



MEMORANDUM

DATE	January 17, 2024
TO	Tracy Montez, Ph.D., Executive Officer
FROM	Rikki Parks, Dental Assisting Program Manager Dental Board of California
SUBJECT	Update on Dental Assisting Licensing Statistics

Dental Assistant License Application Statistics

The following tables provide monthly dental assistant license application statistics for fiscal year 2020–2021, 2021–2022, 2022–2023 and 2023-2024. The data provided for 2023-24 is through July 1 to December 31, 2023.

Dental Assistant Applications (1010) Received by Month													
	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Totals
RDA 20/21	128	120	288	409	134	210	263	120	215	239	195	340	2,661
RDA 21/22	212	220	246	256	176	174	172	159	222	199	278	331	2,645
RDA 22/23	265	213	138	184	156	100	187	155	190	272	281	183	2,324
RDA 23/24	329	277	224	251	190	165							1,436
RDAEF 20/21	3	13	17	2	4	0	1	11	12	36	13	14	126
RDAEF 21/22	4	7	27	14	21	13	9	9	5	42	10	29	190
RDAEF 22/23	4	14	11	24	10	8	4	10	20	29	31	40	205
RDAEF 23/24	16	15	4	25	1	5							66
OA 20/21	14	16	15	21	9	25	10	15	28	21	23	29	226
OA 21/22	14	24	26	25	30	28	18	14	25	26	22	20	272
OA 22/23	16	28	23	16	18	8	27	19	19	25	17	13	228
OA 23/24	19	21	19	13	26	29							127
DSA 20/21	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	4	7
DSA 21/22	0	0	1	5	0	2	0	1	2	6	1	0	18
DSA 22/23	0	4	3	8	0	1	0	0	1	3	1	0	21
DSA 23/24	1	1	0	4	0	0							6
Dental Assistant Applications (1010) Approved by Month													
	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Totals
RDA 20/21	65	47	248	188	69	89	261	239	219	244	146	92	1,907
RDA 21/22	225	273	225	209	176	108	71	118	114	139	118	121	1,897
RDA 22/23	129	271	846	378	480	338	180	140	286	252	247	284	3,831
RDA 23/24	171	332	232	407	152	203							1,497
RDAEF 20/21	36	19	23	17	1	5	2	3	19	10	23	20	178
RDAEF 21/22	18	1	4	22	25	12	3	11	9	7	24	35	171

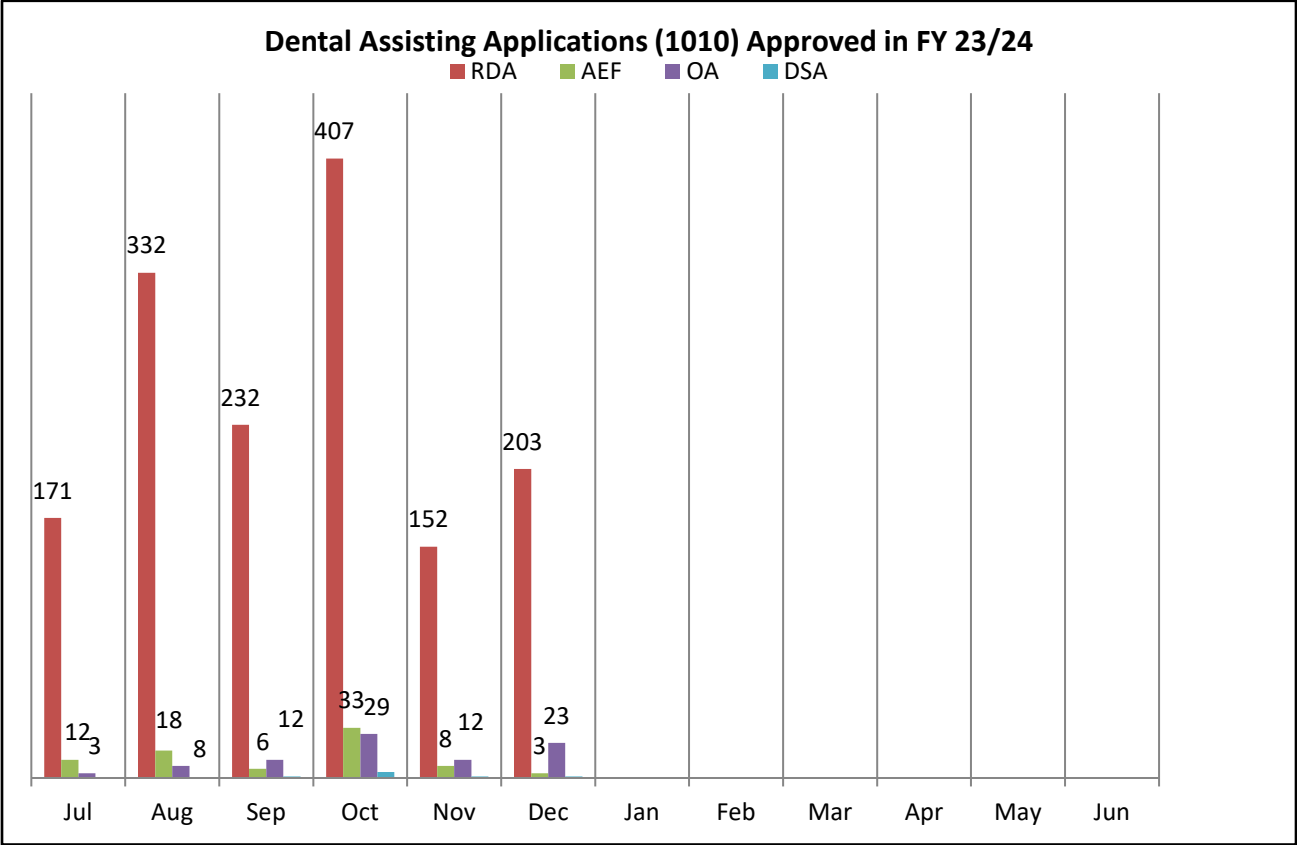
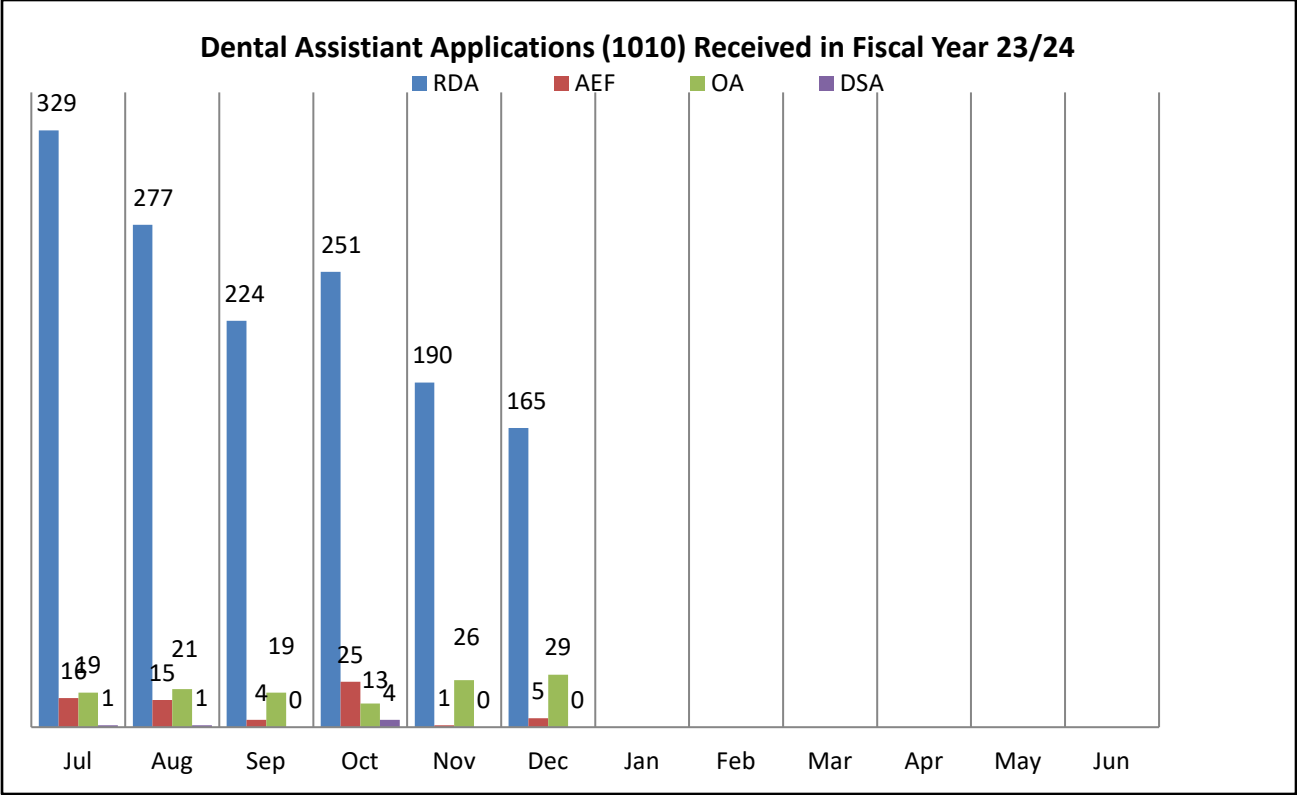
Dental Assistant Applications (1010) Approved by Month – Cont'd													
	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Totals
RDAEF 22/23	25	20	0	21	18	10	17	4	32	26	20	33	226
RDAEF 23/24	12	18	6	33	8	3							80
OA 20/21	0	4	22	12	13	7	18	28	17	31	14	7	173
OA 21/22	20	18	13	6	23	12	10	10	7	13	11	14	157
OA 22/23	22	22	36	56	26	19	20	15	35	23	19	13	306
OA 23/24	3	8	12	29	12	23							87
DSA 20/21	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
DSA 21/22	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	1	0	6
DSA 22/23	2	1	0	2	1	4	1	2	0	0	1	3	17
DSA 23/24	0	0	1	4	1	1							7
Dental Assistant Applications (1010) Abandoned by Month													
	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Totals
RDA 20/21	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
RDA 21/22	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
RDA 22/23	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
RDA 23/24	49	221	2	4	204	19							499
RDAEF 20/21	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
RDAEF 21/22	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
RDAEF 22/23	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
RDAEF 23/24	8	0	0	0	0	2							10
OA 20/21	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
OA 21/22	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
OA 22/23	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
OA 23/24	27	0	0	0	20	2							49
DSA 20/21	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
DSA 21/22	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
DSA 22/23	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
DSA 23/24	3	0	0	0	0	9							12
Dental Assistant Applications (1020) Approved and Licenses Issued by Month													
	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Totals
RDA 20/21	179	19	263	90	215	67	87	124	204	167	137	181	1,733
RDA 21/22	244	151	126	149	155	181	79	97	99	97	121	100	1,599
RDA 22/23	115	126	117	248	221	222	153	165	221	136	166	159	2,049
RDA 23/24	215	173	259	218	209	196							1,333
RDAEF 20/21	1	2	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
RDAEF 21/22	0	46	1	1	0	0	262	0	2	6	7	4	329
RDAEF 22/23	39	20	19	8	14	24	11	8	25	21	18	30	237
RDAEF 23/24	15	14	25	27	18	12							111
OA 20/21	11	7	9	16	9	5	8	10	11	12	22	9	129
OA 21/22	10	17	2	0	32	19	22	13	15	17	11	11	169
OA 22/23	18	20	12	30	28	34	19	16	24	21	20	25	267

Dental Assistant Applications (1020) Approved and Licenses Issued by Month – Cont'd													
	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Totals
OA 23/24	15	8	6	4	26	12							71
DSA 20/21	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
DSA 21/22	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	2	0	1	5
DSA 22/23	0	1	1	0	0	2	0	2	0	0	1	3	10
DSA 23/24	1	0	0	1	0	2							4
Dental Assistant Applications (1020) Denied by Month													
	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Totals
RDA 20/21	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	3	2	0	2	9
RDA 21/22	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	4	0	6
RDA 22/23	2	1	0	0	0	2	0	2	0	0	5	2	14
RDA 23/24	0	1	3	3	0	1							8
RDAEF 20/21	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
RDAEF 21/22	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
RDAEF 22/23	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
RDAEF 23/24	0	0	0	0	0	0							0
OA 20/21	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
OA 21/22	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
OA 22/23	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
OA 23/24	0	0	0	0	1	0							1
DSA 20/21	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
DSA 21/22	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
DSA 22/23	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
DSA 23/24	0	0	0	0	0	0							0
Dental Assistant Applications (1020) Abandoned by Month													
	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Totals
RDA 20/21	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
RDA 21/22	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
RDA 22/23	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
RDA 23/24	676	70	20	60	81	36							943
RDAEF 20/21	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
RDAEF 21/22	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
RDAEF 22/23	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
RDAEF 23/24	6	0	0	0	0	0							6
OA 20/21	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
OA 21/22	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
OA 22/23	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
OA 23/24	15	8	4	1	3	2							33
DSA 20/21	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
DSA 21/22	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
DSA 22/23	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
DSA 23/24	0	0	0	0	0	0							0

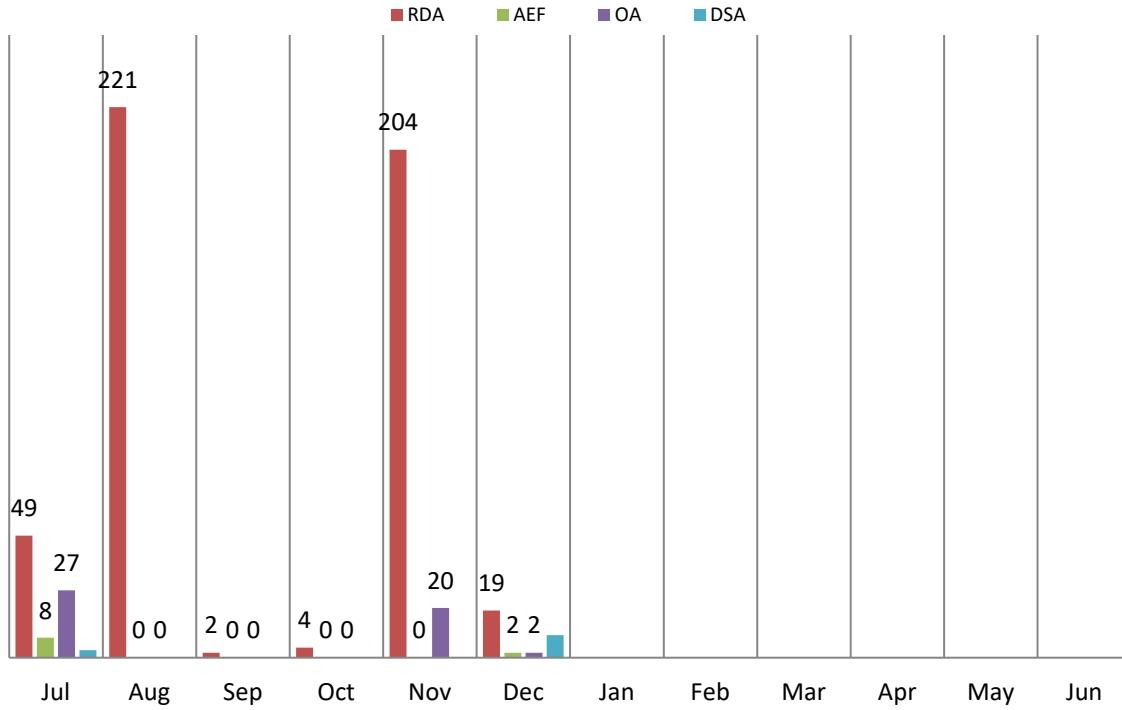
Application Definitions	
Received	Application received in paper format or electronically through BreEZe system.
Approved	Application for eligibility of licensure processed with required documentation and examination eligibility issued.
License Issued	Final application including examination results approved and license issued.
Abandoned (1010)	An applicant who fails to complete application requirements within one year after being notified by the board of deficiencies.
Abandoned (1020)	CCR 1004. Abandonment of Applications states, "... 1) The applicant fails to submit the application, examination, or reexamination fee within 180 days after notification by the board... 2) The applicant fails to take the licensing examination within two years after the date their application was received by the board. 3) After failing the exam, the applicant fails to take the reexamination within two years after the date the applicant was notified of failure.
Denied	The Board denies an application on the on the grounds that the applicant has been convicted of a crime or has been subject to formal discipline; in accordance with Businessand Professions Code, Division 1.5, Chapter 2, Denial of Licenses.

Staff have included statistics on applications that have been abandoned pursuant to California Code of Regulations section 1004, in response to requests at previous Dental Assisting Council meetings to explain why there is a difference in the number of applications received, versus the number of licenses issued. In most cases, applications are abandoned either for applicants not responding to deficiency letters or not taking the licensing examination. To assist in reducing the number of abandoned applications, staff are monitoring the deficient applications and contacting applicants to answer any questions they may have and if necessary, clarifying what is needed to complete their application.

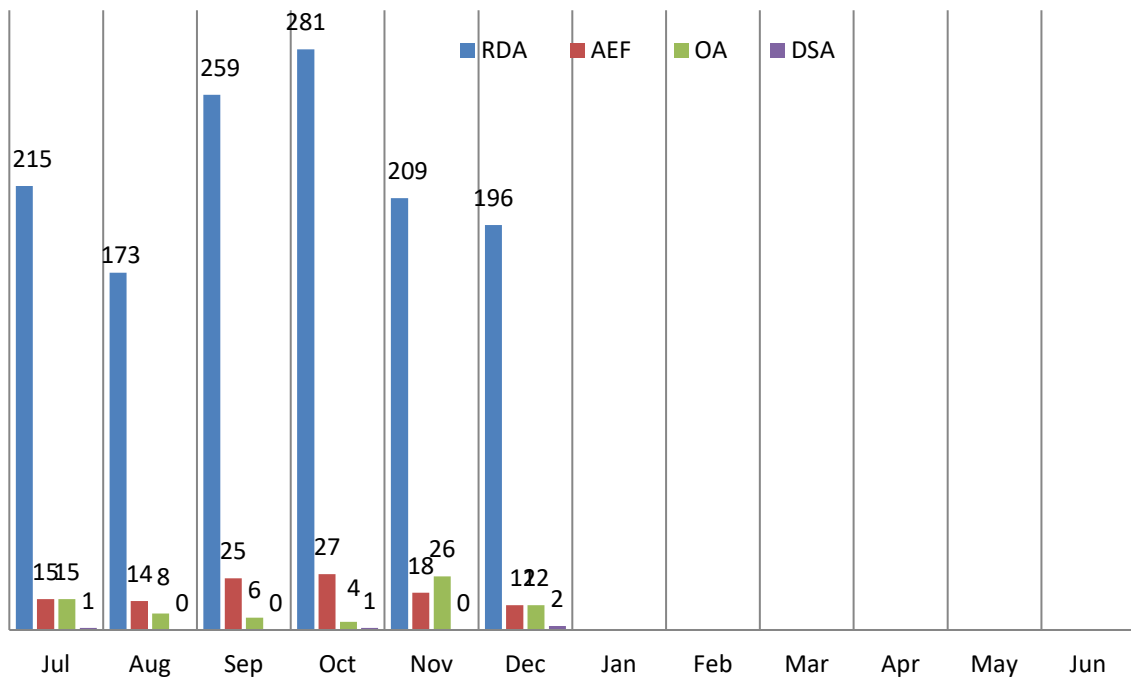
We have removed the canceled and withdrawn application statistics as these application statistics typically capture internal cleanup performed by staff for situations such as duplicate applications opened in error.



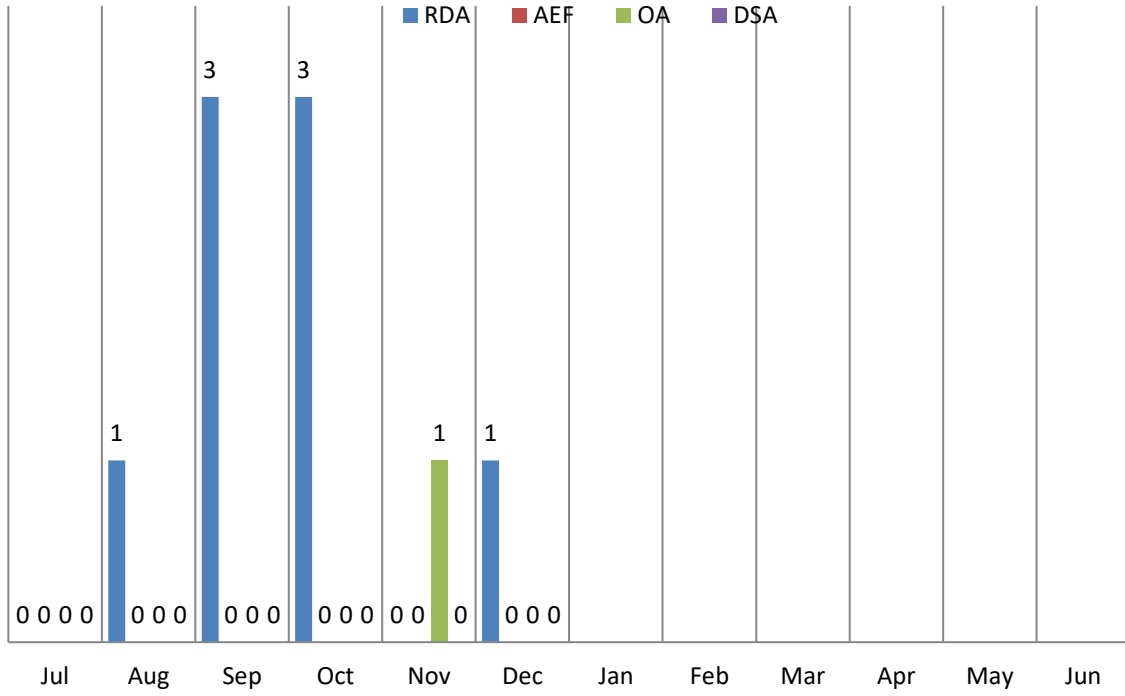
Dental Assistant Applications (1010) Abandoned in FY 23/24



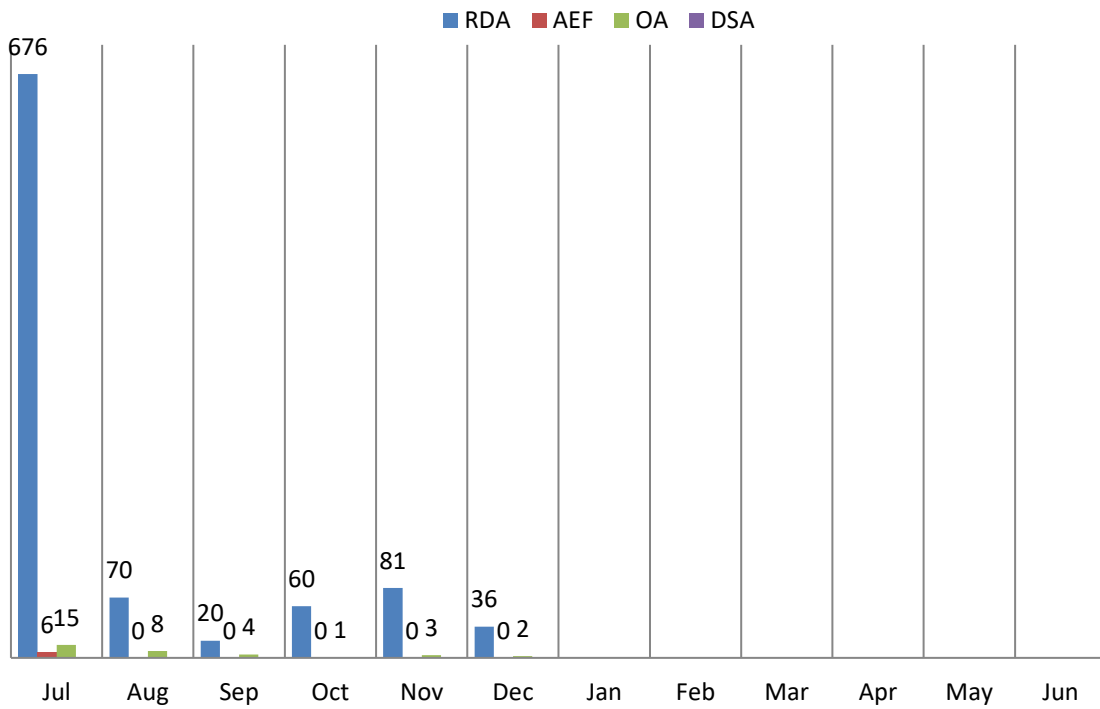
Dental Assistant Applications Approved and Licenses Issued in Fiscal Year 23/24



Dental Assistant Applications (1020) Denied in FY 23/24



Dental Assistant Applications (1020) Abandoned in Fiscal Year 23/24



Dental Assistant License Status Statistics

The following table provides dental assistant license and permit status statistics for fiscal years 2020–21, 2021–22, 2022–23 and 2023-24

License Type	License Status	2020–21	2021–22	2022–23	2023-24
Registered DentalAssistant	Active	30,317	28,902	28,437	28,382
	Inactive	4,155	3,991	3,790	3,723
	Delinquent	11,802	12,992	13,543	13,866
	Cancelled	49,700	51,512	53,712	54,840
License Type	License Status	2020–21	2021–22	2022–23	2023-24
Registered Dental Assistant in Extended Functions	Active	1,522	1,756	1,950	2,007
	Inactive	74	75	77	75
	Delinquent	251	298	305	339
	Cancelled	379	420	462	479
License Type	License Status	2020–21	2021–22	2022–23	2023-24
Orthodontic Assistant	Active	1,340	1,407	1,602	1,611
	Inactive	34	44	46	51
	Delinquent	211	286	333	377
	Cancelled	13	27	51	67
License Type	License Status	2020–21	2021–22	2022–23	2023-24
Dental SedationAssistant	Active	38	38	45	47
	Inactive	3	2	4	4
	Delinquent	13	16	17	14
	Cancelled	4	7	9	13

Definitions	
Active	An individual who has an active status and has completed all renewal requirements receives this status.
Inactive	An individual who has an inactive status; has paid the renewal fees but cannot perform the duties of the license unless the license is re-activated. Continuing education units are not required for inactive license renewal.
Delinquent	An individual who does not comply with renewal requirements receives this status until renewal requirements are met.
Cancelled	An individual who fails to comply with renewal requirements by a set deadline will receive this status. Total number of licenses / permits cancelled to date.

The following table provides statistics on population, current and active Registered Dental Assistant (RDA) licenses by county, and population per RDA license by county for fiscal years 2021–22, 2022–23 and 2023-24

County	RDA 21/22	Pop. 21/22	Pop. Per RDA 21/22	DDS 21/22	RDA to DDS Ratio 21/22	RDA 22/23	Pop. 22/23	Pop. Per RDA 22/23	DDS 22/23	RDA to DDS Ratio 22/23	RDA 23/24	Pop. 23/24	Pop. Per RDA 23/24	DDS 23/24	RDA to DDS Ratio 23/24
Alameda	1,185	1,651,979	1,394	1,492	1:1	1,221	1,651,979	1,352	1,485	0:1	1,099	1,636,194	1,488	1,485	0:1
Alpine	0	1,200	N/A	1	0:1	0	1,200	0	0	0	0	1,184	0	0	0
Amador	55	40,297	732	22	2:1	78	40,297	516	21	2:1	50	39,837	796	21	2:1
Butte	250	201,608	806	124	2:1	291	201,608	692	124	2:1	270	205,592	761	124	2:1
Calaveras	55	40,297	732	18	3:1	69	45,049	652	21	2:1	62	44,890	724	21	2:1
Colusa	28	21,807	779	6	4:1	28	21,807	778	6	4:1	28	21,771	777	6	4:1
Contra Costa	1,224	1,156,555	944	1,098	1:1	1320	1,156,555	876	1,103	1:1	1219	1,147,653	941	1,103	1:1
Del Norte	26	27,218	1,046	13	2:1	30	27,218	907	11	2:1	29	26,599	917	11	2:1
El Dorado	205	190,465	929	157	1:1	257	190,465	741	152	1:1	198	189,006	954	152	1:1
Fresno	884	1,011,273	1,143	613	1:1	962	1,011,273	1,051	620	1:1	883	1,011,499	1,145	620	1:1
Glenn	46	28,750	625	6	7:1	46	28,750	625	7	7:1	44	28,636	650	7	7:1
Humboldt	162	135,168	834	64	2:1	162	135,168	834	63	2:1	161	134,047	832	63	2:1
Imperial	83	179,329	2,161	38	2:1	102	179,329	1,758	39	2:1	87	179,476	2,062	39	2:1
Inyo	9	18,978	2,109	8	1:1	8	18,978	2,372	5	1:1	8	18,896	2,362	5	1:1
Kern	601	909,813	1,513	340	1:1	734	909,813	1,239	341	1:1	619	907,476	1,466	341	1:1
Kings	134	152,023	1,135	49	2:1	157	152,023	968	61	2:1	152	151,018	993	61	2:1
Lake	80	67,407	842	26	3:1	112	67,407	601	39	1:1	84	66,800	795	39	1:1
Lassen	40	30,274	756	23	1:1	40	30,274	756	22	1:1	34	28,275	831	22	1:1
Los Angeles	4,503	9,861,224	2,189	8,418	1:2	5099	9,861,224	1,933	8,416	0:1	4447	9,761,210	2,195	8,416	0:1
Madera	135	157,396	1,165	45	3:1	144	157,396	1,093	44	3:1	148	158,148	1,068	44	3:1
Marin	174	257,135	1,477	308	1:2	183	257,135	1,405	290	0:1	175	252,959	1,445	290	0:1
Mariposa	12	17,045	1,420	7	1:1	11	17,045	1,549	7	1:1	8	16,935	2,116	7	1:1
Mendocino	97	89,999	927	54	1:1	112	89,999	803	49	1:1	93	89,164	958	49	1:1

County	RDA 21/22	Pop. 21/22	Pop. per RDA 21/22	DDS 21/22	RDA to DDS Ratio 21/22	RDA 22/23	Pop. 22/23	Pop. Per RDA 22/23	DDS 22/23	RDA to DDS Ratio 22/23	RDA 23/24	Pop. 23/24	Pop. Per RDA 23/24	DDS 23/24	RDA to DDS Ratio 23/24
Merced	240	284,338	1,184	97	2:1	264	284,338	1,077	92	2:1	243	285,337	1,174	92	2:1
Modoc	2	8,690	4,345	3	1:2	3	8,690	2,896	3	0:1	2	8,527	4,263	3	0:1
Mono	6	13,379	2,229	5	1:1	5	13,379	2,675	5	1:1	4	13,156	3,289	5	1:1
Monterey	380	433,716	1,141	257	1:1	436	433,716	994	248	1:1	375	430,368	1,147	248	1:1
Napa	127	136,179	1,072	112	1:1	141	136,179	965	110	1:1	130	134,637	1,035	110	1:1
Nevada	88	101,242	1,150	77	1:1	100	101,242	1,012	72	1:1	87	100,720	1,157	72	1:1
Orange	1,742	3,162,245	1,815	4,044	1:2	1814	3,162,245	1,743	4,073	0:1	1606	3,137,164	1,953	4,073	0:1
Placer	465	409,025	879	466	1:1	534	409,025	765	472	0:1	476	410,305	861	472	0:1
Plumas	19	18,942	996	14	1:1	18	18,942	1,052	13	1:1	15	18,996	1,266	13	1:1
Riverside	1,982	2,435,525	1,228	1,122	1:1	2171	2,435,525	1,121	1,142	1:1	1994	2,439,234	1,223	1,142	1:1
Sacramento	1,619	1,576,618	973	1,175	1:1	1887	1,576,618	835	1,176	1:1	1595	1,572,453	985	1,176	1:1
San Benito	111	65,479	589	24	4:1	118	65,479	554	23	4:1	101	65,666	650	23	4:1
San Bernardino	1,505	2,187,665	1,453	1,370	1:1	1688	2,187,665	1,296	1,398	1:1	1501	2,182,056	1,453	1,398	1:1
San Diego	2,541	3,287,306	1,293	2,764	0:1	2808	3,287,306	1,170	2,820	0:1	2541	3,269,755	1,286	2,820	0:1
San Francisco	416	842,754	2,025	1,175	1:3	452	842,754	1,864	1,151	0:1	429	831,703	1,938	1,151	0:1
San Joaquin	777	784,298	1,009	371	2:1	873	784,298	898	376	1:1	778	786,145	1,010	376	1:1
San Luis Obispo	206	280,721	1,362	207	1:1	248	280,721	1,131	210	1:1	205	278,348	1,357	210	1:1
San Mateo	561	744,662	1,327	853	1:1	572	744,662	1,301	843	0:1	543	737,644	1,358	843	0:1
Santa Barbara	352	445,164	1,264	312	1:1	399	445,164	1,115	307	1:1	354	440,557	1,244	307	1:1
Santa Clara	1,598	1,894,783	1,185	2,284	1:1	1662	1,894,783	1,140	2,289	0:1	1501	1,886,079	1,256	2,289	0:1
Santa Cruz	214	266,564	1,245	166	1:1	225	266,564	1,184	168	1:1	200	262,051	1,310	168	1:1
Shasta	174	180,531	1,037	107	1:1	203	180,531	889	100	1:1	170	179,436	1,055	100	1:1
Sierra	2	3,229	1,614	0	4:0	2	3,229	1,614	0	0:1	2	3,193	1,596	0	0:1
Siskiyou	29	43,830	1,511	21	1:1	28	43,830	1,565	23	1:1	22	43,548	1,979	23	1:1
Solano	621	447,241	720	282	2:1	623	447,241	717	279	2:1	571	443,749	777	279	2:1
Sonoma	656	482,404	735	383	1:1	675	482,404	714	382	1:1	624	478,174	766	382	1:1

County	RDA 21/22	Pop. 21/22	Pop. per RDA 21/22	DDS 21/22	RDA to DDS Ratio 21/22	RDA 22/23	Pop. 22/23	Pop. Per RDA 22/23	DDS 22/23	RDA to DDS Ratio 22/23	RDA 23/24	Pop. 23/24	Pop. Per RDA 23/24	DDS 23/24	RDA to DDS Ratio 23/24
Stanislaus	587	549,466	936	271	2:1	665	549,466	826	274	2:1	565	545,939	966	274	2:1
Sutter	120	99,145	826	52	2:1	143	99,145	693	51	2:1	116	98,952	853	51	2:1
Tehama	83	65,052	783	31	2:1	95	65,052	684	31	2:1	76	64,271	845	31	2:1
Trinity	5	16,023	3,204	3	1:1	5	16,023	3,204	3	1:1	6	15,939	2,656	3	1:1
Tulare	425	475,014	1,117	218	1:1	491	475,014	967	217	2:1	464	475,064	1,023	217	2:1
Tuolumne	69	55,291	801	48	1:1	81	55,291	682	47	1:1	75	54,590	727	47	1:1
Ventura	513	833,652	1,625	666	1:1	590	833,652	1,412	627	0:1	513	825,653	1,609	627	0:1
Yolo	190	221,165	1,164	118	1:1	210	221,165	1,053	122	1:1	185	220,880	1,193	122	1:1
Yuba	90	82,275	914	6	15:1	104	82,275	791	7	13:1	92	82,677	898	7	13:1
TOTAL	30,119	39,371,318	1,307	32,034	N/A	31,499	39,185,605	66,100	32,080	N/A	28,059	38,940,231	74,343	32,080	N/A

*Population data obtained from Department of Finance, Demographic Research Unit.

**Ratios are rounded to the nearest whole number.

Counties with the Highest Population per RDA:	Modoc County (1:4,263)	Counties with the Lowest Population per RDA:	Alpine County (No RDAs)
	Mono County (1:3,289)		Glenn County (1:650)
	Trinity County (1:2,656)		San Benito County (1:650)
	Inyo County (1:2,362)		Calaveras County (1:724)
	Los Angeles County (1:2,195)		Tuolumne County (1:727)