

JERSEY
CHOICE

TOP DENTISTS

2025

★ New Jersey Monthly ★

TOP DENTISTS 2025



New Jersey's dentists have voted, and the results are in. Our 2025 Top Dentists list features the state's 614 best practitioners in ten specialties, as chosen by their peers.

Searching for a great dentist? Look no further. *New Jersey Monthly's* annual Jersey Choice Top Dentists list is here. To compile this year's rundown of excellent practitioners in the state, we polled dentists around New Jersey and asked them whom they would want to treat themselves and their own families. Their responses guided this list. (To understand more about the survey, read our FAQ and methodology on the upcoming pages.)

We also interviewed several Top Dentists to get their advice on everything from whitening teeth to easing dental-visit anxiety. Their insights are sprinkled throughout this section.

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Ask a Dentist

Q. What's one thing you wish every patient would do for their teeth—but most don't?

“Most people don't floss. Research shows that if you floss every day, you will live an extra seven years.”

—DR. LEE T. FROST
General Dentistry



“See a hygienist for cleanings every six months. Routine care is the best way to avoid serious issues that require extensive treatment.”

—DR. ASHLEY AZIZIAN
Prosthodontics



“Proudly reveal their teeth more in the form of a smile. It's a healthier and happier way to live. It makes a person more likable, attracting others to want to be around them. If a person develops a habit of smiling, they will naturally also be more inclined to take good care of their teeth. That synergy is seamless, resulting in healthier, happier people, an amazing byproduct of a simple smile.”

—DR. JASON M. SUSS
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WHAT'S THAT NUMBER?

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The number indicates how many years a dentist has appeared on our list during the 17 years under our current methodology.

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FAQ: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

How do dentists get on the Jersey Choice Top Dentists list?

There are two ways: They are either voted onto the list by their peers (see methodology, page 53), or they are nominated by our professional advisory board (see page 58).

How many votes does a dentist need to appear on the list?

It depends. Most specialties have a standard threshold based on the number of dentists responding to the survey. We lower the threshold for certain specialties and for regions of the state with fewer practitioners.

Many dentists advertise in this issue. Does that help them get on the list?

Absolutely not. Only after the list has been

finalized are dentists notified. At that point, they can choose to purchase advertising to promote the achievement. Many of these ads appear in the Special Advertising Section that begins on page 63. For clarity, all of the pages in that section are identified as Special Advertising Section.

I have a great dentist. How come my dentist is not on the list?

Unlike some online professional directories, we do not add dentists to the list based on reader suggestions. This list is based purely on balloting by licensed New Jersey dentists and the professional advisory board. Our advice: If you are happy with your dental practitioners, stay with them.

Why do some areas of the state have so few dentists on the list?

Eight of the state's 21 counties—including five thinly populated southern counties—have only 2 percent or less of the state's licensed dentists. That makes it difficult for dentists in those counties to get a statistically significant number of votes. However, by lowering the number of votes needed in those areas, we've enabled the eight southern counties to place 110 dentists on the list, 18 percent of the total number.

I see some of the same names on this list every year. Does it change?

Yes! This year's list has 97 names that were not on last year's list. That's 16 percent of the total 614 Top Dentists.

Ask a Dentist

Q. If you could put a billboard outside of every New Jersey dental office, what would it say?



“Ignore your teeth and they will go away.”

—DR. ROBERT MARTINI
Prosthodontics



“Don’t dim your smile. Quit smoking today!”

—DR. ASHLEY AZIZIAN
Prosthodontics



“Your smile opens doors—protect it. It’s something I often say to my teenage patients when they finish treatment. A great smile creates confidence at every stage of life.”

—DR. ANDREW D. HOCH
Orthodontics



“You typically get what you pay for. Price should not be the only factor in determining proper dental care.”

—DR. JOSHUA Z. EPSTEIN
Orthodontics

PHOTOGRAPH: (DR. MARTINI) PETE BYRON

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Ask a Dentist

Q. How can patients overcome anxiety about seeing the dentist?

“Interview the dentist and staff first. See if you are comfortable with them. Read online reviews about the practice from existing patients.”



—DR. LEE T. FROST
General Dentistry

“For kids, stay out of the room. Never use the word *hurt*.”



—DR. ROBERT GRIGGS
General Dentistry

“Start by finding a dentist you trust—someone who listens without judgment and genuinely understands your fears. Begin with a simple conversation. We’re here to support you, not to scare or shame you. Dentistry today is more comfortable than ever. With minimally invasive techniques and advanced technology, we can make your experience as pleasant and stress free as possible.”



—DR. ANDREW R. SAMUEL
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METHODOLOGY

FOR THIS YEAR'S LIST of Jersey Choice Top Dentists, *New Jersey Monthly* commissioned an independent survey of the state's dentists by K. Dale Associates, a Ringwood-based research firm.

Here's how the survey was conducted: On October 11, 2024, one-page questionnaires were mailed to all 6,734 New Jersey-based dentists who have been licensed in the state for at least five years (but less than 50 years). The mailing list, which is used by the Board of Dentistry for licensing purposes, was obtained from the New Jersey Division of Consumer Affairs. Respondents could either return the original paper questionnaire or complete the questionnaire online. Web survey participants were required to enter their dental license numbers to avoid duplication. Each printed ballot had a unique code number to further protect against duplication.

A total of 1,192 ballots were received by K. Dale Associates (204 by mail and 988 online). After checking for duplication, a total of 1,053 ballots were accepted, for a response rate of 16 percent.

Once all the eligible ballots were tallied, dentists with sufficient votes were placed on a preliminary list. A handful of dentists were then excluded because of significant prior disciplinary actions. Only dentists treating patients at the time of this issue's publication were eligible for inclusion. Finally, the preliminary list was submitted to our advisory board of 20 dentists for professional review. The dentists on the advisory board were chosen from among the top vote getters in last year's survey (see list of board members, page 58).

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Ask a Dentist

Q. How can people get their teeth whiter—and keep them that way?



“Drink through a straw!”

—DR. JOSHUA Z. EPSTEIN
Orthodontics



“Use whitening/bleaching material and maintain with a whitening toothpaste. Minimize coffee and tea intake, and smoking.”

—DR. MICHAEL LATEINER
Pediatric Dentistry



“Brush two times a day for two minutes, and limit dark drinks such as colas, coffee and red wine.”

—DR. ELISA J. VELAZQUEZ
Pediatric Dentistry



“Daily habits matter most. I remind patients that no whitening treatment can overcome bad brushing or heavy coffee and soda habits. Brush, floss, professional cleanings—then touch up with safe whitening products as needed.”

—DR. ANDREW D. HOCH
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Ask a Dentist

Q. How often should people floss?

“Flossing cleans in between teeth where toothbrush bristles don’t reach. Ideally, flossing should be daily.”



—DR. ELISA J. VELAZQUEZ
Pediatric Dentistry

“While every time after you eat is great, even myself as a dentist can’t always do that, so at least once a day.”



—DR. SCOTT D. GERSCH
Orthodontics

“Not everyone is successful with flossing. An electric toothbrush and Waterpik will go a long way to keeping you healthy.”



—DR. ROBERT GRIGGS
General Dentistry

“Orthodontic patients should use a Waterpik daily.”



—DR. JOSHUA Z. EPSTEIN
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The following 20 dentists comprise the professional advisory board for this year's Top Dentists survey. Members of the board reviewed the preliminary results of the survey and were asked to make suggestions for improving the final list.

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Ask a Dentist



What's your top brushing tip?



“Brush gently! I often tell kids, ‘Pretend you’re brushing a baby bird,’ and it sticks with them. And, honestly, adults need the same reminder sometimes.”

—DR. ANDREW D. HOCH
Orthodontics



“Pick your favorite song and make sure to brush until the two-minute point.”

—DR. JOSHUA Z. EPSTEIN
Orthodontics



“Most people really need to use a soft or extra-soft toothbrush, rather than medium or hard.”

—DR. DANIEL KUBIKIAN
Periodontics



“I firmly believe in the use of electric or sonic toothbrushes. One of the main reasons why is that they often have timers in them to help patients brush for the proper amount of time.”

—DR. JOHN R. NOSTI
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Ask a Dentist

Q. What are some side effects of poor oral hygiene?



“Systemic health problems. I’ve had patients shocked to learn that gum disease is linked to heart issues and diabetes. Oral health isn’t just about your smile—it’s about your whole body.”

—DR. ANDREW D. HOCH
Orthodontics



“Erectile dysfunction. Yes, there is a link between periodontal disease and E.D.”

—DR. JOHN R. NOSTI
General Dentistry



“Lack of proper oral hygiene can lead to or worsen heart disease.”

—DR. SEBU IDICULLA
Prosthodontics



“Not brushing regularly can cause bone loss. Gum disease doesn’t just affect your gums—it can destroy the bone that holds your teeth in place.”

—DR. ANDREW R. SAMUEL
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Ask a Dentist

Q. How can people with sensitive teeth find relief?



“Put sensitive toothpaste on their teeth before they go to bed and leave it on there overnight.”

—DR. MICHAEL LATEINER
Pediatric Dentistry



“Limit intake of acidic foods and beverages, as these substances can cause enamel erosion, which exposes dentin (tissue that forms the tooth), therefore causing tooth sensitivity.”

—DR. ASHLEY AZIZIAN
Prosthodontics



“Most of the time, tooth sensitivity is due to temperature changes that touch the root of the tooth. It seems the best way to address this is with a fluoride, which can be found in certain rinses and toothpastes.”

—DR. DANIEL KUBIKIAN
Orthodontics



“Address potential causes such as clenching or grinding habits, gum recession, and broken fillings or cavities.”

—DR. PAUL R. FELDMAN
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