

OREGON BOARD OF DENTISTRY

**Presentation to the House Interim Committee On Health Care
9/21/2022 provided by Stephen Prisby, OBD Executive Director**

**The Board of Dentistry was created by an act of the
Legislature in 1887.**

The oldest health licensing Board in Oregon.

***The mission of the Oregon Board of Dentistry is to
promote quality oral health care and protect all
communities in the State of Oregon by equitably
and ethically regulating dental professionals.***

OREGON BOARD OF DENTISTRY

Ten members serve on the Board:

- **Six Dentists**
- **Two Dental Hygienists**
- **Two Public members**



All are appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate. A term is four years in length and they may serve two terms. The Board convenes every other month for regular meetings.

The OBD has 8 full time employees carrying out the day to day activities and work of the OBD.

OREGON BOARD OF DENTISTRY

LICENSE STATISTICS

As of July 1, 2022:

All Dentists Licensed = 3826

(3,089 In State)

(21 Faculty)

(15 Volunteer)

All Hygienists Licensed = 4237

(3,609 In State)

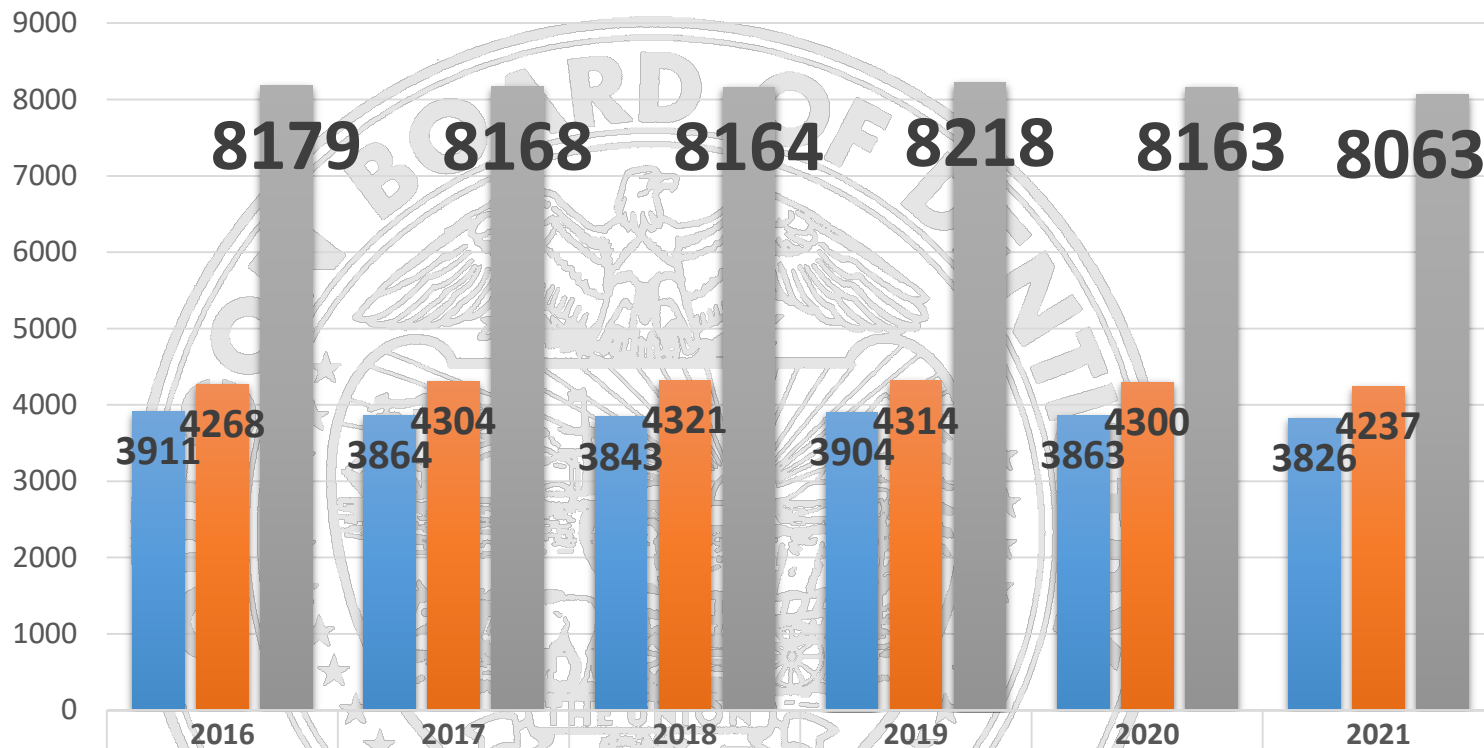
(972 Expanded Practice)

(0 Faculty)

(3 Volunteer)

OREGON BOARD OF DENTISTRY

LICENSE STATISTICS



| |
|--|
| ■ Dental Licenses |
| ■ Hygiene Licenses |
| ■ Total Licenses |

2016

3911

4268

8179

2017

3864

4304

8168

2018

3843

4321

8164

2019

3904

4314

8218

2020

3863

4300

8163

2021

3826

4237

8063

1887

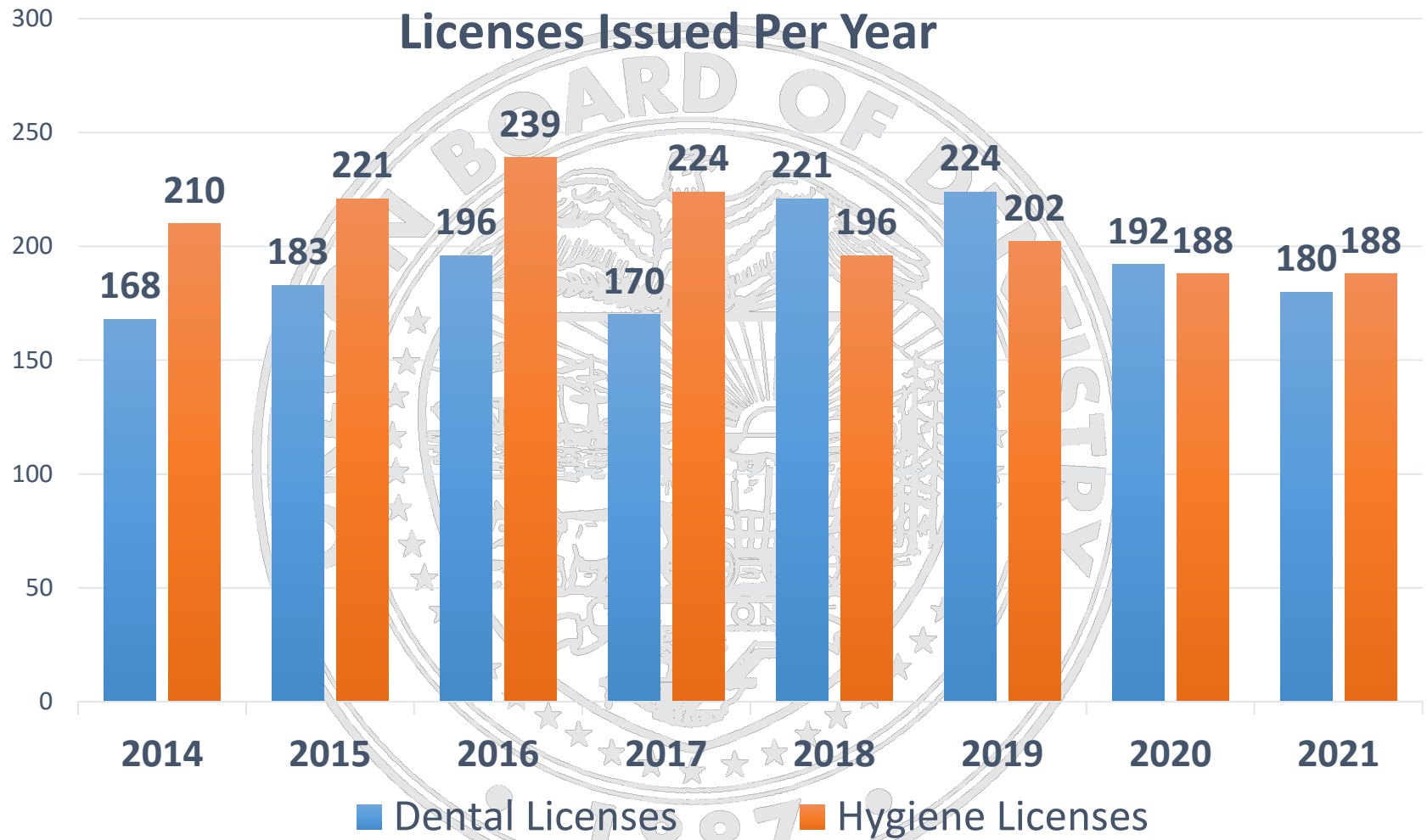
OREGON BOARD OF DENTISTRY

LICENSE STATISTICS



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OREGON BOARD OF DENTISTRY

Dental Assistants

There are an estimated 5500 – 5800 Dental Assistants in Oregon. Since they are not licensed, there is not an exact way to count them.

- They are integral to a successful oral healthcare team
- The OBD does not license them. They work under the supervision of dentists. The OBD ensures proper certification for specific functions and activities:
 - Certification – Exposing of Radiographs
 - Expanded Functions – Orthodontics
 - Expanded Functions – Preventative
 - Expanded Functions – Anesthesia
 - Expanded Functions – Restorative Functions

OREGON BOARD OF DENTISTRY

Dental Assisting National Board (DANB)

About DANB

Our Mission and History

Our mission is to promote the public good by providing credentialing services to the dental community. We accomplish and measure the success of this mission through the creation of valid dental assisting exams; recertification requirement integrity; and valuable, visible and accessible DANB exams, certificates and certifications.

We have a long and interesting history that traces back to 1948, when the American Dental Assistants Association (ADAA) identified the need for dental assistant certification and founded the Certifying Board of the American Dental Assistants Association. In 1978, the Certifying Board became a separately incorporated organization and, in 1980, changed its name to the Dental Assisting National Board.

Today, DANB is recognized by the American Dental Association as the national certification board for dental assistants. More than 36,000 dental assistants hold DANB certification, and each year, DANB issues nearly 50,000 certificates to those who pass its national and state exams.

OREGON BOARD OF DENTISTRY

DANB held a stakeholder Forum in July to address workforce shortage issues

Forum held in July - Mr. Prisby was a participant



FORUM OBJECTIVES

Workforce development is a **critical issue** for **DANB** and the **DALE Foundation**, as well, and one we believe we cannot resolve alone.

The forum is an invitation-only event designed to bring together leaders in dentistry and health care to share their perspectives and identify ways we can collectively work toward **solutions to assure a robust, effective, and adequately staffed dental assistant workforce.**

We will **explore key issues, identify opportunities, create initiatives, and define actions.**



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WORKSHOP

INTRODUCTION TO THE SESSION

Workforce development is a critical issue for DANB and the DALE Foundation, and one we recognize that we cannot resolve alone.

This forum session was held on July 14 in Chicago to bring together leaders in dentistry and health care to share perspectives and identify ways we can collectively work toward solutions to assure a robust, effective, and adequately staffed dental assistant workforce.

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SEVEN KEY THEMES

The key ideas were then clustered, and we discovered that we had identified seven key themes for the future of dentistry and the dental assistant role:

- **Certification Value / Awareness**
- **DSO Growth**
- **Technology**
- **Generational Shifts and the Workforce**
- **Business Model of Dentistry**
- **Workforce Development / Education**
- **Leadership Pipeline**

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The full report and summary recommendations is uploaded into OLIS and available to all.

REVAMP OUTREACH AND EDUCATION

to ensure training is readily available to meet new minimum standards, to help a diverse public understand why they should value oral health career opportunities, to promote diversity, and to instill a sense of professionalism and pride within the DA workforce.

IMPROVE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

through marketing campaigns, partnering with new groups (e.g., Junior Achievement) and outreach to underserved populations to grow interest in the profession, to increase DA workforce numbers;

FOCUS ON RECRUITMENT AND EDUCATION PATHWAYS

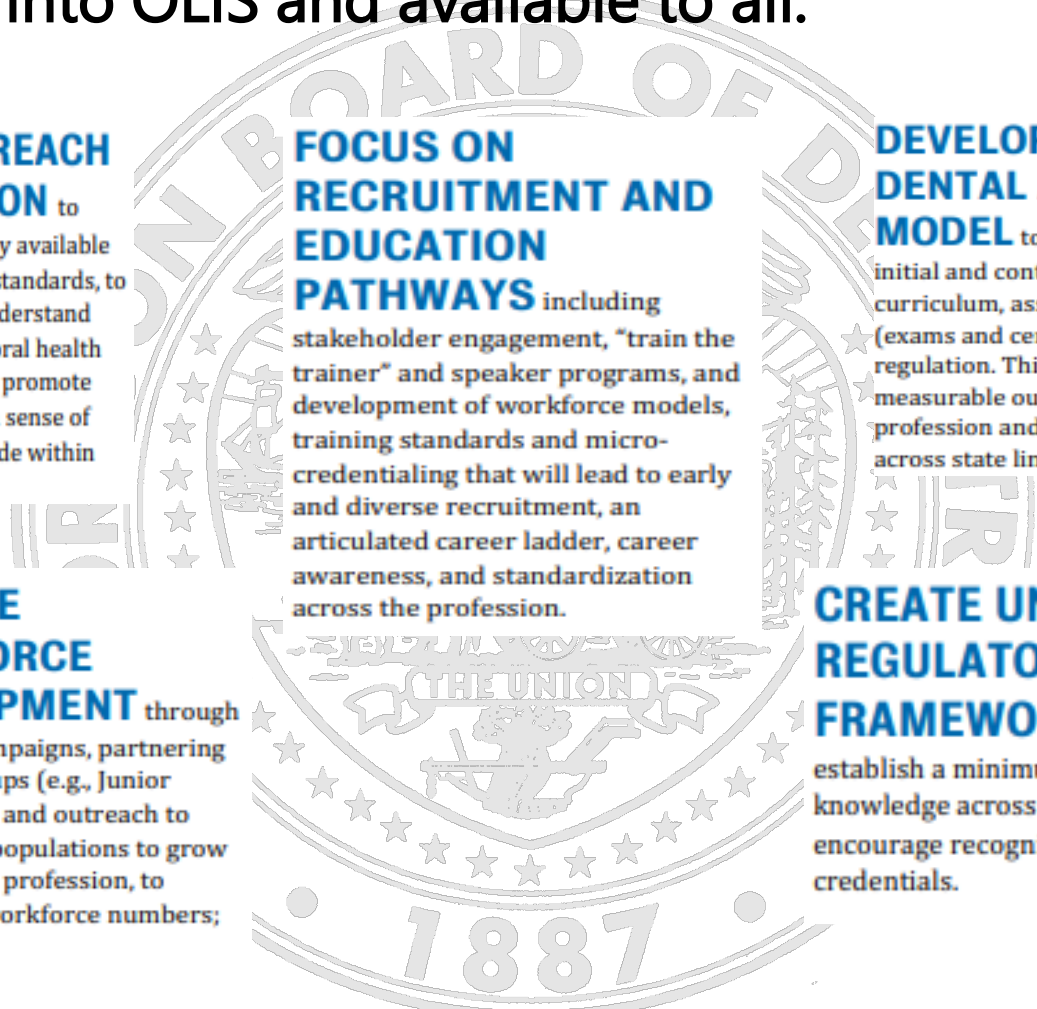
including stakeholder engagement, “train the trainer” and speaker programs, and development of workforce models, training standards and micro-credentialing that will lead to early and diverse recruitment, an articulated career ladder, career awareness, and standardization across the profession.

DEVELOP STANDARD DENTAL ASSISTANT MODEL

to create a uniform initial and continuing education curriculum, assessment program (exams and certifications) and state regulation. This will enable measurable outcomes for the profession and career portability across state lines.

CREATE UNIFORM REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

in order to establish a minimum base of knowledge across states and to encourage recognition of DANB credentials.



OREGON BOARD OF DENTISTRY

Work Force Shortage is only one part of the problem in ensuring all Oregonians can be healthy.

Important to retain current workforce and compensate and educate accordingly as well.

- The OBD supports the Oregon Health Plan reimbursing at higher rates and working with organizations and dentists that express this as well. Dentists and others choose not to participate mainly due to low reimbursement rates and reporting requirements.
- The OBD supports parental guidance, education and personal responsibility as integral components to one's oral health.
- The OBD supports a focus on oral health services and education, plus nutrition programs for underserved and uninsured residents of all ages. Support dental disease prevention, oral health education, dental treatment, and medical-dental integration.

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Oregon Wellness Program



- Currently available to Dentists and plans to expand to dental hygienists and dental therapists in the future.
- A program to help with life issues focusing on mitigating "professional burnout"
- Confidential, unless participants consent
- Up to eight free sessions in 12 month intervals
- No insurance is billed
- Not to replace or to be used for those that are in an immediate crisis
- Go to <https://oregonwellnessprogram.org> for more information

Almost all organizations/systems are aware that retention is key to having adequate staff in the current work environment.

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The five priorities identified in the OBD's 2022-2025 Strategic Plan include:

1. Licensure Evolution

Develop and implement rules based on legislative changes

Successfully implement Dental Therapy Rules

2. Dental Practice Accountability

Ensure Licensee dictates clinical care provided to patients

Assert OBD jurisdiction over dental practices regardless of ownership model

3. Community Interaction and Equity

Increase ease of access to OBD services and information

Ensure equity exists in investigation outcomes

4. Workplace Environment

Increase workplace flexibility through hybrid work models

Increase workplace satisfaction

5. Technology & Processes

Improve investigation management and archived files

Improve resource efficiencies

OREGON BOARD OF DENTISTRY

Thanks for the invitation today. Since you asked...

- The OBD is one of the most liberal state boards' in accepting applicants for licensure. We accept all regional and national clinical licensure examinations, whether conducted on patients, models or a computer based objective structured clinical examination.
- Staffing levels in administration & licensing have not been impacted during the pandemic. The application materials and presentations to OHSU School of Dentistry and the six Oregon dental hygiene programs is consistent: it takes 6 - 8 weeks to process an application and approve a license. Delays typically occur due to US mail delays, applicant error, criminal histories and verifications from other states.
- The OBD is monitoring the preparation and formation of the dental & dental hygiene licensure compact by the Council of State Governments. The OBD does not have a formal position on it yet.
- Dental Therapy rules are in place and applications are being accepted for dental therapists - the first new licensee since dental hygienists in the 1940s.
- The OBD is always a resource for the Legislature on anything related to Dental Practice Act statutes, rules or proposed changes any time requested of it.

OREGON BOARD OF DENTISTRY

Progress is impossible without change; and those who cannot change their minds cannot change anything.

-George Bernard Shaw

Please contact me if you have any questions or need any additional information.

Stephen Prisby

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