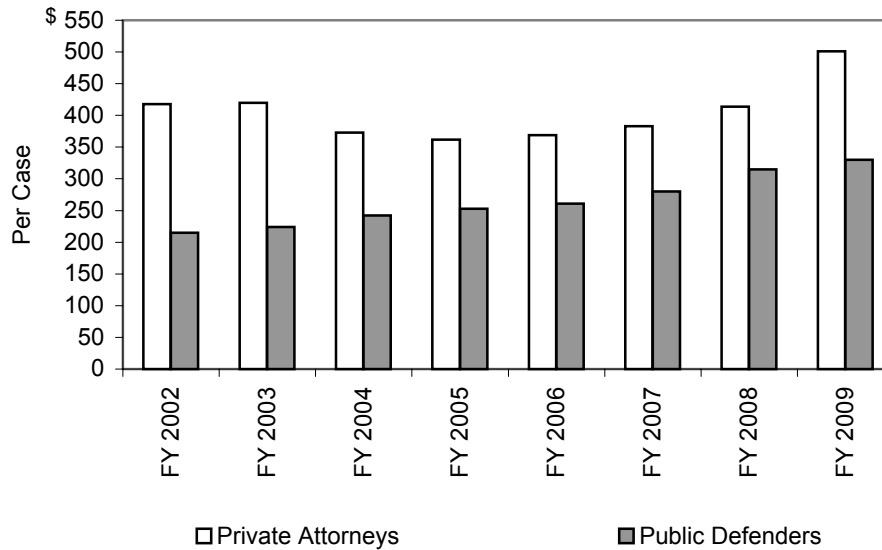


AVERAGE CASE COSTS FOR INDIGENT DEFENSE IN IOWA



- It is less costly for public defenders to handle cases than private attorneys. The more serious and time-consuming cases are handled by the Office of the State Public Defender.
- The average cost per case for private attorneys increased in FY 2007 and FY 2008 due to a statutory increase in reimbursement rates on an hourly basis.

Fiscal Year	Cost Per Case	
	Private Attorney	Public Defender
2002	\$ 418	\$ 215
2003	420	224
2004	373	242
2005	362	253
2006	369	261
2007	383	280
2008	404	313
2009	501	330

Notes:

- 1) All costs in the above table are averages.
- 2) The average for private attorneys includes juvenile cases and payments made to private nonprofit organizations at a flat rate per case. Without these contracts, the average cost per claim for private attorneys would be \$554.
- 3) The average cost for private attorneys is a cost per claim. The average cost for public defender is a cost per case.
- 4) The average cost for public defender cases is based on the entire operating budget.

Source: Office of the State Public Defender

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