

Michigan Medical Malpractice Summary and Statistics

By David Belk MD

Tort Reform Law: §600.1483. In 1994 Michigan passed a \$280,000 limit on noneconomic damages; \$500,000 limit on noneconomic damages for catastrophic/disabling injuries. Cap adjusts for inflation so the caps are now about \$440,000 and \$785,000 respectively.

	2012-2016 Average	State Rank
Annual Per Capita ¹ Malpractice costs: All Providers ²	\$6.91	39
Annual Per Capita Malpractice costs: MD/DO only	\$6.06	37
Annual Claims per 1 Million Residents	38.69	17
Annual Claims per 100 Practicing Physicians	1.17	14

Table showing the average amount paid per capita¹ each year in Michigan from 2012-2016 for medical malpractice claims against all practitioners as well as against physicians (MD and DO's) only. It also shows the number of paid claims per million residents and per 100 practicing physicians in Michigan those years.

Brief summary: Like with most of the midwestern states, medical malpractice costs in Michigan are quite low, though they do seem to have more than their fair share of paid claims each year. Michigan does have a cap on non-economic damages, but it's unclear whether that cap is the reason Michigan's malpractice costs are so low.

Notes

- 1) Total amount paid in medical malpractice claims in the state each year/ the state's Population.
- 2) All practitioners includes physicians, podiatrists, dentists, nurses, hygienists, pharmacists, pharmacy techs, lab techs, physical therapists, etc...

Sources

<http://www.alllaw.com/articles/nolo/personal-injury/effect-tort-reform.html>

<http://www.nolo.com/legal-encyclopedia/state-state-medical-malpractice-damages-caps.html>

<http://www.ncsl.org/research/financial-services-and-commerce/medical-liability-medical-malpractice-laws.aspx>

http://truecostofhealthcare.net/malpractice_statistics/

<https://www.npdb.hrsa.gov/analysisistool/>

<http://www.atra.org/issues/noneconomic-damages-reform>

Graphic Summary of Medical Malpractice Incidence and Cost for Michigan from 1991-2017

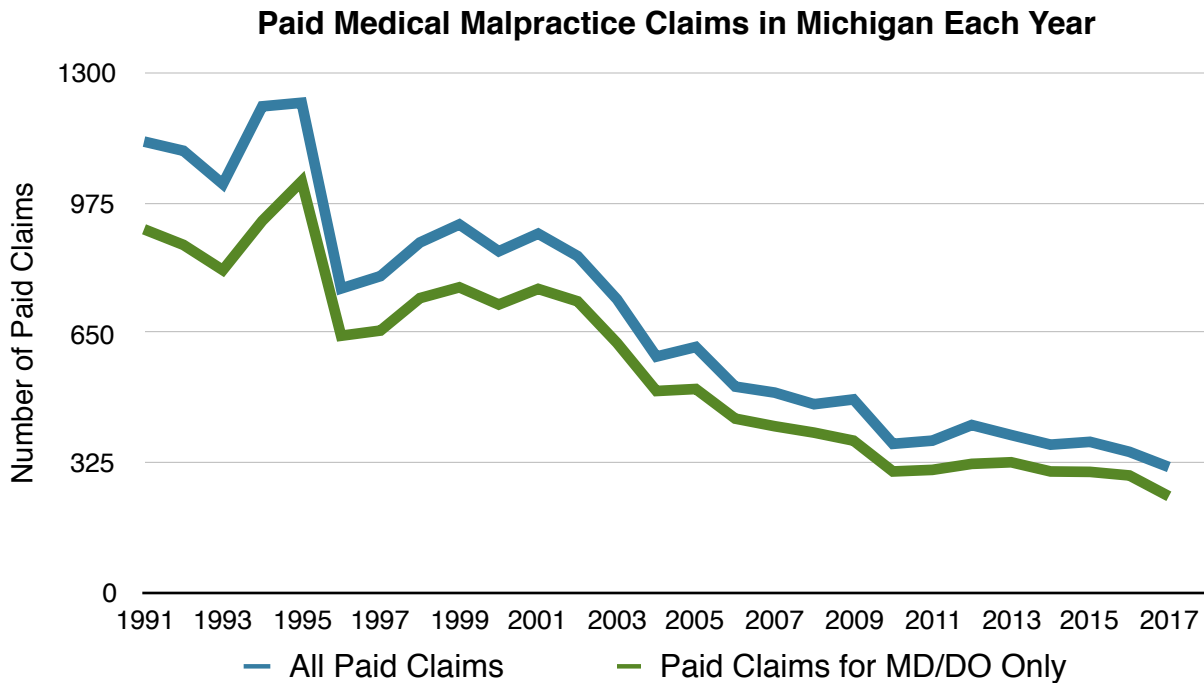


Figure 1: Total number of paid medical malpractice claims for Michigan from 1991-2017 for all health care practitioners combined as well as for MD/DOs only.

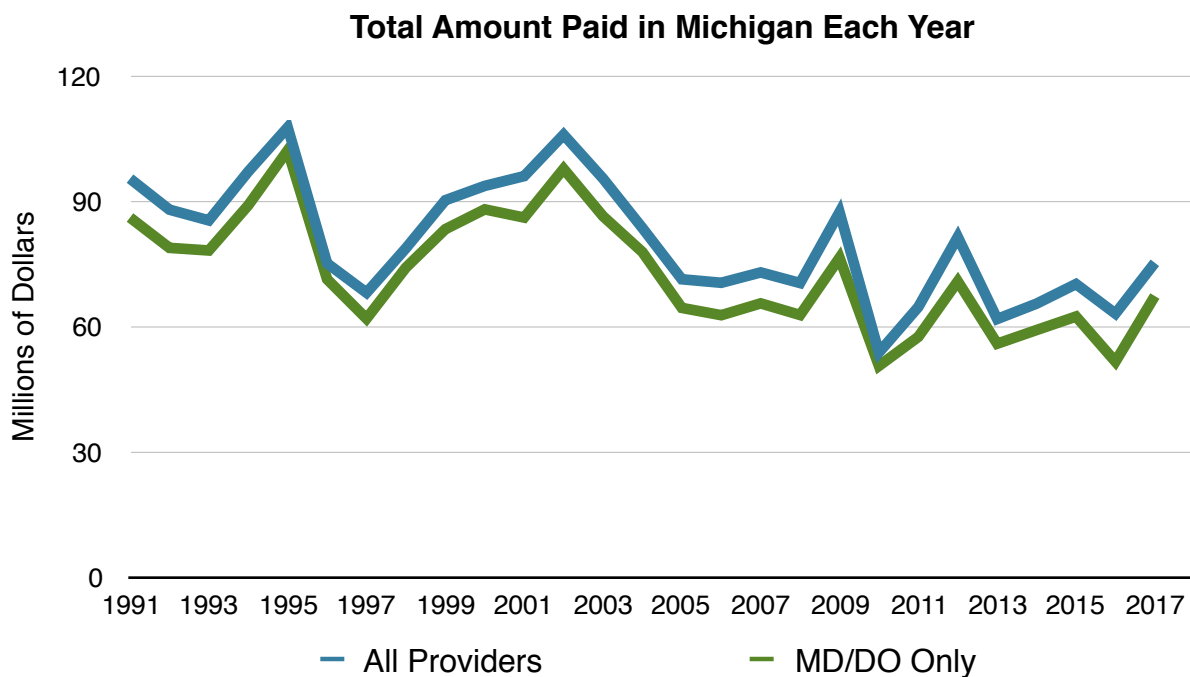


Figure 2: Total amount paid for all medical malpractice claims from 1991-2017 for all health care practitioners and MD/DOs only in Michigan.

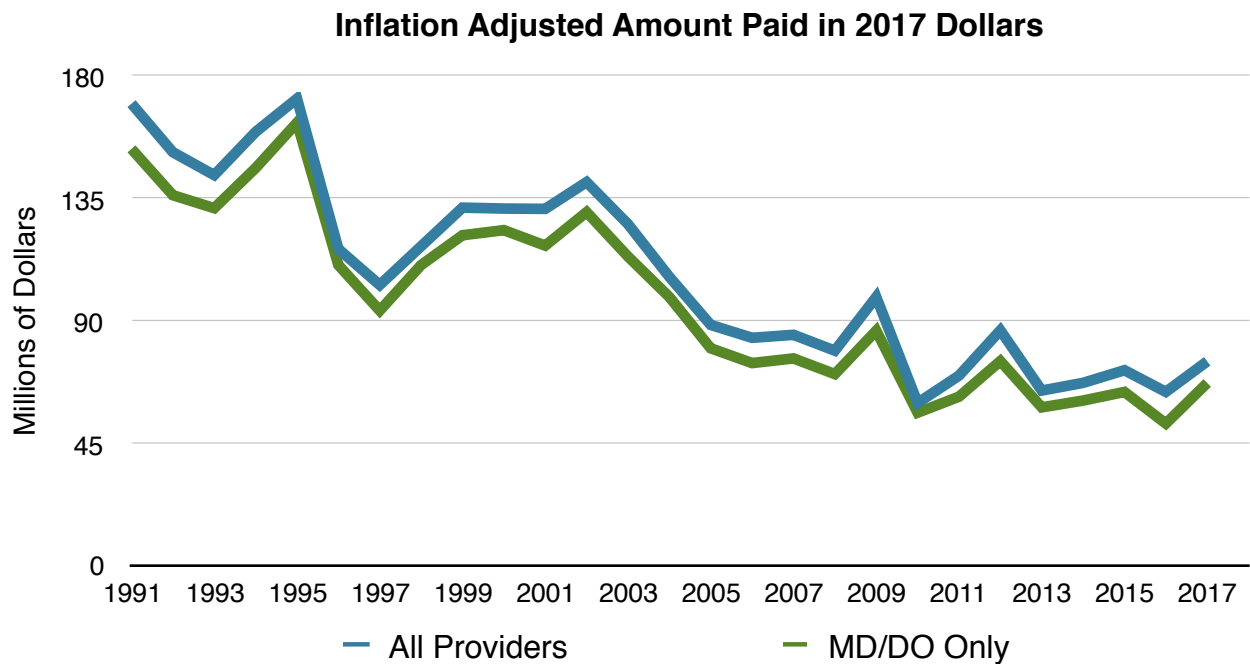


Figure 3: Figure 2 data when adjusted for inflation.