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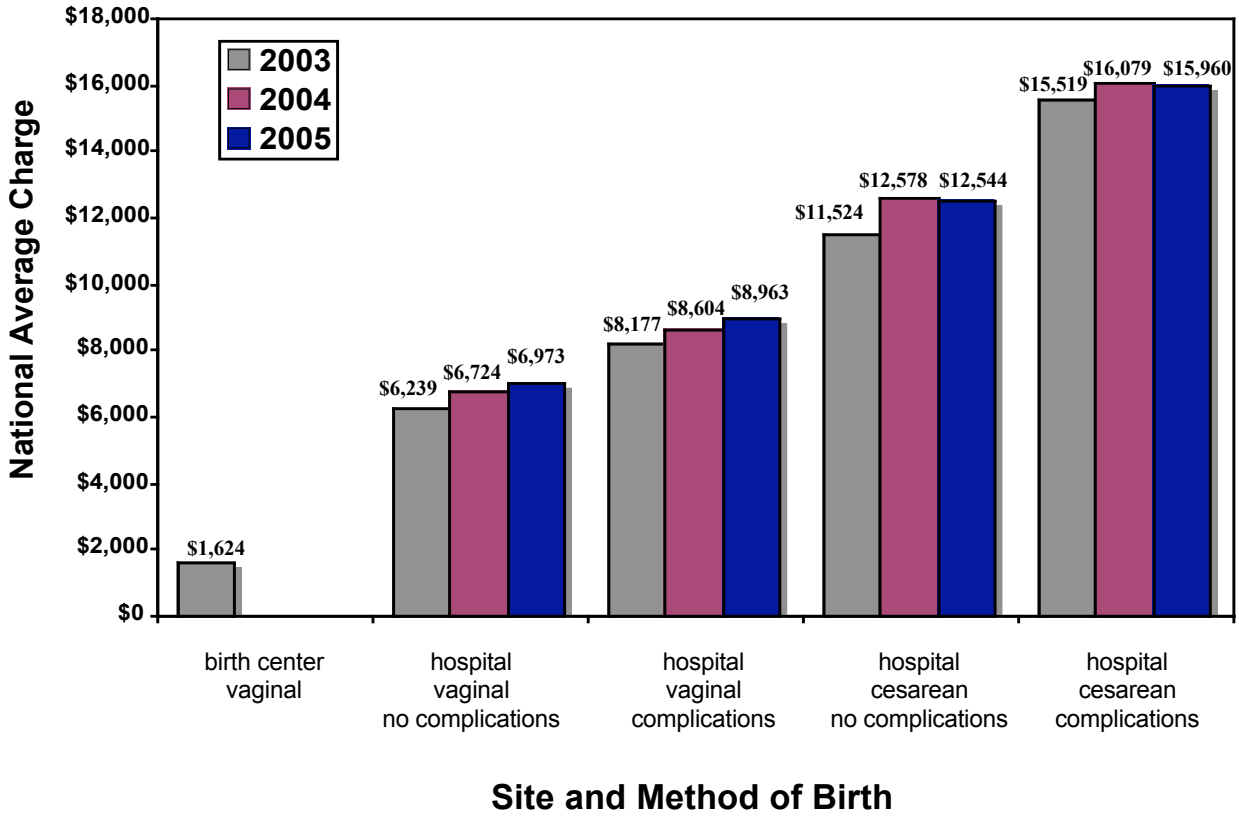
Average Facility Labor and Birth Charge By Site and Method of Birth, United States, 2003-2005



Notes: Figures in graph do not include the following:
- additional anesthesia services charge for all cesarean and most vaginal births in hospitals
- additional newborn care charge for all births in hospitals
- additional maternity provider charge for all births.

Payments of third-party payers typically reflect a discounting of charges.
Birth center figure is average charge reported by 86 out-of-hospital birth centers.
Comparable birth center figure will next be available for 2008.

Sources: U.S. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, *HCUPnet, Healthcare Cost and Utilization Project*. Rockville, MD: AHRQ. Available at: http://hcupnet.ahrq.gov/ [DRGs 370-373.]

National Association of Childbearing Centers, *NACC Survey Report of Birth Center Experience.* Perkiomenville, PA: NACC, 2004. [New organization name: American Association of Birth Centers.]

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281 Park Avenue South, 5th Floor
New York, NY 10010
p 212.777.5000
f 212.777.9320
www.childbirthconnection.org
info@childbirthconnection.org