

Perinatal- Neonatal Quality Care Vermont: Where We Have Been and Where We Are Going

September 24, 2026



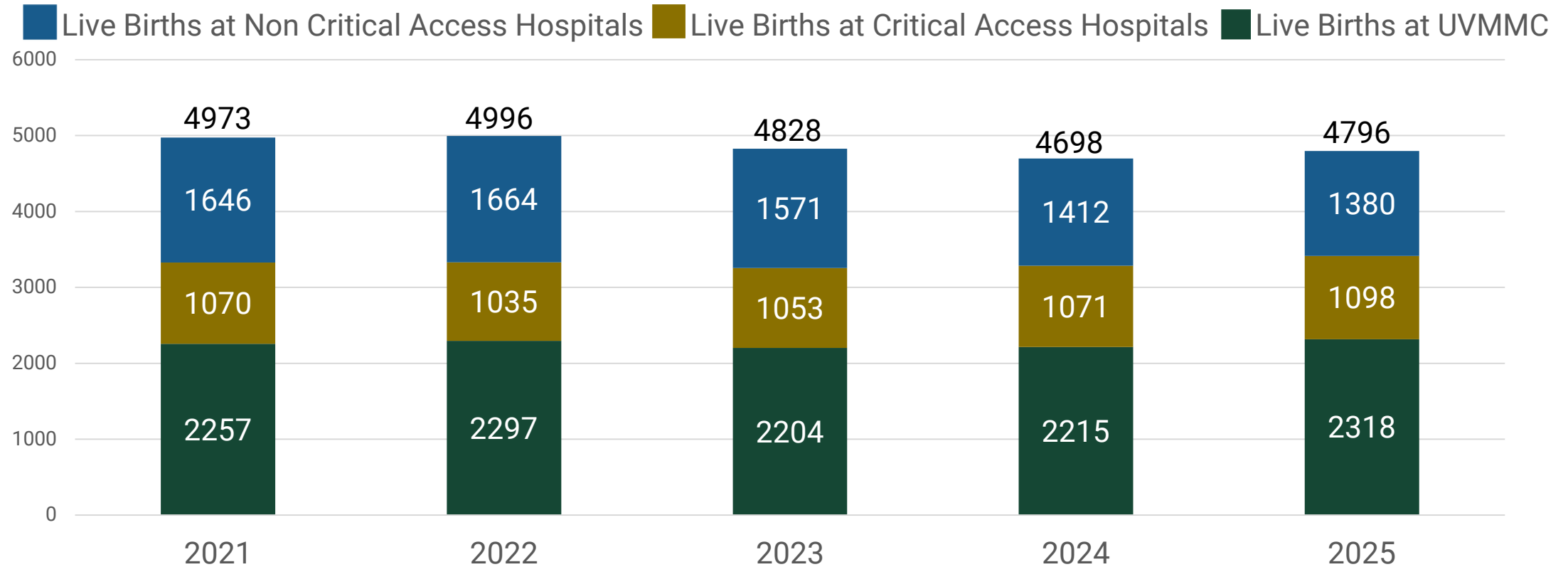


Understanding the population we are supporting

Data Sources

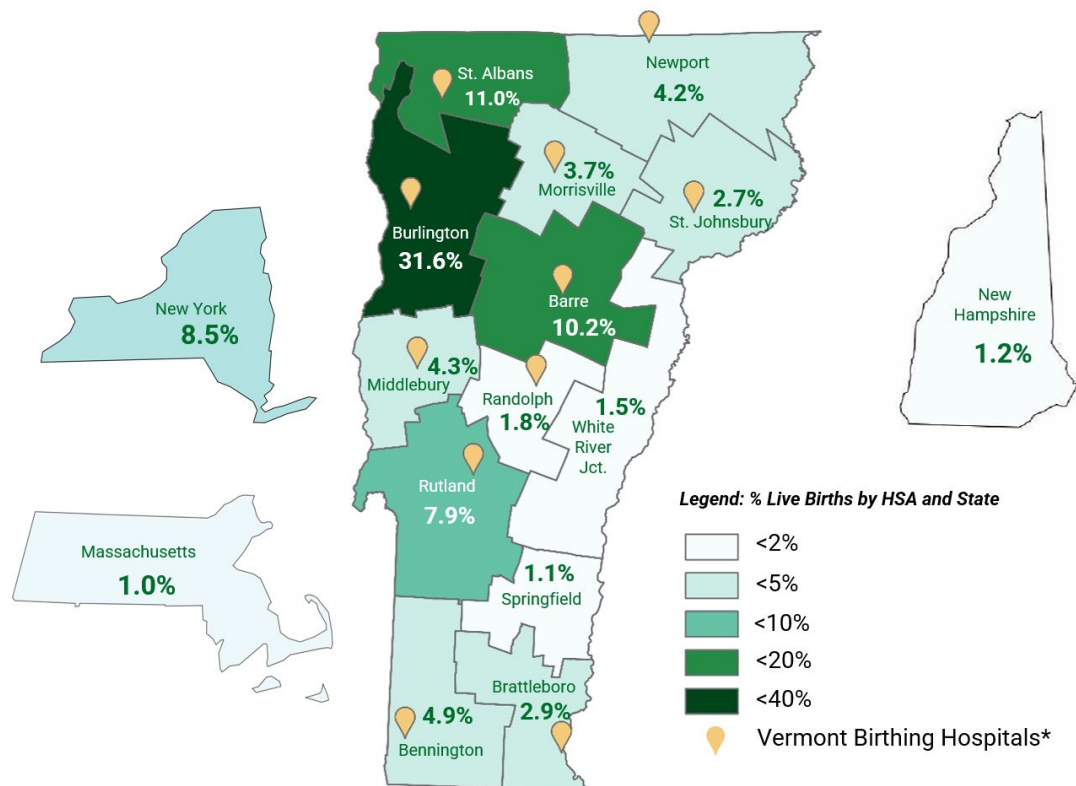


Live Births at Vermont Birthing Hospitals, 2021-2025



Data shown are from Birth Certificate data 2021-2025. Note: Includes out-of-state residents delivering at a VT birthing hospital. Excludes home births and births enroute.

Live Births by Place of Residence, 2025



Data shown are from Birth Certificate data, 2025.

Regions shown are Hospital Service Areas as designated by the Vermont Department of Health. Includes data from out of hospital births and births to out-of-state residents. Excludes births to Vermont residents outside of Vermont. Includes pregnant people delivering live infants registered in the Vermont Birth Certificate data extract.

*Copley Hospital (Morrisville) ended birthing services in November 2025.

Place of Birth and Residency, 2025 Births



3% of births in Vermont were out-of-hospital.*



11% of births in Vermont were to out of state residents.



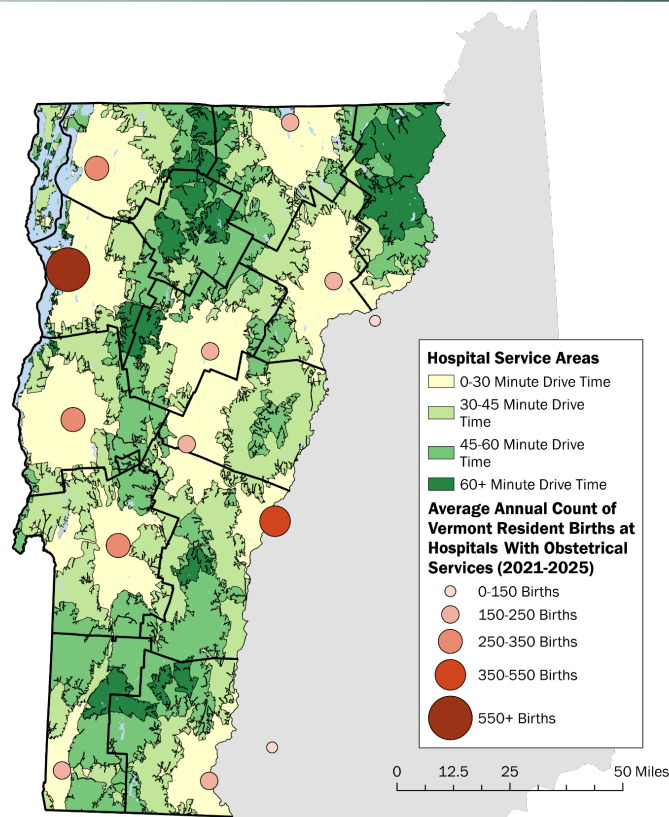
71% of pregnant people residing in VT gave birth at their home HSA hospital.



29% of pregnant people residing in VT gave birth at another Vermont birthing hospital outside their own HSA.

*Out of Hospital Births include all births not at a Vermont hospital (e.g., home births and births enroute). Data shown are from Birth Certificate data, 2025. Excludes births to Vermont residents outside of Vermont. Includes pregnant people delivering live infants registered in the Vermont Birth Certificate data extract.

Hospital Service Areas and Drive Time



Vermont Vital Statistics System (2026). Vermont Residents Births, 2021-2025.

Hospitals with Obstetric Services:

- Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center
- Northwestern Medical Center
- Central Vermont Medical Center
- Northeastern Vermont Hospital
- Cheshire Medical Center
- Littleton Regional Hospital
- Gifford Medical Center
- Southwestern Medical Center
- Brattleboro Memorial Hospital
- University of Vermont Medical Center
- Rutland Regional Medical Center
- Porter Medical Center
- North Country Hospital

Note: 2025 birth data are preliminary and may change.

Live Birth Deliveries at Vermont Hospitals, 2016-2025

Hospital of Delivery	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Total
Brattleboro Memorial Hospital	301	321	258	321	257	285	268	241	229	216	2,697
Central Vermont Medical Center	306	323	302	265	251	256	223	217	241	232	2,616
Copley Hospital	203	195	177	181	147	150	191	154	174	101	1,673
Gifford Medical Center	194	167	189	211	215	225	192	203	202	206	2,004
North Country Hospital and Health Center	192	187	209	197	193	157	153	164	172	166	1,790
Northeastern Vermont Regional Hospital	205	210	197	213	194	182	192	218	217	211	2,039
Northwestern Medical Center	370	378	352	349	352	377	328	316	282	292	3,396
Porter Medical Center	377	355	350	321	312	314	317	319	323	324	3,312
Rutland Regional Medical Center	322	353	332	325	362	322	353	277	251	278	3,175
Southwestern Vermont Medical Center	446	469	453	402	403	407	383	352	366	348	4,029
Springfield Hospital	185	155	151	32	0	0	4	1	2	2	532
The University of Vermont Medical Center	2,225	2,164	2,145	2,151	2,029	2,191	2,221	2,145	2,143	2,257	21,671
Total	5,326	5,277	5,115	4,968	4,715	4,866	4,825	4,607	4,602	4,633	48,934

Source: Vermont Vital Statistics System (2026).

Maternal Health Innovation Grant

System wide, sustainable improvements to :

- Reduce maternal mortality
- Reduce severe maternal morbidity (SMM)

By:

- The MHI Task Force
- Maternal Health Strategic Plan
- Investing in maternal health interventions
- Improving data



- All birthing people in Vermont feel *safe, supported, and empowered* during their pregnancies, births, and throughout their postpartum experiences.

Centering Patient Voices to guide our work

BIPOC Birthing Study: Centering Lived Experiences and Advancing Maternal Health Equity in Vermont



BIPOC Birthing Study Report: Centering lived experiences and advancing maternal health equity in Vermont

Birth Outcomes for Vermonters with Substance Use Disorder Report: A Qualitative study to understand health outcomes for mothers and birthing people across Vermont with substance use disorders

State of Vermont, Maternal Mortality Review Panel
Maternal Mortality Review Panel Report to the Legislature 2026

Maternal Mortality Review Panel 2026 Report to the Legislature

In Accordance with 18.V.S.A. § 1552

Submitted To:

House Committee on Human Services
Senate Committee on Health and Welfare

Published:

1/15/2026

Annual Maternal Mortality Review Panel
Report with data and recommendations so
prevent future maternal death
2026 Report to the legislature [here](#)

FINAL CMS Rules: Maternal Safety Conditions of Practice

Quality Assessment and Performance Improvement (QAPI) Program EFFECTIVE 1/1/2027

If a MMRC is available at the State or local jurisdiction in which the facility was located, hospitals that offer OB services must have a process for incorporating MMRC data and recommendations into the facility's QAPI program

Decades of Partnership



Larner College of Medicine



Perinatal Quality Collaborative Vermont

Mission: Optimizing care and health outcomes in pregnancy and infancy through collaboration and continuous quality improvement.

Goal: The PQC-VT will improve care and health outcomes of pregnant people and infants in Vermont through the following initiatives:

- Set Perinatal health Outcome Priorities
- Provide Outreach and Education
- Advance Quality Improvement Efforts
- Monitor Pregnancy and Newborn Health Outcomes



PQC-VT Faculty & Staff

UVM Faculty

- **Whittney Barkhuff**, MD, Assistant Professor of Neonatology
- **Sarah Guth**, MD, Associate Professor of Psychiatry
- **Breena Holmes**, MD, FAAP, Professor of Pediatrics
- **Delia Horn**, MD, Assistant Professor of Neonatology
- **Samuel Loren**, MD, Assistant Professor of Pediatrics
- **Carole McBride**, PhD, Assistant Professor, Research of Obstetrics & Gynecology
- **Kelley McLean**, MD, Associate Professor of Maternal Fetal Medicine
- **Charles Mercier**, MD, Professor of Pediatrics
- **Marjorie Meyer**, MD, Professor of Maternal Fetal Medicine and Vice Chair for Obstetrics
- **Deirdre O'Reilly**, MD, Associate Professor of Neonatology
- **Adrienne Pahl**, MD, Assistant Professor of Neonatology
- **Marianne (Molly) Rideout**, MD, Professor of Pediatrics
- **Michelle Shepard**, MD, PhD, Associate Professor of Pediatrics
- **Aaron Wallman-Stokes**, MD, Assistant Professor of Neonatology

UVM Staff

- **Julie Parent**, MPH, MSW, Project Director, Department of Pediatrics
- **Angela Zinno**, MA, Project Coordinator, Department of Pediatrics
- **Courtenay Devlin**, MS, Data Manager, Department of Pediatrics
- **Kim Dacek**, MSN, APRN, FNP-C, Perinatal Community Outreach Nurse Practitioner, Department of Pediatrics
- **Sara Forward**, LICSW, Outreach Specialist, Department of Pediatrics
- **Samantha Bellinger**, MA, Program Specialist, Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology and Reproductive Sciences
- **Kayla Panko**, BSN, RNC-MNN, AIM Nurse Educator, Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology and Reproductive Science

PQC-VT Network – It's all about Partnership

- Brattleboro Memorial Hospital
- Central Vermont Medical Center
- Copley Hospital
- Gifford Medical Center
- North Country Hospital
- Northeastern Vermont Regional Hospital
- Northwestern Medical Center
- Porter Medical Center
- Rutland Regional Medical Center
- Southwestern Vermont Medical Center
- University of Vermont Medical Center



*Copley Hospital Closed Birthing Services in November 2025.

PQC-VT's Integrated Approach



Vermont Regional Perinatal Quality Collaboratives (RPQCs)



Six Regional Perinatal Quality Collaboratives (RPQCs) covering every region of Vermont

Region 1: Newport and St. Johnsbury

Region 2: St. Albans and Morrisville

Region 3: Burlington and Middlebury

Region 4: Barre and White River Junction

Region 5: Rutland and Bennington

Region 6: Springfield and Brattleboro

Patient and Family Advisory Committee (PFAC)



Ariel



Jin Li



Caitlin



Natalie

Annual Perinatal Statistics Review Conferences

2025 Audience: 10 VT Community Hospitals, VCHIP Faculty, and Project Staff Presenting



Physicians

46



Nurses

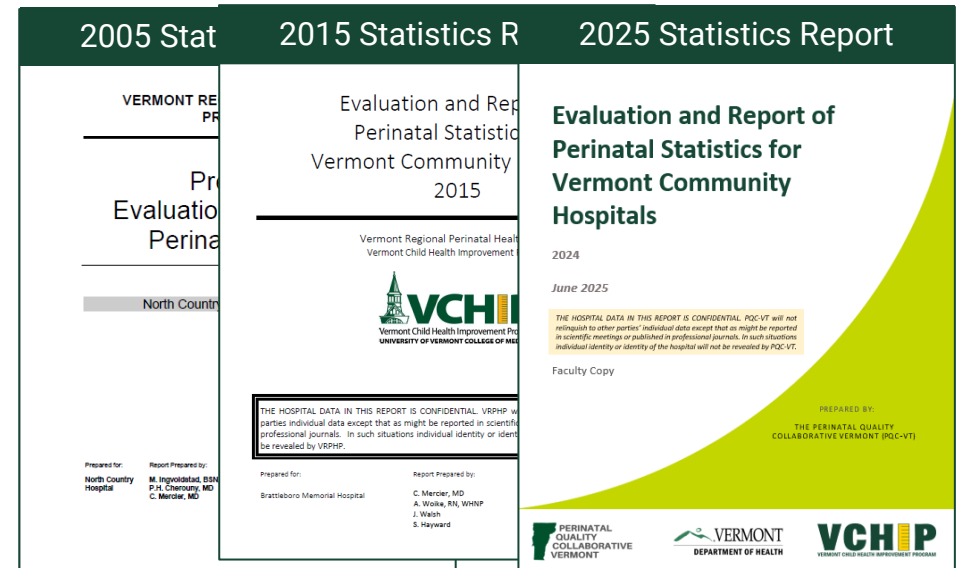
41



Other Hospital Staff

44

A total of 131 community hospital employees engaged in the 2025 statistics conferences



Neonate Emergency Preparedness



AIM Patient Safety Bundles



- Evidence-based patient safety bundles
 - Protocols/Guidelines for recognition and treatment of OB conditions
 - Patient education
 - Provider/Staff education
 - In-situ drills
 - Escape Room Activities
 - On-line Modules
 - Webinars



Obstetric Hemorrhage



Severe Hypertension in Pregnancy



Sepsis in Obstetrical Care
Bundle in Development



Substance Use Disorder



Cardiac Conditions in
Obstetric Care

OB Emergency Preparedness

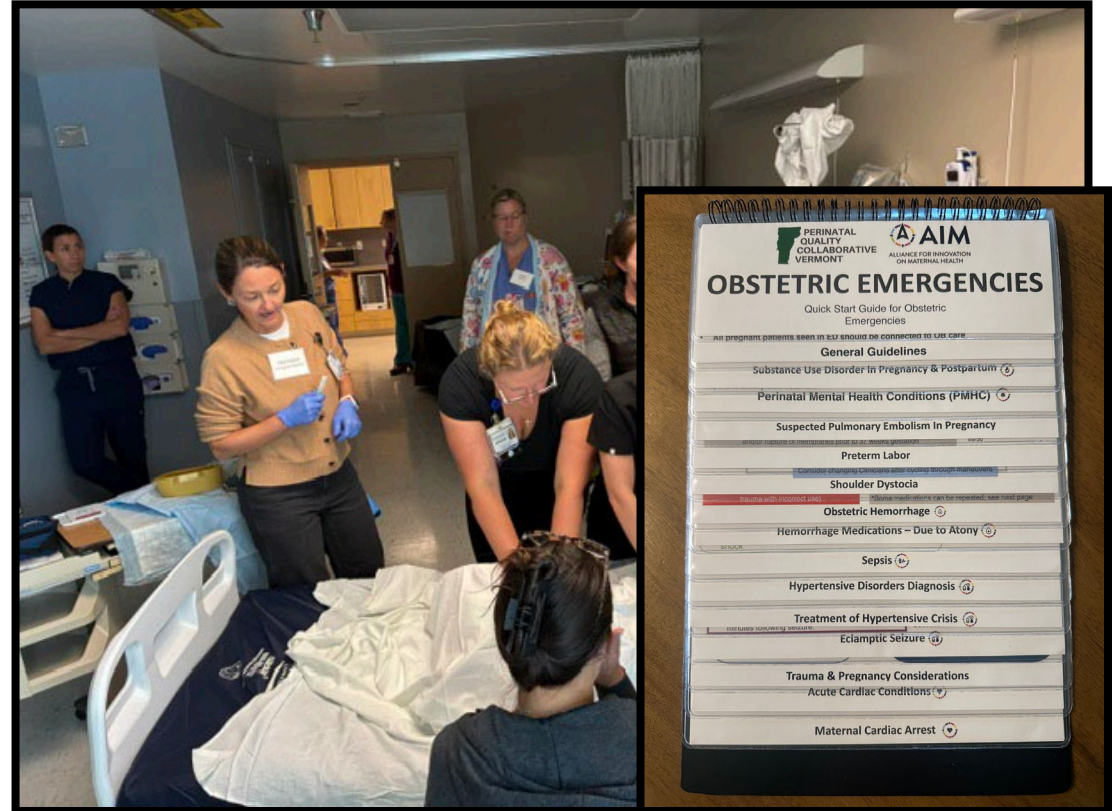
Hands-on, on-site education

- Simulations
- Flipchart Quick Start Guide for OB Emergencies

NEW FUNDING!

AHS Rural Health Transformation

- Development of ED/EMS curricula and simulation
- Targeted outreach and education



Thank you!

Comments? Questions?

vchip.pqcvt@med.uvm.edu

