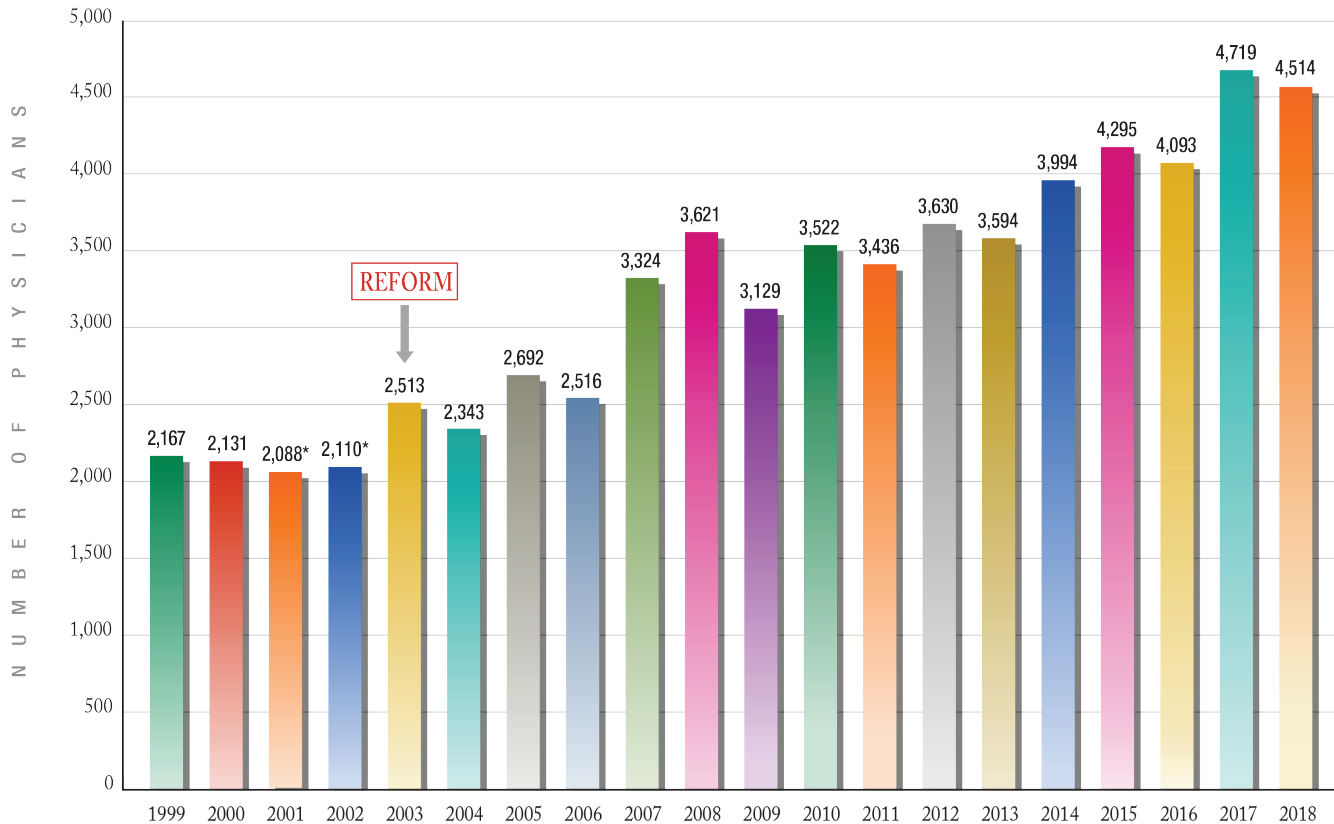


# Texas continues to attract large numbers of new physicians

The Texas Medical Board received a record 5,717 new physician applications and licensed a near-record number of new doctors for the fiscal year that ended last month. The 4,514 new licensees are the second highest on record, eclipsed only by the 4,719 new doctors licensed a year ago.

Texas has approved more than 50,000 new physicians since the passage of lawsuit reforms 15 years ago. This equates to 1,283 more new licensees per year than occurred during the medical liability crisis years of 2000-2003.

NEWLY-LICENSED TEXAS PHYSICIANS  
(1999 - 2018)



Source: Texas Medical Board  
Medical Education Department, Texas Medical Association

\* In FY 2001, the Texas Medical Board meeting scheduled for late August was postponed until September 2, 2001, moving it to FY 2002. At that meeting, 701 initial licensees were issued and 17 licensees were reissued. The statistics have been adjusted based on the assumption that the group licensed in September (FY 02) would have been licensed in August (FY 01).

“The trends are irrefutable,” said Austin internist Howard Marcus, chairman of Texas Alliance for Patient Access. “The number of licenses granted continues at record levels,” he said. “Physicians per capita continue to show significant gains in both primary care and specialists who treat high-risk patients.

Most physicians applying for a Texas license come from out of state,” Dr. Marcus noted. “Both the Texas Medical Board data, as well as physician testimonials, underscore the importance of tort reform in choosing a practice location,” he said.