

Assessing Costs of Births in Varied Settings

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DSHS | Planning, Performance and Accountability ● Research and Data Analysis Division ● First Steps Database

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Births in Washington State

- ▶ **How many?** 86,956 in 2011
- ▶ **Where?** 3.1% at home or in free-standing birth centers
- ▶ **From 2004 to 2011:** number of home births increased nearly two-fold; proportion increased from 1.1% to 1.9% of total births
- ▶ **From 2000 to 2011:** number of births in birth centers also increased nearly two-fold; proportion increased from 0.7% to 1.2%
- ▶ Medicaid covers 50% of total Washington births.
- ▶ Washington is one of approximately 11 states with Medicaid reimbursement for direct-entry midwives



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Out of Hospital Births in Washington State Background

1981	Midwifery licensing law revised (education & practice standards)
1986	Birth center licensing law enacted
1987	WA Medicaid reimburses for birth center births
1989	Maternity Care Access Act (First Steps) implemented
1990	First Steps Database created for program monitoring & evaluation
1995	Every Category of Provider Law enacted (re. health plan contracts)
1996	Planned Home Births (HB) report published
1997	Home Birth Task Force report published
2001	HB Pilot Project allowed Medicaid reimbursement
2006	HMA publishes Midwifery Economic Costs and Benefits study



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Required Data Elements

Birth Certificate	Birth Certificate	Medicaid Claims
Attendant At Birth	Birth Place Type	Maternal & Infant Claims
Certifier Name & Title	Hospital	ICD-9 codes
MD/DO	Freestanding Birth Ctr.	CPT codes
Hospital Administrator	Home Birth	Providers' NPI
CNM/CM	Clinic/Doctor's Office	Expenditures
Other Midwife	Other (specify)	
Other (specify)		

- Medicaid claims (fee for service) and vital records are linked at the individual level for Medicaid mothers and their infants.
- Vital Records also provide: maternal risk factors, birth weight, method of delivery, fetal and infant deaths.
- Birth Attendants' licensure/specialty was verified and typical delivery location determined.



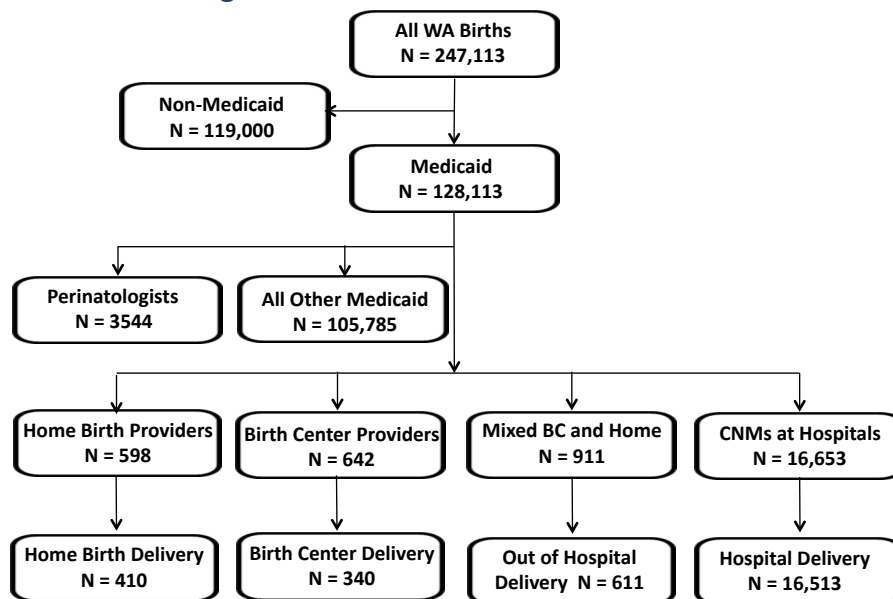
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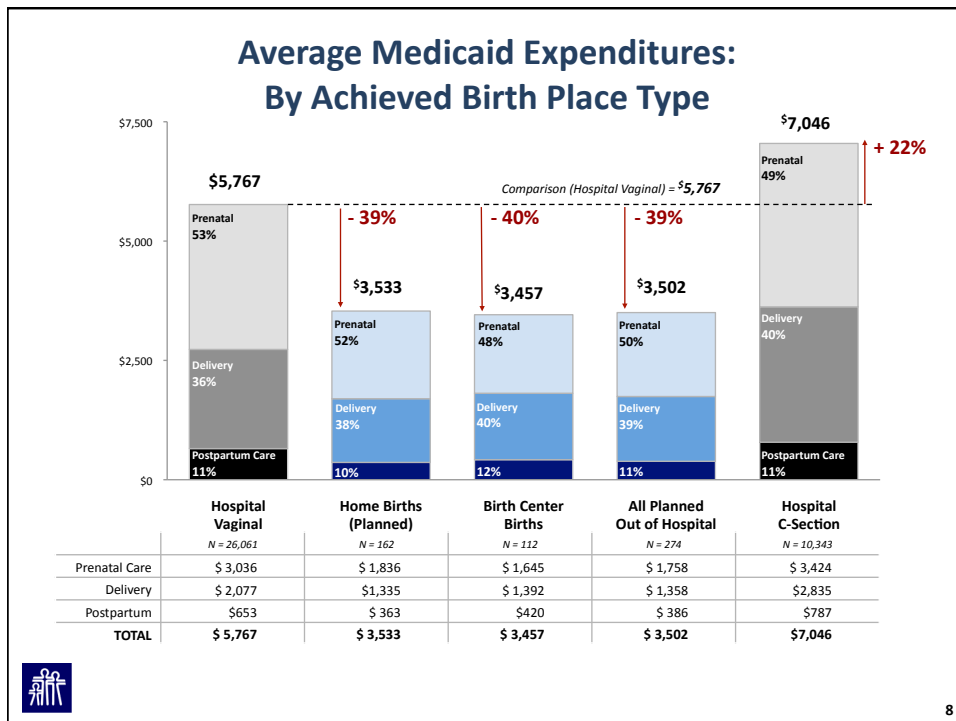
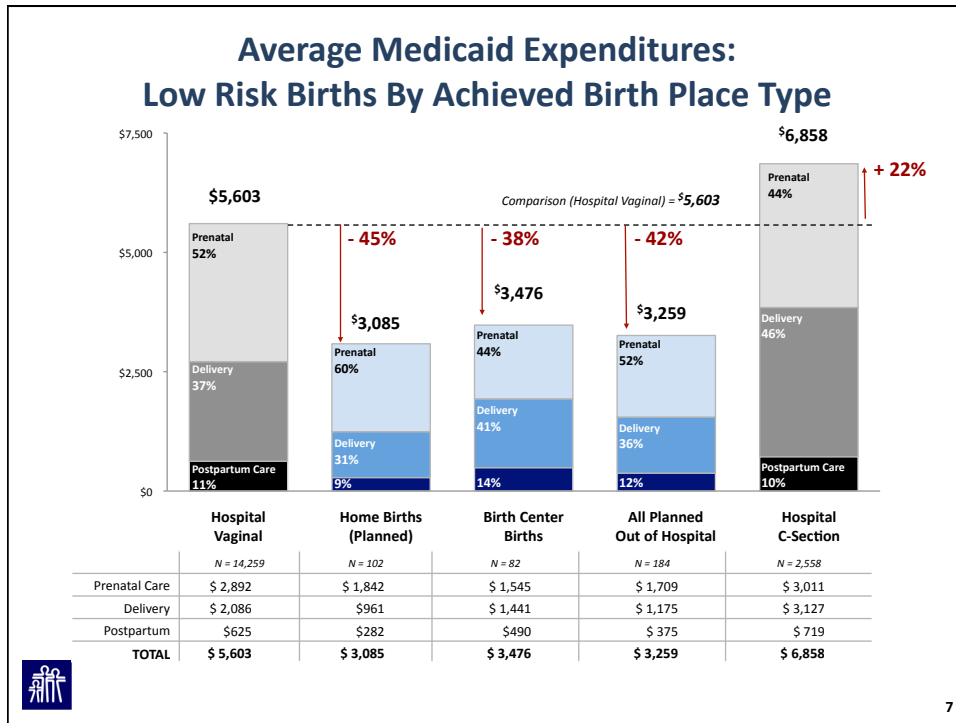
Licensure and Typical Delivery Location For WA Providers of Out of Hospital Births

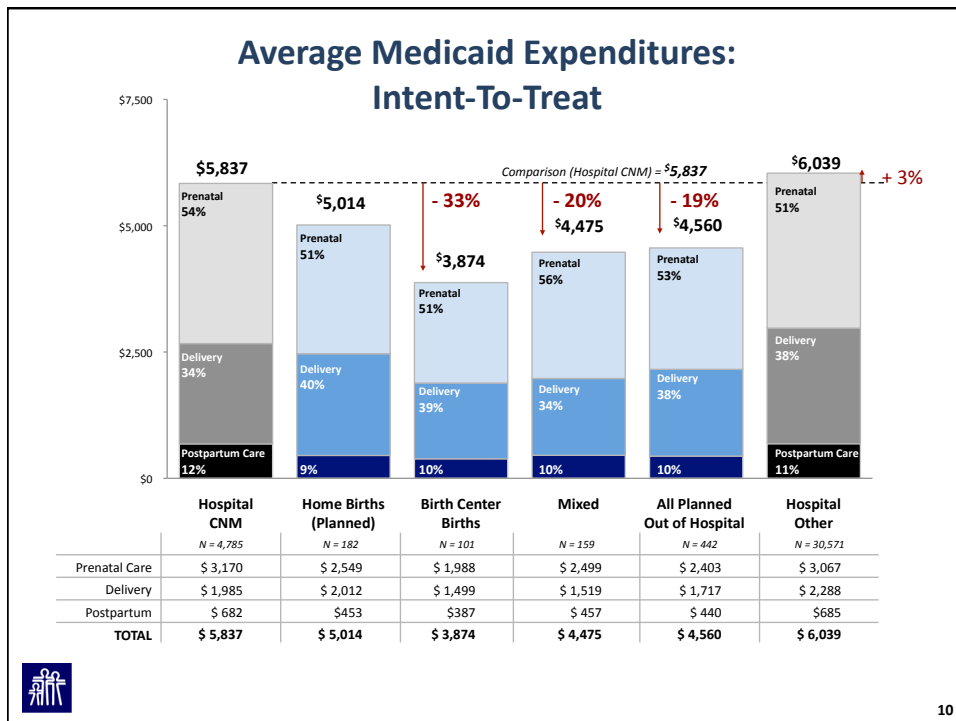
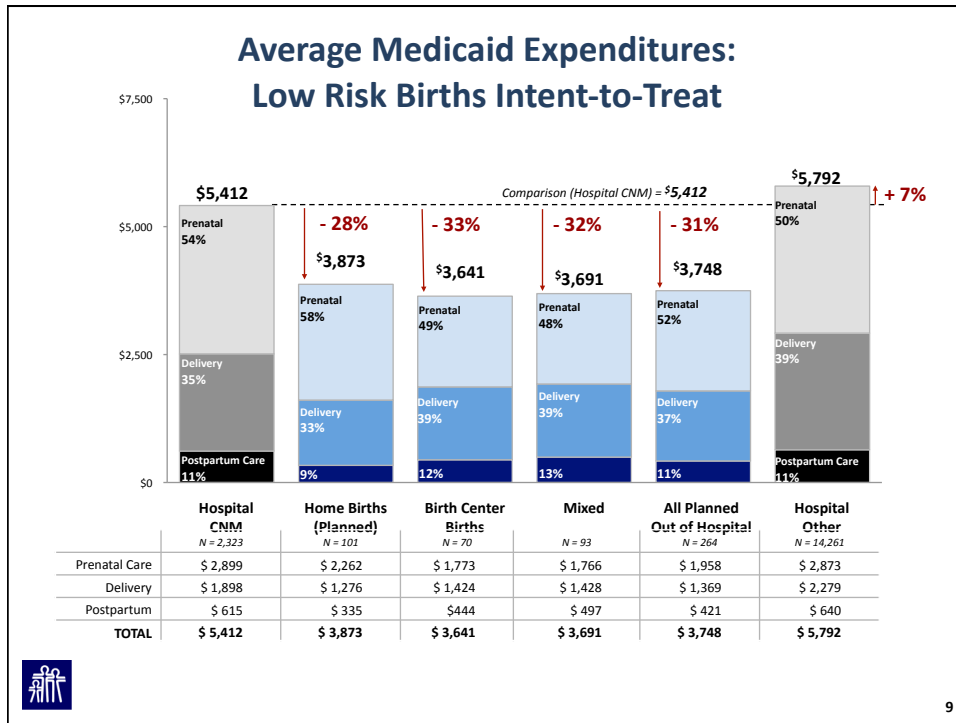
Typical Delivery Location	Licensed Midwife (LM)	Certified Nurse Midwife (CNM)
Home	72	8
Birthing Center	16	1
Mixed (Home and Birth Center)	33	5
All Out of Hospital	121	14

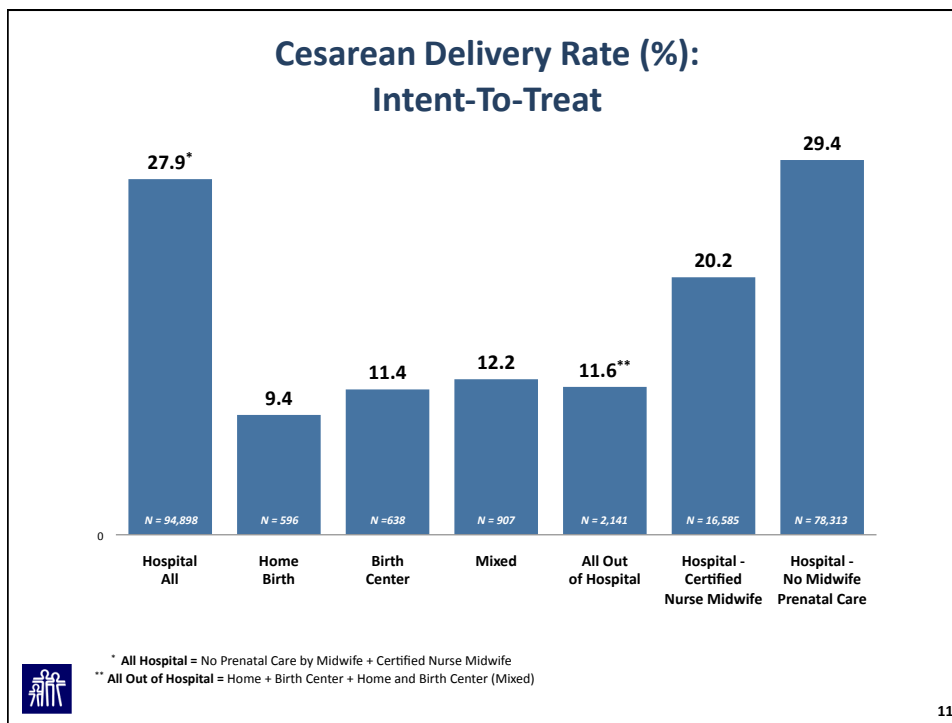


Prenatal Care Providers and Achieved Birth Place for Washington State Women Who Gave Birth 2010-2012








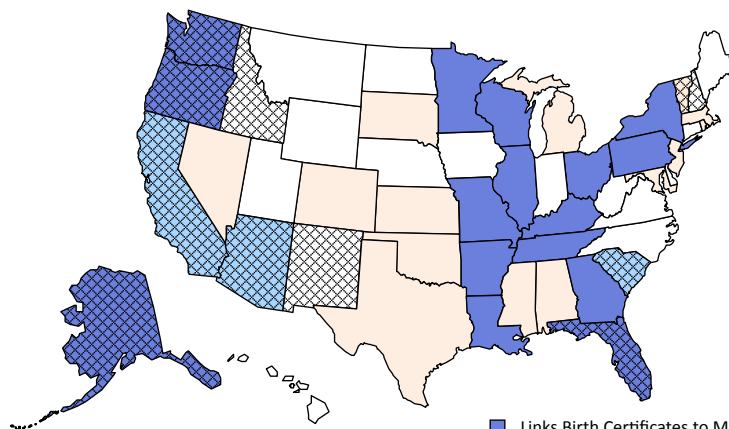


Assessing Costs of Births in Varied Settings Future Directions?

- **Extend analysis to other states with linked Medicaid claims and vital records and Medicaid reimbursement for out of hospital births**
 - Increase Ns
 - Study different states' models of care/reimbursement
 - Describe insurance issues for mother-infant dyad
- **Use medical record review or detailed analysis of claims data to identify timing of transfer of care, emergency transport expenses**
 - Explore outliers and remove as appropriate
- **Include birth outcomes and infant medical care expenditures together with maternal expenditures**
 - Compare transfer and C-section rates for nulliparous and multiparous women

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Current Medicaid-Birth Certificate Linkage and Medicaid Reimbursement for Licensed (Direct-Entry) Midwives



Data Sources: CMMI State questionnaire (1/28/2013) and Medicaid Medical Directors Learning Network state survey (2012)
<http://mana.org/statechart.html>

- Links Birth Certificates to Mothers /Infants
- Link Not Ongoing, Uncertain, or Other Purposes
- Does Not Link
- Linkage Status Unknown
- ☒ Medicaid Reimbursement for Licensed Midwives

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