

Restrictions of Women's Rights Under US Midwifery Laws

Circumstance	States that Restrict	Percent of Women Affected
Breech	AK, AR, CO, ID, LA, MT, NH, NM, UTLM, VT, WA	3-4% of term births (1)
Twins	AK, AR, AZ, CO, FL, ID, LA, MT, NH, NM, UTLM, VT, WA	1.5% of term births (2, 3)
VBAC- complete ban	AZ, AK, AR, FL	No data- est 20-25% based on primary cesarean rate (4)
VBAC- restricted access	CO (distance only), ID, LA (board approved), MT, NH, NM, UTLM, VT, TX, WI	No data
Hypertension- independent of pre-eclampsia, not specified as chronic	AK, AR, AZ, CO, MT, VT	4.1% PIH (5)
Baby Too Early	36wks: AR, AZ, CO, ORLM, TX, VT 37wks: AK, CA, ID, LA, MNLM, NH, NM, SC, UTLM, WA MT= "36.5"	3% 36/0- 36/6 wks 5% 34/0- 35/6 wks (6)
Baby "Late"	AK, AZ, AR(41w), CO, ID, LA, MN-Lic, ORLM(43w), SC, UTLM(43w)	>42 weeks = 10.3% of term births (7)
Mandatory GD Testing	AR, AZ, FL	100% of midwifery clients
Gestational Diabetes Ineligibility	AK, CO, FL, NM, WA	7% old guidelines (8) 18% new guidelines (9)
Forced Transfer-Water Broke	AK (24h), AR (18h), AZ (24h), CO (12h), NH (24h), NM (24h), ORLM (72h+ inf), WA (72h, or 18h w/unk GBS)	2-4% of term births (10)
Age Restrictions	AK (16), AR (40), AZ (16, primip 40), FL (16, 40), LA (16, 40)	1.1% 40 or older, 2.0% 15-17, 0.05% 10-14 (11)
Mandatory STD screening	AK, AR, FL, LA, NH,	100% of midwifery clients
Forced Rhogam	AR, AK, FL, ORLM	8.7% (12, 13, 14)
Forced Transfer- Placenta Takes Longer (no bleeding)	AK (1h), AR (1h), AZ (40m), CO (1h), NH (1h), ORLM(3h), WA (1h), WI (1h)	No data.

Forced Newborn Screen	AR, AK, CO, TX	100% of midwifery clients
Forced Abdication of Privacy of Medical Records	AK, AR, AZ, LA?, VT	100% of midwifery clients
Mandatory Pelvic Exam	CO, LA, NH	100% of midwifery clients
Mandatory Pap Smear During Preg	AR, FL, NH	100% of midwifery clients
Mandatory Weight Checks	AR, CO, FL, NH, ORLM, SC, TN	100% of midwifery clients
Forced Transfer for Congenital Anomalies Regardless of Prognosis	AZ, FL, NH, VT, WA	No data.
Baby Wrong Size	AZ (4.4), CA (<5.07), FL (<5.5), NH (<5.5, >10.5), NM (5.5-consult)	4.6% between 4.4- 5.5lbs, 3% below 4.4lbs (15)
Forced Vitamin K	AR, AZ, NH, FL, ORLM?	100% of midwifery clients
Forced Eye Abx	AR, AZ, CO, LA, ORLM?, SC, TX	100% of midwifery clients
Mandatory Vaginal Exams in Labor	AR, CO (w/ rupture), FL	100% of midwifery clients
Mandatory Suctioning of the Baby	AR	100% of midwifery clients
You Live too Far from a Hospital	FL, LA (50m)	No data.
Depression Treated by Medication	FL	13% (16)
Too Many Pregnancies	FL (5)	0.3% (17)
Low Hemoglobin	AK (9/ 27), AR (10/30), AZ (10/30), CO (11/34), FL (11/33), MT (10,30 unresp), NH (10/30), NM (10/30, unresp, consult), ORLM (9), VT (10),	No data.

<http://maineabc.org/how-different-states-restrict-womens-rights-in-birth/>

Laura Donnelly