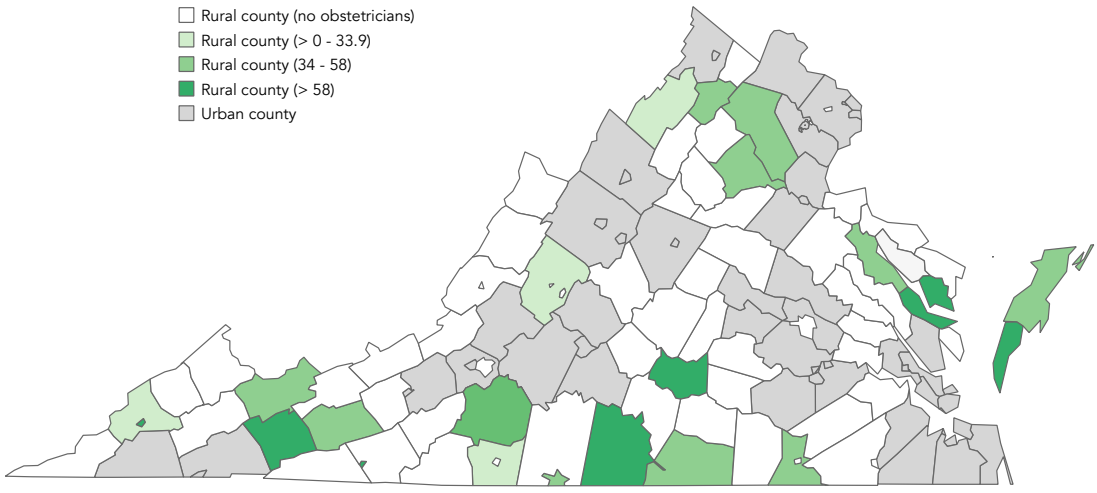
WWAMI • ruralhealth researchcenter
UNIVERSITY of WASHINGTON

Virginia Rural Obstetrical Workforce

The table and maps describe obstetrical service clinicians, including obstetricians, advanced practice midwives (certified nurse midwives and certified midwives), and midwives (midwives and lay midwives) in Virginia. All midwives were classified using methods described by Vanderlaan and Jefferson, 2023.[1] Counties were categorized as rural and urban based on the Federal Office of Rural Health Policy (FORHP) rural definition. See page 3 for detailed county category designations.

Figure 1. Obstetricians per 100,000 Women of Childbearing Age* in Virginia Rural Counties, 2025



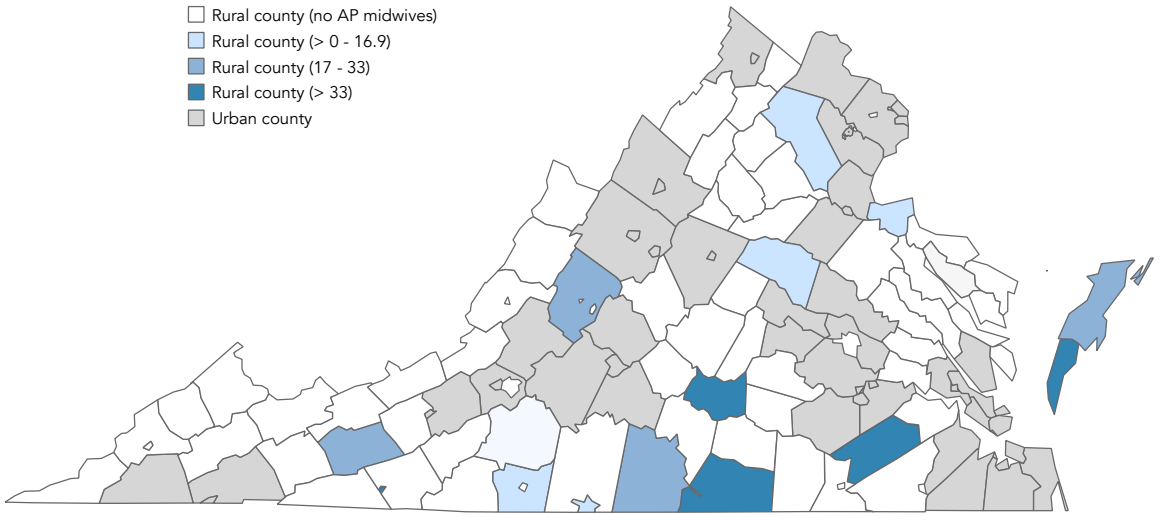
*Ages 15-49.
Data Sources: National Plan and Provider Enumeration System National Provider Identifier data, January 2025; U.S. Census Bureau population data; the Federal Office of Rural Health Policy Rural Definition Data Files.

Table 1. Obstetrical Service Clinicians per 100,000 Women of Childbearing Age* in Virginia and U.S. Counties

	Obstetricians/ 100,000 women of childbearing age (Count)	Advanced Practice Midwives†/ 100,000 women of childbearing age (Count)	Midwives‡/ 100,000 women of childbearing age (Count)
Total U.S.	62.3 (47,321)	16.2 (12,318)	4.3 (3,263)
Urban	67.3 (43,622)	16.8 (10,900)	4.1 (2,659)
Rural	33.2 (3,699)	12.7 (1,418)	5.4 (604)
Virginia (VA)	61.1 (1,217)	14.8 (294)	4.7 (93)
Urban	68.1 (1,151)	16.2 (274)	4.5 (76)
Rural	21.9 (66)	6.6 (20)	5.7 (17)

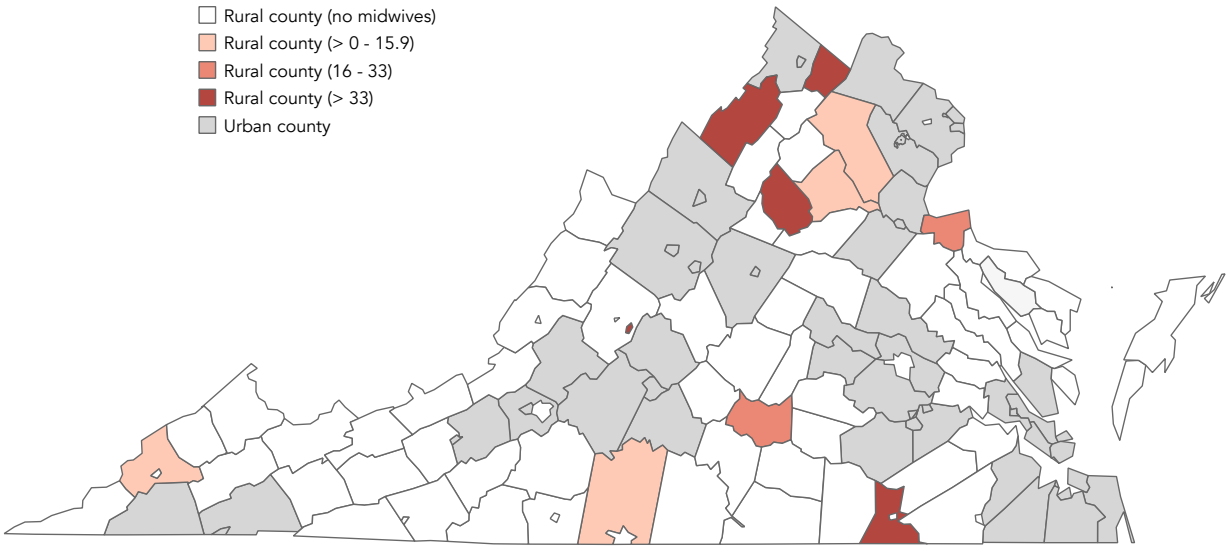
*Ages 15-49. †Advanced practice midwives include certified nurse midwives and certified midwives. ‡Midwives include midwives and lay midwives.
Data Sources: National Plan and Provider Enumeration System National Provider Identifier data, January 2025; U.S. Census Bureau population data; the Federal Office of Rural Health Policy Rural Definition Data Files.

Figure 2. Advanced Practice Midwives (AP Midwives)† per 100,000 Women of Childbearing Age* in Virginia Rural Counties, 2025



†Advanced practice midwives include certified nurse midwives and certified midwives. *Ages 15-49.
Data Sources: National Plan and Provider Enumeration System National Provider Identifier data, January 2025; U.S. Census Bureau population data; the Federal Office of Rural Health Policy Rural Definition Data Files.

Figure 3. Midwives‡ per 100,000 Women of Childbearing Age* in Virginia Rural Counties, 2025



‡Midwives include midwives and lay midwives. *Ages 15-49.
Data Sources: National Plan and Provider Enumeration System National Provider Identifier data, January 2025; U.S. Census Bureau population data; the Federal Office of Rural Health Policy Rural Definition Data Files.

Based on the FORHP Rural Grant Eligibility Definition (November 2024): Rural counties include (1) all noncore and micropolitan counties, (2) outlying metropolitan counties with no population from an urban area of 50,000 or more people, and (3) counties with all census tracts meeting the FORHP rural definition. All other counties are considered urban. Full details at: https://www.hrsa.gov/rural-health/about-us/what-is-rural

Reference:

1. Vanderlaan J, Jefferson K. Evaluation of a method to identify midwives in national provider identifier data. *BMC Pregnancy Childbirth*. 2023;23(1):809. doi:10.1186/s12884-023-06122-2

Suggested Citation: Woolcock SC, Andrilla CHA, Garberson LA, Graves JM. *The Supply and Rural-Urban Distribution of the Obstetrical Workforce in Virginia*. Data Brief. WWAMI Rural Health Research Center, University of Washington; June 2026.

University of Washington • School of Medicine
Box 354982 • Seattle WA 98195-4982
phone: (206) 685-0402 • fax: (206) 616-4768
https://familymedicine.uw.edu/rhrc/

Table A1. Obstetrical Service Clinicians per 100,000 Women of Childbearing Age[a] by County, 2025

County	Rural/Urban	Obstetricians	Advanced Practice Midwives[b]	Midwives[c]
Accomack	Rural	51.1	17.0	0.0
Albemarle	Urban	56.0	7.5	22.4
Alleghany	Rural	0.0	0.0	0.0
Amelia	Rural	0.0	0.0	0.0
Amherst	Urban	0.0	0.0	0.0
Appomattox	Rural	0.0	0.0	0.0
Arlington	Urban	73.5	12.3	0.0
Augusta	Urban	53.8	53.8	33.6
Bath	Rural	0.0	0.0	0.0
Bedford	Urban	6.5	97.8	0.0
Bland	Rural	0.0	0.0	0.0
Botetourt	Urban	0.0	0.0	16.0
Brunswick	Rural	0.0	0.0	0.0
Buchanan	Rural	0.0	0.0	0.0
Buckingham	Rural	0.0	0.0	0.0
Campbell	Urban	0.0	0.0	8.8
Caroline	Rural	0.0	0.0	0.0
Carroll	Rural	0.0	0.0	0.0
Charles City	Rural	0.0	0.0	0.0
Charlotte	Rural	0.0	0.0	0.0
Chesterfield	Urban	84.1	5.6	4.5
Clarke	Rural	0.0	0.0	34.0
Craig	Rural	0.0	0.0	0.0
Culpeper	Rural	43.2	0.0	8.6
Cumberland	Rural	0.0	0.0	0.0
Dickenson	Rural	0.0	0.0	0.0
Dinwiddie	Urban	0.0	0.0	0.0
Essex	Rural	49.1	0.0	0.0
Fairfax	Urban	89.7	13.7	1.5
Fauquier	Rural	38.8	6.5	12.9
Floyd	Rural	0.0	0.0	0.0
Fluvanna	Rural	0.0	0.0	0.0
Franklin	Rural	58.8	9.8	0.0
Frederick	Urban	0.0	5.0	5.0
Giles	Rural	0.0	0.0	0.0
Gloucester	Urban	51.3	12.8	0.0
Goochland	Urban	0.0	0.0	0.0
Grayson	Rural	0.0	0.0	0.0
Greene	Rural	0.0	0.0	0.0
Greensville	Rural	36.3	0.0	36.3
Halifax	Rural	64.4	16.1	0.0
Hanover	Urban	84.6	8.5	0.0
Henrico	Urban	66.0	6.3	5.1
Henry	Rural	16.3	8.2	0.0
Highland	Rural	0.0	0.0	0.0
Isle of Wight	Urban	0.0	0.0	24.5
James City	Urban	78.0	13.0	13.0
King George	Rural	0.0	15.8	15.8
King William	Rural	0.0	0.0	0.0
King and Queen	Rural	0.0	0.0	0.0
Lancaster	Rural	132.5	0.0	0.0
Lee	Rural	0.0	0.0	0.0
Loudoun	Urban	46.4	22.7	1.9
Louisa	Rural	0.0	12.5	0.0

Continued next page

Continued Table A1. Obstetrical Service Clinicians per 100,000 Women of Childbearing Age[a] by County, 2025

County	Rural/Urban	Obstetricians	Advanced Practice Midwives[b]	Midwives[c]
Lunenburg	Rural	0.0	0.0	0.0
Madison	Rural	0.0	0.0	72.5
Mathews	Rural	0.0	0.0	0.0
Mecklenburg	Rural	37.8	37.8	0.0
Middlesex	Rural	61.0	0.0	0.0
Montgomery	Urban	75.8	7.6	0.0
Nelson	Rural	0.0	0.0	0.0
New Kent	Rural	0.0	0.0	0.0
Northampton	Rural	100.0	50.0	0.0
Northumberland	Rural	0.0	0.0	0.0
Nottoway	Rural	0.0	0.0	0.0
Orange	Rural	0.0	0.0	0.0
Page	Rural	0.0	0.0	0.0
Patrick	Rural	0.0	0.0	0.0
Pittsylvania	Rural	0.0	0.0	9.2
Powhatan	Urban	0.0	0.0	0.0
Prince Edward	Rural	91.9	73.5	18.4
Prince George	Urban	10.7	0.0	0.0
Prince William	Urban	29.0	7.5	2.5
Pulaski	Rural	0.0	0.0	0.0
Rappahannock	Rural	0.0	0.0	0.0
Richmond	Rural	0.0	0.0	0.0
Roanoke	Urban	19.6	4.9	14.7
Rockbridge	Rural	15.6	31.3	0.0
Rockingham	Urban	0.0	0.0	16.3
Russell	Rural	0.0	0.0	0.0
Scott	Urban	0.0	0.0	0.0
Shenandoah	Rural	11.3	0.0	56.7
Smyth	Rural	71.8	0.0	0.0
Southampton	Rural	0.0	0.0	0.0
Spotsylvania	Urban	5.9	8.9	8.9
Stafford	Urban	25.7	2.6	0.0
Surry	Rural	0.0	0.0	0.0
Sussex	Rural	0.0	59.0	0.0
Tazewell	Rural	40.6	0.0	0.0
Warren	Rural	56.6	0.0	0.0
Washington	Urban	77.9	0.0	0.0
Westmoreland	Rural	0.0	0.0	0.0
Wise	Rural	14.6	0.0	14.6
Wythe	Rural	36.5	18.2	0.0
York	Urban	0.0	0.0	0.0
Alexandria	Urban	87.1	54.2	0.0
Bristol	Urban	0.0	0.0	0.0
Buena Vista	Rural	0.0	0.0	64.1
Charlottesville	Urban	349.6	60.8	15.2
Chesapeake	Urban	47.4	13.5	5.1
Colonial Heights	Urban	171.2	0.0	0.0
Danville	Rural	43.8	11.0	0.0
Falls Church	Urban	449.2	29.9	0.0

Continued next page

Continued Table A1. Obstetrical Service Clinicians per 100,000 Women of Childbearing Age[a] by County, 2025

County	Rural/Urban	Obstetricians	Advanced Practice Midwives[b]	Midwives[c]
Franklin	Rural	56.4	0.0	0.0
Fredericksburg	Urban	419.8	93.3	0.0
Galax	Rural	70.7	70.7	0.0
Hampton	Urban	30.2	30.2	3.0
Harrisonburg	Urban	83.4	47.6	29.8
Hopewell	Urban	0.0	0.0	0.0
Lynchburg	Urban	95.3	8.7	8.7
Manassas	Urban	148.5	29.7	9.9
Newport News	Urban	90.9	26.6	4.4
Norfolk	Urban	117.0	15.5	5.2
Norton	Rural	383.1	0.0	0.0
Petersburg	Urban	88.2	12.6	0.0
Poquoson	Urban	0.0	0.0	0.0
Portsmouth	Urban	107.4	42.9	4.3
Radford	Urban	0.0	16.3	0.0
Richmond	Urban	90.1	26.0	1.5
Roanoke	Urban	144.0	22.5	13.5
Salem	Urban	68.1	102.1	0.0
Staunton	Urban	31.7	15.8	15.8
Suffolk	Urban	39.0	34.7	13.0
Virginia Beach	Urban	37.6	2.8	3.8
Waynesboro	Urban	38.3	0.0	0.0
Williamsburg	Urban	0.0	0.0	0.0
Winchester	Urban	414.5	63.8	0.0

Data Sources: National Plan and Provider Enumeration System National Provider Identifier data, January 2025; U.S. Census Bureau population data; the Federal Office of Rural Health Policy Rural Definition Data Files.
[a]Ages 15-49.
[b]Advanced practice midwives include certified nurse midwives and certified midwives.
[c]Midwives include midwives and lay midwives.