Iowa Medical Malpractice Summary and Statistics
By David Belk MD

Tort Reform Law: None

<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>$6.78</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annual Per Capita Malpractice costs: MD/DO only</td>
<td>$6.02</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annual Claims per 1 Million Residents</td>
<td>23.47</td>
<td>38</td>
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<tr>
<td>Annual Claims per 100 Practicing Physicians</td>
<td>0.82</td>
<td>32</td>
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</table>

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

Brief summary: In spite of having no tort reform law to control medical malpractice costs, Iowa has very few paid claims and very low medical malpractice costs per-capita nearly every year since 2004. Iowa currently has among the lowest medical malpractice costs in the U.S.

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/nonconomic-damages-reform
Graphic Summary of Medical Malpractice Incidence and Cost for Iowa from 1991-2017

**Figure 1:** Total number of paid medical malpractice claims for Iowa 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 Iowa.
Figure 3: Figure 2 data when adjusted for inflation.