

Texas Medical Malpractice Summary and Statistics

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Tort Reform Law: Civil Practice & Remedies §74.301. Non-economic damages: \$250,000 cap for physicians or providers. An additional \$250,000 against each health care institution. Effective 2003

	2012-2016 Average	State Rank
Annual Per Capita ¹ Malpractice costs: All Providers ²	\$3.33	49
Annual Per Capita Malpractice costs: MD/DO only	\$2.77	49
Annual Claims per 1 Million Residents	21.11	45
Annual Claims per 100 Practicing Physicians	0.73	34

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

Brief summary: In 2003 Texas passed a tort reform bill that capped non-economic damages at \$250,000. Over the next two years, paid claims dropped by over 50%, malpractice costs dropped by over 60%. Both have gone down even further in the years since. In addition to the damage cap, Texas also imposed additional restrictions regarding how and when plaintiffs can file suits. These restrictions make the filing of any medical malpractice suit inconvenient enough to further reduce malpractice claims.

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 Texas from 1991-2017

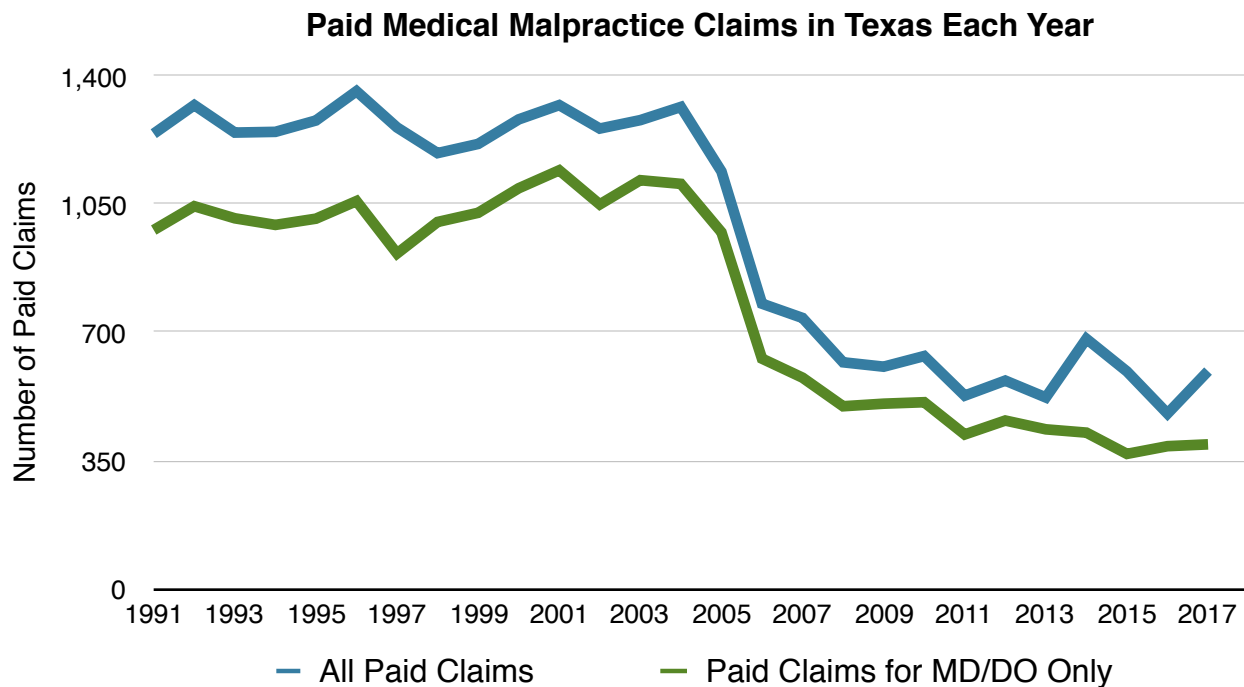


Figure 1: Total number of paid medical malpractice claims for Texas from 1991-2017 for all health care practitioners combined as well as for MD/DOs only.

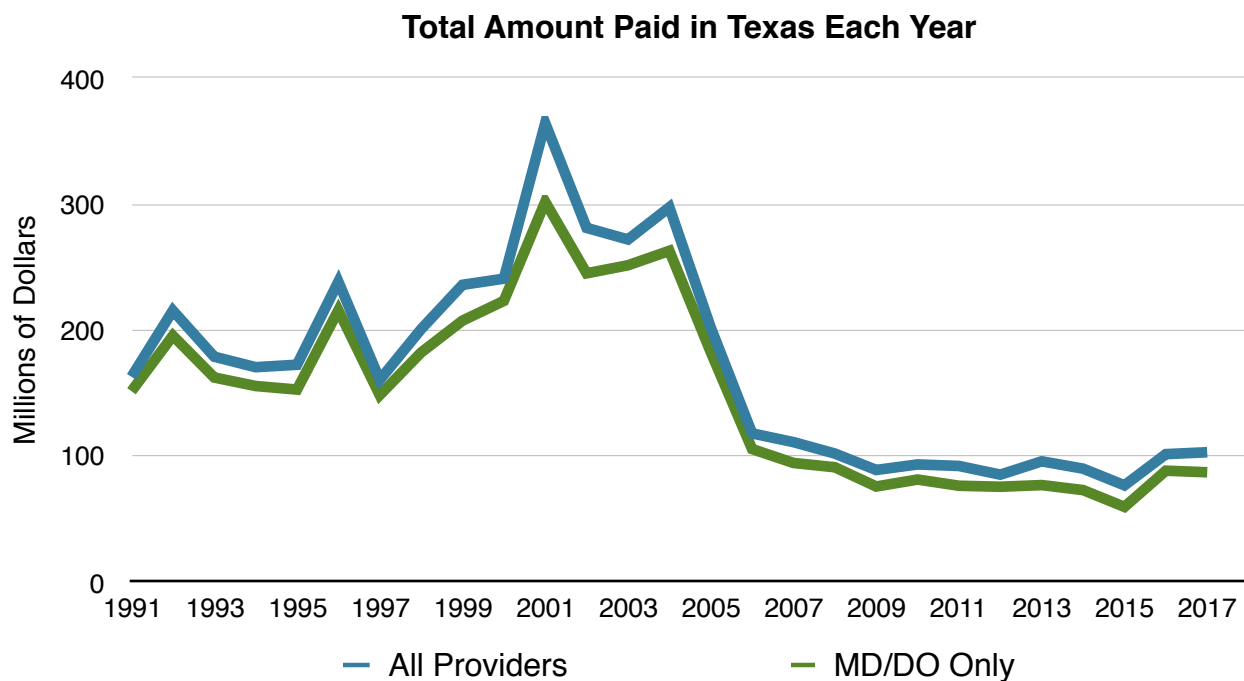


Figure 2: Total amount paid for all medical malpractice claims from 1991-2017 for all health care practitioners and MD/DOs only in Texas.

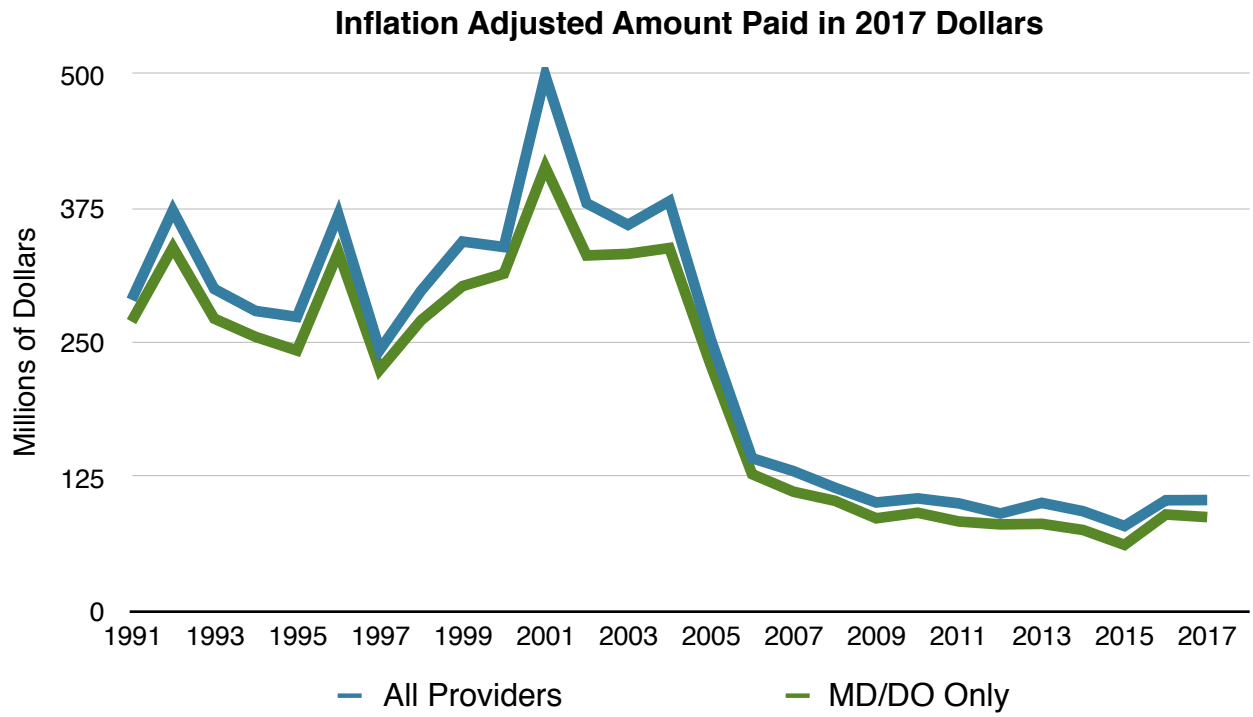


Figure 3: Figure 2 data when adjusted for inflation.