The number of applications received per orthodontics program has increased from 133.0 in 1990 to 160.3 in 2020. Graduates of orthodontics programs increased by 50% since 1990. Starting at 257 in 1990, the number of graduates rose to 391 by 2020.

The percentage of orthodontics students/residents who are graduates of international dental schools also remained steady with a range of 6%, from 8.6% in 2005 to 14.8% in 1995.

Female and under-represented minority (URM)* orthodontics students/residents as a percentage of total enrollment have moved in different trajectories since 1990. Female enrollment increased from about one-quarter to more than half in 2020. URM students/residents, meanwhile, have been relatively steady, and stood at 9.9% in 2020.

*Includes residents who identify as Black or African-American, Hispanic or Latino, or American Indian or Alaskan Native.

For more information, visit ADA.org/HPI or contact the Health Policy Institute at hpi@ada.org.