Montana Medical Malpractice Summary and Statistics

By David Belk MD

Tort Reform Law: §25-9-411. Non-economic damage cap of $250,000.
Effective 1995

Population in 2015: 1,032,949

Number of Licensed Physicians[1] in 2015: 4,765

	2013	2014	2015	Average for 2013-2015
Per Capita[3] Amount Paid Against all Practitioners	$10.27	$10.41	$7.59	$9.43
State Rank	19	23	31	23
Per Capita[3] Amount Paid Against Physicians (MD/DO) Only	$9.53	$10.21	$6.92	$8.89
State Rank	16	19	31	21
Paid Claims/100 Physicians		0.67	0.59	
State Rank		19	20	

Table showing the amount paid per capita[3] in Montana 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 Montana 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 Montana from 2003-2015

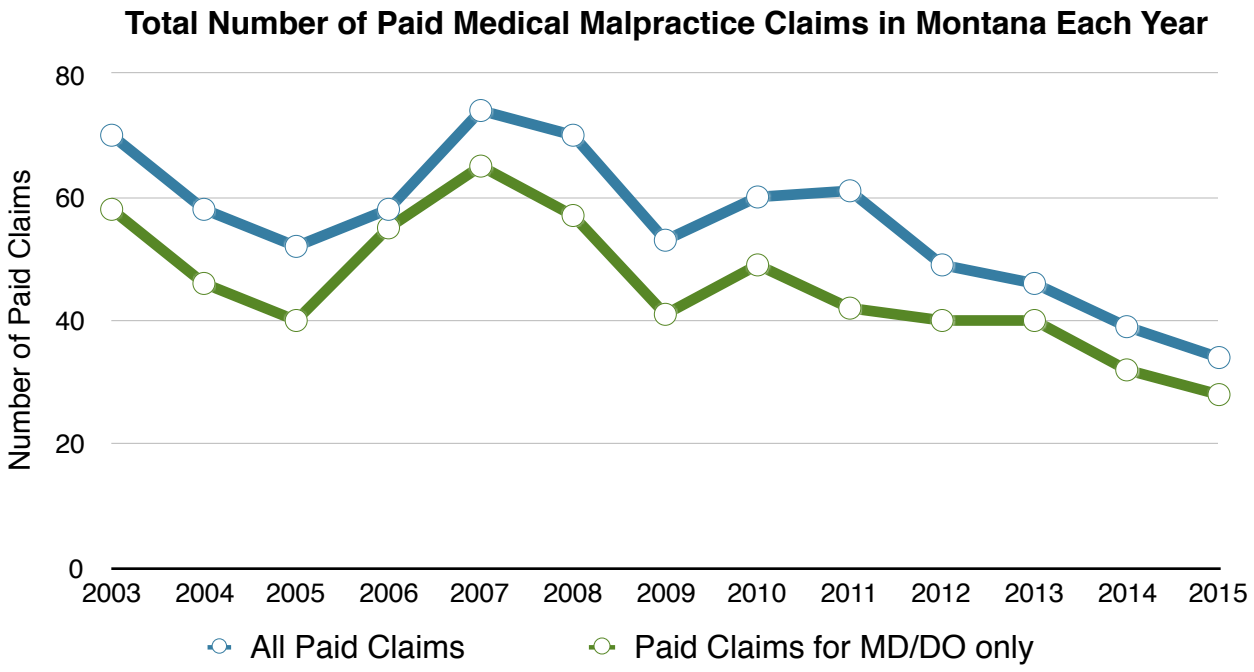

Figure 1: Total number of Paid Medical Malpractice Claims for Montana from 2003-2015 for All Health Care Practitioners Combined as Well as for MD/DOs Only.

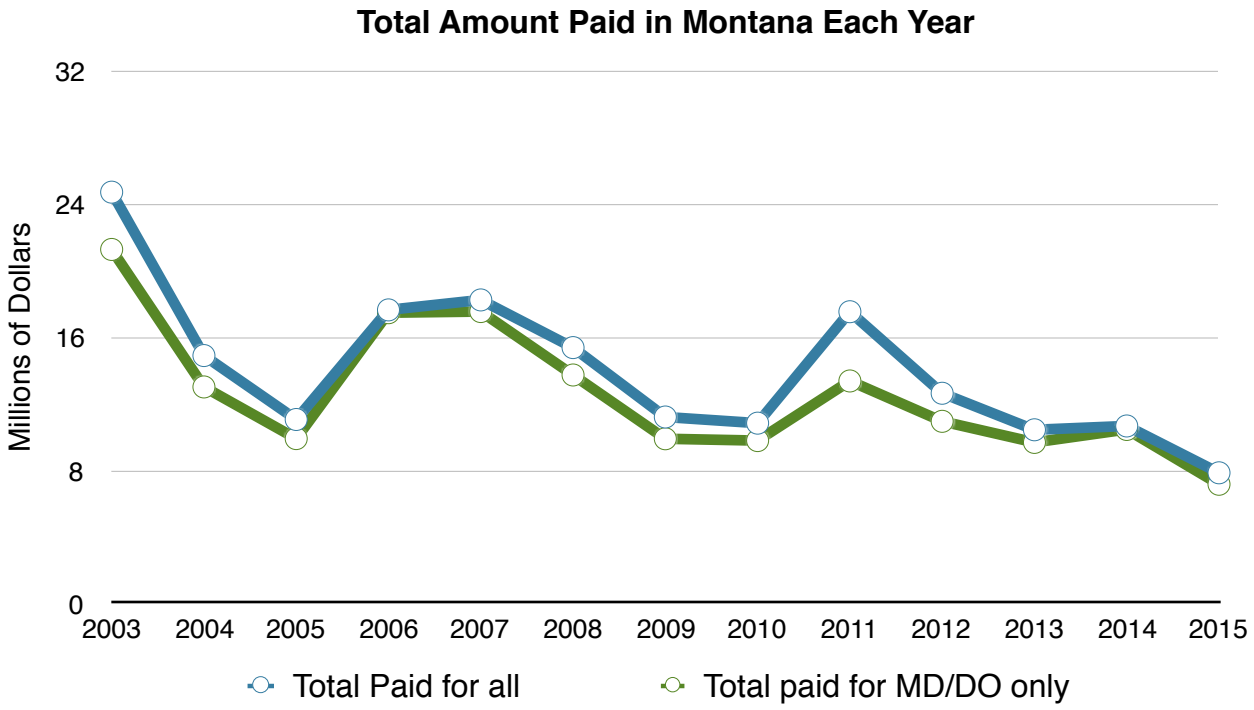

Figure 2: Total Amount Paid for All Medical Malpractice Claims from 2003-2015 for All Health Care Practitioners and MD/DOs Only in Montana.

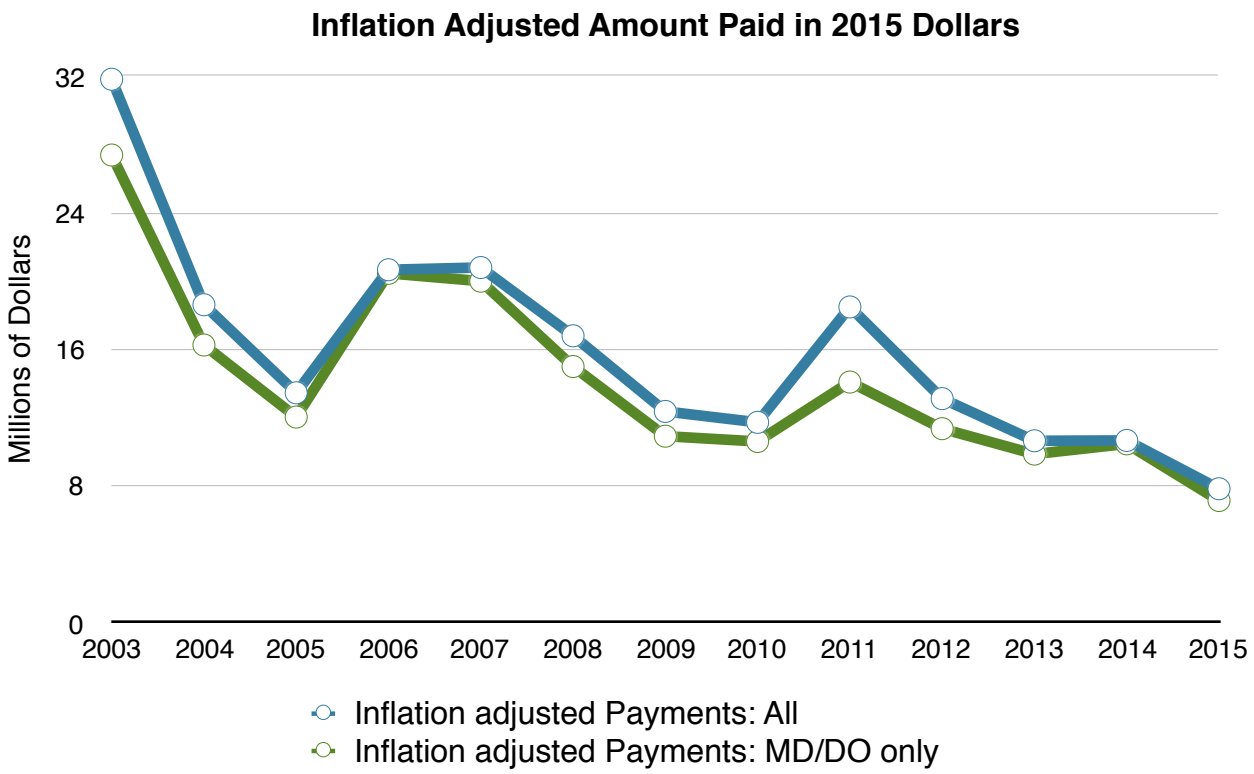

Figure 3: Figure 2 Data When Adjusted for Inflation.

Brief summary: Montana's medical malpractice costs are often above the national average in spite of having a very strict $250,000 cap on non-economic damage awards. Clearly this cap isn't working nearly as well in Montana as it has supposed to have worked in Texas.

Sources

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