Pennsylvania Medical Malpractice Summary and Statistics


Population in 2014: 12,787,209

Number of Licensed Physicians¹ in 2014: 55,443

Number of Paid Medical Malpractice claims per 100 physicians in 2014: 1.15

State Rank: 5th

Amount paid for malpractice claims against all practitioners² per capita³ in 2014: $22.53

State Rank: 5th

Amount paid for malpractice claims against all practitioners per capita in 2013: $28.13

State Rank: 3rd

Amount paid for malpractice claims against Physicians only per capita in 2014: $21.09

State Rank: 5th

Amount paid for malpractice claims against Physicians only per capita in 2013: $24.70

State Rank: 2nd

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 Pennsylvania from 2003-2014

Total Number of Paid Medical Malpractice Claims in Pennsylvania Each Year

![Graph showing the total number of paid medical malpractice claims in Pennsylvania from 2003 to 2014. The graph includes data for all paid claims and paid claims for MD/DOs only.](image)

**Figure 1:** Total number of Paid Medical Malpractice Claims for Alaska from 2003-2014 for All Health Care Practitioners Combined as Well as for MD/DOs Only

Total Amount Paid in Pennsylvania Each Year

![Graph showing the total amount paid for all medical malpractice claims in Pennsylvania from 2003 to 2014. The graph includes data for total paid for all and total paid for MD/DOs only.](image)

**Figure 2:** Total Amount Paid for All Medical Malpractice Claims from 2003-2014 for All Health Care Practitioners and MD/DOs Only in Alaska.
Brief summary: As with most of the States in the North Eastern United States, medical malpractice is very expensive in Pennsylvania when compared to the rest of the Country. Pennsylvania does have a tort reform law aimed at limiting punitive damages in medical malpractice cases, but the law doesn't appear to have much impact.

Sources


http://truecostofhealthcare.net/malpractice_statistics/

http://www.npdb.hrsa.gov/resources/npdbstats/npdbStatistics.jsp

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