

## INTRODUCTION



## METHODOLOGY

<b>Background Research</b>	I researched the effects of patent trolling in the United States and found examples of companies that had been trolled.
<b>Interviews</b>	In order to answer the question of how to solve patent trolling, I interviewed various professionals in this sector about what needs to be done to solve this issue.
<b>Analysis</b>	To analyze my results, I used qualitative data to compile my interviewees responses.

## DATA

Trolling for Dollars	
Here's a by-the-numbers look at how patent trolls are hamstringing U.S. businesses	
Number of patent-troll lawsuits filed in the U.S. in 2015	<b>3,608</b>
Number of patent suits Google once had to fight simultaneously	<b>100</b>
Number of patents asserted in lawsuits against JPMorgan Chase since 2008	<b>104</b>
Cost, in legal fees alone, to defend the average patent-troll lawsuit if it goes to trial	<b>\$3 million</b>
Amount American companies spend annually on patent-troll litigation and settlement costs	<b>\$29 billion</b>

Sources: Cornell Law Review, LOT Network, company reports

Figure 1: Trolling for dollars (Lotnet, 2017)

**“The precaution we take in order to avoid getting sued is to establish a large patent portfolio in order to try and countersue.”**

-George, an employee at a large tech firm in Silicon Valley

**“While patent trolling is a huge issue, it has decreased in the recent years, and I believe there are more important issues in patent litigation which need to be solved.”**

-Michelle, a patent lawyer in Silicon Valley

**“I don't know what the legal or non-legal solution to patent assertion entities are.”**

-multiple interviewees

## CONCLUSIONS, IMPLICATIONS, AND NEXT STEPS

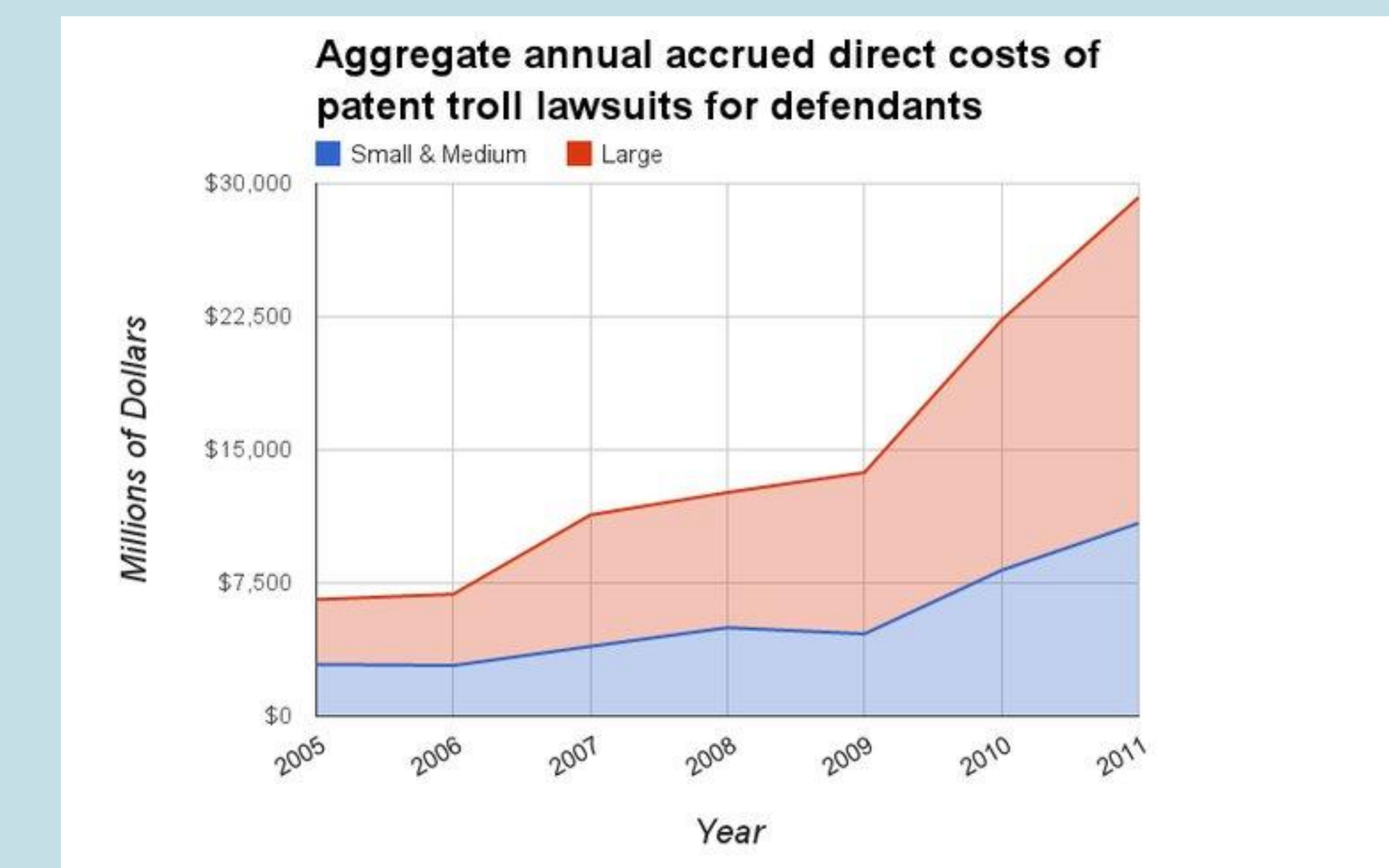


Figure 2: Walter Hickey/BI, data from SSRN

Patent trolling is having an effect on the economy today: it hinders innovation and takes advantage of the United States patent system. But while it is a problem, many people in all sectors of the economy do not have any ideas on how to solve the issue, or do not believe that the issue is as large as the media has made it out to be.

They concluded that while the current solutions to patent trolling aren't perfect, they stop the trolls to the greatest extent possible.

- Current solutions include:
- the current laws and regulations put in place for patent trolls
  - establishing a strong patent portfolio to countersue
  - hiring outside companies to defend a company's patents

It is important to remember that while flawed, the United States still leads the world in one of the strongest patent systems that you cannot find in many other countries.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS / REFERENCES

Special thanks to Rhys Gwyn, my anonymous interviewees, and Ms. McDaniel for helping make this project possible.

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