IADC

50 State Product Liability Quick Reference Guide

including Puerto Rico and D.C.

International Association of Defense Counsel Products Liability Committee

State	Statute of Limitation 1	Product Statute of Repose ₁	COA for Strict Liability Available	Negligence Standard $_2$	Independent Cause of Action for Spoliation 3	Punitive Damages ₄
Alabama	2 Years	None	Yes	Pure Contributory	Yes, but only as to third parties	Yes, greater of 3 times compensatory or 1.5 million for personal injury. No cap for wrongful death
Alaska	2 Years Personal Injury 4 Years Property Damage	None	Yes	Pure Comparative	No	Yes, greater of three times compensatory damages or 500k
Arizona	2 Years	None	Yes	Comparative	No	Yes, no cap on amount but subject to review by appellate court
Arkansas	3 Years	None	Yes	Modified Comparative Fault	No	Yes
California	2 Years Personal Injury 4 Years Property Damage	None	Yes	Comparative	No	Yes
Colorado	2 Years	7 Years	Yes	Comparative	No	Yes
Connecticut	3 Years	10 Years	Yes	Comparative	Yes	Yes, limited to twice compensatory
Delaware	2 Years	None	No	Modified Comparative	No	Yes
District of Columbia	3 Years	None	Yes	Contributory Negligence	Yes	Yes
Florida	4 Years	10 Years	Yes	Comparative	No	Yes, limited to 3 times compensatory unless willful or wanton act
Georgia	2 Years Personal Injury 4 Years Property Damage	10 Years	Yes	Modified Comparative	No	Yes
Hawaii	2 Years	No	Yes	Comparative	No	Yes
Idaho	2 Years	10 Years	Yes	Modified Comparative	Yes, for intentional spoliation	Yes, limited to the greater of \$250,000or 3x's compensatory damages
Illinois	2 Years	12 Years	Yes	Modified Comparative	No	Yes
Indiana	2 Years	10 Years	Yes	Modified Comparative	Yes	Yes, not available in wrongful death cases
lowa	2 Years Personal Injury 5 Years Property Damage	15 Years	No	Modified Comparative	No	Yes
Kansas	2 Years	Yes	Yes	Modified Comparative	Yes	Yes
Kentucky	1 Year Personal Injury 2 Years Wrongful Death	No	Yes	Comparative	No	Yes
Louisiana	1 Year	None	Yes	Pure Comparative	Yes	No, generally not available in Products Liability Actions
Maine	6 Years	6 Years	Yes	Comparative	No	Yes
Maryland	3 Years	20 Years	Yes	Contributory	No	Yes
Massachusetts	3 Years	None	No	Modified Comparative	No	Yes
Michigan	3 Years	6 Years	No	Comparative	No	No
Minnesota	4 Years Strict Liability 6 Years Negligence 3 Years Wrongful Death	10 Years only for products improving property	Yes	Modified Comparative	No	Yes
Mississippi	3 Years	None	No	Comparative	No	Yes
Missouri	5 Years 3 Years for Death Claims	No	Yes	Comparative	No	Yes
Montana	3 Years	No	Yes	Contributory	Yes	Yes
Nebraska	4 Years	10 Years	Yes	Modified Comparative	No	No
Nevada	2 Years	None	Yes	Modified Comparative	No	Yes
New Hampshire	3 Years	None	Yes	Modified Comparative	No	No, however, Enhanced Compensatory Damages are allowed in limited cases
New Jersey	2 Years	10 Years for damages for injury from unsafe conditions of improvements to real property	Yes	Modified Comparative	Yes, for fraudulent concealment	Yes, limited to five times the liability of the defendant for compensatory damages or \$350,000, whichever is greater.

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New Mexico	3 Years	10 Years for construction products only	Yes	Comparative	Yes	Yes
New York	3 Years	None	Yes	Comparative	No	Yes
North Carolina	3 Years	12 Years	No	Contributory	No	Yes, limited to the greater of three times compensatory damages or \$250,000
North Dakota	6 Years	None	Yes	Comparative	No	Yes, limited to twice compensatory or \$250,000, whichever is greater
Ohio	2 Years	10 Years	Yes	Contributory	Yes	Yes
Oklahoma	2 Years	None	Yes	Modified Comparative (not available for strict liability claims only)	No	Yes, subject to statutory caps/three categories
Oregon	2 Years 3 Years if causes death	10 Years	Yes	Modified Comparative	Courts are split	Yes
Pennsylvania	2 Years	12 Years	Yes	Modified Comparative	No	Yes
Puerto Rico	1 Year	None	Yes	Pure Comparative	No	No
Rhode Island	3 Years Personal Injury 10 Years Property Damage	10 Years	Yes	Comparative	No	Yes
South Carolina	3 Years	None	Yes	Modified Comparative	No	Yes, for negligence causes of action
South Dakota	3 Years	None	Yes	Contributory	No	Yes
Tennessee	1 Year	10 Years	Yes	Modified Comparative	No	Yes, limited to the greater of twice compensatory or \$500,000
Texas	2 Years	15 Years	Yes	Modified Comparative	No	Yes
Utah	2 Years	None	Yes	Modified Comparative	No	Yes
Vermont	3 Years	20 Years as to noxious agents with latent effect only	Yes	Comparative	No	Yes
Virginia	2 Years 5 Years Property Damage	5 Years	No	Contributory	No	Yes, \$350,000 cap
Washington	3 Years	No, but presumptive "useful safe life" of 12 years	Yes	Comparative	No	No
West Virginia	2 Years	None	Yes	Modified Comparative	Yes	Yes
Wisconsin	3 Years	15 Years with exceptions for latent disease	Yes	Comparative	No	Yes, twice comparative with a \$200,000 cap, whichever is greater
Wyoming	4 Years 2 Years if causes death	None	Yes	Comparative	No	Yes

About the International Association of Defense Counsel

The International Association of Defense Counsel is the oldest international association of attorneys representing corporations and insurers. Its activities benefit the approximately 2,500 invitation-only, peer-reviewed members from 40 countries and their clients through networking, educational, and professional opportunities, as well as benefiting the civil justice system and the legal profession. The IADC takes a leadership role in many areas of legal reform and professional development.

Footnotes

- 1. With regard to Statutes of Limitations and Repose, significant exceptions may apply for certain products, theories of warranty and strict liability, damages, and wrongful death actions. Please check the appropriate state statutes.
- 2. "Modified Comparative" in most states means comparative negligence will apply unless plaintiff is more than 50% at fault for damages.
- 3. In states where no independent cause of action for spoliation is recognized, nearly all allow for an adverse presumption.
- 4. In states where punitive damages are allowed, nearly all have exceptions and modified standards for particular causes of action. Check appropriate state statutes.





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