

Maine Medical Malpractice Summary and Statistics

By David Belk MD

Tort Reform Law: Maine Revised Statutes Title 18A section 2-804. Non-economic cap of \$500,000 for wrongful death only.
Effective 2009

Population in 2015: 1,330,089

Number of Licensed Physicians¹ in 2015: 6,364

	2013	2014	2015	Average for 2013-2015
Per Capita ³ Amount Paid Against all Practitioners	\$18.14	\$14.68	\$11.89	\$14.90
State Rank	7	11	17	11
Per Capita ³ Amount Paid Against Physicians (MD/DO) Only	\$16.19	\$14.01	\$10.55	\$13.58
State Rank	7	10	17	11
Paid Claims/100 Physicians		0.71	0.42	
State Rank		16	35	

Table showing the amount paid per capita³ in Maine 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 Maine 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

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

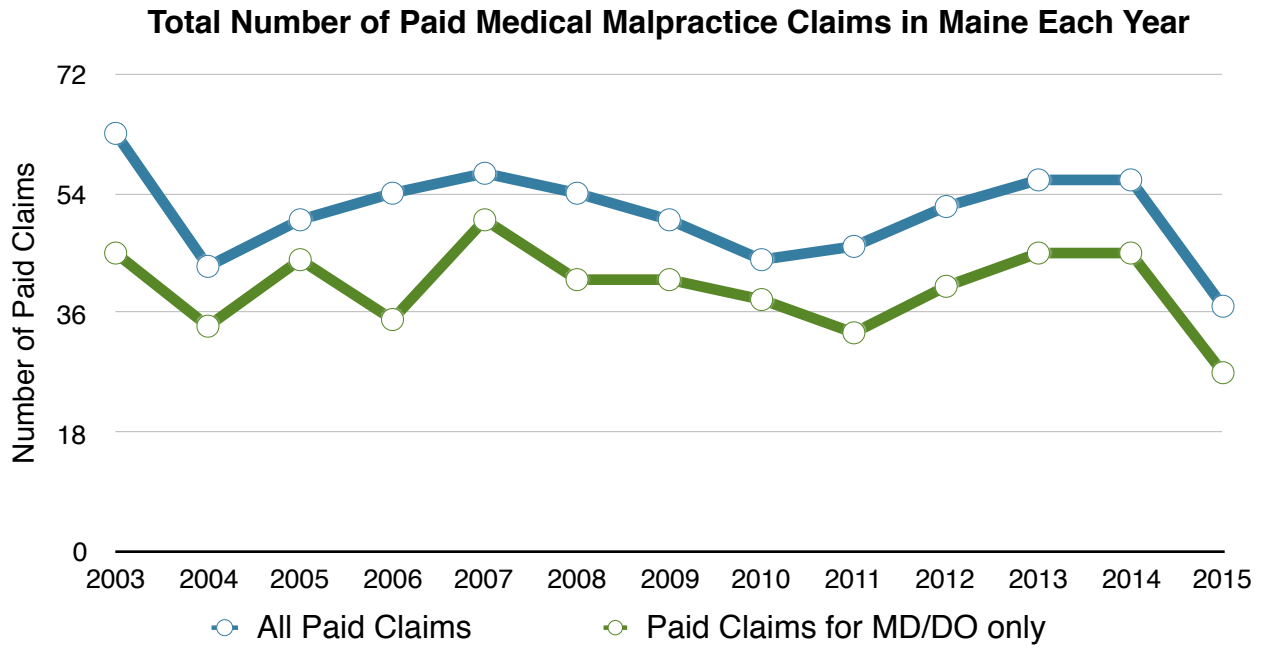


Figure 1: Total number of Paid Medical Malpractice Claims for Maine from 2003-2015 for All Health Care Practitioners Combined as Well as for MD/DOs Only.

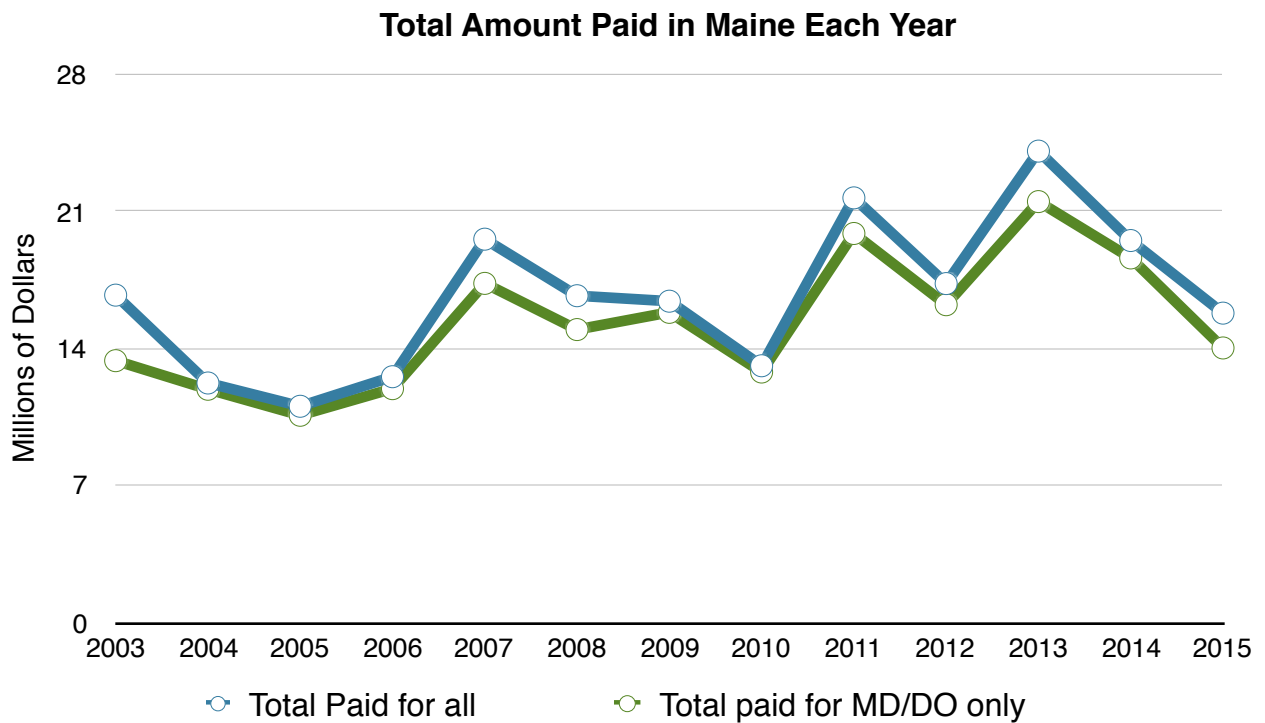


Figure 2: Total Amount Paid for All Medical Malpractice Claims from 2003-2015 for All Health Care Practitioners and MD/DOs Only in Maine.

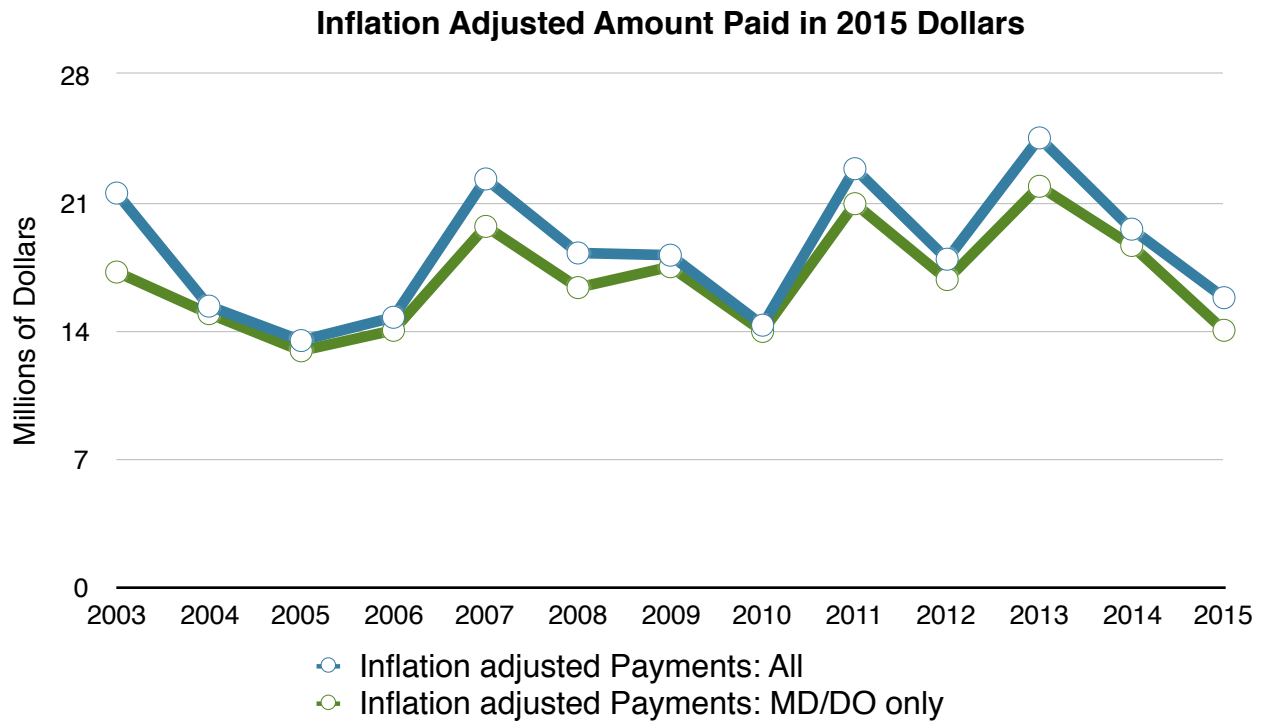


Figure 3: Figure 2 Data When Adjusted for Inflation.

Brief summary: In 2009 Maine enacted a very weak tort reform bill that capped non-economic losses for wrongful deaths only. Since then, medical malpractice costs in Maine had gone against the national trend by actually going up until 2014. They dropped a bit in 2015, but even so, Maine's medical malpractice costs were well above the national average for that year. It's curious why Maine would have bothered with this law since it's clearly had no real effect whatsoever.

Sources

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