The ACNM Core Data Survey

The ACNM Core Data Survey (CDS) collects demographic and workforce characteristics from ACNM members annually. Findings are used to update documents about midwifery practice in the United States, inform policymakers, negotiate practice contracts, and supply information for grant applications. Every three to four years a trend analysis is published in the *Journal of Midwifery & Women's Health*.

Major Findings

The 2010 CDS collected data from March 2010 through December 2010 and had a response rate of 1998 members (note: not all members answered all questions).

- The majority of respondents were female (98.7%). Males completing the survey represented 1.1% of the population. To date, this is the highest response received from midwives who are males.
- The majority of respondents were Caucasian (91.9%) followed by 2.9% Black or African American.
- The majority of respondents were certified nurse-midwives (93.2%). Student nurse-midwives represented 6.4% of respondents.*
- Ages of respondents ranged from 23 to 85 with a median of 53. We are seeing a graying of the profession: 37.2% of respondents were 55 to 64 and 28% were 45 to 54.
- The number of years certified ranged from 1 to 60 years.
- Sixty-one percent of student respondents held a baccalaureate degree in nursing.
- Of the CNMs responding, 55.1% held a master's degree in nursing followed closely by 51.6% who held a bachelor's degree in nursing.
- 8.4% of CNM respondents indicated they hold a doctoral degree.
- Most (69.5%) of the respondents were employed full time (35 or more hours per week).
- The largest employers of midwives were hospitals (31.6%) followed by physician-owned practices (24.1%).
- Almost 70% of the respondents attend births. The majority of midwives indicated that they attend births in hospitals.

**A limitation of the survey is that it did not ask if the respondent was a student midwife. This oversight was corrected in the 2011 CDS survey.*

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