

Missouri Medical Malpractice Summary and Statistics

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Tort Reform Law: None now. In 2005 they passed §538.210 which capped non-economic damages at \$350,000. This law was declared unconstitutional by the Missouri Supreme Court in 2012

	2012-2016 Average	State Rank
Annual Per Capita ¹ Malpractice costs: All Providers ²	\$9.57	23
Annual Per Capita Malpractice costs: MD/DO only	\$8.13	24
Annual Claims per 1 Million Residents	32.86	21
Annual Claims per 100 Practicing Physicians	0.90	25

Table showing the average amount paid per capita¹ each year in Missouri 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 Missouri those years.

Brief summary: Missouri is, at best, a confusing example of the relationship between tort reform and medical malpractice costs. Missouri passed a law that capped non-economic damages in 2005. Afterward, malpractice costs appeared to drop for a few years. In 2011, though, they spiked to the highest they've been in decades. One year later (in 2012) the State Supreme Court throws the law out declaring it unconstitutional. Since then, malpractice costs in Missouri have remained near the national average.

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

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

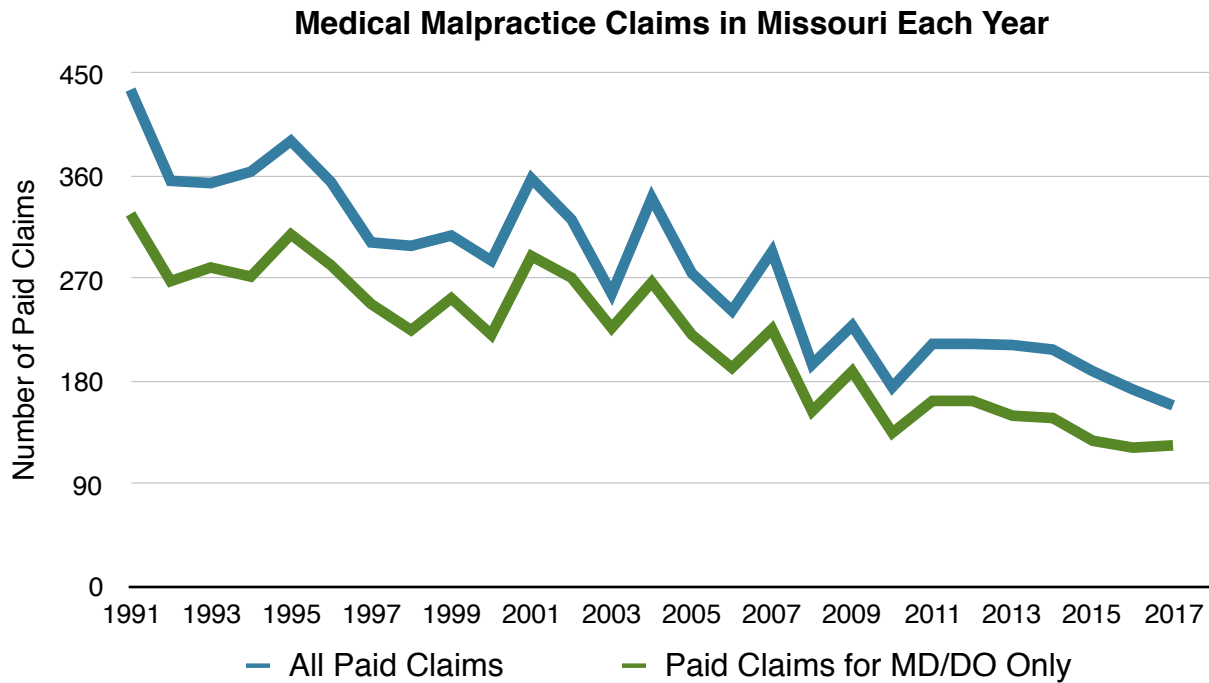


Figure 1: Total number of paid medical malpractice claims for Missouri from 1991-2017 for all health care practitioners combined as well as for MD/DOs only.

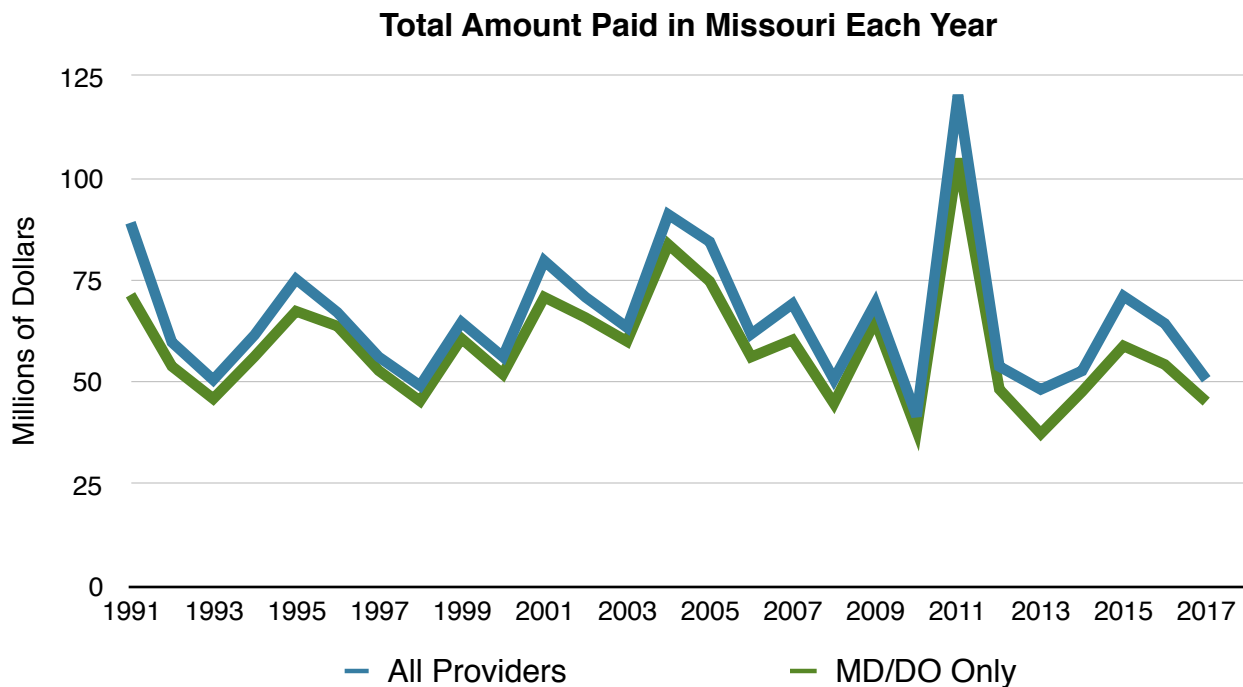


Figure 2: Total amount paid for all medical malpractice claims from 1991-2017 for all health care practitioners and MD/DOs only in Missouri.

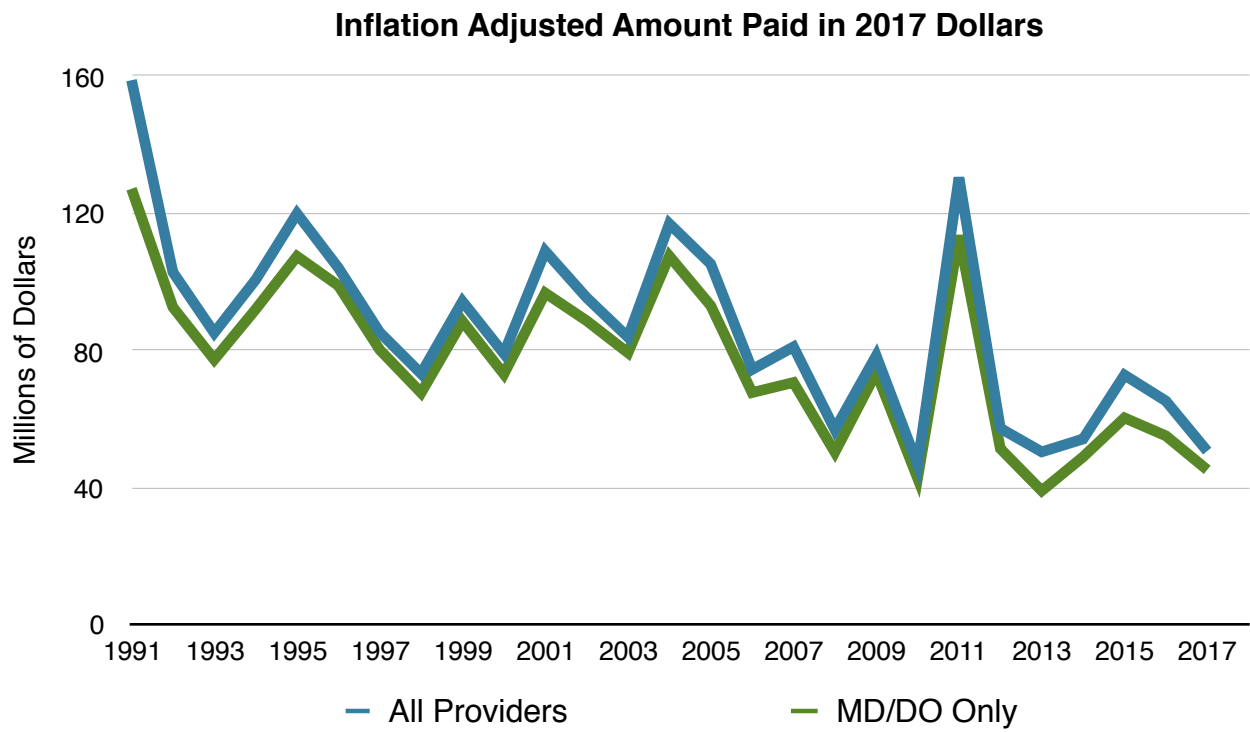


Figure 3: Figure 2 data when adjusted for inflation.