Georgia Medical Malpractice Summary and Statistics

By David Belk MD

Tort Reform Law: None now. Bill §51-13-1 which capped non-economic damages at $350,000 was declared unconstitutional by state Supreme Court in March 2010.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2012-2016 Average</th>
<th>State Rank</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Annual Per Capita¹ Malpractice costs: All Providers²</td>
<td>$10.58</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annual Per Capita Malpractice costs: MD/DO only</td>
<td>$8.91</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annual Claims per 1 Million Residents</td>
<td>26.97</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annual Claims per 100 Practicing Physicians</td>
<td>0.916</td>
<td>24</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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

Brief summary: From 2012-2016, Georgia’s malpractice costs were only slightly above average for the U.S., though their number of paid claims were a bit lower.

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://truecostofhealthcare.net/malpractice_statistics/
https://www.npdb.hrsa.gov/analysistool/
http://www.atra.org/issues/noneconomic-damages-reform
Figure 1: Total number of paid medical malpractice claims for Georgia 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 Georgia.
Figure 3: Figure 2 data when adjusted for inflation.