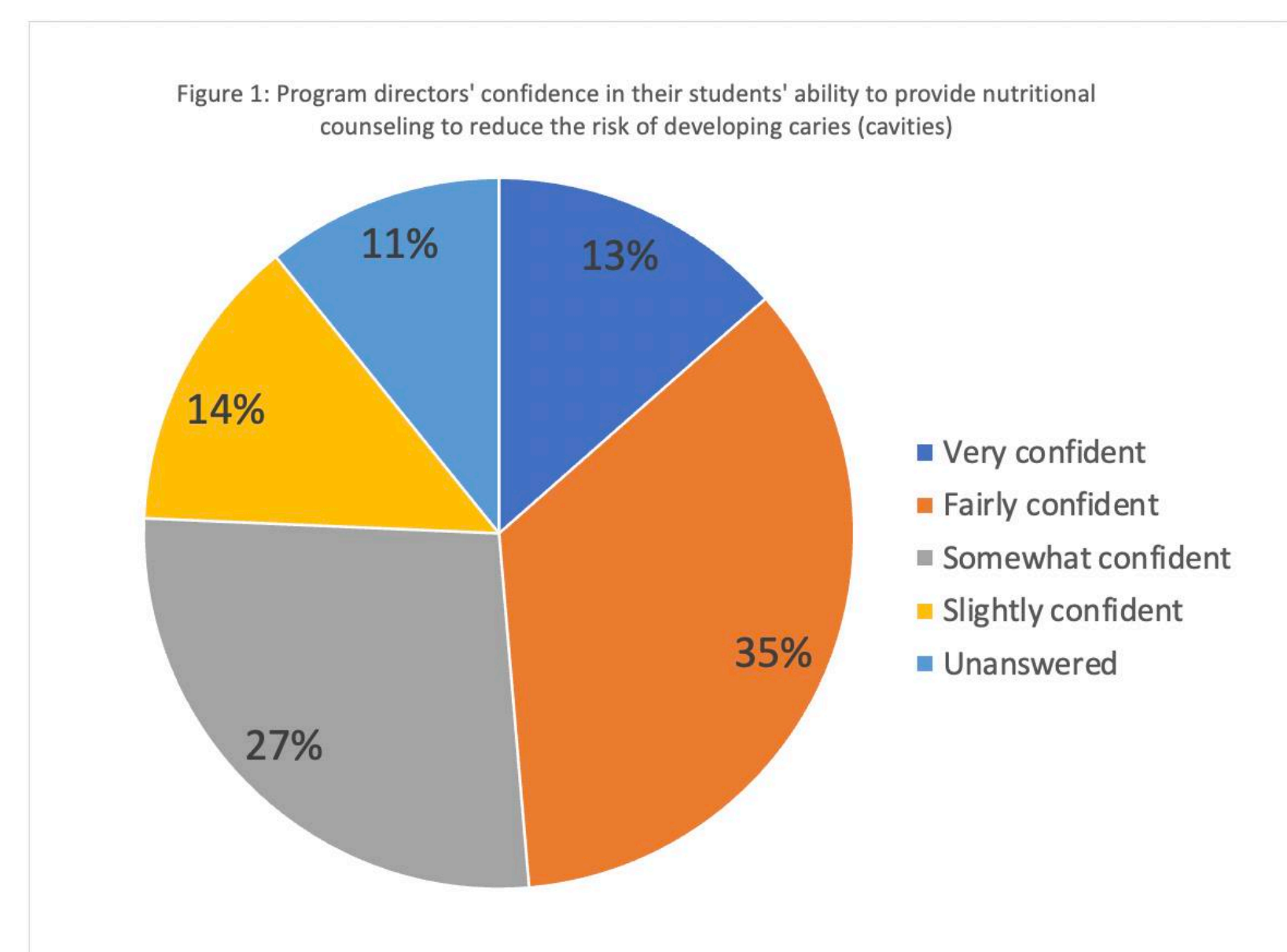




Department of Pediatric Dentistry, New York University College of Dentistry, NY

## Results

A word cloud visualization showing terms related to dental health. The most prominent words are "nutrition", "dental", "confident", "oral", "clinic", "caries", "management", "community", "deficiencies", "bottle", "mouth", "service", "therapy", "manipulations", "periodontal", "teach", "mouth", "clinical", "risk", "sports", "baby", "topic", "staff", "internship", "pediatric", "cavity", "faculty", "public", "health", "food", "time", "assessment", "relevant", "lack", "focus", "curriculum", "enough", "secondary", "formation", "interest", "xerostomia", "vitamin", "head", "mineral", "medical", "experts", "relief", "program", "dry", "content".



Forty-seven out of 150 responses were received with a 31% response rate. Within the 47 responses, 37 met the requirements for the study. Dietetic internships with an affiliated dental school did not have an impact on a directors confidence in their students ability to provide nutrition counseling related to oral health. All internship directors who completed the survey reported teaching various topics about oral health, but it differed by the amount, location, who taught these topics and barriers to integration. While not statistically significant, program directors reported being 'fairly confident' in their students' ability to provide counseling in oral health despite the limited amount of training both inside and outside the classroom.

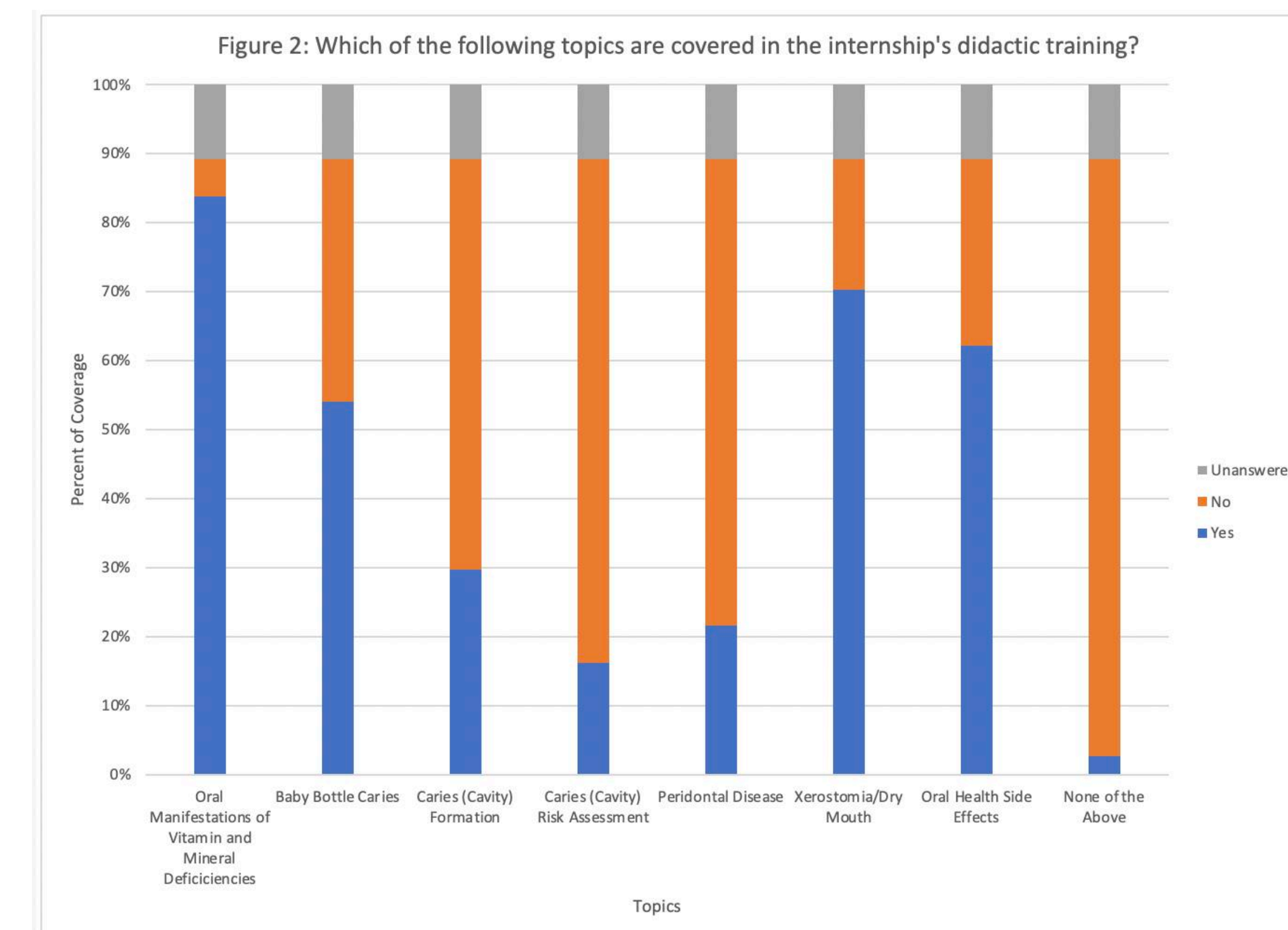


Figure 2: Oral Health related topics covered during internship's didactic training

## Conclusions

Dietetic internships having an affiliated dental school did not have an impact on an internship director's confidence in their students' ability to provide counseling as it relates to oral health. Our research highlighted specific oral health topics that are being provided during didactic training for dietetic interns and found that, while also not statistically significant, the inclusion of certain topics did not have an impact on a director's confidence in their student counseling skills. This conclusion emphasizes the needs for standardized oral health topics in dietetic internships to provide all dietetic interns a baseline understanding of nutrition and oral health as well more research needs to be done to see if director's confidence correlates to an intern's confidence and practical integration into patient care.

## References

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