

Colorado Medical Malpractice Summary and Statistics

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Tort Reform Law: §13-64-302. \$1 million total limit on all damages; \$300,000 non-economic limitation.

Effective 1987 revised in 2003

Population in 2015: 5,456,574

Number of Licensed Physicians¹ in 2015: 19,897

	2013	2014	2015	Average for 2013-2015
Per Capita ³ Amount Paid Against all Practitioners	\$8.59	\$10.84	\$6.16	\$8.53
State Rank	24	22	40	27
Per Capita ³ Amount Paid Against Physicians (MD/DO) Only	\$6.79	\$9.34	\$4.70	\$6.95
State Rank	26	22	41	28
Paid Claims/100 Physicians		0.40	0.37	
State Rank		41	38	

Table showing the amount paid per capita³ in Colorado for medical malpractice claims against all practitioners each year as well as against physicians only. It also shows the number of claims won against physicians per 100 licensed physicians in Colorado in 2014 and 2015.

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 Colorado from 2003-2015

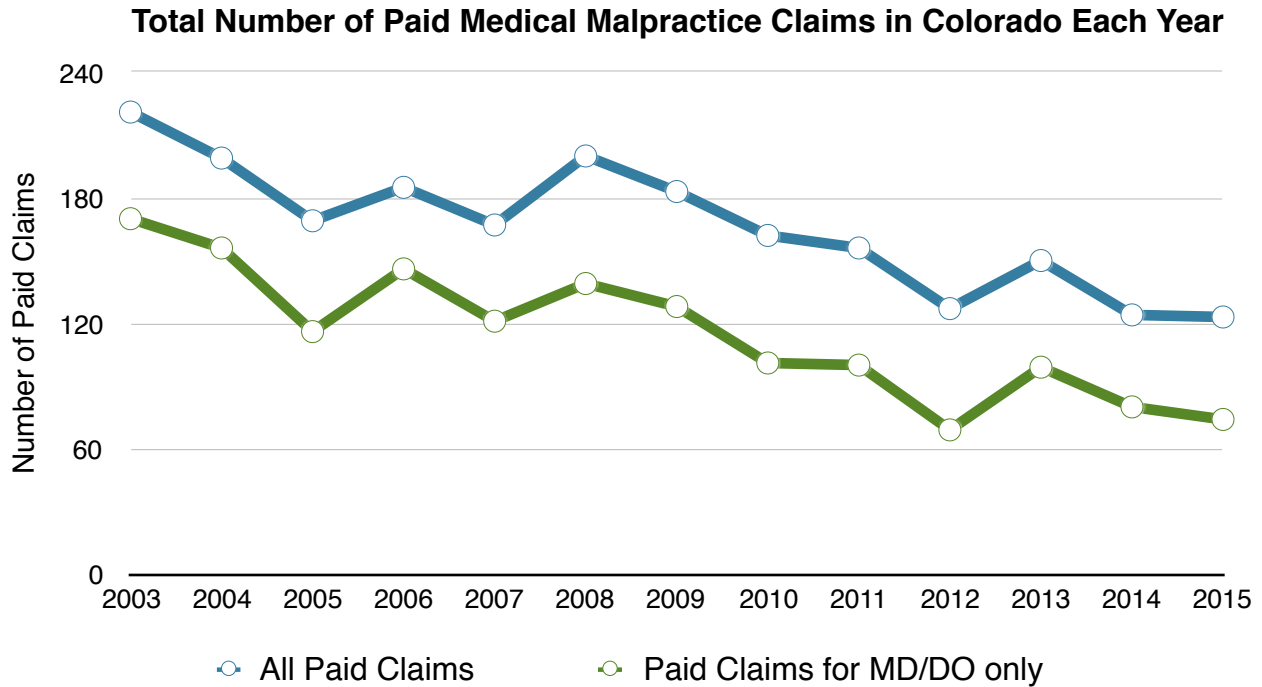


Figure 1: Total number of Paid Medical Malpractice Claims for Colorado from 2003-2015 for All Health Care Practitioners Combined as Well as for MD/DOs Only.

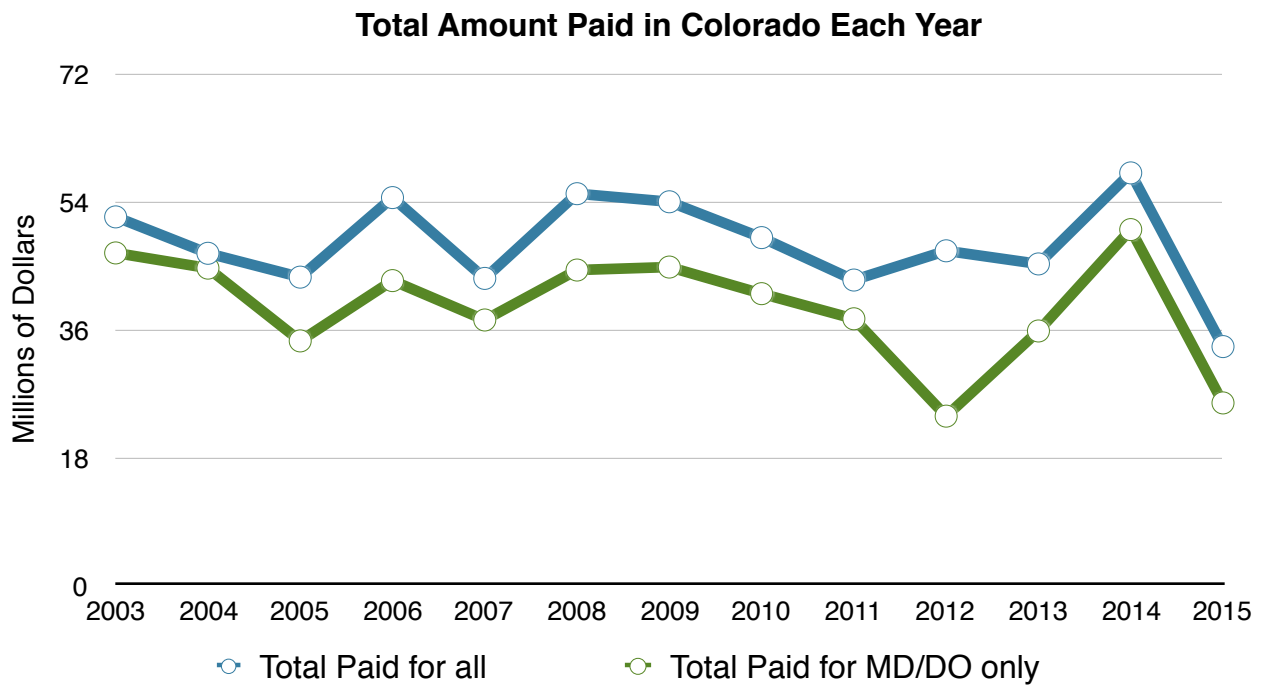


Figure 2: Total Amount Paid for All Medical Malpractice Claims from 2003-2015 for All Health Care Practitioners and MD/DOs Only in Colorado.

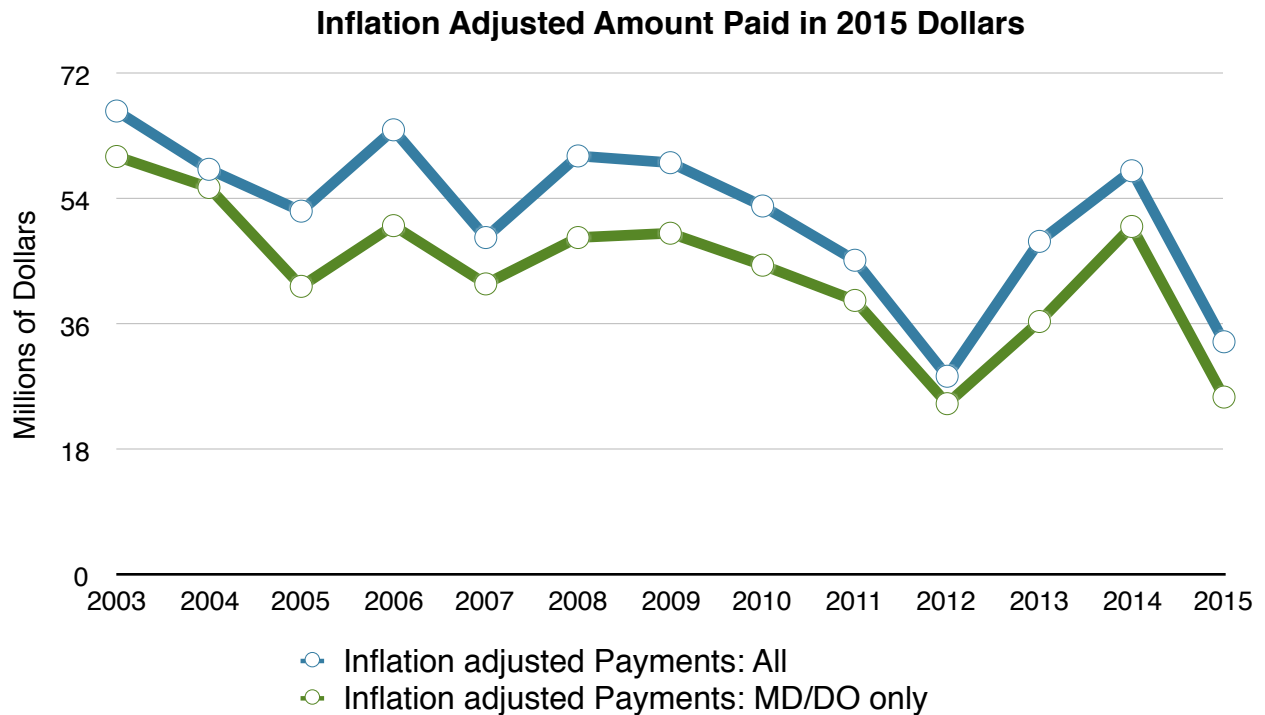


Figure 3: Figure 2 Data When Adjusted for Inflation.

Brief summary: Colorado has a rather strict cap on non economic damages in medical malpractice cases (\$300,000 for non economic damages and \$1 million for total damages) yet Colorado’s medical malpractice costs are rather close to the national average in spite of these caps.

Sources

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