

North Carolina Medical Malpractice Summary and Statistics

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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

	2012-2016 Average	State Rank
Annual Per Capita ¹ Malpractice costs: All Providers ²	\$4.58	48
Annual Per Capita Malpractice costs: MD/DO only	\$3.79	48
Annual Claims per 1 Million Residents	15.69	47
Annual Claims per 100 Practicing Physicians	0.46	45

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

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 fallen dramatically since 2003. In spite of having so little spent on medical malpractice, North Carolina passed a tort reform bill in 2011 to help control costs they didn't actually have.

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 North Carolina from 1991-2017

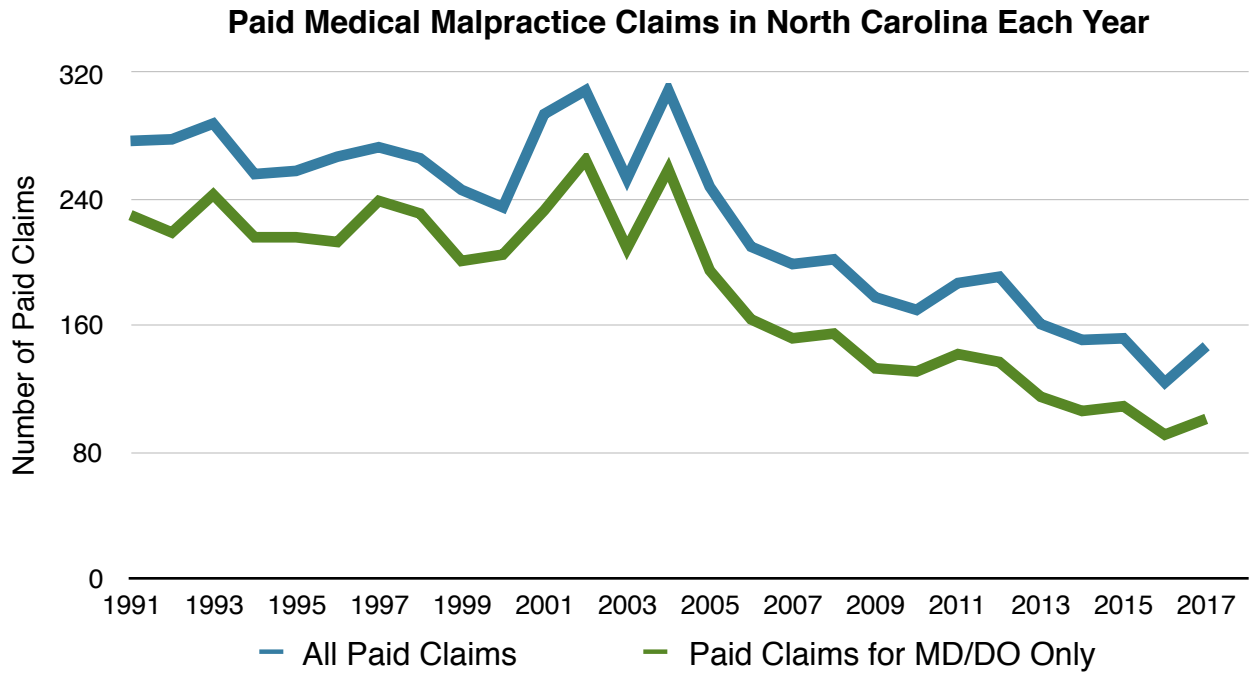


Figure 1: Total number of paid medical malpractice claims for North Carolina from 1991-2017 for all health care practitioners combined as well as for MD/DOs only.

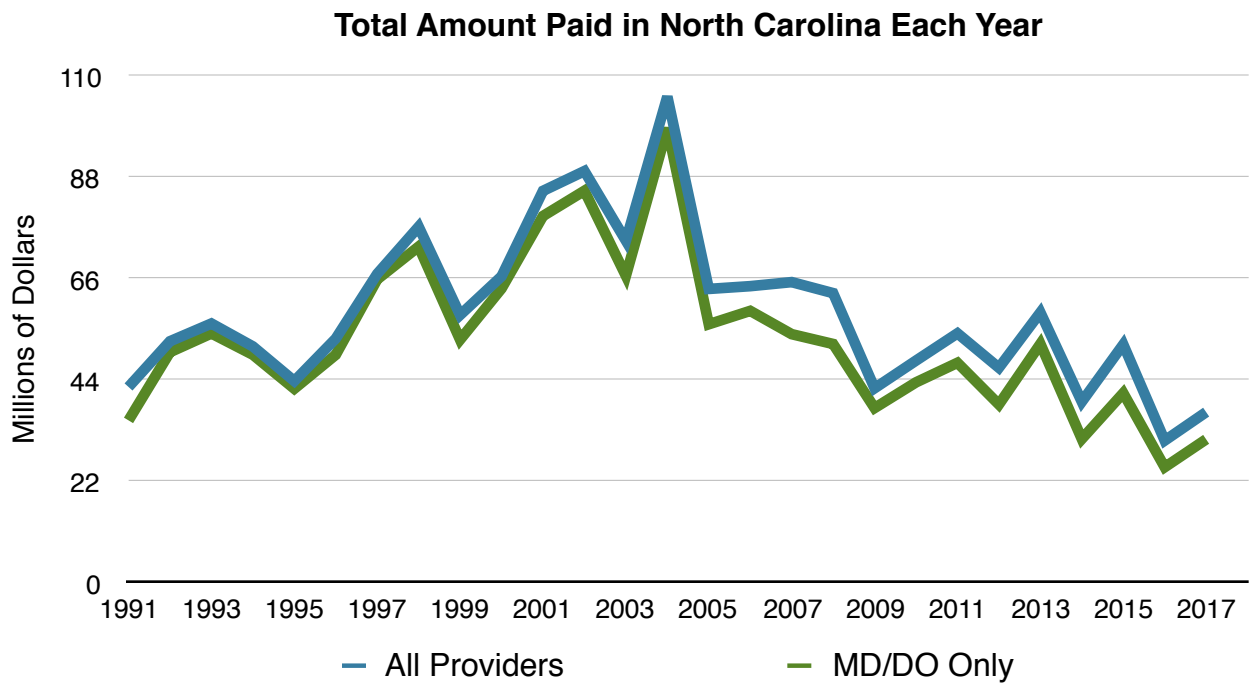


Figure 2: Total amount paid for all medical malpractice claims from 1991-2017 for all health care practitioners and MD/DOs only in North Carolina.

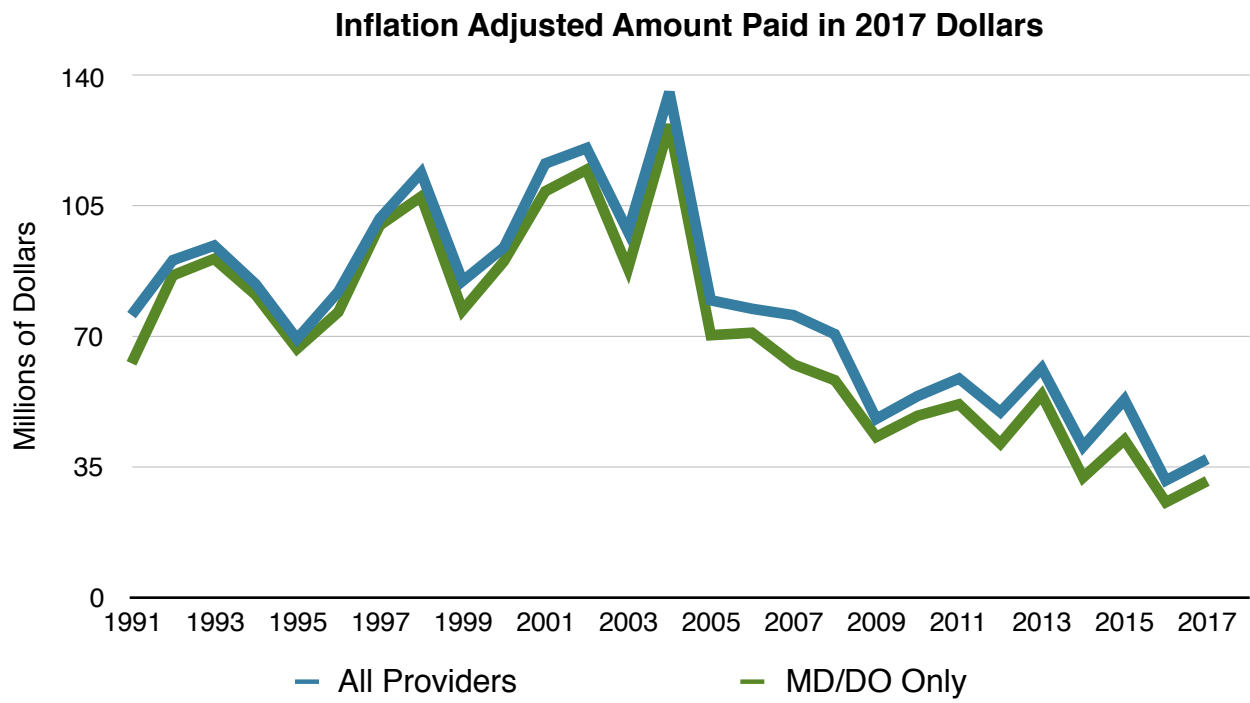


Figure 3: Figure 2 data when adjusted for inflation.