



# **MONTANA MEDICAL LEGAL PANEL**

**2024 ANNUAL REPORT**

**As Of January 20, 2025**

**MONTANA MEDICAL MALPRACTICE CLAIMS,  
HEARINGS, LAWSUITS AND JURY TRIALS**

**MONTANA MEDICAL LEGAL PANEL  
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# MONTANA MEDICAL LEGAL PANEL

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*Note: Because of pending actions some totals are unavailable.*

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## **MONTANA MEDICAL LEGAL PANEL**

<p><b>PROVIDERS IN CLAIMS, HEARINGS, LAWSUITS AND JURY TRIALS</b></p>
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## MONTANA MEDICAL LEGAL PANEL REPORT

### MONTANA PROVIDERS IN MEDICAL MALPRACTICE CLAIMS, LAWSUITS AND JURY TRIALS

#### MONTANA HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS

Panel Claim Filing Year	In Claims Filed	In Claims Abandoned, Settled Or Special Ruling Without A Panel Hearing	In Claims With A Hearing	In Claims Abandoned Or Settled After A Hearing Prior To A Lawsuit	In Lawsuits After The Panel	In Claims Abandoned Or Settled After A Lawsuit & Prior To A Trial	In Lawsuits Ending In Summary Judgment Or Dismissal	In Jury Trials	In Trials With Jury Verdicts And Verdict Results	
									In Favor Of Provider	In Favor Of Claimant
2014	192	61	131	51	54	3	1	2	2	0
2015	175	42	133	35	48	5	3	0	0	0
2016	190	58	131	48	64	3	2	0	0	0
2017	220	48	172	33	53	3	0	0	0	0
2018	242	83	159	47	45	4	3	1	1	0
2019	237	73	161	40	47	0	3	0	0	0
2020	209	52	157	22	30	3	0	0	0	0
2021	221	45	176	9	19	0	0	0	0	0
2022	200	51	149	14	32	4	3	0	0	0
2023	257	82	163	10	14	1	0	0	0	0
2024	218	14	82	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,361</b>	<b>609</b>	<b>1,614</b>	<b>309</b>	<b>406</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>ANNUAL AVERAGE</b>	<b>215</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>146.7</b>	<b>28.1</b>	<b>36.9</b>	<b>2.4</b>	<b>1.4</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>0.0</b>

**Note: Special Ruling involves claims or individual health care providers that are dismissed from MMLP level where no party prevails.**

It takes approximately five years from a starting point until the rate of malpractice claims “mature” or are fully-reported from an incident year given that Montana has a three year “discovery” statue of limitations. *Some actions are still pending.*

## MONTANA MEDICAL LEGAL PANEL REPORT

### MONTANA PHYSICIANS IN MEDICAL MALPRACTICE CLAIMS, LAWSUITS AND JURY TRIALS

#### MONTANA PHYSICIANS

Panel Claim Filing Year	In Claims Filed	In Claims Abandoned, Settled Or Special Ruling Without A Panel Hearing	In Claims With A Hearing	In Claims Abandoned Or Settled After A Hearing Prior To A Lawsuit	In Lawsuits After The Panel	In Claims Abandoned Or Settled After A Lawsuit & Prior To A Trial	In Lawsuits Ending In Summary Judgment Or Dismissal	In Jury Trials	In Trials With Jury Verdicts And Verdict Results	
									In Favor Of Physician	In Favor Of Claimant
2014	121	42	79	32	34	2	1	2	2	0
2015	115	27	88	27	23	3	1	0	0	0
2016	115	33	81	30	38	3	2	0	0	0
2017	131	28	103	24	28	2	0	0	0	0
2018	144	47	97	29	25	3	1	0	0	0
2019	131	45	84	19	23	0	1	0	0	0
2020	109	23	86	12	14	1	0	0	0	0
2021	102	22	80	6	10	0	0	0	0	0
2022	120	30	90	10	21	2	3	0	0	0
2023	159	57	94	5	7	0	0	0	0	0
2024	114	5	45	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,361</b>	<b>359</b>	<b>927</b>	<b>194</b>	<b>223</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>ANNUAL AVERAGE</b>	<b>124</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>84.3</b>	<b>17.6</b>	<b>20.3</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>0.8</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>0.0</b>

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## MONTANA MEDICAL LEGAL PANEL REPORT

### MONTANA HOSPITALS IN MEDICAL MALPRACTICE CLAIMS, LAWSUITS AND JURY TRIALS

#### MONTANA HOSPITALS

Panel Claim Filing Year	In Claims Filed	In Claims Abandoned, Settled Or Special Ruling Without A Panel Hearing	In Claims With A Hearing	In Claims Abandoned Or Settled After A Hearing Prior To A Lawsuit	In Lawsuits After The Panel	In Claims Abandoned Or Settled After A Lawsuit & Prior To A Trial	In Lawsuits Ending In Summary Judgment Or Dismissal	In Jury Trials	In Trials With Jury Verdicts And Verdict Results	
									In Favor Of Hospital	In Favor Of Claimant
2014	59	16	43	15	18	1	0	0	0	0
2015	41	7	34	7	18	2	2	0	0	0
2016	56	18	38	14	20	0	0	0	0	0
2017	64	15	49	9	16	1	0	0	0	0
2018	69	24	45	14	16	1	1	0	0	0
2019	77	20	56	16	20	0	2	0	0	0
2020	76	19	57	6	14	2	0	0	0	0
2021	99	15	84	2	7	0	0	0	0	0
2022	65	17	48	3	11	2	0	0	0	0
2023	78	18	56	3	4	0	0	0	0	0
2024	80	4	27	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>764</b>	<b>173</b>	<b>537</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>ANNUAL AVERAGE</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>48.8</b>	<b>8.1</b>	<b>13.1</b>	<b>0.8</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>

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## MONTANA MEDICAL LEGAL PANEL REPORT

### MONTANA FACILITIES IN MEDICAL MALPRACTICE CLAIMS, LAWSUITS AND JURY TRIALS

#### MONTANA FACILITIES

Panel Claim Filing Year	In Claims Filed	In Claims Abandoned, Settled Or Special Ruling Without A Panel Hearing	In Claims With A Hearing	In Claims Abandoned Or Settled After A Hearing Prior To A Lawsuit	In Lawsuits After The Panel	In Claims Abandoned Or Settled After A Lawsuit & Prior To A Trial	In Lawsuits Ending In Summary Judgment Or Dismissal	In Jury Trials	In Trials With Jury Verdicts And Verdict Results	
									In Favor Of Facility	In Favor Of Claimant
2014	5	1	4	2	2	0	0	0	0	0
2015	4	0	4	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
2016	6	3	3	0	4	0	0	0	0	0
2017	16	5	11	0	5	0	0	0	0	0
2018	21	8	13	2	3	0	1	0	0	0
2019	17	4	13	3	1	0	0	0	0	0
2020	16	8	8	1	2	0	0	0	0	0
2021	12	5	7	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
2022	10	2	8	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
2023	14	4	10	2	3	1	0	0	0	0
2024	9	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>ANNUAL AVERAGE</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>7.6</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>2.3</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>

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## MONTANA MEDICAL LEGAL PANEL REPORT

### MONTANA DENTISTS IN MEDICAL MALPRACTICE CLAIMS, LAWSUITS AND JURY TRIALS

#### MONTANA DENTISTS

Panel Claim Filing Year	In Claims Filed	In Claims Abandoned, Settled Or Special Ruling Without A Panel Hearing	In Claims With A Hearing	In Claims Abandoned Or Settled After A Hearing Prior To A Lawsuit	In Lawsuits After The Panel	In Claims Abandoned Or Settled After A Lawsuit & Prior To A Trial	In Lawsuits Ending In Summary Judgment Or Dismissal	In Jury Trials	In Trials With Jury Verdicts And Verdict Results	
									In Favor Of Dentist	In Favor Of Claimant
2014	5	2	3	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
2015	9	3	6	1	3	0	0	0	0	0
2016	9	3	6	2	2	0	0	0	0	0
2017	6	0	6	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
2018	6	4	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
2019	8	4	4	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
2020	4	0	4	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
2021	7	3	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
2022	5	2	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2023	4	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2024	11	4	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>ANNUAL AVERAGE</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4.2</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>

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**MONTANA MEDICAL LEGAL PANEL REPORT**

**MONTANA PODIATRISTS IN MEDICAL MALPRACTICE CLAIMS, LAWSUITS AND JURY TRIALS**

**MONTANA PODIATRISTS**

Panel Claim Filing Year	In Claims Filed	In Claims Abandoned, Settled Or Special Ruling Without A Panel Hearing	In Claims With A Hearing	In Claims Abandoned Or Settled After A Hearing Prior To A Lawsuit	In Lawsuits After The Panel	In Claims Abandoned Or Settled After A Lawsuit & Prior To A Trial	In Lawsuits Ending In Summary Judgment Or Dismissal	In Jury Trials	In Trials With Jury Verdicts And Verdict Results	
									In Favor Of Podiatrist	In Favor Of Claimant
2014	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2015	6	5	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
2016	4	1	3	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
2017	3	0	3	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
2018	2	0	2	0	1	0	0	1	1	0
2019	4	0	4	1	2	0	0	0	0	0
2020	4	2	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
2021	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2022	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2023	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2024	4	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>ANNUAL AVERAGE</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>0.0</b>

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## **MONTANA MEDICAL LEGAL PANEL**

<p><b>NUMBER &amp; RATE OF MEDICAL MALPRACTICE CLAIMS FILED AT THE PANEL</b></p>
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<b>MONTANA MEDICAL LEGAL PANEL</b>				
<b>NUMBER AND RATE OF FILED MEDICAL MALPRACTICE CLAIMS</b>				
<b>ANNUAL DATA</b>				
<b>Panel Claim Filing Year</b>	<b>Number Of Claims Filed At The Panel</b>	<b>Number Of Hearings</b>	<b>Number Of Health Care Providers*</b>	<b>Number Of Claims As A Percentage Of Montana Health Care Providers</b>
1995	150	106	2,122	7.1%
1996	139	128	2,143	6.5%
1997	143	110	2,148	6.7%
1998	146	131	2,189	6.7%
1999	149	134	2,230	6.7%
2000	145	141	2,272	6.4%
2001	139	112	2,416	5.8%
2002	149	124	2,414	6.2%
2003	170	132	2,547	6.7%
2004	153	127	2,558	6.0%
2005	175	162	2,623	6.7%
2006	130	125	2,618	5.0%
2007	136	107	2,738	5.0%
2008	110	98	2,783	4.0%
2009	122	93	2,905	4.2%
2010	100	98	3,015	3.3%
2011	94	78	3,215	2.9%
2012	108	80	3,215	3.4%
2013	92	75	3,367	2.7%
2014	118	77	3,480	3.4%
2015	113	99	3,446	3.3%
2016	123	90	3,689	3.3%
2017	133	110	3,844	3.5%
2018	150	129	4,041	3.7%
2019	146	96	4,011	3.6%
2020	118	111	4,344	2.7%
2021	140	137	4,808	2.9%
2022	108	92	4,640	2.3%
2023	143	120	5,506	2.6%
2024	137	121	6,808	2.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,979</b>	<b>3,343</b>		

\*Montana Health Care Providers include: Physicians, Podiatrists, Dentists, Facilities and Hospitals.