

# California Acupuncture Profession Trends

**Terri Thorfinnson, J.D.**

Executive Officer

California Acupuncture Board

## **Stakeholder Meetings**

December 9, 2013, San Francisco, CA

December 16, 2013, Los Angeles, CA

# **California Approved Acupuncture Training Programs**

By Terri Thorfinnson, J.D. Executive Officer  
California Acupuncture Board

# Acupuncture Training Programs

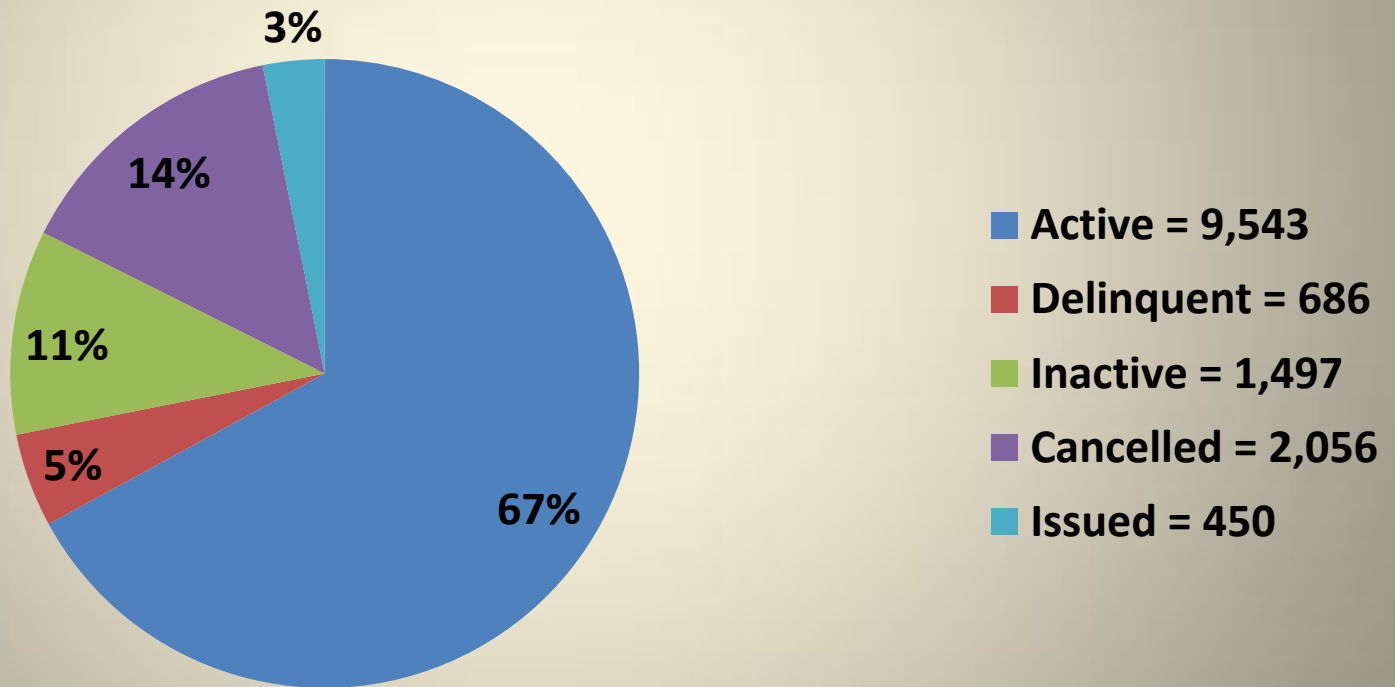
- 35 California Board Approved Acupuncture Training Programs
- 19 Training Programs in-state
- 16 Training Programs out-of-state

# California Acupuncture Licensing Trends

By Terri Thorfinnson, J.D. Executive Officer  
California Acupuncture Board

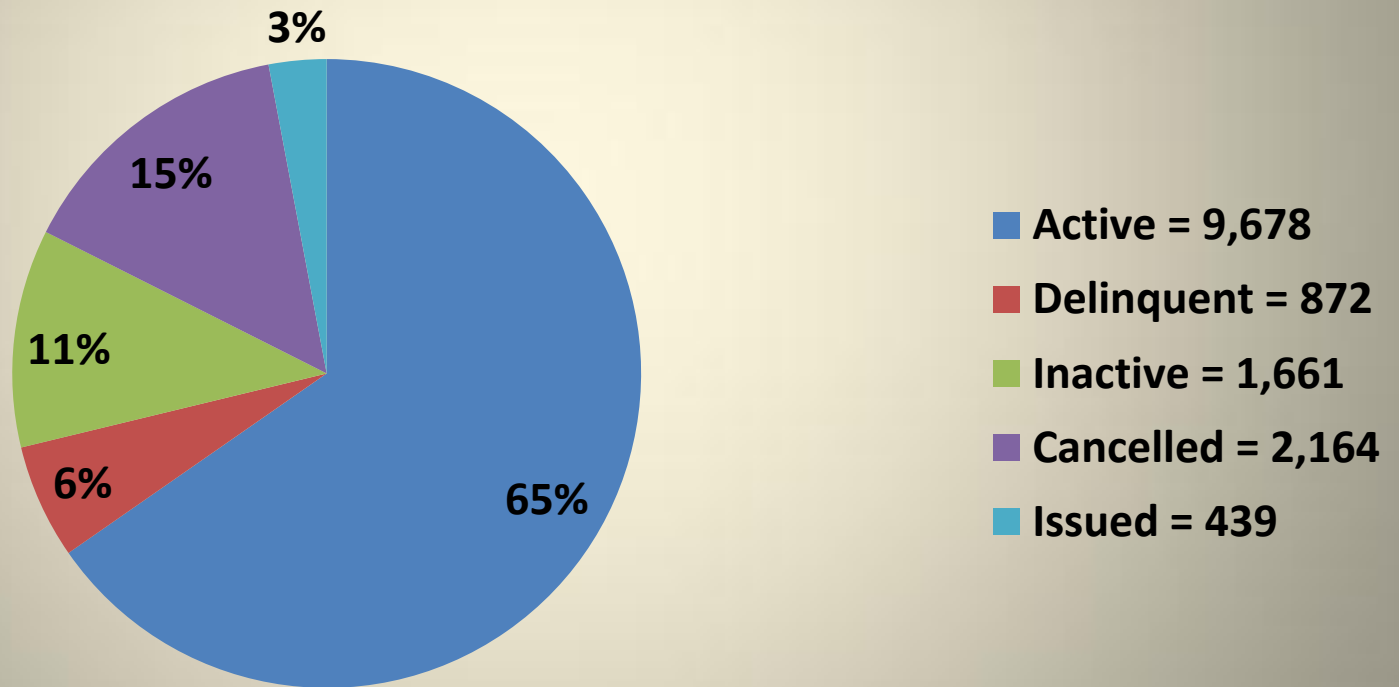
# California Licensees 2009

Total Licensees  
N = 13,787



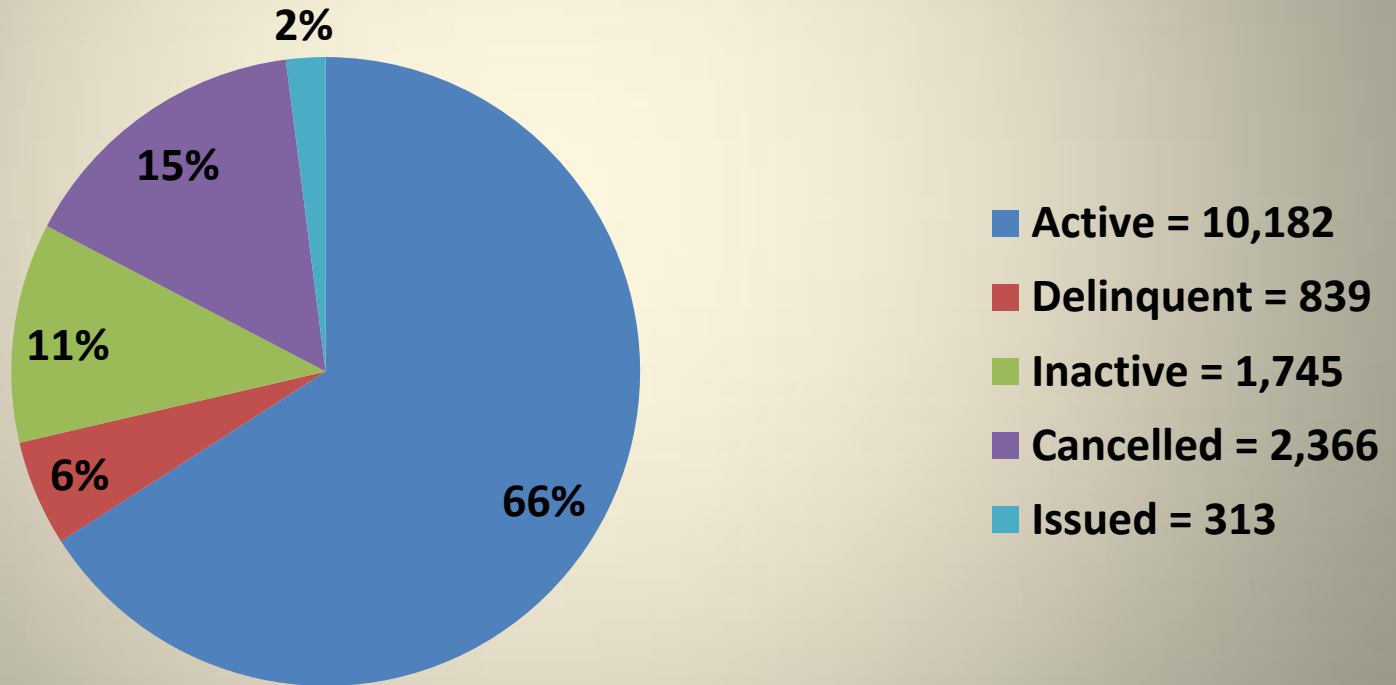
# California Licensees 2010

Total Licensees  
N = 14,375



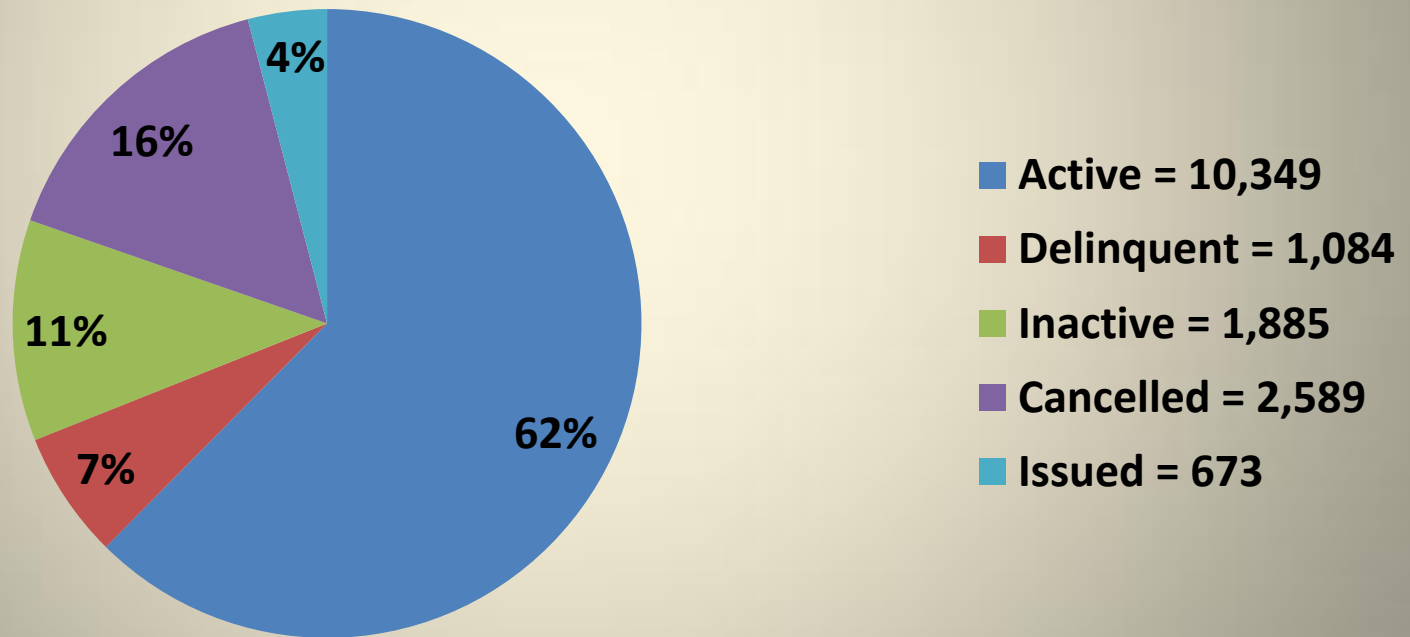
# California Total Licensees 2011

Total Licensees  
N = 15,132



# California Licensees 2012

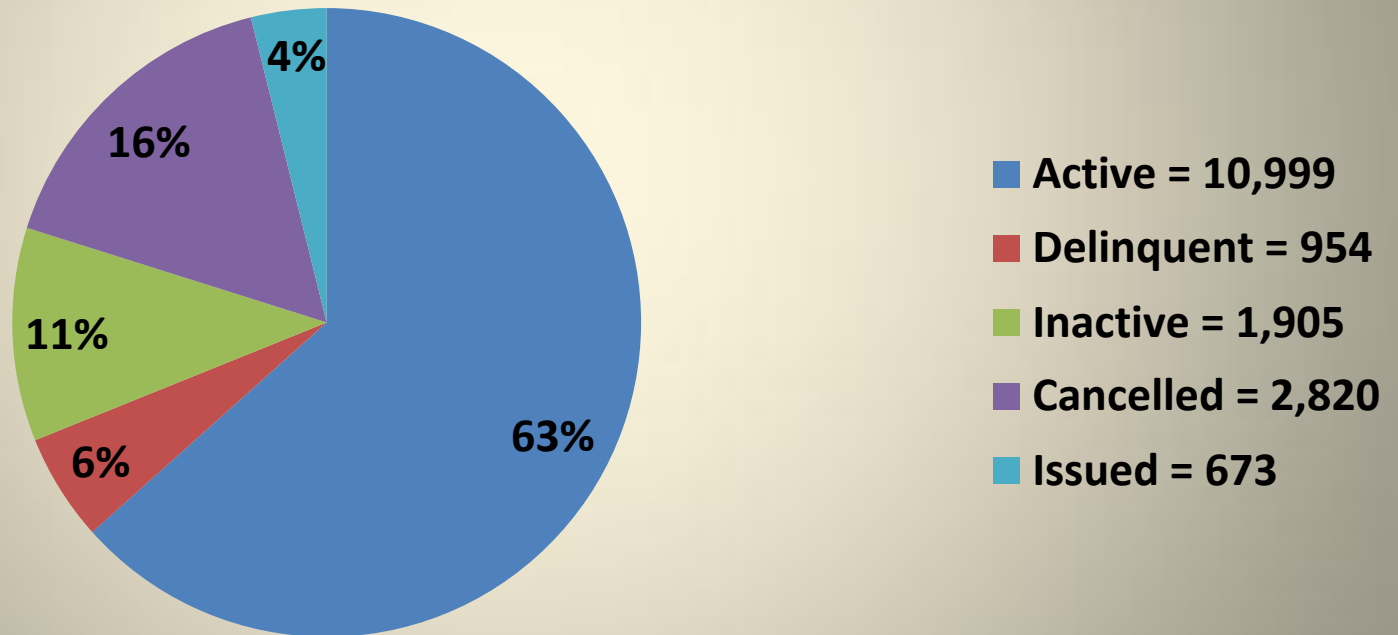
Total Licensees  
N = 15,907



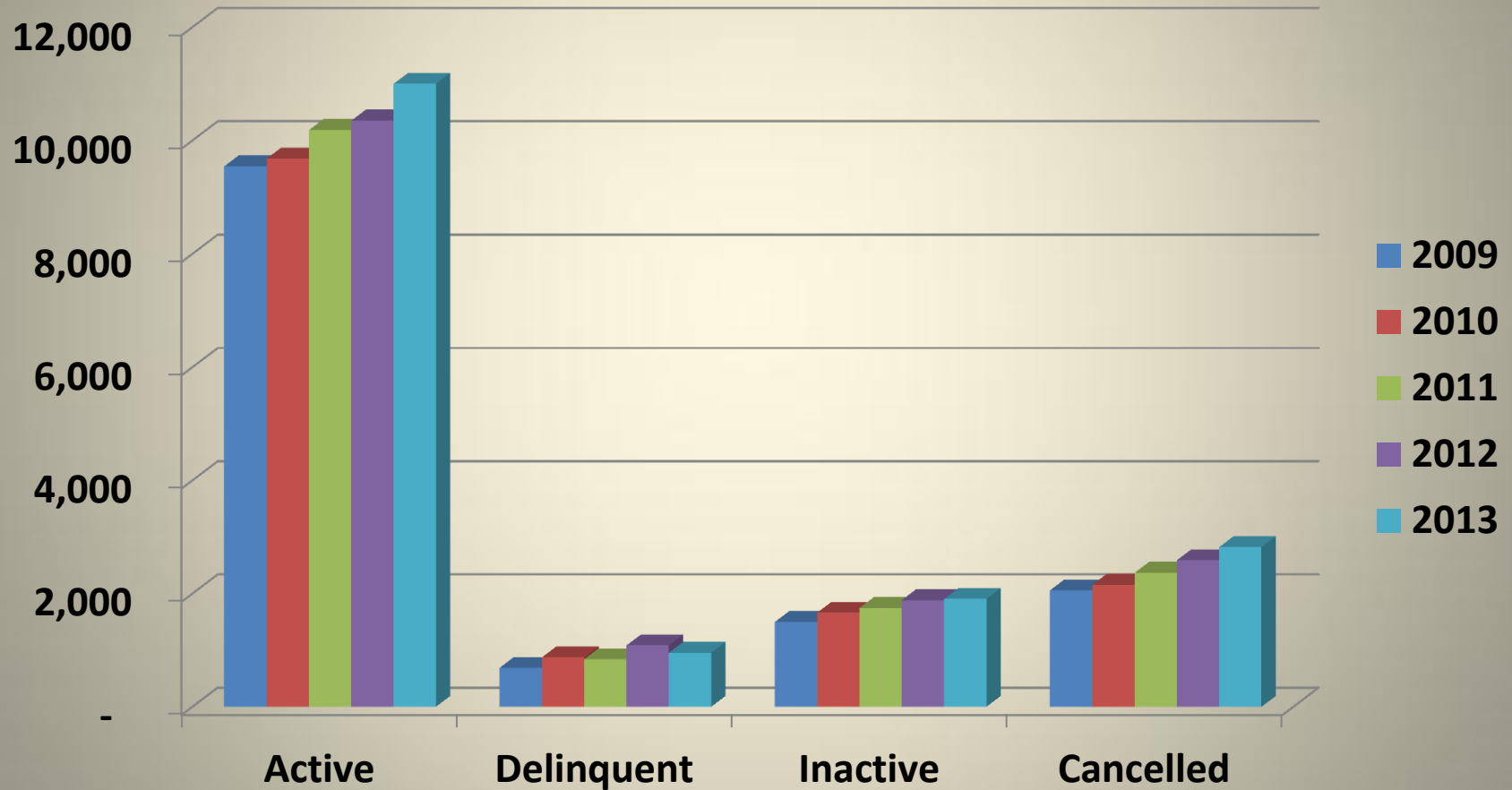


# California Licensees 2013

Total Licensees  
N = 16,678

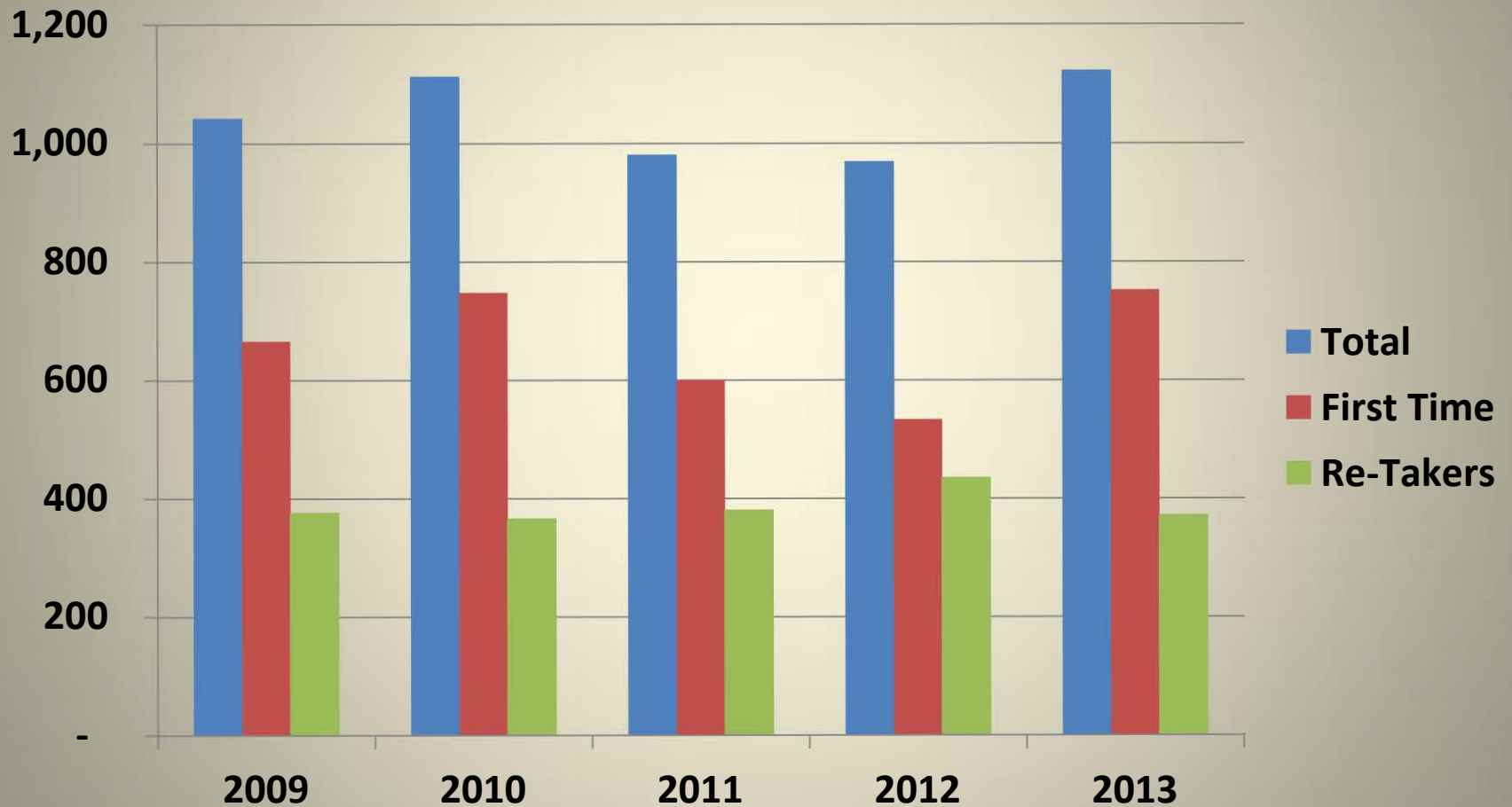


# California Acupuncture Licensing Trends

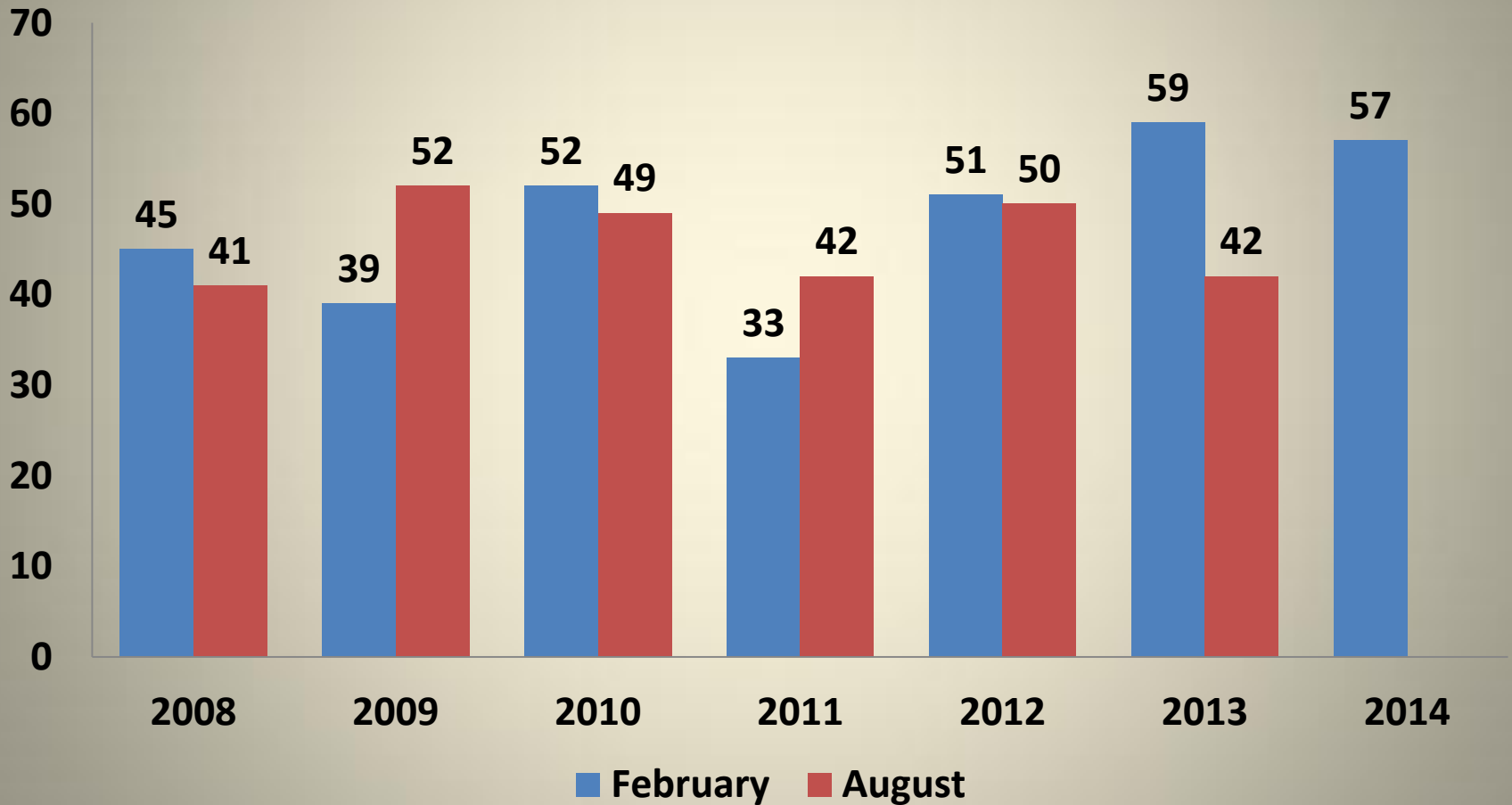


# California Acupuncture Licensing Exam

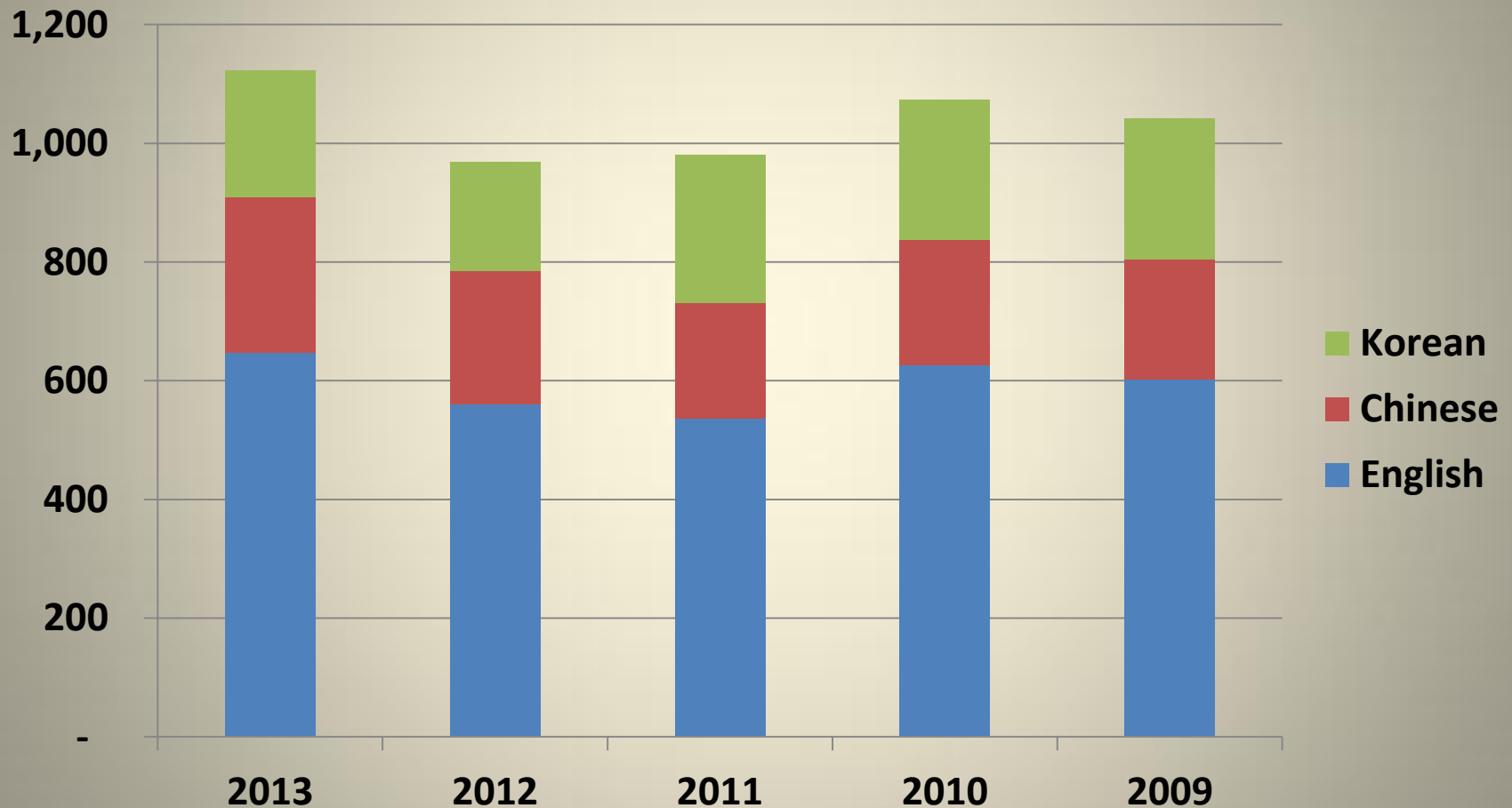
# CALE Test Takers 2009-2013



# CALE Foreign Test Takers

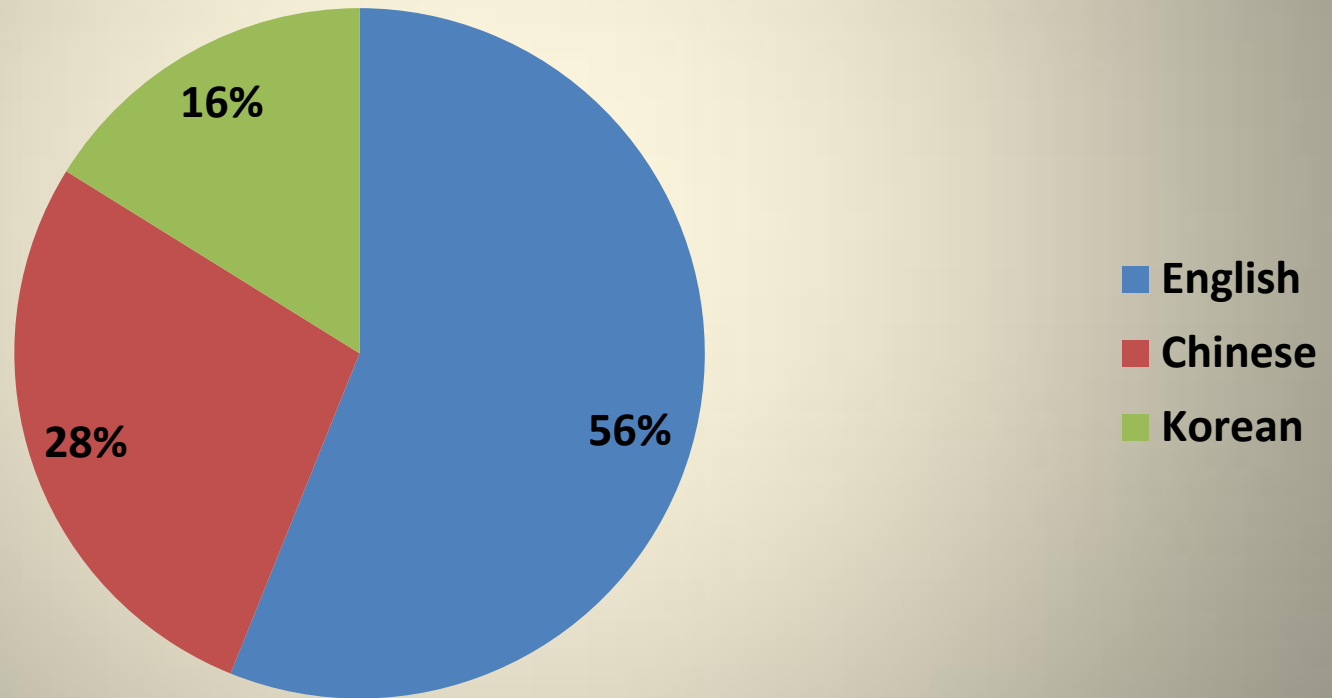


# CALE Test Takers by Language 2009-2013



# Language Demographics of CALE 2008 Occupational Analysis

CALE Test Takers by Language

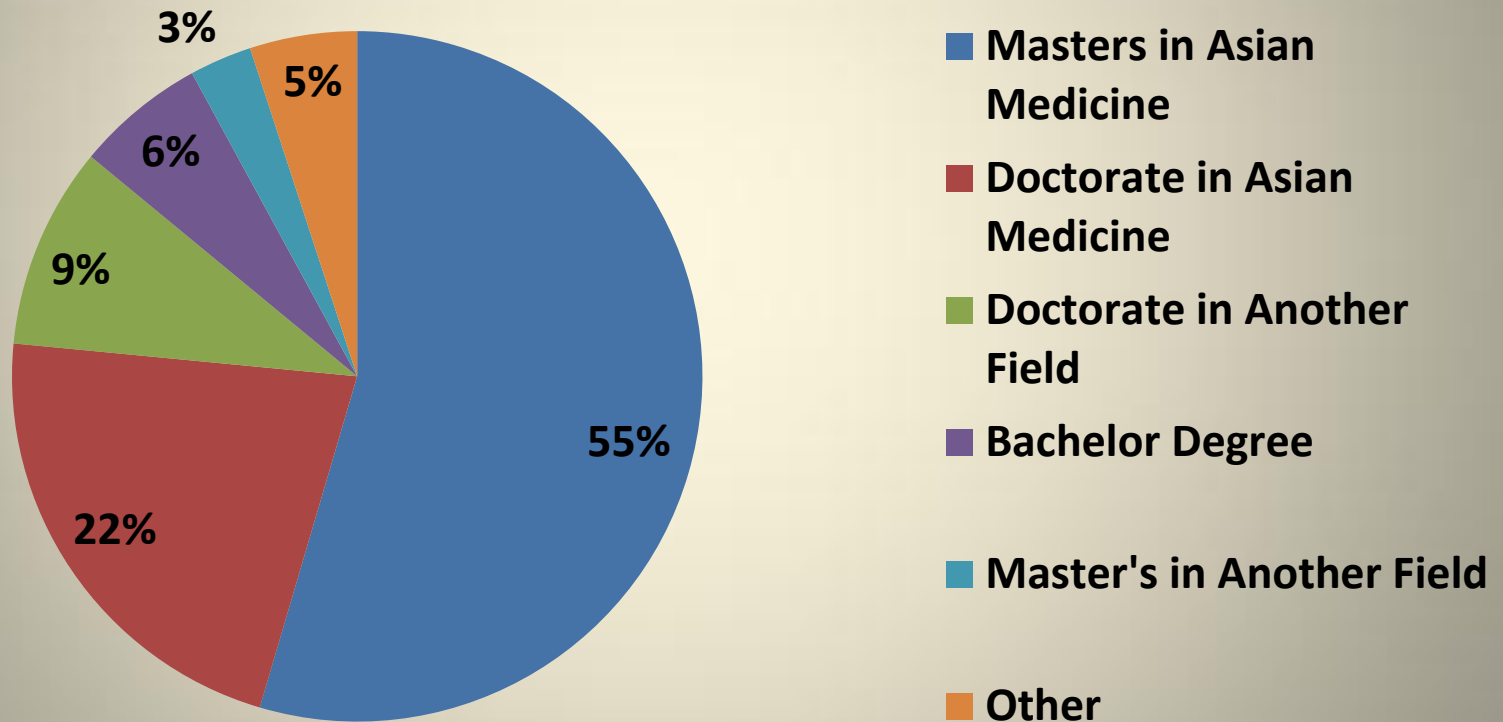


# California Acupuncture Profession



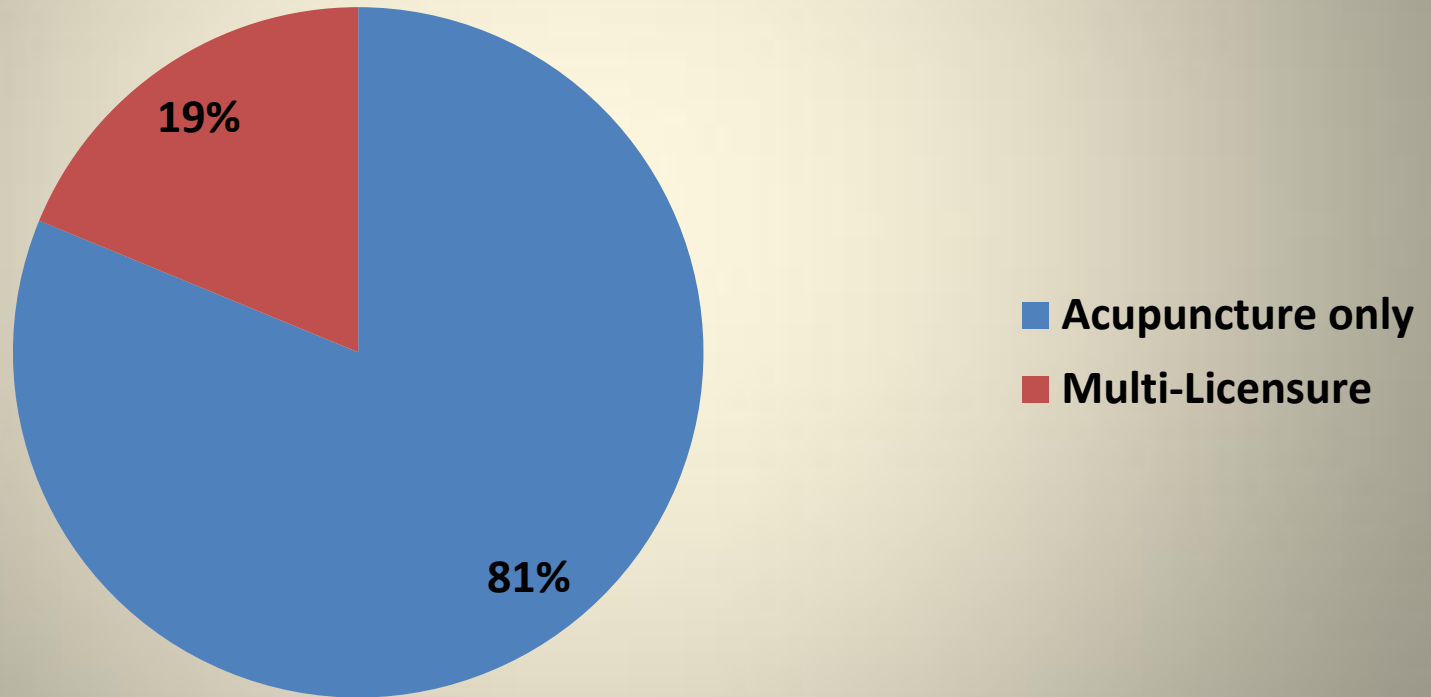
# California Acupuncture Profession

## Educational Background



# California Acupuncture Profession 2008 Occupational Analysis

## Multi-Licensure

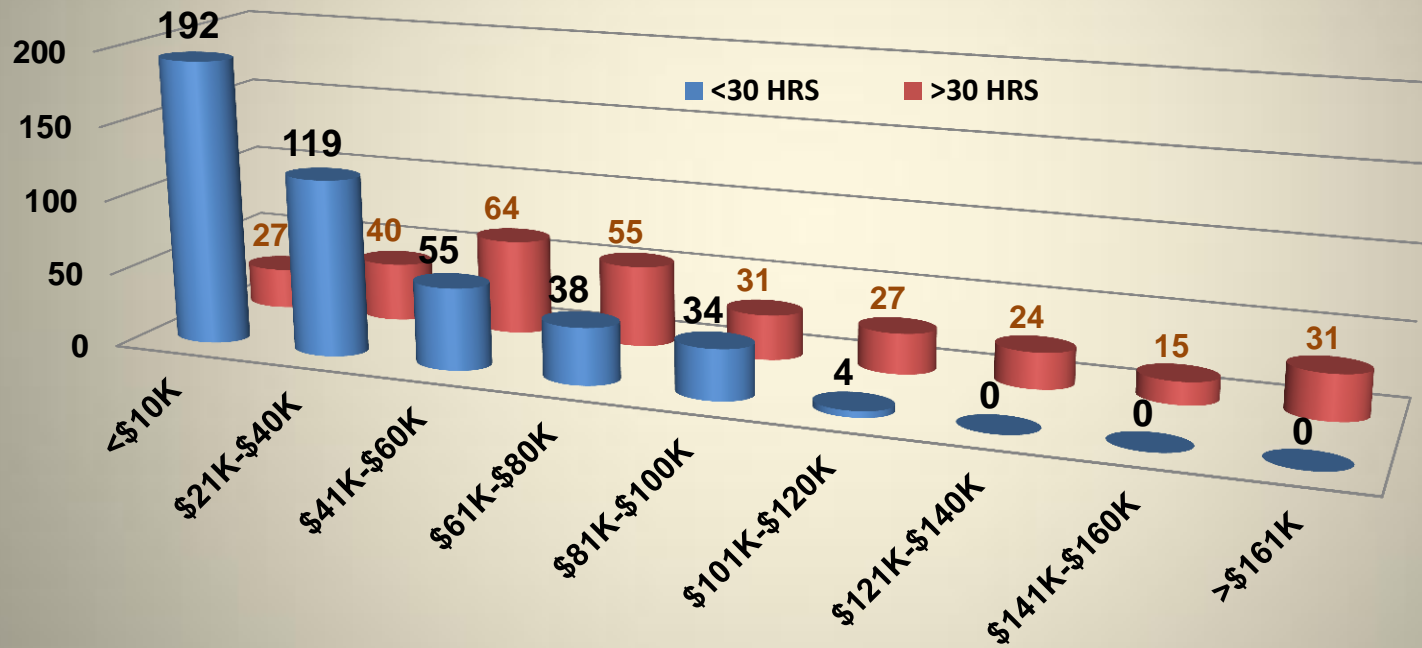


# **Acupuncture Workforce Trends**

By Terri Thorfinnson, J.D. Executive Officer  
California Acupuncture Board

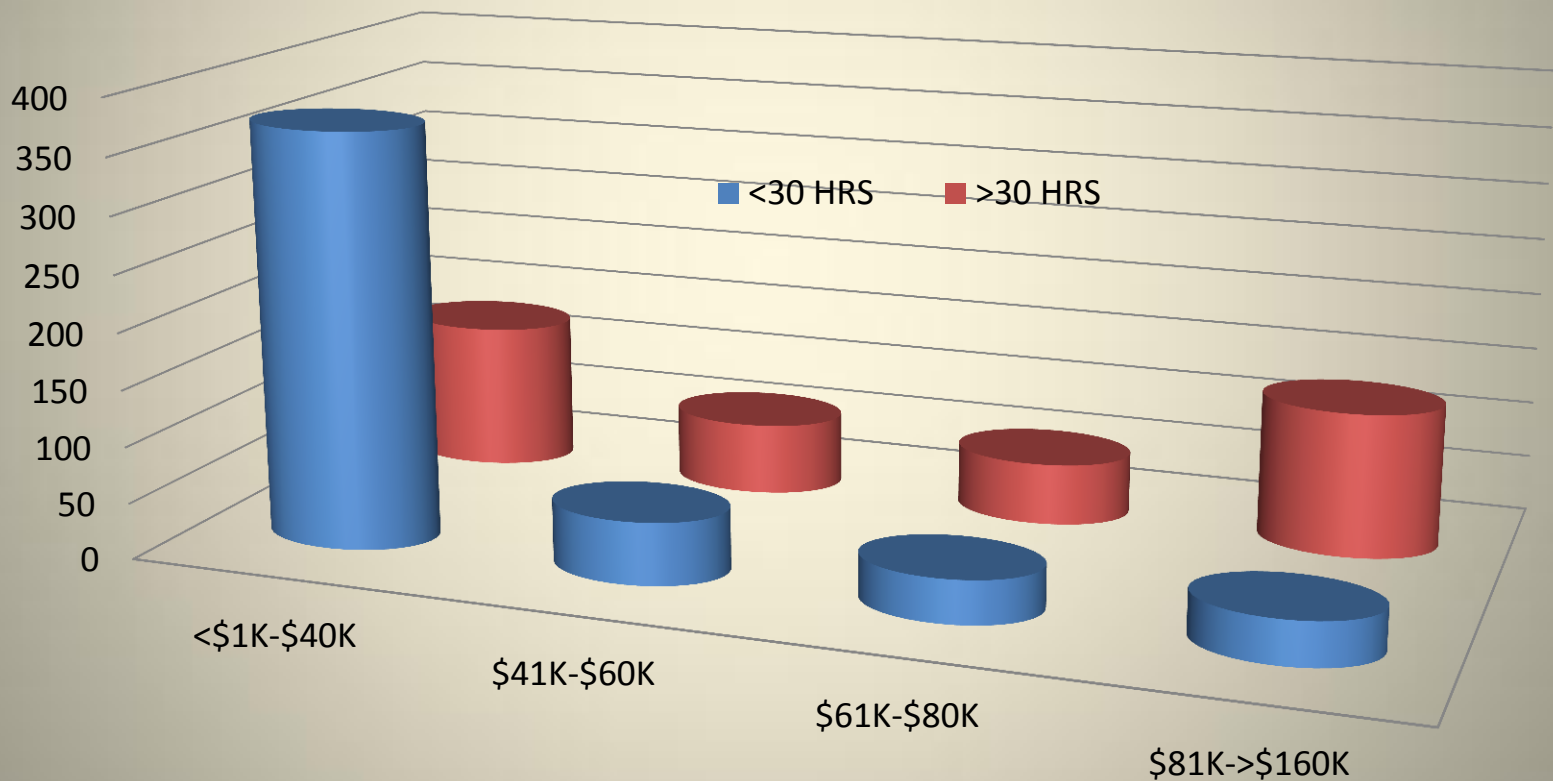
# National Acupuncture Workforce: Income by Time Worked

Figure 1: LAc Income Distribution by Deciles: NCCAOM 2010



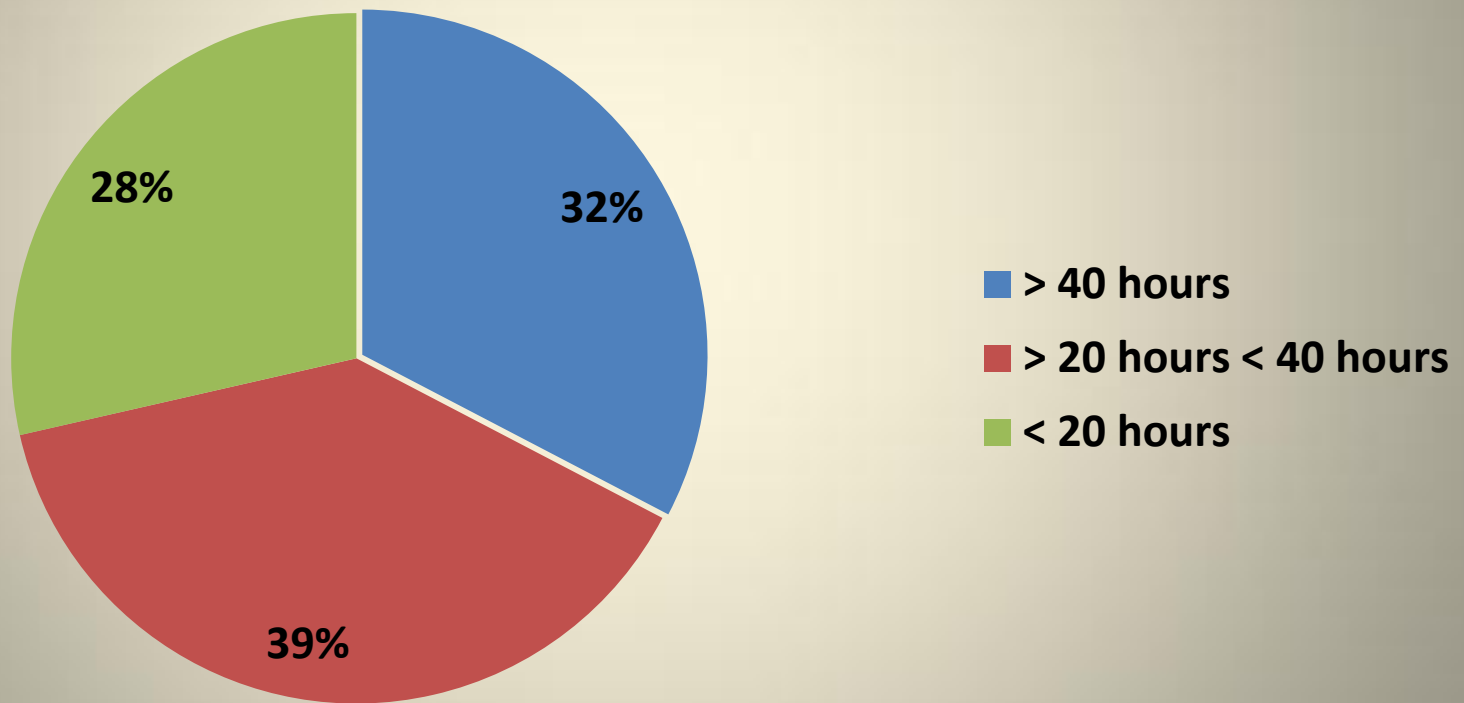
# National Acupuncture Workforce: Income by Time Worked

Figure 3: LAc Income Distribution by Quartiles: NCCAOM 2008



# California Workforce: Average Hours Worked

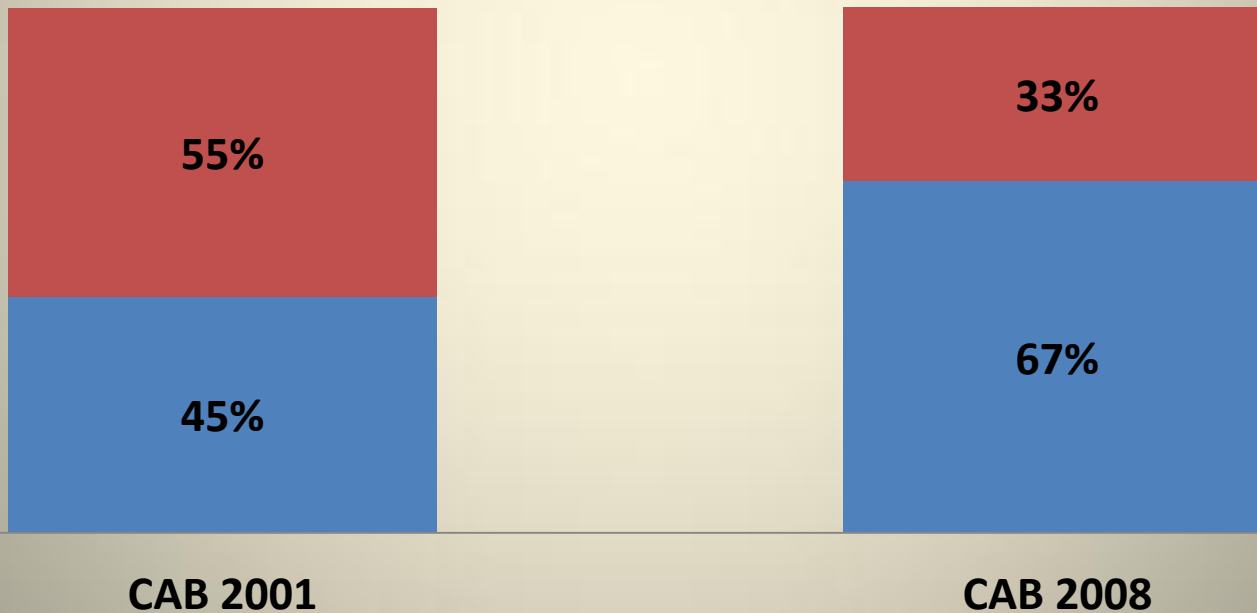
Average Hours Worked



# California Acupuncture Workforce Trends 2001, 2008

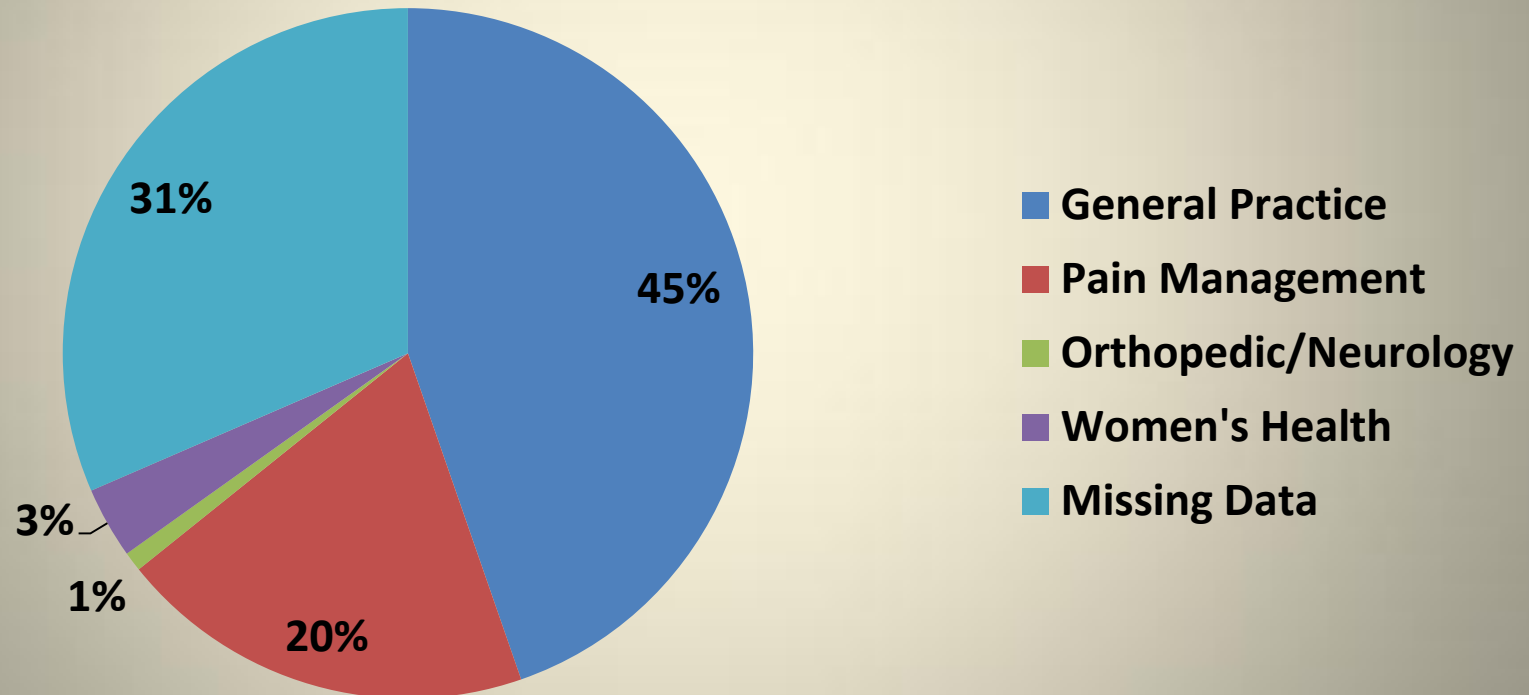
## CAB Occupational Analysis Workforce Trends

■ < 30 hours   ■ > 30 hours



# California Acupuncture Profession 2008 Occupational Analysis

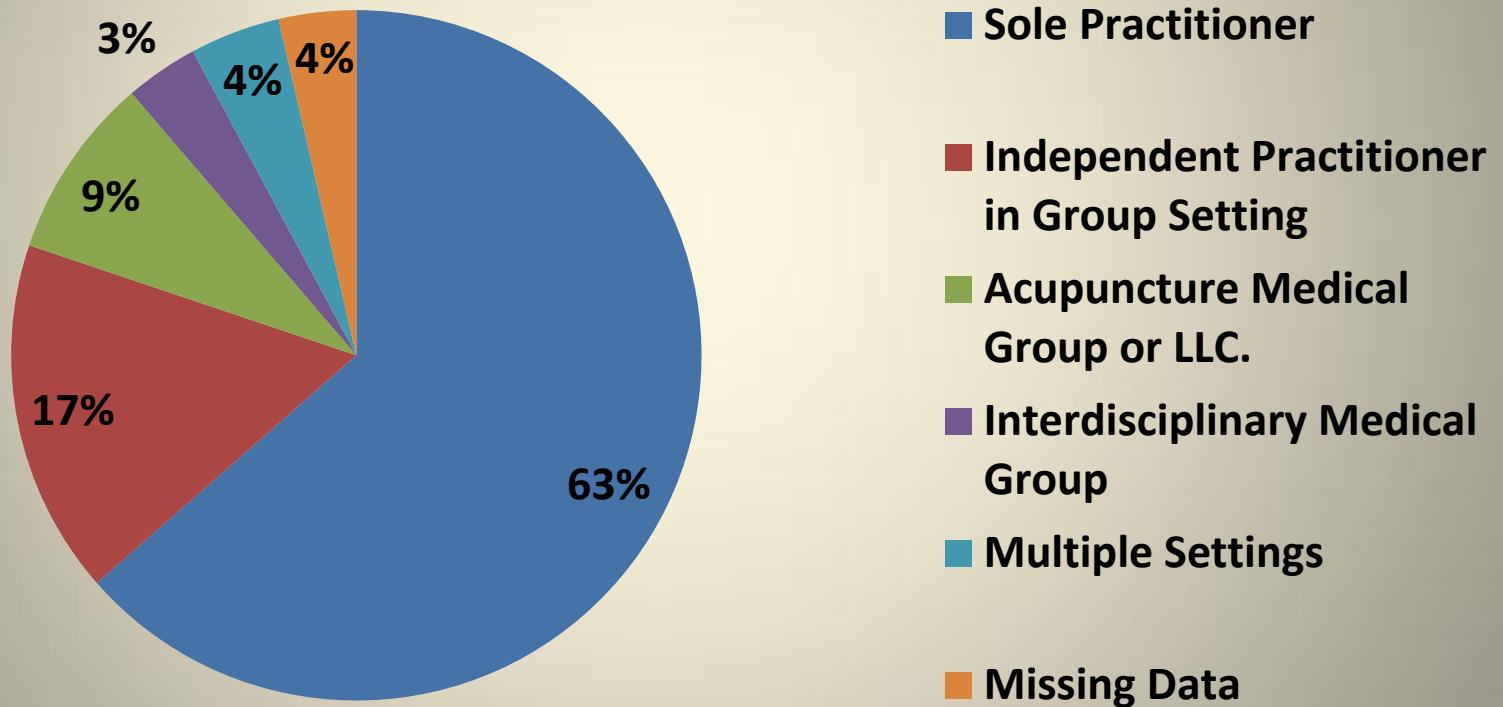
## Primary Focus of Practice





# California Acupuncture Profession 2008 Occupational Analysis

## Primary Work Setting



# California Acupuncture Profession

## Quick Facts

- One-third of all Licensed Acupuncturists are in California.
- 20%-25% of all Licensed Acupuncturists are Asian.
- 40% of all Asian Licensed Acupuncturists are in California.
- Average gross income is approximately \$50,000.
- Average debt is approximately \$45,000.

# Acupuncture Quick Facts (cont.)

- 50% of acupuncturists work less than 30 hours per week.
- 50% of acupuncturists earn less than \$50,000 (gross).
- 90% of acupuncturists work independently.

# 2008 California Occupational Analysis

## Demographics

- 63% sole practitioners
- 46% licensed 0-5 years
- 38% worked 21-39 hours per week
- 44% general practice focus
- 89% English proficiency
- 81% speak English fluently
- 70% have patients whose primary language is English
- 76% felt training program prepared them

# Sources

- California Acupuncture Board Data: Licensing, Training Programs, Exams.
- California Acupuncture Board Occupational Analysis 2001, 2008.
- Stumpf et al. 2010: *Unveiling the United States Acupuncture Workforce*
- Stumpf et al. 2011: *The U.S. Acupuncture Workforce: The Economics of Practice*

# Sources (Cont.)

- Stumpf 2010: *The Integrator Blog*, October 20, [http://theintegratorblog.com/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=703&Itemid=189](http://theintegratorblog.com/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=703&Itemid=189).
- *Acupuncture Today: A Snapshot of the Profession*, September, 2010, Vol. 11, Issue 09.

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