

BirthWell Partners Birth Outcomes 2017

In 2017 BirthWell Partners doula attended births with 42 pregnant clients, for 43 babies (19 white clients, 22 black, one who identified as “other”, and one set of white twins.). 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 2017 | |
|--------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------|----------------------|----|
| n | 3,855,500 (3) | 5,8936 (5) | 8,704 (4) | 42 | n |
| C-Section Rate (%) | 32.0 (3) | 35.1 (3a) 35.2 (4) | *35.1% (4) | **16.67 | 42 |
| white | 30.9 (3) | 34.8 (3a) | | 10.53 | 19 |
| black | 36.0 (3) | 37.9 (3a) | | 22.73 | 22 |
| Epidural Rate (%) | 74.1 (3a) | | | 50.00 | 42 |
| average gestational age | | | | 39.50 (weeks) | 42 |
| Average Birth Weight lbs | | | | 7.14 | 41 |
| Pre-Term Births (%) | 9.93 (3) | 12.04 (3a) | | 4.76 | 42 |
| white | 9.05 (3) | 10.6 (3a) | | 5.26 | 19 |
| black | 13.93 (3) | 15.68 (3a) | | 4.55 | 22 |
| PTB for singleton | 8.13 (3) | | | 5.00 | 40 |
| LBW rate (%) | 8.28 (3) | 10.3 (3a) | 11.9 (4) | 4.76 | 42 |
| white | 7.0 (3) | 7.8 (3a) | 7.9 (4) | 5.26 | 19 |
| black | 13.89 (3) | 15.8 (3a) | 16.1 (4) | 4.54 | 22 |
| LBW for singletons | 6.56 (3) | | | 5.00 | 40 |
| Ever BF (%) | | | | 94.74 | 40 |
| Skin to skin (%) | | | | 97.62 | 42 |
| Induction rate (%) | 25.7 (3a) | | | 34.15 | 42 |

Note that we are missing *birthweight* data for one BirthWell baby and *ever breastfed* data for two BirthWell babies. 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 two clients with planned c-sections 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 the two births that were planned to be c-sections before labor started. With these births excluded, our c-section rate for the remaining 40 births is **12.50%.

At the time of this writing, national Breastfeeding Rate data for 2017 are not available.

Sources of reference data for national, state and county:

3. Births: Final Data for 2017. National Vital Statistics Reports, Volume 67, Number 8. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, November, 2018.
https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/nvsr/nvsr67/nvsr67_08-508.pdf
- 3a. National Vital Statistics Report Vol. 67 Number 8 Births: Final Data 2017, Supplemental Tables
https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/nvsr/nvsr67/nvsr67_08_tables-508.pdf
4. AL Vital Statistics Report 2017
<http://www.alabamapublichealth.gov/healthstats/assets/avs2017.pdf>
5. Vital Statistics at a Glance AL 2017 (AL Center for Health Statistics)
<http://www.alabamapublichealth.gov/healthstats/assets/ataglance2017.pdf>