**Midwifery Fact Sheet: North Carolina**

### Midwifery Workforce Indicators, 2023

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>2023 Data</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Midwives Certified by AMCB</td>
<td>526</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Births in 2022</td>
<td>121,562</td>
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<tr>
<td>Midwives per 1,000 Births</td>
<td>4.3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Midwife-attended births 2022</td>
<td>17,879</td>
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<td>Midwife-attended births per midwife</td>
<td>34.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>% Births Midwife-attended</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Vaginal births midwife-attended</td>
<td>21%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Midwifery education programs</td>
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North Carolina has not achieved the 6 midwives per 1,000 births recommended by the WHO. Board-certified midwives include certified nurse-midwives and certified midwives, who are certified by the American Midwifery Certification Board. Board-certified midwives' professional association is the American College of Nurse-Midwives.

Board-certified midwives practice authority is N.C. Gen. Stat. §90-178.2(1-5), which was most recently revised in 2020. Board-certified midwives are regulated by the Midwifery Joint Committee.

North Carolina has one midwifery education program located at East Carolina University.

### Change in Midwife Attended Births Over Time

![Graph showing the change in midwife attended births over time](image)

### Policy Assets & Opportunities

1. **Opportunity:** Requires 4,000 hours and 2 years of collaborative practice (N.C. Gen. Stat. §90-178.3)
2. **Asset:** Midwives reimbursed at 100% the physician fee (see fee schedule)
3. **Opportunity:** Certified Midwives are not eligible for licensure
4. **Opportunity:** Midwives have delegated prescriptive authority that requires physician oversight including chart review (N.C. Gen. Stat. §90-178.3; N.C. Gen. Stat. §90-18.2)
5. **Opportunity:** Hospitals are not restricted from having midwives on medical staff (10A NCAC 13B.3001); but all patients must be under the care of a physician (10A NCAC 13B.1905)
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- Both certified nurse-midwives and certified midwives are board certified. Standards for education and certification in midwifery are identical for both credentials.

- Board-certified midwives provide a full range of primary health care services in all stages of life, from the teenage years through menopause.

- While midwives are well-known for attending births, 55.1% of board-certified midwives identify reproductive care and 38.5% identify primary care as responsibilities in their full-time positions.

- Board-certified midwives provide general health check-ups, health screenings, and vaccinations.

- Board-certified midwives provide gynecologic care including miscarriage and abortion treatment, and treatment of sexually transmitted infections.

Health Indicators

- Unmet Need for Contraception
- Early Prenatal Care
- Preterm Birth
- NTSV Cesarean
- Breastfeeding Initiation
- Breast Cancer Screening

Maternity Workforce per 1,000 Births

- Obstetricians
- MFMs
- Midwives

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<th>USA</th>
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Birth Attendants in North Carolina

- Physician
- Midwife

By Race / Ethnicity, 2022

- More than One Category
- American Indian or Alaska Native
- Hispanic
- Asian or Pacific Islander
- Black non-Hispanic
- White non-Hispanic

By Payer, 2022

- Other
- Self-Pay
- Medicaid
- Private Insurance