

# Trends in Graduate Medical Education in North Carolina and the United States

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North Carolina Health Professions Data System*

NC Hospital and Health System CEOs/AHEC Directors Meeting

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# Presentation Overview

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- GME is hot topic (and not just for policy wonks)
- North Carolina versus the United States—  
how do we compare?
- Residents trained in North Carolina—  
retention, specialty choice and distribution
- AHEC's contribution to residency training in NC
- GME costs and funding
- Time to change the GME training paradigm?



# In case your office calls, here are the presentation cliff notes

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- GME policy is not just about increasing overall supply
- GME as policy lever to address:
  - Distribution
  - Specialty choice
  - Practice improvement and innovation
  - Evolving population health needs
- “New and improved” approach to GME in NC needed to create more systematic, evidence-based and coordinated system for residency expansion



# GME is a Hot Topic Nationally

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- Many groups calling for restructuring of GME financing and governance
  - Main focus on increased accountability of GME funding to meet population health needs
- In 112th Congress, four bills introduced to expand or alter GME—none moved beyond Committee review
- National IOM consensus study underway of GME governance and financing



# GME is a Hot Topic in North Carolina As Well

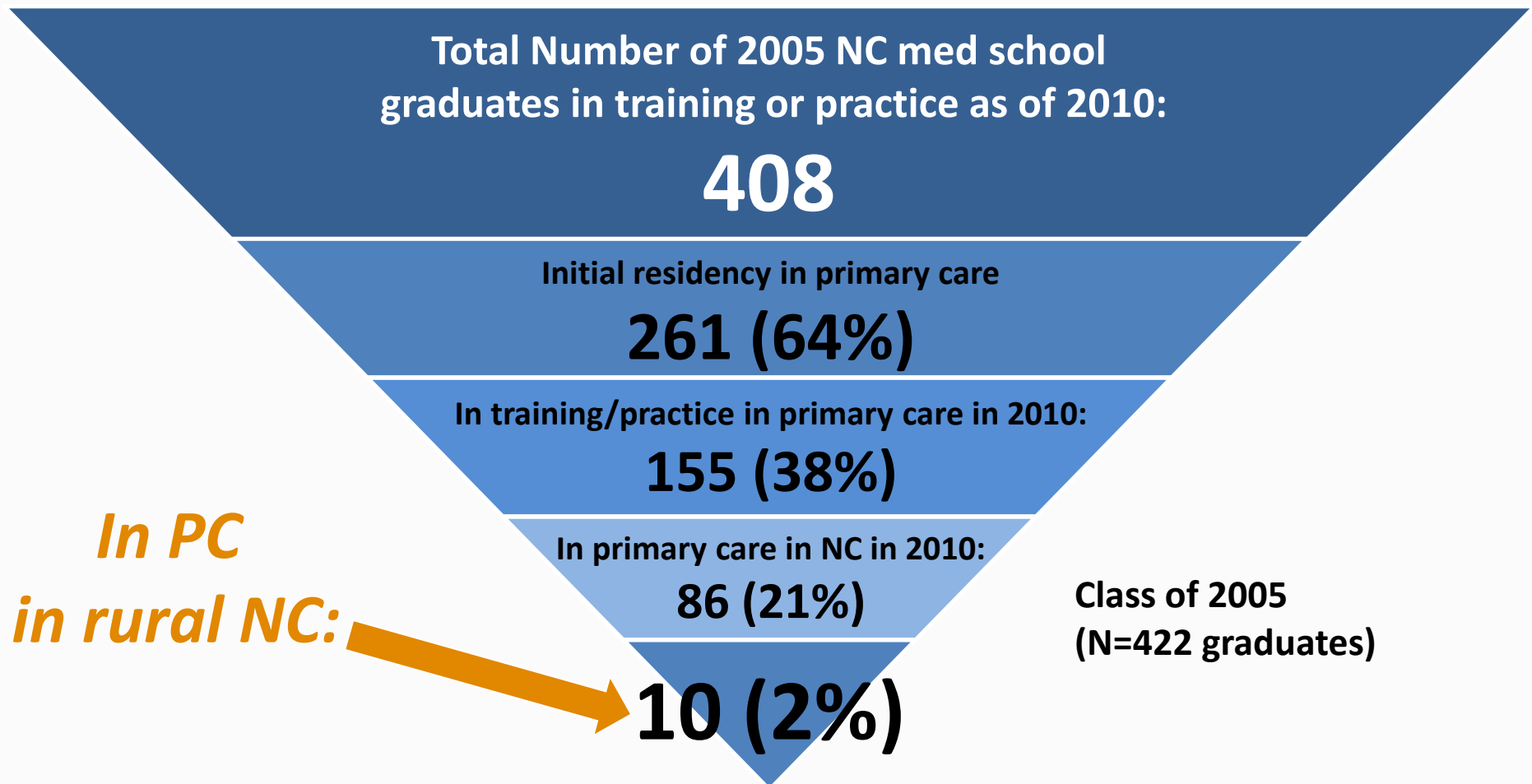
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- Concern about emerging physician shortage
- North Carolina expanded medical school enrollment
  - UNC expanded from 160 to 180 positions with regional placements in Charlotte and Asheville for 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> year students
  - ECU expanded from 73-80 students
  - Campbell admits first class of 150 students in September 2013
- These expansions not likely to improve workforce supply and distribution in the state

**Why not?**

# Because Most Students Leave NC and Don't Practice in Needed Specialties and Geographies

## NC Medical Students: Retention in Primary Care in NC's Rural Areas



# GME Basics: Let's Drown (or Swim) in the data



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# North Carolina versus the United States

*Where do we stand?*

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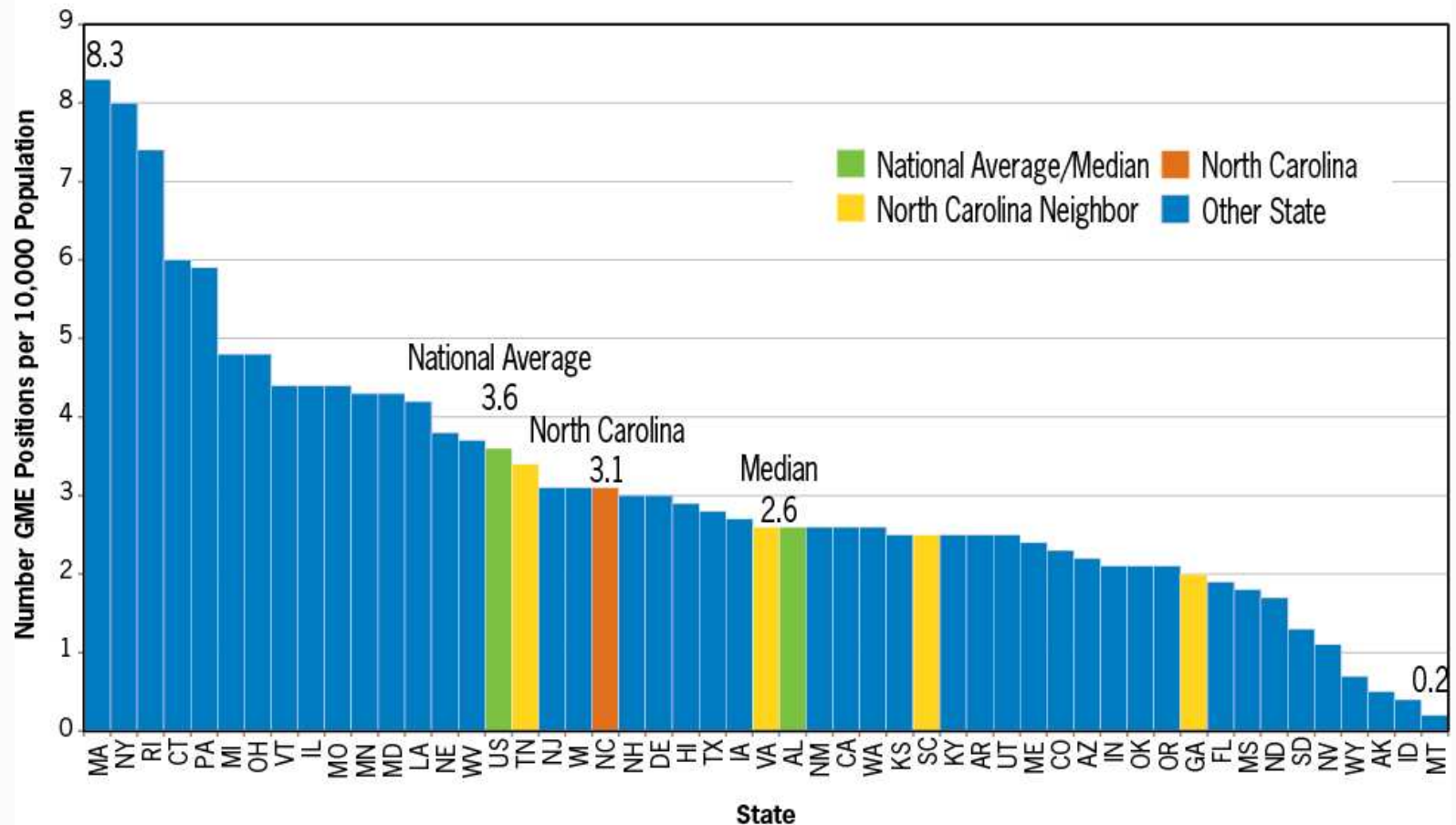
# Graduate Medical Education in North Carolina

Residency Program	Number of Residents	Percent
UNC Hospitals	746	27%
Duke Hospitals	710	26%
Wake Forest Baptist	526	19%
ECU – Vidant	301	11%
Carolinas Medical Ctr.	249	9%
SEAHEC	67	2%
MAHEC – Mission	51	2%
Greensboro AHEC	46	2%
CMC - Northeast	25	1%
SR AHEC – Fayetteville	20	1%
<b>State Totals</b>	<b>2,741</b>	<b>100%</b>

*209*

# With 3.1 Residents per 10,000 Population, NC Lags Behind US

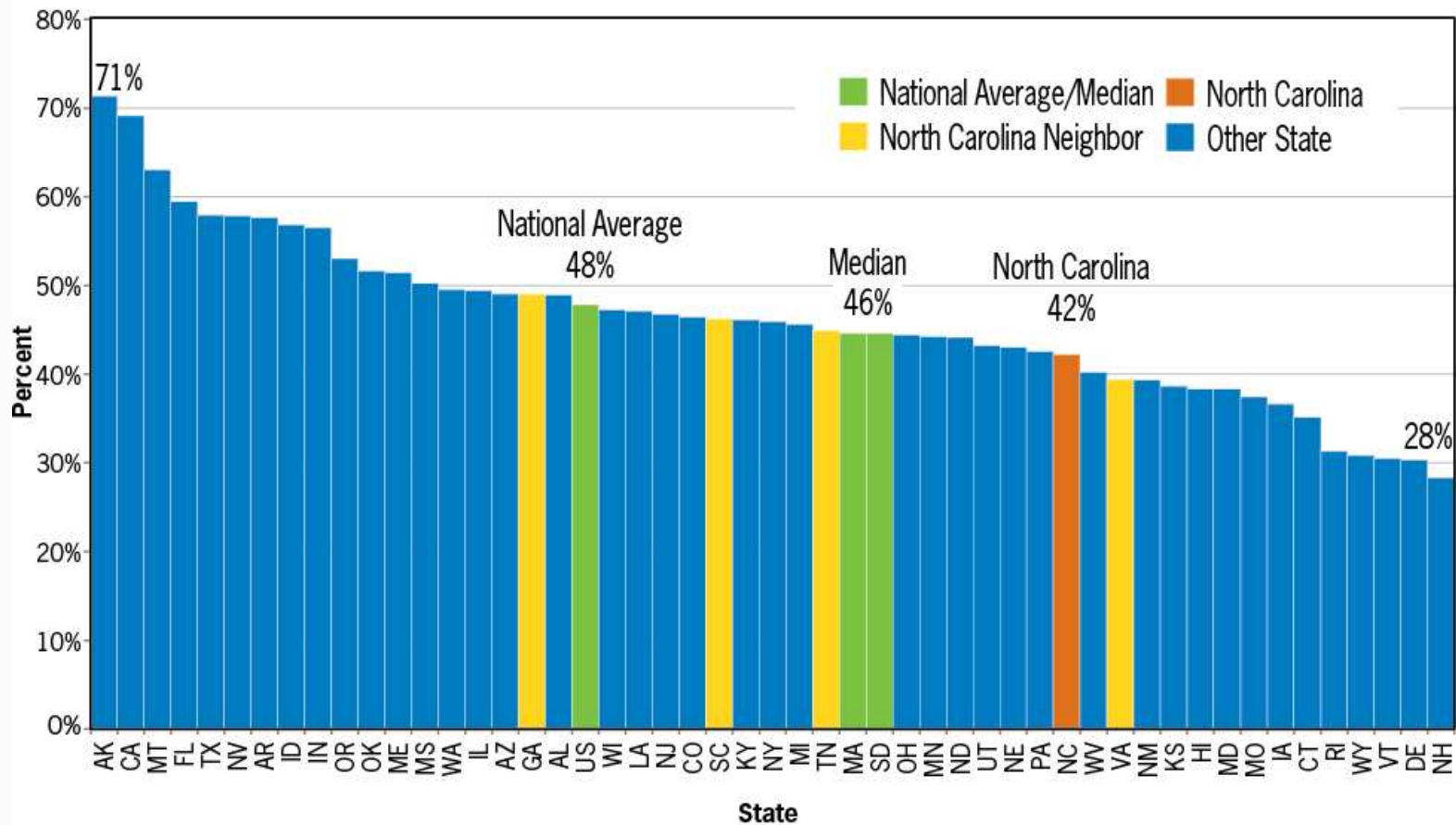
**Figure 1.** Average number of GME positions by state per 10,000 population, 2011



Source: Brotherton, SE, Etzel SI. (2011). Graduate Medical Education, 2010-2011, *JAMA* 306(9), 1015-1030.

# And North Carolina Retains Fewer Residents After Completing Training

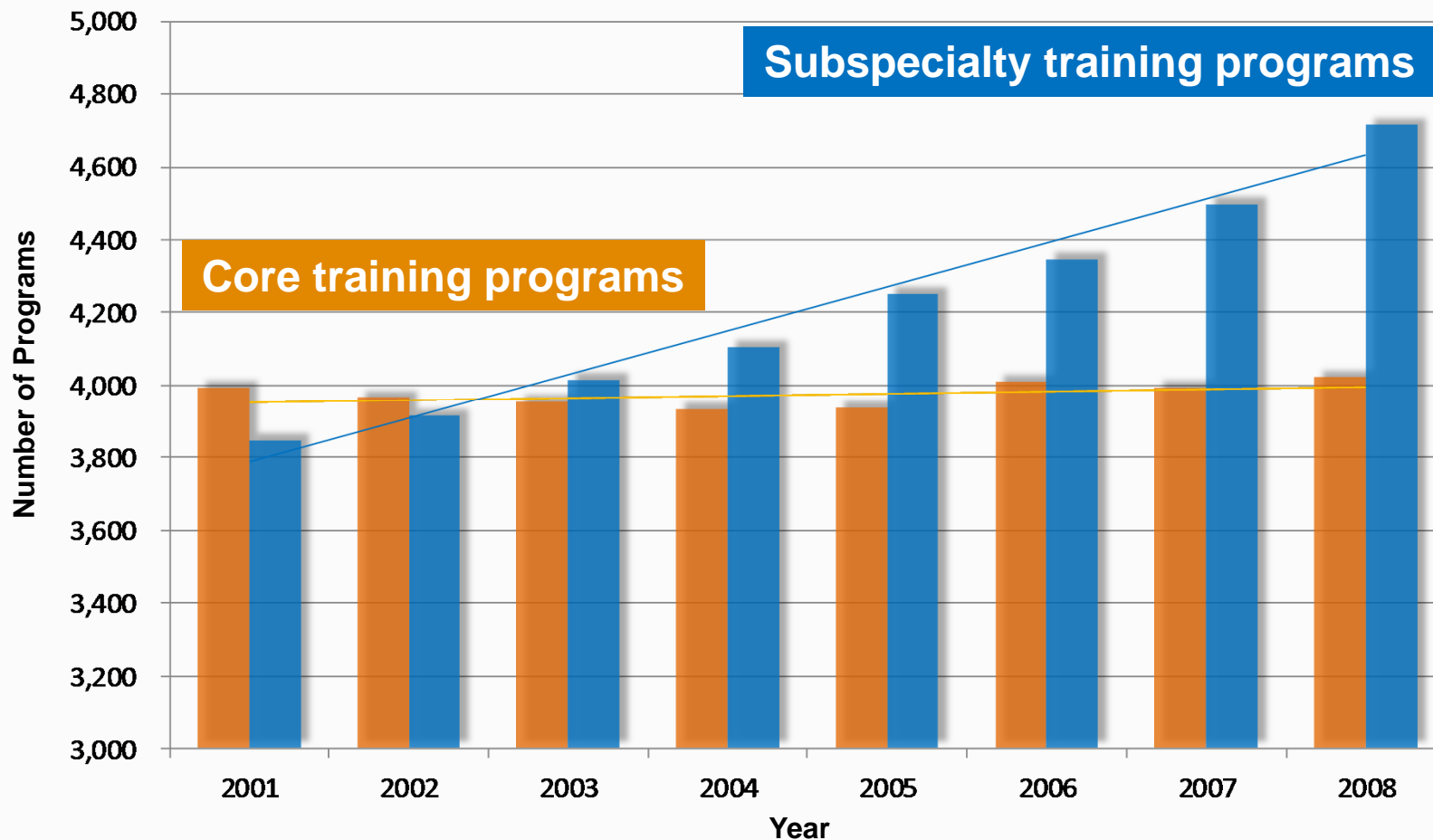
**Figure 3.** Percent of physicians retained in state after residency, 2010



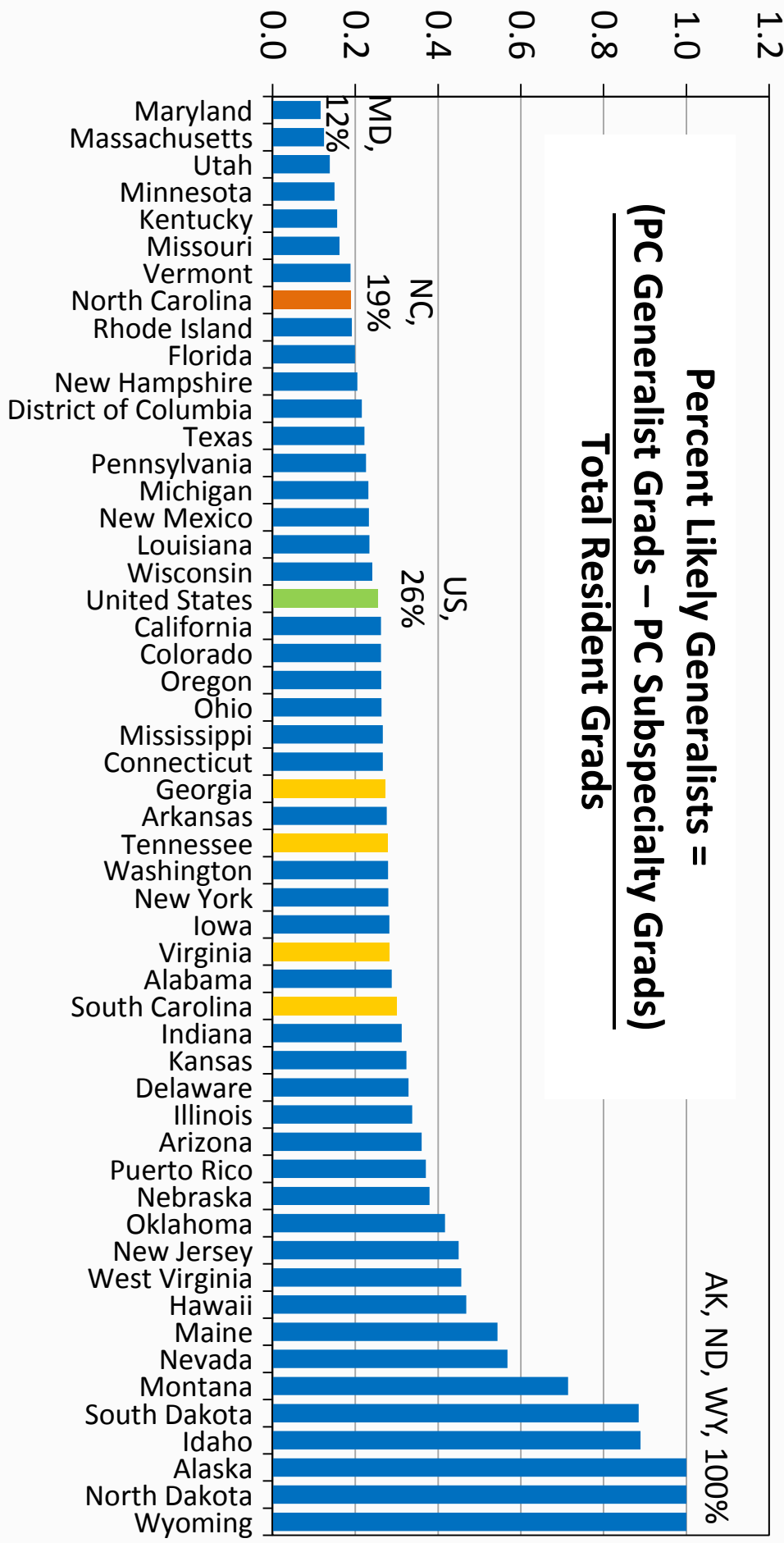
Source: AAMC 2011 Physician Workforce Data Book: "Physicians retained from GME, percent active physicians who completed GME in-state and are active in-state," page 52.

# Nationally, Rapid Growth in Subspecialty Training Programs, Growth in Core Programs is Flat

ACGME Accredited Program Growth: Number of Programs, 2001 - 2008



# North Carolina Residents Less Likely to Remain Generalists



Source: Data derived from Sarah Brotherton, AMA, with data derived from the AMA Masterfile.

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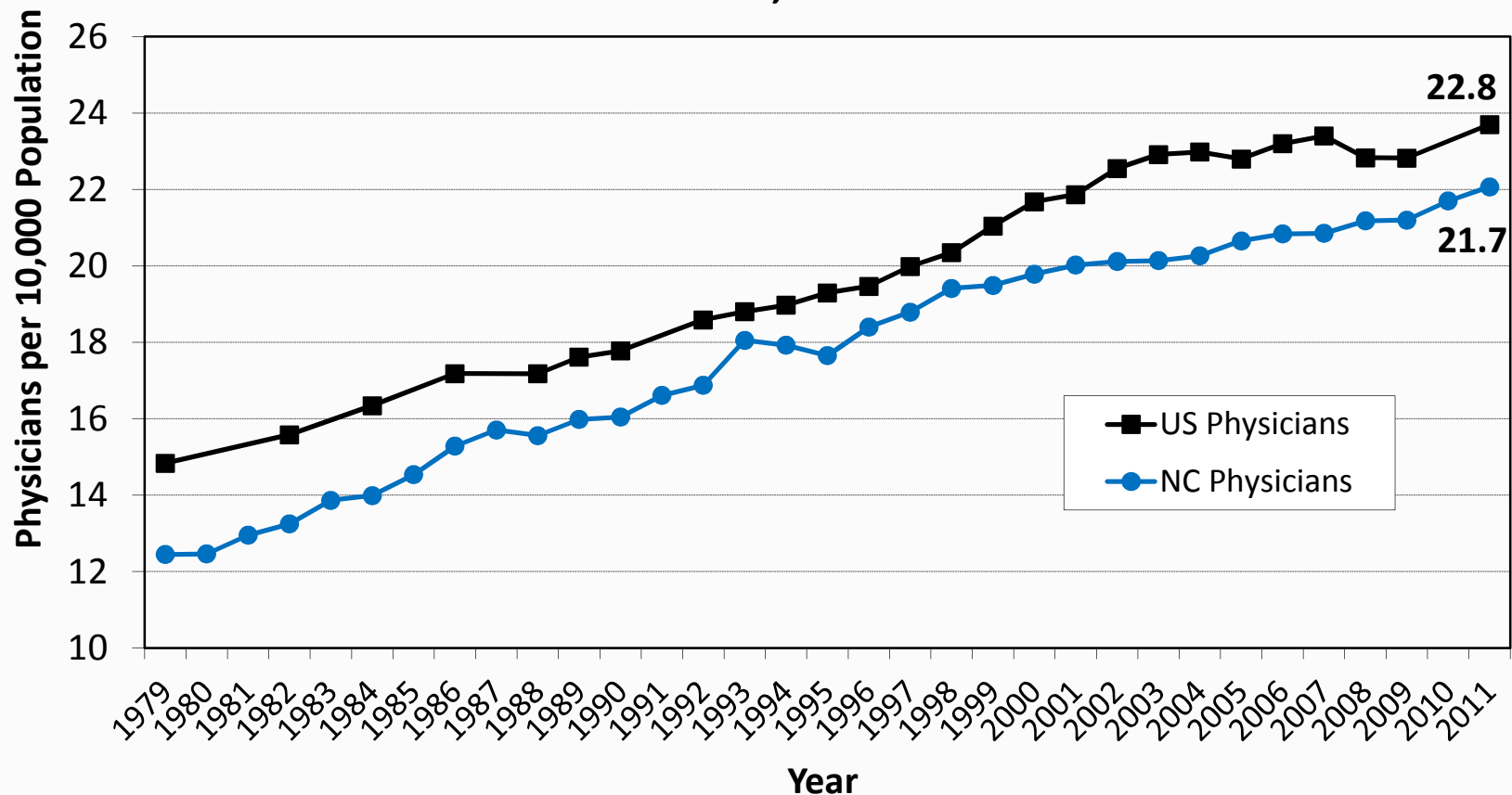
**North Carolina's  
Physician Workforce:  
*Where did they complete  
residency training?***

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# NC Physician Supply Growing at Good Pace, Lags Only Slightly Behind US Average

Physicians per 10,000 Population,  
US and NC, 1979 to 2011



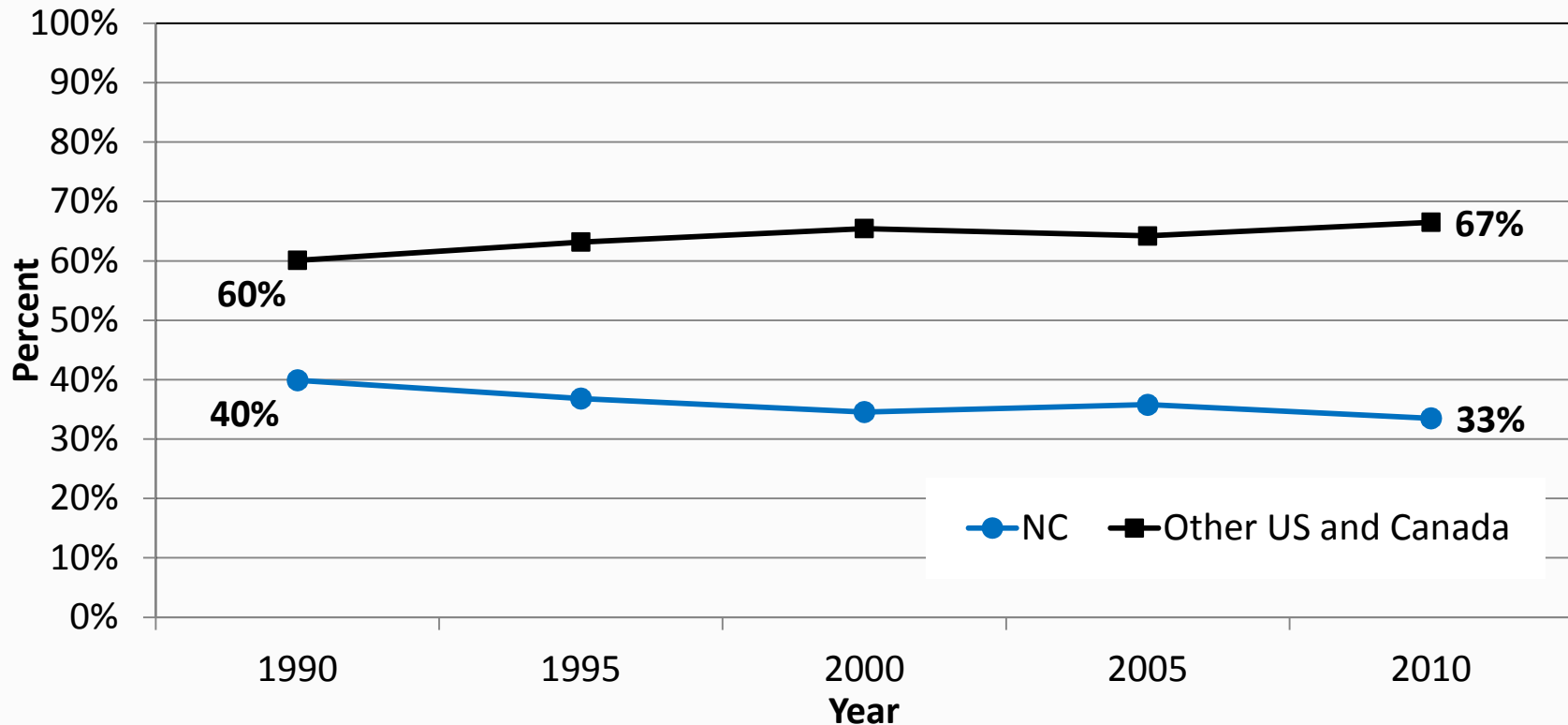
Sources: North Carolina Health Professions Data System, 1979 to 2011; HRSA, Bureau of Health Professions; Area Resource File; US Census Bureau; North Carolina Office of State Planning. Figures include all licensed, active, instate, non-federal, non-resident-in-training physicians.



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# But North Carolina Increasingly Reliant on Importing Physicians Trained Outside State

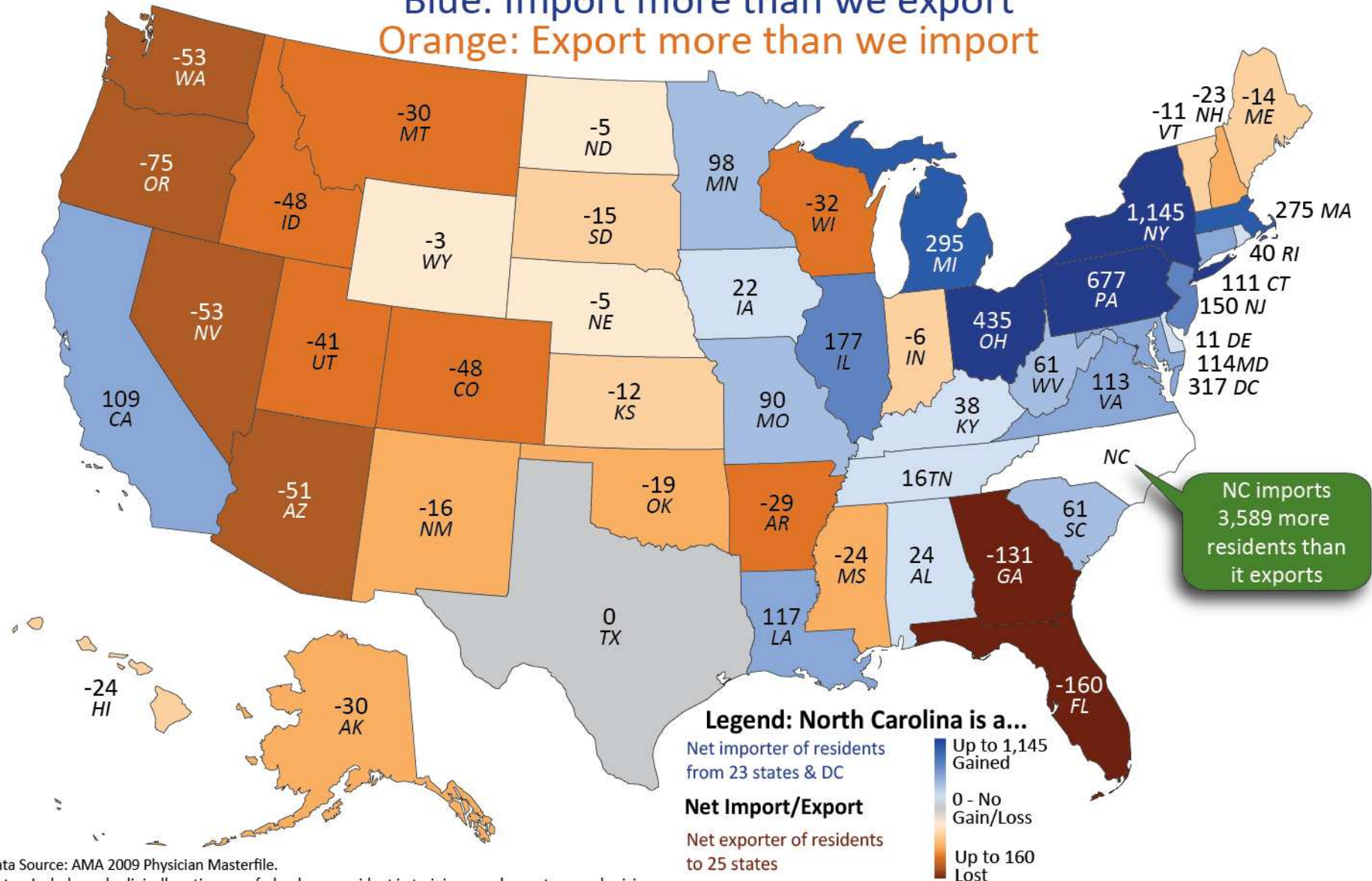
Percent of Physicians by Residency Location, North Carolina, 1990-2010





# North Carolina's Trade Surplus/Deficit: Resident Physicians

Blue: Import more than we export  
 Orange: Export more than we import



Data Source: AMA 2009 Physician Masterfile.

Notes: Includes only clinically active, non-federal, non-resident in training, non-locum tenens physicians.

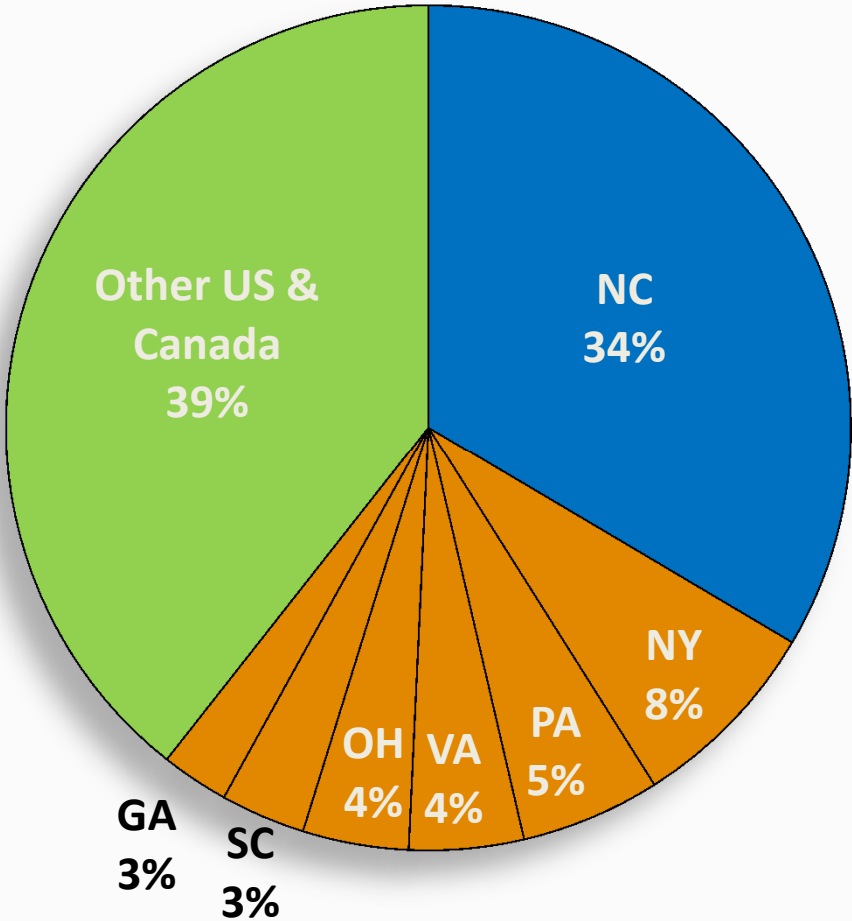
Three physicians were missing practice state; 570 physicians practicing in North Carolina were missing residency state.

Produced by: North Carolina Health Professions Data System, Cecil G. Sheps Center for Health Services Research, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

# Thank you New York, Pennsylvania, Virginia and Ohio.....

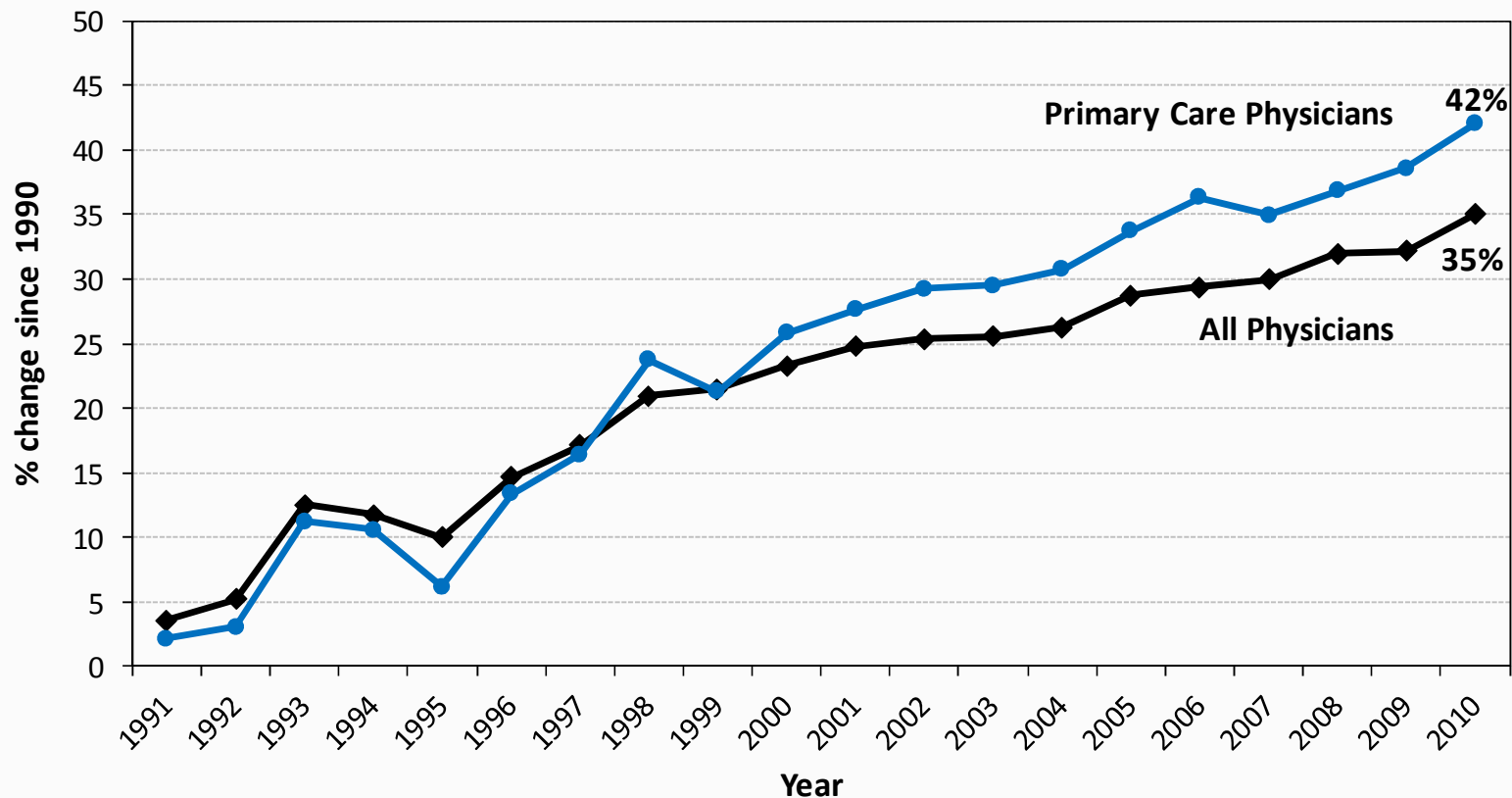
**Residency Location  
of Active Licensed  
Physicians,  
North Carolina, 2010**

*N = 19,843*



# NC Bucks National Trend: More Rapid Increase in Primary Care Physicians

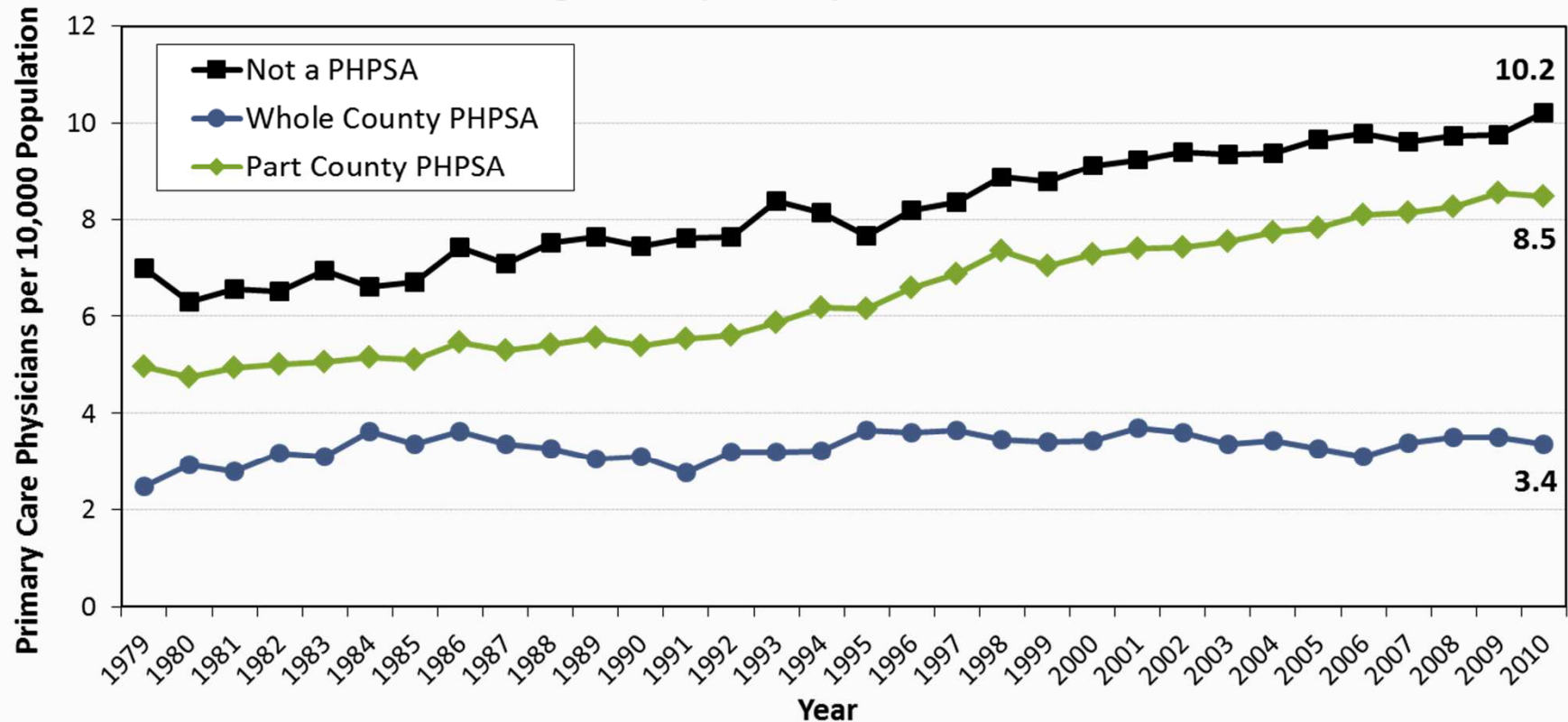
Percentage Growth Since 1990 of Physicians and Primary Care Physicians per 10,000 Population, North Carolina, 1991-2010



Sources: North Carolina Health Professions Data System with data derived from the North Carolina Medical Board, 1979 to 2010; North Carolina Office of State Planning. Figures include all licensed, active, in-state, non-federal, non-resident-in-training physicians.

# Despite Overall Growth, NC's Most Underserved Areas Face Persistent Shortfalls

Primary Care Physicians per 10,000 Population by Persistent Health Professional Shortage Area (PHPSA) Status, North Carolina, 1979 to 2010



**Notes:** Figures include all active, in-state, nonfederal, non-resident-in-training physicians licensed as of October 31st of the respective year. Primary care physicians include those indicating a primary specialty of family practice, general practice, internal medicine, Ob/Gyn or pediatrics. Persistent HPSAs are those designated as HPSAs by HRSA from 1999 through 2005, or in 6 of the last 7 releases of HPSA definitions.

Sources: North Carolina Health Professions Data System, 1979 to 2010; HRSA, Bureau of Health Professions; Area Resource File; US Census Bureau; North Carolina Office of State Planning. Figures include all licensed, active, in-state, non-federal, non-resident-in-training physicians.



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# Where a physician completed residency is predictor of retention in NC



**AHEC**

➤ **46% of physicians who complete an NC AHEC residency stay in North Carolina to practice**



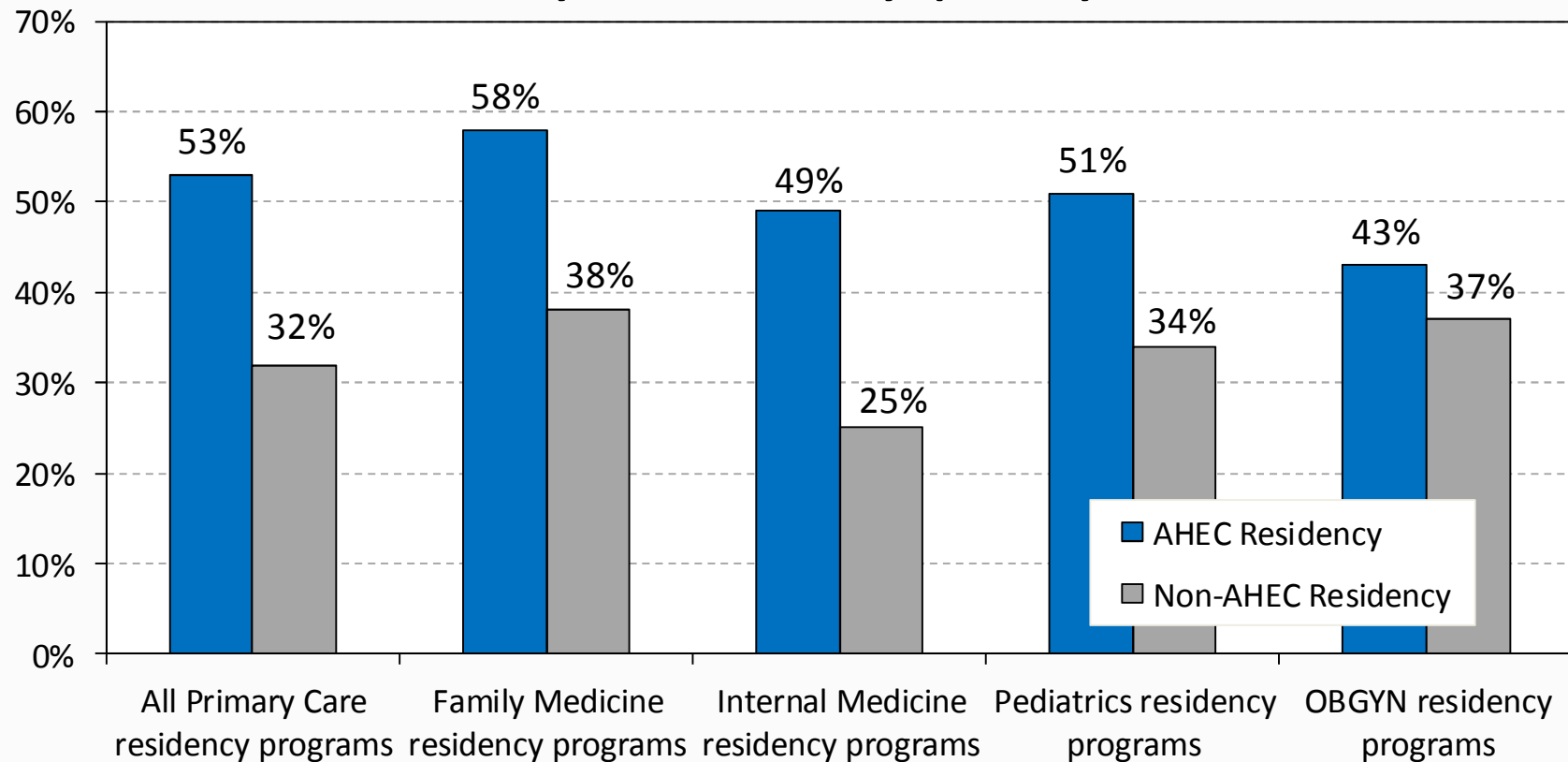
**Non-AHEC**

*compared to*

➤ **31% of physicians who complete a non-AHEC residency stay in North Carolina to practice**

# AHEC Residents More Likely to Stay in NC and Choose Primary Care

Former North Carolina Residents Practicing in NC by Primary Care Residency Specialty, 2011



# AHEC-Trained Residents More Likely to Practice in Rural Areas

## NC AHEC Residents: Metropolitan vs. Non-Metropolitan Practice Location, 2011

Specialty	Residency Type	Practicing in NC, 2011	
		% in Metro Area	% in Nonmetro Area
ALL	AHEC	85%	15%
	Non-AHEC	88%	12%
Primary Care	AHEC	85%	15%
	Non-AHEC	85%	15%
General Surg	AHEC	70%	<b>30%</b>
	Non-AHEC	81%	<b>19%</b>

- Of the active and practicing physicians who completed a NC AHEC residency, 1,491 (46%) are practicing in NC and 1,739 (54%) are practicing outside of NC.
- Of the active and practicing physicians who completed a NC Non-AHEC residency, 6,092 (31%) are practicing in NC and 13,639 (69%) are practicing outside of NC.

Note: Primary Care includes the following specialties: Family Medicine, Internal Medicine, Obstetrics and Gynecology, and Pediatrics.

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# GME Costs and Funding

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# Sources of GME Funding, United States

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- **Medicare:** \$9.5 billion annually for GME (2009 dollars). Slots capped by BBA of 1997.
- **Medicaid:** \$2-3 billion annually from state appropriations and matching federal payments
- **Veterans Administration:** 10% of residents = \$1 billion
- **Department of Defense:** 2,200 residents
- **Private payers**
- **Your hospital's name here:** clinical income from revenue-generating specialties

# Sources of GME Funding, North Carolina

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## **Residency costs covered from four sources of revenue:**

- Medicare direct and indirect payments to teaching hospitals (dominant source)
- Medicaid GME payments to teaching hospitals
- Clinical income
- State appropriation to AHEC ~\$32 million

# How Much Does it Cost to Train a Resident?

Door # 1



Door #2



Door #3



# How Much Does it Cost to Train a Resident?

Door # 1?



Door #2



Door #3



# How Much Does it Cost to Train a Resident?

Door # 1



Door #2?



Door #3



# How Much Does it Cost to Train a Resident?

Door # 1



Door #2



Door #3?



# How Much Does it Cost to Train a Resident? Who Knows?

Unlike *Let's Make a Deal*, which had three doors with cost estimates....

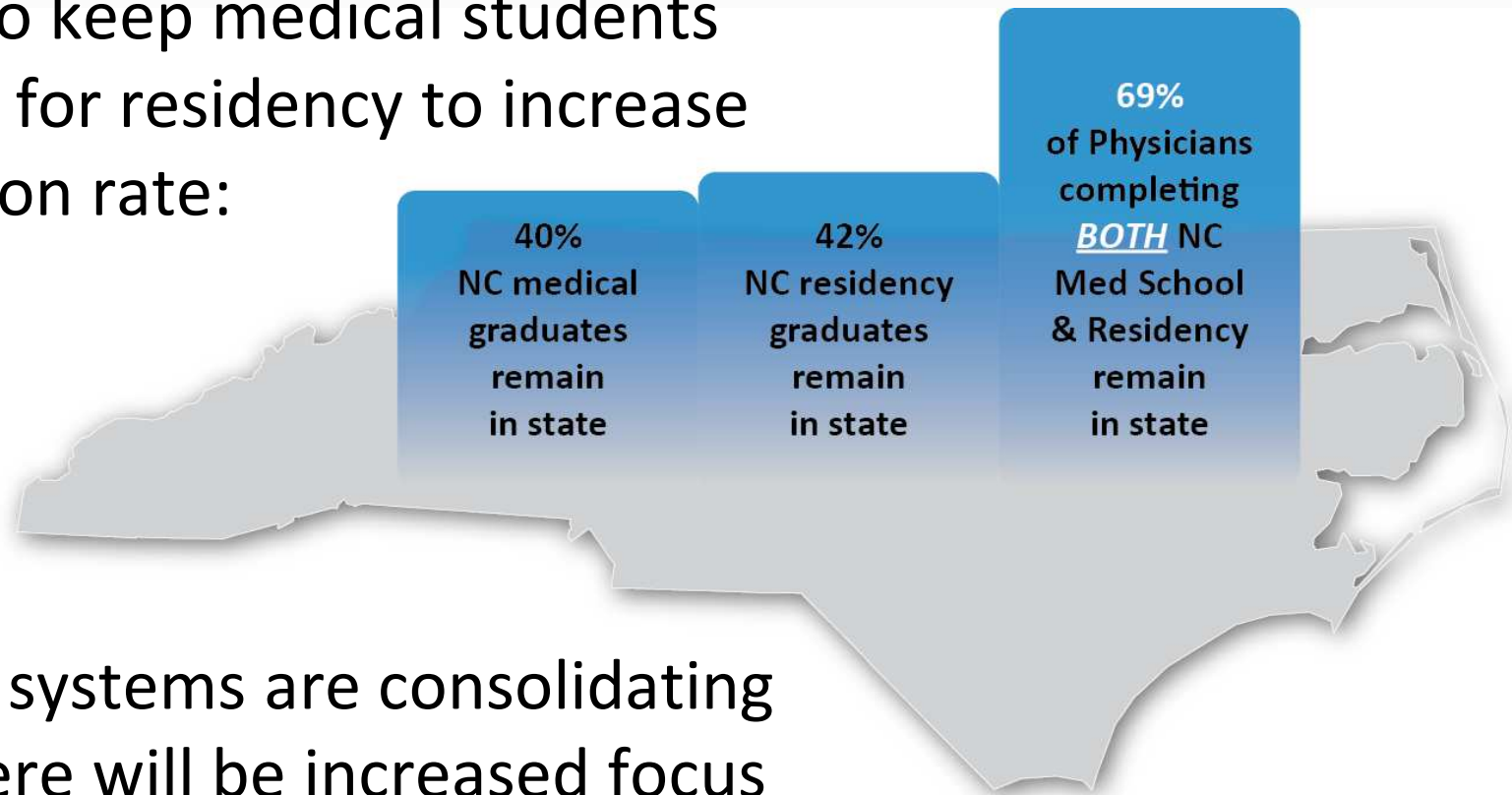


Cost estimates of GME training tend to vary greatly...



# Things We Can All (Probably) Agree On

- Need to keep medical students instate for residency to increase retention rate:



- Health systems are consolidating  
—> there will be increased focus on training in community-based settings



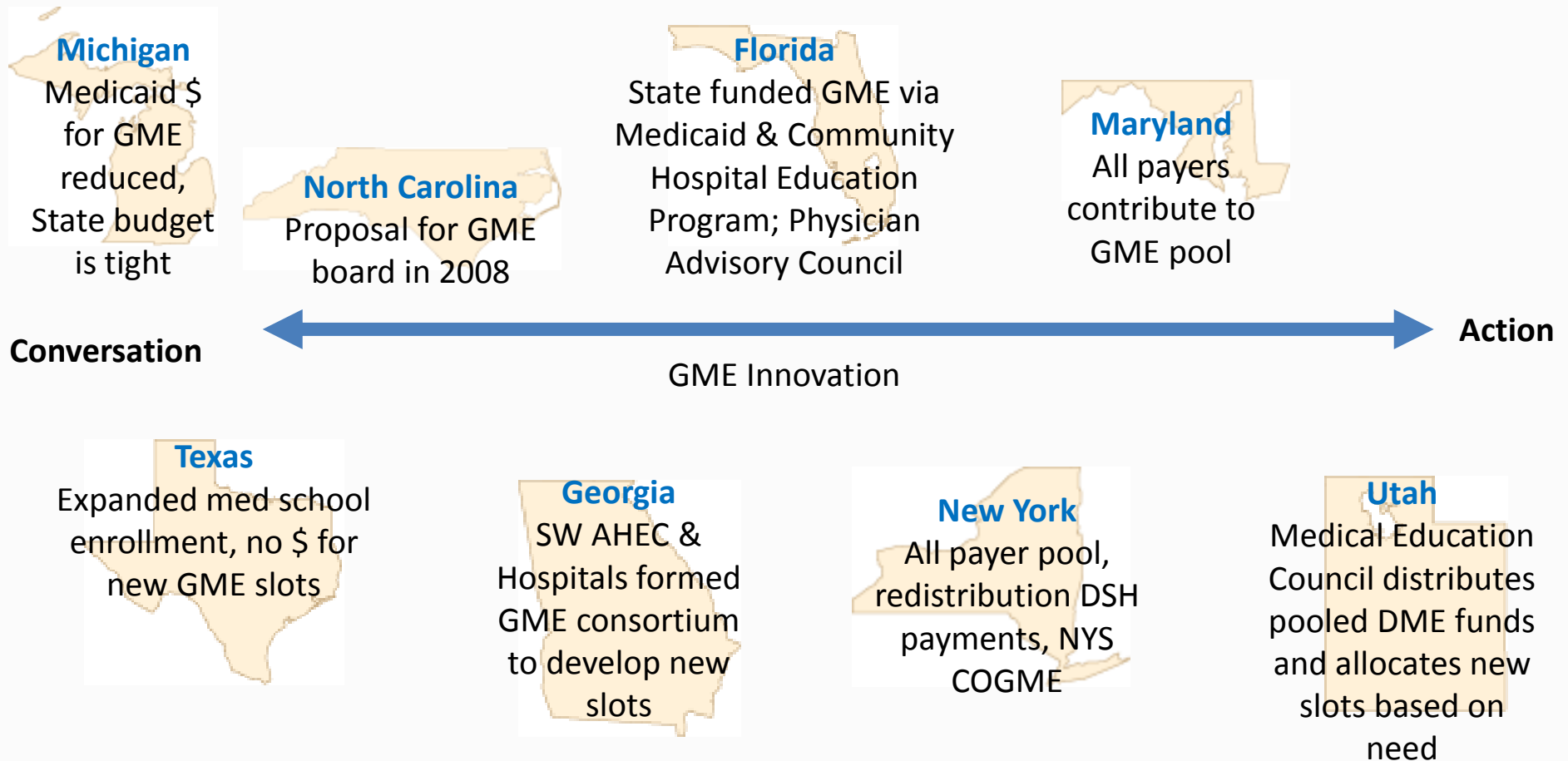
# Other Things We Can All (Probably) Agree On

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- Largest barrier to residency expansion in North Carolina is cost
- Residency training is expensive, varies by specialty, geography, institution
- Feds are not likely to increase Medicare funding, other sources of federal funding not sustainable
- States are going to have to find a way to pay for any increases in GME



# Spectrum of State GME Policy Innovation



# Senate Bill 696

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- Introduced in 2011 session, passed Senate but did not move beyond committee review in House
- Proposed innovative GME models targeted at increasing residents in underserved communities and increasing number from underrepresented minorities
- Bill is a good start but review of best practices from nearly 20 states suggest North Carolina needs even more systematic, coordinated and data-driven approach to GME expansion

# Four Core Elements of “Model” State GME Legislation

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1. Fund ongoing workforce analyses so that GME expansion can be targeted to high priority needs
2. Create governance structure to make decisions about allocating new funds between specialties, geographies and training sites
3. Develop sustainable funding model that includes 3<sup>rd</sup> party payers
4. Implement residency tracking system so state can evaluate return on investment for public funds

THE FOLLOWING **PREVIEW** HAS BEEN APPROVED FOR  
**ALL AUDIENCES**

***Beyond GME is the  
Whole New World  
of the “Flexible Worker”***

**Coming your way in 2013**

**from the Sheps Center,**

**research on the *flexible worker***

*But not these kind of  
flexible workers...*



*... or this kind...*

# Transformed Health System Will Require Transformed Workforce

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**Health systems, AHEC, universities, community colleges, regulators, professional bodies need to work together to prepare**

- Health professionals already in the workforce to:
  - take on new roles
  - shift to outpatient and community settings
  - alter the types of services they provide
- New types of health professionals with competencies required in new models of care
- New graduates and existing workers to better function in team-based models of care





# Questions?

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