Midwifery Fact Sheet: Virginia

Midwifery Workforce Indicators, 2023

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Midwives Certified by AMCB</td>
<td>383</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Births in 2022</td>
<td>95,630</td>
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<tr>
<td>Midwives per 1,000 Births</td>
<td>4.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Midwife-attended births 2022</td>
<td>14,044</td>
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<tr>
<td>Midwife-attended births per midwife</td>
<td>36.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Births Midwife-attended</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Vaginal births midwife-attended</td>
<td>22%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Midwifery education programs</td>
<td>1</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Virginia 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 § 54.1-2957 which was most recently revised in 2023. Board-certified midwives are regulated jointly by the Board of Nursing and Board of Medicine.

Virginia has one midwifery education program located at Shenandoah University.

Change in Midwife Attended Births Over Time

![Graph showing change in midwife attended births over time for USA and Virginia.]

Policy Assets & Opportunities

1. **Asset:** Midwives must complete 1000 hours with a written collaborative agreement, however this agreement can be with an experienced midwife (§ 54.1-2957 H)
2. **Asset:** Midwives reimbursed at 100% the physician fee (12VAC30-80-30)
3. **Asset:** Midwives’ prescriptive authority is subject to the requirement for 100 hours with a collaborative practice agreement (§ 54.1-2957 H)
4. **Opportunity:** Hospitals can not appoint midwives to medical staff (12VAC5-410-10)
5. **Asset:** Certified Midwives are eligible for licensure (§ 54.1-2900)
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.

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Maternity Workforce per 1,000 Births

Birth Attendants in Virginia

By Race / Ethnicity, 2022

By Payer, 2022