



# Fact Sheet: CNM/CM-attended Birth Statistics in the United States

Certified nurse-midwives (CNMs) and certified midwives (CMs) attended 309,514 births in 2011, according to the National Center for Health Statistics. (This is the most recent year for which final birth data are available.) This represents 11.7% of all vaginal births, or 7.8% of total US births.

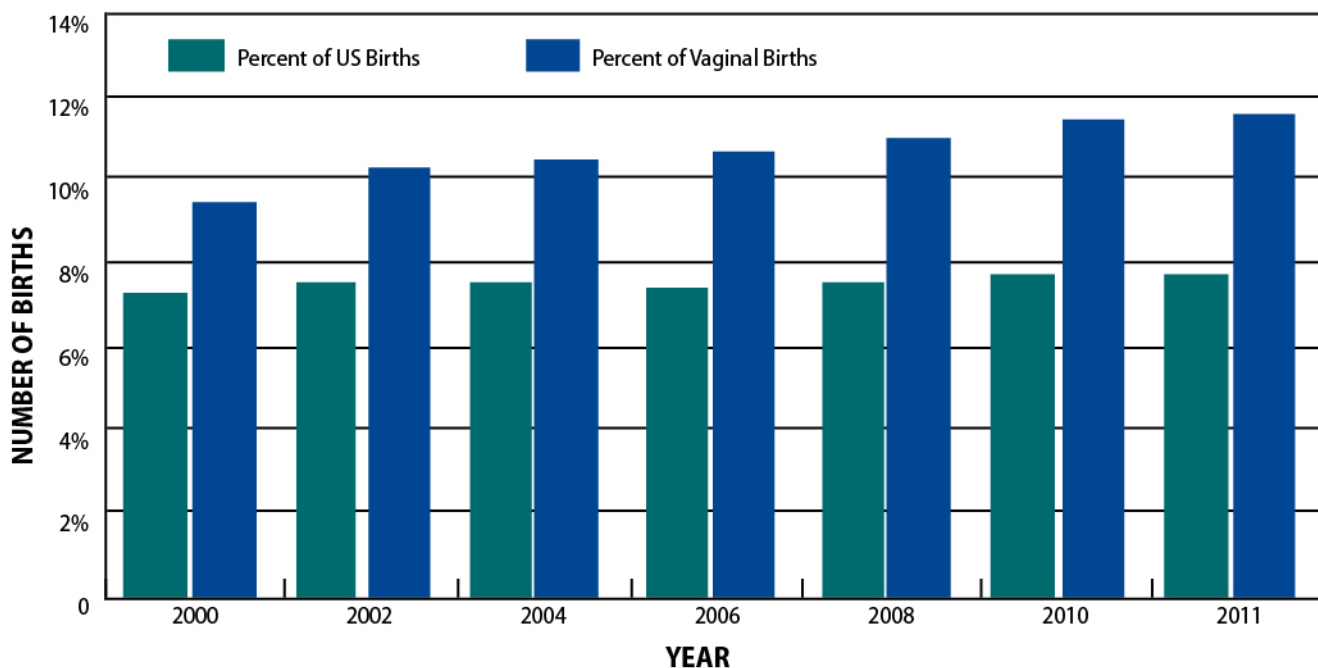
## CNMs/CMs Represent Majority of Midwives

Since 1989, CNMs/CMs have accounted for more than 90% of all midwife-attended births. In 2011, CNMs/CMs attended 92.2% of midwife-attended births.

## Trends in CNM/CM-attended Births

The percentage of CNM/CM-attended births has risen nearly every year since 1989—the first year that CNM/CM statistics were made available. In 2011, CNMs/CMs attended 7.6% of all hospital births, a 6% increase from 2005 (7.2%). The percentage of out-of-hospital births attended by CNMs also increased by 6%, from 28.6% in 2005 to 30.2% in 2011. Compared to 2010, the total percentage of CNM/CM-attended births in the United States remained stable and the percentage of vaginal births attended by CNMs/CMs slightly increased in 2011, despite a decrease in total US births.

## Percentage of Births Attended by Certified Nurse-Midwives and Certified Midwives, 2002–2011

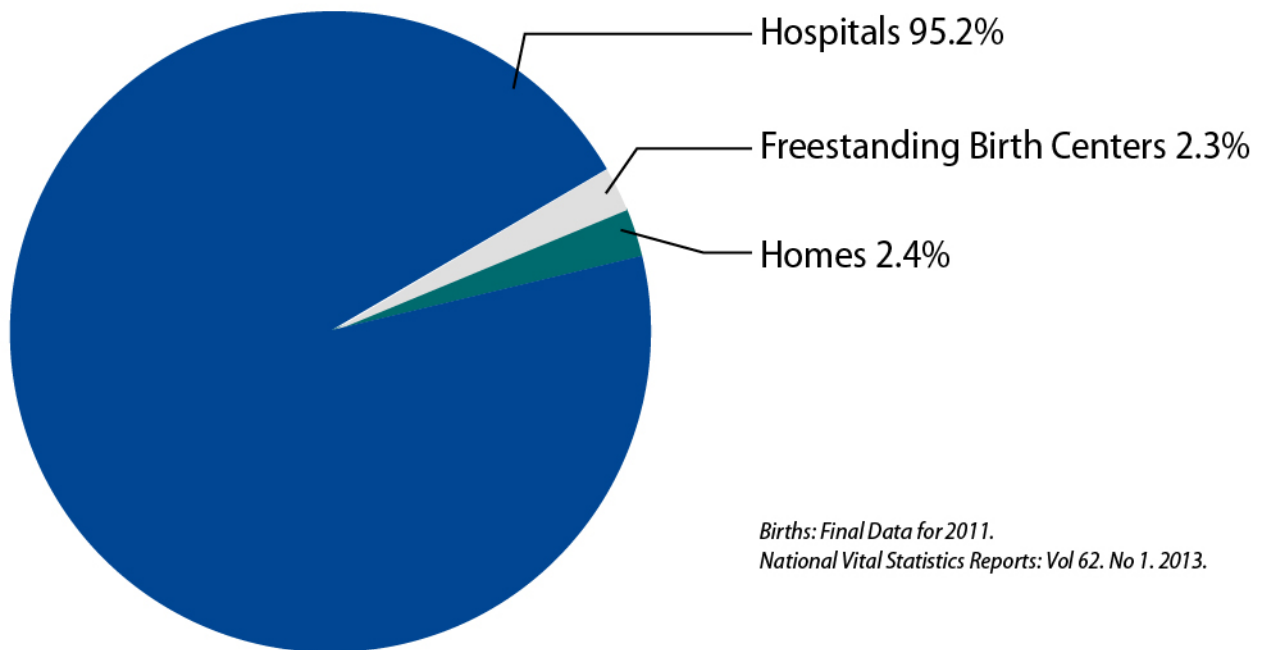


*Births: Final Data for 2011. National Vital Statistics Reports: Vol 62. No 1. 2013.*

## CNMs/CMs Provide Midwifery Care in All Settings

CNMs/CMs practice wherever women give birth. In 2011, the majority of CNM/CM-attended births occurred in hospitals (95.2%), while 2.3% occurred in freestanding birth centers, and 2.4% occurred in homes.

### Site of Births Attended by Certified Nurse-Midwives and Certified Midwives, 2011



#### Additional Resources

ACNM Online Media Kit: [www.midwife.org/newsroom](http://www.midwife.org/newsroom)

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[www.midwife.org](http://www.midwife.org)

Consumer Information: [www.ourmomentoftruth.com](http://www.ourmomentoftruth.com)

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*Source: Martin JA, Hamilton BE, Ventura SJ, Osterman MJK, Matthews TJ. Births: FinalData for 2011. National Vital Statistics Reports; Vol 62, No 1. Hyattsville, MD: National Center for Health Statistics. 2013.*

*Updated July 2013*