

Mortality rates for midwives in licensed states:

Most states that license direct-entry midwives do not collect or report on the mortality rates of births attended by those licensed midwives. The numbers are too small to be statistically comparable. In 2007, we asked each state to provide their mortality stats and only four complied. Those are listed below, but as you can see, not all data was for a comparable time period, and their definitions of data collected was not consistent. In 2011, we asked again, and got even less information. Those responses are updated below the chart

Four states with licensed CPMs that do track intended place of birth or mortality rates of planned out-of-hospital births (Arkansas, Arizona, Florida and Texas), report **significantly lower** perinatal, neonatal or infant mortality rates for out-of-hospital births.¹

	YEARS REPORTED†	PERINATAL, NEONATAL, OR INFANT†	BIRTHS WITH A LICENSED MIDWIFE	OVERALL STATE RATE
ARKANSAS	2001-2006	perinatal	7.2	12.7
ARIZONA	2006	unknown	3.8	6.6
FLORIDA	2006	neonatal	1.2	7.2
TEXAS	1999-2003	neonatal	0.5	3.6

† Rates cannot be compared between states because of difference in years and data reported.

Perinatal (after 28 weeks gestation through the first week of life)

Neonatal (birth through 28 days)

Early neonatal (birth through the first week)

The mortality rates on the CA Dept of Vital Stats web site use "fetal mortality" and define it as after 20 weeks gestation, but they don't say what the ending point is! This makes it so hard to compare any data! 2009 data for fetal mortality is 5.1

Arizona perinatal mortality in 2009 was 5.6 (down from 6.3 in 2008) definition is from 28 weeks to 7 days)

Florida infant rate 2010: 6.5 – no definition provided for “infant” definition but other Florida glossary says it is from 28 weeks through first year.

Virginia: state neonatal mortality rate for 2010 is 4.6, Statistics on licensed midwife births not collected due to “lack of statutory authority to collect records on births and deaths” by the licensing agency, the Medical Board of Virginia. Dept of Vital Records collects stats by county but not by provider.

Utah: 0 infant or neonatal mortality for 2006-2008; no updated reports available.

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