

# Alaska Medical Malpractice Summary and Statistics

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Tort Reform Law: §09.55.549. Non-economic damages capped at \$250,000. Wrongful death or a disability considered more than 70% disabling capped at \$400,000. Effective 1996, revised to lower cap in 2005.

	2012-2016 Average	State Rank
Annual Per Capita <sup>1</sup> Malpractice costs: All Providers <sup>2</sup>	\$8.58	30
Annual Per Capita Malpractice costs: MD/DO only	\$6.68	32
Annual Claims per 1 Million Residents	24.97	36
Annual Claims per 100 Practicing Physicians	0.64	40

Table showing the average amount paid per capita<sup>1</sup> each year in Alaska 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 Alaska those years.

Brief summary: Medical malpractice costs have been, historically, very low most years in Alaska when compared to other states. This was true even before they passed their tort reform bill.

## 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

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

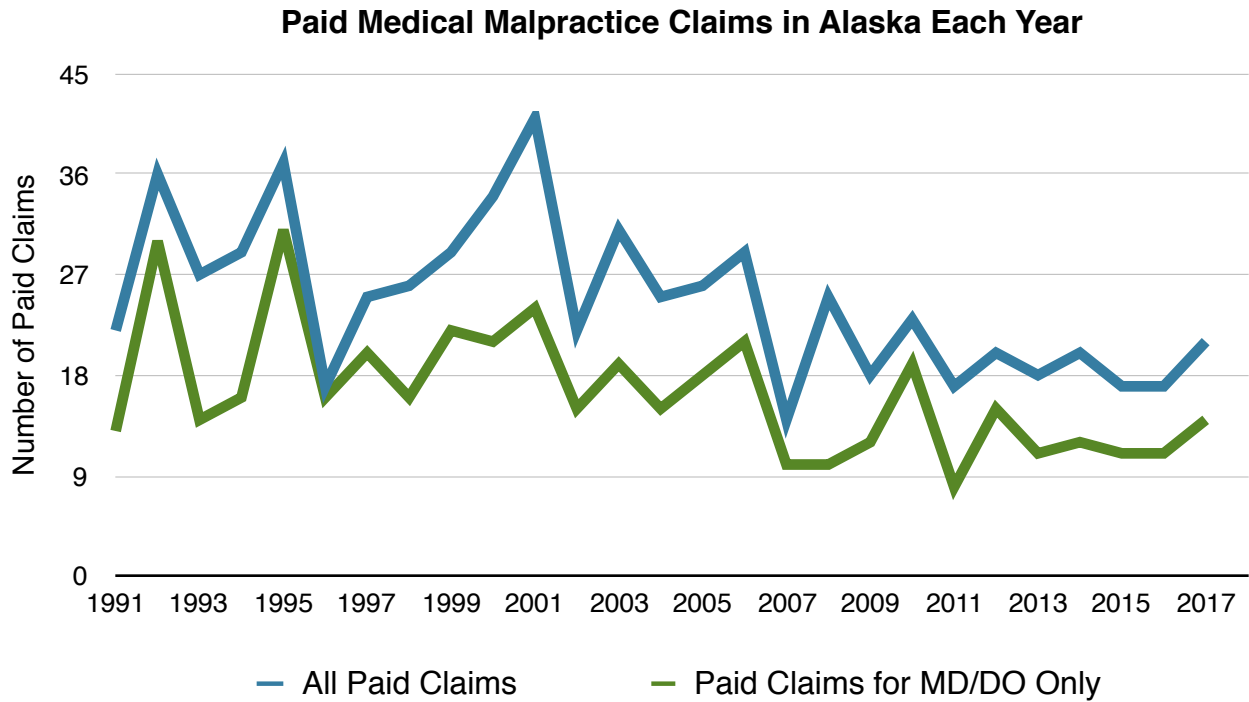
<http://www.ncsl.org/research/financial-services-and-commerce/medical-liability-medical-malpractice-laws.aspx>

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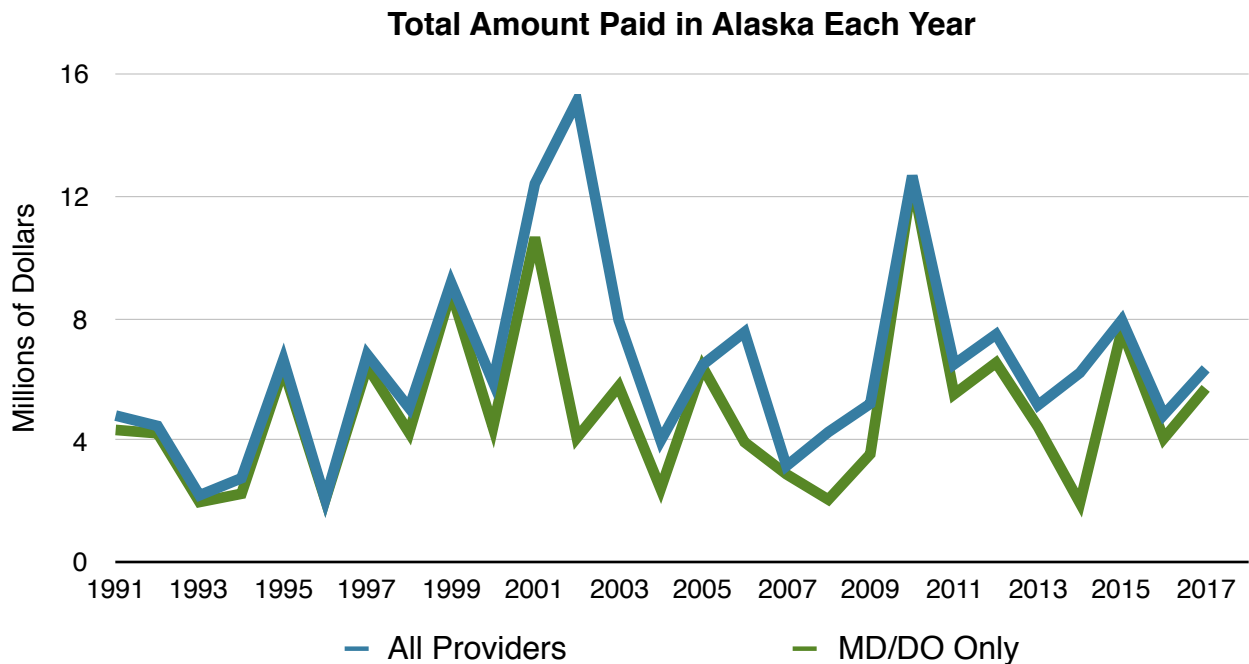
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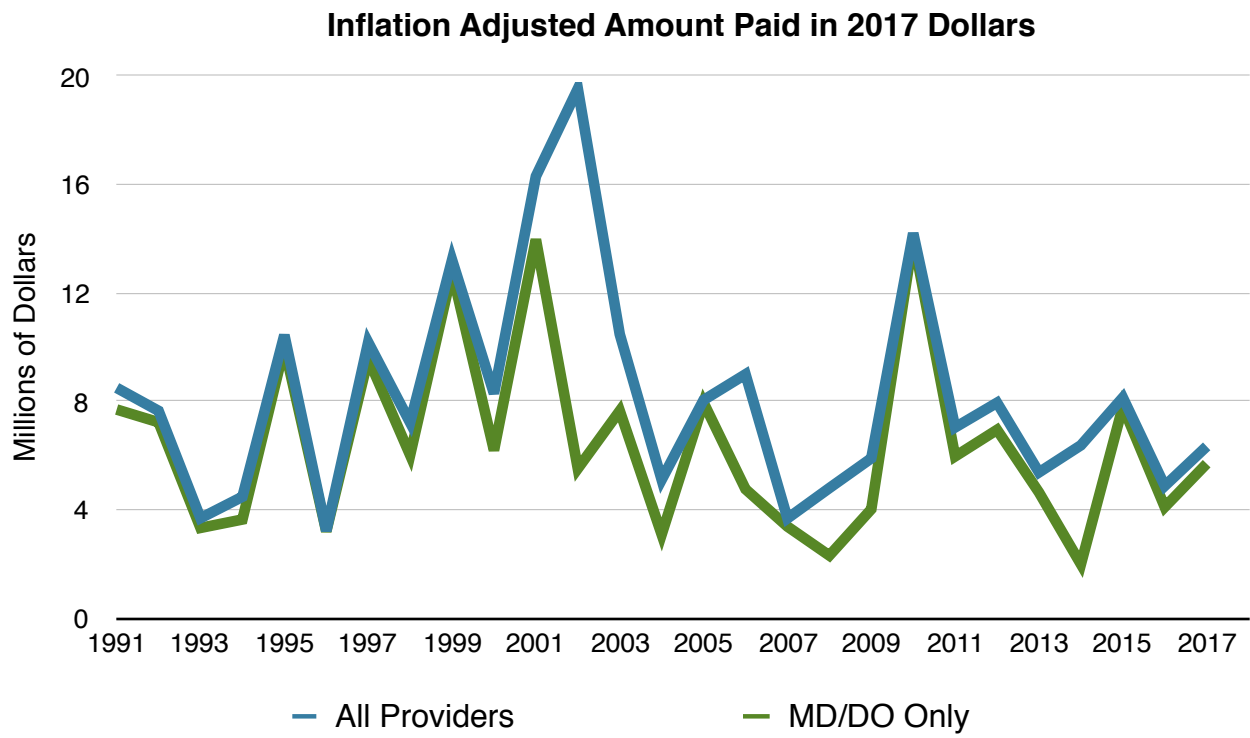
**Graphic Summary of Medical Malpractice Incidence and Cost for Alaska from 1991-2017**



**Figure 1:** Total number of paid medical malpractice claims for Alaska 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 Alaska.



**Figure 3:** Figure 2 data when adjusted for inflation.