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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Midwifery Workforce Indicators, 2023</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Midwives Certified by AMCB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Births in 2022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midwives per 1,000 Births</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midwife-attended births 2022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midwife-attended births per midwife</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Births Midwife-attended</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Vaginal births midwife-attended</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midwifery education programs</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
North Carolina’s maternity care workforce density is large compared to the United States as a whole. North Carolina’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 North Carolina

Change in Midwife Attended Births Over Time

- USA
- North Carolina
Births by Payer Source, 2022

Sources of Payment for Birth

Percent of Births Midwife-Attended by Payer, North Carolina 2022

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

Race & Ethnicity Distribution of Births, 2022

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

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 North Carolina
Increasing the midwifery workforce size could help North Carolina:

- Increase use of contraception
- Increase access to early prenatal care
- Increase breastfeeding initiation

North Carolina Health Indicators, 2022

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

Percent

North Carolina
USA
North Carolina Midwifery Regulation Assets & Opportunities

**Opportunity:** Requires 4,000 hours and 2 years of collaborative practice (N.C. Gen. Stat. §90-178.3)

**Asset:** Midwives reimbursed at 100% the physician fee (see fee schedule)

**Opportunity:** Certified Midwives are not eligible for licensure

**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)

**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)