

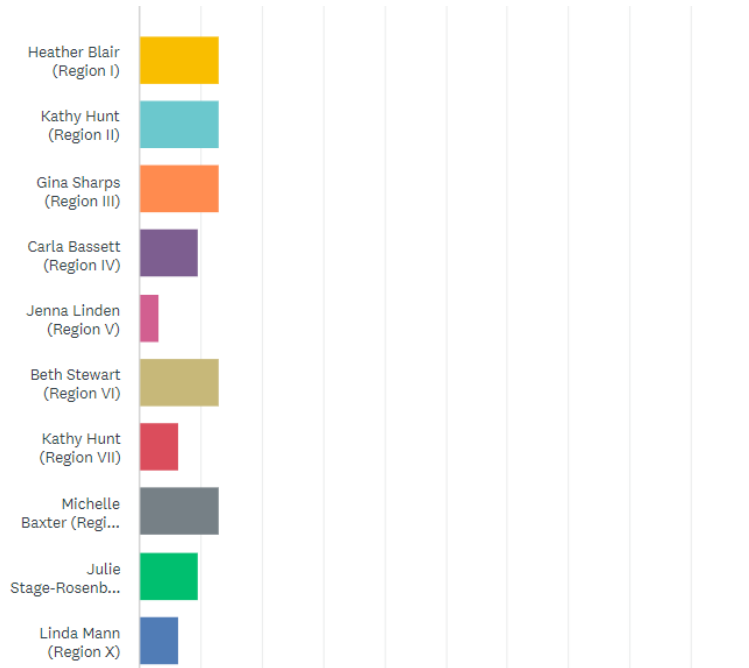


National Center for Health, Behavioral Health, and Safety (NCHBHS) Dental Hygienist Liaison (DHL) Annual Assessment

Results Collected: July 2022

1. Select the name of your regional DHL coordinator.

Answered: 31 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Heather Blair (Region I)	12.90% 4
Kathy Hunt (Region II)	12.90% 4
Gina Sharps (Region III)	12.90% 4
Carla Bassett (Region IV)	9.68% 3
Jenna Linden (Region V)	3.23% 1
Beth Stewart (Region VI)	12.90% 4
Kathy Hunt (Region VII)	6.45% 2
Michelle Baxter (Region VIII)	12.90% 4
Julie Stage-Rosenberg (Region IX)	9.68% 3
Linda Mann (Region X)	6.45% 2

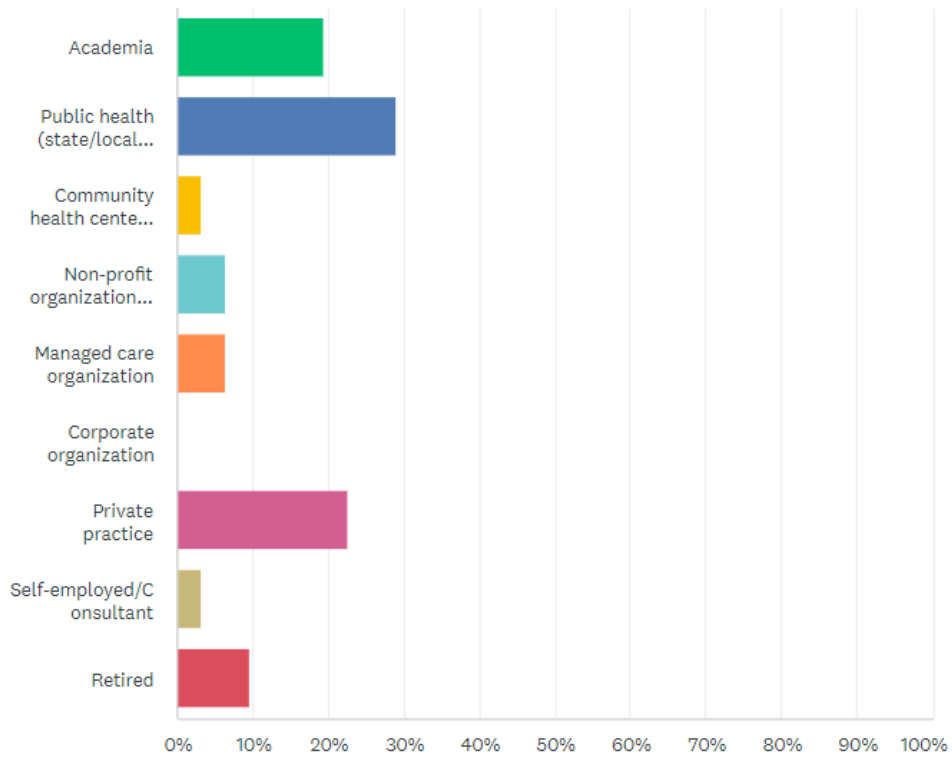
TOTAL 31





2. Please select the one item that best describes your primary place of employment.

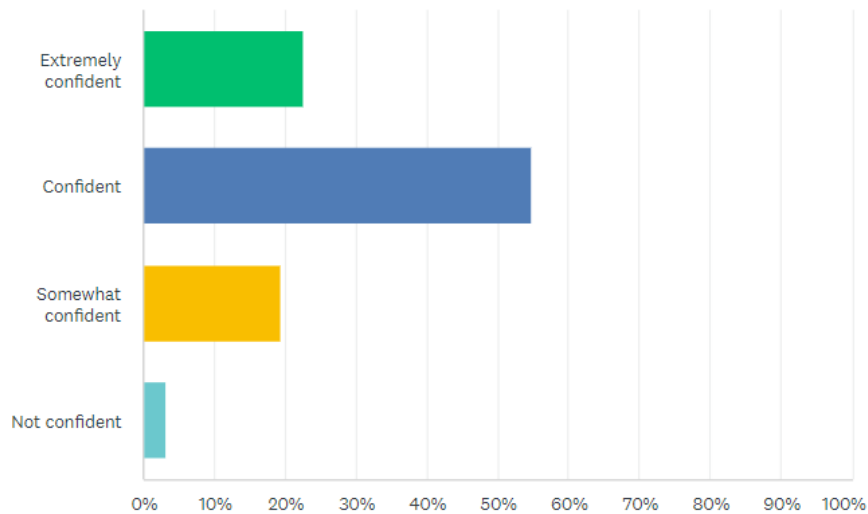
Answered: 31 Skipped: 0





3. Overall, how confident are you in your role as a DHL?

Answered: 31 Skipped: 0



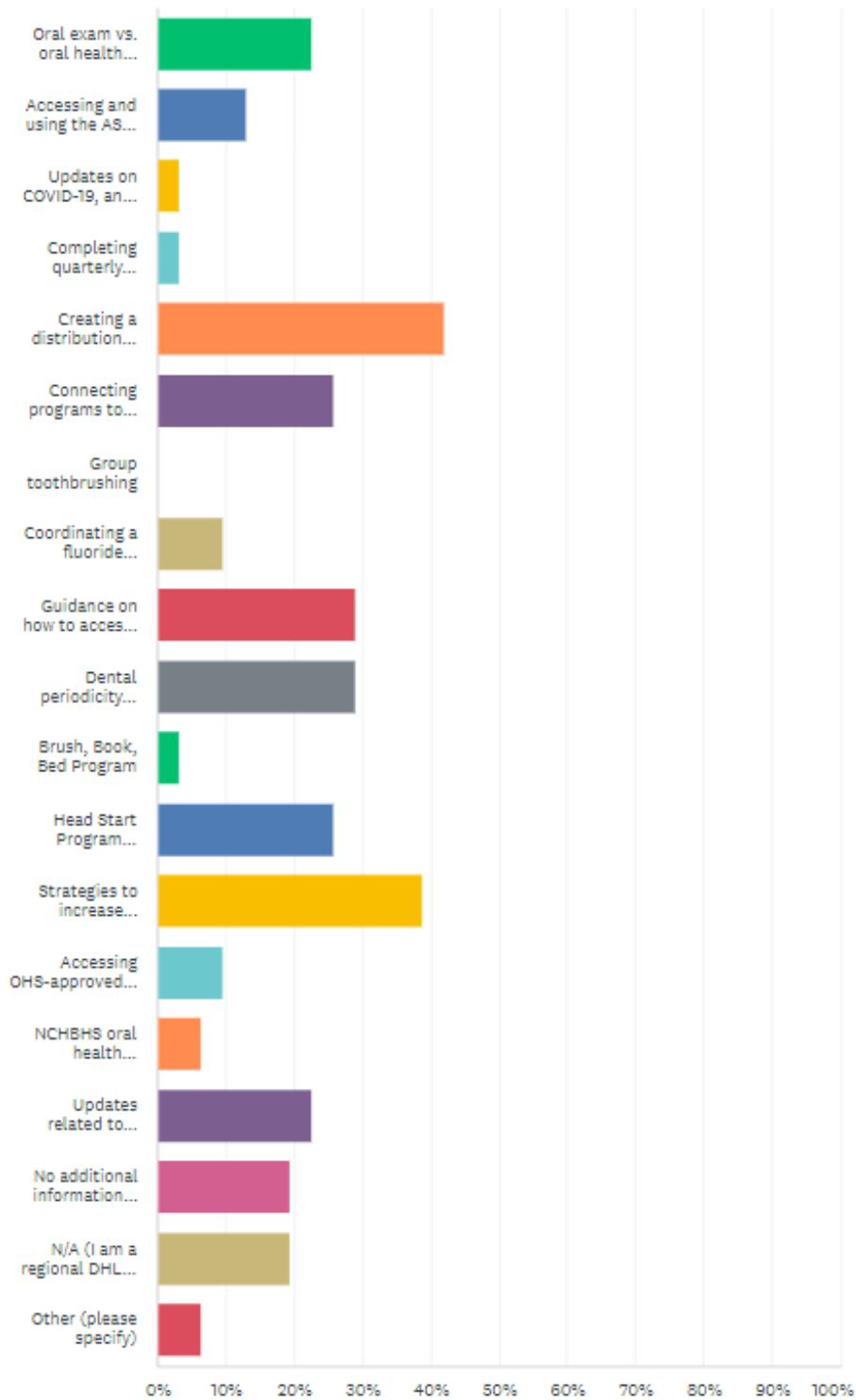
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Extremely confident	22.58% 7
Confident	54.84% 17
Somewhat confident	19.35% 6
Not confident	3.23% 1
TOTAL	31





4. **What content areas would you like more guidance on from your regional DHL coordinator to increase your confidence in your role as a DHL? (Select all that apply.)**

Answered: 31 Skipped: 0





ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Oral exam vs. oral health screening	22.58% 7
Accessing and using the ASTDD DHL webpage	12.90% 4
Updates on COVID-19, and other infectious diseases	3.23% 1
Completing quarterly progress reports, requesting stipends, or other administrative topics	3.23% 1
Creating a distribution list for connecting with Head Start stakeholders in my state	41.94% 13
Connecting programs to oral health professionals in the community	25.81% 8
Group toothbrushing	0.00% 0
Coordinating a fluoride varnish program for a Head Start center	9.68% 3
Guidance on how to access, review, and analyze PIR data	29.03% 9
Dental periodicity schedule for EPSDT (Medicaid) services	29.03% 9
Brush, Book, Bed Program	3.23% 1
Head Start Program Performance Standards	25.81% 8
Strategies to increase collaboration with Head Start stakeholders	38.71% 12
Accessing OHS-approved oral health presentations	9.68% 3
NCHBHS oral health resources and ECLKC (Head Start) website	6.45% 2
Updates related to toothbrushing including group brushing, guidance and protocols (infection control and prevention)	22.58% 7
No additional information needed at this time	19.35% 6
N/A (I am a regional DHL coordinator)	19.35% 6
Other (please specify) Responses	6.45% 2

Other (please specify)

Answered: 2 (2 non-applicable responses)

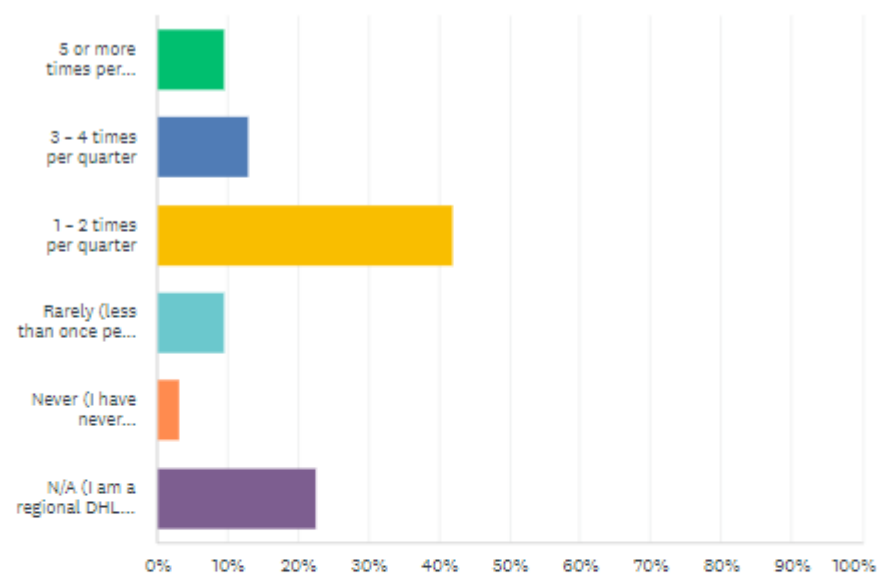
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5. On average, how often do you interact with your regional DHL coordinator (either previous or new) per quarter (e.g., e-mail, phone, conference calls, in-person)?

Answered: 31 Skipped: 0



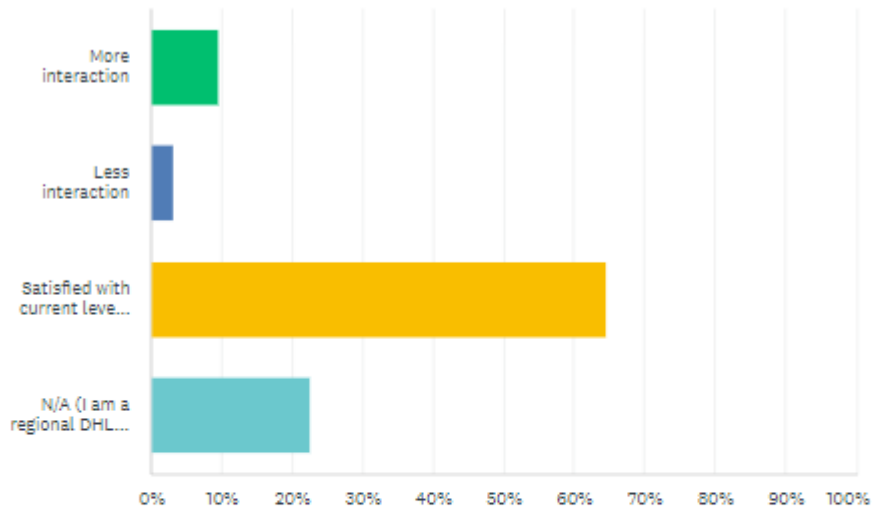
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
5 or more times per quarter	9.68% 3
3 - 4 times per quarter	12.90% 4
1 - 2 times per quarter	41.94% 13
Rarely (less than once per quarter)	9.68% 3
Never (I have never interacted with my regional DHL coordinator)	3.23% 1
N/A (I am a regional DHL coordinator)	22.58% 7
TOTAL	31





6. Please indicate the level of interaction you prefer with your regional DHL coordinator.

Answered: 31 Skipped: 0



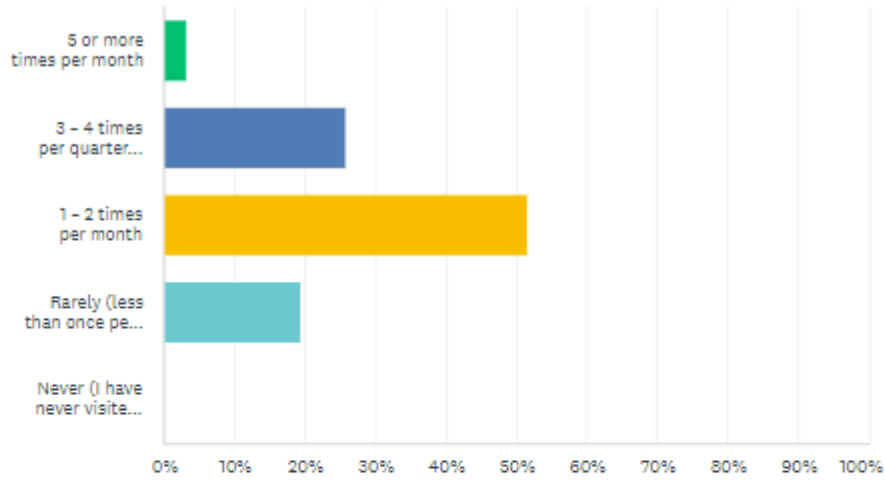
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
More interaction	9.68% 3
Less interaction	3.23% 1
Satisfied with current level of interaction	64.52% 20
N/A (I am a regional DHL coordinator)	22.58% 7
TOTAL	31





7. On average, how many times per month do you use the ASTDD DHL webpage?

Answered: 31 Skipped: 0



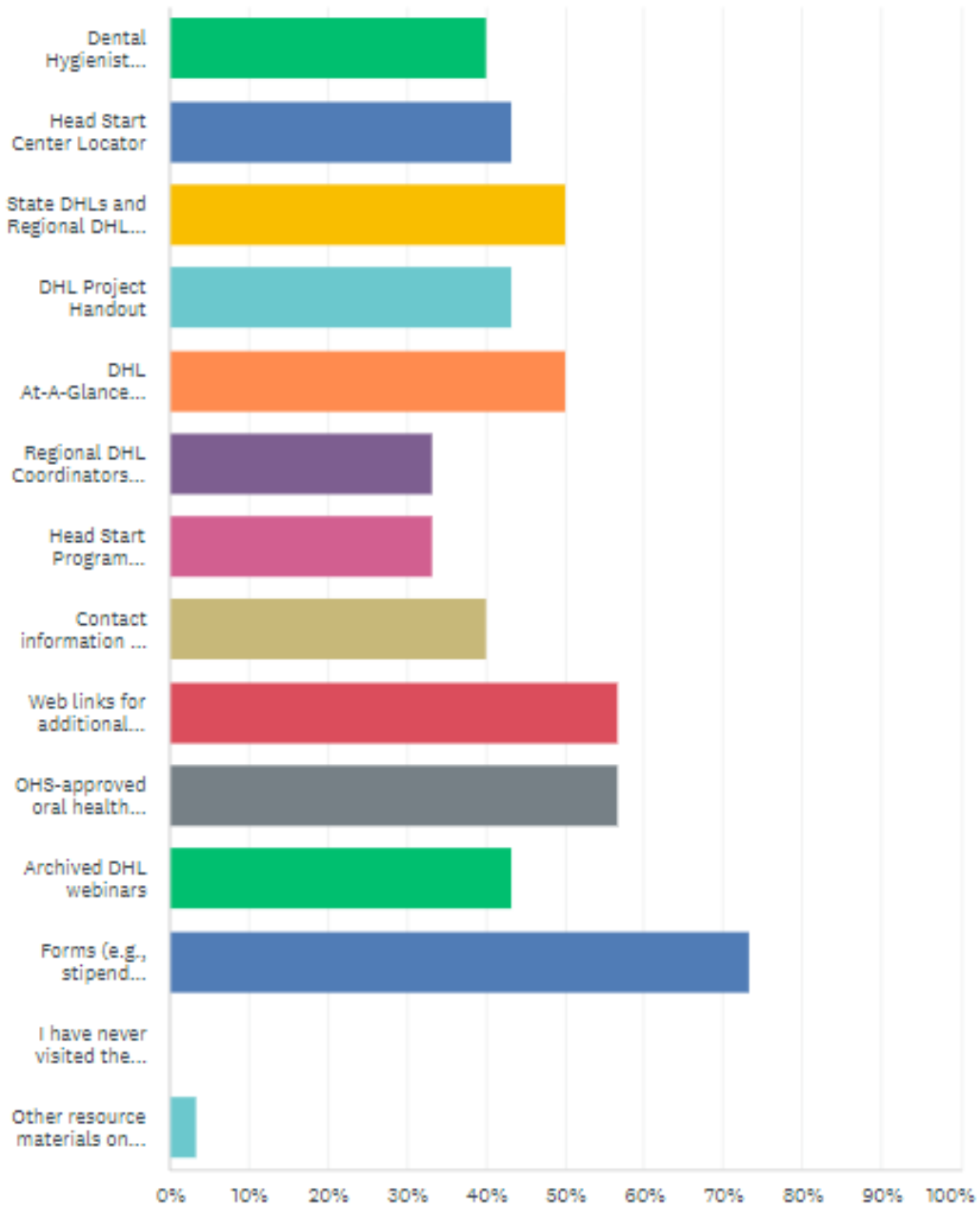
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
5 or more times per month	3.23% 1
3 - 4 times per quarter times per month	25.81% 8
1 - 2 times per month	51.61% 16
Rarely (less than once per month)	19.35% 6
Never (I have never visited the ASTDD DHL webpage)	0.00% 0
TOTAL	31





8. What information have you utilized on the DHL webpage in the past year? (Select all that apply.)

Answered: 30 Skipped: 1





ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
▼ Dental Hygienist Liaison (DHL) orientation presentation	40.00%	12
▼ Head Start Center Locator	43.33%	13
▼ State DHLs and Regional DHL Coordinators Roster	50.00%	15
▼ DHL Project Handout	43.33%	13
▼ DHL At-A-Glance Activity Guide	50.00%	15
▼ Regional DHL Coordinators At-A-Glance Activity Guide	33.33%	10
▼ Head Start Program Performance Standards	33.33%	10
▼ Contact information for key state-level stakeholders	40.00%	12
▼ Web links for additional information	56.67%	17
▼ OHS-approved oral health presentations	56.67%	17
▼ Archived DHL webinars	43.33%	13
▼ Forms (e.g., stipend request, quarterly report)	73.33%	22
▼ I have never visited the ASTDD DHL webpage	0.00%	0
▼ Other resource materials on the DHL webpage (please specify)	Responses	3.33% 1

Other (please specify)

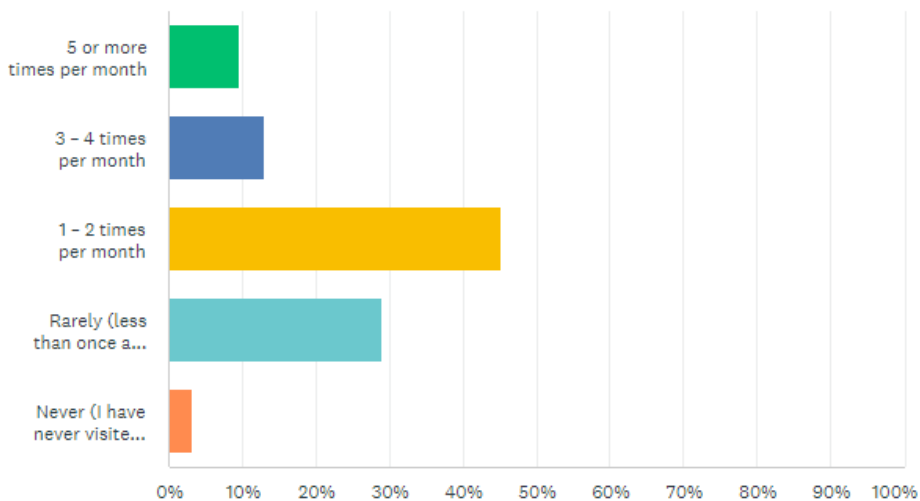
- Access to additional links such as ECKLC.





9. On average, how many times per month do you use ECKLC (Head Start) oral health webpages for OHS-approved information and resources?

Answered: 31 Skipped: 0



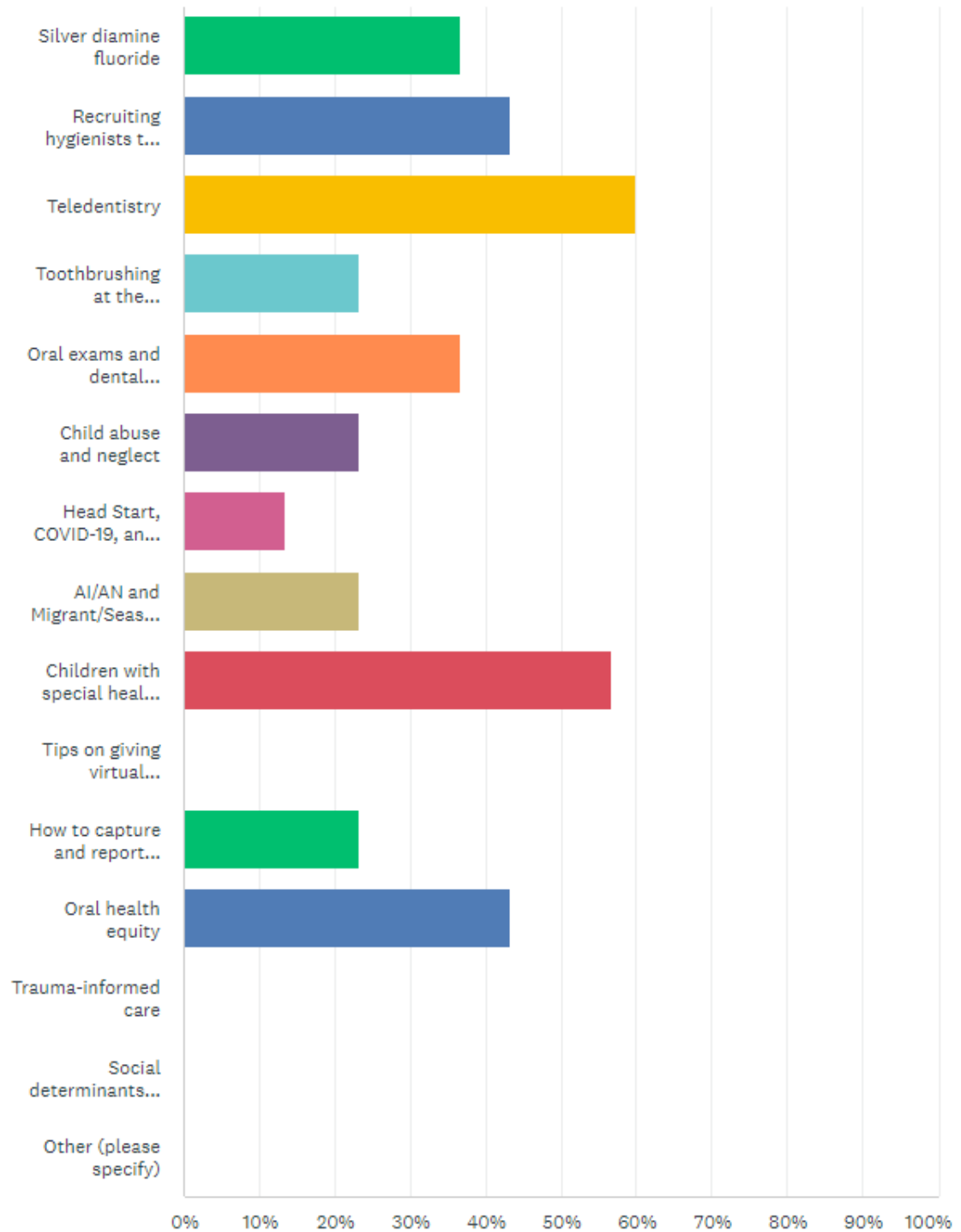
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
5 or more times per month	9.68% 3
3 - 4 times per month	12.90% 4
1 - 2 times per month	45.16% 14
Rarely (less than once a month)	29.03% 9
Never (I have never visited the ECKLC NCHBHS webpage)	3.23% 1
TOTAL	31





10. What content areas would you like addressed on future DHL webinars? (Select all that apply.)

Answered: 30 Skipped: 1





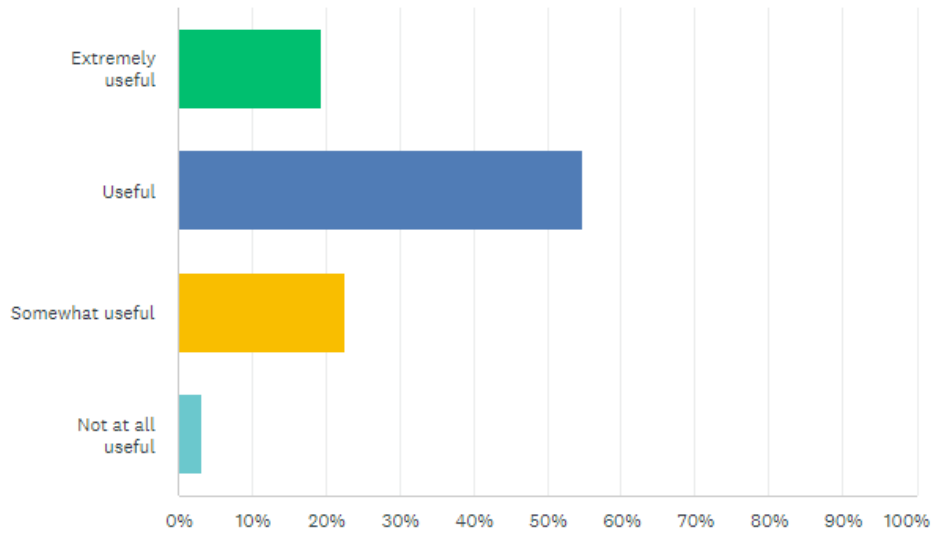
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
▼ Silver diamine fluoride	36.67%	11
▼ Recruiting hygienists to assist the state DHL	43.33%	13
▼ Teledentistry	60.00%	18
▼ Toothbrushing at the classroom table	23.33%	7
▼ Oral exams and dental periodicity schedules for EPSDT (Medicaid) services	36.67%	11
▼ Child abuse and neglect	23.33%	7
▼ Head Start, COVID-19, and oral health	13.33%	4
▼ AI/AN and Migrant/Seasonal Head Start programs	23.33%	7
▼ Children with special health care needs	56.67%	17
▼ Tips on giving virtual presentations	0.00%	0
▼ How to capture and report success stories	23.33%	7
▼ Oral health equity	43.33%	13
▼ Trauma-informed care	0.00%	0
▼ Social determinants of health	0.00%	0
▼ Other (please specify)	Responses 0.00%	0
Total Respondents: 30		





11. Please rate how useful you find the DHL discussion list (headstart@groups.astdd.org).

Answered: 31 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Extremely useful	19.35% 6
Useful	54.84% 17
Somewhat useful	22.58% 7
Not at all useful	3.23% 1
TOTAL	31





12. **What additional types of information would you like to receive on the DHL discussion list (headstart@groups.astdd.org)?**

Answered: 9 (2 non-applicable responses)

Skipped: 22

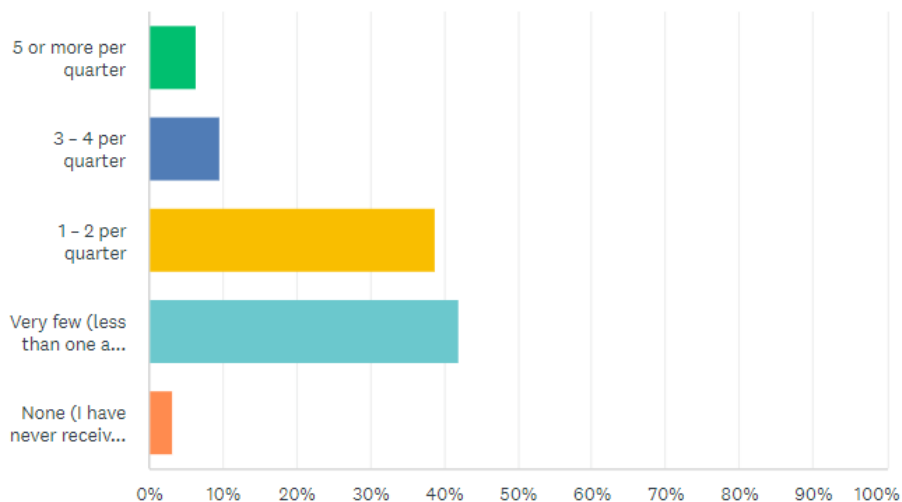
Theme	Number	Key Quotes
Sharing DHL experiences, issues, collaborations	2	<p>"Maybe share what each DHL is doing in their state."</p> <p>"How to make connections with Head Start programs."</p>
Sharing resources, best practices, resources, select topics, advocacy	2	<p>"Send us resources to forward directly to Head Start programs (this would make it very easy for us to send quickly to our email distribution lists)."</p> <p>"Hot topic points of interest we need to share with head start stakeholders. For example, e-mail gets overrun with announcements and often spam. By the time I am able to decipher if I need to forward out, it may be too late. It would be great in my opinion to have "information watchers" share firsthand with DHL's to get messages out in a timely manner. Otherwise, I just need to do a better job reviewing and sharing on the discussion list!"</p>
Additional comments	3	<p>"The page is well designed and currently includes information that I have needed."</p> <p>"I have enjoyed the content and meetings/webinars that we have had that I have been able to participate in."</p> <p>"Since I am new, I am not familiar with the DHL discussion list...yet."</p>





13. On average, how many DHL-related requests do you receive from Head Start programs on a quarterly basis (e.g., presentations, technical assistance, meetings, sharing resources)?

Answered: 31 Skipped: 0



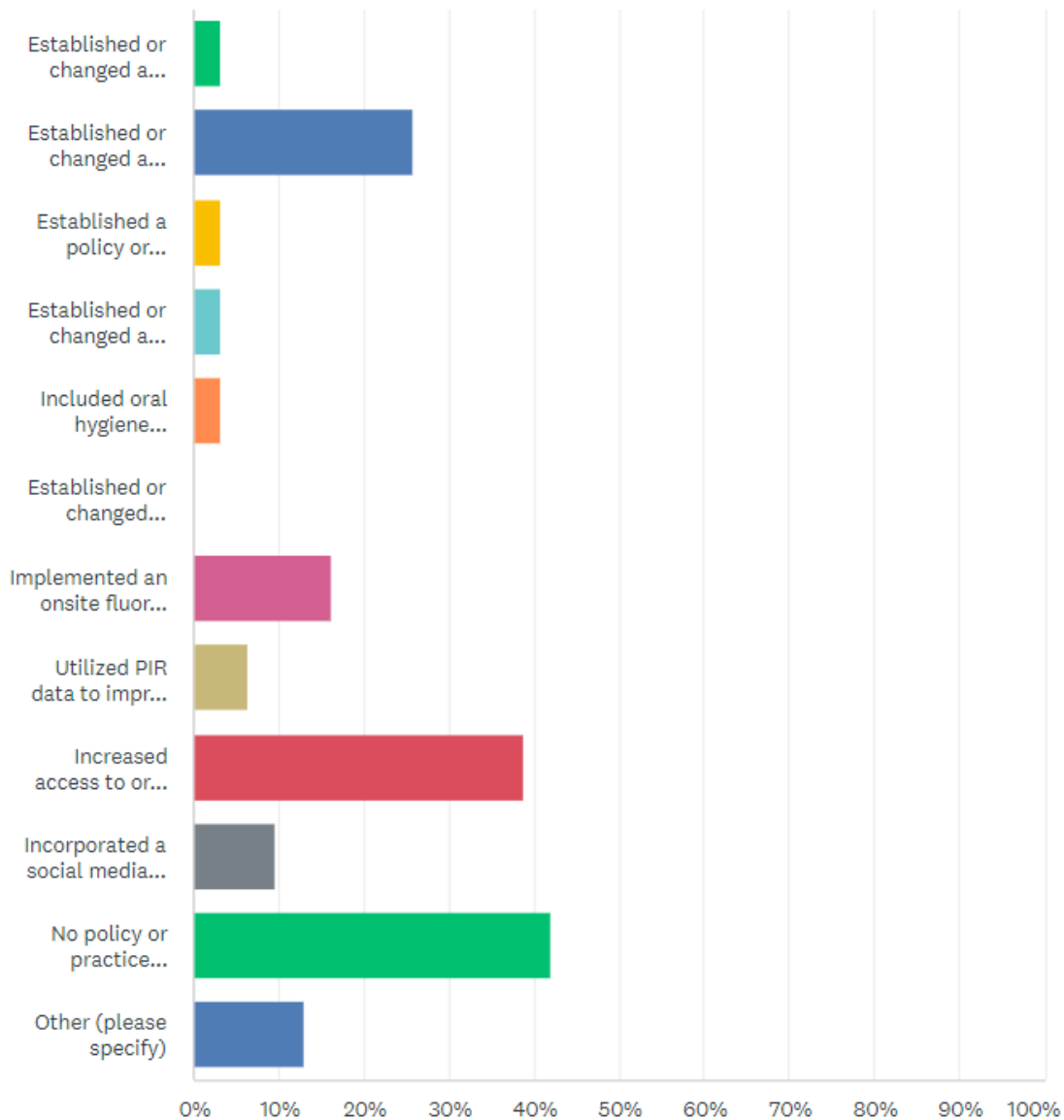
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
5 or more per quarter	6.45% 2
3 - 4 per quarter	9.68% 3
1 - 2 per quarter	38.71% 12
Very few (less than one a quarter)	41.94% 13
None (I have never received a request)	3.23% 1
TOTAL	31





14. Based on your communication with Head Start staff, in the past year, which Head Start program practice changes resulted from your DHL work? Select all that apply.

Answered: 31 Skipped: 0





ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Established or changed a policy or procedure related to Head Start and the state dental periodicity schedule	3.23%	1
Established or changed a policy or procedure related to toothbrushing in the Head Start classroom	25.81%	8
Established a policy or procedure to make drinking fluoridated water accessible to children throughout the day	3.23%	1
Established or changed a policy and procedure on oral hygiene practices for infants and children	3.23%	1
Included oral hygiene practices as part of a staff wellness program	3.23%	1
Established or changed policies and procedures for preventing and/or handling oral injuries	0.00%	0
Implemented an onsite fluoride varnish program	16.13%	5
Utilized PIR data to improve referral and or tracking systems	6.45%	2
Increased access to oral health care	38.71%	12
Incorporated a social media campaign into educational programming and messaging	9.68%	3
No policy or practice changes, or not aware of any	41.94%	13
Other (please specify)	Responses 12.90%	4
Total Respondents: 31		

Other (please specify)

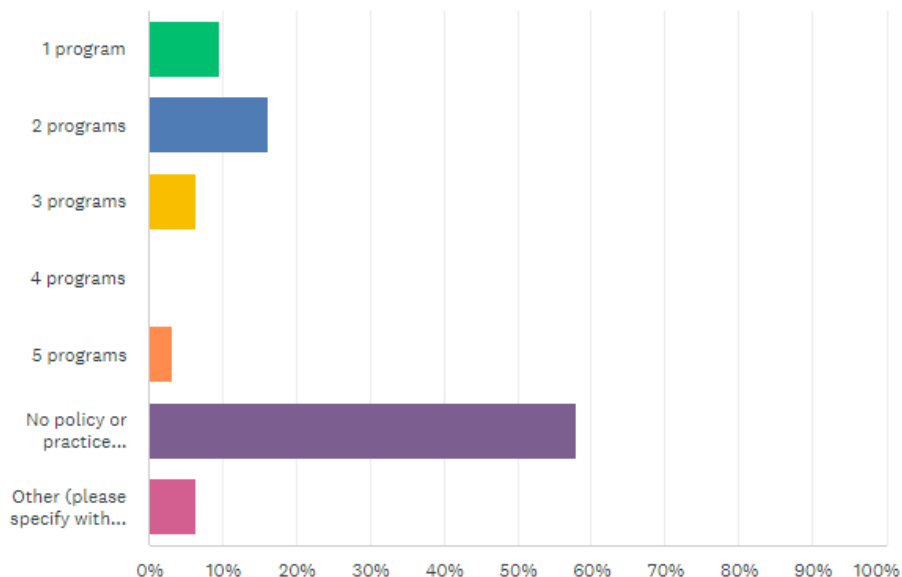
- COVID, insufficient staffing, low enrollment has all negatively impacted the HS centers in my area.
- **Provided toothbrushes for Head Start children for oral health promotion.**
- Most are returning to classroom brushing which they were doing pre-COVID.
- Would like more information in this area.





15. Based on your communication with Head Start staff, in the past year, how many Head Start programs made practice changes as a result of your DHL work?

Answered: 31 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
1 program	9.68% 3
2 programs	16.13% 5
3 programs	6.45% 2
4 programs	0.00% 0
5 programs	3.23% 1
No policy or practice changes, or not aware of any	58.06% 18
Other (please specify with a numerical value)	Responses 6.45% 2
TOTAL	31

Answered: 2 (1 non-applicable response)

Other (please specify)

- More than five HS programs have gone back to toothbrushing in the classroom.





16. **Based on your communication with Head Start staff, please describe how Head Start programs are using Resources to Make You Smile! (e.g., changing oral health policies and procedures, making recipes from Cook’s Corner).**

Answered: 21(10 non-applicable response)

Skipped: 10

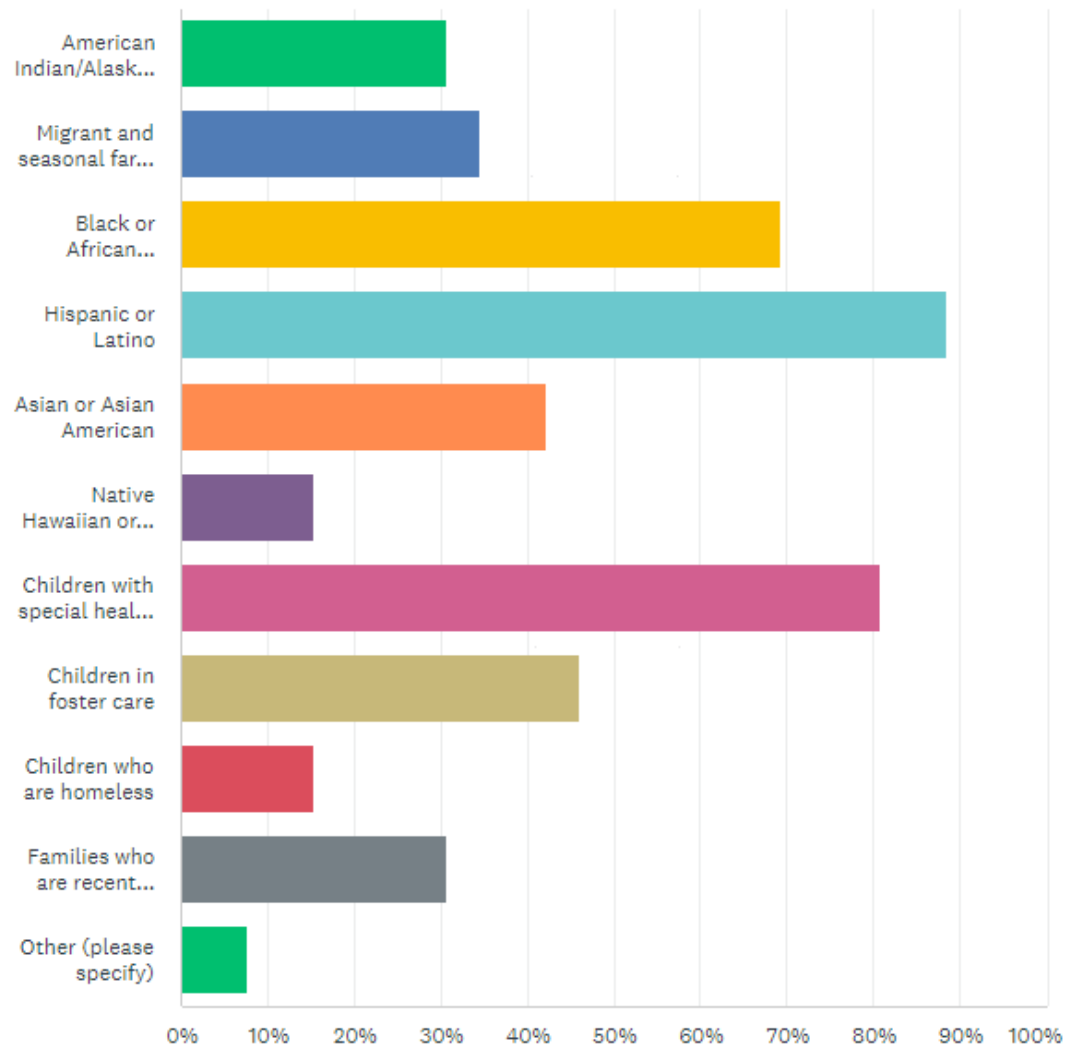
DHL Responses
"I am very new to the DHL project and just started last month."
"Using for their snack schedule."
"I spoke with one program, and they use the Cook’s Corner to provide recipes to parents after they tested it at the centers with kids! They love this feature, and it provides a connection to the parents. One of my staff also shared that they can even share personal stories of how their child really liked/disliked the recipe."
"Including some of the articles in their newsletter or on their website."
"I send the most recent version of resources to make you smile to the Head Start program contacts on a monthly basis. One program indicated they send a printed copy of the "brush up on oral health PDF on "following up on needed oral health care" home with any child whose dental indicated they need follow up care. I need to ask other programs how they are using Resources to Make You Smile!; I am not sure if they are routinely sending it to families. I will ask in my next communication with them."
"Using recipes of Cook’s Corner and incorporating toothbrushing in Head Start Centers according to recommended protocols during COVID-19."
"I was asked to not share Resources to Make You Smile! because it was something they already are getting access to. But they do enjoy them. Instead, I have been sharing information being shared with me from my regional director and other information I come across."
"Included in their newsletters."
"Sharing with staff and parents."
"Making recipes and just staying informed on oral health topics."
"I will research and keep this a priority objective."





17. Do you have experience working with the following populations? (Select all that apply.)

Answered: 26 Skipped: 5





ANSWER CHOICES		RESPONSES
▼ American Indian/Alaskan Native		30.77% 8
▼ Migrant and seasonal farm workers and their children		34.62% 9
▼ Black or African American		69.23% 18
▼ Hispanic or Latino		88.46% 23
▼ Asian or Asian American		42.31% 11
▼ Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander		15.38% 4
▼ Children with special health care needs		80.77% 21
▼ Children in foster care		46.15% 12
▼ Children who are homeless		15.38% 4
▼ Families who are recent refugees/immigrants		30.77% 8
▼ Other (please specify)	Responses	7.69% 2

Answered: 2 (1 non-applicable response)

Other (Please specify)

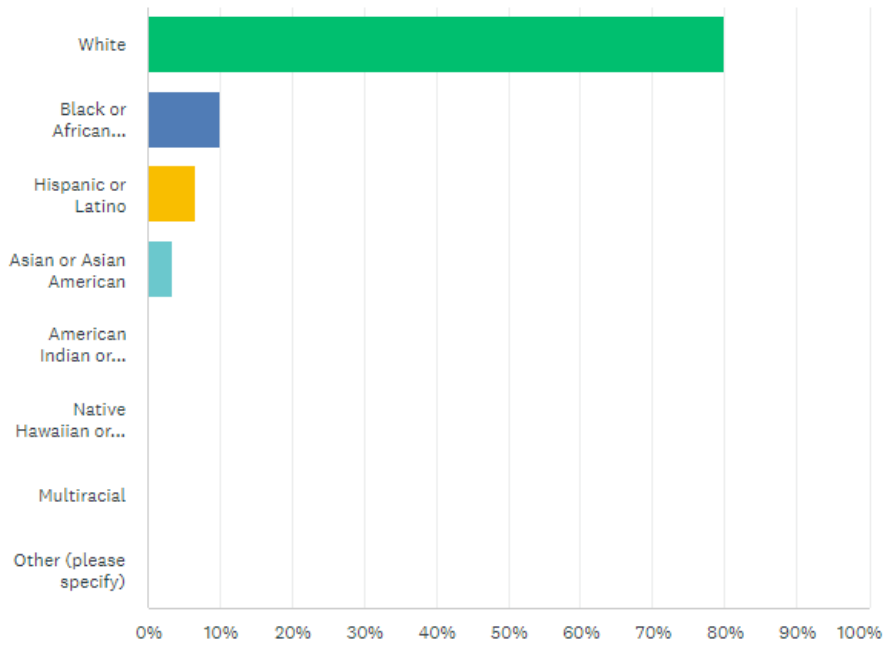
- West Indian





18. What is your race/ethnicity? (Optional.)

Answered: 30 Skipped: 1



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
White	80.00% 24
Black or African American	10.00% 3
Hispanic or Latino	6.67% 2
Asian or Asian American	3.33% 1
American Indian or Alaska Native	0.00% 0
Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander	0.00% 0
Multiracial	0.00% 0
Other (please specify)	Responses 0.00% 0
TOTAL	30

19. If you can give a presentation in a language or languages other than English, please specify language(s).

- Spanish





20. What is the most rewarding aspect of being a DHL?

Answered: 26

Skipped: 5

Theme	Number	Key Quotes
Providing assistance (general) Giving back/making a Difference/ Getting involved	17	<p>“Connecting/networking.”</p> <p>“Helping Head Start staff and families with their oral health care needs. Also, being part of a wonderful and dedicated group of RDHs.”</p> <p>“Community service.”</p> <p>“Enjoy the networking.”</p> <p>“Creating connections in my community and having them call on me when they need help.”</p> <p>“Working and giving back to my community. I was a Head Start student back in 1996 and I love teaching others (parents, students, teachers) about oral hygiene and finding a regimen that works for them.”</p> <p>“Getting to meet and know the other DHLs and RDHLCs.”</p> <p>“Recognizing the value of our work in improving the lives of children and families in Head Start.”</p> <p>“Connecting with program and assisting in their request for oral hygiene supplies, toothbrushing protocols, finding dentists, and collaborating with community events.”</p> <p>“Offering my services to Head Start programs that did not know I existed.”</p> <p>“The webinars.”</p> <p>“Visiting facilities during February (Nationals Children’s Dental Health Month) and presenting.”</p> <p>“Giving back to the community (my second home).”</p> <p>“Chatting with other DHLs.”</p> <p>“I hope to make a difference.”</p> <p>“Serving as an oral health resource for the Early Head Start/Head Start programs in Texas and providing information and oral health education for Head Start staff, parents, and students.”</p> <p>“It allows me to provide support to health managers and center leads to encourage oral health promotion/activities and to be available as a resource for questions and concerns. It keeps oral health on the minds of the people responsible for the policies and procedures relating to oral health in each program. It is rewarding to know that we are continuously sharing oral health knowledge to staff and families who will use this to give the people in their lives a true "Head Start" on creating and keeping strong teeth and oral health for a lifetime.”</p>





Increasing oral health awareness	4	<p>"I am new to the DHL project and my hope is to improve the oral health of young children and their parents."</p> <p>"Helping to keep children well."</p> <p>"Learning how to equip and empower Head Start staff to better meet dental needs of their families and students."</p> <p>"Helping improve the oral health/overall health of children and pregnant women enrolled in Head Start."</p>
Providing education	1	<p>"Educating Head Start staff and the children as well."</p>
Improving access to care	4	<p>"Helping those in need access dental care and helping those find dental homes to continue care."</p> <p>"I get to help underserved populations find dental care providers and to be a dental hygiene resource for them."</p> <p>"Connecting programs with resources and serving kids that otherwise would not receive care."</p> <p>"Helping children and families get access to care and educating staff and parents:-) Also, I love working/collaborating with other RDH's and other health professionals."</p>





21. **What are the most significant challenges (if any) you have in fulfilling the DHL role?**

Answered: 23 (3 non-applicable response)

Skipped: 5

Theme	Number	Key Quotes
Providing services, lack of time, funding, geography/ travel	7	<p>“Having enough time to participate in Head Start meetings and connect with Head Start partners across the state.”</p> <p>“Travel to several centers and getting dental volunteers for events.”</p> <p>“I wish I had more time to dedicate to the project.”</p>
Establishing and maintaining contacts, Head Start and stakeholder turn- over	4	<p>“Recent staff changes.”</p> <p>“Trying to make connections with Head Start programs.”</p> <p>“Getting to meet with the Head Start groups in my state.”</p> <p>“Keeping an updated list of Head Start and Early Head Start centers and health managers. The turnover has been frequent lately. The Head Start collaboration administrator is a help but it is still a struggle.”</p>
Limited access to care	3	<p>“Finding a dentist that will see children covered by Medicaid.”</p> <p>“Navigating how I can be most useful to help programs meet their dental needs, especially in communities with limited access for children or pregnant women dependent on Medicaid or without insurance. Better understanding PIR data and how it can be used as a tool to improve access.”</p> <p>“Finding dentists who will take kids that have restorative needs that are beyond my scope of practice.”</p>
COVID-19	3	<p>“COVID-19 changed so much for Head Start centers. I am looking forward to this fall for a re-start in my DHL work. I haven’t been on site in 2 years so that in and of itself is a challenge.”</p> <p>“COVID-19 has created so many challenges for all of us including limited enrollment, staff turnover, and staffing shortages.”</p> <p>“Pandemic worries persist.”</p>
Additional Comments	3	<p>“Conflicts with Head Start programs Health Advisory committee meetings on same dates and time both in person and/or virtually.”</p> <p>“Not living full-time in the Virgin Islands.”</p> <p>“Steep learning curve.”</p>





22. What suggestions do you have to improve the DHL program?

Answered: 13 (6 non-applicable responses) Skipped: 12

Theme	Number	Key Quotes
Collaboration among DHLs	3	<p>"More opportunities for DHLs to have discussions about what we're doing, ask each other questions, learn new things, etc."</p> <p>"Continued gatherings/meetings to share other DHL's successes and challenges. Possibly a place where we could share resources/documents with each other (not sure if they have to be approved first?) For example, sample screening forms, presentation recordings, educational posters etc."</p> <p>"Share success stories."</p>
DHL training	3	<p>"Continue to provide guidance, trainings, or webinars, and resources for DHLs."</p> <p>"More presentations to DHLs."</p> <p>"I think there is a lot of good information available. I need to spend more time accessing it. I do enjoy the webinars for our region to see what others are doing and learn more on different topics."</p>
DHL program capacity, funding, workforce	2	<p>"I like the idea of recruiting dental hygienists or even dental hygiene students to assist in our efforts."</p> <p>"Perhaps expand the DHL program to recruit ADHA member RDHs to serve as local DHLs with access to DHL materials and presentations."</p>
Increase awareness of DHL program among stakeholders	1	<p>"Networking has worked well. Hard to fill out this survey as things have been different the past 2 years. I am finally finding contacts with Head Start groups throughout the state. I was referred by DHL project leadership to TAP which opened up further liaisons. My closing introductory phrase is, please use me."</p>





Theme	Number	Key Quotes
Additional comments	4	<p>“When my husband was sick and we were going thru a tough time, I was getting emails from project leadership that was more personal instead of our daily "business". that really meant more to me than you can imagine. I would like to be more proactive in getting to know my DHLs in my region so I can share those tough times with you all to return the same favor. It made a big impact on how I feel about the project just by having 2 people care so much. I hope to return the favor as well as a RDHLC to my DHL’s, but I wanted you to know what an impact that was for me. I hope to be paying it forward in the future!!”</p> <p>“I just need to dedicate time to the DHL/RDHL work-the leadership does a fantastic job!”</p> <p>“Kathy is very supportive!”</p> <p>“This is the question I got from the Hawaii Oral Health Coalition. How can we improve the outcomes of Hawaii’s oral health?”</p>

