



Effects of Board Certification on Disciplinary Actions Against Pediatric Dentists

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BACKGROUND

- State boards of dentistry regulate the practice of dentistry and protect the public
 - Licensure qualifications and issuance
 - Establish practice and conduct standards
 - Take Disciplinary Actions (DA)
- Physicians who are not board certified have more frequent and severe DA
- The American Board of Pediatric Dentistry (ABPD) is the certifying board for Pediatric Dentistry
- ABPD has initial certification (IC) and Renewal of Certification Process (ROC-P)
 - IC:** Qualifying Exam & Oral Clinical Exam
 - ROC-P:**
 - Yearly: Professional Standing, CE, Continuous Quality Improvement Modules
 - 10-year: ROC Exam
- Purpose:** To assess if
 - Board Certified PD (BCPD) have lower incidence of DA than non-BCPD (n-BCPD)
 - Timely completion of yearly ROC requirements affects incidence of DA
 - First time pass of ROC examination affects incidence of DA

METHODS

- Inclusion Criteria:** 1) PD, 2) Practicing in 5 most populous states in each AAPD District (Figure 1)
- PD identified through NPI database "Pediatric Dentistry" taxonomy
- Board Certification, ROC-P and ROC exam data obtained through ABPD records
- DA obtained through public records 2006-2021
- Descriptive Statistics for outcomes and predictors
- Negative binomial regression w/ offset for log of years used for analysis with 5% significance level

RESULTS

- Approved by Indiana University IRB (Protocol 14022)
- 9363 pediatric dentists identified
 - Complete data collected for 8874

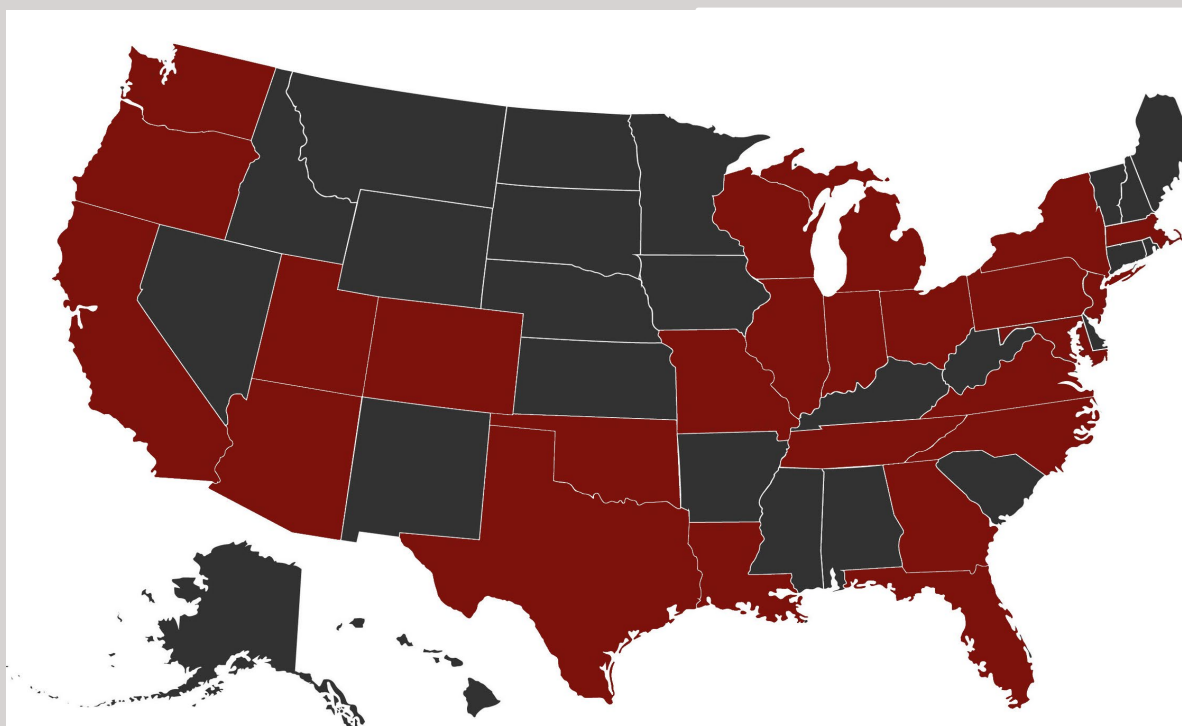
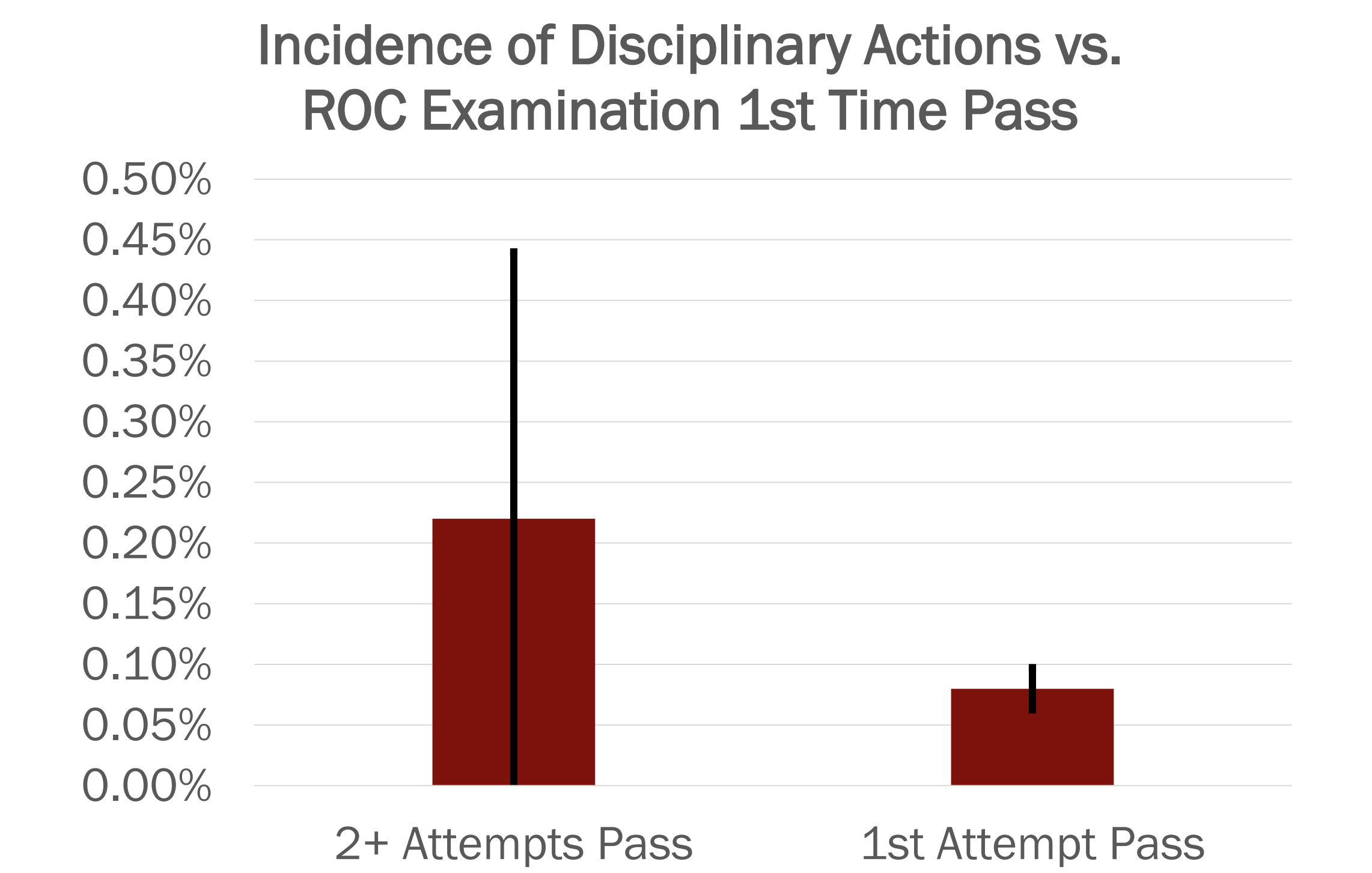
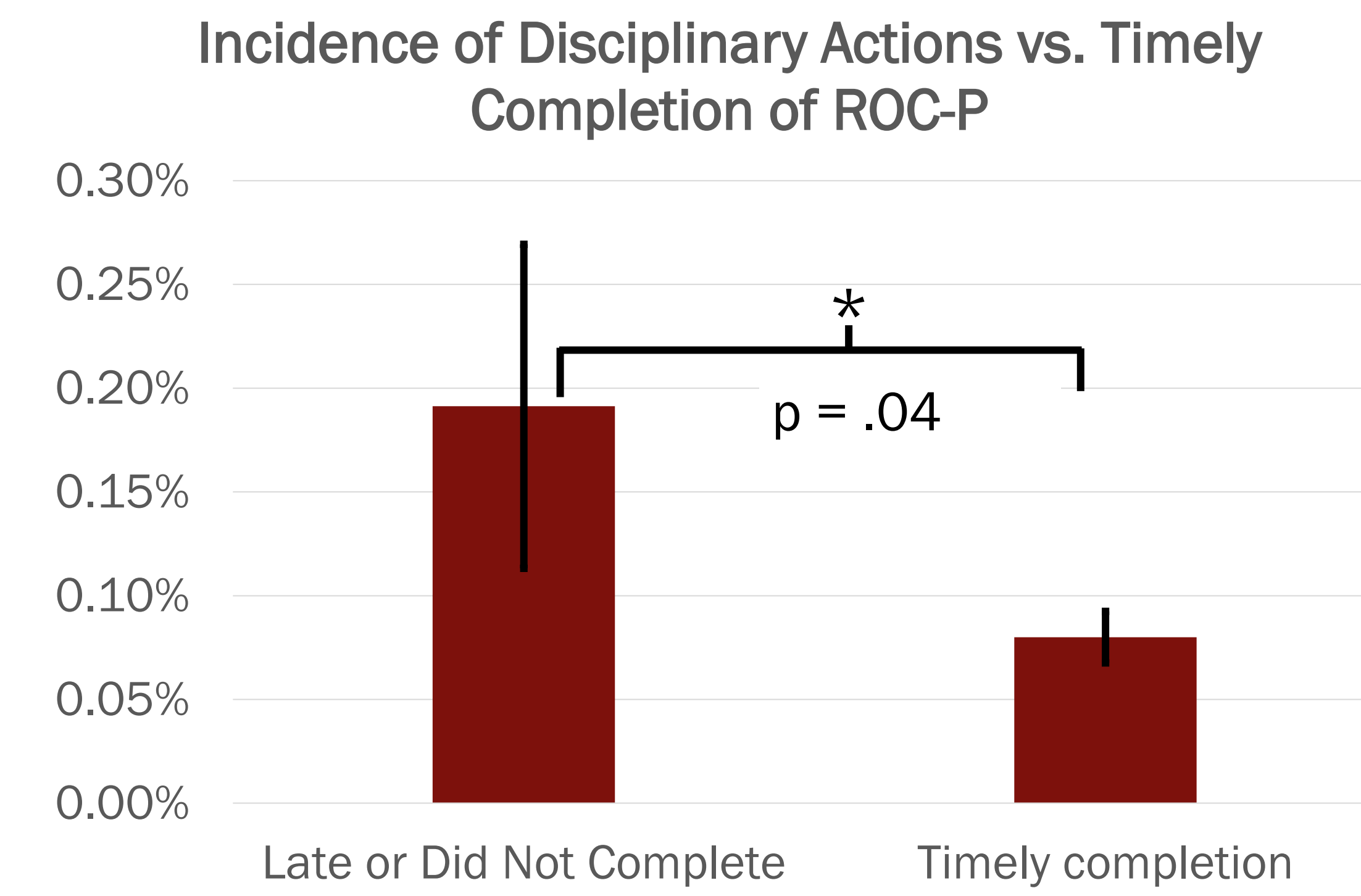
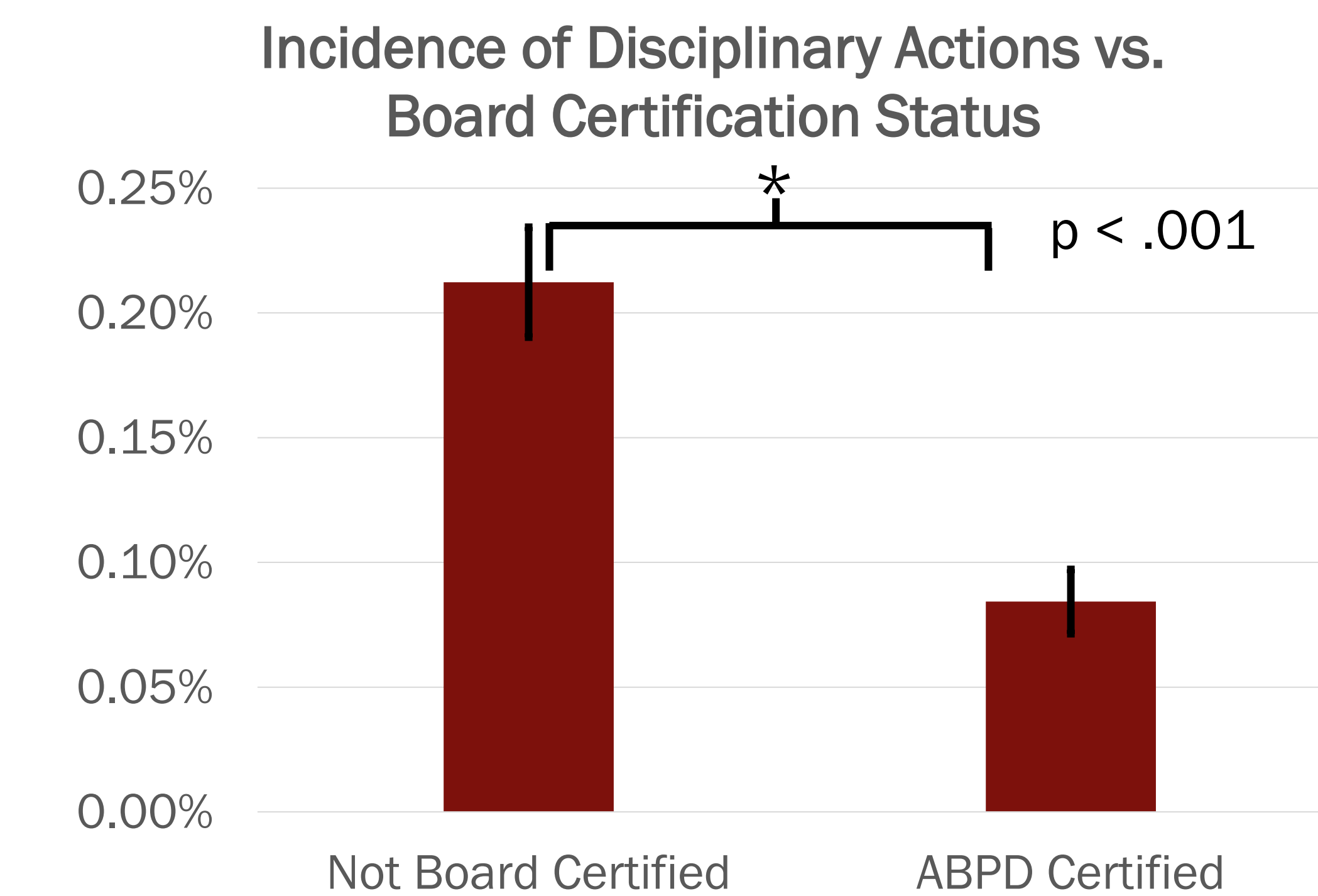
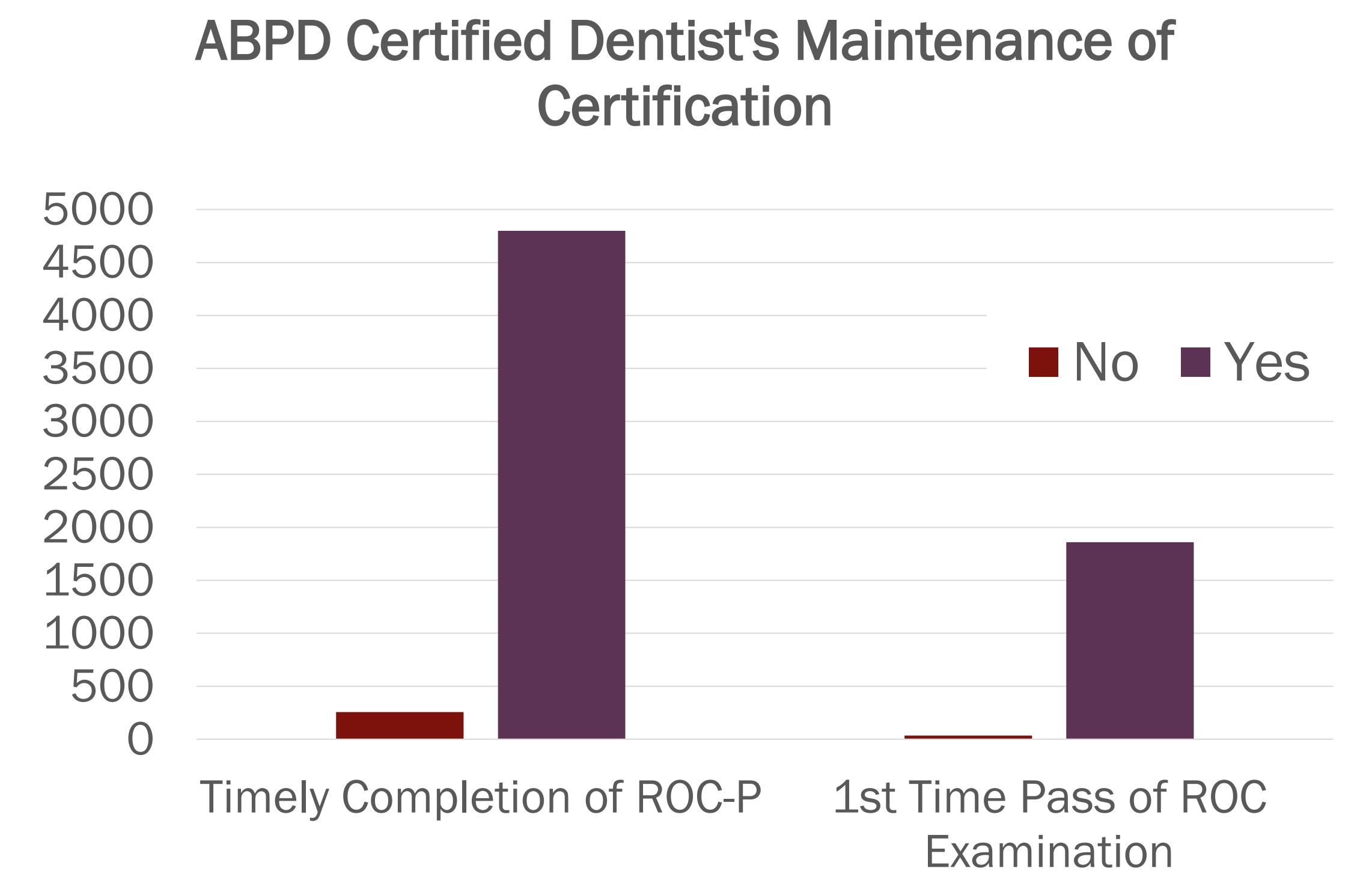
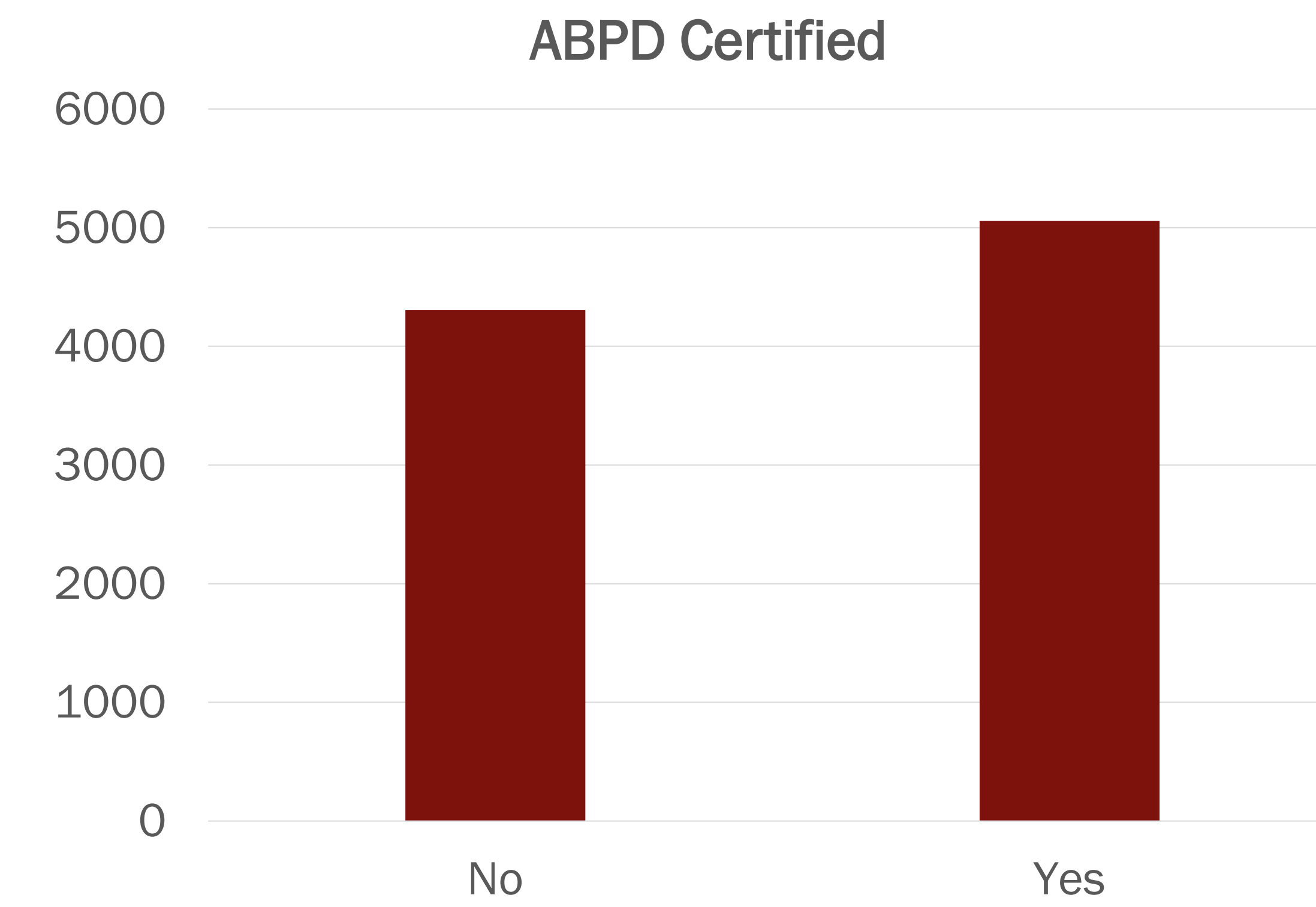
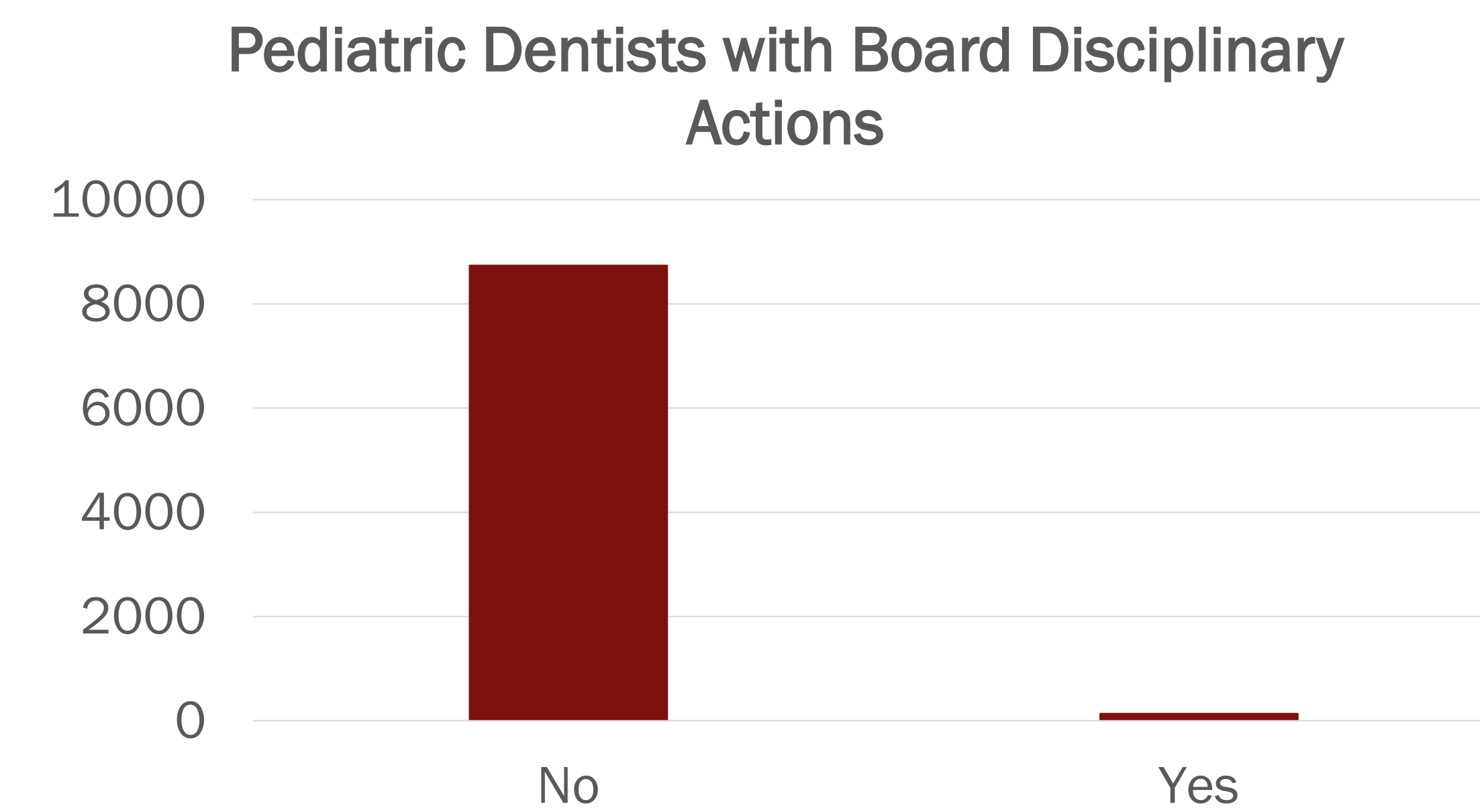


Figure 1: States Included in Data

CONCLUSIONS

- Overall incidence of disciplinary action for pediatric dentists is **very low**
- Board Certified Pediatric Dentists had significantly lower incidence disciplinary actions than non-certified pediatric dentists
- Pediatric dentists who complete yearly ROC-P requirements on time had significantly lower incidence of disciplinary actions

