



2017 Salary Survey

February 7, 2017

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Objective

The purpose of this report is to share the results of the 2017 NSDAA Membership Salary Survey.

Goals

Surveys were previously completed in 2006 and 2010. Where possible we've included comparisons between the 2017 results with that of previous years.

Summary

389 surveys were completed between January 5th and January 31st, 2017 using an anonymous online survey that was distributed to members by email and promoted by some NSDAA Affiliates on social media.

RESULTS

Respondent Information

In which county are you employed?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Annapolis	2.3%	9
Antigonish	1.0%	4
Cape Breton	10.9%	42
Colchester	5.2%	20
Cumberland	1.8%	7
Digby	1.0%	4
Guysborough	0.0%	0
Halifax (HRM)	53.2%	206
Hants	4.7%	18
Inverness	1.0%	4
Kings	6.2%	24
Lunenburg	5.4%	21
Pictou	3.9%	15
Queens	0.0%	0
Richmond	0.0%	0
Shelburne	1.0%	4
Victoria	0.0%	0
Yarmouth	1.6%	6
Other (please specify)	0.8%	3
ANSWERED QUESTION		387
SKIPPED QUESTION		2

Which age group applies to you?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Under 30	25.6%	100
30 - 40	24.6%	96
40 - 50	26.7%	103
Over 50	23.1%	90
ANSWERED QUESTION		389
SKIPPED QUESTION		0

Your Office

Which best describes your role in the dental office?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Licensed Dental Assistant working chair side	66.8%	260
Licensed Dental Assistant working reception	3.9%	15
Licensed Dental Assistant working chair side & reception	20.1%	78
Non-licensed Dental Assistant	0.5%	2
Other (please specify)	8.7%	34
ANSWERED QUESTION		389
SKIPPED QUESTION		0

How many hours per week do you work?

	2017	2010	2006
Average Hours per week	35.5	34.3	35.4

What best describes your work setting?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
General	75.6%	292
Specialty	15.5%	60
Teaching	1.8%	7
Front Desk	2.6%	10
Other (please specify)	4.4%	17
ANSWERED QUESTION		386
SKIPPED QUESTION		3

Your Employment

What is your current employment status?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Full-time	85.3%	331
Part-time	9.0%	35
Relief/Temp	2.1%	8
Other (please specify)	3.6%	14
ANSWERED QUESTION		388
SKIPPED QUESTION		1

How many years have you worked as a dental assistant?

Answer Options	2017	2010	2006
Years as dental assistant (AVERAGE)	16.5	14.8	13.6

How many years have you worked with your present employer?

Answer Options	2017	2010	2006
Years with present employer (AVERAGE)	8.8	7.7	7.4

What is your hourly rate of pay (if salaried, please break down to hourly rate)?

Answer Options	2017	2010	2006
Hourly rate of pay (AVERAGE)	\$21.18	\$18.44	\$16.65

Average hourly rate of pay by county

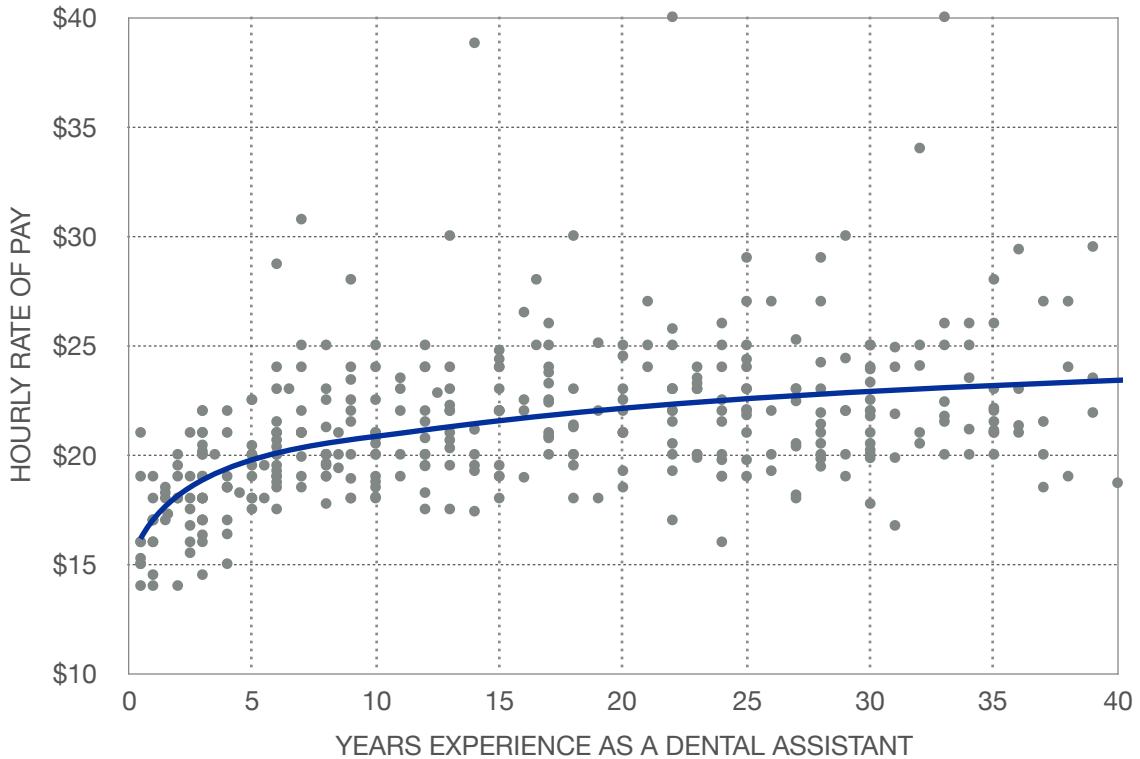
Answer Options	2017
Annapolis	\$20.50
Antigonish	\$20.75
Cape Breton	\$19.51
Colchester	\$21.04
Cumberland	\$19.22
Digby	\$21.00
Halifax (HRM)	\$21.78
Hants	\$22.03
Inverness	\$19.19
Kings	\$21.46

Answer Options	2017
Lunenburg	\$20.65
Pictou	\$20.35
Shelburne	\$19.56
Yarmouth	\$20.68

Average hourly rate of pay by age range

Answer Options	2017
Under 30	\$18.74
30 - 40	\$21.07
40 - 50	\$22.07
Over 50	\$23.06

Hourly rate of pay by years of experience (and “best fit” line)



Do you receive annual salary increases?

Answer Options	2017	2010	2006
YES	36%	49%	51%
NO	64%	51%	49%

What benefits do you receive from your employer? (select all that apply)

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Paid Continuing Education	61.7%	229
Uniform Allowance	60.1%	223
Paid or Provided Dental Benefits	58.5%	217
Paid Sick Days	57.7%	214
Bonuses	36.9%	137
Yearly Raises	30.7%	114
Paid Health Plan	28.3%	105
Bereavement Benefits	24.0%	89
Yearly Review	23.7%	88
Parking	19.4%	72
Paid Membership/License Fee	19.1%	71
Paid Overtime	17.0%	63
Regular Pay When Dentist Away (not vacation)	15.4%	57
Other (please specify)	13.7%	51
ANSWERED QUESTION		371
SKIPPED QUESTION		18