

Arkansas Medical Malpractice Summary and Statistics

By David Belk MD

Tort Reform Law: None now. Bill §16-114-208 was ruled unconstitutional by the State Supreme Court in 2007

Population in 2015: 2,978,204

Number of Licensed Physicians¹ in 2015: 9,529

	2013	2014	2015	Average for 2013-2015
Per Capita ³ Amount Paid Against all Practitioners	\$6.60	\$7.64	\$7.99	\$7.41
State Rank	36	36	30	34
Per Capita ³ Amount Paid Against Physicians (MD/DO) Only	\$5.81	\$6.89	\$7.11	\$6.60
State Rank	35	33	30	30
Paid Claims/100 Physicians		0.55	0.58	
State Rank		32	24	

Table showing the amount paid per capita³ in Arkansas for medical malpractice claims against all practitioners each year as well as against physicians only. It also shows the number of claims won against physicians per 100 licensed physicians in Arkansas in 2014 and 2015.

Notes

- 1) MDs and DOs only. Many physicians are licensed in more than one state which is why the total number of physicians in all of the states exceeds the total number of physicians in the US.
- 2) All Practitioners includes MDs, DOs, podiatrists, dentists, nurses, hygienists, pharmacists, pharmacy techs, lab techs, physical therapists, etc...
- 3) Total amount paid in medical malpractice claims in the state that year/ the state's Population

Graphic Summary of Medical Malpractice Incidence and Cost for Arkansas from 2003-2015

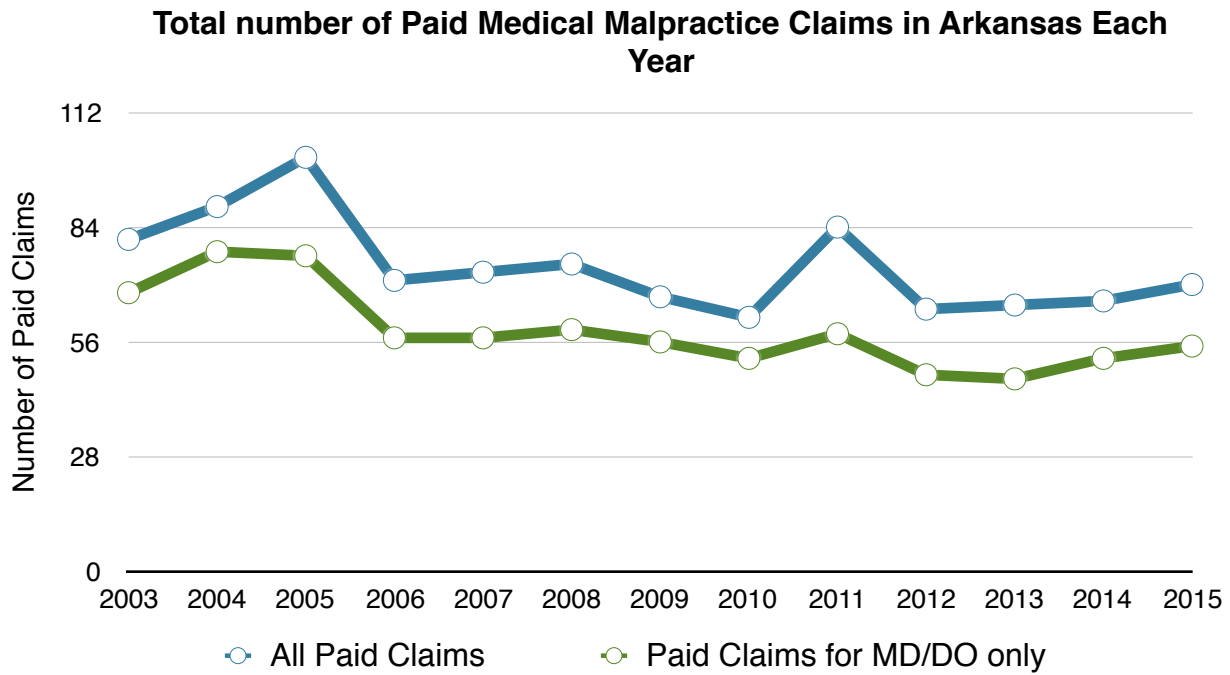


Figure 1: Total number of Paid Medical Malpractice Claims for Arkansas from 2003-2015 for All Health Care Practitioners Combined as Well as for MD/DOs Only.

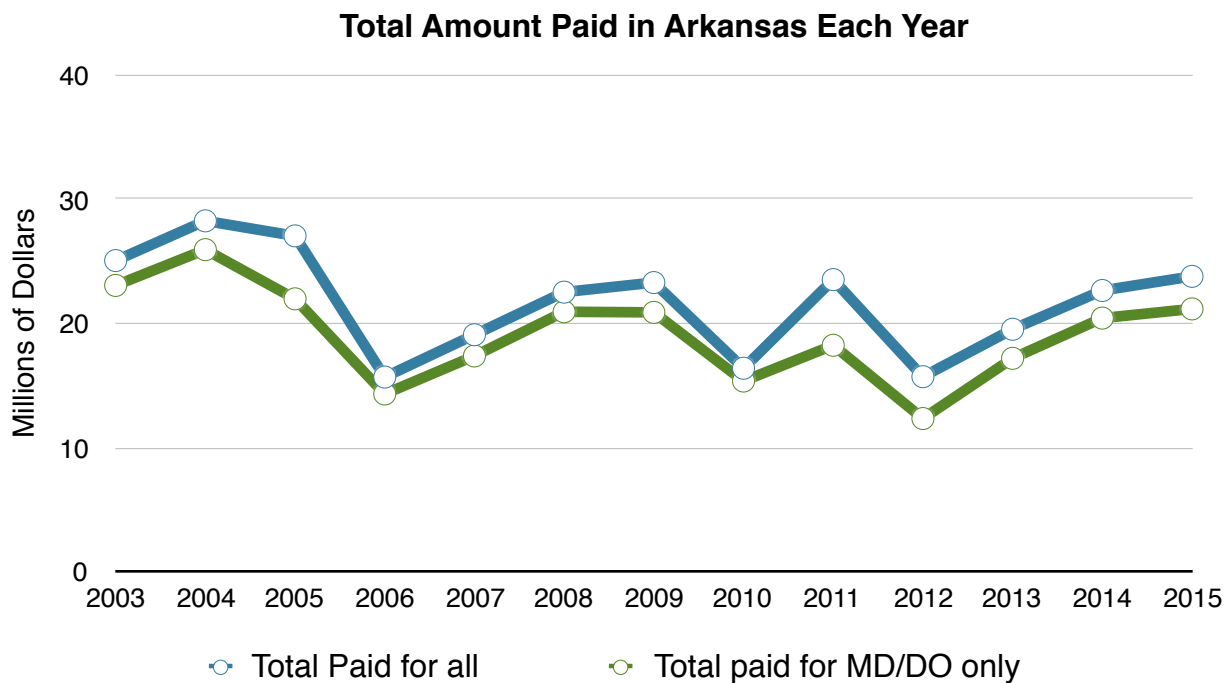


Figure 2: Total Amount Paid for All Medical Malpractice Claims from 2003-2015 for All Health Care Practitioners and MD/DOs Only in Arkansas.

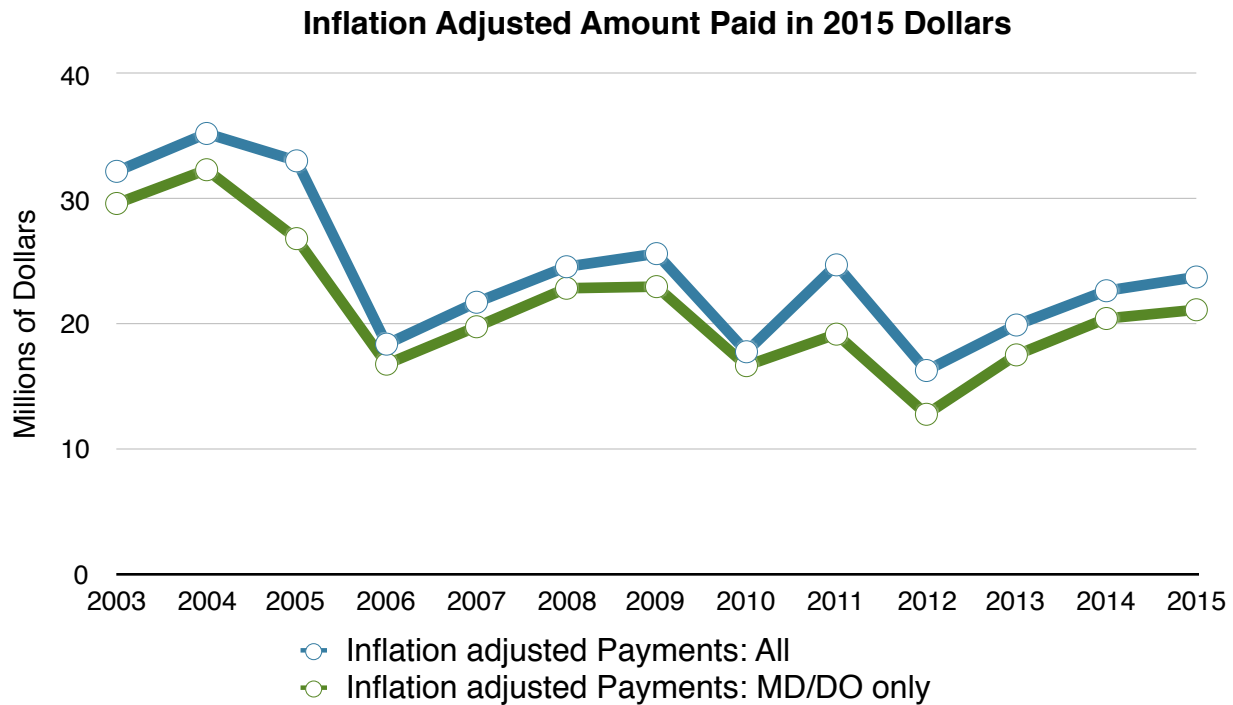


Figure 3: Figure 2 Data When Adjusted for Inflation.

Brief summary: I couldn't find a source that gave me much information on the tort reform bill that was struck down by the Arkansas court in 2007. Still, medical malpractice costs have remained below the national average in Arkansas without the law so, it doesn't appear as though they needed it.

Sources

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