



# America's Best Fertility Clinics 2023

Methodology

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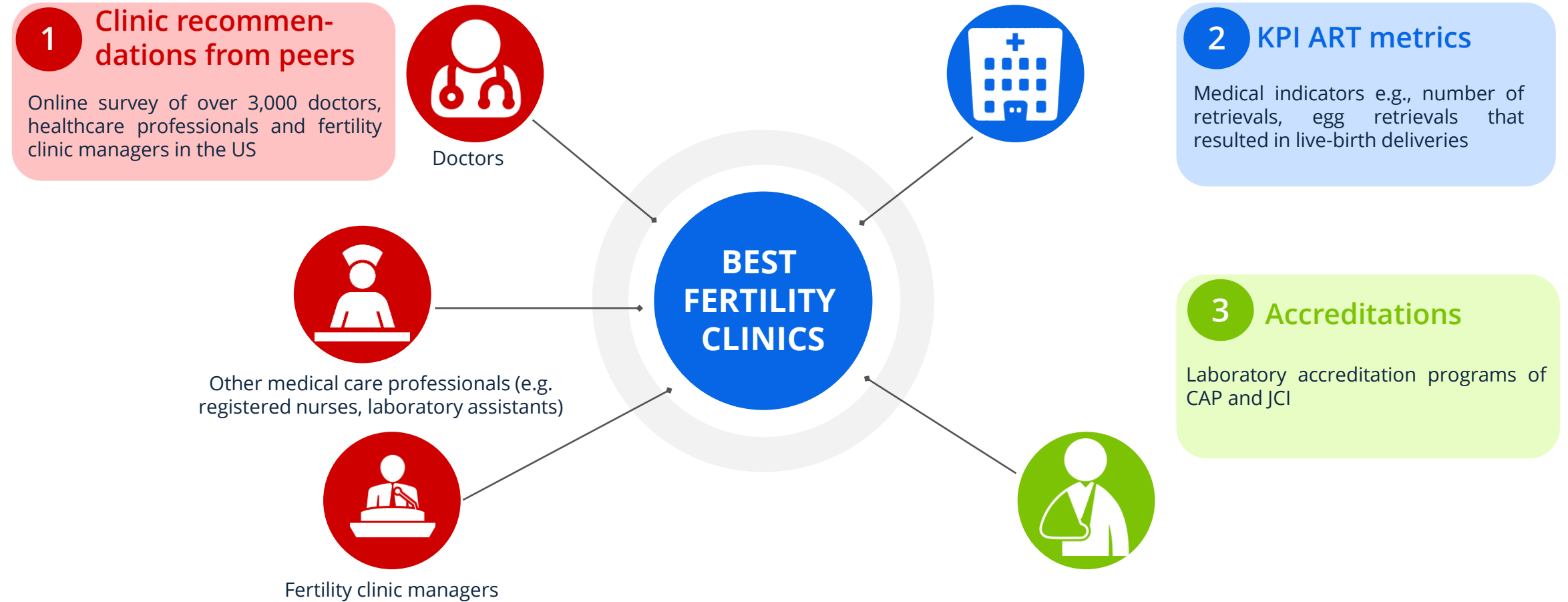
# Methodology – America’s Best Fertility Clinics 2023

## Summary of the project

- As the demand for in vitro fertilization (IVF) in the United States continues to grow among individuals of all ages<sup>(1)</sup>, high quality care provided by fertility clinics is of the utmost importance. In the United States, 2% of all infants born every year are conceived using assisted reproductive technology (ART)<sup>(2)</sup>, thus information in the form of success rates abounds for patients seeking treatment. However, the assessment and recommendations of medical experts on the quality of the services provided in combination with objective metrics are sparse.
- To close this gap and provide individuals with a comprehensive resource for informed decision making, Statista and Newsweek have partnered to identify the top 100 fertility clinics in the US.
- Only facilities defined as a fertility clinic and ART Provider by the CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) were considered in the scope of this project
- The list is based on **three data sources**:
  - **Nationwide online survey**: Healthcare personnel working in and referring to fertility clinics were asked to recommend the leading fertility clinics in the US
  - **KPI ART metrics** with a focus on indicators relevant to fertility clinics published by CDC
  - **Accreditations**
- During the survey period from November to December 2022, Newsweek and Statista invited over 3,000 reproductive endocrinologists, infertility specialists, obstetricians/gynecologists working in and referring patients to fertility clinics, other medical professionals (e.g., registered nurse, laboratory assistant) and fertility clinic administrators/managers working in fertility clinics to participate in the survey.
- Participants were also asked to assess confidence in their assessment of the fertility clinics, which was used to determine individual weights for the recommendations.

# Three data sources were evaluated to identify leading fertility clinics

## Data Sources



# Over 3,000 medical experts were invited to the survey

## 1 National Online Survey

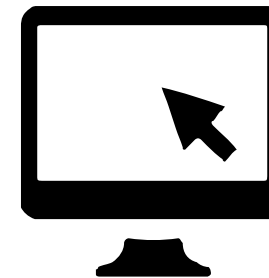
From November to December 2022, Statista invited over 3,000 fertility clinic managers and medical professionals with knowledge about fertility clinics to an online survey. The survey was also promoted on newsweek.com.



National online survey among medical professionals and clinic managers. Participants were invited via e-mail.



Participants were asked to recommend facilities which are notable fertility clinics. Recommendations for own employer/fertility clinic were not allowed.

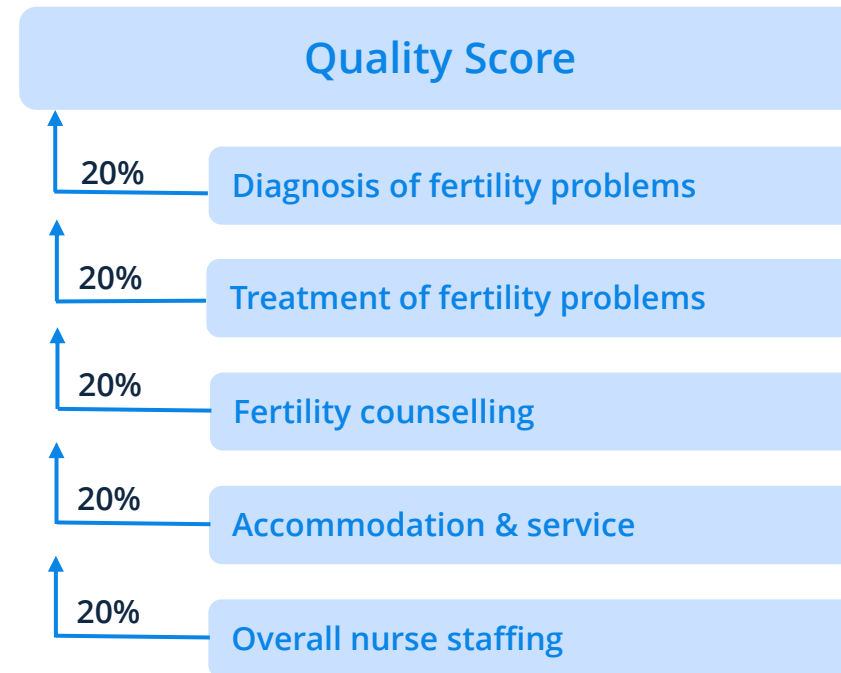


Participants were also asked to assign a ranking position (Top 1, Top 2, Top 3, Top 5, Top 10, Top 20, Top 50, Top 75, Top 100, Not in the Top 100) to fertility clinics. These assessments and the recommendations were used to determine the **Reputation Score**.

A quality score was included based on recommendations for each fertility clinic

## 1 Quality assessment as part of the reputation score

- For each recommended fertility clinic, participants were asked to assess the quality of
  - Diagnosis of fertility problems
  - Treatment of fertility problems
  - Fertility Counselling
  - Accommodation & service
  - Overall nurse staffing
- The quality scale ranged from 1 ("Poor") to 10 ("Excellent")
- A quality score was assigned to each facility based on the weighted average of these ratings.



QUALITY SCORE CONSTITUTES 30% OF THE REPUTATION SCORE

# Publicly available data on fertility clinics was collected

## 2 KPI ART metrics

- **Medical Key Performance Indicators** relevant to fertility care published by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)<sup>(3)</sup> were analyzed<sup>(4)</sup>
- Since 1995, CDC has worked in consultation with the Society for Assisted Reproductive Technology (SART) and the American Society for Reproductive Medicine (ASRM) to report ART success rates.
- For each of the measures a sub-score was calculated across all weighted age categories
- Fertility clinics must have reported at least three of the eight Success Rates measures to receive a Success Rates score
- The **weighted sub-scores** were used to calculate the **total KPI score**
- The quality metrics are based on the **most recent CDC's ART Success Rates Report**, reporting data of the 2019 cycle

### Data on Assisted Reproductive Technology Success Rates:

- % of discontinued cycles after egg retrieval and before transfer or banking
- % of cycles used for fertility preservation
- % of egg retrieval cycles discontinued without any eggs retrieved
- Average number of embryos transferred
- % of cycles discontinued before an egg or embryo was transferred or banked
- % of embryo transfers that resulted in live-birth deliveries for Donor Eggs
- % of actual egg retrievals that resulted in live-birth deliveries for Own Eggs
- % of embryo transfers that resulted in live-birth deliveries for Own Eggs

### Data on Assisted Reproductive Technology General Volume:

- Number of intended retrievals
- Number of retrievals
- Number of transfers
- Total number of cycles

SCORE FOR ART QUALITY METRICS CONTRIBUTES 40% TOWARDS OVERALL SCORE

# Accreditations were implemented in the scoring process

Methodology: Accreditations

## 3 Accreditations

- Laboratories associated with IVF clinics need to be certified **every two years** to be part of the Society for Assisted Reproductive Technology (SART)<sup>(5)</sup>
- The following Accreditations were considered to determine the Accreditation Score<sup>(6)</sup>
  - **College of American Pathologists (CAP)**, Reproductive Laboratory Accreditation Program
    - To be certified, the laboratory must prove their standards in patient care through an on-site peer inspection or self-inspection (alternating annually) based on a predefined checklist from CAP<sup>(7)</sup>
  - **The Joint Commission (JCI)**
    - To be certified, the laboratory must undergo an inspection survey with trained professionals, which involves e.g., an assessment of the facility, on-site interviews and tracing of the patient's experience<sup>(8)</sup>

ACCREDITATIONS CONTRIBUTE 5% TOWARDS OVERALL SCORE

(5) SART is the primary organization of professionals dedicated to the practice of assisted reproductive technologies (ART) in the United States (<https://www.sart.org/>)

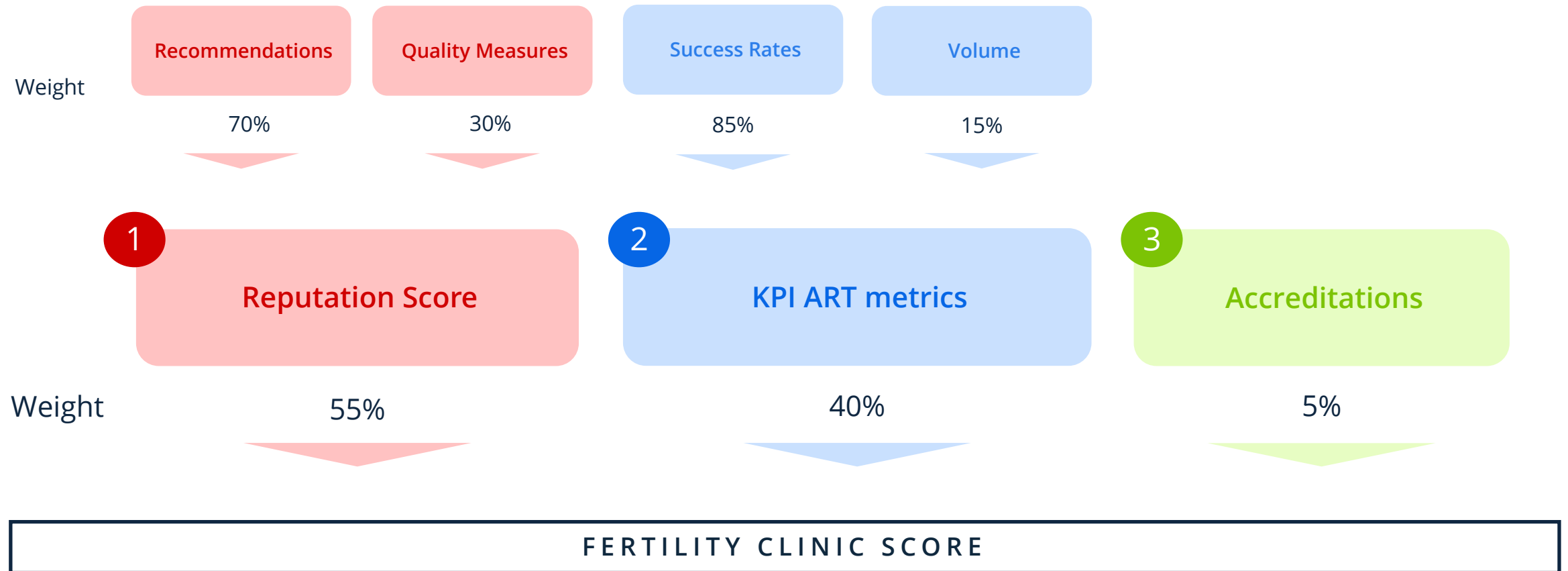
(6) Data is available under: <https://www.cdc.gov/art/index.htm>

(7) Source: <https://uatcap.objects.frb.io/documents/2018-guide-to-accreditation.pdf>

(8) Source: <https://www.jointcommission.org/>

# A score was calculated for each fertility clinic

Scoring Model





As a result, the 100 best fertility clinics in the US were awarded

Rank*	Fertility Clinic	City	State
1	Weill Cornell Medicine - Center For Reproductive Medicine	New York	NY
2	UCSF Center For Reproductive Health at Mission Bay	San Francisco	CA
3	Brigham and Women's Hospital Center for Infertility and Reproductive Surgery	Boston	MA
4	Columbia University Fertility Center	New York	NY
5	Duke Fertility Center	Morrisville	NC

[...]

**100 LEADING FERTILITY CLINICS WERE AWARDED**

9 \* Note: The Top 50 facilities were ranked. The 50 subsequent facilities are listed alphabetically.

# Fertility clinics partner network

Overview of involved parties

**Newsweek**

## About Newsweek

Newsweek is a premier news magazine and website that has been bringing high-quality journalism to readers around the globe for over 80 years.

Newsweek provides the latest news, in-depth analysis and ideas about international issues, technology, business, culture and politics. In addition to its online and mobile presence, Newsweek publishes weekly English print editions in the United States, Europe/Middle East/Africa and Asia as well as editions in Japanese, Korean, Polish, Serbian and Spanish.

[newsweek.com](https://www.newsweek.com)

**statista** 

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This research and analysis service is based on the success of [statista.com](https://www.statista.com). The leading data and business intelligence portal provides statistics, business relevant data, and various market and consumer studies/surveys.

<https://r.statista.com/>

# Disclaimer

The rankings are comprised exclusively of clinics that are eligible regarding the scope described in this document. The ranking is the result of an elaborate process which, due to the interval of data-collection and analysis, is a reflection of the last calendar year. Furthermore, events preceding or following the period 11/01/2022-11/01/2023 and/or pertaining to individual persons affiliated/associated to the facilities were not included in the metrics. As such, the results of this ranking should not be used as the sole source of information for future deliberations.

Moreover, due to the current legal uncertainty pertaining to Abortion Laws in the United States, metrics were analyzed solely for the States in which abortion restrictions do not explicitly apply to IVF or other reproductive medicine services, personhood status is not explicitly given to embryos within the context of IVF or reproductive medicine services, and/or where the discarding of embryos is not considered an abortion by law.

Reference to specific commercial products, manufacturers, companies, or trademarks does not constitute its endorsement or recommendation by the U.S. Government, Department of Health and Human Services, or Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The information provided in this ranking should be considered in conjunction with other available information about fertility clinics or, if possible, accompanied by a visit to a facility. The quality of fertility clinics that are not included in the rankings is not disputed.