HEALTHCARE WORKFORCE CLEARINGHOUSE

REGISTERED DENTAL HYGIENISTS

As of August 2017, the Dental Hygiene Committee of California reported 20,049 Registered Dental Hygienists (RDH). The average age of RDHs was 47 years old.



OSHPD Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development

Source: California Department of Consumer Affairs, Dental Board of California Public Master File, September 2017. For the purposes of this Fact Sheet, currently licensed RDHs are defined as 'renewed and current.'



REGISTERED DENTAL HYGIENISTS

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California Counties with the Most RDHs

Counties	# of RDAs	Total Population	
Los Angeles	3,024	10,241,278	
San Diego	1,744	3,316,192	
Orange	1,739	3,194,024	
Santa Clara	1,021	1,938,180	
Riverside	892	2,384,783	
Total	8,420	21,074,457	

OSHPD Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development

2 of 3

Sources: California Department of Consumer Affairs, Dental Board of California Public Master File, September 2017. Department of Finance-State/County Population Estimates, 2016. For the purposes of this Fact Sheet, currently licensed RDHs are defined as 'renewed and current'.



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FACT

REGISTERED DENTAL HYGIENISTS

Registered Dental Hygienists (RDH) remove plaque and clean and polish teeth using scaling instruments and a rotating polisher. They apply decay preventative agents such as fluorides and sealants, chart medical and dental histories, and take and develop dental x-ray films. They also screen patients, take a medical history, and add information to the patient's chart.

Estimated Average Annual Job Openings RDHs in California

Over Period of 2014-2024					
Jobs From Growth	Jobs Due to Net Replacements	Total Annual Job Openings			
310	340	650			
Source: EDD/LMID Projections of Employment by Occupation					

2017 Annual Wages of RDHs in California

Low (25 th percentile)	Median (50 th percentile)	High (75 th percentile)					
\$85,649	\$97,527	\$112,555					
Source: EDD/LMID Occupational Employment Statistics Survey, 2016 Wages do not reflect self-employment.							

Estimated Employment and Projected Growth of RDHs in California

Employment				Net replacements		
Estimated 2014	Projected 2024	Growth (2014-2024)	Percent growth	from 2014-2024		
20,500	23,600	3,100	5.1%	3,400		
Source: EDD/LMID Projections of Employment by Occupation						

3 of 3

Source: Employment Development Department, Labor Market Information Division, September 2017. For the purposes of this Fact Sheet, currently licensed RDHs are defined as 'renewed and current.'