

**The North Carolina State Board of Dental
Examiners**

Annual Report to

**The Secretary of State, the Attorney General, The
Office of State Budget and Management,**

And

**The Joint Legislative Administrative Procedure
Oversight Committee**

**Submitted
October 28, 2025**

The North Carolina State Board of Dental Examiners submits the following information as required by N.C. Gen. Stat. §93B-2.

Section 1: Board Members and Officers: August 2024 – July 2025

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Section 1(a): Total number of licensees as of 1 Oct. 2025

Dentists:	8012
Dental Hygienists:	9081

Section 2: Number of persons who applied for examination

The North Carolina State Board of Dental Examiners is a member of the American Dental Examination (ADEX) group which has developed a clinical examination for dentistry and dental hygiene that is accepted in 51 states and territories. Candidates for dental/dental hygiene licensure do not apply or pay any examination fees directly to the North Carolina State Board Dental Examiners for admission to the examination. Several thousand graduates of dental and dental hygiene schools throughout the United States are eligible to apply for licensure in NC upon passing the examination.

The ADEX clinical dental and dental hygiene examinations are offered by regional testing agencies that recently merged to form the American Board of Dental Examiners (ADEX). Passing rates and other statistics from this agency are attached as Appendix A.

Section 3: The number refused examination

Applicants are not allowed to apply for the examination until all educational prerequisites are met. Therefore, no qualified applicants were refused admission to the ADEX dental and dental hygiene examinations.

Section 4: The number who took the examination

See the latest report from ADEX attached as Appendix A.

Section 5: Number to whom initial licenses were issued

In 2024, 420 applicants applied for a dental license in North Carolina. All 420 were granted a dental license. 293 applicants applied for a dental hygiene license. All 293 were granted a dental hygiene license

Section 5(a): Number who failed the examination

See attached reports from the ADEX dental and dental hygiene examinations. (Appendix A)

Section 6: Application for License by credentials

Licensure by credentials is the process through which licensees in other states may apply for a North Carolina license based on their experience and a safe practice record. No additional clinical examination is required for those who qualify. In 2024, 128 dentists and 167 dental hygienists from other states applied for licensure by credentials.

Section 7: License by Credentials Issued

In 2024, the Board licensed 128 dentists and 167 dental hygienists from other states through the credentialing process. No applicants for licensure by credentials were denied.

Section 7(a): Number of Official complaints involving licensed and unlicensed activity

480 complaints were received in 2024.

Section 7(b): Number of disciplinary actions against licensees or non-licensees, including injunctive relief.

19 Consent Orders entered

11 licenses suspended

3 licenses placed on probation

5 licenses revoked

2 official reprimands issued

5 licenses summarily suspended

The Board filed six cases seeking injunctive relief against individuals engaged in the unauthorized/unlicensed practice of dentistry. Injunctive relief was granted, or a Consent Agreement was reached in each case.

Section 8: Number of licenses suspended or revoked

Number of Licenses Suspended: 16 (includes summary suspensions)

Number of Licenses Revoked: 5

Section 9: Licensees terminated for any reason other than failure to renew

No licensee voluntarily surrendered his/her license in 2024.

Section (9a): Number of applicants for a dental license: 549

Number granted a dental license: 488

Number of applicants for a dental hygiene license: 414

Number of applicants granted a dental hygiene license: 404

Section (9b): Number of applicants with a conviction record: 20

Number of applicants with a conviction record granted a license: 20

Number of applicants with a conviction recorded denied a license
For any reason: 0
Number of applicants denied a license because of a conviction: 0

Section (9c): Number of applicants with military training: 24
Number of applicants with military training granted a license: 24
Number of military applicants denied a license: 0
Summary of reasons for denial attached as Appendix B (if applicable).

Section (9d): Number of applicants who are military spouses: 6
Number of military spouse applicants granted a license: 6
Number of military spouse applicants denied a license: 0
Summary of reasons for denial attached as Appendix C (if applicable).

Section 10: Substance of any anticipated statutory amendment

NCGS 90-36 was amended in 2021 and failed to insert any limitations on those with instructor's license converting to an unrestricted license. The Board hopes to support legislation that would require those with an instructor's license to practice clinical dentistry in the United States with an unblemished record for at least three years before being allowed to seek an unrestricted dental license. The Board also hopes to support legislation that would allow the clinical examination for licensure to be conducted on manikins or live patients.

Section 11: Substance of any anticipated rule changes or adoption.

If either statutory amendment in #10 above becomes law, the Board will enact rules to develop supporting procedures.

Financial Reports were previously submitted directly from the audit firm of Bernard Robinson on or about April 30, 2020.

Respectfully submitted,



Bobby D. White
Chief Executive Officer

Appendix A

Report from ADEX National Testing Agency

2024 Graduates

DENTAL

ADEX Dental Examination

Initial Attempts and End of Season Status per Candidate (2024 Graduates)

	Total Candidates	Pass Count Initial	Passing Percentage Initial Attempts	Pass Count End of Season	Passing Percentage End of Season
DSE OSCE	6,749	6,705	99.35%	6,742	99.90%
Endodontic	6,809	5,926	87.03%	6,764	99.35%
Prosthodontic	6,810	6,091	89.44%	6,769	99.40%
Periodontal	6,760	6,700	99.11%	6,759	99.99%
Anterior Restorative	6,799	6,333	93.15%	6,779	99.71%
Posterior Restorative	6,801	6,049	88.94%	6,760	99.40%

2024 Graduates

DENTAL HYGIENE

ADEX Dental Examination (CDCA-WREB-CITA)

Initial Attempts and End of Season Status per Candidate (2024 Graduates)

	Total Candidates	Pass Count Initial	Passing Percentage Initial Attempts	Pass Count End of Season	Passing Percentage End of Season
CSCE OSCE	5,212	5,183	99.44%	5,203	99.83%
Dental Hygiene Clinical	5,328	5,133	96.34%	5,311	99.68%

2023 Graduates**DENTAL****ADEX Dental Examination (CDCA-WREB-CITA)**

Initial Attempts and End of Season Status per Candidate (2023 Graduates)

	Total Candidates	Pass Count Initial	Passing Percentage Initial Attempts	Pass Count End of Season	Passing Percentage End of Season
DSE OSCE	6,619	6,576	99.35%	6,612	99.89%
Endodontic	6,648	5,610	84.39%	6,601	99.29%
Prosthodontic	6,650	5,854	88.03%	6,611	99.41%
Periodontal	6,558	6,506	99.21%	6,555	99.95%
Anterior Restorative	6,629	6,118	92.29%	6,610	99.71%
Posterior Restorative	6,630	5,682	85.70%	6,570	99.10%

2023 Graduates**DENTAL HYGIENE****ADEX Dental Examination (CDCA-WREB-CITA)**

Initial Attempts and End of Season Status per Candidate (2023 Graduates)

	Total Candidates	Pass Count Initial	Passing Percentage Initial Attempts	Pass Count End of Season	Passing Percentage End of Season
CSCE OSCE	5,125	5,070	98.93%	5,112	99.75%
Dental Hygiene Clinical	5,483	5,138	93.71%	5,420	98.85%