

# An Assessment of Obstetricians/Gynecologists in Indiana

## *Primary Care Needs Assessment*

After physicians' license renewal period (the most recent occurring in 2017), the Bowen Center for Health Workforce Research and Policy collects their license and survey data from the Indiana Professional Licensing Agency (IPLA) for cleaning, coding and storage in a longitudinal database. After processing these data, the Bowen Center then conducts additional data collection on every physician in Indiana who is actively practicing in order to verify their specialty, practice address, hours in patient care and patient panel characteristics (such as % of patient covered by Medicaid and % of patients on a sliding fee scale)<sup>1</sup>.

This verification process helps to ensure that the provider data used to inform Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA) designations accurately reflect the capacity of primary care physicians and psychologists practicing in Indiana. Obstetrician/Gynecologists (OB/GYN) are included as part of the primary care workforce and were verified through this process. The accompanying GIS map utilizes this verified data to display the capacity of these physicians and their geographic distribution in the State of Indiana.

## *Workforce Capacity and Infant Mortality Rate*

In 2018, the Bowen Center verified 425 OB/GYNs as actively practicing in Indiana with a total statewide FTE of 331.6. The best assessment of workforce capacity is by calculating population per provider FTE ratios (PPRs). Counties with low PPRs are observed to have high capacity while those with high PPRs have low capacity of providers. When assessing capacity of OB/GYNs in Indiana, counties with the highest capacity include Dubois, Fayette, Jefferson, and Monroe, while those with the lowest capacity include Franklin, Greene, Henry, and Knox. Table 1 on the third page of this summary provides details on the county level obstetrics/gynecology workforce capacity.

Infant mortality is a health care priority for the state of Indiana as it has risen above the national average over the last several years. Infant mortality rate (IMR) data used in the GIS map was taken from the online Indiana Stats Explorer which publishes data prepared by the Epidemiology Resource Center at the Indiana State Department of Health. Rates were calculated as a five-year average (2013 – 2017). The highest IMR was found in Jay County (13.2 infant deaths/1,000 live births) and the lowest was found in Floyd County (3.1 infant deaths/1,000 live births).

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<sup>1</sup> More information on the verification of primary care physicians can be found at IUPUI ScholarWorks: <http://hdl.handle.net/1805/17964>



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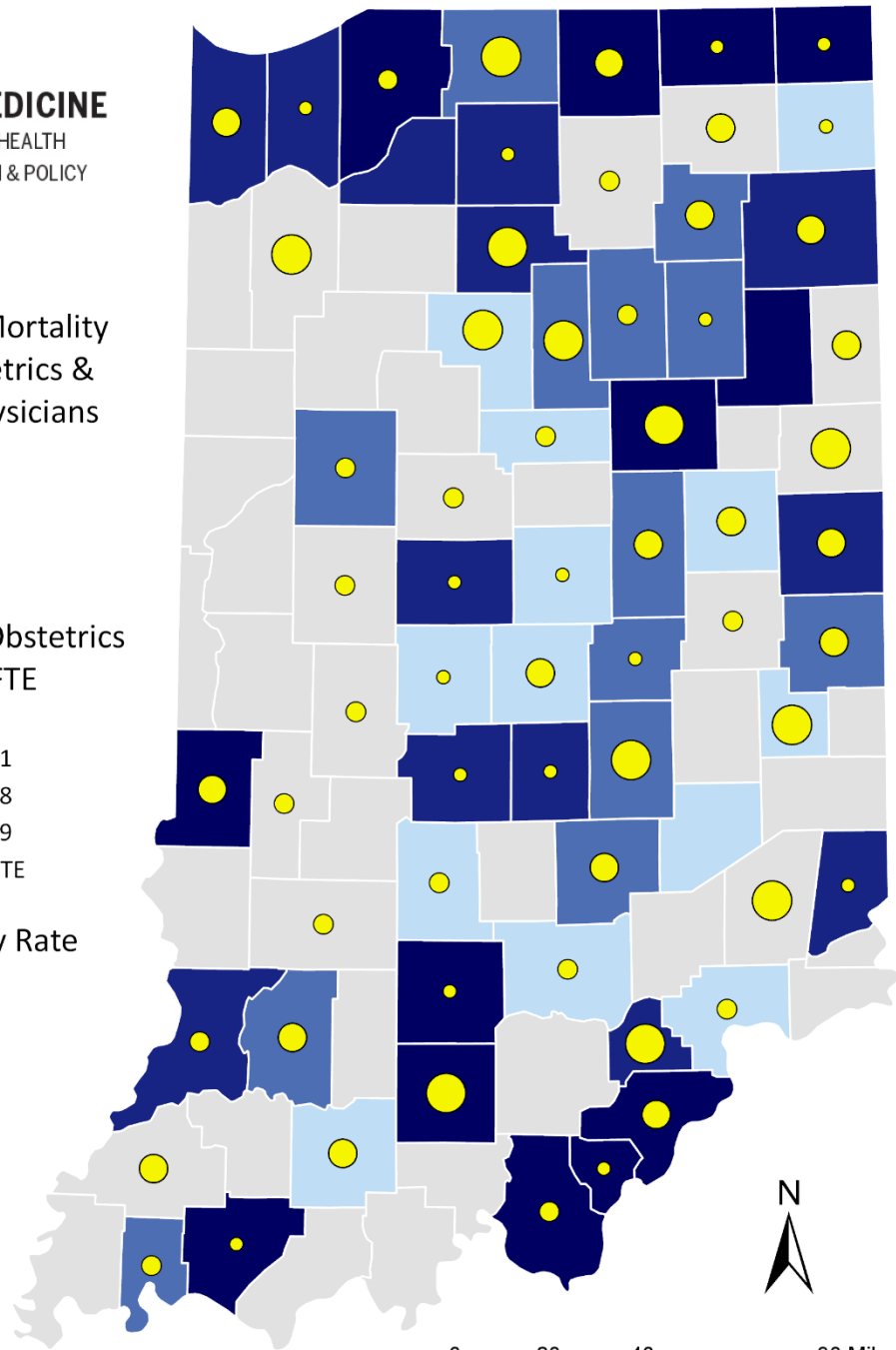
## Indiana Infant Mortality Rate and Obstetrics & Gynecology Physicians

### Population to Obstetrics & Gynecology FTE

- 7,809 - 14,175
- 14,559 - 19,221
- 20,296 - 28,708
- 29,842 - 84,519
- No Reported FTE

### Infant Mortality Rate

- 3.1 - 5.8
- 5.9 - 7.7
- 7.8 - 8.5
- 8.6 - 13.2



Source: Indiana Primary Care Needs Assessment Verification Survey, 2018; ACS, 2017 5-year Estimate. ISDH, Epidemiology Resource Center, Data Analysis Team; Vital Records, 2013 - 2017.  
Note: Population to Provider Ratio cannot be calculated in counties with no reported FTE.  
Counties with no available Infant Mortality Rates (IMR) had suppressed or unstable data due to small numbers. IMR is calculated as the total number of infant deaths per 1,000 live births.

**Table 1: County level obstetrics/gynecology workforce capacity**

<b>County</b>	<b>Population</b>	<b>Reported number of OB/GYN</b>	<b>FTE</b>	<b>Population to Provider Ratio</b>
Allen	367,747	21	14.5	25,362
Bartholomew	81,024	6	5.0	16,205
Boone	63,013	7	2.4	26,255
Cass	38,248	3	3.0	12,749
Clark	114,893	4	3.6	31,915
Daviess	32,777	2	2.0	16,388
Dearborn	49,564	3	2.3	21,550
Decatur	26,480	2	1.9	13,937
DeKalb	42,524	3	3.0	14,175
Delaware	115,938	9	8.3	13,968
Dubois	42,379	4	4.0	10,595
Elkhart	202,924	9	6.8	29,842
Fayette	23,426	3	3.0	7,809
Floyd	76,481	7	1.0	76,481
Franklin	22,835	6	0.0	—
Fulton	20,296	1	1.0	20,296
Grant	67,615	2	0.8	84,519
Greene	32,431	1	0.0	—
Hamilton	309,687	40	35.2	8,798
Hancock	72,776	5	4.1	17,750
Harrison	39,450	1	1.0	39,450
Hendricks	158,170	16	12.3	12,859
Henry	48,649	1	0.0	—
Howard	82,457	8	7.8	10,571
Huntington	36,520	3	1.9	19,221
Jackson	43,779	7	3.9	11,225
Jefferson	32,293	4	3.4	9,498
Johnson	149,359	7	6.7	22,292
Knox	37,763	2	1.7	22,214
Kosciusko	78,720	1	0.0	—
LaGrange	38,720	1	1.0	38,720
Lake	488,694	31	23.9	20,447
LaPorte	110,839	3	1.7	65,199
Lawrence	45,669	2	1.0	45,669
Madison	129,641	8	7.6	17,058
Marion	939,964	84	68.4	13,742
Marshall	46,752	2	1.9	24,606
Miami	36,035	2	2.0	18,018

**Table 1: County level obstetrics/gynecology workforce capacity**

County	Population	Reported number of OB/GYN	FTE	Population to Provider Ratio
Monroe	144,436	15	12.1	11,937
Morgan	69,533	3	2.5	27,813
Orange	19,623	1	0.6	32,705
Porter	167,391	9	8.2	20,414
Randolph	25,203	1	1.0	25,203
St. Joseph	268,613	22	17.0	15,801
Scott	23,722	1	1.0	23,722
Shelby	44,339	3	2.7	16,422
Starke	22,966	1	0.8	28,708
Steuben	34,459	1	1.0	34,459
Tippecanoe	186,081	15	12.3	15,129
Vanderburgh	181,831	13	11.3	16,091
Vigo	107,723	5	2.8	38,472
Wabash	31,848	2	1.7	18,734
Warrick	61,581	4	1.4	43,986
Wayne	66,972	5	4.6	14,559
Wells	27,832	1	0.5	55,664
Whitley	33,481	2	2.0	16,740

**Note:** FTE could not be estimated for all providers due to the voluntary nature of the PCNA survey and limitations in primary data collection. Population to provider ratios cannot be calculated for counties with no reported FTE.