

BirthWell Partners Birth Outcomes 2016

In 2016 BirthWell Partners doulas attended births with 50 pregnant clients, for 50 babies (28 white, 21 black, one missing data). Below are our outcome data, side by side with corresponding data for national, state of Alabama and Jefferson County outcomes.

| Measure | National | State of Alabama | Jefferson County, all residents | BWP 2016 | n |
|---------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------|----|
| n | 3,945,875 (3) | 59,151 (3) | 8,650 (4) | 50 | n |
| C-Section Rate (%) | 31.9 (3) | 34.4 (3a) 34.6 (4) | *36.7% (4) | **32.65 | 49 |
| Epidural Rate (%) | 73.5 (3a) | | | 46.94 | 49 |
| average gestational age (weeks) | | | | 39.47 | 50 |
| Average Birth Weight lbs | | | | 7.29 | 48 |
| Pre-Term Births (%) | 9.85 (3) | 11.98 (3a) | | 6.00 | 50 |
| White | 9.04 (3) | 10.42 (3a) | | 0.00 | 28 |
| Black | 13.77 (3) | 15.54 (3a) | | 14.29 | 20 |
| LBW rate (%) | 8.17 (3) | 10.3 (3a) | 11.7 (4) | 4.17 | 48 |
| White | 6.97 (3) | 8.1 (3a) | 8.3 (4) | 0.00 | 28 |
| Black | 13.68 (3) | 15.5 (3a) | 15.6 (4) | 10.00 | 21 |
| Ever BF (%) | 83.8 (8) | 74.6 (8) | | 95.83 | 48 |
| BF at discharge (%) | 83.1 (3) | | | 89.74 | 39 |
| White | 84.4 (3) | | | | |
| Black | 70.8 (3) | | | | |
| Skin to skin (%) | | | | 95.83 | 48 |
| Induction rate (%) | 24.5 (3) | | | 34.69 | 49 |

Note that some of our data are incomplete. Full outcome data were not always reported. We have included the n for each data point so that you can see where data are missing.

*Note that the AL Vital Statistics Report (ref 4), gives rates for each hospital in our county. The c-section rate in this chart reflects those numbers. Thus, we report the rate for all babies BORN in Jefferson County, rather than the rate for RESIDENTS of Jefferson County.

Doulas can help reduce the chance of a c-section by providing one-on-one care during labor and birth. Doula support during labor cannot impact decisions made before labor begins. Since our data set is small, the seven clients with planned c-sections have a large impact on our outcome data. To better reflect the impact of doula support, we calculated our c-section rate again after excluding the seven births that were planned to be c-sections before labor started. With these births excluded, our c-section rate for the remaining 42 births is **21.43% (data are missing for one birth).

At the time of this writing, national Breastfeeding rate data for 2016 are not available

Sources of reference data for national, state and county:

2. CS rates by State National Center for Health Statistics, CDC
https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/pressroom/sosmap/cesarean_births/cesareans.htm
3. Births: Final Data for 2016. National Vital Statistics Reports, Volume 67, Number 1. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, January, 2018.
https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/nvsr/nvsr67/nvsr67_01.pdf
- 3a. National Vital Statistics Report Vol. 67 Number 1 Births: Final Data 2016, Supplemental Tables
https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/nvsr/nvsr67/nvsr67_01_tables.pdf
4. AL Vital Statistics Report 2016
<http://alabamapublichealth.gov/healthstats/assets/AVS2016.pdf>
8. Rates of Any and Exclusive Breastfeeding by State among Children Born in 2016 from National Immunization Survey https://www.cdc.gov/breastfeeding/data/nis_data/rates-any-exclusive-bf-state-2016.htm