South Dakota Medical Malpractice Summary and Statistics


Effective 1976

Population in 2014: 853,175

Number of Licensed Physicians¹ in 2014: 3,607

Number of Paid Medical Malpractice claims per 100 physicians in 2014: 0.72

State Rank: 13th

Amount paid for malpractice claims against all practitioners² per capita³ in 2014: $23.78

State Rank: 4th

Amount paid for malpractice claims against all practitioners per capita in 2013: $7.39

State Rank: 31st

Amount paid for malpractice claims against Physicians only per capita in 2014: $22.60

State Rank: 3rd

Amount paid for malpractice claims against Physicians only per capita in 2013: $6.47

State Rank: 29th

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 South Dakota from 2003-2014

Total Number of Paid Medical Malpractice Claims in South Dakota Each Year

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

Total Amount Paid in South Dakota Each Year

Figure 2: Total Amount Paid for All Medical Malpractice Claims from 2003-2014 for All Health Care Practitioners and MD/DOs Only in South Dakota.
Brief summary: The case of South Dakota provides proof of the fact that damage caps for medical malpractice are no guarantee that there won’t be cases that have huge awards. From 2003-2013, the cost of medical malpractice in South Dakota was generally pretty low. In 2014, a few really expensive cases shot South Dakota’s per capita costs up to 3rd in the nation.

Sources


http://truecostofhealthcare.net/malpractice_statistics/

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

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