Kentucky Midwifery Workforce, 2023

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Midwifery Workforce Indicators, 2023</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Midwives Certified by AMCB</td>
<td>144</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Births in 2022</td>
<td>52,315</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midwives per 1,000 Births</td>
<td>2.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midwife-attended births 2022</td>
<td>4,988</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midwife-attended births per midwife</td>
<td>34.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Births Midwife-attended</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Vaginal births midwife-attended</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Kentucky 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 KRS § 314.042, which was most recently revised in 2023. Board-certified midwives are regulated by the Board of Nursing.

Kentucky has one midwifery education program located at Frontier Nursing University.
Kentucky’s maternity care workforce density is smaller than the United States as a whole.

Kentucky’s midwife density does not meet the World Health Organization recommended minimum midwifery workforce size of 6 midwives per 1,000 births.
Midwife-attended Births in Kentucky

Change in Midwife Attended Births Over Time

- USA
- Kentucky
Births by Payer Source, 2022

Sources of Payment for Birth

Percent of Births Midwife-Attended by Payer, Kentucky 2022

- Other
- Self-Pay
- Medicaid
- Private Insurance
Births by Race or Ethnic Category, 2022

Race & Ethnicity Distribution of Births, 2022

Midwife-Attended Births by Race / Ethnicity

- More than One
- American Indian or Alaska Native
- Hispanic
- Asian or Pacific Islander
- Black non-Hispanic
- White non-Hispanic
Births by Maternal Residence

Maternal Residence, 2022

Birth Attendants in Kentucky

Physician

Midwife

Metro
non-Metro
Kentucky Health Indicators, 2022

Increasing the midwifery workforce size could help Kentucky:

- Reduce rates of preterm birth and cesarean birth
- Increase breastfeeding initiation
- Increase access to breast cancer screening
Kentucky Midwifery Regulation Assets & Opportunities

1. **Asset:** Midwives are licensed independently (KRS § 314.042)
2. **Opportunity:** Midwives receive 75% the fee a physician receives for the same service (KAR 30-5-113a)
3. **Opportunity:** Certified Midwives are not eligible for licensure
4. **Opportunity:** Midwives require a written collaborative agreement to prescribe narcotics in labor (KRS § 314.042)
5. **Asset:** Hospitals have the option to include midwives in medical staff (902 KAR 20:016); extent of clinical privileges are determined by the hospital (902 KAR 20:016)