

The Vermont Department of Health

2017 CENSUS OF DENTISTS SUMMARY REPORT

Guidance • Support • Prevention • Protection

March, 2018

 VERMONT
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

SURVEY DESCRIPTION

Completed with the license renewal in late summer 2017

Followed-up as needed by licensing board

The final response rate was 100%

SURVEY DESCRIPTION (continued)

Questions asked of dentists included:

- Gender and age
- Specialty
- Location and hours of practice
- Whether they were accepting new patients
- Whether they work with hygienists
- Years worked in Vermont
- Efforts to hire an associate

KEY FINDINGS

- There are 381 dentists working in Vermont
- 82% are primary care dentists, including:
 - *299 general dentists*
 - *14 pediatric dentists*

Excluded from this report:

- 85 dentists who renewed, but do not practice in Vermont
 - 17 of the dentists not currently practicing in Vermont said they will start practicing in Vermont within 12 months

KEY FINDINGS

- 211 have a Doctor of Dental Surgery (DDS) degree
- 170 have a Doctor of Dental Medicine (DMD) degree
- 328 reported as White, 16 as Asian, 7 as Black or African-American, and 4 as Hispanic

KEY FINDINGS

- 21% work 40 or more hours per week, while 55% work between 30 and 40 hours per week. *(This only counts direct patient care.)*
- 15% practice in more than one location
- For main location site (site with most annual hours)
 - 67% practiced at single site privately owned clinics
 - 20% practiced at multi-site privately owned clinics
 - 8% practiced at FQHCs and 1% at hospital owned clinics
- 3.5% worked at a practice that was a part of a Dental Support Organization (DSO)

KEY FINDINGS (continued)

- 3.7% of the dentists plan to decrease hours in the next year
- 2.9% of the dentists plan to retire or leave Vermont practice in the next year
- 35% of the dentists are 60 or older
- 107 of the 299 general dentists are 60 or older
- 5 of the 21 oral surgeons are 60 or older
- 4 of the 13 endodontists are 60 or older
- In Rutland County, 58% of the primary care dentists are 60 or older

KEY FINDINGS (continued)

In 2017, as compared with 2015:

- There are 2.6 more FTEs in primary care, and 3.1 fewer FTEs in specialty care
- Fewer dentists are working less than 30 hours per week

KEY FINDINGS (continued)

In 2017, as compared with 2015:

- Average wait time to primary care appointment has decreased from 2.6 to 2.0 weeks
- Percentage accepting new Medicaid patients has declined:
 - 60% accept new Medicaid patients
 - 33% accept 5+ new Medicaid patients / month

KEY FINDINGS (continued)

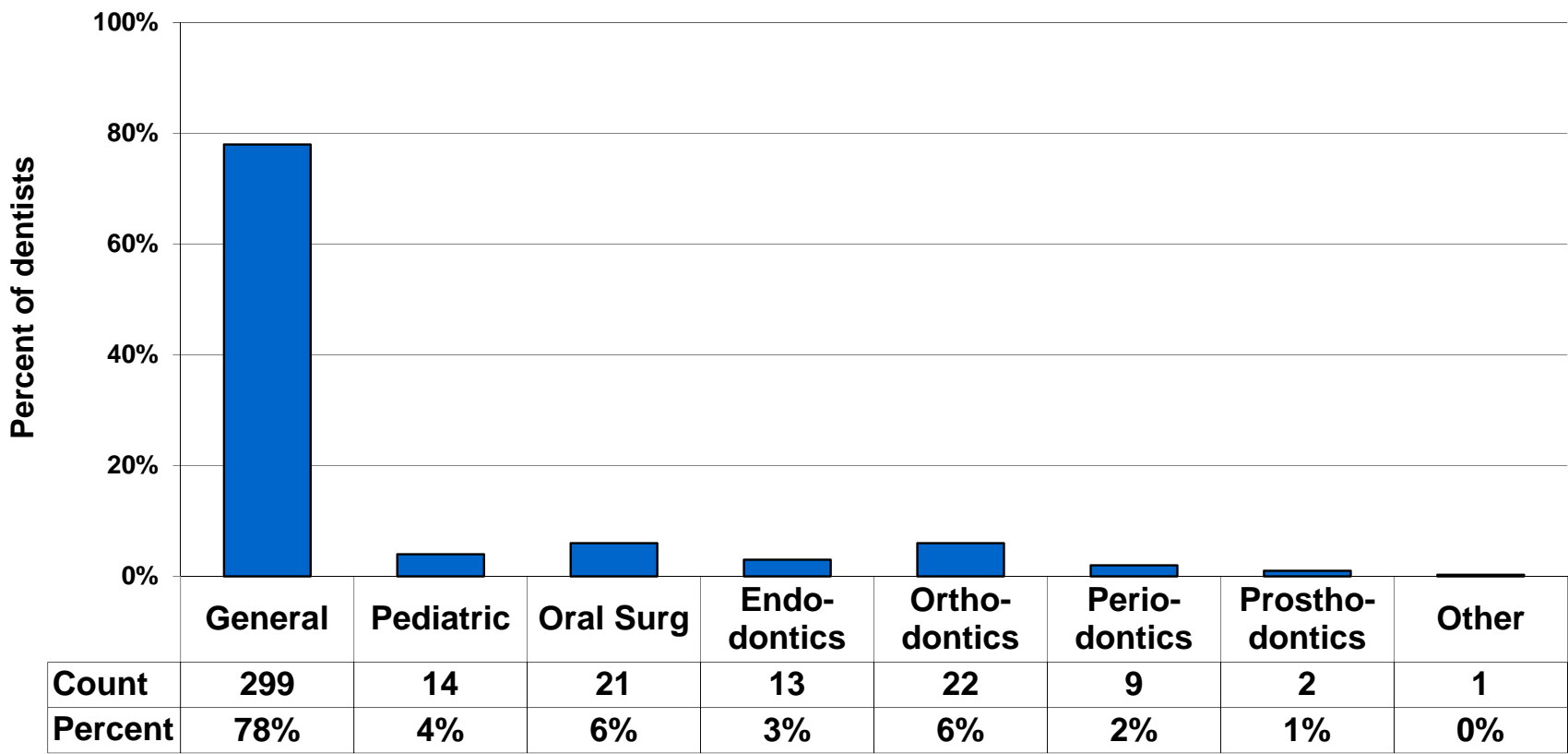
In 2017, as compared with 2015:

- There are 2 fewer dentists in total
- There are 22 more dentists under age 45
- There are 36 fewer dentists aged 45-64
- There are 10 more dentists aged 65+

SURVEY QUESTION ANALYSIS

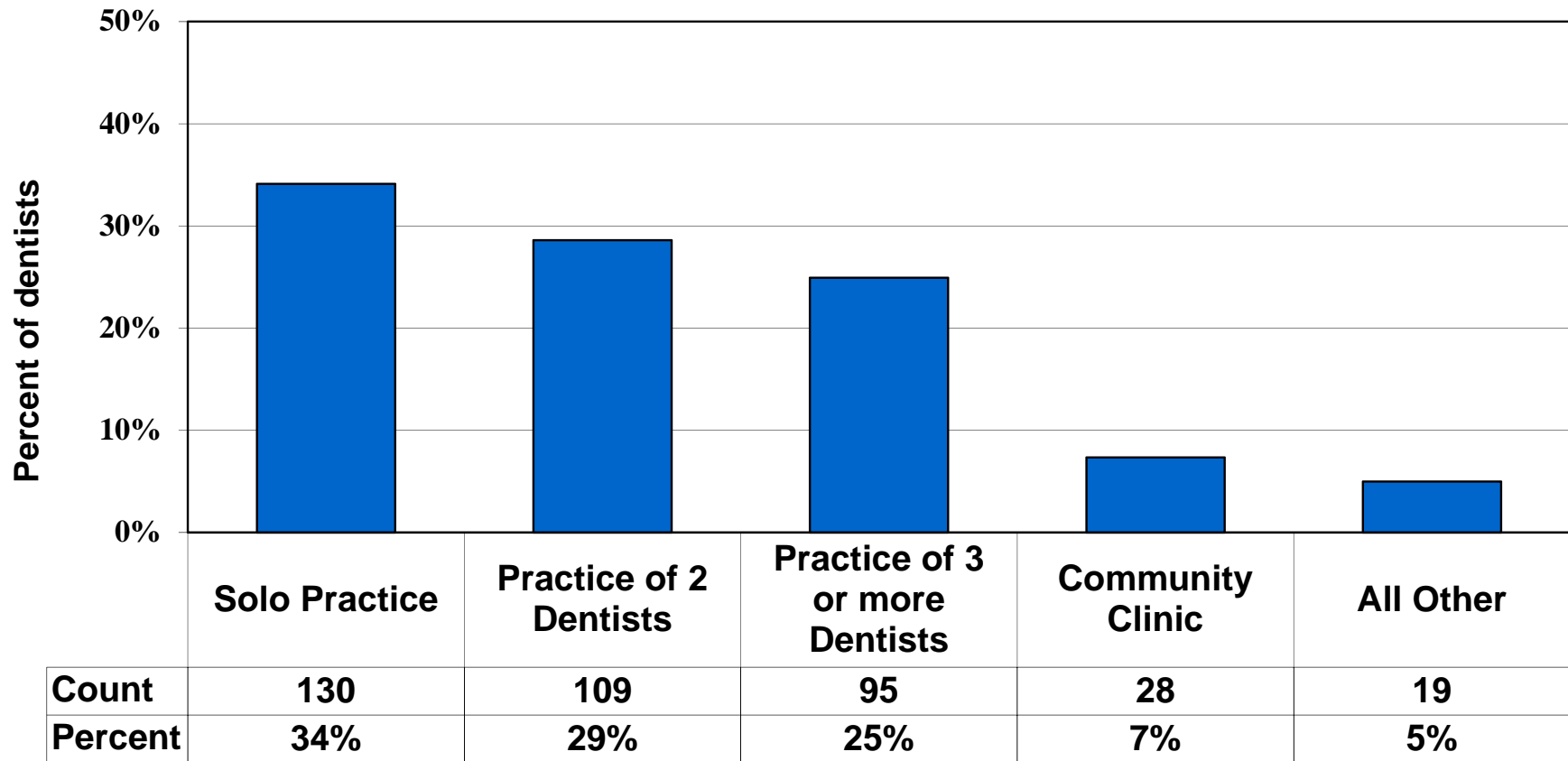
2017 Dentist Census

SPECIALTY



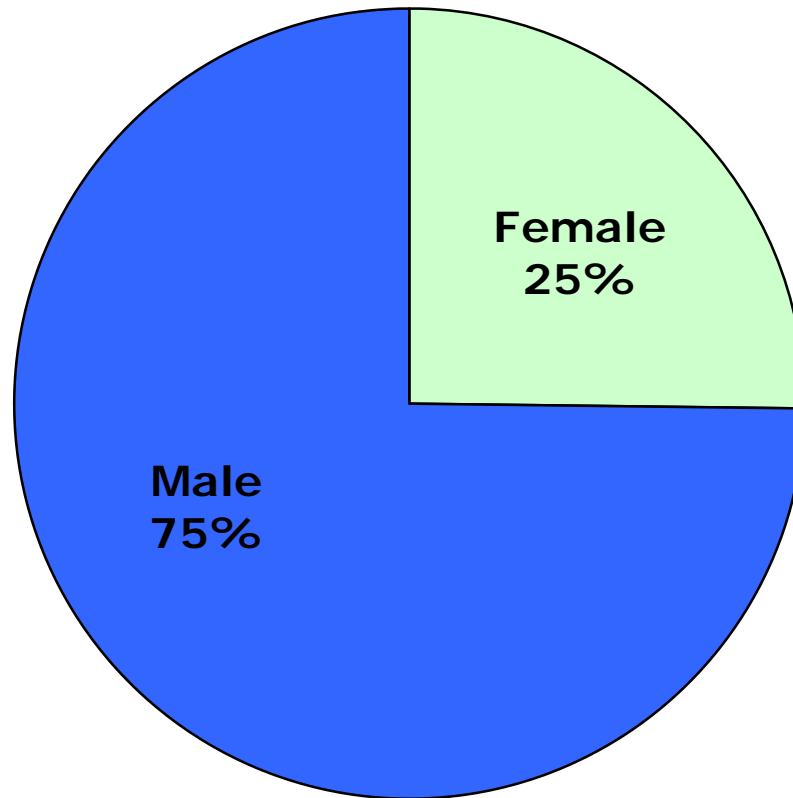
82% of dentists provide primary care (general or pediatric)

PRACTICE SETTING



61% of dentists work in a group practice or clinic

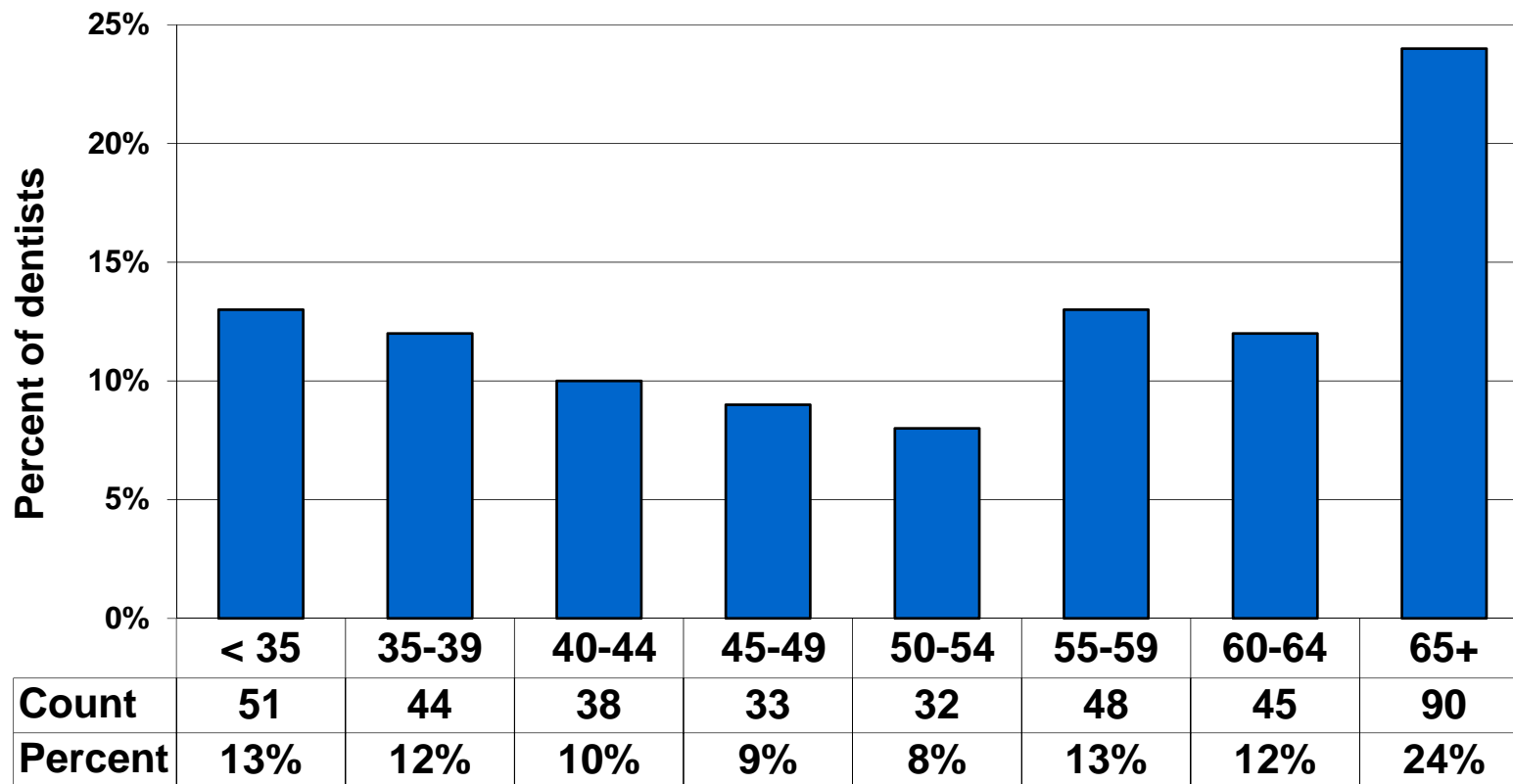
GENDER



285 of the dentists are male, 96 are female

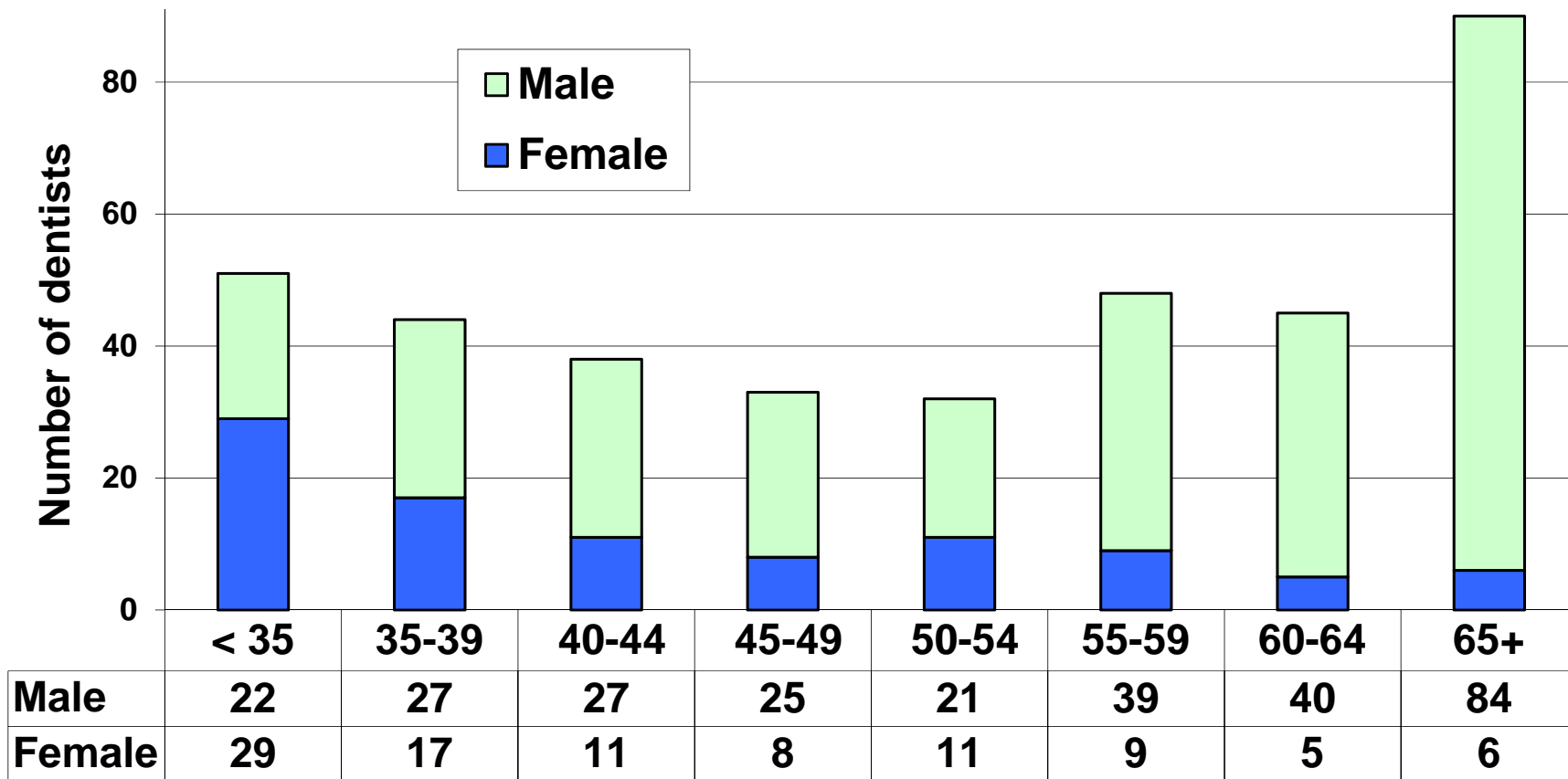
2017 Dentist Census

AGE DISTRIBUTION



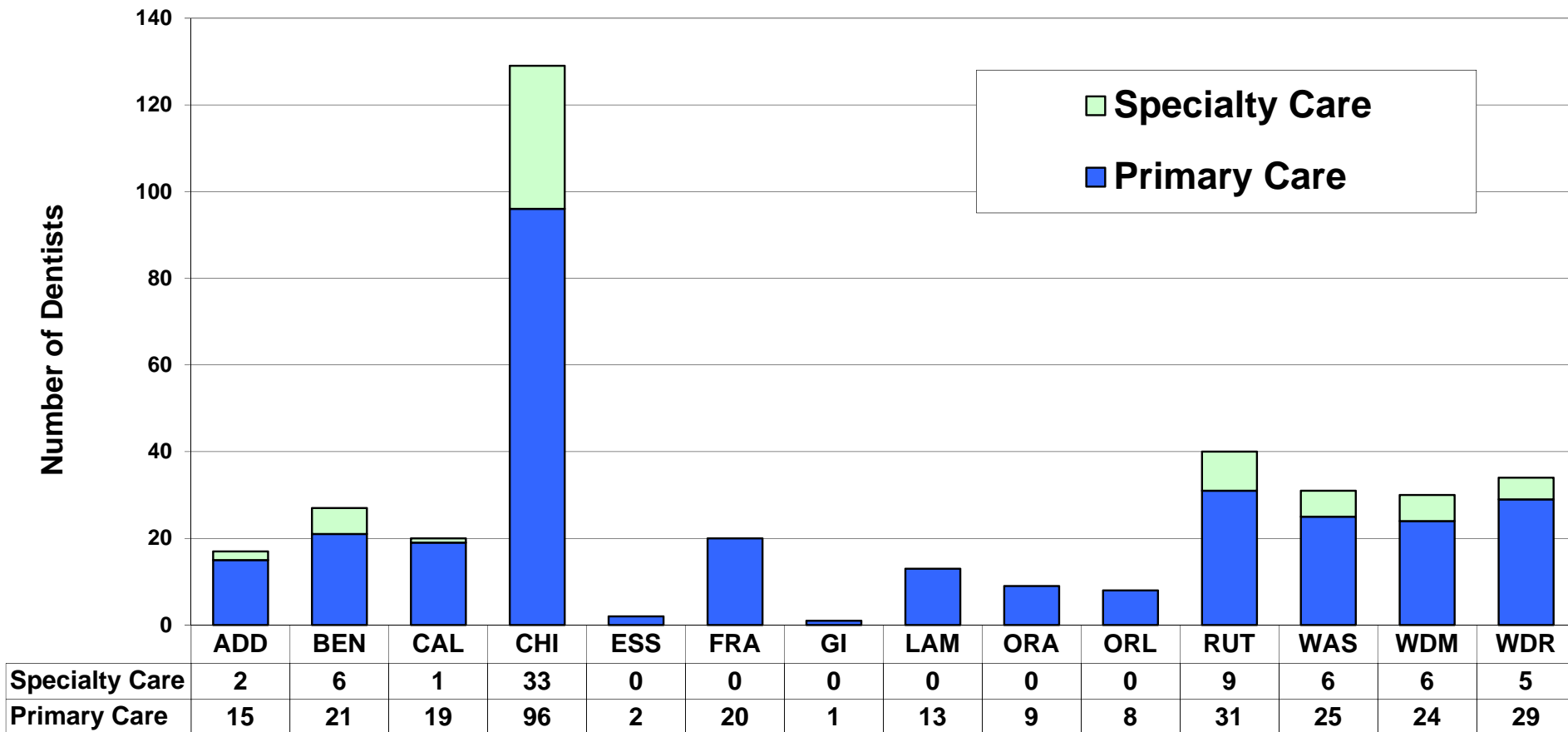
48% of all dentists are age 55 or older

AGE DISTRIBUTION BY GENDER



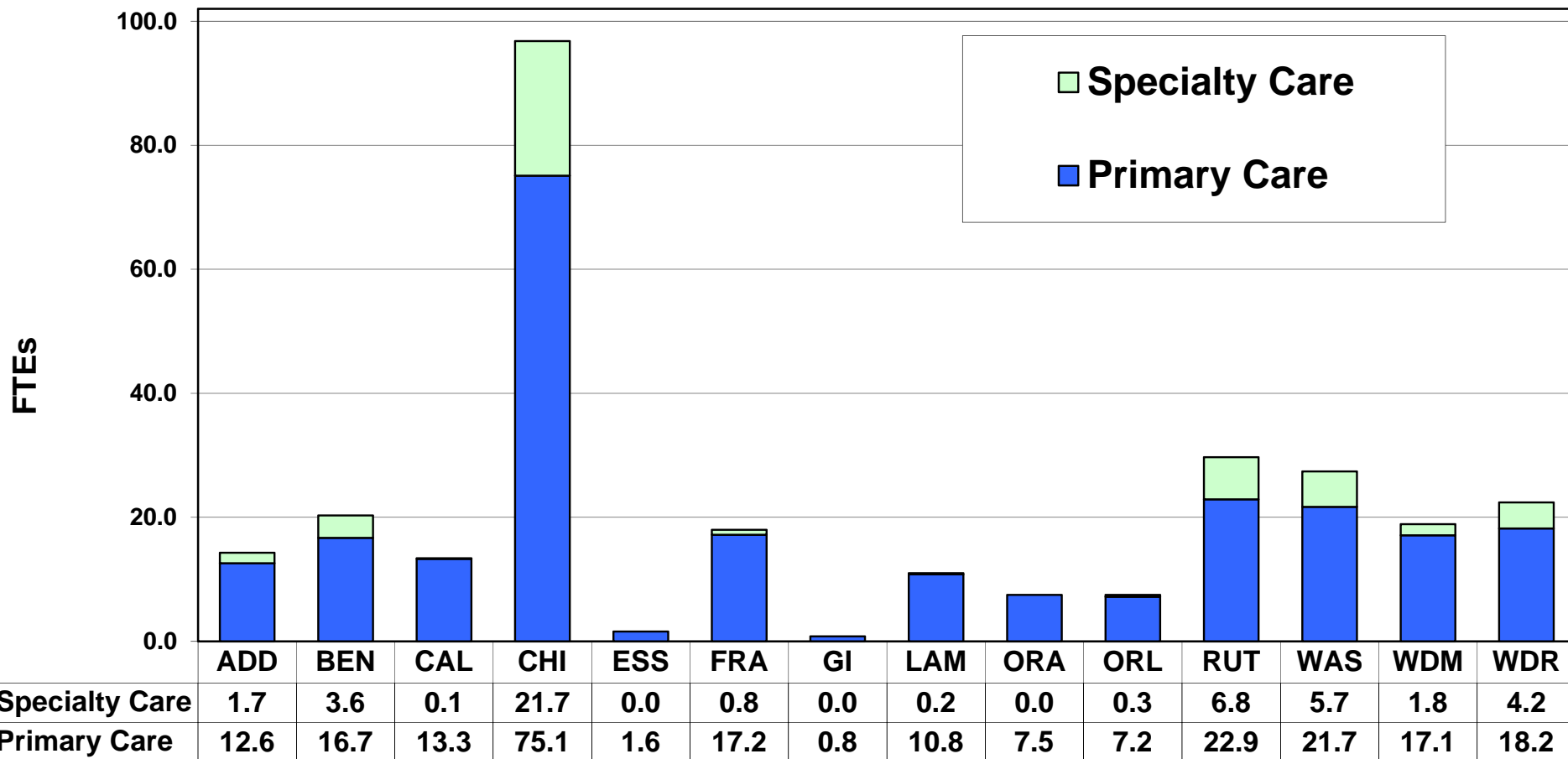
44% of the males, but only 11% of the females, are age 60 or older

NUMBER OF DENTISTS BY COUNTY



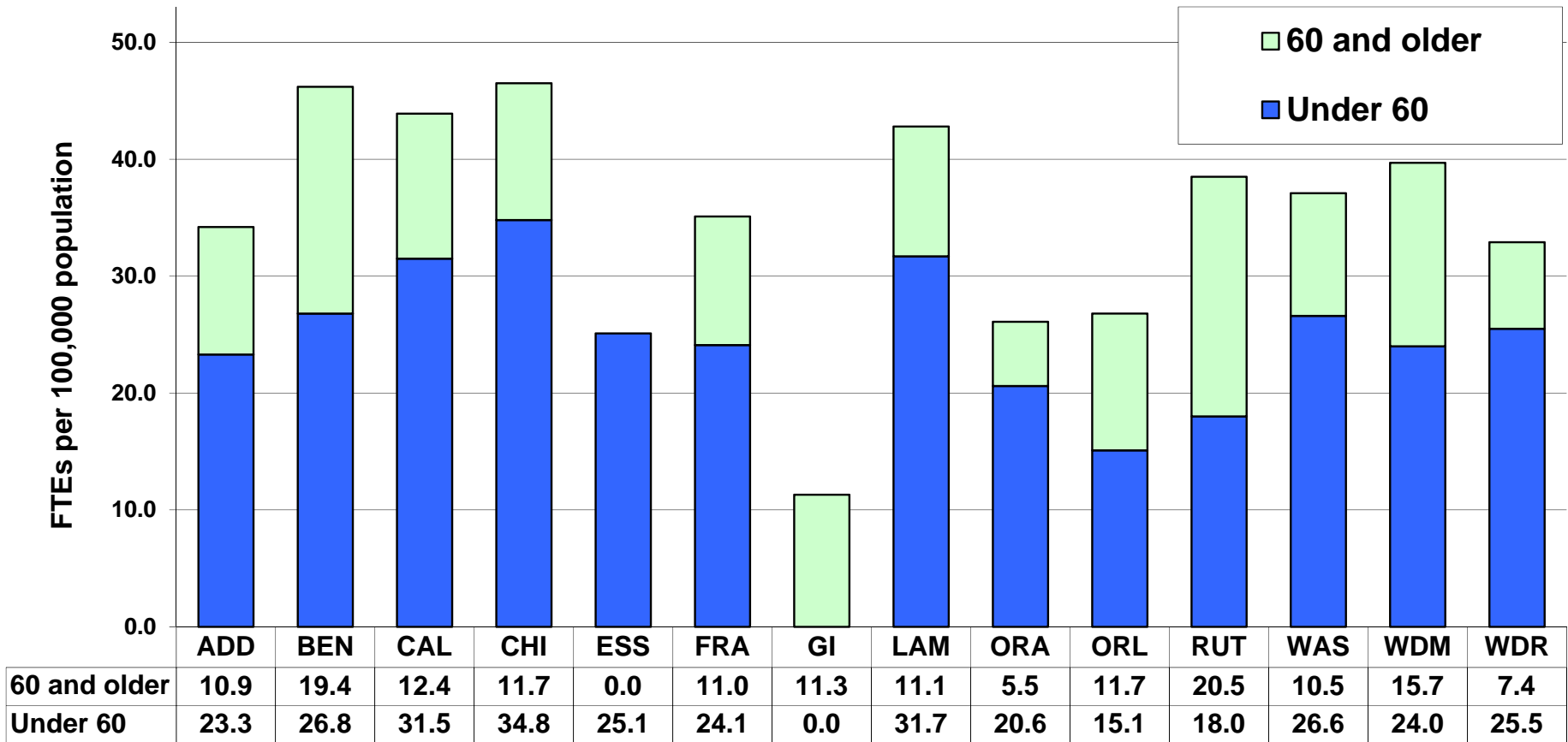
31% of primary care dentists, and 49% of specialists, work in Chittenden County

FULL TIME EQUIVALENT DENTISTS BY COUNTY



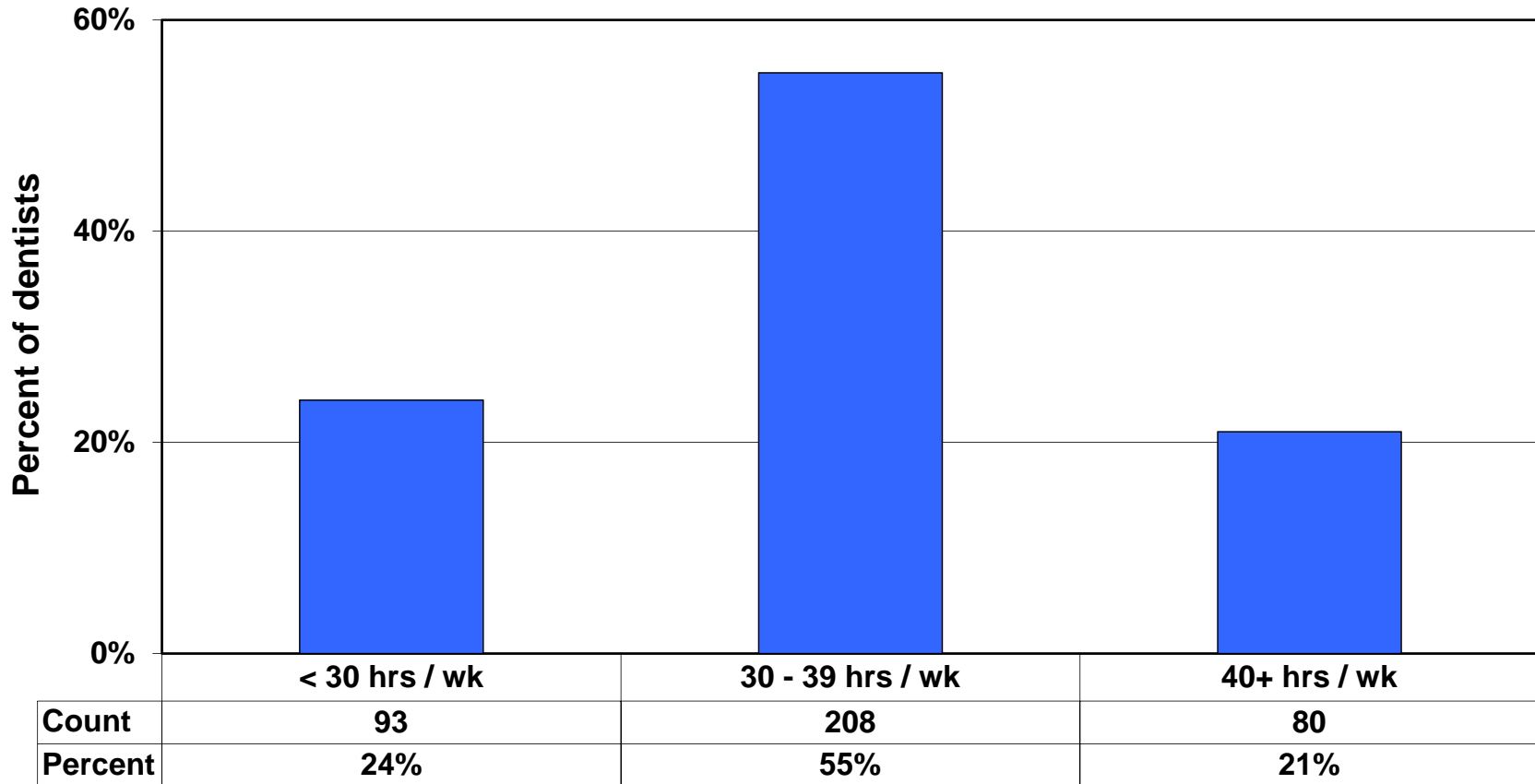
31% of primary care FTEs, and 46% of specialist FTEs, are in Chittenden County

PRIMARY CARE DENTIST TO POPULATION RATIOS BY COUNTY AND DENTIST AGE



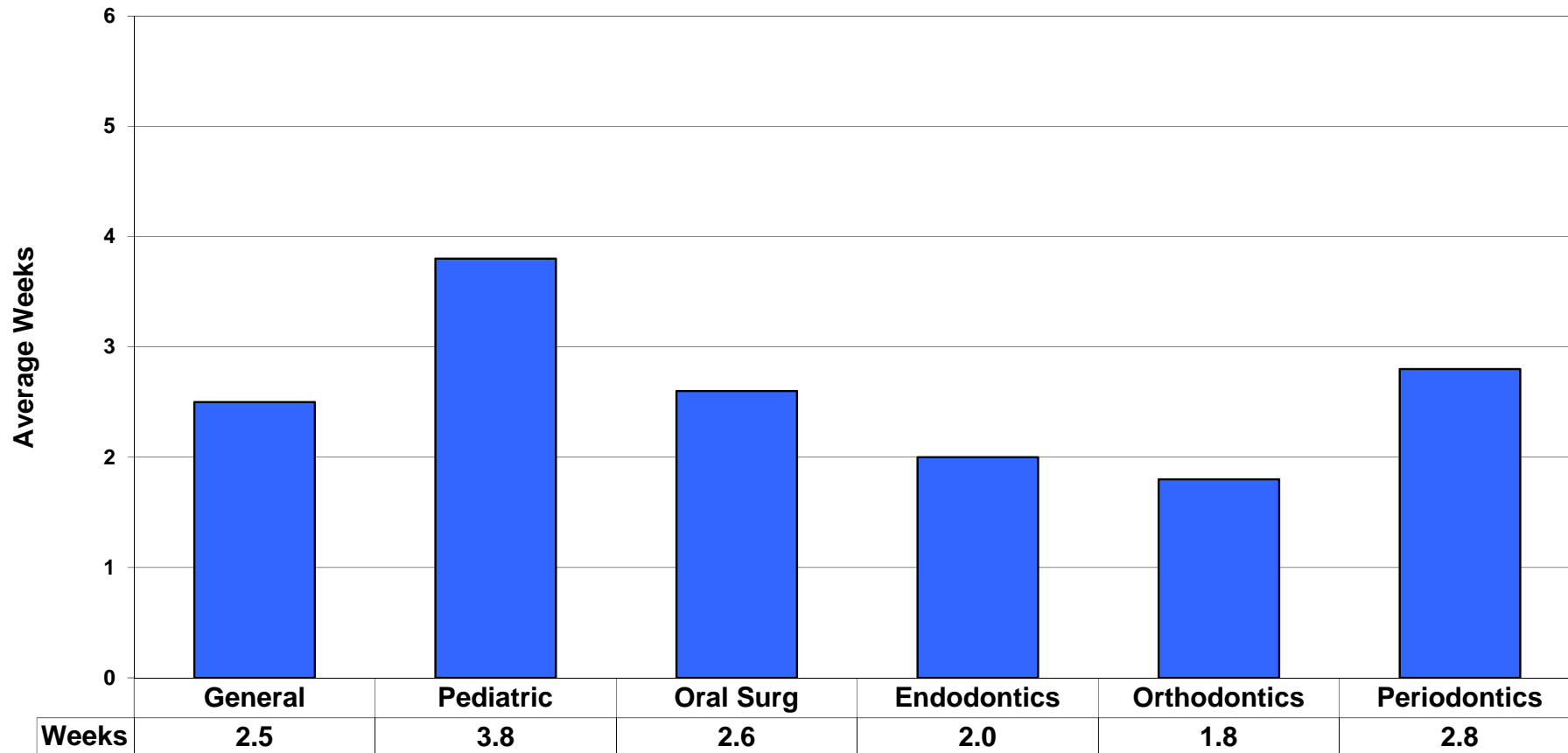
Grand Isle and Rutland have the largest percentage of dentists age 60+

PATIENT CARE HOURS PER WEEK



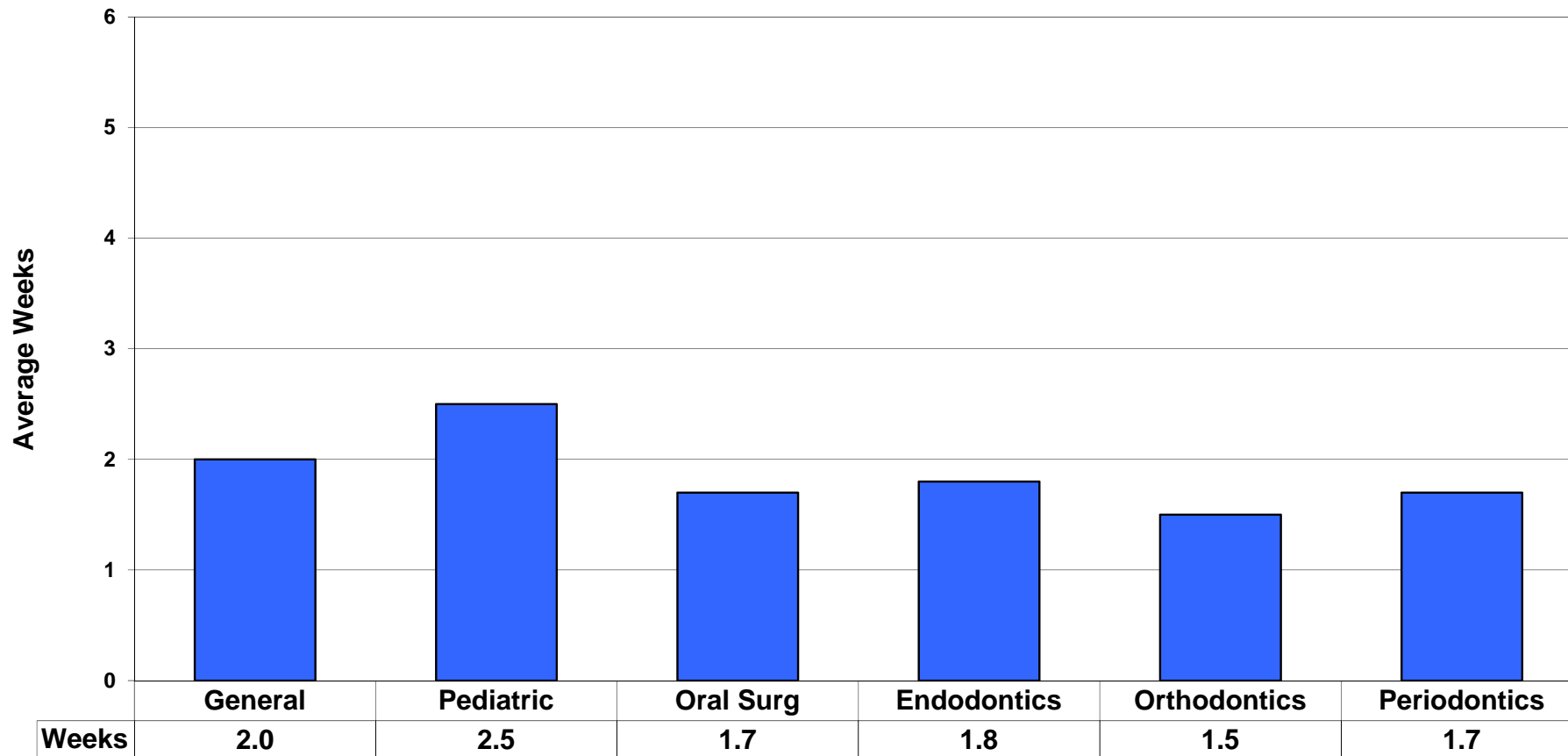
On average, a dentist provides 31 hours per week of patient care

AVERAGE WAIT TIME FOR NEW PATIENTS



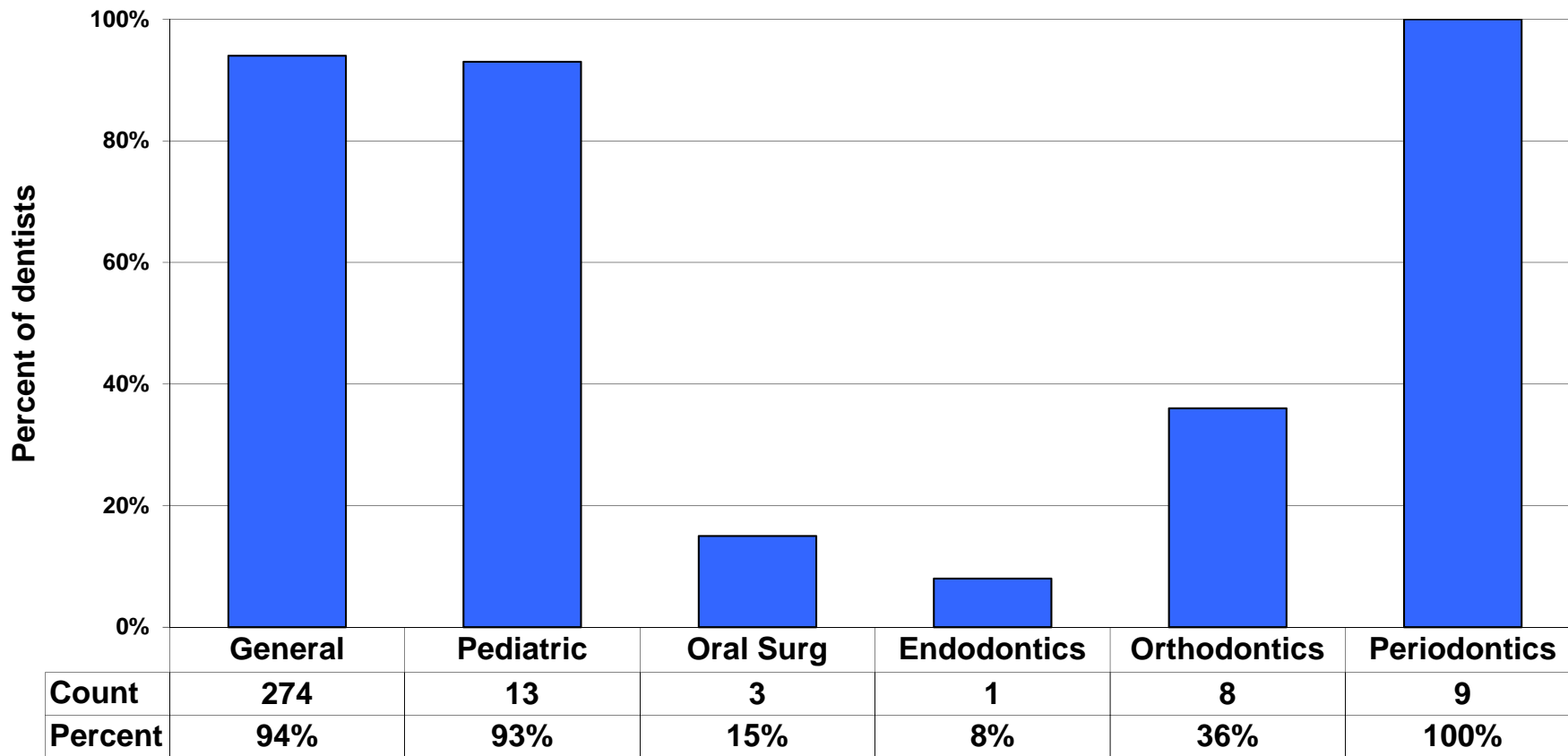
Average wait time for new patients of general dentists has decreased since 2015

AVERAGE WAIT TIME FOR CURRENT PATIENTS



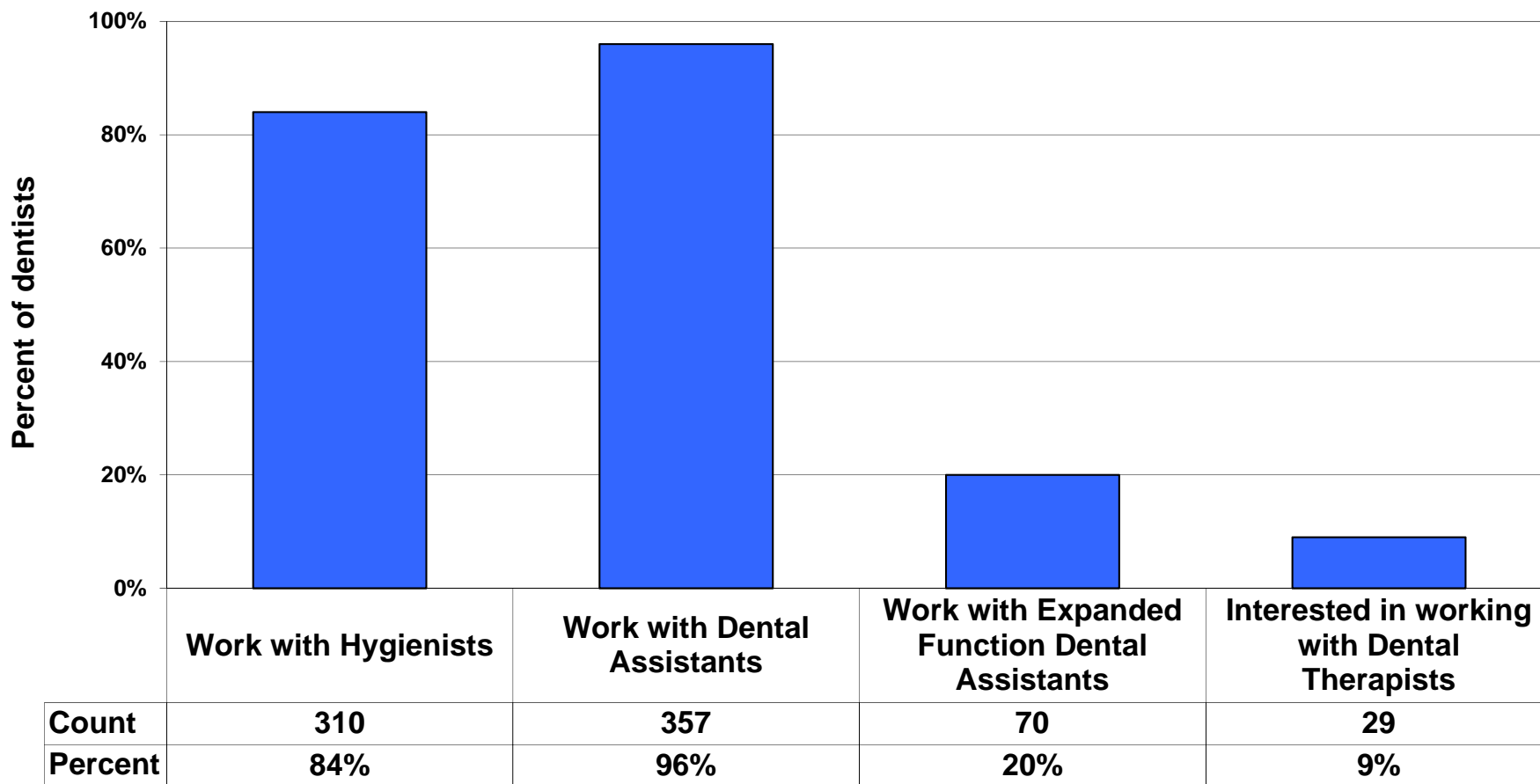
Average wait times for current patients have generally decreased since 2015

WORK WITH HYGIENISTS



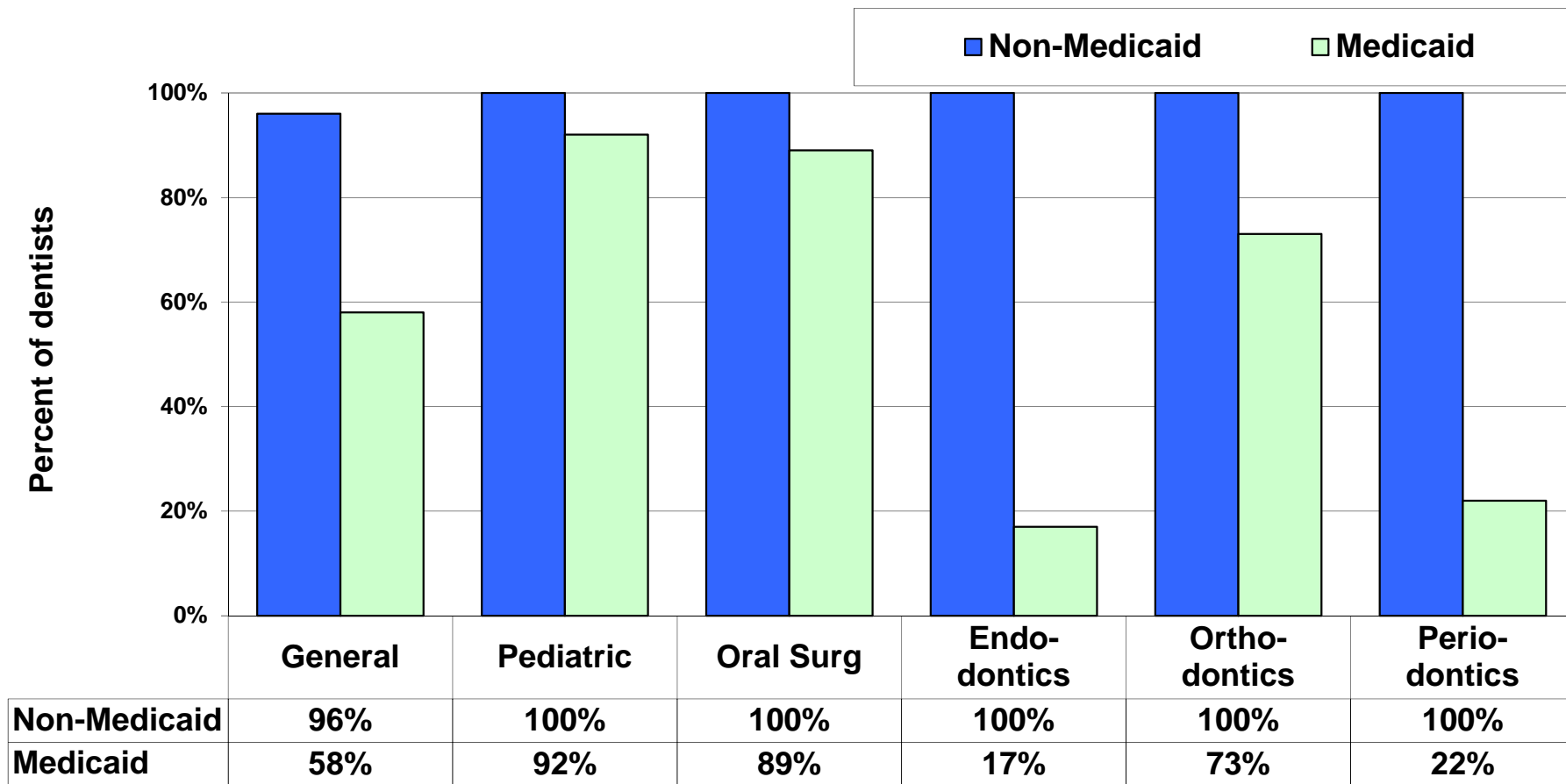
Overall 84% of dentists work with hygienists

WORK WITH HYGIENISTS & DENTAL ASSISTANTS



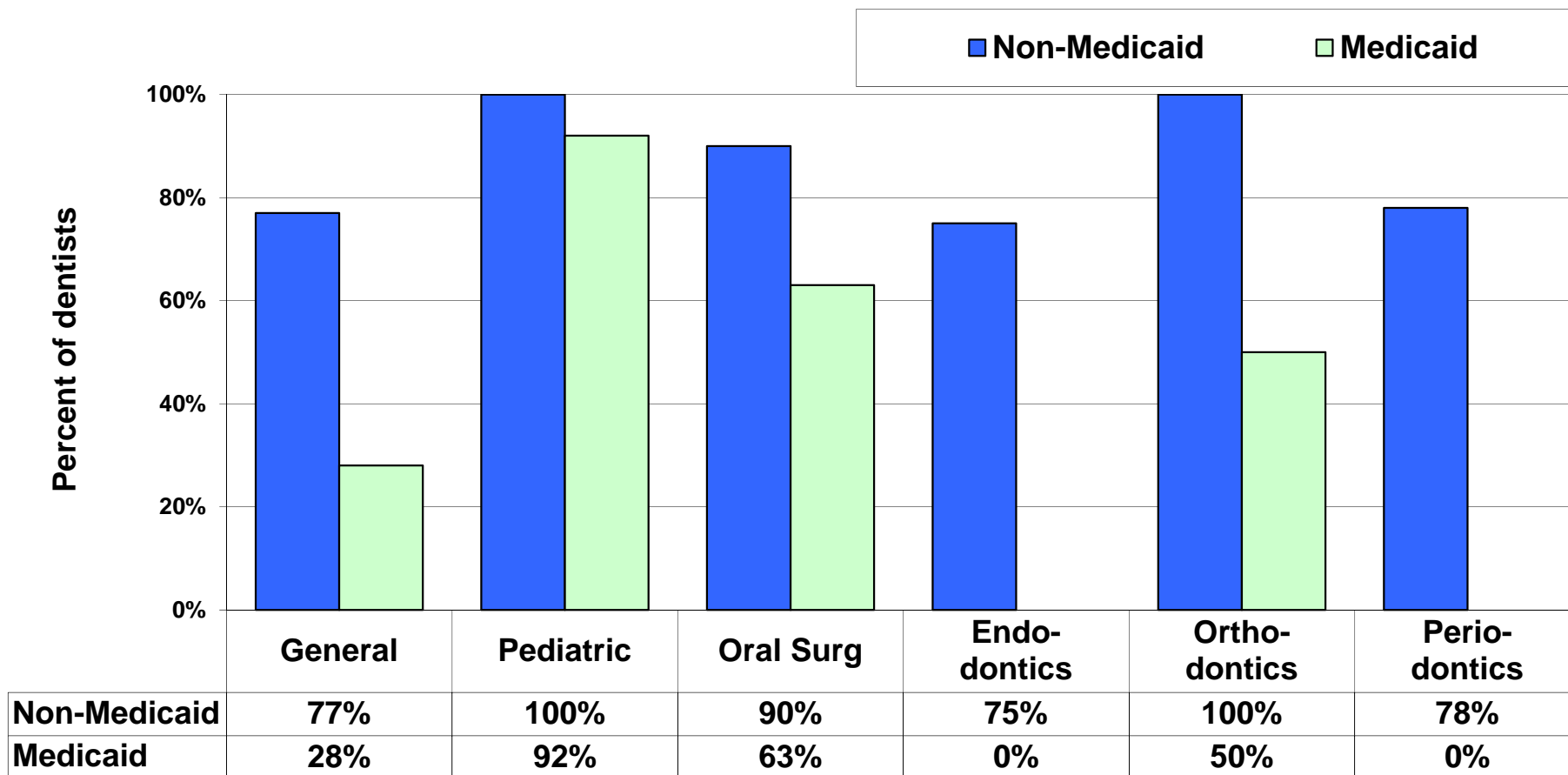
Interest in therapists was highest at larger group practices & clinics

ACCEPTING NEW PATIENTS



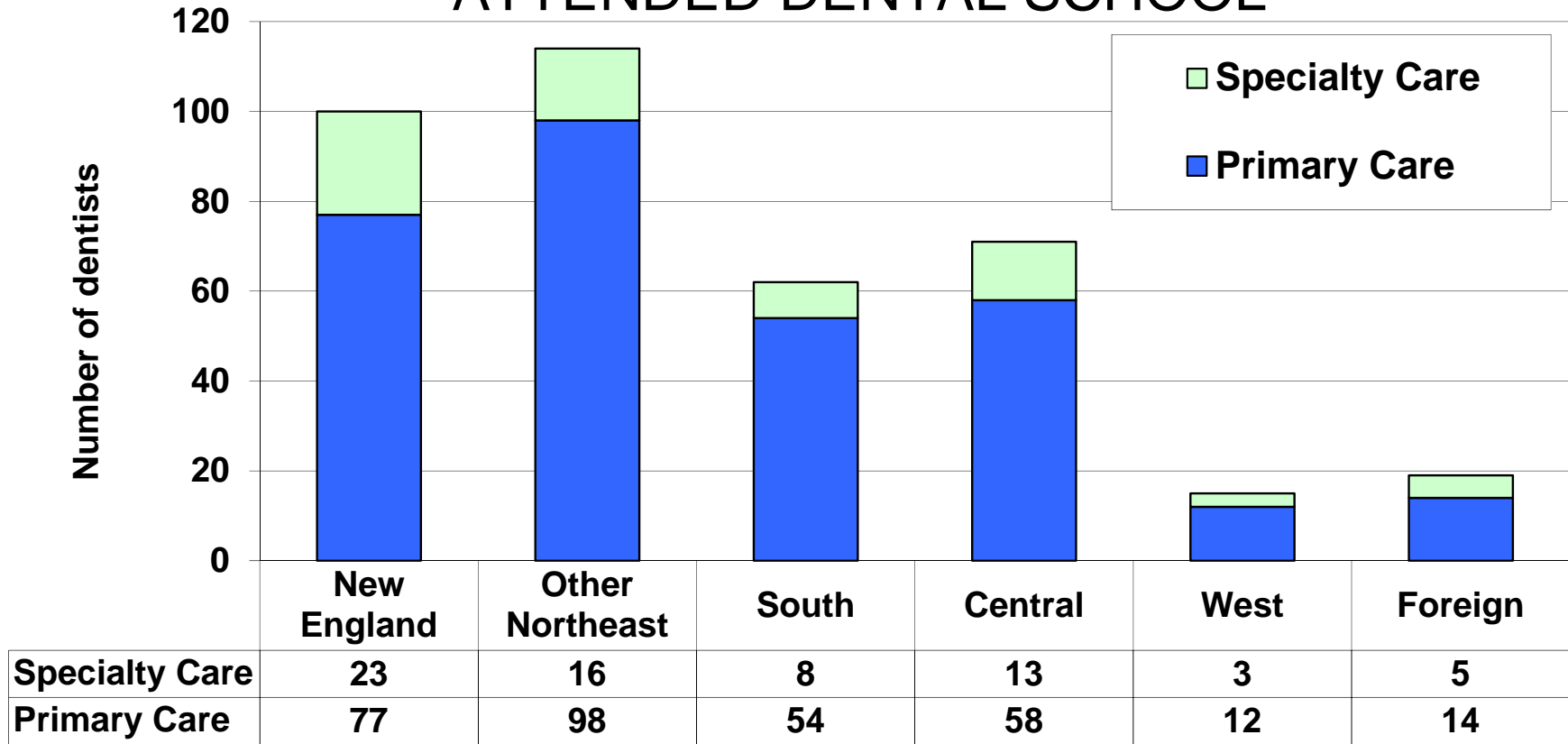
97% accept new non-Medicaid patients, 60% accept new Medicaid patients

ACCEPTING 5+ NEW PATIENTS / MONTH



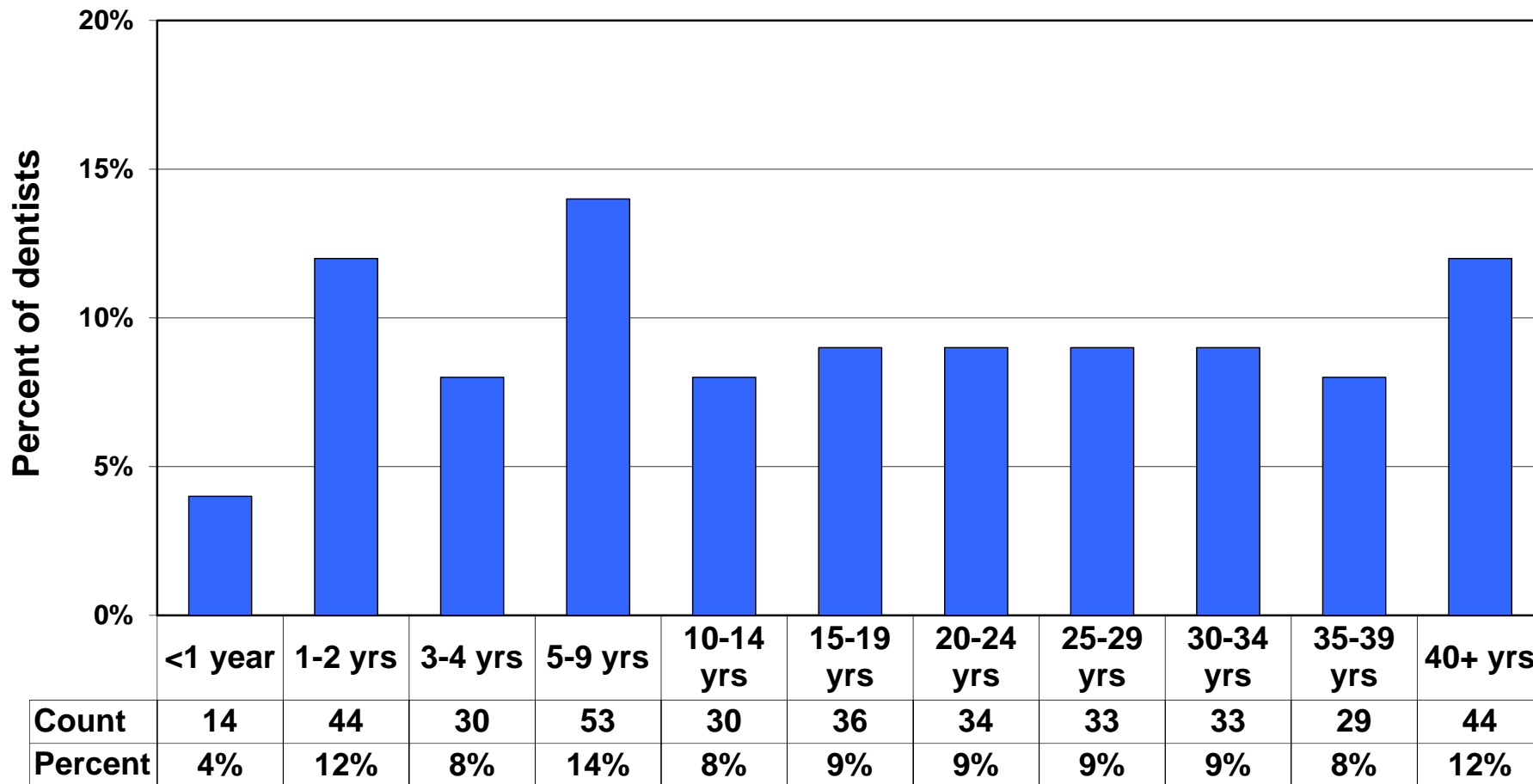
80% accept 5+ new non-Medicaid patients, 33% accept 5+ new Medicaid patients

WHERE VERMONT DENTISTS ATTENDED DENTAL SCHOOL



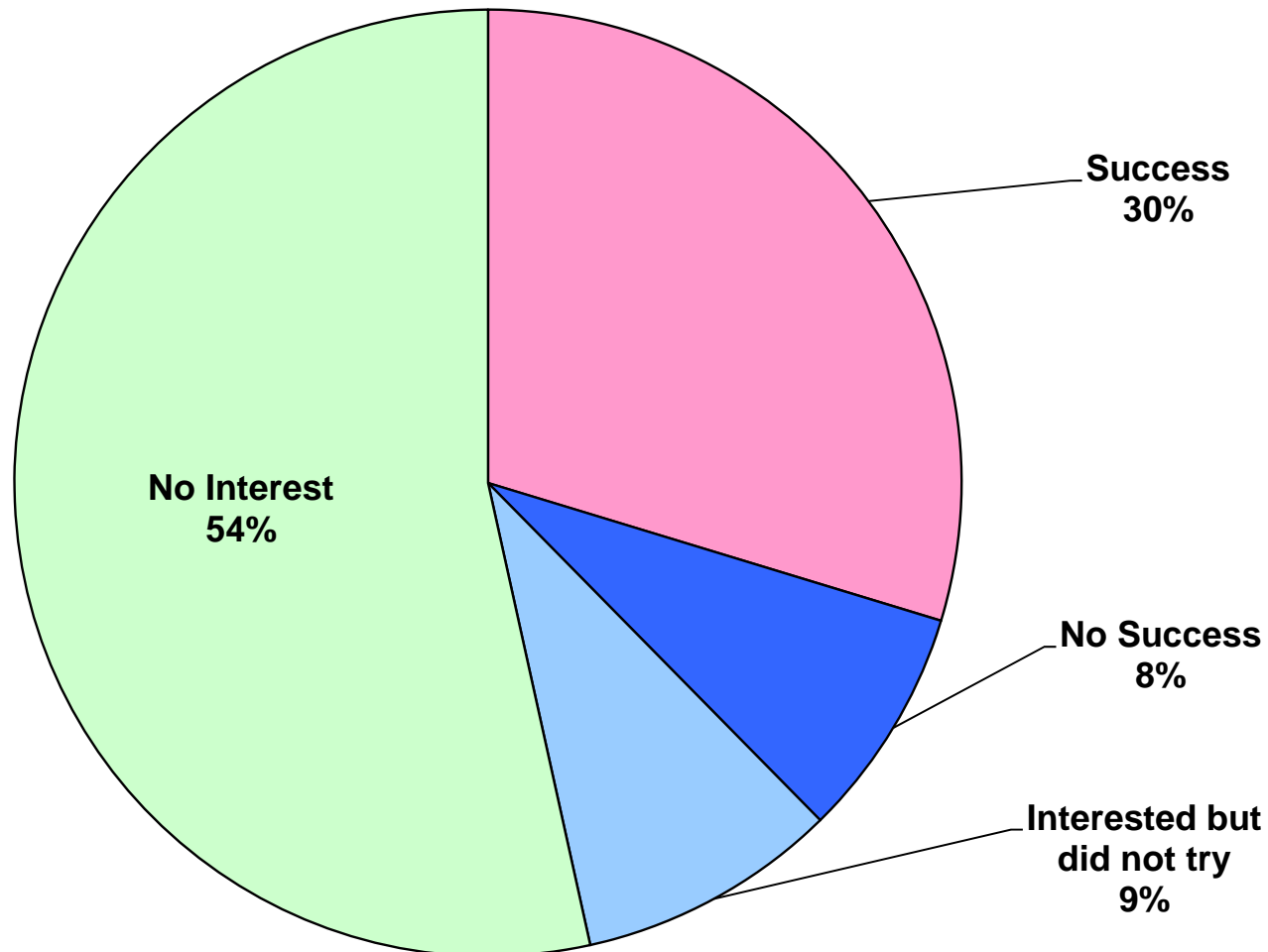
56% of primary care and 57% of specialty care dentists were trained in New England or the Northeast.

YEARS WORKED IN VERMONT



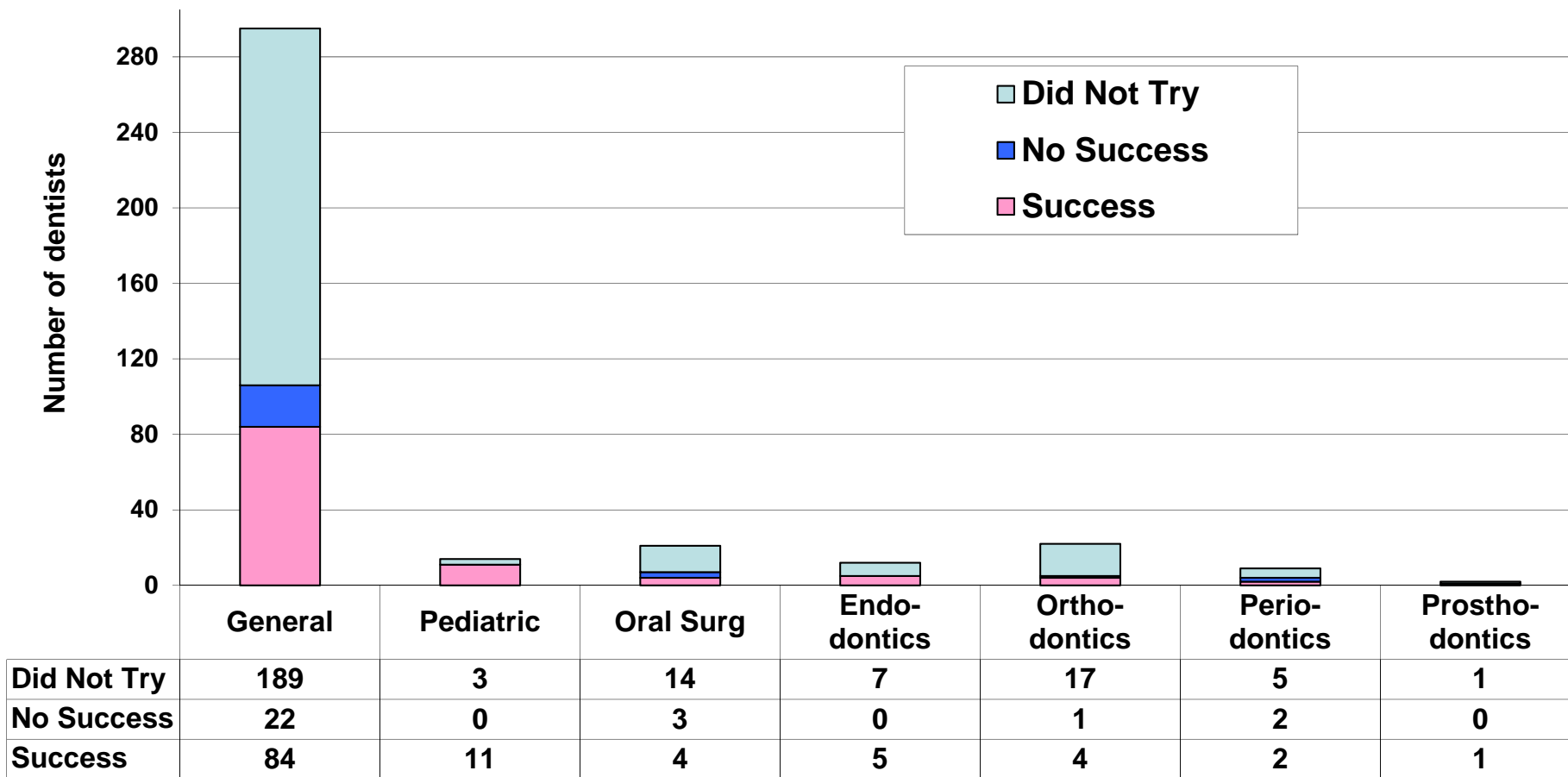
28% of the dentists have worked in Vermont for 30 or more years.

INTERESTED IN ADDING AN ASSOCIATE



2017 Dentist Census

INTERESTED IN ADDING AN ASSOCIATE



Overall, 46% of dentists were interested in recruiting an associate

COMPARISON WITH PREVIOUS SURVEYS

2017 Dentist Census

Numbers of Dentists by Specialty, 2007-2017

	Count by main specialty					
	2007	2009	2011	2013	2015	2017
Total active dentists	355	366	368	369	383	381
Primary care dentists	282	292	297	298	312	313
General practice	272	280	288	286	301	299
Pediatric dentistry	10	12	9	12	11	14
Specialist dentists	73	74	71	71	71	68
Oral Surgery	24	26	23	23	21	21
Endodontics	7	9	10	11	13	13
Orthodontics	27	24	25	24	23	22
Periodontics	11	12	11	10	10	9
Prosthodontics	2	2	1	1	2	2
Other Specialties	2	1	1	2	2	1

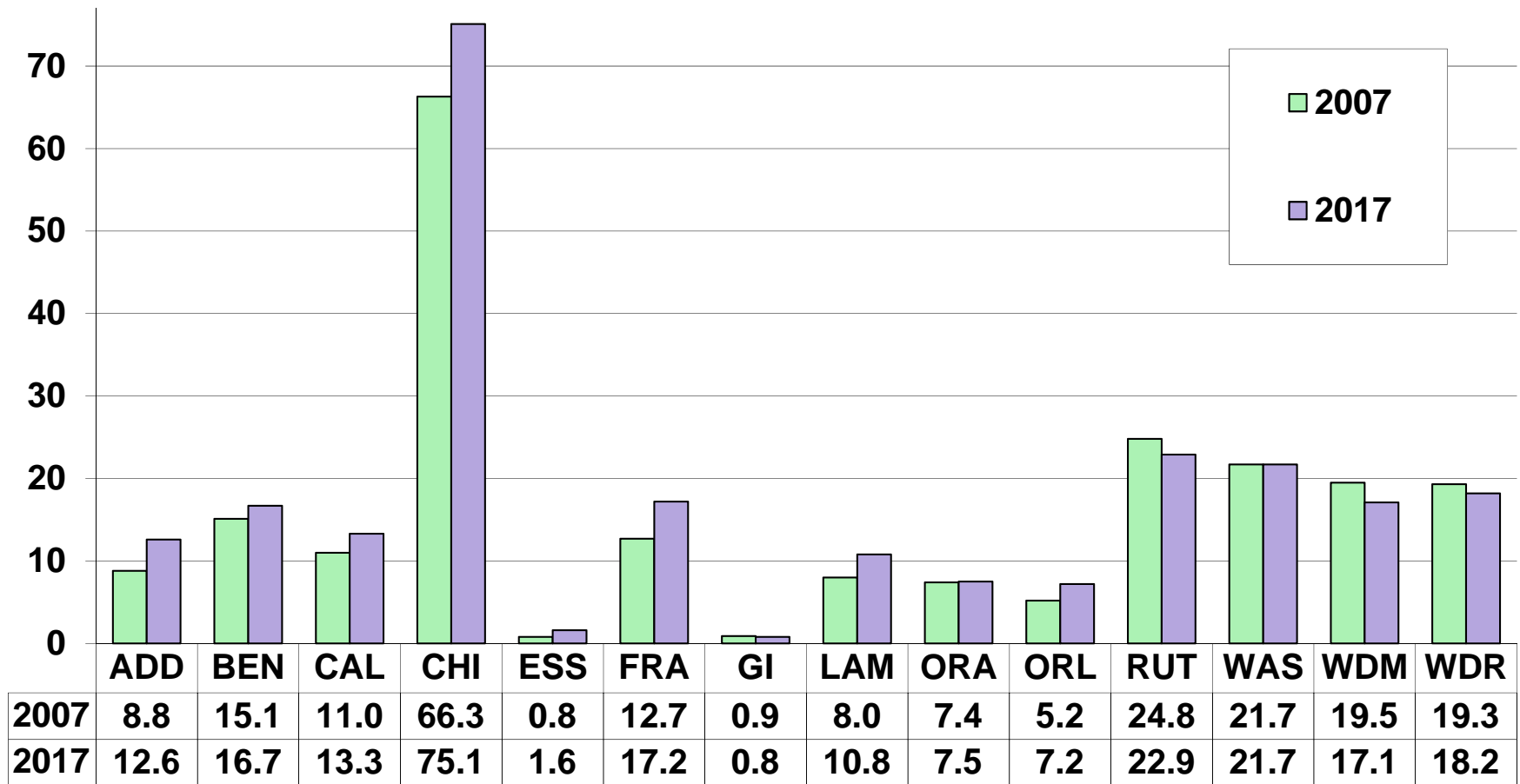
Full Time Equivalents by specialty, 2007-2017

	Full Time Equivalents (FTE)					
	2007	2009	2011	2013	2015	2017
Total active dentists	269.8	271.6	281.2	290.8	290.1	289.7
Primary care dentists	221.6	217.7	229.0	238.4	240.1	242.7
General practice	214.9	209.9	222.6	230.4	231.7	232.1
Pediatric dentistry	6.7	7.8	6.5	8.0	8.4	10.7
Specialist dentists	48.2	53.9	52.1	52.4	50.0	46.9
Oral Surgery	16.2	19.0	17.6	16.4	14.6	14.8
Endodontics	6.4	7.0	7.1	9.2	7.6	7.7
Orthodontics	17.2	17.4	17.9	17.1	17.3	16.7
Periodontics	5.7	7.8	7.7	7.0	7.5	5.6
Prosthodontics	1.5	1.6	0.9	0.9	1.1	1.1
Other Specialties	1.2	1.0	1.0	1.8	2.0	1.0

Selected indicators, 2007-2017

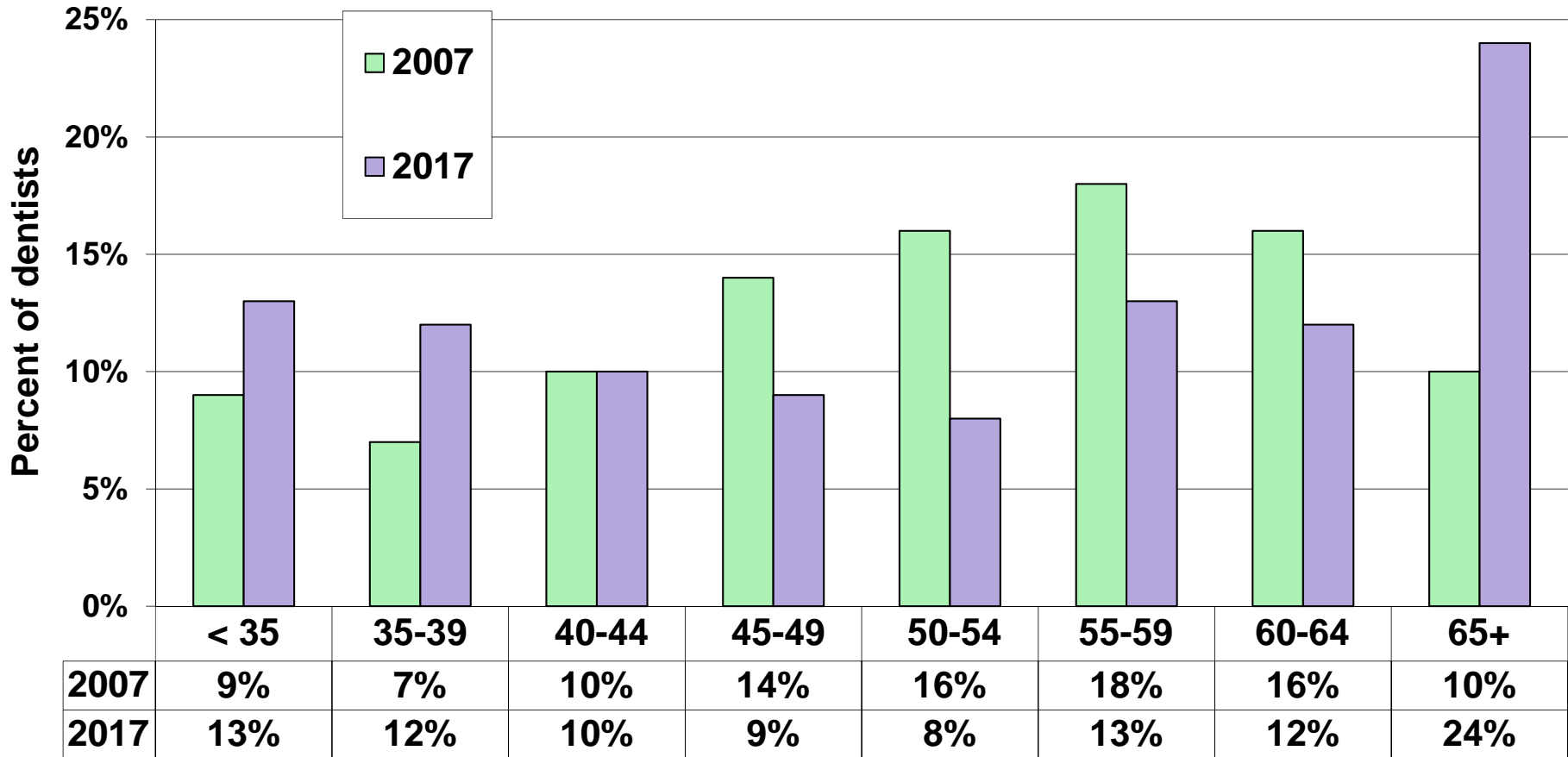
	2007	2009	2011	2013	2015	2017
Total number of active dentists	355	366	368	369	383	381
Percent age 55 or older	44%	47%	49%	48%	50%	48%
Percent age 60 or older	26%	30%	34%	34%	35%	35%
Percent age 65 or older	10%	13%	17%	21%	21%	24%
Average patient care hours per week	31	30	31	33	30	31
Primary care:						
FTEs / 100,000 population	35.5	34.8	36.6	38.0	38.3	38.9
% accepting new patients	90%	92%	92%	90%	96%	96%
% accepting new Medicaid patients	60%	65%	69%	63%	66%	60%
Average weeks wait - new patients	3.5	2.9	2.8	3.2	3.6	2.5
Percent working with dental hygienists	90%	91%	92%	93%	93%	94%
% of FTEs in Chittenden County	30%	31%	31%	31%	32%	31%
Specialty care:						
FTEs / 100,000 population	7.7	8.6	8.3	8.4	8.0	7.5
% of FTEs in Chittenden County	44%	42%	41%	43%	48%	46%

PRIMARY CARE FTEs, BY COUNTY, 2007 & 2017



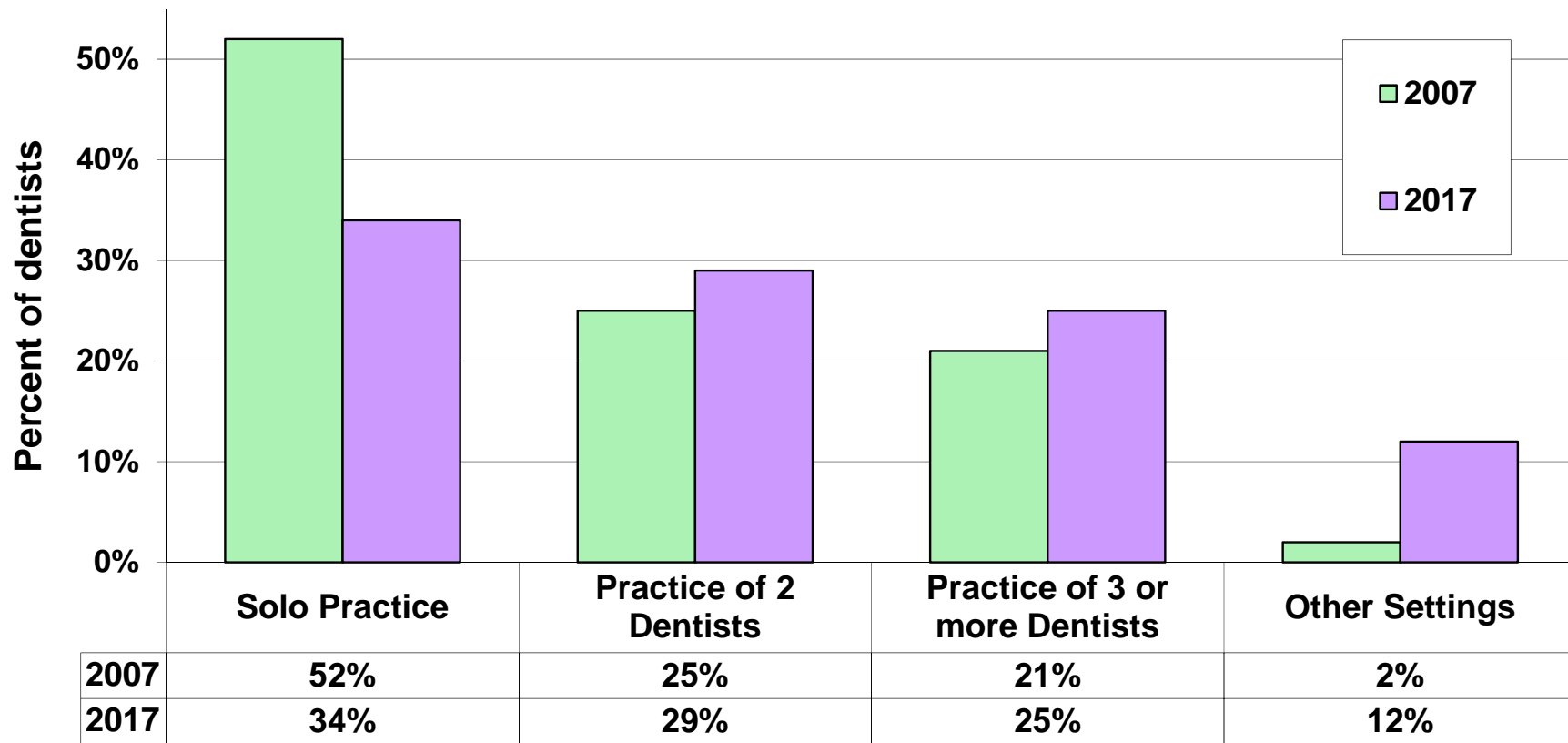
Rutland, Windham and Windsor Counties have lost FTEs since 2007

AGE DISTRIBUTION, 2007 & 2017



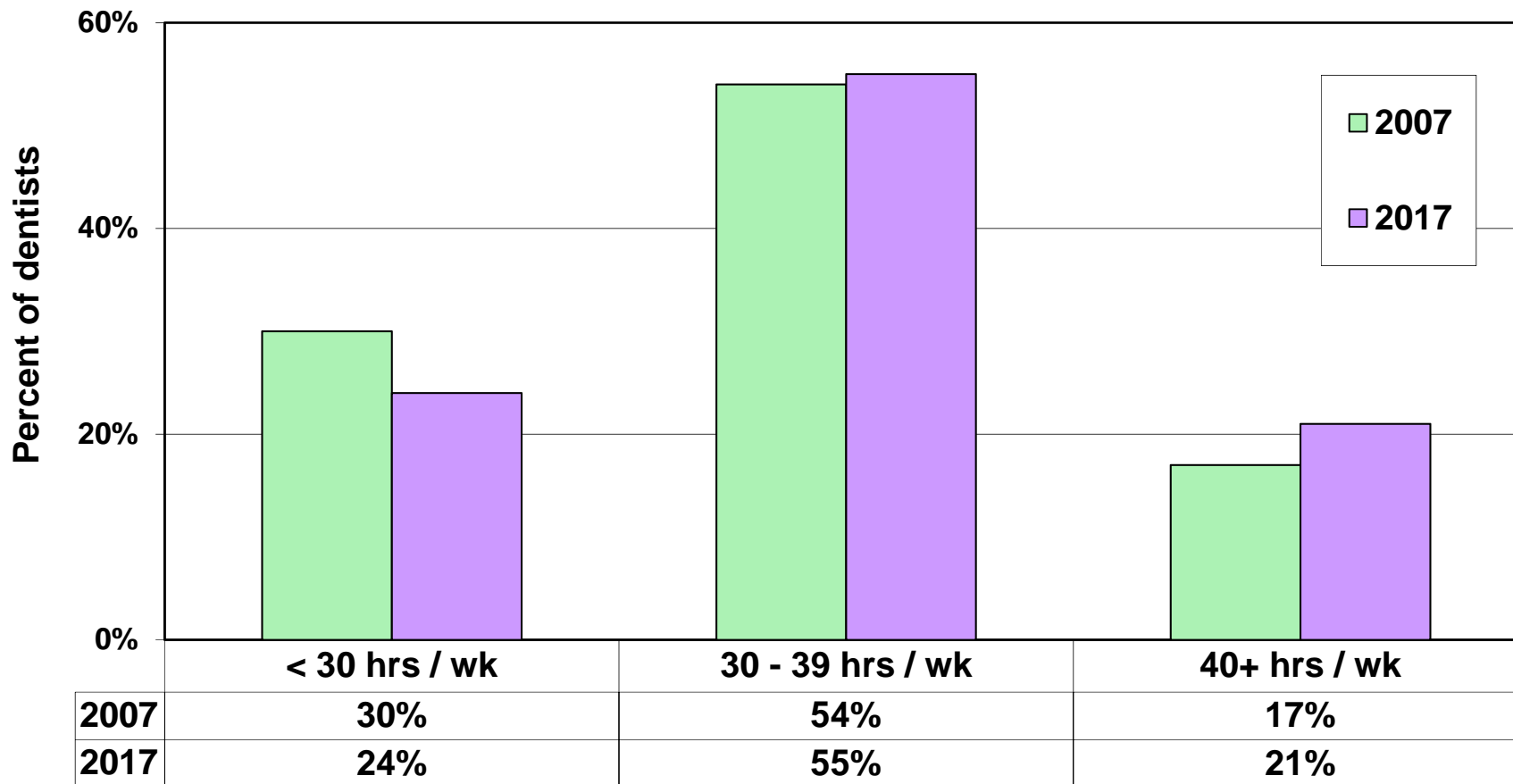
There have been increases in the percent of dentists under 40 and 65+

PRACTICE SETTING, 2007 & 2017



Most of the “Other Settings” in 2017 are community clinics.

PATIENT CARE HOURS PER WEEK



More dentists worked 40+ hours per week in 2017 than in 2007