

COMPREHENSIVE PRIMARY CARE: THE MANY ROLES OF A MIDWIFE

Midwives provide essential, high-quality primary care across the life course

Offering Comprehensive Sexual and Reproductive Healthcare

- Contraceptive care
- Treatment and prevention of Sexually Transmitted and Blood Borne Infections (STBBI)
- Menstrual health and menopause care

Optimizing Health Systems through Midwifery Integration

- Reducing unnecessary interventions
- Decreasing costly interventions and visits to hospital emergency departments

Enhancing Public Health Community-based Care

- Health promotion and disease prevention
- Vaccines and immunization products
- Caring for equity-deserving populations

Improving Access to Quality of Care


- Removing barriers to care
- Health system navigation
- Expanding access to primary care
- Continuity of care
- Increased client satisfaction

Providing Emergency and Urgent Care

- Early pregnancy care and first-trimester complications
- Comprehensive abortion care

Promoting Health Equity

- Responsive to community needs
- Cultural safety
- Care in rural and remote areas

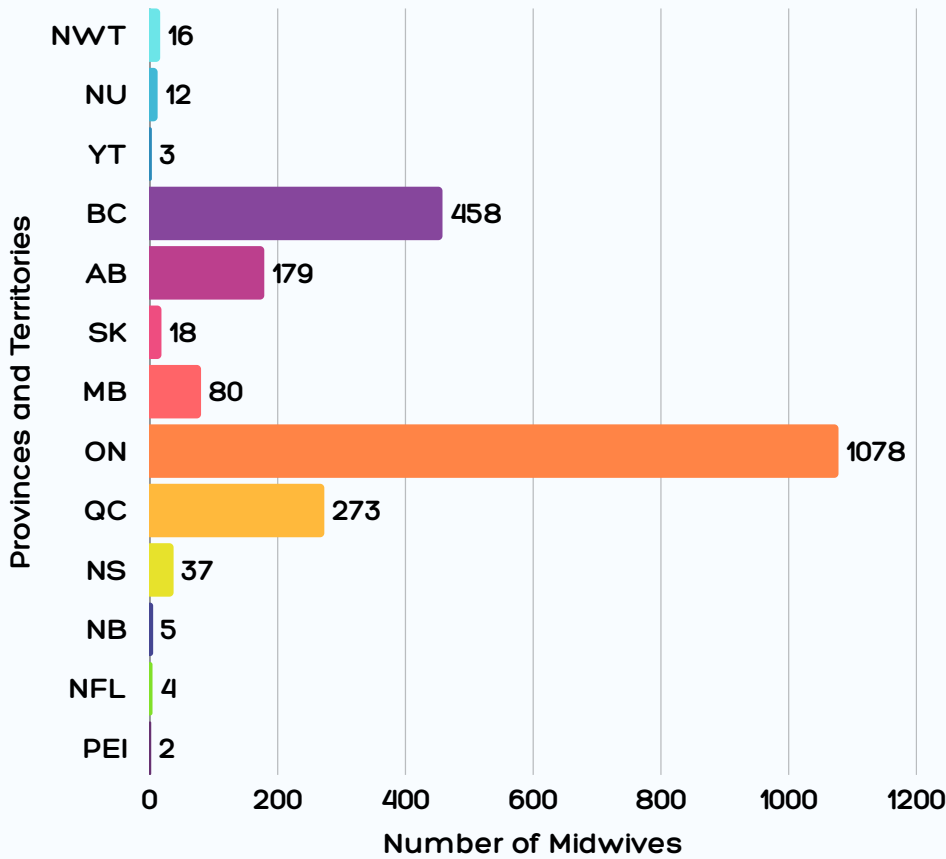


Centring IBPOC and 2SLGBTQI+
Communities and Midwives as Leaders in
Equity and Change

CANADA NEEDS MORE MIDWIVES

Strengthening midwifery ensures equitable access to primary care across Canada

Canada's Midwifery Workforce, 2023

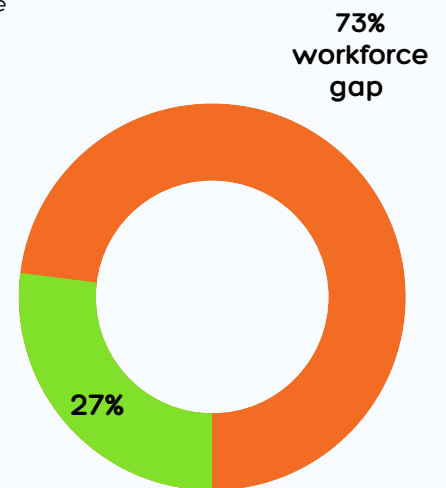


“Midwives who are educated and regulated according to global standards can meet 90% of the need for essential sexual, reproductive, maternal, newborn and adolescent health interventions, but this is achievable only if midwives are working to their full scope of practice within an enabling work environment.”

Note: Workforce figures represent the total number of midwives reported within each jurisdiction. These counts may include midwives not currently in active practice, and therefore do not precisely reflect the number of practicing midwives available to provide care.

Modernizing Canada's Health Workforce through Midwifery Health Systems Integration

- 1 Expand midwifery training, recruitment, and retention efforts
- 2 Remove unnecessary regulatory barriers to strengthen midwives' role in primary care
- 3 Strengthen midwives' prescribing authority
- 4 Ensure midwives can provide full-spectrum contraceptive and abortion care throughout the life course



Only 27% of needed midwives in Canada are working today

1. United Nations Population Fund, International Confederation of Midwives, World Health Organization. State of the world's midwifery 2021. New York: United Nations Population Fund; 2021.

The views expressed herein do not necessarily represent the views of Health Canada.



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Midwives for everyone, everywhere
Des sages-femmes pour tous, partout