

2006 Survey of Dental Practice

Orthodontists and Dentofacial Orthopedists in Private Practice

HIGHLIGHTS

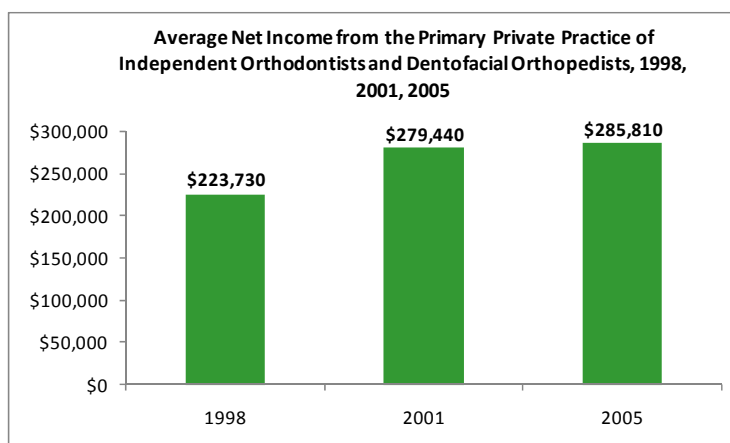


This brochure provides a glimpse into the information available in the full report on orthodontists and dentofacial orthopedists. Here, only a few key statistics are highlighted. Readers are encouraged to peruse the full report. Members of the American Dental Association (ADA) can download a free electronic version of the full report at: <http://www.ada.org/goto/surveyresearch>.

Net Income

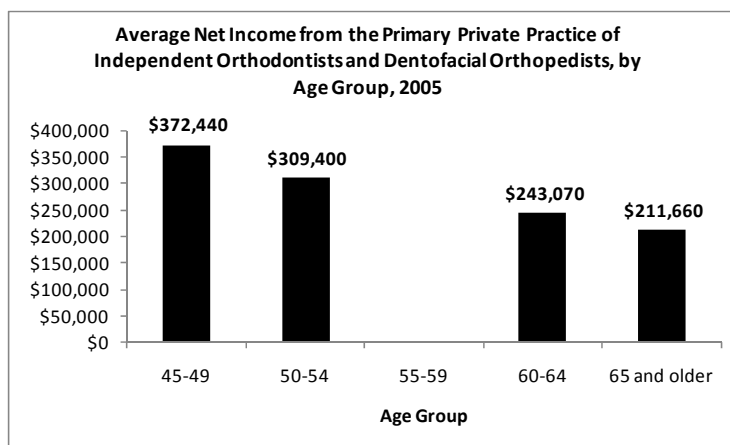
Overall

The 2005 average net income of independent (i.e., owner) orthodontists and dentofacial orthopedists who responded to the 2006 *Survey of Dental Practice* was \$285,810—up from an average of \$279,440 in 2001.



By Age

A reliable average net income could not be calculated for those less than 40 years old and those between the ages of 55 and 59 years because too few in those age groups indicated their net income on the survey. Among the remaining age groups, average net income decreased as the age group increased. Those who were between the ages of 45 and 49 years had the highest average net income (\$372,440).



Special points of Interest:

✓ As part of the 2006 *Survey of Dental Practice*, an additional sample was drawn for each dental specialty resulting in six individual specialist reports:

1. Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons in Private Practice
2. Endodontists in Private Practice
3. Orthodontists and Dentofacial Orthopedists in Private Practice
4. Pediatric Dentists in Private Practice
5. Periodontists in Private Practice
6. Prosthodontists in Private Practice

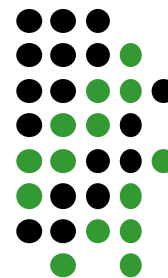
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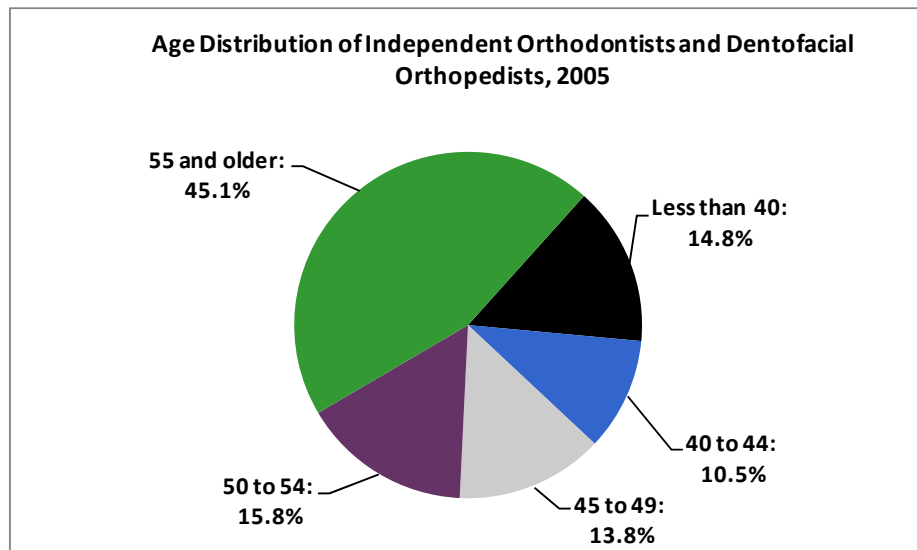
Orthodontists and Dentofacial Orthopedists in Private Practice - page 2

HIGHLIGHTS

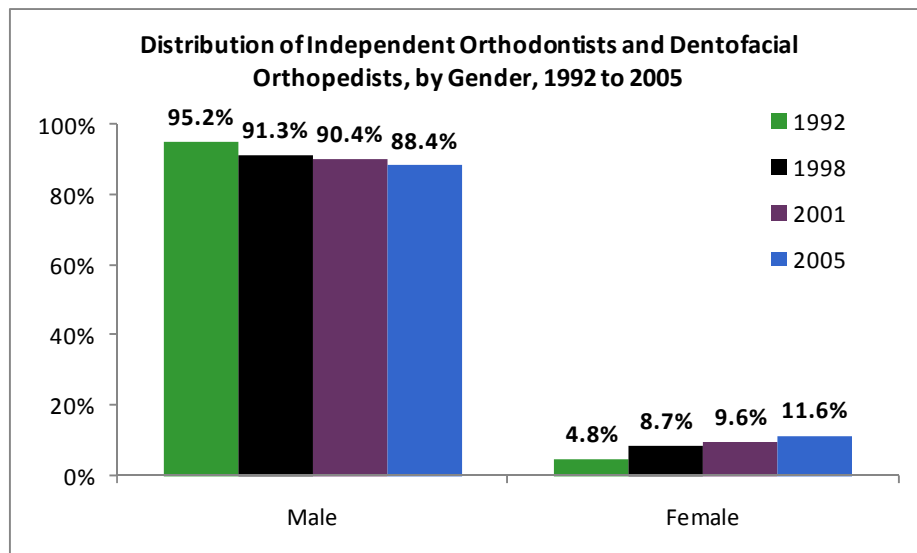


Dentist and Practice Characteristics

- ❖ Among independent orthodontists and dentofacial orthopedists who responded to the 2006 Survey of Dental Practice, 45.1% were 55 years or older.



- ❖ In 2005, 11.6% of the responding independent oral orthodontists and dentofacial orthopedists were female—an increase of 6.8 percentage points from 1992.



Special points of Interest:

- ✓ How does the 2006 regional distribution of **orthodontists and dentofacial orthopedists** in private practice compare to the distribution of the U.S. population?

Region	Orthodontists and dentofacial orthopedists	Population
New England	6.9%	4.8%
Middle Atlantic	15.9%	13.5%
South Atlantic	16.4%	19.1%
East South Central	4.7%	5.9%
East North Central	14.3%	15.5%
West North Central	6.1%	6.7%
West South Central	9.6%	11.4%
Mountain	7.4%	7.0%
Pacific	18.7%	16.2%

Source: ADA, Survey Center, *Distribution of Dentists in the United States by Region and State, 2006*.

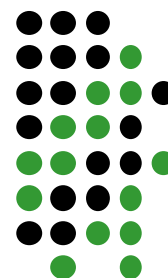
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Orthodontists and Dentofacial Orthopedists in Private Practice - page 3

HIGHLIGHTS



- ❖ On average, independent orthodontists and dentofacial orthopedists worked 46.4 weeks per year and spent 34.3 hours per week in the office—of which, 29.7 hours were spent treating patients.
- ❖ The majority of independent orthodontists and dentofacial orthopedists had internet access (85.1%); used a practice management system (87.2%); submitted electronic or paper claims to third party payers (78.5%); and provided charitable dental care (76.5%).
- ❖ The average number of operatories among all independent orthodontists and dentofacial orthopedists was 5.5.
- ❖ In 2005, independent orthodontists and dentofacial orthopedists employed an average of 6.8 non-dentist staff members (full or part-time). The two staff positions most commonly employed were chairside assistants (3.6) and secretaries/receptionists (1.8).

Patient Characteristics

Patient characteristics are provided by dentists and not patients.

- ❖ Patients 5 to 17 years old comprised the largest patient group among independent orthodontists and dentofacial orthopedists (71.7%). The next largest patient group (15.5%) was between the ages of 18 and 34 years.
- ❖ The majority of patients were covered by private insurance (53.2%); 42.0% had no insurance and 4.8% were covered by a public assistance program.
- ❖ Independent orthodontists and dentofacial orthopedists reported that for 50.1% of their patients the travel time to the dental office was 11 to 39 minutes.
- ❖ The average appointment length was 23.0 minutes.
- ❖ The average number of visits per year was 10.2 visits.
- ❖ On average, a patient of record waited 7.3 minutes to be seated for an appointment.

Special points of Interest:

✓ In 2006, among all active private practitioners, 19.8% reported a dental specialty as their practice, research or administration area. The percentage distribution of specialties among these practitioners was as follows:

Specialty Area	Percent Distribution
Orthodontics and dentofacial orthopedics	28.9%
Oral and maxillofacial surgery	18.7%
Pediatric dentistry	14.8%
Periodontics	14.1%
Endodontics	13.1%
Prosthodontics	8.3%
Public health dentistry	1.4%
Oral and maxillofacial pathology	0.6%
Oral and maxillofacial radiology	0.1%

Source: ADA, Survey Center, *Distribution of Dentists in the United States by Region and State, 2006.*

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