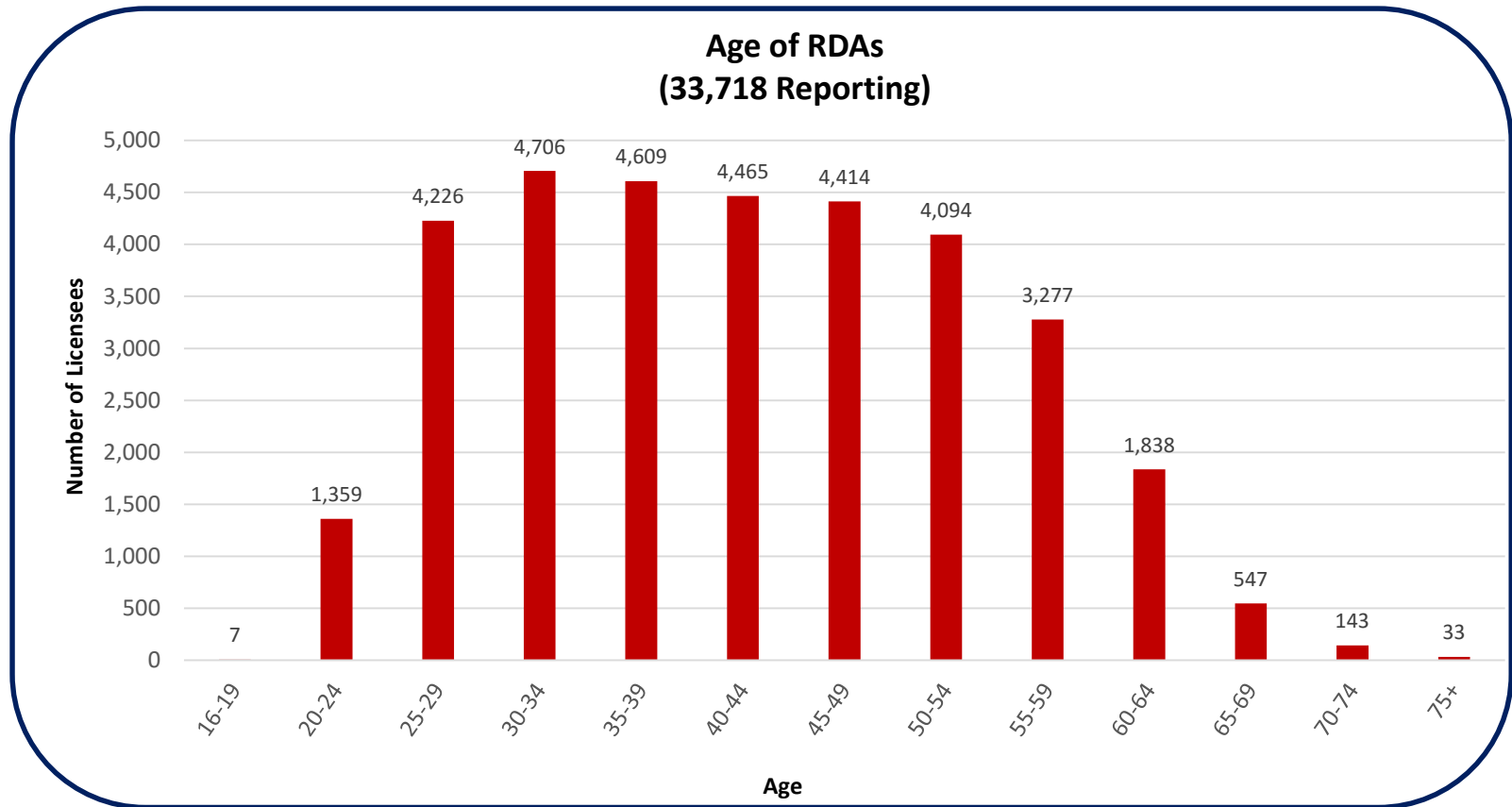




REGISTERED DENTAL ASSISTANTS

As of July 2016, the Dental Board of California reported 33,718 Registered Dental Assistants (RDA). The average age of RDAs was 44 years old.

FACT SHEET





REGISTERED DENTAL ASSISTANTS

FACT SHEET

California Counties with the Most RDAs

Counties	# of RDAs	Total Population
Los Angeles	5,350	10,241,335
San Diego	2,953	3,288,612
Orange	2,218	3,183,011
Riverside	2,131	2,347,828
Sacramento	1,930	1,495,297
Total	14,582	20,556,083



REGISTERED DENTAL ASSISTANTS

Registered Dental Assistants (RDA) perform a variety of patient care, office, and laboratory duties. They work chairside as dentists examine and treat patients. RDAs hand instruments and materials to dentists and keep patients' mouths dry and clear by using suction or other devices. They also sterilize and disinfect instruments and equipment, prepare trays of instruments for dental procedures, and instruct patients on postoperative and general oral health care. Some RDAs prepare materials for impressions and restorations, take dental x-rays, and process the film as directed by a dentist.

FACT SHEET

Estimated Average Annual Job Openings for RDAs in California

Over Period of 2014-2024		
Jobs from Growth	Jobs Due to Net Replacements	Total Annual Job Openings
760	1,210	1,970

Source: EDD/LMID [Projections of Employment by Occupation](#)

2016 Annual Wages of RDAs in California

Low (25 th percentile)	Median (50 th percentile)	High (75 th percentile)
\$30,602	\$37,822	\$47,815

Source: EDD/LMID [Occupational Employment Statistics Survey, 2016](#)
Wages do not reflect self-employment.

Estimated Employment and Projected Growth of RDAs in California

Employment				Net replacements from 2014-2024
Estimated 2014	Projected 2024	Growth (2014-2024)	Percent growth	
48,800	56,400	7,600	15.6%	12,100

Source: EDD/LMID [Projections of Employment by Occupation](#)