



# Registered Dental Assistants (RDA)

September 2013



Registered Dental Assistants (RDAs) are licensed and regulated by the Department of Consumer Affairs, Dental Board of California (DBC). RDAs, under the general supervision of a dentist, perform basic supportive dental procedures, such as (1) mouth-mirror inspection of the oral cavity, including charting of lesions, existing restorations and missing teeth and (2) placement and removal of temporary sedative dressings. As of June 1, 2013, there were 34,159 licensed RDAs in the State of California. The table below identifies the current supply of active RDA licenses by county of record.

## Current Supply of RDAs by County of Record



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## Current Supply of RDAs by County of Record

County	Number of Providers	County	Number of Providers	County	Number of Providers
Alameda	1,465	Marin	250	San Mateo	885
Alpine	0	Mariposa	15	Santa Barbara	341
Amador	63	Mendocino	105	Santa Clara	1,974
Butte	303	Merced	195	Santa Cruz	260
Calaveras	68	Modoc	9	Shasta	320
Colusa	20	Mono	9	Sierra	N/A
Contra Costa	1,613	Monterey	424	Siskiyou	45
Del Norte	44	Napa	153	Solano	662
El Dorado	282	Nevada	137	Sonoma	844
Fresno	810	Orange	2,325	Stanislaus	707
Glenn	53	Placer	640	Sutter	139
Humboldt	218	Plumas	22	Tehama	68
Imperial	84	Riverside	2,044	Trinity	8
Inyo	14	Sacramento	1,848	Tulare	420
Kern	662	San Benito	104	Tuolumne	94
Kings	137	San Bernardino	1,771	Ventura	646
Lake	80	San Diego	3,010	Yolo	247
Lassen	62	San Francisco	551	Yuba	90
Los Angeles	5,530	San Joaquin	826		
Madera	152	San Luis Obispo	308	<b>Total</b>	<b>34,159</b>

Counties reporting five and under registered dental assistants are categorized as N/A (not available) for confidentiality purposes.

## Specialties

California Business and Professions Code 1715.5 authorizes the DBC to collect information from dental healthcare workers at the time of license renewal (every two years). Thus, there is an annual update to the survey results. The workers may self-report his/her employment status, postgraduate training, practice specialty, cultural background and foreign language proficiency. The map on page 3 identifies the top four active RDA specialties by practice location.

## Specialties

Oral Pathology	11	< 1%	Periodontics	58	2%
Facial Cosmetic Surgery	11	< 1%	Oral/Maxillofacial Surgery	67	3%
General Anesthesia	30	1%	Pediatric Dentistry	138	6%
Conscious Sedation	32	1%	Orthodontics	254	11%
Public Health	39	2%	Oral Radiology	313	13%
Oral Conscious Sedation	40	2%	General Practice	1,301	55%
Prosthodontics	41	2%			
Endodontics	51	2%	<b>Total Responses</b>	<b>2,386</b>	<b>100%</b>

Source of Data: Department of Consumer Affairs, Dental Board of California Public Master File, June 2013.  
For purposes of this Fact Sheet, currently licensed RDAs are defined as "renewed and current".  
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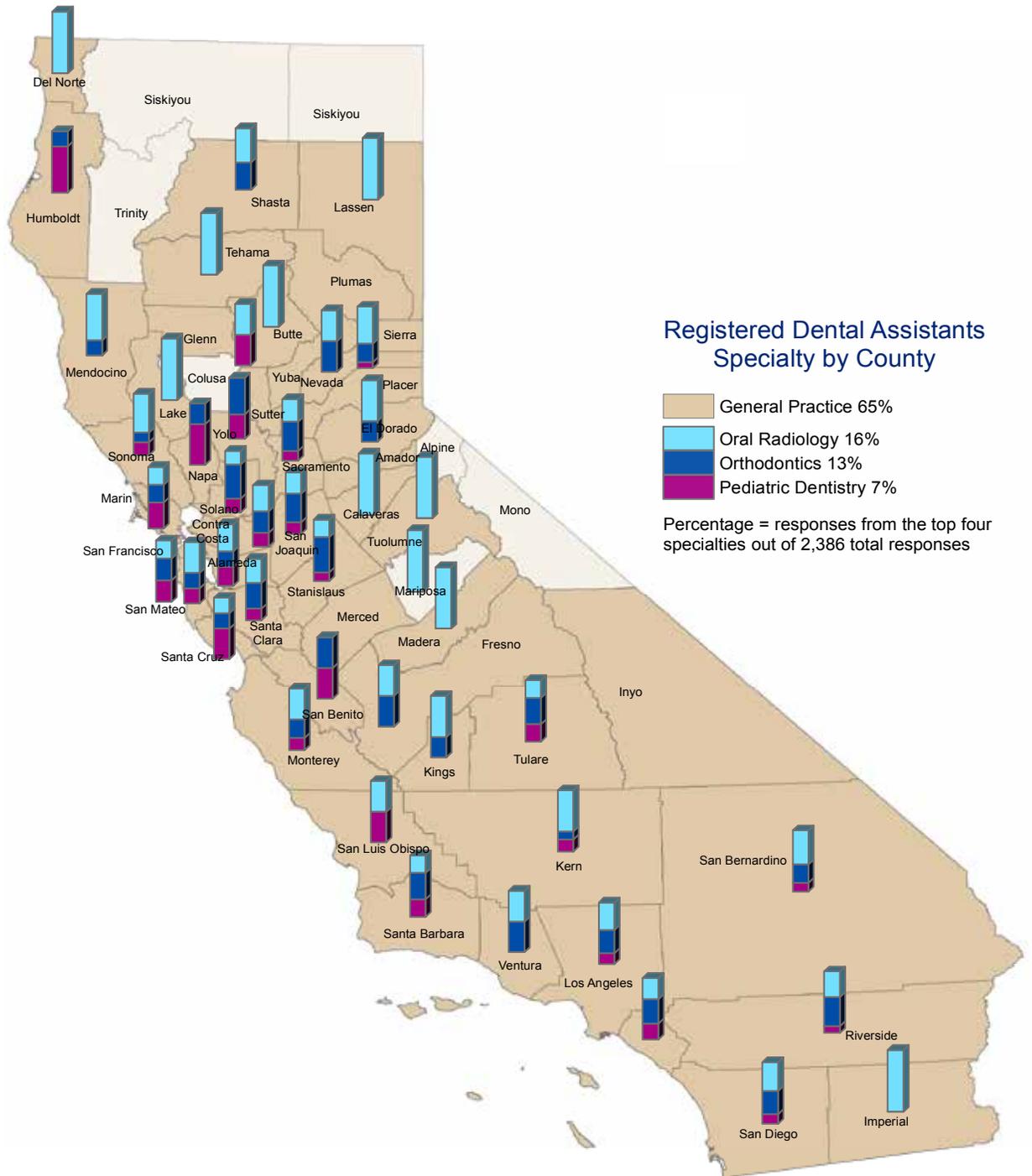


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The map below identifies the top four active RDA specialties by practice location.

## RDA Specialties by Practice Location



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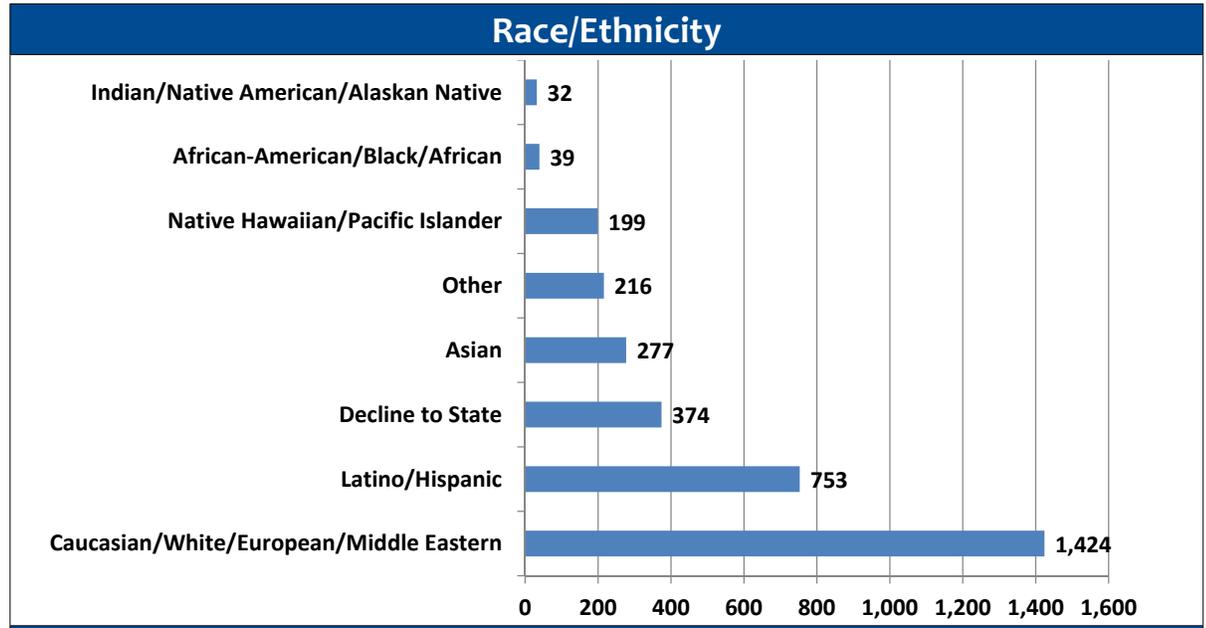
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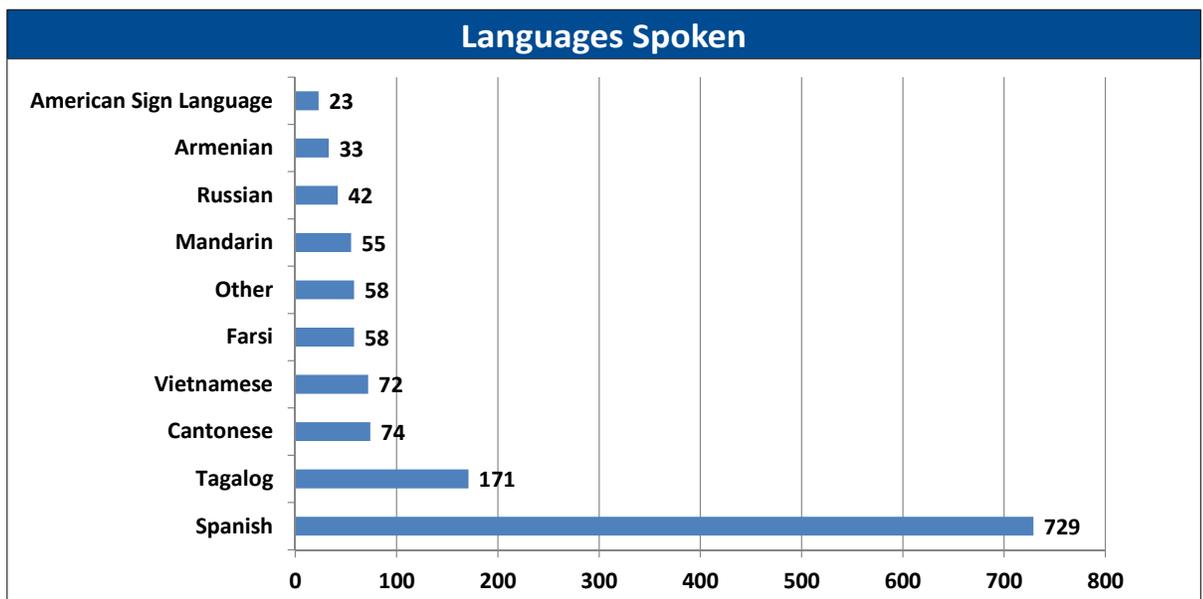
## Race/Ethnicity

There are 28 race/ethnicity categories in which an RDA may identify with on the Dental Healthcare Workforce Survey.\* The races/ethnicities have been combined into six major categories. A licensee may select more than one race/ethnicity resulting in duplicate counts for a single licensee and a total greater than 100%. The survey results for 3,314 responses are displayed in the chart below. In addition, the responses for "Other" and "Decline to State"\*\*\* are also displayed.



## Languages Spoken

The DBC recognizes 30 language categories which include "Other" and "Decline to State" for which an RDA may indicate on the Dental Healthcare Workforce Survey. A licensee may select more than one language, resulting in duplicate counts for a single licensee. The survey results for 1,464 responses are displayed in the chart below. The most predominate language is English. Not including English, the top 10 languages spoken are identified.



Source of Data: Department of Consumer Affairs, Dental Board of California Public Master File, June 2013.

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\*The Dental Healthcare Workforce Survey's race/ethnicity and languages spoken categories can be viewed at <http://www.dbc.ca.gov/survey/index.shtml>

\*\*Decline to State" signified that a RDA did not want to disclose this information.

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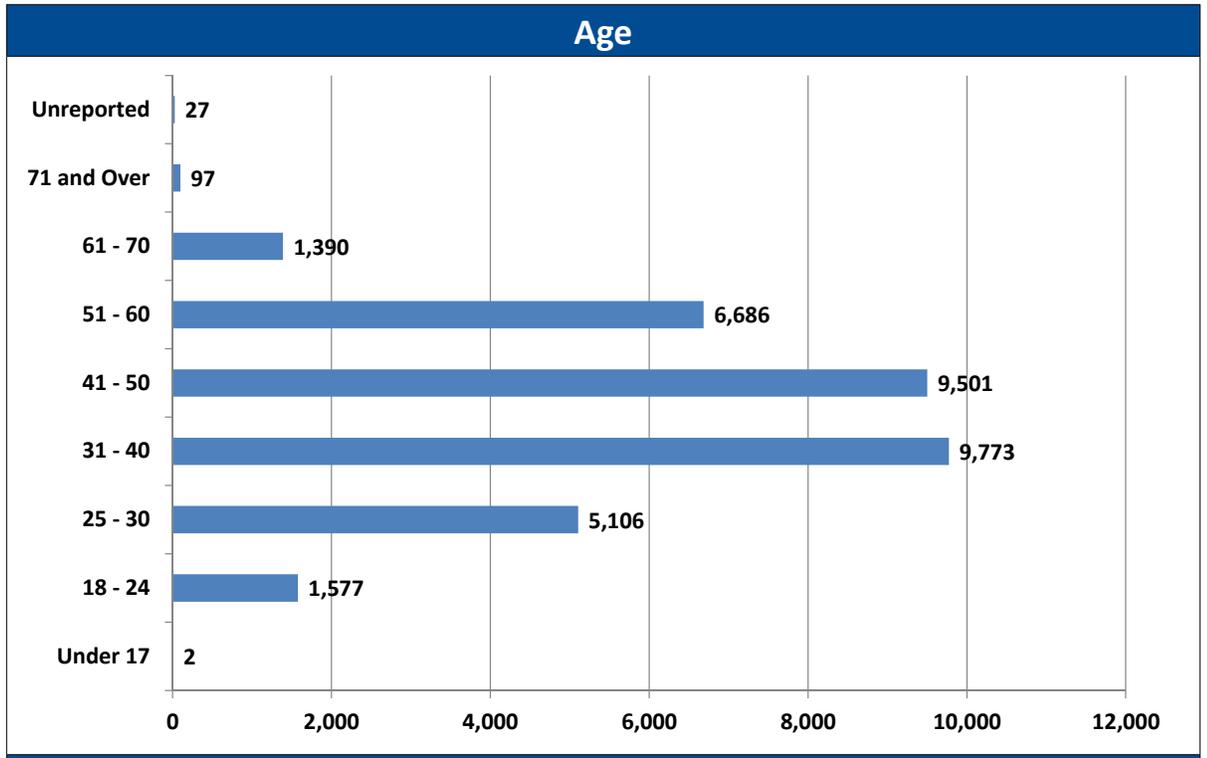
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## Age

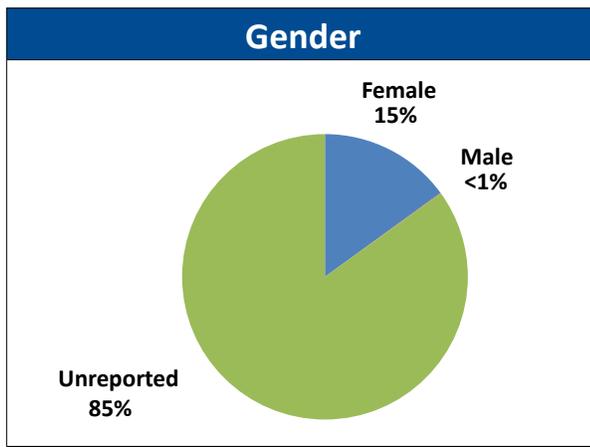
The currently licensed RDAs in California by age group can be seen in the chart and table below.



Age	17 and Under	18 - 24	25 - 30	31 - 40	41 - 50	51 - 60	61 - 70	71 and Over	Unreported	Total RDAs
<b>Total Responses</b>	2	1,577	5,106	9,773	9,501	6,686	1,390	97	27	<b>34,159</b>
<b>% of Total RDAs</b>	<1%	5%	15%	29%	28%	19%	4%	<1%	<1%	<b>100%</b>

## Gender

The currently licensed RDAs in California by gender can be seen in the table and chart below.



Gender	Total RDAs	% of Total RDAs
Female	5,120	15%
Male	21	<1%
Unreported	29,018	85%
<b>Total RDAs</b>	<b>34,159</b>	<b>100%</b>

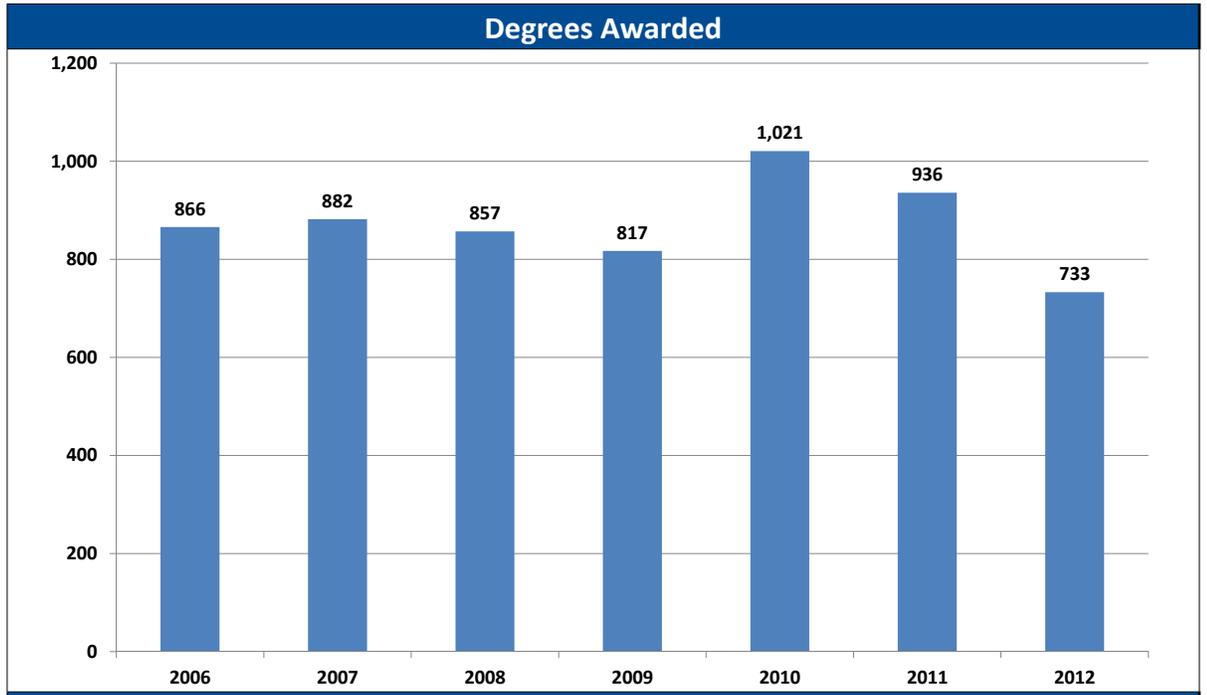


# Registered Dental Assistants (RDA)

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The chart and table below display the number of students who received degrees from California RDA programs in years 2006 - 2012.



Degrees Awarded							
Year Graduated	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Degrees Awarded	866	882	857	817	1,021	936	733

The following table below displays adult education and community college RDA education programs in California. The information can be seen geographically in the map on page 8.

RDA Education Programs in California				
<b>Adult Education Programs</b>				
Hacienda-La Puente Valley	Mt. Diablo Adult Education			
<b>Community Colleges</b>				
Cerritos Community College	College of the Redwoods	Modesto Junior College	Reedley College	Santa Rosa Junior College
City College of San Francisco	Contra Costa College	Monterey Peninsula College	Riverside Community College	
College of Alameda	Cypress College	Orange Coast College	Sacramento City College	
College of Marin	Diablo Valley College	Palomar College	San Diego Mesa College	
College of San Mateo	Foothill Community College	Pasadena City College	San Jose City College	

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The following table below display RDA education programs in California. The information can be seen geographically in the map on page 8.

## RDA Education Programs in California

### Regional Occupational Programs (ROP) and Regional Occupational Centers (ROC)

Baldy View ROP	Eden Area ROP	Hesperia Alternative Center ROP	Riverside County ROP	Shasta-Trinity ROP
Butte County ROP	Grossmont Health Occupational Center	North Orange County ROP	San Bernardino County ROP	Southern California ROC

### Private College Programs

Allan Hancock College	Carrington College California - San Jose	Everest College - Los Angeles Wilshire	Kaplan College - Bakersfield	North-West College - Pomona
American Career College - Anaheim	Carrington College California - San Leandro	Everest College - West Los Angeles	Kaplan College - Clovis	North-West College - West Covina
American Career College - Los Angeles	Chaffey College	Everest College - Ontario	Kaplan College - Palm Spring	Pima Medical Institute
American Career College - Ontario	Charter College	Everest College - Reseda	Kaplan College - Riverside	San Joaquin Valley College - Bakersfield
Anthem College	Citrus College	Everest College - San Bernardino	Kaplan College - Sacramento	San Joaquin Valley College - Fresno
Blake Austin College	Concorde Career College - Garden Grove	Everest College - San Francisco	Kaplan College - Salida	San Joaquin Valley College - Visalia
Carrington College California - Antioch	Concorde Career College - North Hollywood	Everest College - San Jose	Kaplan College - San Diego	UEI College - Chula Vista
Carrington College California - Chico	Concorde Career College - San Bernardino	Galen College - Fresno	Kaplan College - Stockton	UEI College - El Monte
Carrington College California - Citrus Heights	Concorde Career College - San Diego	Galen College - Modesto	Kaplan College - Vista	UEI College - Huntington Park
Carrington College California - Emeryville	Everest College - Alhambra	Heald College - Concord	Milan Institute - Indio	UEI College - Los Angeles
Carrington College California - Pleasant Hill	Everest College - Anaheim	Heald College - Hayward	Milan Institute - Visalia	UEI College - Ontario
Carrington College California - Pomona	Everest College - City of Industry	Heald College - Salida	My Dentist School for Dental Assistants	UEI College - San Diego
Carrington College California - Sacramento	Everest College - Gardena	Heald College - Stockton	Newbridge College	UEI College - Van Nuys

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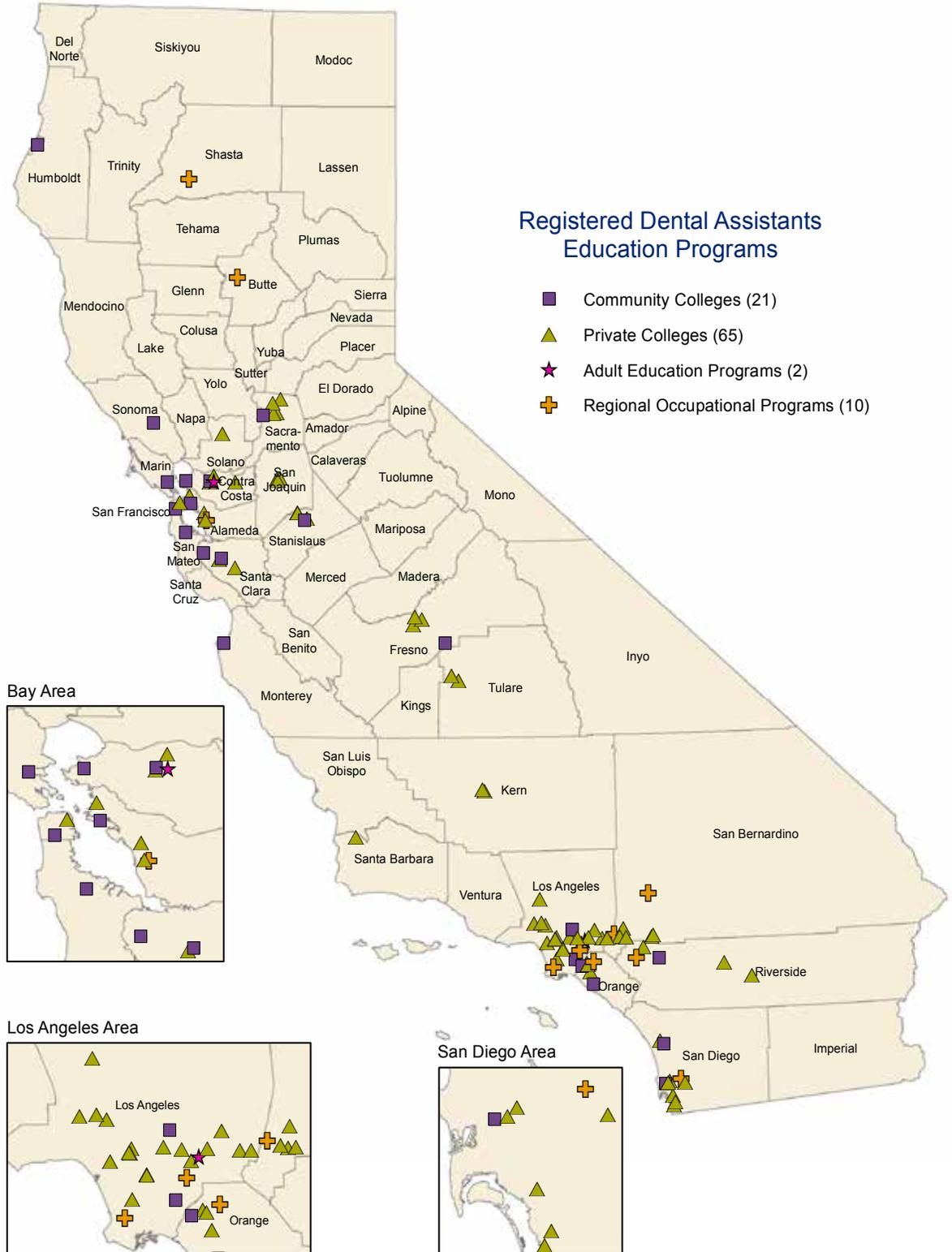


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The names of the RDA education programs can be seen in the tables on pages 6 and 7.

## RDA Education Programs in California



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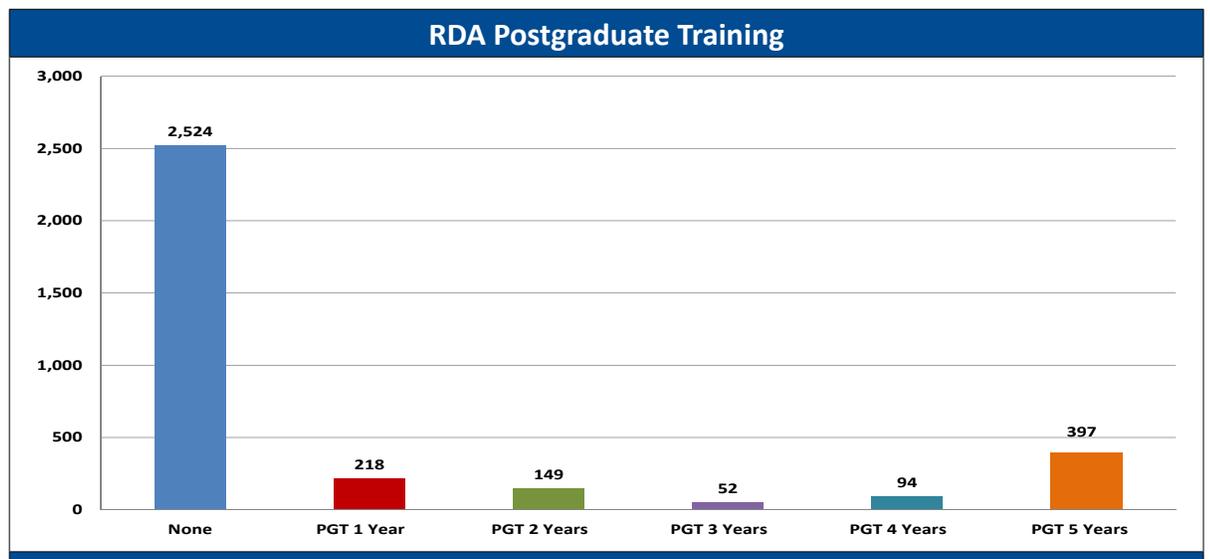
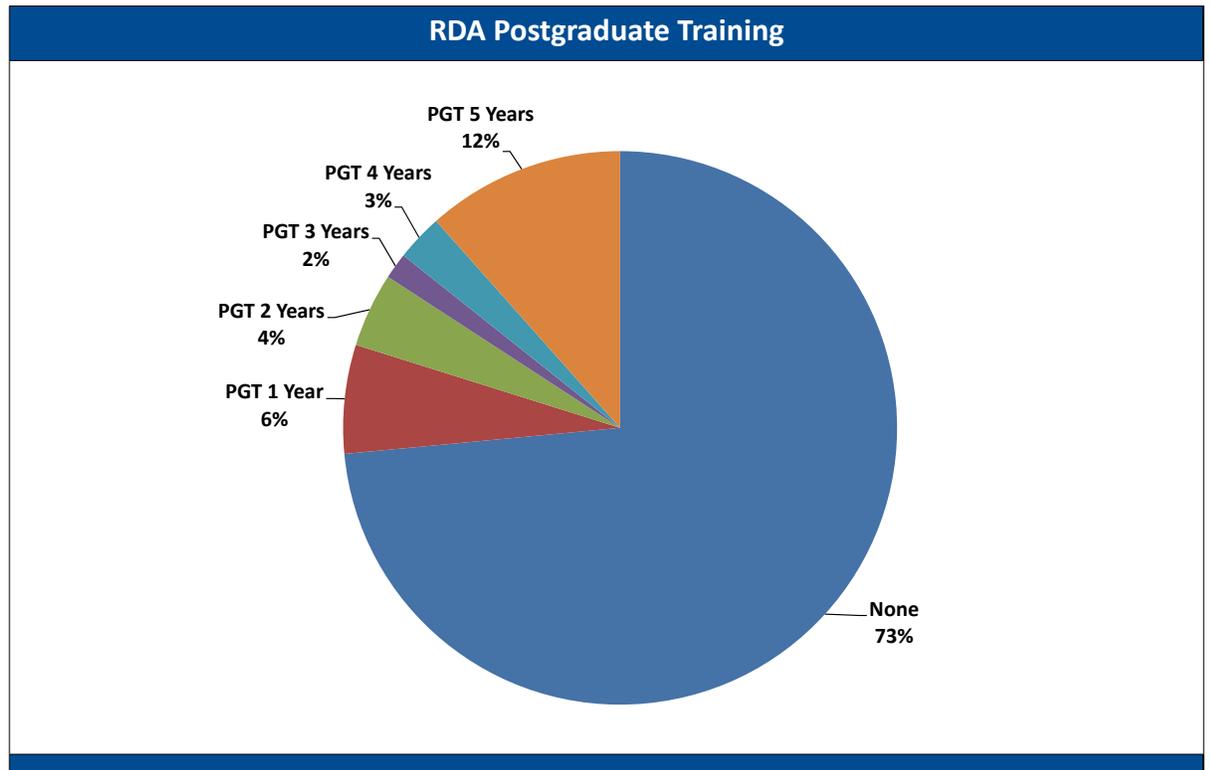


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Based on the Dental Healthcare Workforce Survey, the table and charts below show the number of RDAs who received postgraduate training in a dental specialty recognized by the American Dental Association. Postgraduate is training beyond the receipt of the initial RDA training degree/certification. The chart ranges from no postgraduate training up to five years of training.

RDA Postgraduate Training							
Postgraduate Training (PGT)	None	PGT 1 Year	PGT 2 Years	PGT 3 Year	PGT 4 Years	PGT 5 Years	Total
Number of RDAs	2,524	218	149	52	94	397	3,434
% of Total	73%	6%	4%	2%	3%	12%	100%



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The following data are based on Employment Development Department's Labor Market Information Division Statewide 2010-2020 Occupational Employment Projections.\*

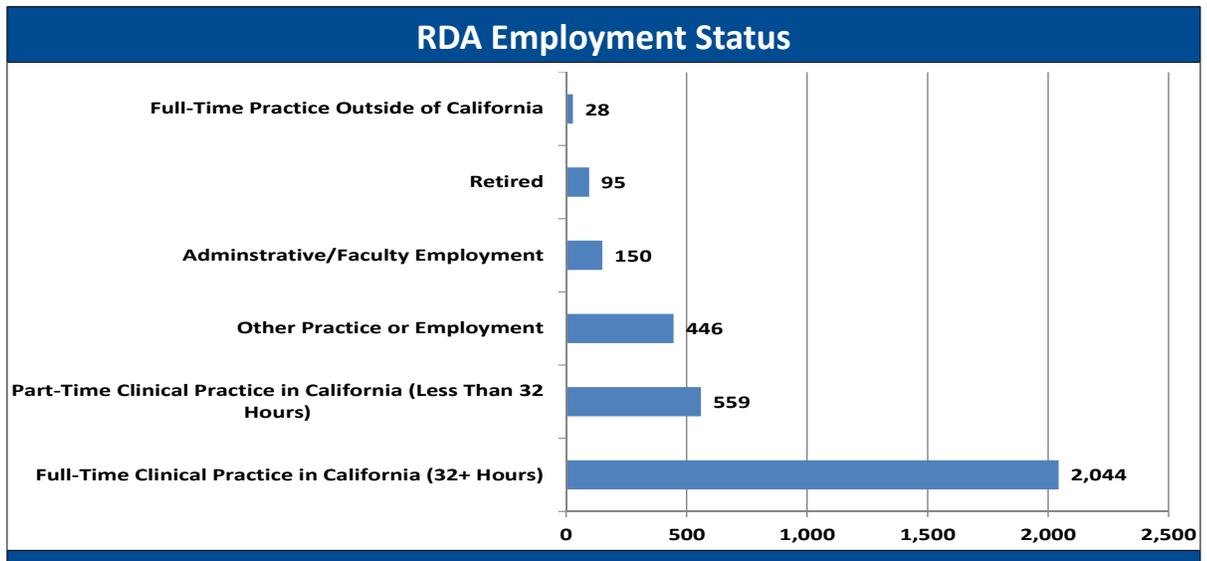
As displayed in the "Average Annual Job Openings" table below, the average annual job openings are an estimate of jobs created, resulting from economic growth and jobs created when workers retire or permanently leave an occupation and need to be replaced.

As displayed in the "2012 – 1st Quarter Wages" table below, the wages are the most recent estimates available for the 2010-2020 statewide employment projections.

Average Annual Job Openings	
New Jobs	530
Replacement Needs	920
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,450</b>
2012 – 1st Quarter Wages	
Median Hourly	\$17.08
Median Annual	\$35,516

Top Industries Which Employ This Occupation
1. Offices of Dentists
2. Offices of Physicians
3. State Government
4. Outpatient Care Centers
5. Federal Government

Based on the Dental Healthcare Workforce Survey results for 3,322 responses, the RDA licensee employment status is displayed in the chart and table below.



Employment Status	Full-Time Practice outside of CA	Retired	Administrative /Faculty Employment	Other Practice Or Employment	Part-Time Clinical Practice in California (Less Than 32 Hours)	Full-Time Clinical Practice in California (32+ Hours)	Total
<b>Total RDAs</b>	28	95	150	446	559	2,044	<b>3,322</b>
<b>% of Total</b>	1%	3%	4%	13%	17%	62%	<b>100%</b>

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\*Employment Development Department's Labor Market Information Division, Statewide 2010-2020 Occupational Employment Projections, July 2012. 08/09/13

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