

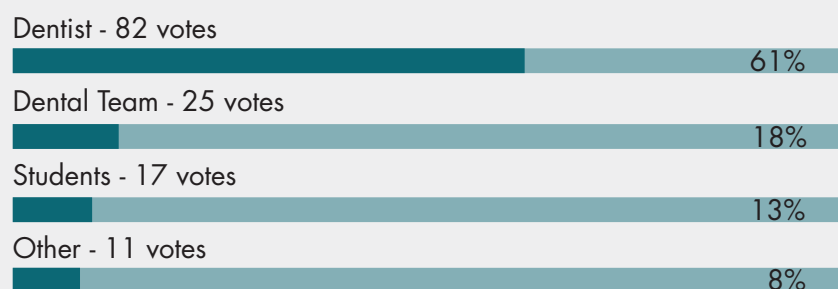
# Voices of Dentistry

## INSIGHTS FROM OUR FUTURE OF DENTISTRY TOWN HALL

CDA's Future of Dentistry workgroup brings together dentists from diverse perspectives to examine complex issues facing the profession. During CDA Presents 2026, a live virtual town hall was used to gather real-world sentiments on what's next for the profession.

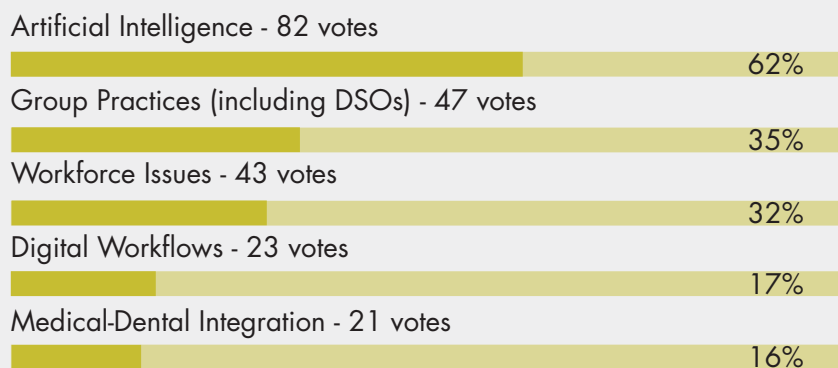
Here's what 135 CDA members and dental team staff shared on-site in Anaheim and online through multiple choice polls.

### Which best describes your role in dentistry?



### Which three factors will have the biggest impact on the dental profession over the next 10 years?

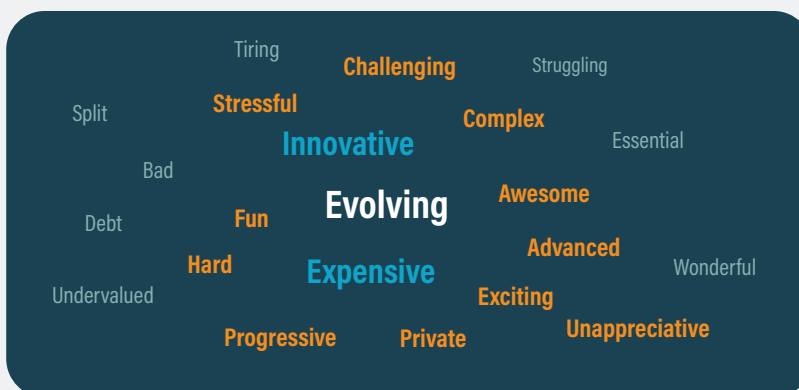
Dental professionals believe that technology will quickly transform dentistry, but financial and workforce pressures remain equally significant.



1

What's one word that describes dentistry today?

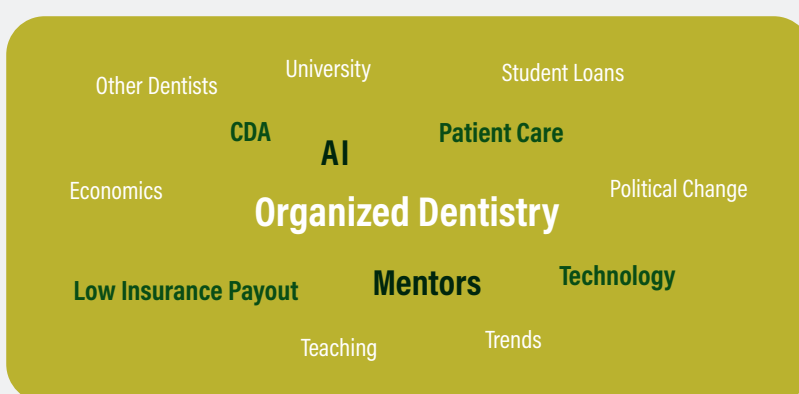
**Evolving** was the defining theme followed by **expensive** and **innovative**.



2

Who or what has most influenced your perspective on the future of the profession?

**Organized dentistry**, **AI** and **mentors** emerged as the top influences.



3

What's the biggest challenge you are facing in your work right now?

**Staffing** was the defining challenge followed by **insurance reimbursement** and **burnout**.



Dental professionals are looking for leadership, advocacy, and practical solutions as dentistry continues to evolve.

Scan here to learn about the Future of Dentistry workgroup.

