

**Spotlight on Research Fees:  
Trends in Site Fees per Subject by U.S. Metropolitan Area**

**By Rafael A. Campo**

This column looks at trends in site fees per subject in 12 major U.S. metropolitan areas — Atlanta, Boston, Chicago, Detroit, Houston, Los Angeles, Miami, New Orleans, New York, Philadelphia, Phoenix and San Francisco — over three time periods: 2005-2007, 2008-2010, and 2011-2013.

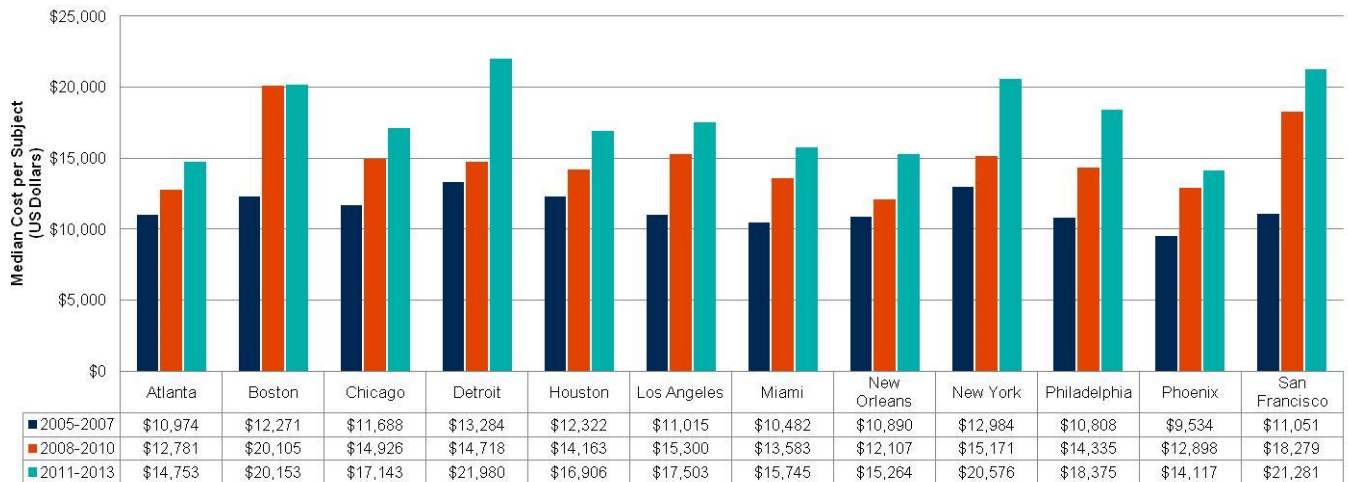
The median cost per subject rose in all selected metro areas from the first time period to the second time period, and then again to the third time period. In the third time period, Detroit, San Francisco, and New York had the highest fees, while Phoenix, Miami and New Orleans had the lowest.

If we take the average of the three highest metro areas in each time period and compare it to the average of the three lowest, the gap widened from 25% in the first time period to 42% in the second time period, and then increased further to 45% in the third time period.

These results do not reflect variations in the type, therapeutic area, or phase of trials across metro areas, nor the mix of academic vs. community sites.

**Trends in Cost per Subject by U.S. Metro Area**

(Median, All Phases, All Therapeutic Areas, United States, Industry-Sponsored Pharmaceutical, Biotechnology, Device and Diagnostics Studies, 2005-2013)<sup>1</sup>



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**Notes & References**

1. Source: Medidata Grants Manager™, the PICAS® database

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