

North Carolina Medical Malpractice Summary and Statistics

Tort Reform Law: §90-21.19. Non-economic damages are capped at \$500,000 adjusted upward each year for inflation beginning in 2014. The law will not apply at all in cases where the injured patient suffered certain kinds of disfiguring or permanent injury AND the defendant's malpractice arose from recklessness, malice, an intentional act, or gross negligence.

Effective 2011

Population in 2014: 9,943,964

Number of Licensed Physicians¹ in 2014: 33,266

Number of Paid Medical Malpractice claims per 100 physicians in 2014: 0.31

State Rank: 42nd

Amount paid for malpractice claims against all practitioners² per capita³ in 2014: \$3.88

State Rank: 48th

Amount paid for malpractice claims against all practitioners per capita in 2013: \$5.96

State Rank: 42nd

Amount paid for malpractice claims against Physicians only per capita in 2014: \$3.07

State Rank: 47th

Amount paid for malpractice claims against Physicians only per capita in 2013: \$5.26

State Rank: 41st

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 North Carolina from 2003-2014

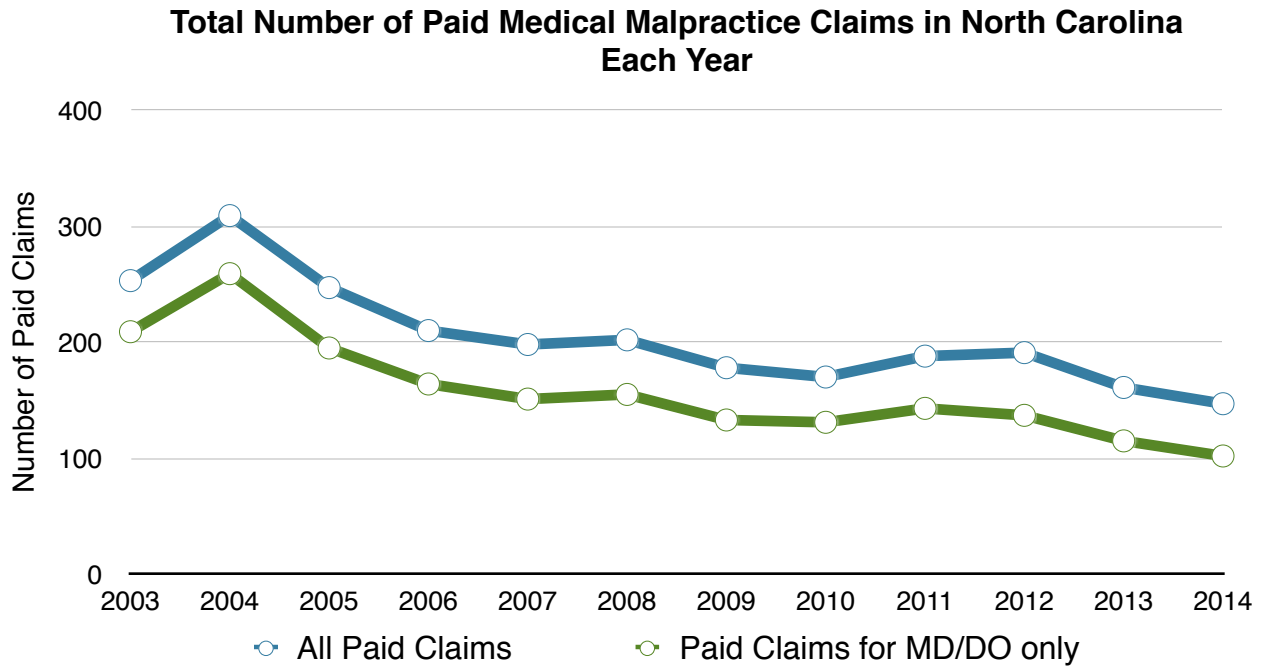


Figure 1: Total number of Paid Medical Malpractice Claims for North Carolina from 2003-2014 for All Health Care Practitioners Combined as Well as for MD/DOs Only

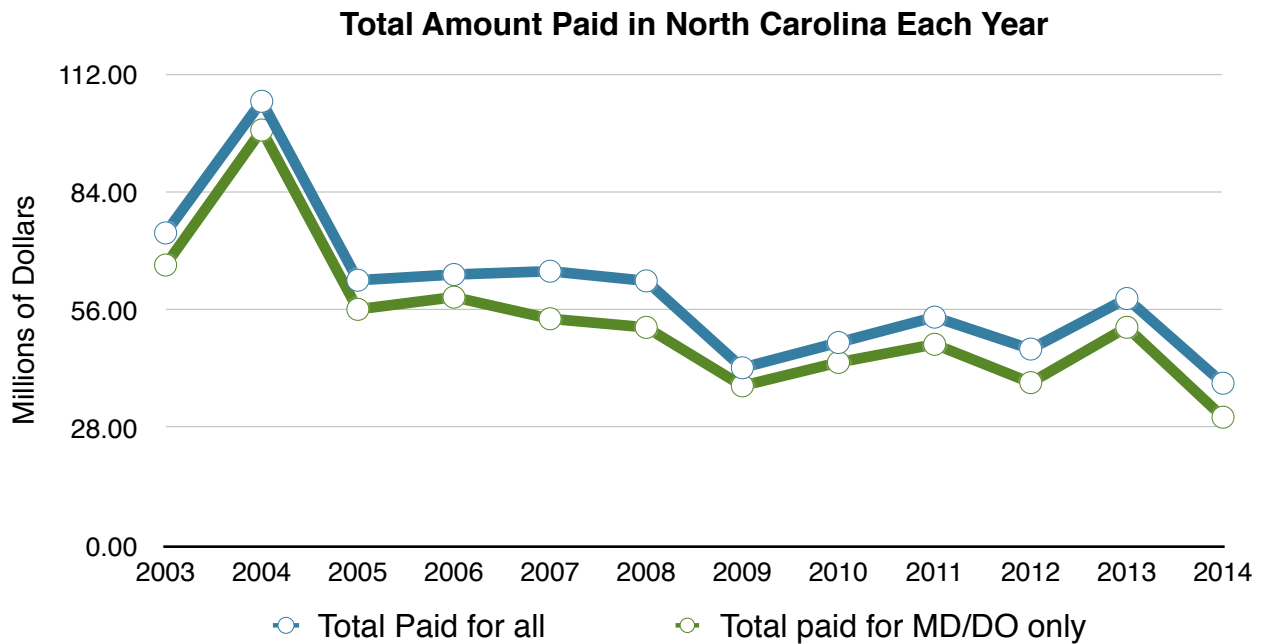


Figure 2: Total Amount Paid for All Medical Malpractice Claims from 2003-2014 for All Health Care Practitioners and MD/DOs Only in North Carolina.

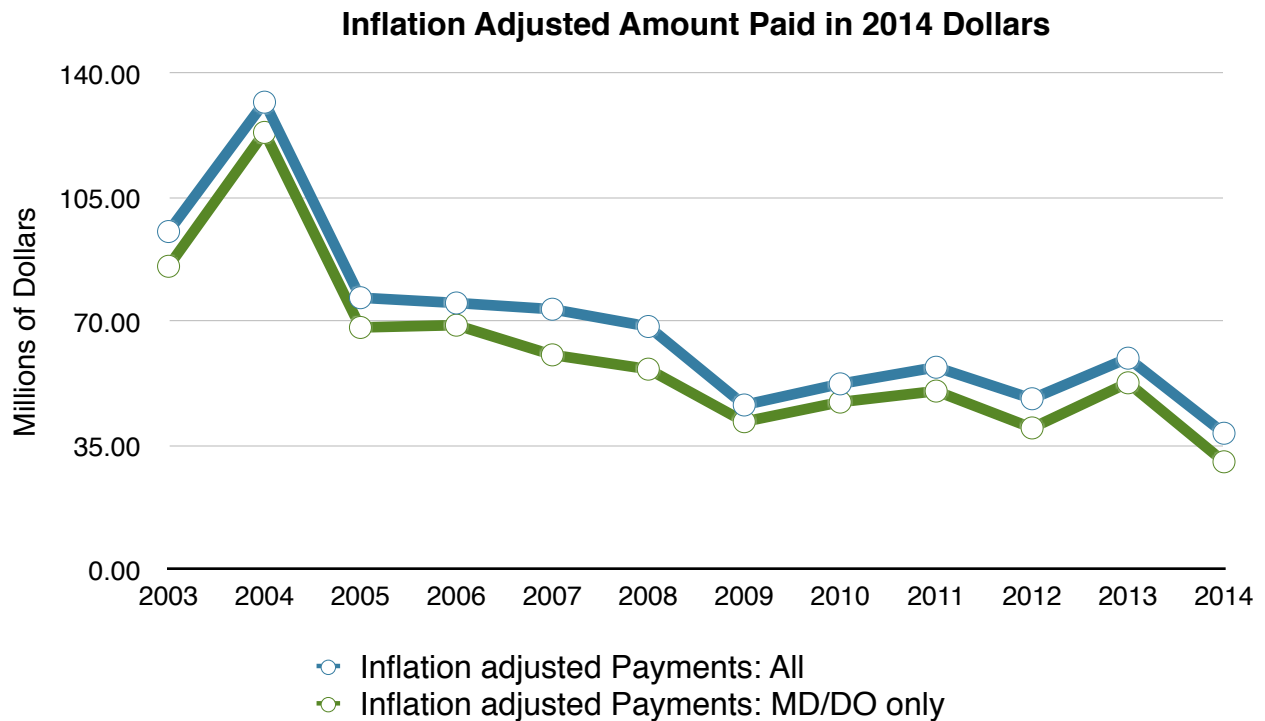


Figure 3: Figure 2 Data When Adjusted for Inflation.

Brief summary: Medical malpractice costs in North Carolina are, and have been, among the lowest in the Country for more than a decade. These costs have also fallen dramatically since 2003. In spite of having so few medical malpractice cases, North Carolina passed a tort reform bill in 2011 to help control the costs they don't have. Why did they do this? who knows.

Sources

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