

Lead

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Verdict & Settlement Report EXCLUSIVE EDITION

Verdicts and Settlements in Lead-Poisoning Cases

Covering verdicts from:
September 1991 to September 2001

Settlements from:
January 1998 to September 2001

*Verdict & Settlement Report
Special Report*

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Special Report October 2001

Verdicts

This compilation of verdicts in lead-poisoning cases is primarily from trial reports in **Mealey's Litigation Report: Lead**, which began publication in October 1991. The list includes previously unreported trials and is a substantial listing of trials nationwide in recent years.

The state and case names are listed at the left, and the dollar amount of each jury award or bench award is listed to the right for easy reference. The awards do not necessarily reflect the ultimate recovery, which can be increased by the addition of interest and attorney's fees, or reduced or vacated in post-trial action. A summary of each case is included, as is the date the trial or post-trial or appellate decisions were reported in Mealey's.

Statistics

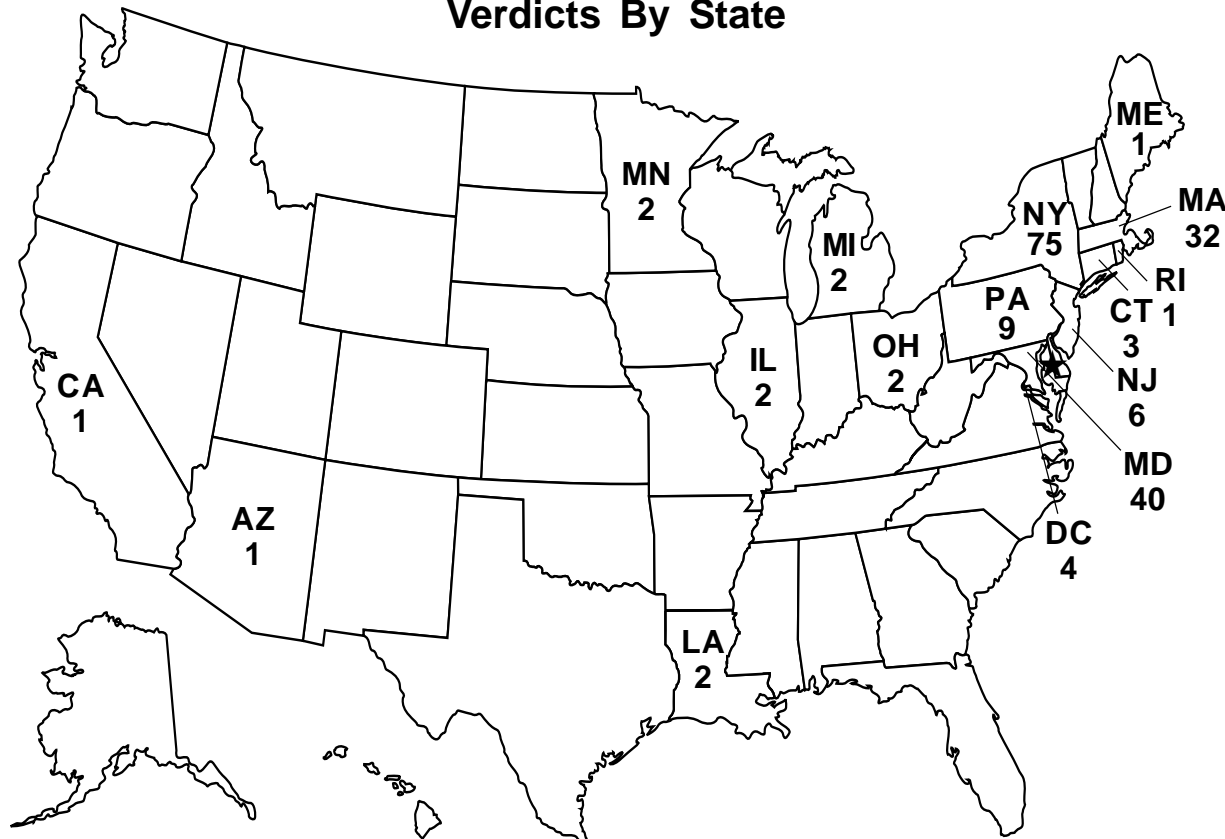
There were 184 separate verdicts reported in actions involving minor plaintiffs against property interests. The total does not include ten default judgments, which are listed separately at the end of the verdicts section. The total also does not include an action against a heat gun manufacturer, a suit against lead paint manufacturers, a suit against a Massachusetts day care center, two suits by Pennsylvania bridge dealers or a South Carolina suit filed by bolt cutters. Those cases are indicated with an *.

New York continues to report the most trials, with 75 verdicts, followed by Maryland and Massachusetts, with 40 and 32 verdicts respectively.

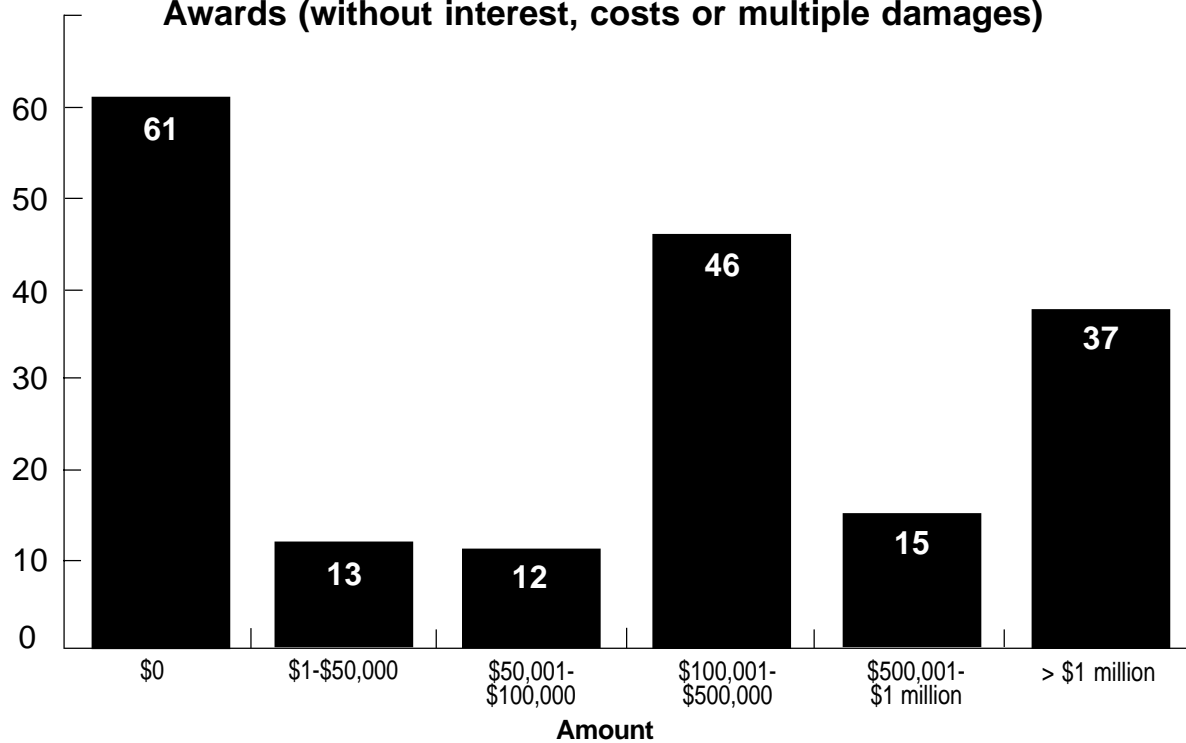
Of the 38 new trials reported since the previous verdict/settlement report in October 1999, 16 resulted in verdicts of more than \$1 million. The largest award was one of \$50 million in a jury verdict against the City of New York and two building maintenance companies, which were charged with negligence and held liable for the brain damage suffered by a lead-poisoned boy. The child's measured blood-lead level persistently tested above 40 micrograms per deciliter ($\mu\text{g}/\text{dl}$) from 1984 through 1990, several times tested above 60 $\mu\text{g}/\text{dl}$ in that period and peaked at a measurement of 87 $\mu\text{g}/\text{dl}$.

Of the 184 verdicts, a total of 24 were against a housing authority, a housing development agency or a city, with 15 of those judgments in suits against the New York City Housing Authority or the City of New York. Six defense verdicts were reached in favor of the municipal defendants, including three for the city or housing authority of New York.

Verdicts By State



Awards (without interest, costs or multiple damages)



This cumulative list is updated periodically. IF YOU HAVE INFORMATION ON UN-REPORTED TRIALS, PLEASE CALL 1-800-MEALEYS.