

Year in Review: A look back at data from 2009

Each year in the Spring issue of the *Forum*, we present selected data from the previous year. This year we provide detailed information about licensed physician assistants (visit the Data Center at www.ncmedboard.org for a similar table that shows physicians by county, as well as additional data that could not be printed due to limited space). Also this year we present information about the sources of complaints and the primary nature of the allegation (see Top 20 Types of Complaints). The number of **licensed physicians** is not displayed below, but data for 2009 are: **31,278** total (**22,392** in-state, **8,886** out-of-state). In addition there were **2,340** residents in 2009.

This page also includes summary data about all public actions, disciplinary or otherwise, taken in 2009. “Causes of Action” describes the types of cases that led to each action. The total number of causes is not equal to the total number of actions because a typical action has more than one cause. A case that involved diversion of prescription drugs for personal use, for example, would be categorized as both “prescribing issues” and “alcohol/substance abuse.”

SUMMARY OF THE 2009 BOARD ACTION REPORT

PREJUDICIAL ACTIONS*

License Denied:

22 Actions (18 Physicians, 2 PAS, 1 CCP)

Revocations:

7 Actions (5 Physicians, 2 PAS)

Probation:

23 Actions (21 Physicians, 1 PA, 1 NP)

Reprimand:

38 Actions (34 Physicians, 4 PAS)

Suspensions:

42 Actions (39 Physicians, 2 PAS, 1 NP)

Summary Suspensions:

3 Actions (3 Physicians)

Miscellaneous Actions:

11 Actions (11 Physicians)

Surrenders:

23 Actions (18 Physicians, 5 PAS)

Public Letters of Concern:

73 Actions (65 Physicians, 8 PAS)

Temporary/Date Licenses Issued to Expire:

15 Actions (9 physicians, 2 PAS)

Temporary/Dated Licenses Allowed to Expire:

1 Action (1 physician)

TOTALS: Prejudicial actions in 2009 relating to 218 persons (192 physicians; 24 PAS; 1 NPs; 1 CCP)
Prejudicial actions in 2008 relating to 184 persons (152 Physicians; 27 PAS; 4 NPs; 1CCP)

NON-PREJUDICIAL ACTIONS**

Dismissals:

5 Actions (5 Physicians)

TOTAL NUMBER OF PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS BY COUNTY | 2009

County	Total	County	Total	County	Total	County	Total	County	Total
Alamance	29	Clay	0	Harnett	33	Nash	37	Stokes	5
Alexander	7	Cleveland	23	Haywood	15	New Hanover	154	Surry	31
Alleghany	1	Columbus	14	Henderson	37	Northampton	3	Swain	10
Anson	2	Craven	35	Hertford	8	Onslow	44	Transylvania	4
Ashe	3	Cumberland	194	Hoke	16	Orange	76	Tyrrell	0
Avery	0	Currituck	1	Hyde	1	Pamlico	2	Union	31
Beaufort	7	Dare	15	Iredell	38	Pasquotank	18	Vance	21
Bertie	9	Davidson	24	Jackson	13	Pender	7	Wake	357
Bladen	8	Davie	11	Johnston	28	Perquimans	1	Warren	1
Brunswick	30	Duplin	7	Jones	1	Person	11	Washington	6
Buncombe	160	Durham	288	Lee	19	Pitt	108	Watauga	12
Burke	23	Edgecombe	11	Lenoir	16	Polk	4	Wayne	41
Cabarrus	52	Forsyth	281	Lincoln	8	Randolph	19	Wilkes	11
Caldwell	9	Franklin	4	Macon	4	Richmond	6	Wilson	28
Camden	0	Gaston	55	Madison	6	Robeson	52	Yadkin	5
Carteret	24	Gates	0	Martin	3	Rockingham	16	Yancey	2
Caswell	1	Graham	1	McDowell	9	Rowan	44	In State	3,575
Catawba	80	Granville	16	Mecklenburg	372	Rutherford	13	Out State	343
Chatham	4	Greene	3	Mitchell	0	Sampson	21	Grand Total	3,918
Cherokee	10	Guilford	227	Montgomery	7	Scotland	13		
Chowan	3	Halifax	9	Moore	49	Stanly	6		

SOURCES OF COMPLAINTS | 2009

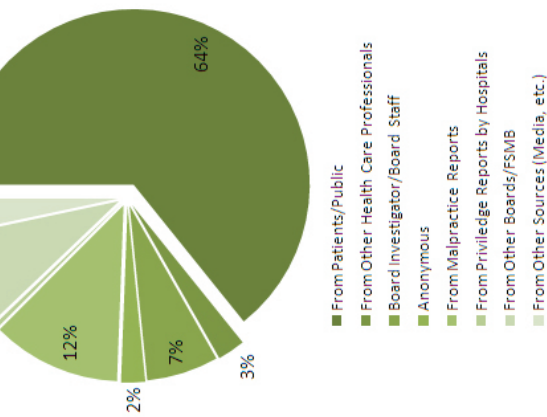
Information for a licensee may come from more than one source.



TOP 20 TYPES OF COMPLAINTS FILED | 2009

Complaints	Total	Complaint	Total
Communication Issue	459	Ethical Issues	13

Advertising Issue	8
HIPPA Violation	8
Abandoned Patient	5
Inappropriate Exam	5
Unprofessional Conduct	5
Rude Office Staff	4
Supervision of PE	3
Other	2
TOTAL Complaints	1,183



Temporary/Dated Licenses Extended:
13 Actions (8 Physicians, 3 PA)

Temporary Licenses to Full and Unrestricted:
13 Actions (9 Physicians, 4 PAs)

Consent Orders Lifted:
24 Actions (18 Physicians, 6 PAs)

Reentry Agreements:
23 Actions (10 Physicians, 3 PAs)

Miscellaneous Actions:
7 Actions (7 Physicians)

TOTALS: Non-prejudicial actions in 2009 relating to 76 persons (53 Physicians; 23 PAs)
Non-prejudicial actions in 2008 relating to 60 persons (45 Physicians; 12 PAs; 2 NPs; 1 CCP)

HOW ACTIONS ARE DELIVERED

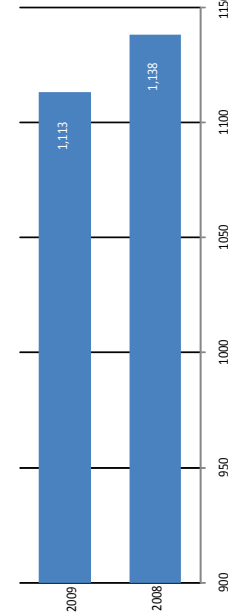
Consent Orders: 125 [12 modifications, 10 Non-Disciplinary] (108 Physicians, 11 PAs, 2 NPs)

Final Orders: 13

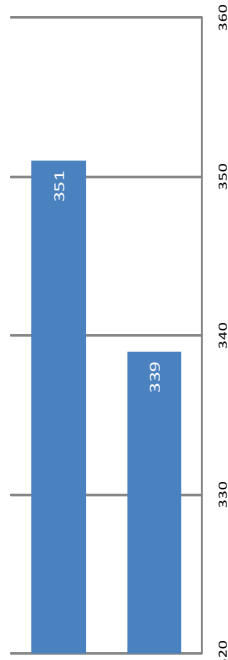
*Prejudicial Action: A "prejudicial action" is disciplinary in nature and reflects a violation of the Medical Practice Act by the practitioner.

**Non-Prejudicial Action: A "non-prejudicial action" reflects either the Board's determination of satisfactory performance by the practitioner following a previous disciplinary action or the dropping of charges.

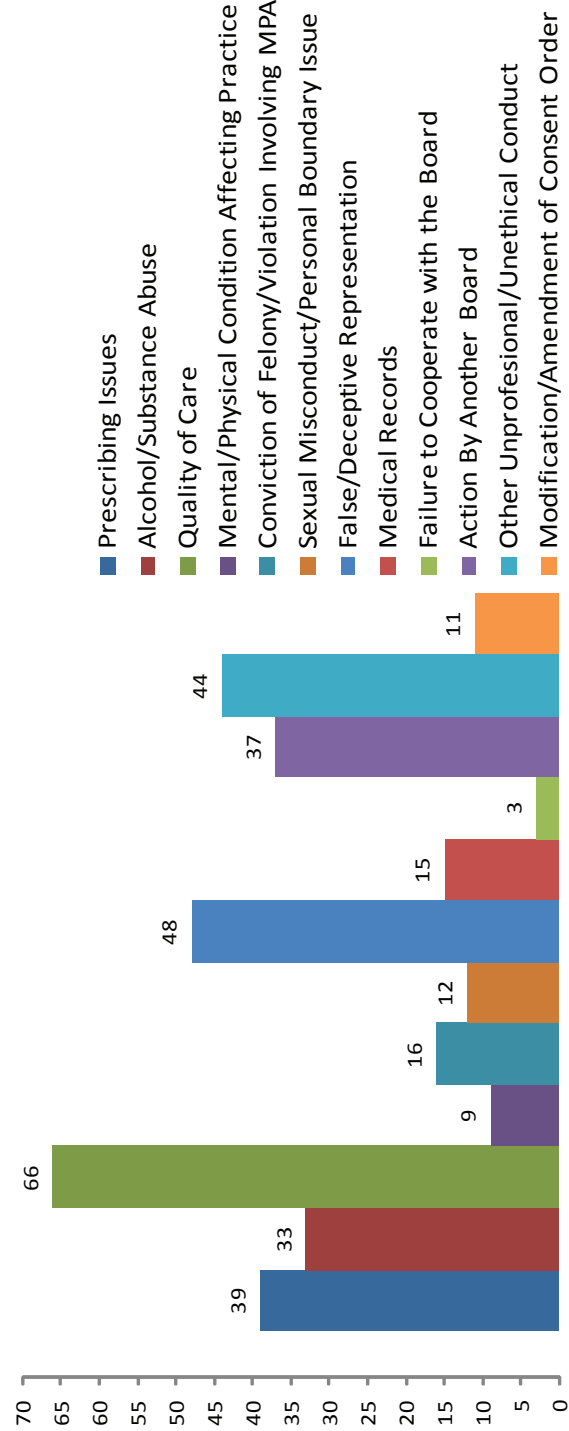
COMPLAINTS RECEIVED | 2008-2009



MALPRACTICE PAYMENTS REPORTED | 2007-2008



CAUSES OF ACTION | 2009



PHYSICIAN LICENSES ISSUED | 2009

Total MD/DO licenses issued: 2,105

