

Bureau of Automotive Repair – Licensing statistics

Fiscal year 2025-26

Quarter 3 (January 1, 2026 – March 31, 2026)

This handout is for informational purposes only. The Bureau of Automotive Repair (BAR) makes every effort to provide accurate and reliable data. Due to the dynamic nature of the reporting process, data may differ from other sources. For the most current data and statistical information, visit www.bar.ca.gov.

Population by license type

As of March 31, 2026

License ¹	Population
Automotive repair dealer	35,431
Smog Check test-and-repair station	3,982
Smog Check test-only station	2,010
Smog Check repair-only station	25
STAR station	3,494
Vehicle safety systems inspection station	555
Smog Check inspector	12,445
Smog Check repair technician	4,994
Vehicle safety systems technician	841
Total	63,777

Top 10 business types

Business types are provided by automotive repair dealers upon licensure and renewal. The service categories are displayed on BAR's [Auto Shop Locator](#).

As of March 31, 2026

Primary business type	Secondary business type
1. General repair	1. General repair
2. Auto body / paint shop	2. Automotive diagnostic center
3. Smog Check station	3. Smog Check station
4. Other	4. Tire shop
5. Tire shop	5. Preventative maintenance
6. New / used car dealer	6. Other
7. Mobile automotive repair	7. Auto body / paint shop
8. Tune up / oil and lube shop	8. Brake / front end alignment shop
9. Glass shop	9. Tune up / oil and lube shop
10. Transmission repair shop	10. Mobile automotive repair

¹ Per Business and Professions Code section 23.7, and unless otherwise stated, "license" means license, certificate, registration, or other means to engage in a business or profession.

License processing – Initial applications

License	Applications received	Licenses approved	Average processing time (days) ²
Automotive repair dealer	1,259	925	35
Smog Check test-and-repair station	81	63	40
Smog Check test-only station	82	49	39
Smog Check repair-only station	1	0	14
STAR station	102	59	5
Vehicle safety systems inspection station	48	33	32
Smog Check inspector	443	187	40
Smog Check repair technician	107	69	39
Vehicle safety systems technician	77	38	42
Total	2,200	1,423	32

License processing – Renewal applications

License	Applications received	Licenses approved	Average processing time (days)
Automotive repair dealer	8,342	8,336	5
Smog Check test-and-repair station	1,001	1,001	5
Smog Check test-only station	487	487	5
Smog Check repair-only station	6	6	5
STAR station	N/A	N/A	N/A
Vehicle safety systems inspection station	117	117	5
Smog Check inspector	1,593	1,420	5
Smog Check repair technician	750	586	5
Vehicle safety systems technician	148	127	5
Total	12,444	12,080	5

PSI examination pass rate

Test dates: January 1, 2026 – March 31, 2026

Examination ³	Passed	% Passed	Failed	% Failed	Number of exams
Smog Check inspector	187	29.40%	449	70.60%	636
Smog Check repair technician	69	51.88%	64	48.12%	133
Vehicle safety systems technician	36	48.00%	39	52.00%	75
Total	292	34.60%	552	65.40%	844

² Processing time includes up to 90 days for individual license applicants to take and pass the required examination.

³ BAR partners with PSI Services LLC to administer its licensing examinations.