**Dental Care Supply**

**Massachusetts (MA) Notes**

**by Chris Larkins**

* Because I could download the BOD file for free, I download a new BOD dataset from <https://checkalicense.hhs.state.ma.us/mylicenseverification/Search.aspx?facility=N> on 6.10.20.
* The “IKN\_processed.csv” file and “[NP\_national\_w\_extra\_col\_2n.csv](http://localhost:8888/view/Dental%20Care%20Supply/NP_national_w_extra_col_2n%20(1).csv)” files were used
* Anything that mentioned “hygienist” was disregarded in accordance to receipt dropbox updates.
* I used the PA/IL code on dropbox to help formulate my code for MA
* The ADA report shows 5,711 dentists in MA in 2018. The final FTE sum of dentists from the MED + BOD files is 6,034 (5,984 unique).
* This BOD file from 6.10.20 includes:
  + 7,428 rows of dentists, without any hygienists.
    - 44 of these rows had a NULL practice state. However other address lines showed that these dentist practices were located outside the U.S. These were excluded in pre-processing.
    - 6,108 dentists with MA practice state.
    - All of these licenses are updated/active. I decided to keep the 677 licenses that had a March, 2020 expiration date. They are listed as “current” in the database instead of “expired” because according to the website in which the data was accessed, the governor extended the expiration dates of licenses by 90 days due to the state of emergency.
    - Licenses that were not “current”, such as “retired”, “deceased”, “probation”, etc. Were excluded in the BOD pre-processing. After all these exclusions, 6,040 rows of dentists remained.
    - Only a Full Name column was given. Therefore, I delimited the names into first, middle, and last names, and suffixes.
    - Finally, addresses were corrected so the 1st line of the addresses included an actual mailing address, not the title of a place.
    - If you are looking for something to brighten your day today, here you have it: there is a dentist in MA apparently with the name Anthony C Broccoli, JR!
  + The Columns Headers Include:
    - *BOD\_Full\_Name First Middle Last Suffix license\_no license\_type\_name license\_status\_name expiration\_date addr1 addr2 City\_ST\_ZIP addr\_city addr\_county addr\_state addr\_zipcode BOD\_addr BOD\_names BOD\_Formatted\_Name*
* The IKN-NPPES match rate was 94%
  + IKN-NPPES match rate by name was 87%
* The overall IKN match rate was 76%
  + Not great, but not terrible.
  + There are two contributors to the problem.
    - 1) I distributed names based on first, middle, last, and suffix. Therefore, I probably made many errors in determining how names are distinguished.
    - 2) 84 of the 603 unique IKN names that did not match were not real names. These were names of dental clinics, not the names of persons. This would have brought the match rate to about 80%.
* Only Medicaid rows were present at the end of the exclusions stage.
* I had the issue as before with the zip codes. There is a trailing 0 before the zip codes that needs to be added in. Geocoder will not be able to retrieve an accurate location otherwise.
* All of the rows for the final BOD FTE sum had whole numbers for the general, specialist, and pediatric columns.