

## OPTIC-Vetted Good Samaritan Policy Data

This word document includes final documentation for the Good Samaritan law variables (1990-2018) included in the OPTIC-Vetted Policy Data Warehouse.

Specific dimensions of Good Samaritan policy data included in this public version of the data are based on a review of relevant protections granted through different variations of these laws as described in:

- Davis, C. S., & Carr, D. (2015). Legal changes to increase access to naloxone for opioid overdose reversal in the United States. *Drug and alcohol dependence*, 157, 112-120.
- Davis, C., & Carr, D. (2017). State legal innovations to encourage naloxone dispensing. *Journal of the American Pharmacists Association*, 57(2), S180-S184.

Information was obtained from PDAPS (last downloaded 6/1/2020).

### Constructed Variables Contained in Analytic Files

Variable Name	description
any_gsl	Fraction of year any type of Good Samaritan law is effective
gsl_arrest	Fraction of year that Good Samaritan law that provides protection from arrest for controlled substance possession laws is effective
date_any_gsl	Date (DMY) any type of Good Samaritan law is effective
date_gsl_arrest	Date (DMY) Good Samaritan law that provides protection from arrest for controlled substance possession laws is effective

Fractions are calculated based on the number of months out of 12 that a law is effective. A law is considered effective for a given month

- if a law becomes effective by the 7<sup>th</sup> for January
- if a law becomes effective by the 3<sup>rd</sup> for February – December

These GSL variables can be found in the following data files:

Excel File: WEB\_GSL.xlsx

Stata File: WEB\_GSL.dta

Last Updated: July 29, 2020

Please cite the use of these data as "RAND-USC Schaeffer Opioid Policy Tools and Information Center. [YEAR]. OPTIC-Vetted Good Samaritan Policy Data. Obtained from <https://www.rand.org/health-care/centers/optic/resources/datasets.html> on [DOWNLOAD DATE]."