



# Dental Residencies in Graduate Medical Education Programs

## Academic Years 2015-2020

HRSA is the primary federal agency for improving health care to people who are geographically isolated or economically or medically vulnerable. HRSA programs help those in need of high quality primary health care by supporting the training of health professionals – focusing in particular on the geographical distribution of providers to areas where they are needed most.

The Children’s Hospital Graduate Medical Education Program (CHGME) and the Teaching Health Center Graduate Medical Education Program (THCGME) provide federal funds to maintain and expand graduate medical education, including dental residencies. While the programs focus on different patient populations—pediatric patients in free-standing children’s hospitals for CHGME and patients in community-based settings for THCGME—both programs share similar goals for their dental residencies:

- Prioritizing oral health care for medically underserved communities and populations,
- Providing dental residency training experiences in primary care and medically underserved or community-based settings, and
- Expanding access to care in rural and medically underserved areas by increasing the supply and distribution of new dentists.

Below is a descriptive summary of the characteristics and accomplishments of full and part-time dental residents who received CHGME and THCGME support during Academic Years (AY) 2015-2020.

**Table 1: CHGME and THCGME Dental Program Characteristics**

Academic Year	Awardees	Dental Residents	Underrepresented Minority (URM)	Disadvantaged or Rural Background	Dental Graduates in CHGME and THCGME Programs
2019-2020	31	419	83 (19.8%)	59 (14.1%)	186
2018-2019	32	416	62 (14.9%)	32 (7.7%)	207
2017-2018	32	416	65 (15.6%)	37 (8.9%)	191
2016-2017	32	437	76 (17.4%)	33 (7.6%)	220
2015-2016	32	379	64 (16.9%)	30 (7.9%)	164

- Between AY 2015-2016 and AY 2019-2020, CHGME and THCGME programs supported between 379 and 437 dental residents each year.
- From AY 2015-2016 to AY 2019-2020, there were 1,201 CHGME and THCGME dental residents. Of these, 1,134 were in the CHGME program, and 67 were in the THCGME program.

- The percentage of underrepresented minorities increased from earlier years to 19.8 percent in AY 2019-2020.
- The percentage of residents from disadvantaged backgrounds or rural areas increased from eight percent in AY 2015-2016 to fourteen percent in AY 2019-2020.

**Table 2: National Total Enrollment and Graduates of Accredited Advanced Dental Education Programs and of the CHGME and THCGME Programs**

Academic Year	Accredited Advanced Dental Education Program Total Enrollment in the U.S. <sup>1</sup>	Total Dental Residents in THCGME and CHGME Programs	Accredited Advanced Dental Education Program Graduates in the U.S. <sup>2</sup>	Dental Graduates in CHGME and THCGME Programs
2019-2020	7,355	419 (5.7%)	3,786	186 (4.9%)
2018-2019	7,318	416 (5.7%)	3,780	207 (5.5%)
2017-2018	7,291	416 (5.7%)	3,762	191 (5.1%)
2016-2017	7,157	437 (6.1%)	3,702	220 (5.9%)
2015-2016	7,059	379 (5.4%)	3,663	164 (4.5%)

- In AY 2019-2020, of the 7,355 enrolled in accredited advanced dental education programs in the U.S., six percent were in CHGME and THCGME programs, which is similar to other years.
- From AY 2015-2016 to AY 2019-2020, 968 dental residents graduated from CHGME and THCGME programs. CHGME and THCGME graduates represented approximately five percent of graduates from accredited advanced dental education programs in the U.S.

**Table 3: Percentage of Dental Residents by Specialty**

Academic Year	Pediatric Dentistry*	Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery	Dental Medicine/ General Dentistry	Advanced General Dentistry	Endodontics and Periodontics	Total Residents
2019-2020	299 (71.4%)	75 (17.9%)	19 (4.5%)	26 (6.2%)	0 (0.0%)	419
2018-2019	287 (69.0%)	76 (18.3%)	29 (7.0%)	24 (5.8%)	0 (0.0%)	416
2017-2018	313 (75.2%)	58 (13.9%)	23 (5.5%)	20 (4.8%)	2 (0.5%)	416
2016-2017	323 (73.9%)	65 (14.9%)	24 (5.5%)	23 (5.3%)	2 (0.5%)	437
2015-2016	277 (73.1%)	52 (13.7%)	24 (6.3%)	24 (6.3%)	2 (0.5%)	379

\* "Pediatric dentistry" includes pediatric dentistry, pedodontics, and pediatric orthodontics.

- Pediatric dentistry was the most common specialty each year, accounting for 69 percent to 75 percent of all CHGME and THCGME dental residents.
- Residents specializing in dental medicine/general dentistry or advanced general dentistry made up 10.3 percent to 12.7 percent of CHGME and THCGME dental residents from AY 2015-2020.

<sup>1</sup> American Dental Association's Survey of Advanced Dental Education reports from Academic Year (AY) 2015-2016 to AY 2019-2020. Available at <https://www.ada.org/en/science-research/health-policy-institute/data-center/dental-education>

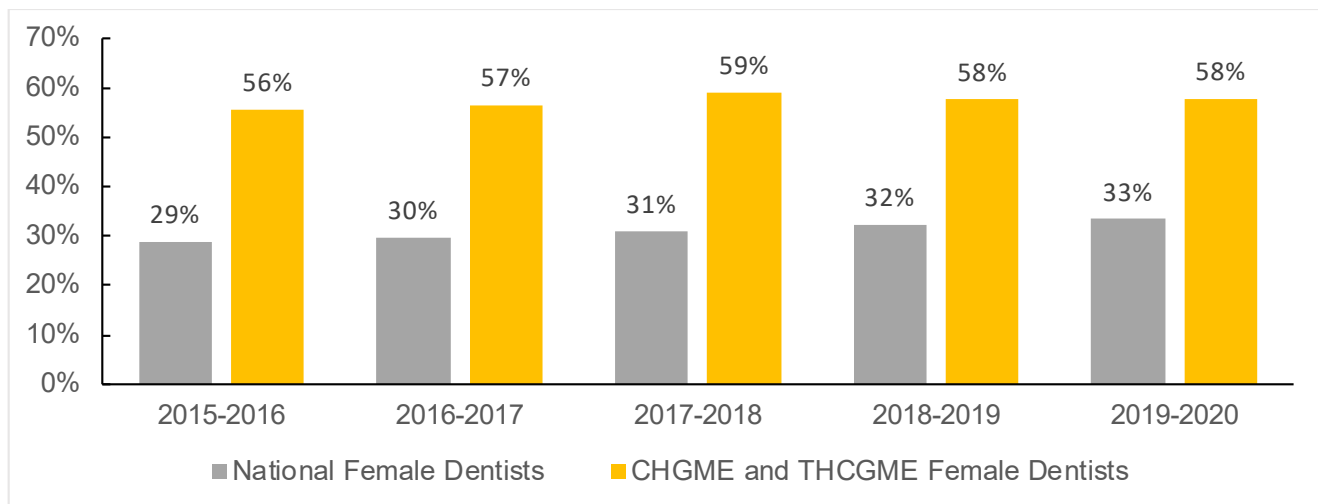
<sup>2</sup> American Dental Association's Survey of Advanced Dental Education reports from Academic Year (AY) 2016-2017 to AY 2019-2020. Available at <https://www.ada.org/en/science-research/health-policy-institute/data-center/dental-education>

**Table 4: National Total Enrollment and Graduates of Accredited Advanced Dental Education Programs with Pediatric Dentistry Specialties and of the CHGME and THCGME Programs**

Academic Year	Total Enrollment for Pediatric Dentistry Specialties in the U.S. <sup>3</sup>	Total Residents for Pediatric Dentistry Specialties in CHGME and THCGME Programs	Graduates for Pediatric Dentistry Specialties in the U.S. <sup>4</sup>	Graduates for Pediatric Dentistry Specialties in CHGME and THCGME Programs
2019-2020	973	299 (30.7%)	477	104 (21.8%)
2018-2019	955	287 (30.1%)	460	147 (32.0%)
2017-2018	940	313 (33.3%)	453	150 (33.1%)
2016-2017	921	323 (35.1%)	438	153 (34.9%)
2015-2016	900	277 (30.8%)	433	129 (29.8%)

- About one third of all enrollment for pediatric specialties in the U.S. from AY 2015-2016 to AY 2019-2020 were CHGME or THCGME residents.
- About one third of all graduates for pediatric dentistry specialties in the U.S from AY 2015-2016 to AY 2018-2019 were CHGME or THCGME graduates.

**Figure 1: Female Dentists in the U.S.<sup>5</sup> and in CHGME and THCGME Programs**



Note: Cases not reported were excluded.

- Between AY 2015 and 2020, the percentage of female dentists in the U.S. ranged from 29 percent in AY 2015-2016 to 33 percent in 2019-2020. The female dentists in CHGME and THCGME programs was almost double, ranging from 56 percent to 59 percent of residents identifying as female in AY 2015-2020.

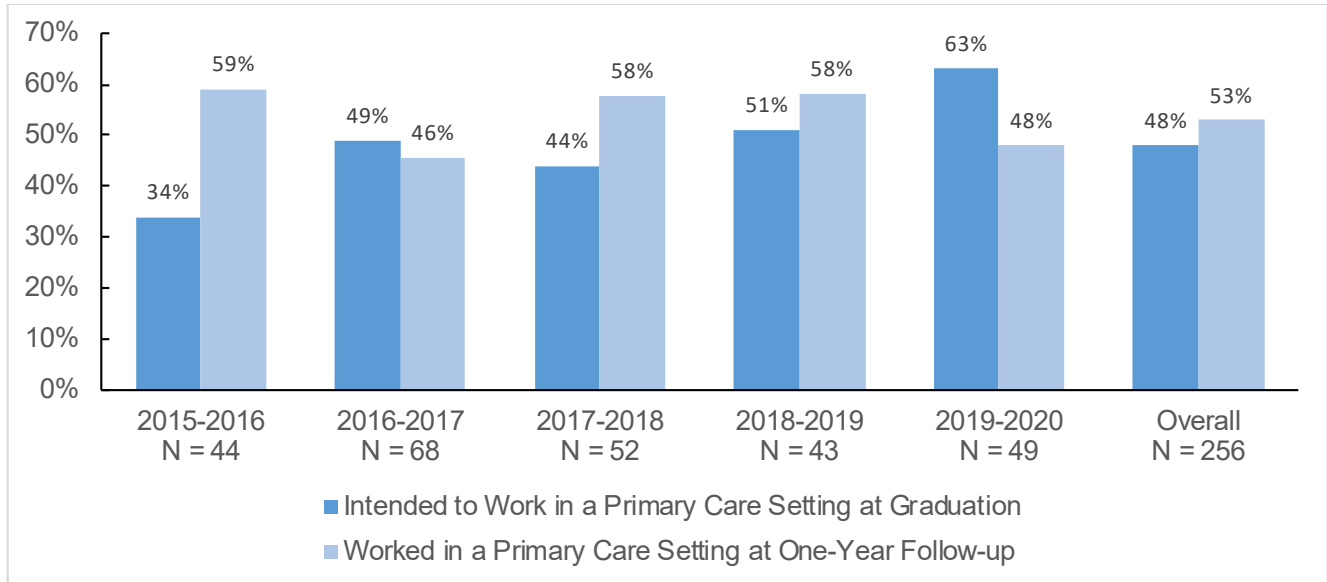
<sup>3</sup> American Dental Association's Survey of Advanced Dental Education reports from Academic Year (AY) 2015-2016 to AY 2019-2020. Available at <https://www.ada.org/en/science-research/health-policy-institute/data-center/dental-education>

<sup>4</sup> American Dental Association's Survey of Advanced Dental Education reports from Academic Year (AY) 2016-2017 to AY 2019-2020. Available at <https://www.ada.org/en/science-research/health-policy-institute/data-center/dental-education>

<sup>5</sup> American Dental Association, Health Policy Institute analysis of ADA Masterfile available at <https://www.ada.org/en/science-research/health-policy-institute/data-center/supply-and-profile-of-dentists>

- From AY 2015-2020, 56 percent of all CHGME and THCGME dental graduates were female. The number of female graduates increased by six percent from AY 2015-2016 (53 percent) to AY 2019-2020 (59 percent).

**Figure 2: CHGME and THCGME Dental Graduates and Primary Care Settings**



- From AY 2015-2020, 21 percent of CHGME and THCGME dental residents received training in primary care settings (data not shown). Upon completion of the CHGME or THCGME program, 48 percent of dental graduates who reported one-year follow-up data intended to practice in a primary care setting (see Figure 2).<sup>6</sup>
- At one-year follow-up, 53 percent of CHGME and THCGME dental residents who graduated between AY 2015-2020 were employed in primary care settings. The exact percentage varied by year, with nearly 60 percent of graduates working in primary care settings at one-year follow-up for the AY 2015-2016, 2017-2018, and 2018-2019 cohorts.
- Overall, the percentage of CHGME and THCGME dental graduates who worked in primary care settings at one-year follow-up was greater than the percentage who intended to do so upon program completion.

<sup>6</sup> 256 of 968 CHGME and THCGME dental graduates reported one-year follow-up data (26.4 percent).