



Access to Obstetrical Care in Iowa Calendar Years 2020 - 2024

January 2026



Health and
Human Services

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Introduction

This report is submitted pursuant to [Iowa Code 135.11\(12\)](#), which requires the Iowa Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to:

Consult with the office of statewide clinical education programs at the university of Iowa College of Medicine and annually submit a report to the general assembly by January 15 verifying the number of physicians in active practice in Iowa by county who are engaged in providing obstetrical care. To the extent that data are readily available, the report shall include information concerning the number of deliveries per year by specialty and county, the age of physicians performing deliveries, and the number of current year graduates of the University of Iowa College of Medicine and the Des Moines University - Osteopathic Medical Center entering into residency programs in obstetrics, gynecology, and family medicine. The report may include additional data relating to access to obstetrical services that may be available.

The data summarized in this report provides an overview of Iowa's obstetrical workforce for calendar years 2020 through 2024. This report uses birth certificate data to generate the number and percentage of licensed providers who provide deliveries in our state. HHS staff link birth certificate data to data from the [University of Iowa-Carver College of Medicine-Office of Statewide Clinical Education Programs](#) (OSCEP) to obtain demographic and physician specialty information.

Definitions

The categories of providers who perform deliveries and who are included in this report are defined as follows:

- An **obstetrician/gynecologist physician (OBGYN)** has either an MD or DO degree and has completed a four-year obstetrics/gynecology residency. This specialty is devoted to medical and surgical care of women and has expertise in pregnancy, childbirth, and disorders of the reproductive system.
- A **family medicine physician (FM)** has either an MD or DO degree and has completed a three-year family medicine residency. This specialty is devoted to comprehensive care for people of all ages. Often family medicine physicians do not perform surgical deliveries (cesarean sections).
- **Certified Nurse-Midwives (CNM)** are advanced practice nurses (ARNP), registered both as nurses and as midwives. They have completed at least a baccalaureate program and a midwifery education program in addition to having passed a national certification examination to become licensed. In Iowa, they can write prescriptions. CNMs tend to care for pregnant women at low risk for adverse maternal and newborn outcomes. Most have a physician back up if complications arise.

- A **resident** is a physician (one who holds the degree of MD or DO) who practices medicine usually in a hospital or clinic under the direct or indirect supervision of an attending physician.

National Data - 2017

According to Rayburn¹ (2017)², there were 4.5 OBGYNs per 10,000 women of reproductive age³ (WRA) in the United States. In the same publication, Rayburn reported that there were 3.3 OBGYNs per 10,000 WRA in Iowa.

2024 Iowa Population and Provider Information

- 2024 estimated total Iowa population: 3,241,488⁴
- 2024 estimated Iowan WRA: 620,022³

¹ Rayburn WF. The Obstetrician-Gynecologist Workforce in the United States: Facts, Figures, and Implications, 2017. The Office of Workforce Studies and Planning of the American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists: Washington D.C.

² The rates reported in the Rayburn report differ from those in this report because the data collection methods differ.

³ Women of Reproductive age are defined as those between the ages of 15 and 44

⁴ <https://www.iowadatacenter.org> (Accessed 10.13.25)

Figure 1. Rate of Iowa physicians⁵ per 10,000 WRA, 2020-2024

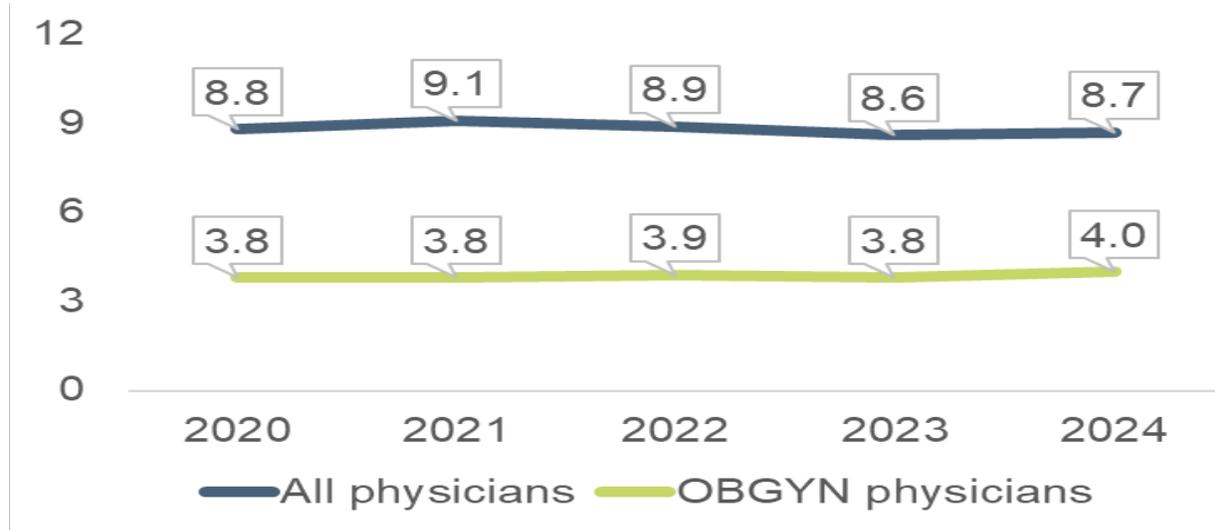


Table 1. Count of **unique licensed** providers who delivered at least one infant, Iowa 2020-2024

Provider type	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
OBGYNs	232	231	236	233	248
Family Medicine	247	269	263	242	243
Other Physicians⁶	66	53	46	53	49
Residents⁷	58	30	39	29	32
CNM	83	92	97	100	106
Total	686	675	681	657	678

With one exception, the number of unique licensed providers who have delivered at least one infant during a calendar year has been stable since 2020⁸. The exception is among CNMs. The unique count of CNMs has increased by 27.4% from 2020 through 2024 (83 to 106).

⁵ The total number of delivering physicians includes OBGYNs, family medicine physicians, and other types of physicians. It excludes resident physicians.

⁶ Other physicians include maternal fetal medicine (MFM) specialists (n=4) and general surgeons (n=28), as well as emergency room physicians, general practice physicians, and pediatricians (n=17).

⁷ The number of births attended by residents is likely under-reported because these births may be documented under the name of the supervising faculty physician.

⁸ See [Appendix C](#) for the count of unique providers from 2015-2024.

Table 2. Count and percent of births attended by all provider types, Iowa, 2020-2024

Year	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Provider Type	Number (%)	Number (%)	Number (%)	Number (%)	Number (%)
Obstetricians & Gynecologists	25,762 (71.6)	26,099 (70.8)	25,790 (70.2)	25,310 (69.4)	25,102 (68.4)
Family Medicine	4,941 (13.7)	4,993 (13.6)	5,083 (13.8)	4,970 (13.6)	5,161 (14.1)
Other Physicians⁹	664 (1.9)	639 (1.7)	553 (1.5)	628 (1.7)	667 (1.8)
Residents¹⁰	255 (0.7)	173 (0.5)	164 (0.5)	78 (0.2)	90 (0.3)
CNM	3,853 (10.7)	4,411 (12.0)	4,577 (12.5)	4,870 (13.4)	5,055 (13.8)
Unlicensed Others	490 (1.4)	530 (1.4)	564 (1.5)	635 (1.7)	507 (1.4)
Certified Professional Midwives¹¹	0	0	0	0	131 (0.4)
Total	35,965	36,845	36,731	36,491 ¹²	36,713 ¹³

In February 2025, Iowa’s Board of Nursing adopted a new Chapter 16, “[Certified Professional Midwives](#)”, Iowa Administrative Code (IAC). The IAC provides information about Certified Professional Midwives (CPM) licensure, practice standards, delegation to another CPM, testing and drugs, discipline, and telehealth. The 131 births attended by CPMs in 2024 represent nine unique providers (Table 2).

The percent of births attended by certified nurse midwives (CNM) increased by 29% from 2020 through 2024 (Table 2). The percent of births attended by other provider types remained relatively stable during the same time.

⁹ Other physicians include maternal - fetal medicine (MFM) specialists (0.6%, n=212), emergency room physicians, general practice physicians, pediatricians, and general surgeons (who may perform cesarean sections for family medicine patients). Surgeons provided 1.2% of overall deliveries and 64.1% (n=427) of the deliveries by other physicians.

¹⁰ The number of births attended by residents is likely under-reported because these births may be documented under the name of the supervising physician.

¹¹ Certifications not offered to unlicensed people who attended births until 2024

¹² N=13 records were excluded from this report due to missing information.

¹³ N=4 records were excluded from this analysis due to missing specialty information.

Table 3. Demographic information for unique licensed providers who delivered at least one infant, Iowa 2024

Provider Type	Provider Count	Average age, delivering males	Average age, delivering females	% male delivering providers	% female delivering females
OBGYN	248	55.0	43.4	31.3%	68.2%
Family Medicine	243	45.8	40.1	49.8%	49.8%
Other Physicians	49	52.4	41.1	56.3%	43.8%
CNMs	106	NA	43.0	0	100%

Obstetrics & Gynecology and Family Medicine Residency Programs

Table 4. Obstetrics & Gynecology and Family Medicine Residency Programs, June 30, 2025¹⁴

Specialty	Total # Residents Graduating in June 2022	Total # Continuing Education (Specializing)	Total # Entering Practice	Total # (%) entering an Iowa Practice
OBGYN	5	3	2	1 (50%)
Family Medicine	54	5	49	32 (65%)

Table 5. Obstetrics & Gynecology Residents by Location and Year, July 2024 – June 2025¹⁵

Residency Location	1 st Year	2 nd Year	3 rd Year	4 th Year	Total
U of I Carver College of Medicine	6	6	6	5	23

¹⁴ Data Source: University of Iowa Graduate Medical Education Program

¹⁵ Data Source: University of Iowa Graduate Medical Education Program

Table 6. Iowa medical school May 2025 graduates obtaining a residency position in OBGYN or FM through the National Resident Matching Program

University	# Students Matching in OBGYN Residency	# Students Matching in UI OBGYN Residency Program	# Students Matching in FM Residency	# Students Matching in an Iowa Based FM Residency Program
U of I Carver College of Medicine	7	2 (29%)	16	5 (31%)
Des Moines University of Osteopathic Medicine	10	0	34	10 (29%)

Table 7. Family Medicine Residents by Location and Year, July 2024 – June 2025¹⁶

Residency Location	1 st Year	2 nd Year	3 rd Year	Total
Cedar Rapids Medical Education – Closed 7/1/2020	0	0	0	0
Genesis Health System - Davenport	6	6	6	18
Broadlawns Medical Center - Des Moines	8	8	8	24
MercyOne Medical Center - Des Moines	10	10	8	28
UnityPoint - Iowa Lutheran - Des Moines	6	6	6	18
University of Iowa Hospitals Care	8	8	8	24
MercyOne Medical Center - Mason City	6	6	6	18
MercyOne Medical Center - Waterloo	5	5	5	15
UnityPoint - Allen Hospital - Waterloo	3	3	3	9
Siouxland Medical Education Foundation - Sioux City	6	6	6	18
Total	58	58	56	172

¹⁶ Data obtained from publicly available organizational websites.

LOCATION OF BIRTHS BY FACILITY AND FACILITY LEVEL OF CARE

Table 8: Births that occurred in Iowa regardless of mother’s residence by **Legacy Levels of Care**, 2020-2023

Legacy level of care ¹⁷ (# of hospitals)	2020 Number (%)	2021 Number (%)	2022 Number (%)	2023 Number (%)
Non-institutional births¹⁸	601 (1.7)	685 (1.9)	743 (2.0)	888 ¹⁹ (2.4)
Level 1 (35)	8,595 (23.9)	9,493 (25.8)	8,821 (24.0)	8,649 (23.7)
Level 2 (12)	8,304 (23.1)	8,217 (22.3)	8,889 (24.2)	8,610 (23.6)
Level 2 Regional (4)	4,481 (12.5)	4,604 (12.5)	4,558 (12.4)	4,400 (12.1)
Level 2 Regional Neonatal (2)	4,168 (11.6)	4,229 (11.5)	4,260 (11.6)	4,302 (11.8)
Level 3 (3)	9,814 (27.3)	9,617 (26.1)	9,460 (25.8)	9,642 (26.4)
Total (56)	35,963 ²⁰	36,845	36,731	36,491

Iowa HHS plays an important role in promoting, supporting, and verifying facility maternal and newborn levels of care (LOC) designations. LOC designations can ensure that mothers and newborns obtain care in the facility best prepared to meet the dyad’s needs during delivery and the immediate post-partum period.

Iowa HHS works closely with and supports [Iowa’s Statewide Perinatal Care Program](#). The Statewide Perinatal Program team is based at the University of Iowa and has been in operation since the mid-1970’s. It provides voluntary LOC verification and technical assistance site visits to birthing hospitals. In 2018, Iowa created separate maternal and neonatal levels of care. The separate maternal and neonate levels of care replaced the previous LOC (referred to as legacy LOC) and are outlined in [Iowa Administrative Code 641—150.1\(135\)](#). Separate newborn and maternal LOC designations were developed

¹⁷ Legacy LOC designations were a combination of newborn and maternal care, with a greater focus on newborns.

¹⁸ Formerly reported as home births

¹⁹ In 2023, 65.4% (n=581) of non-institutional births were attended by unlicensed persons followed by CNMs (29.4%; n=261), FM physicians (1.7%; n=15), OBGYN physicians (3.0%; n=27), and physicians of other specialties (0.5%; n=4).

²⁰ n=3 missing facility

and based on the [2012 American Academy of Pediatrics \(AAP\) Policy Statement](#) on Levels of Neonatal Care (reaffirmed in 2021) and the [2015 American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists\(ACOG\)/Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine publication](#) (reaffirmed in 2025). The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) developed a standardized tool based on the AAP and ACOG guidelines called the [Levels of Care Assessment Tool \(CDC LOCATe\)](#).

In 2019, most birthing facilities completed CDC’s LOCATe tool, however, verification visits by the Statewide Perinatal Team were delayed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. To date, almost all 54 birthing hospitals in Iowa have completed the revised LOCATe tool and those who qualify have received a verification visit. Iowa’s birthing hospitals range from Level I through Level IV facilities, with most facilities being Level I facilities (Table 9).

Table 9: Births that occurred in Iowa regardless of mother’s residence based on the **newly adopted Maternal Levels of Care, 2024**

Revised level of maternity care (# of hospitals)	2024 Number (%)
Revised level of maternal care (# of hospitals)	Number (%)
Non-institutional births ²¹	880 ²² (2.4)
Level 1 (31)	6,535 (17.8)
Level 2 (19)	17,318 (47.2)
Level 3 (1)	2,317 (6.3)
Level 4 (3)	9,571 (26.1)
Total (54)	36,621 ²³

²¹ Formerly reported as home births.

²² In 2024, 52.6% (n=463) of non-institutional births (formerly called home births) were attended by unlicensed persons followed by CNMs (26.7%; n=235), CPM (14.9%, n=131), OBGYN physicians (2.6%; n=23), FM physicians (2.2%; n=19), and physicians of other specialties (0.5%; n=5).

²³ Two OB units closed during 2024 and did not participate in the LOCATe verification process. Births (n=97) at these facilities were excluded from Table 9.

GEOGRAPHIC VARIABILITY OF PROVIDER TYPE and COUNTY WHERE BIRTH OCCURRED

Three provider types, OBGYN physicians, FM physicians, and CNMs attended 96.2% of births that occurred in Iowa during 2024. OBGYN physicians attended 68.4% of births, FM physicians attended 14.1% of births, and CNMs attended 13.8% of births. We used census data to create county level designations of rural, micropolitan, metropolitan. Provider type varies by county level designations. Births by county level designations and provider type are limited to births to Iowa residents that occurred in Iowa.

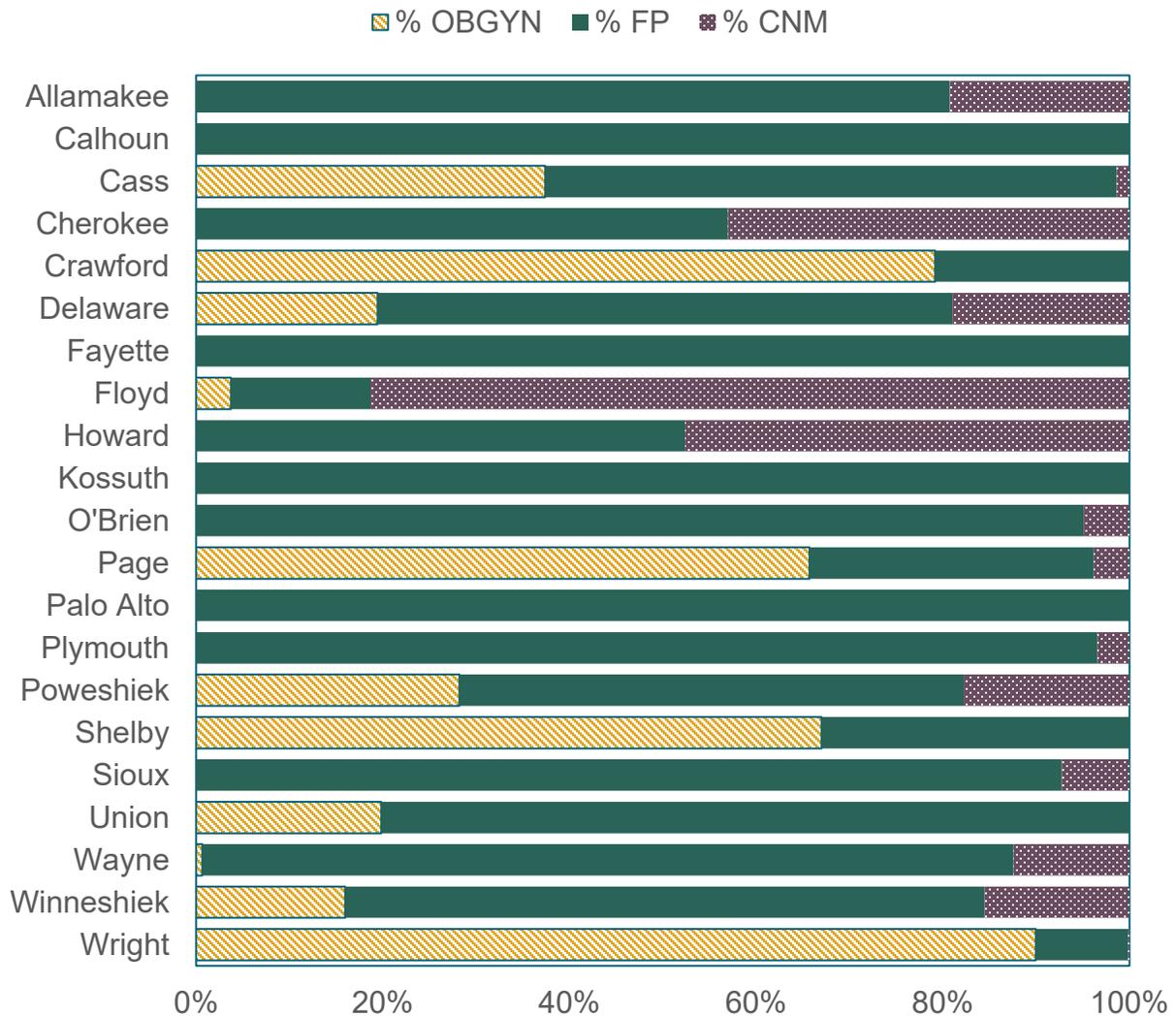
Figure 2, Figure 3, and Figure 4 illustrate provider type variability among the top three provider types by rural, micropolitan, and metropolitan county designations.

[Appendix A](#) presents the number and percent of births by the top three provider types and OB unit availability by county.

[Appendix B](#) presents a map to visualize zip code level of hospitals with OB units. The map also illustrates the zip code location of where OB units were previously available and the year that the OB unit closed. As of December 1, 2025, there are 54 facilities with OB units. Two facilities closed their OB units during 2024. Forty-three OB units have been closed since the year 2000.

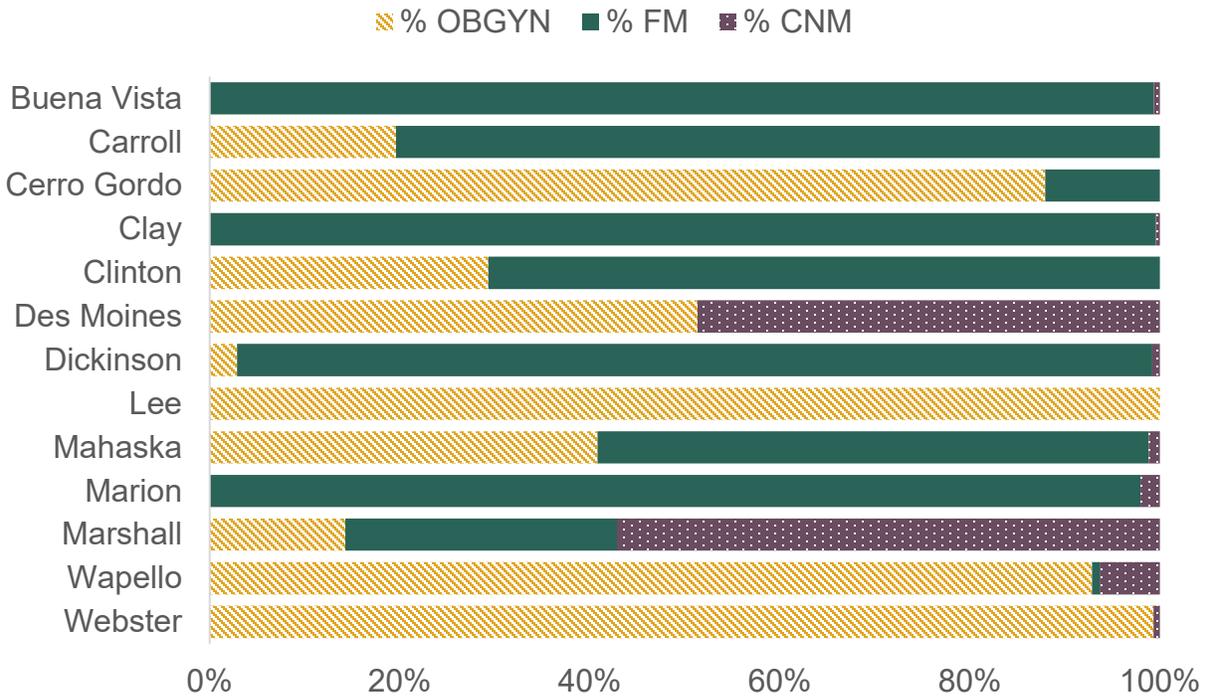
[Appendix C](#) provides the count of unique providers from 2015 through 2025 and the count and percent of births attended by all provider types for calendar years 2015 through 2025.

Figure 2: In rural counties²⁴, OBGYN physicians attended 29.1% births, FM physicians attended 59.6% of births, and CNMs attended 11.3% of births, CY 2024



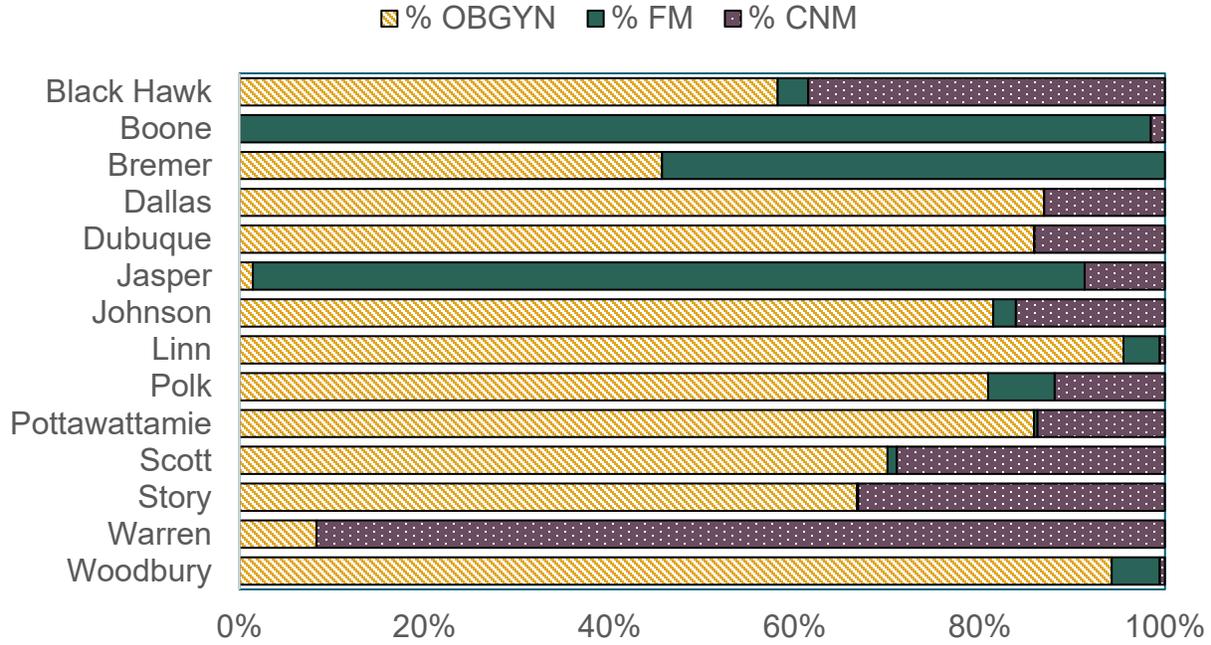
²⁴ Rural counties with less than 10 occurrent births were excluded from Figure 2.

Figure 3: In micropolitan counties²⁵, OBGYN physicians attended 45.8% of births, FM physicians attended 45.8% of births, and CNMs attended 8.4% of births, CY 2024



²⁵ Micropolitan counties with less than 10 occurrent births were excluded from Figure 3.

Figure 4: In metropolitan counties²⁶, OBGYN physicians attended 79.8% of births, FM physicians attended 4.7% of births, and CNMs attended 15.5% of births, CY 2024



²⁶ Metropolitan counties with less than 10 occurrent births were excluded from Figure 4.

Appendix A

Table 9. Births to Iowan residents that occurred in Iowa by county and provider type, calendar year 2024

County	Rurality	OB unit (Year Closed)	OBGYN Number	OBGYN Percent	Family Medicine Number	Family Medicine Percent	Certified Nurse Midwife Number	Certified Nurse Midwife Percent
Adair	Rural	Never ²⁷						
Adams	Rural	Closed ²⁸ (2006)						
Allamakee	Rural	OB Unit	0	0.0%	67	80.7%	16	19.3%
Appanoose	Rural	Closed (2017)	0	0.0%	** ²⁹	100.0%	0	0.0%
Audubon	Rural	Closed (2005)	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	**	100.0%
Benton	Metropolitan	Never	0	0.0%	**	50.0%	**	50.0%
Black Hawk	Metropolitan	OB Unit	1,230	58.2%	70	3.3%	815	38.5%
Boone	Metropolitan	OB Unit	0	0.0%	130	98.5%	**	1.5%
Bremer	Metropolitan	OB Unit	84	45.7%	100	54.3%	0	0.0%
Buchanan	Rural	Closed (2005)						
Buena Vista	Micropolitan	OB Unit	0	0.0%	308	99.4%	**	0.6%
Butler	Rural	Never						
Calhoun	Rural	OB Unit	0	0.0%	67	100.0%	0	0.0%
Carroll	Micropolitan	OB Unit ³⁰	70	19.6%	287	80.4%	0	0.0%
Cass	Rural	OB Unit	55	37.4%	90	61.2%	**	1.4%
Cedar	Rural	Never						
Cerro Gordo	Micropolitan	OB Unit	502	87.9%	69	12.1%	0	0.0%
Cherokee	Rural	OB Unit	0	0.0%	53	57.0%	40	43.0%

²⁷ Never refers to a county that has never had an OB Unit.

²⁸ Closed refers to a county that had an OB unit in the past and now no longer has an OB unit.

²⁹ Numbers between 1 and 5 are suppressed per Iowa HHS data release policy.

³⁰ Manning Regional Healthcare Center closed its OB unit in 2016. Another OB unit remains open.

County	Rurality	OB unit (Year Closed)	OBGYN Number	OBGYN Percent	Family Medicine Number	Family Medicine Percent	Certified Nurse Midwife Number	Certified Nurse Midwife Percent
Chickasaw	Rural	Closed (2020)	0	0.0%	**	100.0%	0	0.0%
Clarke	Rural	Never						
Clay	Micropolitan	OB Unit	0	0.0%	218	99.5%	** ³¹	0.5%
Clayton	Rural	Closed (2018)	**	25.0%	**	50.0%	**	25.0%
Clinton	Micropolitan	OB Unit	68	29.3%	164	70.7%	0	0.0%
Crawford	Rural	Closed (2024)	19	79.2%	5	20.8%	0	0.0%
Dallas	Metropolitan	OB Unit	1,451	86.9%	0	0.0%	218	13.1%
Davis	Rural	Closed (2014)						
Decatur	Rural	Closed (2004)	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	**	100.0%
Delaware	Rural	OB Unit	42	19.4%	133	61.6%	41	19.0%
Des Moines	Micropolitan	OB Unit	324	51.3%	0	0.0%	307	48.7%
Dickinson	Micropolitan	OB Unit	7	2.9%	234	96.3%	**	0.8%
Dubuque	Metropolitan	OB Unit ³²	1,097	85.8%	**	0.1%	180	14.1%
Emmet	Rural	Closed (2018)						
Fayette	Rural	OB Unit ³³	0	0.0%	103	100.0%	0	0.0%
Floyd	Rural	OB Unit	**	3.7%	16	15.0%	87	81.3%
Franklin	Rural	Closed						
Fremont	Rural	Closed (2000)						
Greene	Rural	Closed (2016)						
Grundy	Metropolitan	Never						
Guthrie	Metropolitan	Never						

³¹ Numbers between 1 and 5 are suppressed per Iowa HHS data release policy.

³² Mercy Medical Center in Dyersville closed its OB unit in 2004. Another OB unit remains open.

³³ Mercy Hospital of Franciscan Sisters in Oelwein closed its OB unit in 2004. Another OB unit remains open.

County	Rurality	OB unit (Year Closed)	OBGYN Number	OBGYN Percent	Family Medicine Number	Family Medicine Percent	Certified Nurse Midwife Number	Certified Nurse Midwife Percent
Hamilton	Rural	Closed (2018)	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	** ³⁴	100.0%
Hancock	Rural	Never						
Hardin	Rural	Closed (2000)	**	100.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Harrison	Metropolitan	Never						
Henry	Rural	Closed (2020)	0	0.0%	**	100.0%	0	0.0%
Howard	Rural	OB Unit	0	0.0%	33	52.4%	30	47.6%
Humboldt	Rural	Closed (2004)	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	**	100.0%
Ida	Rural	Closed (2012)						
Iowa	Rural	Never	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	**	100.0%
Jackson	Rural	Closed (2021)						
Jasper	Metropolitan	Closed (2024)	**	1.4%	62	89.9%	6	8.7%
Jefferson	Micropolitan	Closed (2000)						
Johnson	Metropolitan	OB Unit	2,959	81.4%	88	2.4%	586	16.1%
Jones	Metropolitan	Closed (2000)	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	**	100.0%
Keokuk	Rural	Never						
Kossuth	Rural	OB Unit	0	0.0%	116	100.0%	0	0.0%
Lee	Micropolitan	OB Unit	159	100.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Linn	Metropolitan	OB Unit	2,822	95.5%	116	3.9%	17	0.6%
Louisa	Rural	Never						
Lucas	Rural	Closed (2018)	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	**	100.0%
Lyon	Rural	Closed (2010)	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	**	100.0%
Madison	Metropolitan	Never	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	7	100.0%
Mahaska	Micropolitan	OB Unit	102	40.8%	145	58.0%	**	1.2%
Marion	Micropolitan	OB Unit	0	0.0%	475	97.9%	10	2.1%

³⁴ Numbers between 1 and 5 are suppressed per Iowa HHS data release policy.

County	Rurality	OB unit (Year Closed)	OBGYN Number	OBGYN Percent	Family Medicine Number	Family Medicine Percent	Certified Nurse Midwife Number	Certified Nurse Midwife Percent
Mills	Metropolitan	Never						
Mitchell	Rural	Closed (2008)						
Monona	Rural	Closed (2021)						
Monroe	Rural	Never						
Montgomery	Rural	Closed (2020)						
Muscatine	Micropolitan	Closed (2020)						
O'Brien	Rural	OB Unit	0	0.0%	136	95.1%	7	4.9%
Osceola	Rural	Closed (2018)	0	0.0%	** ³⁵	50.0%	**	50.0%
Page	Rural	OB Unit ³⁶	69	65.7%	32	30.5%	**	3.8%
Palo Alto	Rural	OB Unit	0	0.0%	72	100.0%	0	0.0%
Plymouth	Rural	OB Unit	0	0.0%	85	96.6%	**	3.4%
Pocahontas	Rural	Never						
Polk	Metropolitan	OB Unit ³⁷	6589	80.9%	587	7.2%	971	11.9%
Pottawattamie	Metropolitan	OB Unit	921	85.8%	**	0.4%	148	13.8%
Poweshiek	Rural	OB Unit	70	28.2%	134	54.0%	44	17.7%
Ringgold	Rural	Never						
Sac	Rural	Closed (2005)						
Scott	Metropolitan	OB Unit	2108	70.0%	30	1.0%	872	29.0%
Shelby	Rural	OB Unit	67	67.0%	33	33.0%	0	0.0%
Sioux	Rural	OB Unit ³⁸	0	0.0%	332	92.7%	26	7.3%
Story	Metropolitan	OB Unit	974	66.7%	2	0.1%	484	33.2%
Tama	Rural	Never	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	**	100.0%

³⁵ Numbers between 1 and 5 are suppressed per Iowa HHS data release policy.

³⁶ Clarinda Regional Health Center closed its OB unit in 2005. Another OB unit remains open.

³⁷ Mercy Medical Center - West Lakes closed its OB unit in 2016 and Unity Point Iowa Lutheran closed its OB unit in 2020. Other facilities with OB units remain open

³⁸ Hegg Hospital in Sioux closed its OB unit in 2020. Another OB unit remains open.

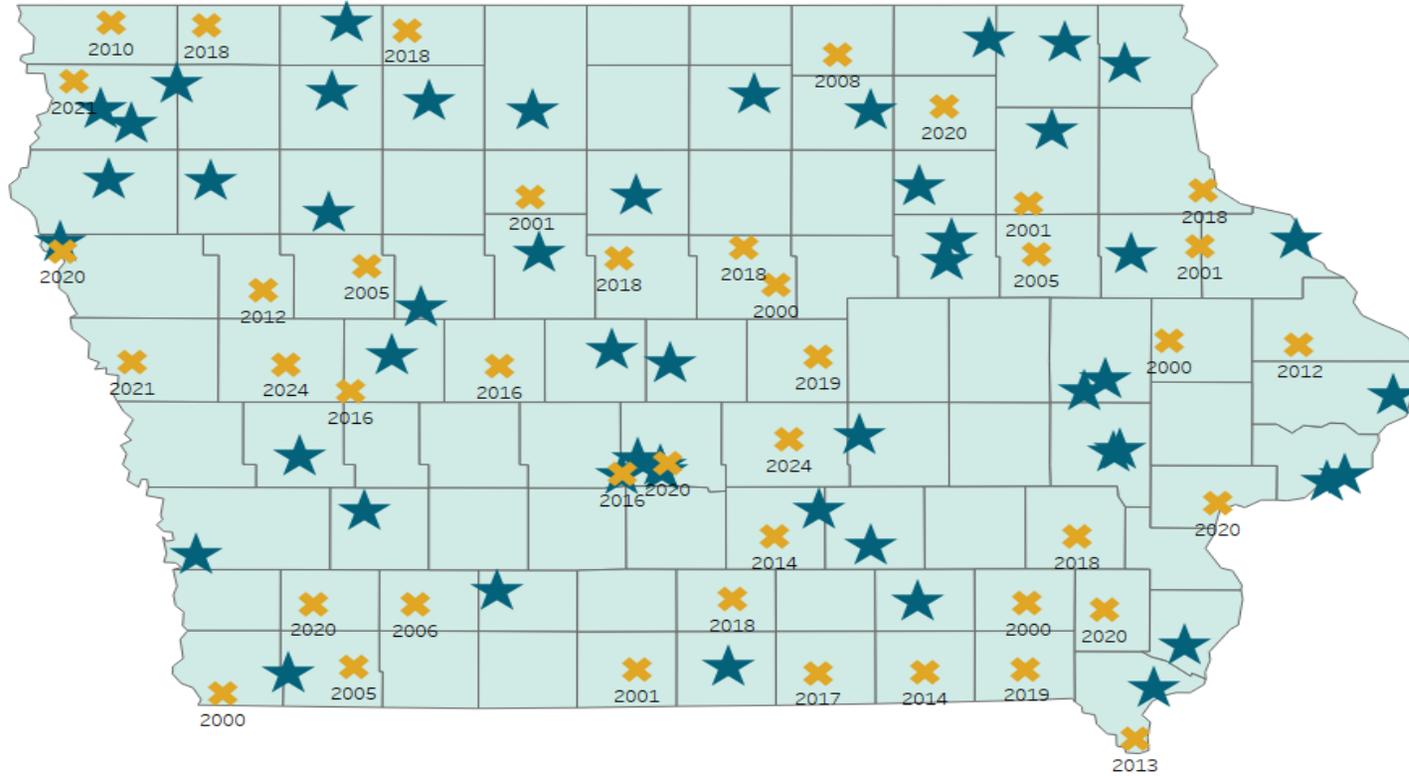
County	Rurality	OB unit (Year Closed)	OBGYN Number	OBGYN Percent	Family Medicine Number	Family Medicine Percent	Certified Nurse Midwife Number	Certified Nurse Midwife Percent
Taylor	Rural	Never						
Union	Rural	OB Unit	24	19.8%	97	80.2%	0	0.0%
Van Buren	Rural	Closed (2019)						
Wapello	Micropolitan	OB Unit	234	92.9%	** ³⁹	0.8%	16	6.3%
Warren	Metropolitan	Never	**	8.3%	0	0.0%	11	91.7%
Washington	Metropolitan	Closed (2018)	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	7	100.0%
Wayne	Rural	OB Unit	**	0.7%	133	86.9%	19	12.4%
Webster	Micropolitan	OB Unit	438	99.3%	0	0.0%	**	0.7%
Winnebago	Rural	Never	**	100.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Winneshiek	Rural	OB Unit	35	16.0%	150	68.5%	34	15.5%
Woodbury	Metropolitan	OB Unit ⁴⁰	2006	94.2%	111	5.2%	12	0.6%

³⁹ Numbers between 1 and 5 are suppressed per Iowa HHS data release policy.

⁴⁰ MercyOne Siouxland Medical Center - Sioux City (formerly Mercy Medical Center) closed its OB unit in 2020. Another OB unit remains open.

Appendix B

Figure 5. Zip code location of facilities with OB units and zip code location and year of OB unit closures



Closed OB Unit & year 

Facilities with OB Units 

Appendix C

Table 10. Count of unique licensed providers who delivered at least one infant, Iowa 2015-2024

Provider type	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
OBGYN	231	245	244	252	243	232	231	236	233	248
FM	370	350	311	324	294	247	269	263	242	243
Other Physicians	76	76	66	59	53	66	53	46	53	49
Residents⁴¹	48	62	88	47	52	58	30	39	29	32
CNM	74	79	76	91	90	83	92	97	100	106
Total	799	812	785	773	732	686	675	681	657	678

⁴¹ The number of births attended by residents are likely under reported because these births may be documented under the name of the supervising faculty physician.

Table 11. Count and percent of births attended by provider types, Iowa, 2015-2024

Year	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	
Provider Type	Number (%)										
OBGYN	27,171 (68.8)	26,909 (68.8)	26,552 (69.4)	26,117 (69.4)	26,213 (69.8)	25,762 (71.6)	26,099 (70.8)	25,790 (70.2)	25,310 (69.4)	25,102 (68.4)	
FM	6,721 (17.0)	6,351 (16.3)	5,885 (15.4)	5,805 (15.4)	5,498 (14.6)	4,941 (13.7)	4,993 (13.6)	5,083 (13.8)	4,970 (13.6)	5,161 (14.1)	
Other Physician	1,578 (4.0)	1,363 (3.5)	1,059 (2.8)	955 (2.5)	892 (2.4)	664 (1.9)	639 (1.7)	553 (1.5)	628 (1.7)	667 (1.8)	
Residents	292 (0.7)	418 (1.1)	486 (1.3)	235 (0.6)	405 (1.1)	255 (0.7)	173 (0.5)	164 (0.5)	78 (0.2)	90 (0.3)	
CNM	3,433 (8.7)	3,691 (9.4)	3,923 (10.3)	4,109 (10.9)	4,095 (10.9)	3,853 (10.7)	4,411 (12.0)	4,577 (12.5)	4,870 (13.4)	5,055 (13.8)	
Unlicensed other	294 (0.8)	344 (0.9)	361 (0.9)	420 (1.1)	454 (1.2)	490 (1.4)	530 (1.4)	564 (1.5)	635 (1.7)	507 (1.4)	
Certified Professional Midwives	Certifications not yet offered to unlicensed people who attend births	Certifications not yet offered to unlicensed people who attend births	Certifications not yet offered to unlicensed people who attend births	Certifications not yet offered to unlicensed people who attend births	Certifications not yet offered to unlicensed people who attend births	Certifications not yet offered to unlicensed people who attend births	Certifications not yet offered to unlicensed people who attend births	Certifications not yet offered to unlicensed people who attend births	Certifications not yet offered to unlicensed people who attend births	Certifications not yet offered to unlicensed people who attend births	131 (0.4)
Total	39,489	39,076	38,266	37,641	37,557	35,965	36,845	36,731	36,491 ⁴²	36,713 ⁴³	

⁴² N=13 records were excluded from this report due to missing information.

⁴³ N=4 records were excluded from this analysis due to missing specialty information.

