

Table 1: Pennsylvania Medical Malpractice Case Filings: 2000 - 2003

	No. of Filings in 2000	No. of Filings in 2001	No. of Filings in 2002	No. of Filings in 2003	% change in 2003 from 2000 – 2002 average
Adams	6	5	4	8	60.0
Allegheny	392	372	427	272	-31.5
Armstrong	5	3	5	2	-53.8
Beaver	29	18	23	17	-27.1
Bedford	4	0	1	5	200.0
Berks	44	37	31	19	-49.1
Blair	25	32	18	21	-16.0
Bradford	8	4	8	6	-10.0
Bucks	78	42	52	45	-21.5
Butler	22	29	26	16	-37.7
Cambria	28	26	30	32	14.3
Cameron/Elk	5	3	4	2	-50.0
Carbon	2	5	7	12	157.1
Centre	11	17	14	11	-21.4
Chester	46	37	41	69	66.9
Clarion	2	1	7	5	50.0
Clearfield	6	14	6	4	-53.8
Clinton	3	1	3	1	-57.1
Columbia	4	3	7	7	50.0
Crawford	6	1	1	2	-25.0
Cumberland	22	21	24	27	20.9
Dauphin	72	86	84	46	-43.0
Delaware	69	86	77	82	6.0
Erie	46	56	59	44	-18.0
Fayette	22	16	16	13	-27.8
Franklin/Fulton	20	10	8	9	-28.9
Warren / Forest	2	5	4	2	-45.5
Greene	1	1	2	1	-25.0
Huntingdon	6	8	8	5	-31.8
Indiana	1	2	4	4	71.4
Jefferson	6	3	4	4	-7.7
Lackawanna	99	88	70	35	-59.1
Lancaster	11	3	11	9	8.0
Lawrence	2	6	5	4	-7.7
Lebanon	9	11	6	7	-19.2
Lehigh	82	79	59	105	43.2
Luzerne	43	32	29	39	12.5
Lycoming	16	23	16	15	-18.2
McKean	5	1	5	0	-100.0
Mercer	46	42	41	41	-4.7
Mifflin	3	3	3	4	33.3
Monroe	8	14	10	5	-53.1
Montgomery	24	40	32	151	371.9
Montour	11	9	9	23	137.9
Northampton	64	65	89	47	-35.3
Northumberland	12	11	5	4	-57.1
Perry/Juniata	0	0	0	0	0.0
Philadelphia	1,085	1,162	1,365	577	-52.1
Pike	0	0	1	0	-100
Potter	4	1	5	6	80.0

	No. of Filings in 2000	No. of Filings in 2001	No. of Filings in 2002	No. of Filings in 2003	% change from 2000 – 2002 average
Schuylkill	18	35	36	13	-56.2
Snyder/Union	9	4	8	6	-14.3
Somerset	6	6	11	8	4.3
Sullivan/Wyoming	1	8	4	2	-53.8
Susquehanna	0	0	0	0	0.0
Tioga	1	4	3	0	-100.0
Venango	7	6	10	5	-34.8
Washington	8	11	3	4	-45.5
Wayne	2	3	3	3	12.5
Westmoreland	59	63	65	49	-21.4
York	58	40	48	34	-30.1
State Total	2,686	2,714	2,957	1,989	-28.6

Notes:

► In Delaware County, the 2003 year figure (82) refers to January 1 through November 24, 2003. Update pending. Survey updates and corrections will be posted to the website of the Unified Judicial System of Pennsylvania at: www.courts.state.pa.us.

► At the time the survey was initiated, many judicial districts did not have a docket identifier to distinguish medical malpractice cases from other civil actions. As a result, various methods were used to compile the data, including case-by-case review of the files in the office of the Prothonotary. To facilitate complete and accurate data collection in future surveys, the Chief Justice has directed that each district institute a procedure for prospectively tracking med mal cases, effective January 2004.

► A filing refers to the commencement of a civil action by complaint or praecipe for writ of summons. Included in the filing figures are cases transferred from one judicial district to another pursuant to Pa.R.C.P. 1006(a.1).

► "Percent change in 2003 from 2000 - 2002 average" was computed as follows: filing figures for the three-year period 2000 to 2002 were averaged and subtracted from the 2003 filing figure. The difference was then divided by the 2000 - 2002 average. The resulting proportion was multiplied by 100 to convert it to a percentage.

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