

BirthWell Partners Birth Outcomes 2018

In 2018 BirthWell Partners doula attended births with 47 pregnant clients and babies (there were no twins this year). Twenty-four clients identified as Black, 21 as White and two as multi-racial. One client was Black-Hispanic and five were White-Hispanic. 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	BWP 2018	
n	3,791,712 (3)	57,761 (3)	8,436 (4)	47	n
C-Section Rate (%)	31.9 (3)	34.7 (3a)	* 35.95 (4)	** 27.27	44
White	30.8 (3)	34.1 (3a)		14.29	21
Black	36.1 (3)	37.9 (3a)		39.13	23
Epidural Rate (%)	75.11 (3a)			60.53	39
average gestational age (weeks)				39.68 weeks	46
Average Birth Weight lbs				7.75	42
Pre-Term Births (%)	10.02 (3)	12.48 (3a)		6.52	46
White	9.09 (3)	10.87 (3a)		0.00	21
Black	14.13 (3)	16.51 (3a)		12.00	25
LBW rate (%)	8.28 (3)	10.7 (3a)	11.7 (4)	2.38	42
White	6.91 (3)	8.1 (3a)	7.8 (4)	0.00	21
Black	13.89 (3)	16.4 (3a)	15.9 (4)	4.76	21
ever BF (%)	83.9 (7)	70.6 (7)		94.59	38
White	85.3 (7)			94.44	18
Black	75.5 (7)			94.74	20
BF at discharge (%)	83.5 (3a)			92.86	28
White	84.9 (3a)			92.31	13
Black	72.3 (3a)			93.33	15
Skin to skin (%)				95.00	40
induction rate (%)	27.08 (3a)			14.63	41
Pitocin Augmentation	21.55 (3a)			28.95	39

Note that we are missing some outcome data. 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.

Doula support 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 three clients with a planned c-section have an outsized impact on our outcome data. To better reflect the impact of doula support, we calculated our c-section rate again after excluding these three births that was planned to be a c-sections before labor started. With this birth excluded, our c-section rate for the remaining 41 births is **21.95%.

Sources of reference data for national, state and county:

3. Births: Final Data for 2018. National Vital Statistics Reports, Volume 68, Number 13. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, November, 2018.
https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/nvsr/nvsr68/nvsr68_13-508.pdf
- 3a. National Vital Statistics Report Vol. 68 Number 13 Births: Final Data 2018, Supplemental Tables
https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/nvsr/nvsr68/nvsr68_13_tables-508.pdf.
4. Alabama Vital Statistic Report 2018 -
<https://www.alabamapublichealth.gov/healthstats/assets/AVS2018.pdf>
7. National Immunization Survey Results: Breastfeeding 2011-2018
https://www.cdc.gov/breastfeeding/data/nis_data/results.html