

# AMERICAN MIDWIFERY CERTIFICATION BOARD

## 2025 Demographic Report



## **Background/Introduction**

The mission of the American Midwifery Certification Board (AMCB) is to protect and serve the public by leading the certification standards in midwifery. The AMCB fulfills this mission through three primary activities: developing and administering a validated certification exam to assess the entry-level competencies of Certified Nurse-Midwives (CNM) and Certified Midwives (CM), requiring a mandatory certificate maintenance program and recertification for all CNM/CMs, and maintaining professional discipline.

Reporting demographic characteristics of AMCB-certified midwives provides critical information about the midwifery workforce to inform policy, research, and practice. AMCB maintains a secure database containing demographic data of all AMCB-certified midwives. Analysis of this data provides a snapshot of the CNM/CM workforce that is summarized in this report.

## **Methodology**

Certificants voluntarily self-report their demographic characteristics at the time of their initial certification and at the time of subsequent recertification, which occurs every 5 years. The data reported here were therefore collected over a 5-year timeframe between January 2021 and December 2025 and reflect each certificant's demographic characteristics at the time of their certification or recertification, with the exception of age which was calculated at the time of the generation of this report based upon the birth date provided by the certificant. Variation in responses to each demographic data point may reflect changes in data collection methodology over the 5-year period. General demographic, employment, and education data of CNM/CMs are reported herein to provide a reference for describing the demographic characteristics of the CNM/CM workforce.

## **General Demographic Data**

As of January 1, 2026, there were a total of 14,802 AMCB-certified midwives in the United States of which 14,662 (99.05%) were CNMs and 140 (0.95%) were CMs. The average age of AMCB-certified midwives was 48.2 (SD 12.47). Midwives 65 or older represented 14% (n=2071) of all CNM/CMs. Almost all (98.9%) of AMCB-certified midwives identify as female. The majority of CNMs/CMs identified as White (81.9%) and as non-Hispanic or Latino (90.2%), with midwives who identified as Black or African American being the next most common group (9.1%), which represents a small increase in the proportion of midwives who identify as Black or African American from the 2024 report (8.7%). Other self-reported racial identities comprised 9% of the total population of CNM/CMs. Most AMCB-certified midwives identified English as their primary language (95.8%)

<b>Age of all Certificants (N=14802)</b>		
	<i>n</i>	% of all Certificants (N=14802)
20-29	415	2.8%
30-39	3877	26.2%
40-49	4466	30.2%
50-59	2920	19.7%
60-69	2108	14.2%
Over 70	1016	6.9%

<b>Sex of all Certificants (N=14802)</b>		
	<i>n</i>	%
Female	14640	98.9%
Male	90	0.6%
Other	16	0.1%
I choose not to respond	56	0.4%

<b>Race of all Certificants (N=14802)</b>		
	<i>n</i>	%
American Indian or Alaska Native	93	0.6%
Asian	291	2.0%
Black or African American	1341	9.1%
More than one race	303	2.0%
Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander	20	0.1%
White or Caucasian	12124	81.9%
Other Race	190	1.3%
I choose not to respond	440	3.0%

<b>Ethnicity of all Certificants (N=14802)</b>		
	<i>n</i>	%
No, Not Hispanic/Latino	13350	90.2%
Yes, Hispanic/Latino	906	6.1%
I choose not to respond	546	3.7%

<b>Primary Language of all Certificants (N=14802)</b>		
	<i>n</i>	%
Language other than English	624	4.2%
English	14178	95.8%
Not reported	0	0.0%

<b>Provides Services in Languages other than English of all Certificants (N=14802)*</b>		
	<i>n</i>	%
Chinese (Cantonese, Mandarin, other varieties)	74	0.5%
English	12087	81.7%
French, French Creole, or Haitian Creole	373	2.5%
Spanish	3299	22.3%
Other Language	701	4.7%

\* Select all that apply

## **Employment Data**

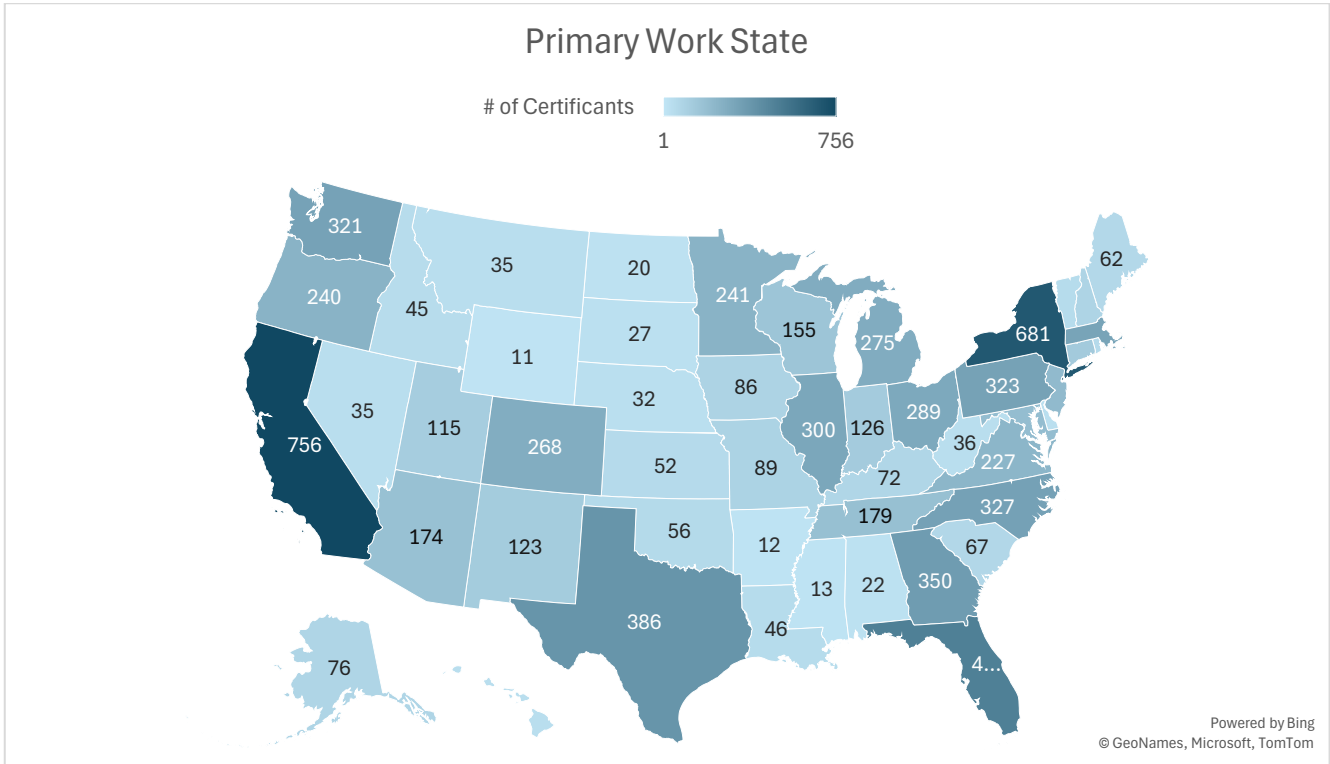
The majority of AMCB-certified midwives identified as working in full- or part-time midwifery positions (76.4%). The percentage of midwives working in a discipline other than midwifery remained stable at 11.3% for the fourth year in a row after steadily increasing from 9.0% in 2019 to 11.7% in 2022. Most midwives working full-time (65.1%) earned between \$100,000 and \$149,999. 4.4% of those in full-time employment reported earning more than \$200,000. There was wide variation in the number of AMCB-certified midwives across states (range: 11 in Wyoming to 756 in California). The state with the second highest number of midwives was New York (681 midwives). Midwifery employment information is asked at the time of recertification only (i.e., not asked at the time of initial certification because initial certificants are not expected to have entered the midwifery workforce prior to certification).

<b>Midwifery Employment Status of Re-certificants (N=11047)*</b>		
	<i>n</i>	%
Employed as a full-time midwife (35 hours or more per week)	6060	54.9%
Employed as a full-time midwife and employed in a second midwifery job (either part-time or full-time)	283	2.6%
Employed as a part-time midwife (34 hours or less per week)	2093	18.9%
Employed, but not in the discipline of midwifery	1245	11.3%
Not employed during the past year for reason OTHER than retirement	404	3.7%
Retired	417	3.8%
Other	545	4.9%

\* Asked of re-certificants only

<b>Salary Range for Midwifery-Related Work of Re-certificants (N=8436)</b>				
	<b>Full-time (n=6343)</b>		<b>Part-time (n=2093)</b>	
	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%
Less than \$30,000	25	0.4%	223	10.7%
\$30,000 - \$39,999	19	0.3%	95	4.5%
\$40,000 - \$49,999	21	0.3%	117	5.6%
\$50,000 - \$59,999	24	0.4%	182	8.7%
\$60,000 - \$74,999	65	1.0%	299	14.3%
\$75,000 - \$99,999	522	8.2%	478	22.8%
\$100,000 - \$149,999	4130	65.1%	567	27.1%
\$150,000 - \$199,999	1255	19.8%	112	5.4%
\$200,000 - \$249,999	213	3.4%	16	0.8%
\$250,000 - \$499,999	51	0.8%	3	0.1%
\$500,000 - \$999,999	2	0.0%	0	0.0%
\$1,000,000 or more	14	0.2%	1	0.0%
Not reported	2	0.0%	0	0.0%

\* Asked of re-certificants only



**Education and Certification Data**

A master’s degree is required to obtain certification. Additionally, about 11.5% of AMCB-certified midwives hold doctoral degrees (n=1709). The largest proportion of AMCB-certified midwives have been certified for 10 years or less (47.1%), compared to approximately 24.6% certified for 11 to 20 years and 28.2% certified for over 20 years. The number of entrants to the profession yearly has been stable with 3797 (25.7% of all certificants) certifying within the last 5 years, compared to 3720 (25.6% of all certificants) in the 2024 Demographic Report.

Number of Years Certified for all Certificants (N=14802)		
	<i>n</i>	%
0-5 Years	3797	25.7%
6-10 Years	3179	21.5%
11-15 Years	2335	15.8%
16-20 Years	1310	8.9%
21-25 Years	1330	9.0%
26-30 Years	1321	8.9%
31-35 Years	797	5.4%
36-40 Years	351	2.4%
41-45 Years	249	1.7%
46-50 Years	103	0.7%
Over 50 Years	30	0.2%

<b>Academic Degrees</b>				
	<b>Initial certificants (N=3755)</b>		<b>Re-certificants (N=11047)<sup>a</sup></b>	
	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%
Associate, Not Nursing	195	5.2%	372	3.4%
Associate, Nursing	873	0.2%	2258	20.4%
Bachelor's Midwifery	NA		41	0.4%
Bachelor's, Not Nursing	1099	29.3%	3022	27.4%
Bachelor's, Nursing	2931	78.1%	7518	68.1%
Precertification <sup>b</sup>			39	0.4%
Certificate <sup>c</sup>	NA		882	8.0%
Master's, Midwifery	2056	54.8%	6424	58.2%
Master's, Not Nursing	93	2.5%	442	4.0%
Master's, Not Nursing, Midwifery, or Public Health	34	0.9%	137	1.2%
Master's, Nursing	1293	34.4%	5632	51.0%
Master's, Public Health	62	1.7%	357	3.2%
Post-master's Certificate			841	7.6%
DNP	439	11.7%	1270	11.5%
Other doctorates (e.g., PhD, DrPH)	18	0.5%	401	3.6%
Other	76	2.0%	763	6.9%
Not reported			4	0.0%

\* Select all that apply, NA=Not asked

<sup>a</sup> Inclusive of individuals who are in their first 5 years of certification after a lapse or change of certification.

<sup>b</sup> degrees obtained prior to entering the midwifery profession

<sup>c</sup> certificate granted prior to master's degree program requirement

## **Conclusion**

The integration of midwifery within the U.S. healthcare system is evolving quickly, driven largely by state-level legislative changes intended to improve access to midwifery services. Tracking shifts in the demographic composition of the AMCB-certified nurse-midwife and certified midwife workforce is critical for assessing the impact of these efforts. This demographics report offers a snapshot of AMCB-certified midwives in the United States as of January 1, 2026. Limitations of this report include temporal variation of data collection instruments and methodology, and lack of comparable long-term historical data. Future monitoring could benefit from more detailed information about scope of practice, compensation, models of care, and county-level distribution data.