Minnesota 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>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Annual Per Capita Malpractice costs: All Providers</td>
<td>$6.25</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annual Per Capita Malpractice costs: MD/DO only</td>
<td>$5.70</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annual Claims per 1 Million Residents</td>
<td>13.52</td>
<td>50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Annual Claims per 100 Practicing Physicians</td>
<td>0.30</td>
<td>49</td>
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</table>

Table showing the average amount paid per capita\(^1\) each year in Minnesota 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 Minnesota those years.

Brief summary: In 2015, Minnesota had a spike in their medical malpractice costs due to 10 awards of over $2 million each that year. Apart from this, Minnesota has had among the lowest medical malpractice costs in the U.S. for over a decade in spite of not having any sort of tort reform aimed at controlling these costs.

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 Minnesota 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 Minnesota.
Figure 3: Figure 2 data when adjusted for inflation.