



# **Medical malpractice premiums in NYS and sample costs elsewhere in the US**

**A summary of our review**

**Presented by Geoff Taylor,  
Senior VP, Corporate Communications & Public Policy**



## Who we are

- **Service area covers a large portion of Upstate New York**
- **1.8 million members**
- **18,000 participating physicians**
- **61,000 participating pharmacies**
- **130 participating hospitals**
- **About 3,655 employees**
- **We are a not-for-profit, mission-based health plan dedicated to serving our local communities**

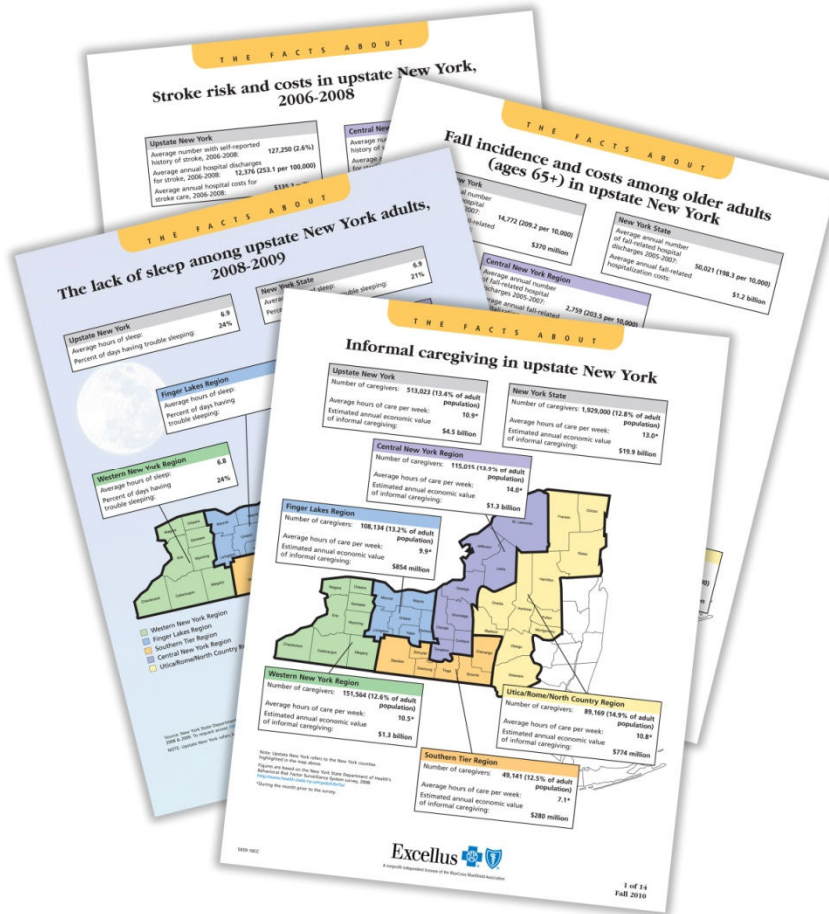


## Our orientation...

- **We have affiliate businesses under our holding company that provide direct patient health care services in our communities as well.**
- **Because of our nearly eight decades as a locally-based company and the mix of services we offer...**
- **We believe and act to support the notion that health care financing and health care delivery are two sides of the same coin.**



# A part of what we do is research and education on relevant health care issues



Our findings are frequently shared with the public in the form of “fact sheets” that we post on our web site.

They can be found at: [www.Excellus.com](http://www.Excellus.com) in the news and information section.

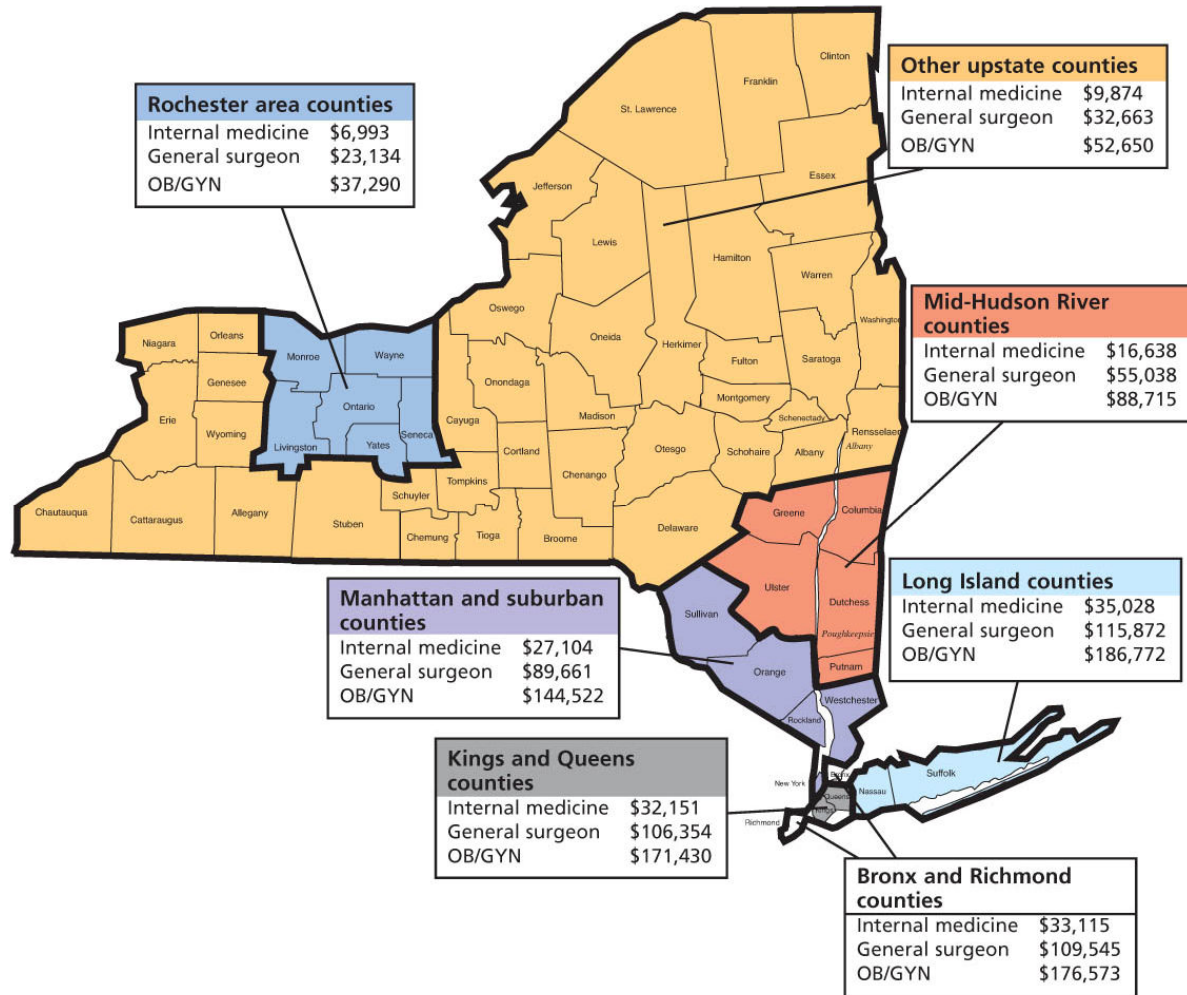


## Medical malpractice was one of those topics

- **Because much attention is focused on the topic of medical malpractice costs, we wanted to know and to share the basics with our communities:**
  1. How much does medical malpractice coverage cost?
  2. Does it vary within the state? If so, by how much?
  3. What does it cost in other states?
  4. Is there a definitive study that shows the cost impact of medical malpractice and defensive medicine?
- **Note of caution: the last time we looked was prior to changes in NYS rates made in August 2011**



# Standard medical malpractice premium rates in NYS (July 2010-June 2011)

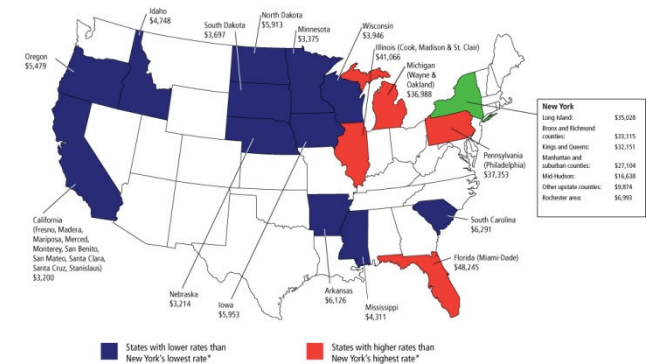


**Variations can be as much as 300% between the lowest-cost region and the highest-cost region.**



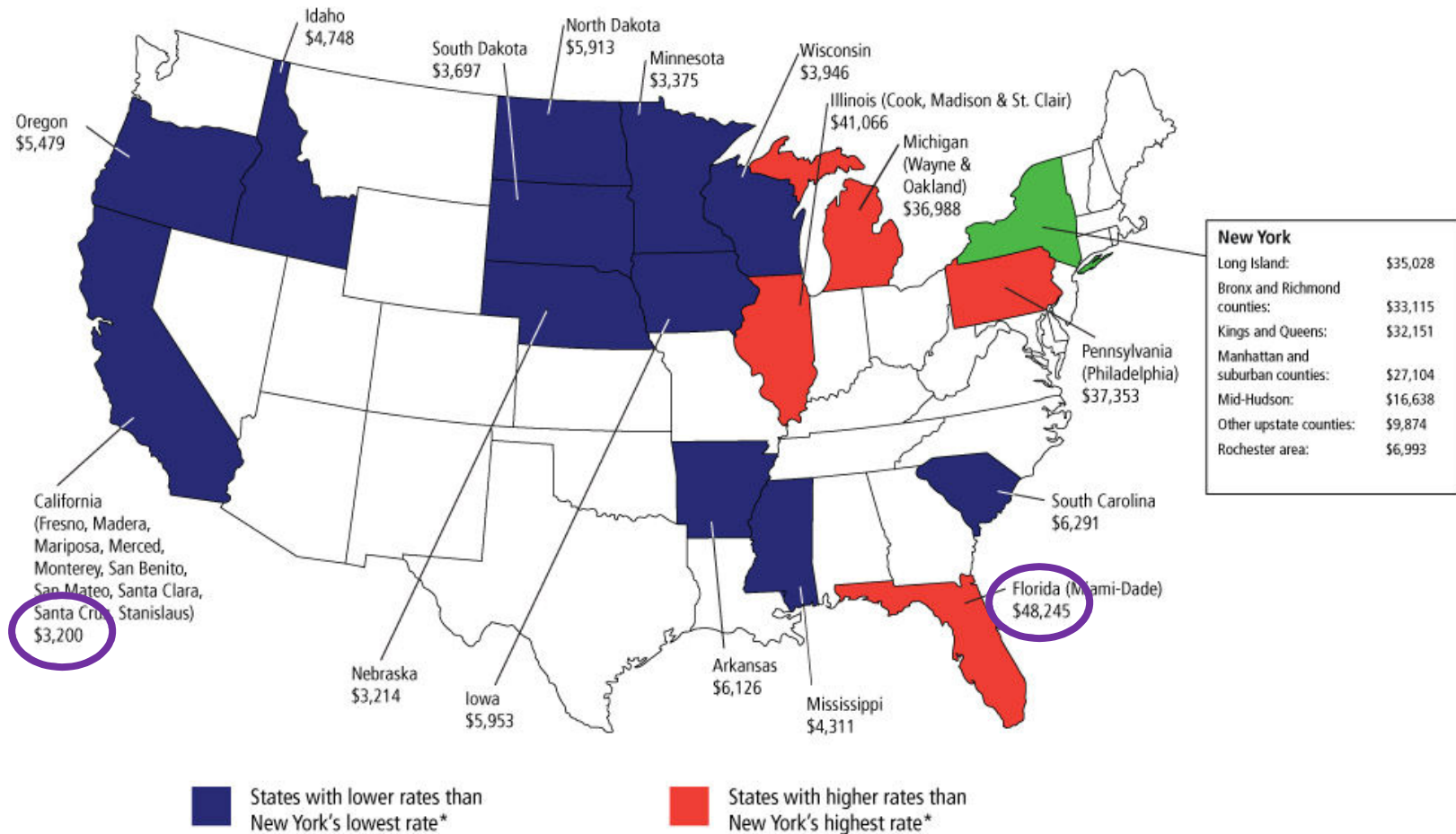
# Getting an idea on medical malpractice coverage premiums paid in other states

- **Next 3 slides look at malpractice premiums for three physician practices across the country, relating them to lowest and highest standard rates in NYS**
- **Samples outside of NYS are based on a review of Medical Liability Monitor survey**
- **Blue means: states where there were rates LOWER than the lowest standard rate in NYS**
- **Red means: states where there were rates HIGHER than the highest standard rate in NYS**





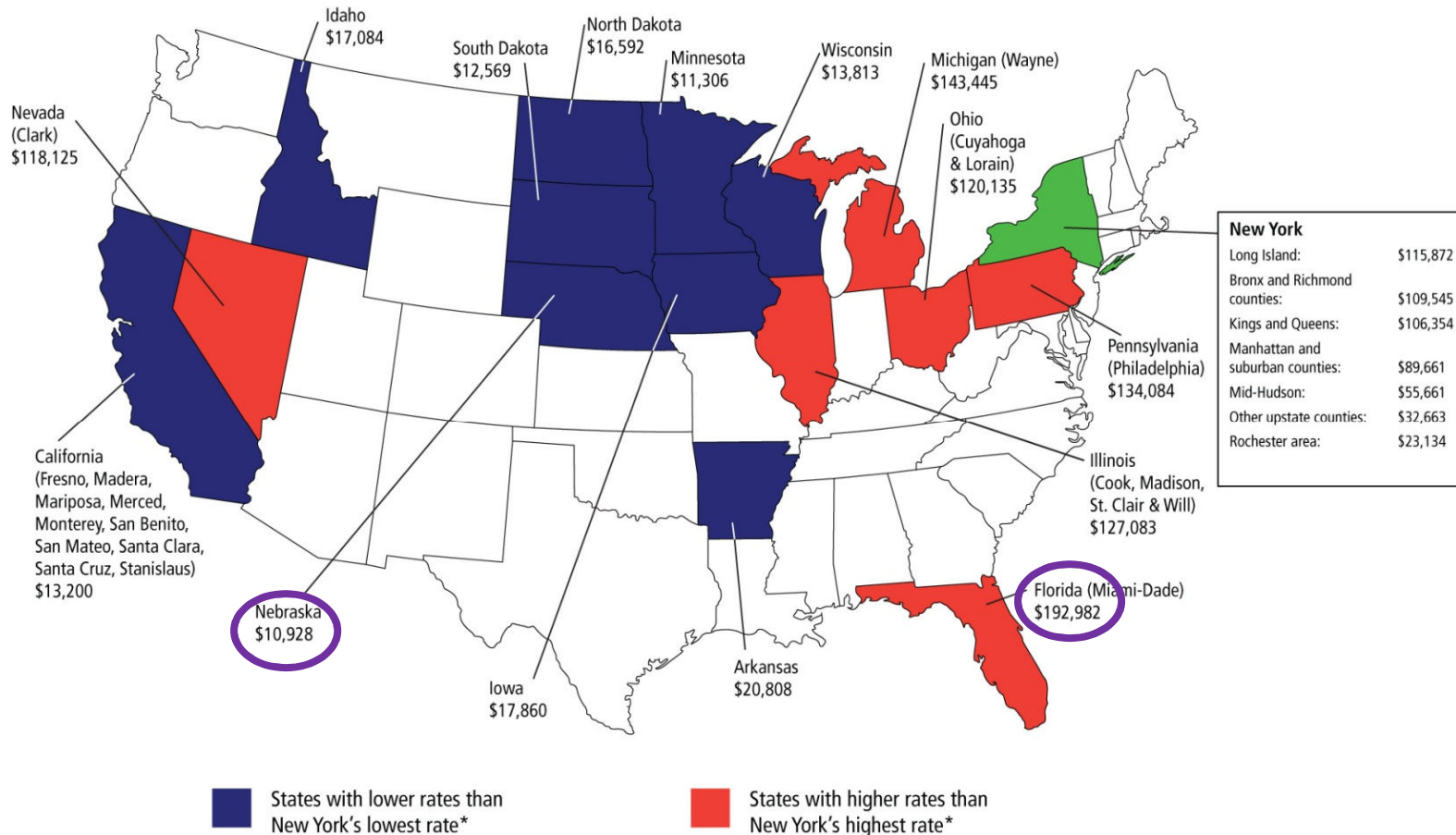
# Internal Medicine - Sample medical malpractice rates, 2010





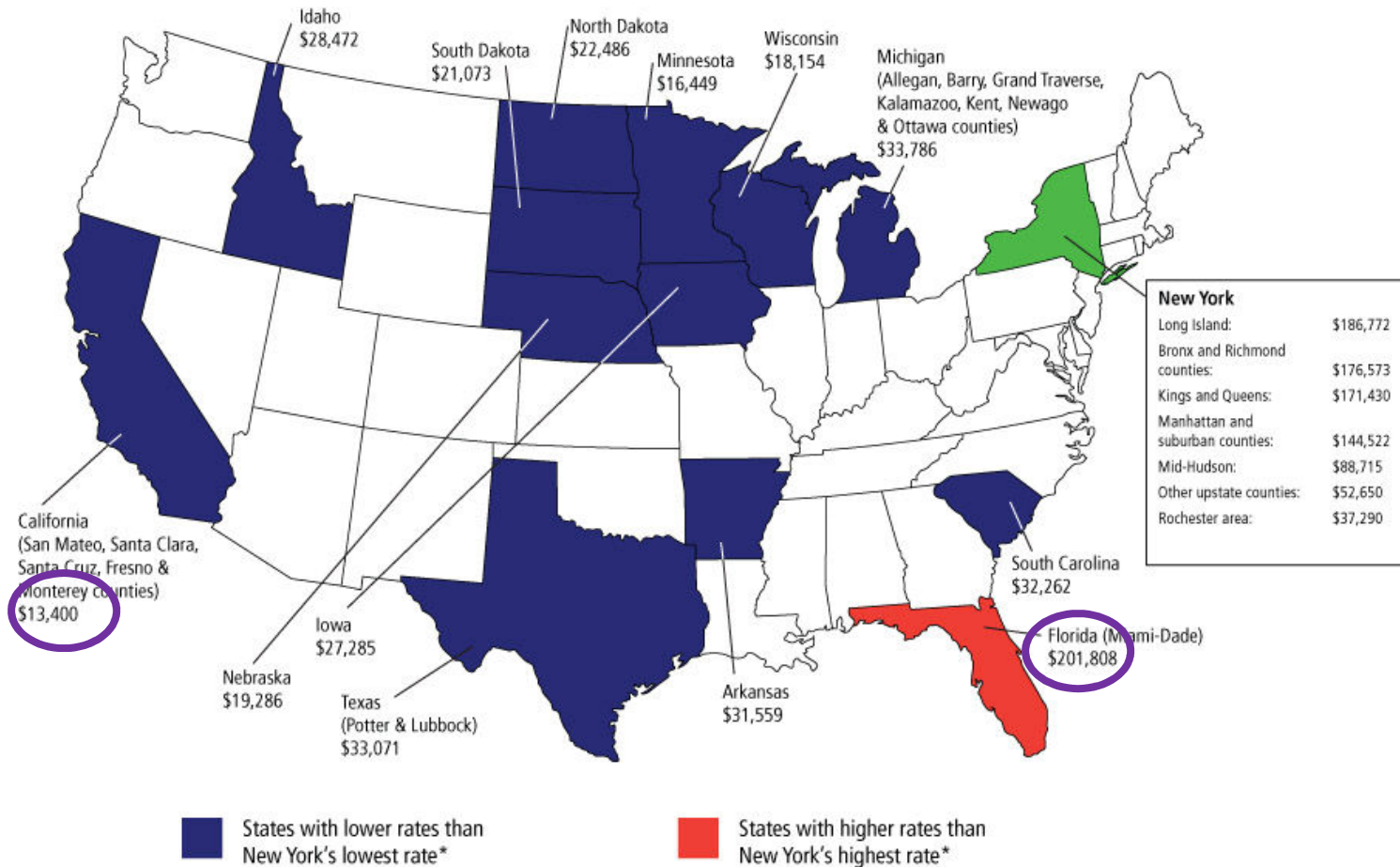


# General Surgery – Sample medical malpractice rates, 2010





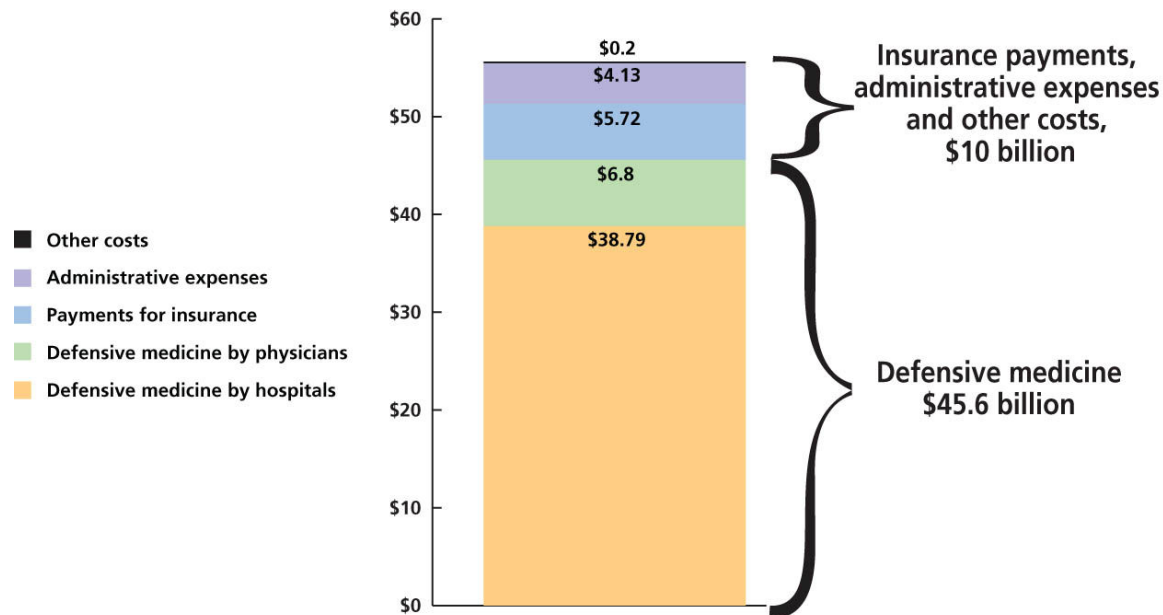
# Obstetrics & Gynecology – Sample medical malpractice rates, 2010





## A definitive study?

**About the only thing we found researching the literature on the cost impact from medical malpractice and defensive medicine is that there is no definitive study...**



**One sample estimate of components of medical malpractice liability costs**

(billions of dollars)

11 SOURCE: Mello MM, Chandra A, Gawande AA, Studdert DM: "National Costs of the Medical Liability System." Health Affairs, Vol. 29, No. 9, September 2010, pages 1569-1577. <http://content.healthaffairs.org/content/29/9/1569.abstract> or [http://health.burgess.house.gov/UploadedFiles/Malpractice-Health\\_Affairs.pdf](http://health.burgess.house.gov/UploadedFiles/Malpractice-Health_Affairs.pdf)