

**MDHA
EMPLOYMENT/PRACTICE
SURVEY 2005**

The following employment/practice survey is designed to help the Montana Dental Hygienists' Association compile information regarding the employment status of dental hygienists practicing in Montana. The full survey consisted of 22 questions, we included the Q/A that we get asked most often.

We received 251 responses out of 444 for a 56% return.

1. In what area of Montana do you currently practice? 257 locations

- A. Helena 11%
- B. Butte 4%
- C. Billings 20%
- D. Missoula 18%
- E. Great Falls 7%
- F. Bozeman 10%
- G. Flathead 10%
- H. Other 18%

Not currently practicing 2%

2. How many years have you been a licensed dental hygienist?

- A. 0-12 months 6%
- B. 1-5 years 14%
- C. 6-10 years 12%
- D. 11-15 years 13%
- E. 16-20 years 16%
- F. 21 years or more 39%

3. Do you hold a license to practice Local Anesthesia in Montana?

Yes 75% No 25%

4. How long have you been employed at your current practice?

Average 7.66 yrs

5. How many days do you work per week?

Average 3.5 days

6. What is your practice setting? (check all that apply)

- General Dentistry 81%
- Periodontics 8%

- Pedodontics 2%
- Orthodontics 3%
- Public Health 3%
- Other 4%
- (Cosmetics, Ed, Prosthetics, Student Health, OBI)

7. My typical workday, in hours, is:

Average 8 hrs

8. The average number of patients I see daily is:

Average 8.39 patients

9. My salary is calculated:

- Hourly 76%
- Weekly 1%
- Monthly 1%
- Commission only 5%
- Base pay+commission 1%
- Base pay+prod bonus 4%
- Fixed Salary 5%
- Other (Daily) 5%
- Other 1%
- (Prod bonus, Profit sharing,)

10. My salary for a typical month, including commission and bonuses, divided by hours worked would be:

Average \$29-32

- Less than \$20 per hour 2%
- 21-\$24 per hour 9%
- \$25-\$28 per hour 33%
- \$29-32 per hour 36%
- \$33 per hour or more 19%

11. Please check the following benefits available to you:

- Paid Vacation 68%
- Sick Leave with pay 37%
- Maternity/Paternity leave w/ pay 5%
- Medical Insurance 29%
- Life Insurance 7%
- Retirement 55%
- Free Dental Services 77%
- Uniform provided or allowance 67%
- Profit Sharing 21%
- Day Care Allowance 2%
- Travel Expenses 19%
- Continuing Ed Expense 80%
- Association Membership 5%
- No Benefits 4%
- Other (Flex plan, Bonus)

12. What would you estimate your dental hygiene volunteer hours to be annually?

63% had hrs reported for an
Average 14.5 hrs
37% no hrs reported

13. Please check those settings where you typically volunteer:

- Health Fair 23%
- Career Fairs 7%
- Com Dental Center 13%
- School/ educational 73%
- Nursing Homes 8%
- School Screenings 38%
- Senior Screenings 3%
- City/County meetings 8%
- Other (Foreign missions, Give a Kid a Smile, Headstart, Girls Detention Center, Mouth guards, Px for fundraiser, Military family screenings)

14. The following technology and/or procedure is available in the office where I practice:

- Digital imagery 29%
- Computers in operatories 35%
- Intraoral cameras 49%
- Digital probe 3%
- Antimicrobials 49%
- Brush biopsy 22%
- Zoom whitening 15%
- Perioscope 2%
- None 22%

15. When you last successfully obtained a dental hygiene position in Montana, how many months did it take for you to be hired?

- Less than 1 month 83%
- 2-3 months 8%
- 3 months or more 6%
- No Answer 4%

