

Obstetric Malpractice Data Codebook

STATENAT:	State of occurrence (NCHS/CDC coding)		
01	Alabama	27	Montana
02	Alaska	28	Nebraska
03	Arizona	29	Nevada
04	Arkansas	30	New Hampshire
05	California	31	New Jersey
06	Colorado	32	New Mexico
07	Connecticut	33	New York
08	Delaware	34	North Carolina
09	District of Columbia	35	North Dakota
10	Florida	36	Ohio
11	Georgia	37	Oklahoma
12	Hawaii	38	Oregon
13	Idaho	39	Pennsylvania
14	Illinois	40	Rhode Island
15	Indiana	41	South Carolina
16	Iowa	42	South Dakota
17	Kansas	43	Tennessee
18	Kentucky	44	Texas
19	Louisiana	45	Utah
20	Maine	46	Vermont
21	Maryland	47	Virginia
22	Massachusetts	48	Washington
23	Michigan	49	West Virginia
24	Minnesota	50	Wisconsin
25	Mississippi	51	Wyoming
26	Missouri		

State: Name for STATENAT (string variable)

DATAYEAR: Year

- Years 1995 to 2004

Month: Month

1 January to 12 December

Computed variables for # of obstetric-related malpractice suits, rate of obstetric-related suits, and average payment in obstetric-related suits using data from the *National Practitioner Data Bank* and CDC/Vital Statistics Data on births

- Separated out obstetric-related malpractice cases (N = 25,650 for 1990-2011 period)

Avepay: Average payment in OB-related malpractice suits with a judgment or settlement in the previous year in the state, adjusted into 2001 dollars

Ttlbirths: All births in state in previous year (based on CDC/Vital Statistics Data)

TtlOBsuits: # of OB-related malpractice suits in state in previous year

Litig

- Computed variable from 0 to 1
 - 0: Most plaintiff-friendly environment (no caps on damages, unreformed Joint and Several Liability rule, high number of suits and high average payouts in suits)
 - 1: Most physician-friendly environment (caps on damages, reformed Joint and Several Liability rule, low number of suits and low average payouts in suits)
- More details in Litigiousness Coding.xls