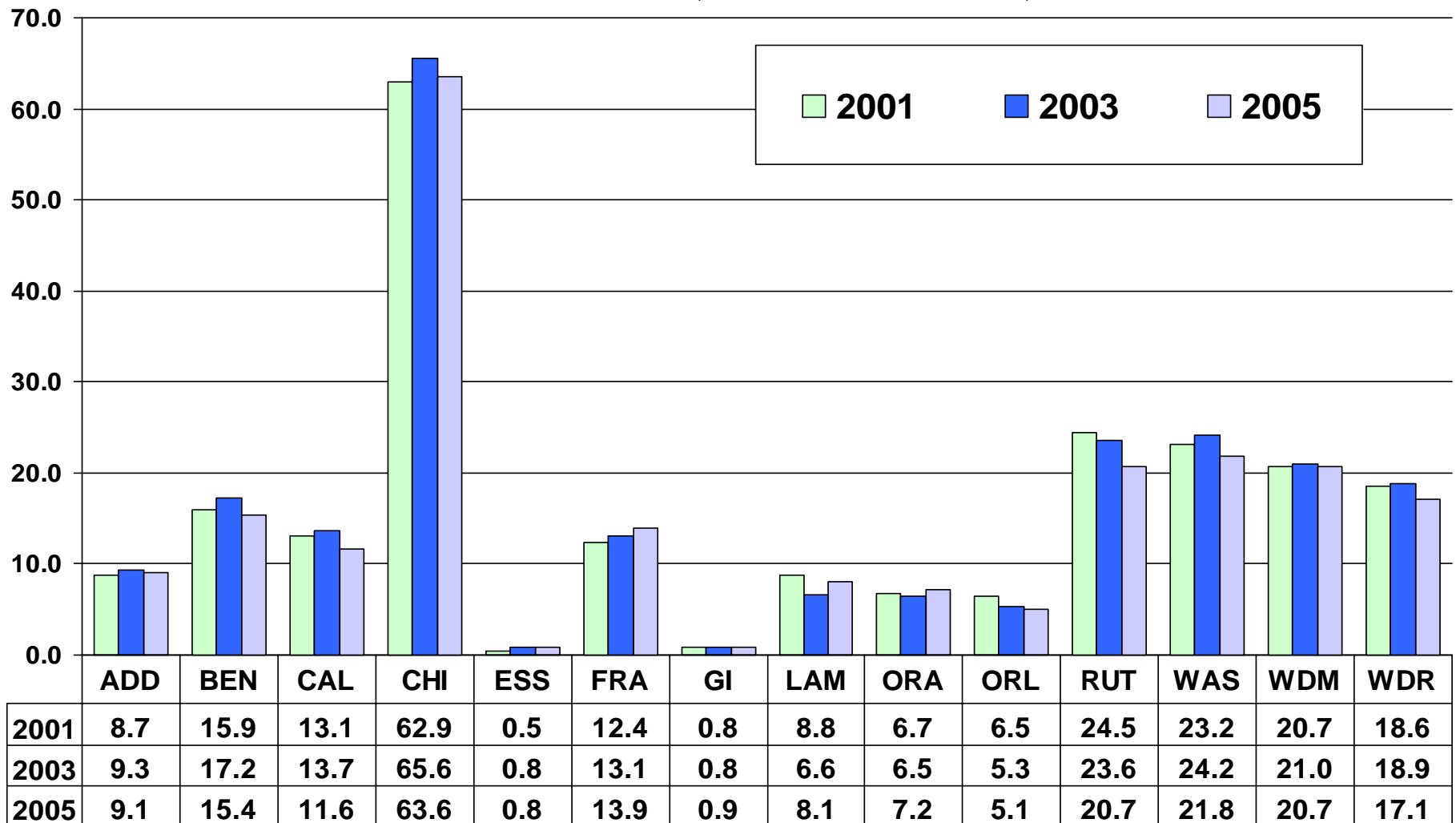
Full Time Equivalents in each specialty, 1999-2005

| | Full Time Equivalents (FTE) | | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| | 1999 | 2001 | 2003 | 2005 |
| Total active dentists | 290.2 | 284.6 | 280.8 | 267.1 |
| Primary care dentists | 228.4 | 223.4 | 226.7 | 216.0 |
| General practice | 221.7 | 216.4 | 219.8 | 209.1 |
| Pediatric dentistry | 6.7 | 6.9 | 6.9 | 6.9 |
| Specialist dentists | 61.8 | 61.3 | 54.1 | 51.1 |
| Oral Surgery | 18.9 | 19.7 | 17.1 | 15.1 |
| | 9.2 | 8.9 | 8.6 | 7.1 |
| Endodontics | 21.6 | 19.7 | 17.5 | 16.9 |
| Periodontics | 9.0 | 8.1 | 6.5 | 7.2 |
| Orthodontics | | | | |
| Prosthodontics | 3.1 | 3.0 | 1.7 | 1.9 |
| Other Specialties | - | 1.9 | 2.6 | 2.7 |

Selected indicators, 1999-2005

| | 1999 | 2001 | 2003 | 2005 |
|---|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Total number of active dentists | 347 | 354 | 367 | 352 |
| Percent age 50 or older | 46% | 49% | 53% | 57% |
| Percent age 55 or older | 25% | 29% | 35% | 41% |
| Average patient care hours per week | 35 | 33 | 31 | 31 |
| Primary care: | | | | |
| % of FTEs in Chittenden County | 28% | 28% | 29% | 29% |
| FTEs / 100,000 population | 37.8 | 36.5 | 36.6 | 34.7 |
| % accepting new patients | 85% | 85% | 88% | 88% |
| accepting new medicaid patients | 43% | 37% | 57% | 59% |
| Average weeks wait - new patients | 4 | 4.2 | 3.3 | 3.5 |
| Plan to retire, leave, or reduce hrs within 5 yrs | n.a. | 20% | 23% | 23% |
| Percent working with dental hygienists | 87% | 86% | 88% | 88% |
| Specialty care: | | | | |
| % of FTEs in Chittenden County | 44% | 46% | 44% | 44% |
| FTEs / 100,000 population | 10.2 | 10.0 | 8.7 | 8.2 |

PRIMARY CARE FTEs, BY COUNTY, 2001-2005



AGE DISTRIBUTION, 2001-2005

