

# Oregon Medical Malpractice Summary and Statistics

By David Belk MD

Tort Reform Law: Limits on noneconomic damages (§31.710) declared unconstitutional except a \$500,000 cap for wrongful death.

	2012-2016 Average	State Rank
Annual Per Capita <sup>1</sup> Malpractice costs: All Providers <sup>2</sup>	\$10.22	18
Annual Per Capita Malpractice costs: MD/DO only	\$8.92	21
Annual Claims per 1 Million Residents	30.2	27
Annual Claims per 100 Practicing Physicians	0.70	37

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

Brief summary: Oregon has a very limited tort reform law addressing medical malpractice that caps non-economic damages at \$500,000 for cases of wrongful death only. The law is similar to Maine's law and, like in Maine, it's had no real effect on medical malpractice costs in that state. The incidence and cost of medical malpractice cases in Oregon have, if anything, gone up in recent years.

## 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>

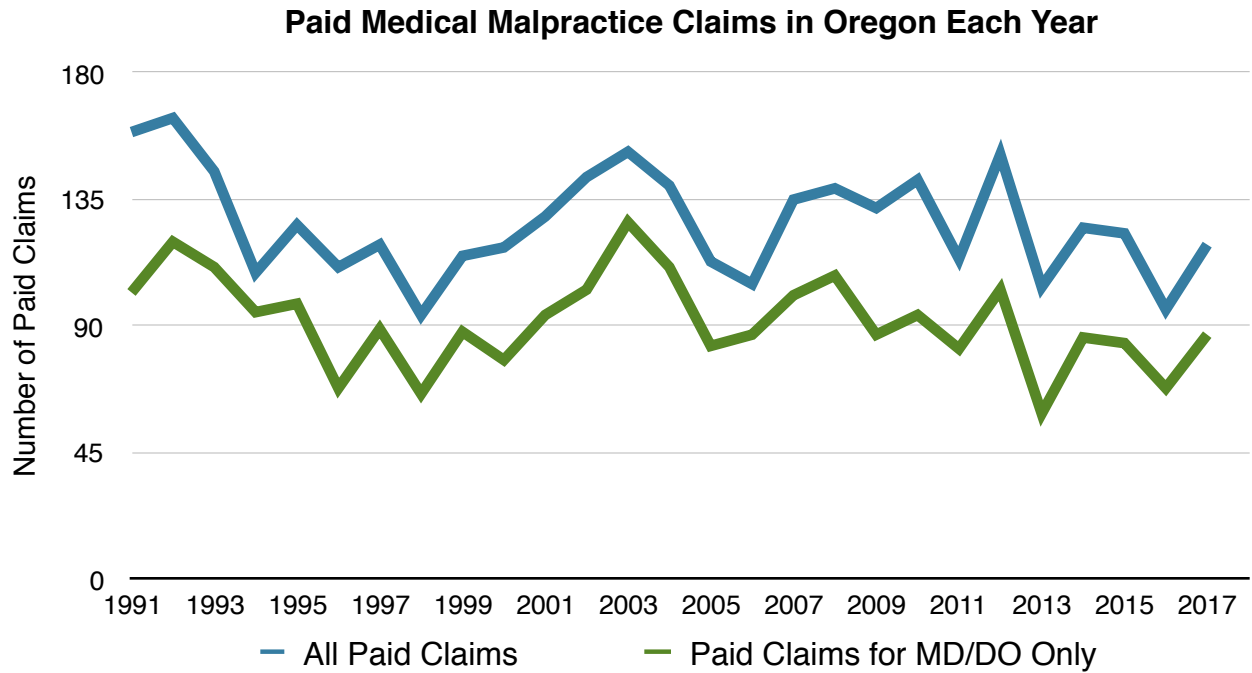
<http://www.ncsl.org/research/financial-services-and-commerce/medical-liability-medical-malpractice-laws.aspx>

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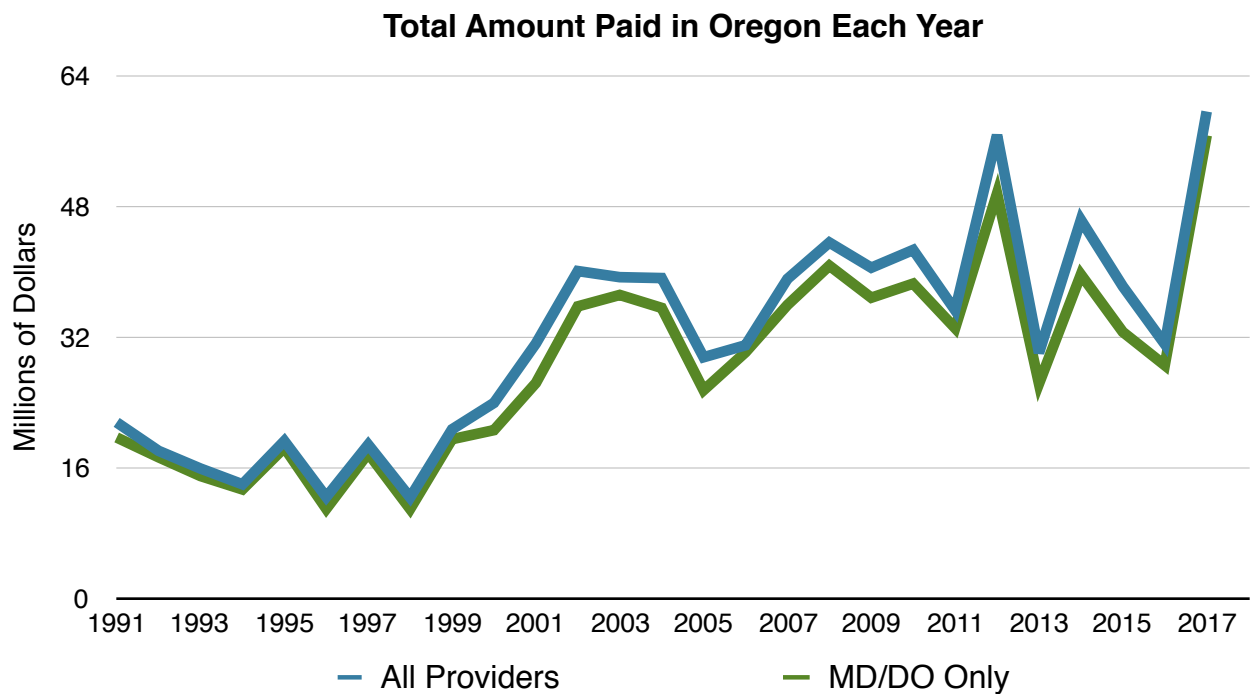
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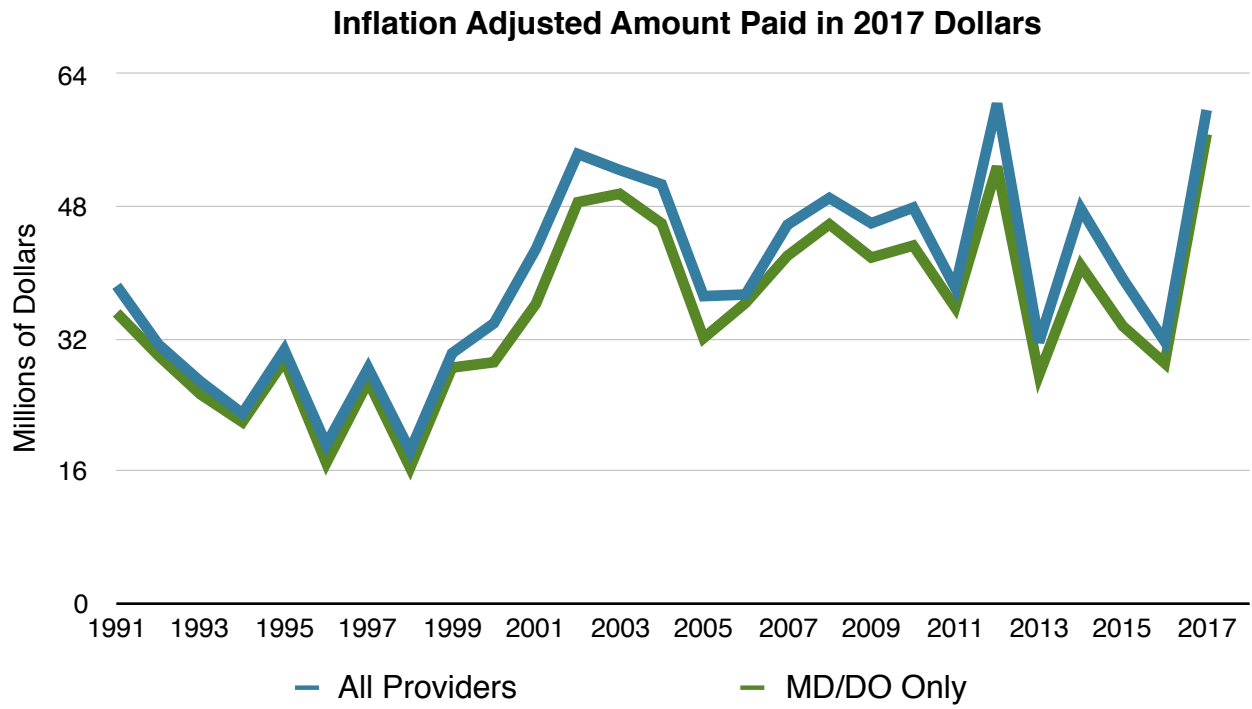
**Graphic Summary of Medical Malpractice Incidence and Cost for Oregon from 1991-2017**



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



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