Dental Student Withdrawals and Not Promoted Rates, 1985 to 2015

Data on dental student withdrawals and repeaters collected in the annual Survey of Dental Education are examined here in 10 year intervals.

FIRST-YEAR ENROLLMENT

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FIRST-YEAR</td>
<td>4,843</td>
<td>4,237</td>
<td>4,688</td>
<td>6,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>WITHDRAWALS</td>
<td>2.5%</td>
<td>2.2%</td>
<td>1.2%</td>
<td>1.0%</td>
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</tbody>
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THE PERCENTAGE OF FIRST-YEAR STUDENTS NOT PROMOTED TO THE SECOND YEAR (but returning to the program) steadily decreased over the 30 year period.

WITHDRAWAL RATES AMONG FIRST-YEAR STUDENTS fell over the last 30 years, from 8.2% in 1985 to 1.1% in 2015.

REASONS FOR WITHDRAWAL are categorized as either personal or academic, and have fluctuated over the last three decades.

GRADUATING CLASS

WITHDRAWAL RATES FOR STUDENT COHORTS over the entire four-year program have fallen by roughly two-thirds, from 9.4% to 3.2%.

Note: American Dental Association, Health Policy Institute, Surveys of Dental Education (2016-17 and earlier years).

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