

Oral Health Infrastructure in the District of Columbia

From the 2017 District of Columbia Oral Health Surveillance System (DC OHSS)



1355 dentists have active licenses in DC. **736** dentists report practicing in DC.
542 dental hygienists and **641** dental assistants have active licenses in DC.

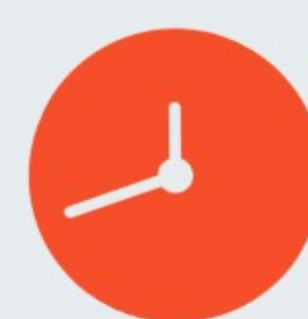
68.3% of the dentists report not currently accepting DC Medicaid, but **26.1%** of these dentists report they plan to in the future.

30.5% of the dentists report treating individuals with intellectual or developmental disabilities

Among the 736 Dentists Who Practice Full or Part-Time in DC,



4% plan to **reduce** patient hours



12.1% plan to **increase** patient hours



1.9% plan to **move clinical practice out of DC**



4.5% plan to **move clinical practice within/into DC**



4.4% plan to shift time to **non-clinical activities**



10.5% plan to **hire additional dentists or hygienists**



3% plan to **retire**

SOURCE: District of Columbia Department of Health. Dentist Workforce Survey, 2015

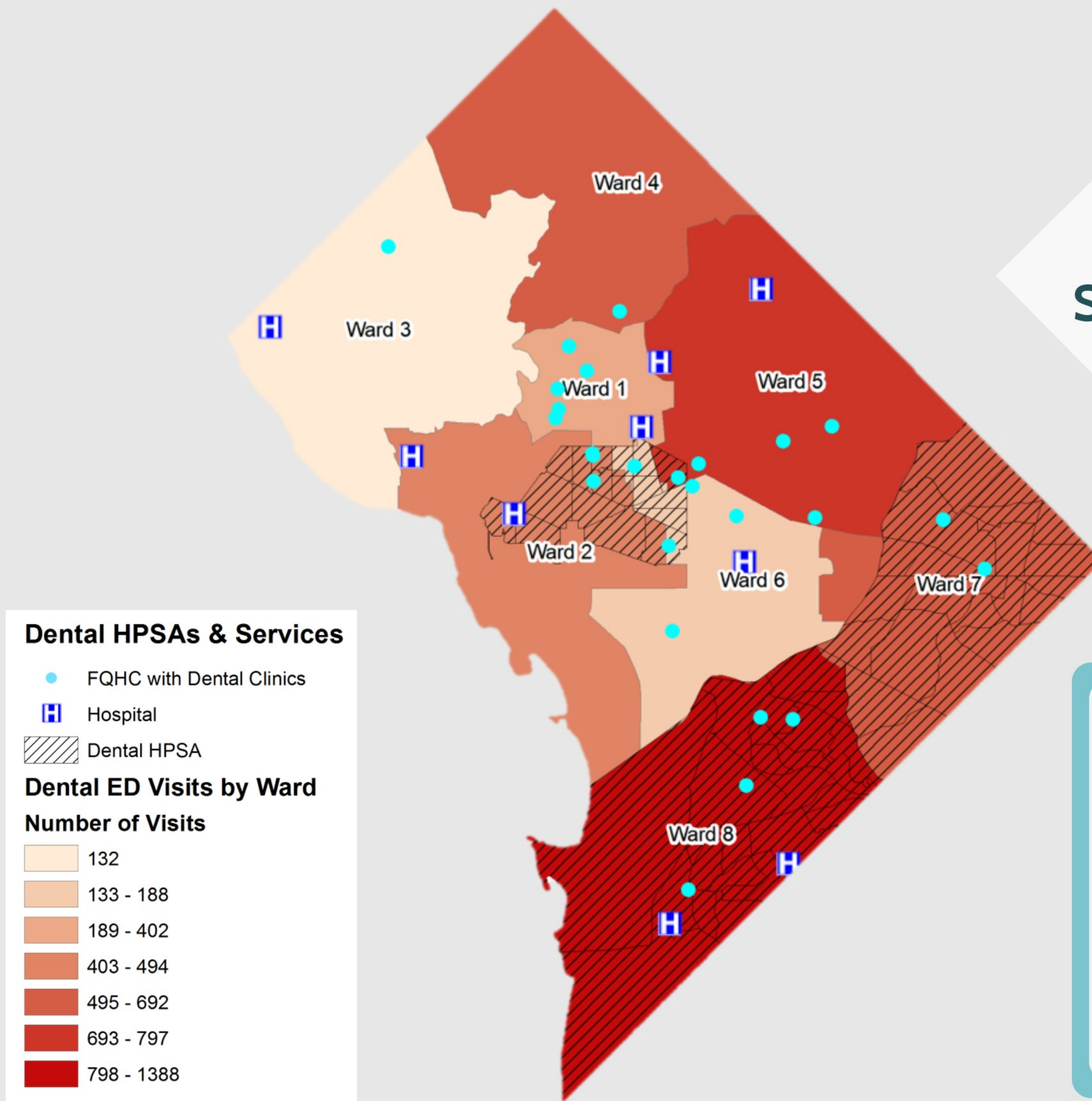
6 of **8** Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHC)
at **26** locations provide dental services in DC.



On average, about **22%** of FQHC patients visited the FQHC's dental clinic in 2015.

SOURCE: Health Resources & Services Administration. Health Center Data: District of Columbia Program Grantee Data, 2015

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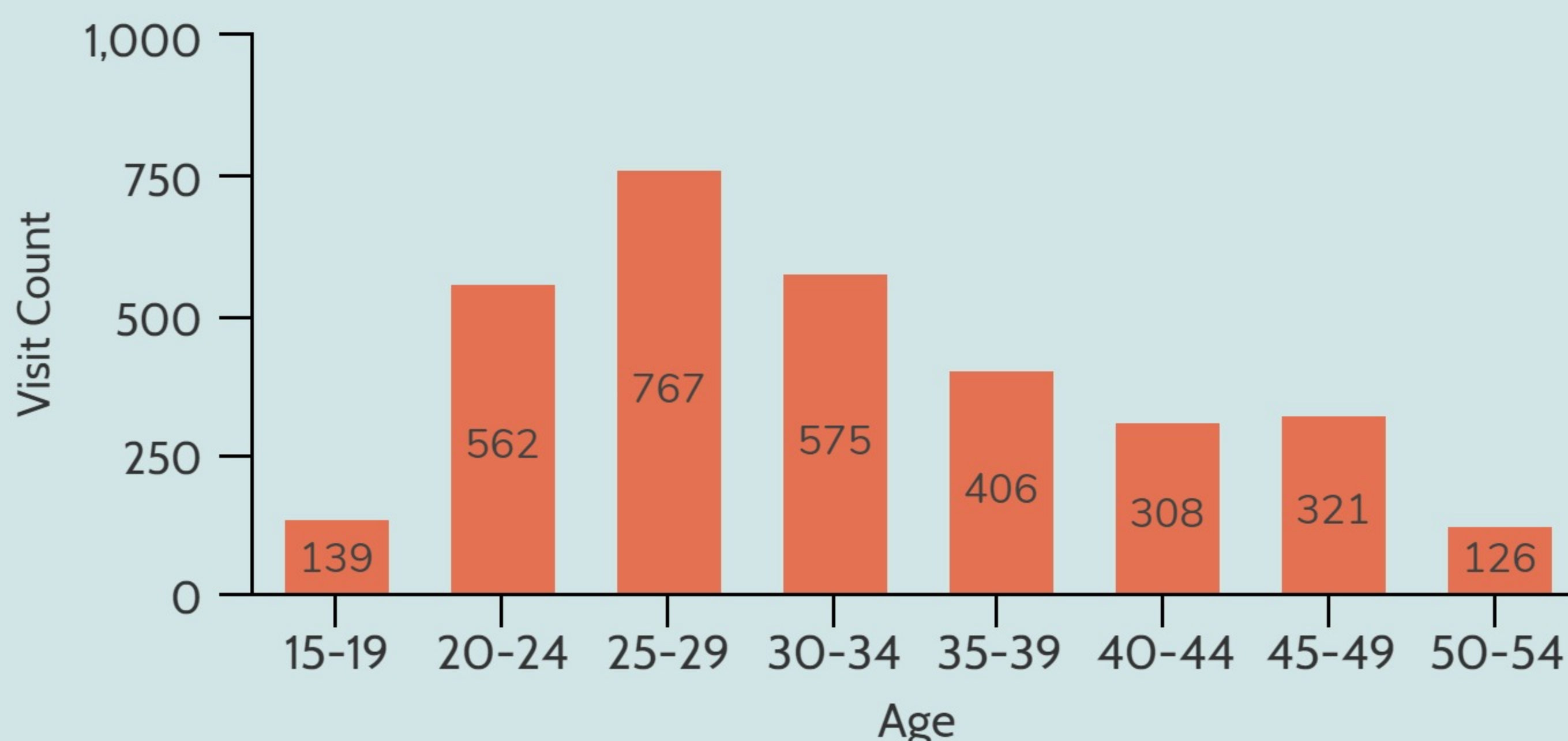


Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSA)

DC has two (2) designated dental HPSAs: a low-income population designation covering the neighborhoods east of the river and a homeless population designation covering the District's downtown.

SOURCE: Health Resources & Services Administration. Health Professional Shortage Areas Data, 2017

Non-traumatic Oral Health ED Visits by Age



2675 (1.2%) Emergency Department (ED) visits were oral health related in 2015. **95%** of the oral health-related ED visits were for **NON-TRAUMATIC*** conditions.

***Non-traumatic** oral health conditions include tooth decay, gum disease, and dental abscesses. Most of these conditions may be resolved through regular visits to dentists.

SOURCE: The Electronic Surveillance System for the Early Notification of Community-Based Epidemics (ESSENCE II), 2014-2015