

Washington Medical Malpractice Summary and Statistics

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Tort Reform Law: None, constitutionally prohibited

	2012-2016 Average	State Rank
Annual Per Capita ¹ Malpractice costs: All Providers ²	\$9.18	25
Annual Per Capita Malpractice costs: MD/DO only	\$7.18	28
Annual Claims per 1 Million Residents	29.32	28
Annual Claims per 100 Practicing Physicians	0.69	38

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

Brief summary: Washington State has no tort reform law aimed at controlling medical malpractice costs. Their per-capita malpractice costs and paid claims have remained close to the national average for the U.S. most years and have generally declined over the last decade.

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/analysistool/>

<http://www.atra.org/issues/noneconomic-damages-reform>

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

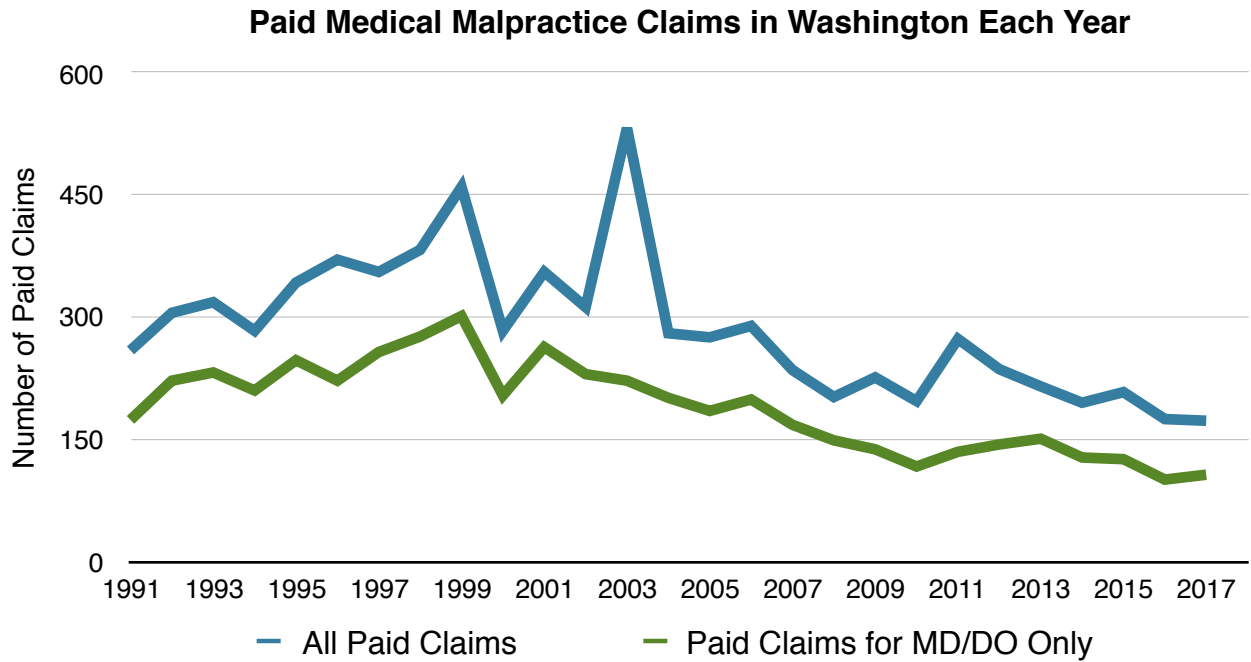


Figure 1: Total number of paid medical malpractice claims for Washington from 1991-2017 for all health care practitioners combined as well as for MD/DOs only.

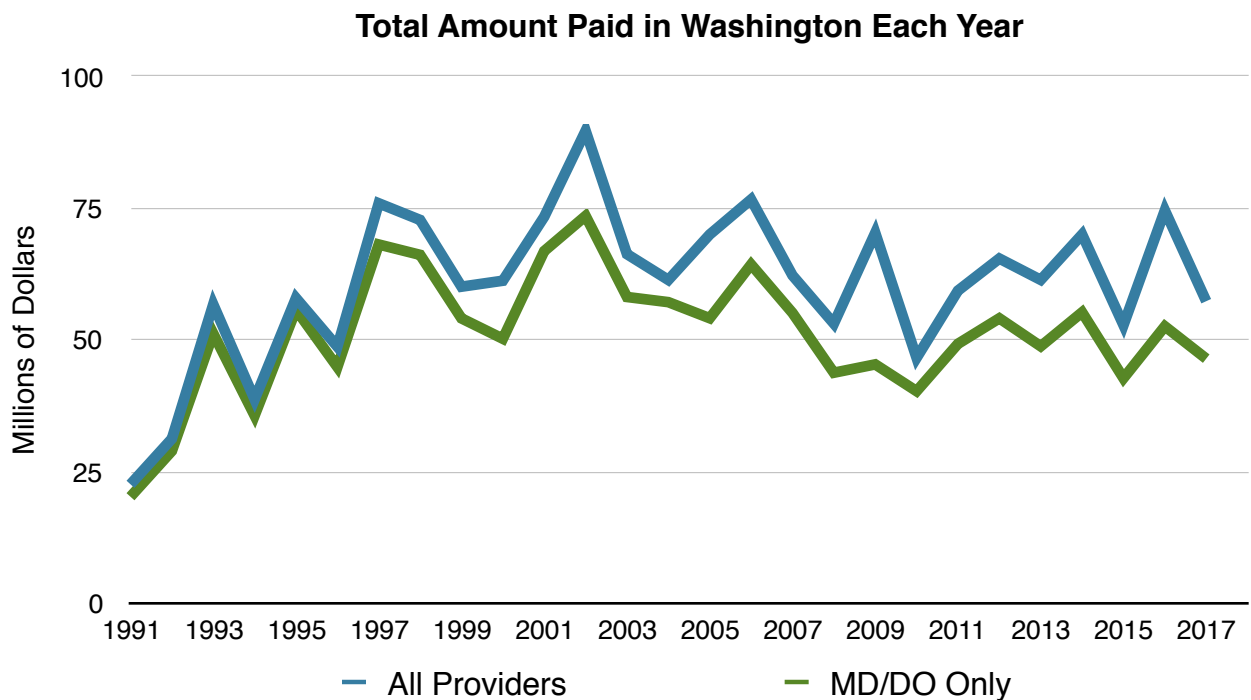


Figure 2: Total amount paid for all medical malpractice claims from 1991-2017 for all health care practitioners and MD/DOs only in Washington.

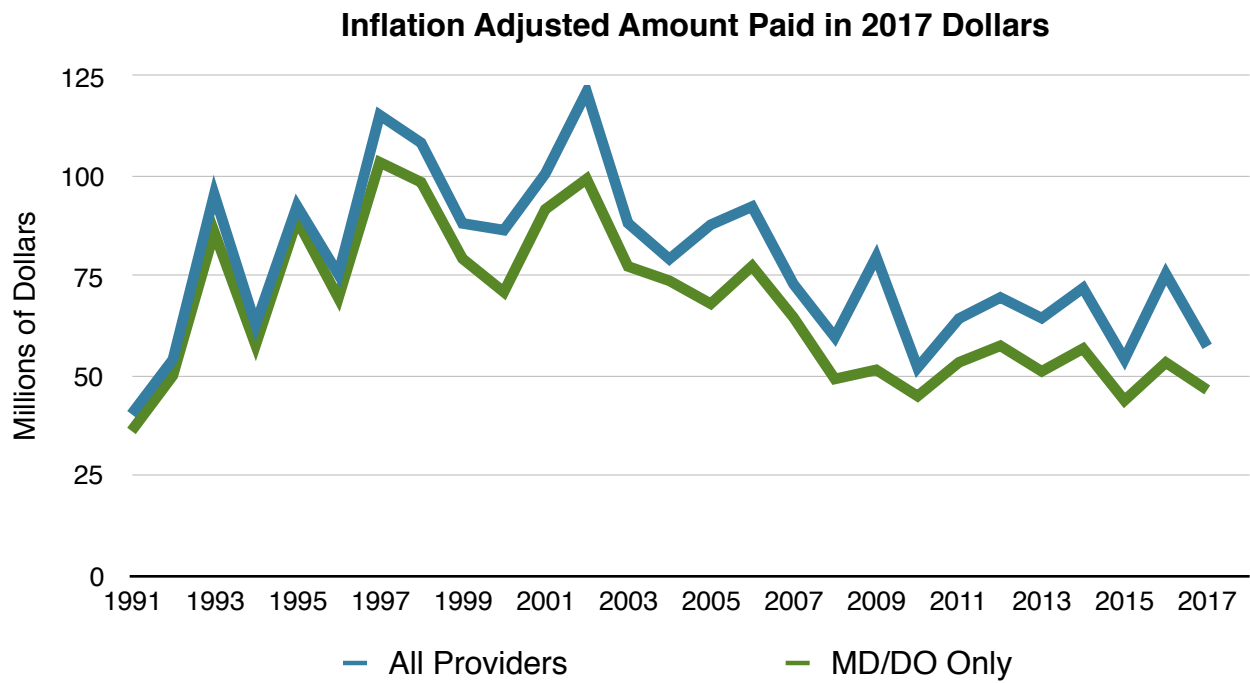


Figure 3: Figure 2 data when adjusted for inflation.