# Iowa Dental Board

Phone: 515-281-5157
www.dentalboard.iowa.gov

*Promoting & Protecting the Health of Iowans*

IDPH Iowa Department of Public Health

Did you know the practice of dentistry dates back to Egyptian times? A tomb from 2600 BC marks the death of Hsye-Re, known as the "greatest to deal with teeth." We've come a long way since those ancient days. Today, dentistry involves not only the repair of damaged teeth, but preventive care and even appearance-related treatments, like teeth whitening.

The Iowa Dental Board helps keep Iowans healthy by making sure only qualified dentists, dental hygienists, and dental assistants practice in Iowa. By licensing health professionals, Iowans can be confident they are receiving competent care.

## Did you know?

There are 10,012 licensed dentists, dental hygienists, dental assistants, and permit holders (sedation/anesthesia/faculty/resident) in Iowa.

## Why is the Iowa Dental Board important to promoting and protecting the health of Iowans?

- All Iowans deserve ethical and safe care from competent, qualified practitioners.
- Setting standards for licensure ensures that minimum standards are met.
- Licensing is an effective way to keep untrained and dishonest individuals from practicing dentistry, dental hygiene, or dental assisting in Iowa.

## Which Iowa Public Health Goals are we working to achieve?

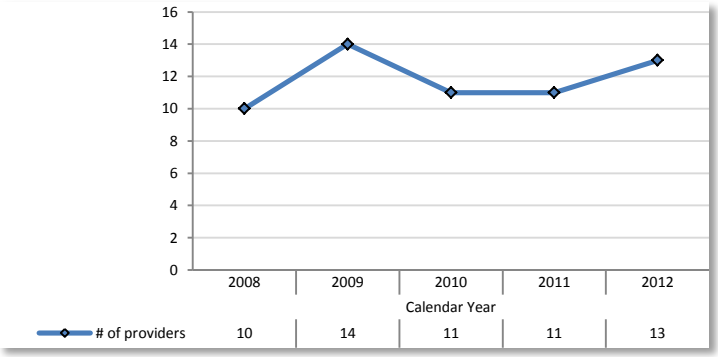
Strengthen the public health infrastructure

## What do we do?

- License health professionals.
- Investigate complaints about health professionals.
- Discipline health professionals who break the law.
- Monitor disciplined and impaired (e.g., substance abuse, mental health problems) professionals so they can return to practice as soon as it is safe.
- Provide licensure and discipline data to the public.
- Educate professional groups, students, and the public.
- Watch national health care trends to see how they might apply to Iowa.

## How do we measure our progress?

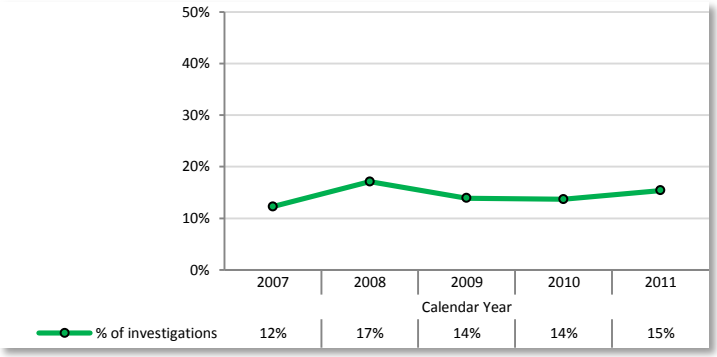
❶ **Number of providers participating in the Iowa practitioner recovery program.**




Data Source: Manual counts. Data are available annually.

**How are we doing?** As of October 2012, there were 13 providers participating in our IPRC program.

❷ **Percent of investigations resulting in formal discipline.**




Data Source: Board manual counts. Data are available annually.

**How are we doing?** Out of 221 complaints filed in 2011, 34 resulted in formal discipline.

## What can Iowans do to help?

1. All Iowans can learn more about the Iowa Dental Board by going to www.dentalboard.iowa.gov.
2. Health professionals should learn how to comply with Iowa laws.
3. Health professionals can learn how to use the programs created to help impaired or potentially impaired professionals. For more information, go to http://www.dentalboard.iowa.gov/iprc/index.html.

## Expenditures

Retained fees*: K19-2062

| | State Fiscal Year 2011 Actual | State Fiscal Year 2012 Actual | State Fiscal Year 2013 Estimate |
|---|---|---|---|
| State funds | $0 | $0 | $0 |
| Other funds* | $924,386 | $802,406 | $1,236,462 |
| **Total funds** | **$924,386** | **$802,406** | **$1,236,462** |
| FTEs | 7.70 | 7.01 | 8.00 |

**Note:** Funding information is intended to provide an overview of funding related to the program area. It does not include all federal and state requirements and/or restrictions for the use of funds. Contact the program area for more detailed budget information.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Phone: 515-281-5157 ◆ Fax: 515-281-7969 ◆ www.dentalboard.iowa.gov

400 SW 8th Street, Suite D ◆ Des Moines, IA 50309-4687