



Conception

For the overall odds of conceiving higher order multiples, see our statistics page with data from the Center for Disease Control.

Type of Multiples	Average gestation multiples confirmed	Range (in weeks)
Twins	9.8 weeks	4 - 20
Triplets	7.2 weeks	1 - 35
Quadruplets	6.3 weeks	2 - 25
Quintuplets	5.9 weeks	2 - 15
Sextuplets	4.9 weeks	4 - 6

Type of Multiples	% Conceived Spontaneously
Twins	53.9%
Triplets	14.4%
Quadruplets	4.2%
Quintuplets+	0%

♥0.94% did not respond to questions about fertility treatments

♥12.82% were not treated for infertility (spontaneous pregnancies)

♥40.62% were treated for infertility but did not use Assisted Reproductive Technology (ART) (includes medications and insemination procedures)

♥45.62% underwent one or more Assisted Reproductive Technology (ART) procedures (see table below for details)

♥86.24% of all survey respondents took fertility medications as part of their infertility treatment.

Fertility Procedure Counts	
Procedure	# of Respondents
In-vitro fertilization (IVF fresh cycle)	724

Intrauterine insemination (IUI)	371
Intracytoplasmic sperm injection (ICSI)	211
Gamete transfer (GIFT)	68
Artificial insemination (AI)	65
Blastocyst transfer (ZIFT)	37
Donor eggs	35
Donor sperm	29
In-vitro fertilization (IVF frozen cycle)	28
Assisted hatching	28
Other (not specified)	9
Surrogate	5
Donor embryos	1

(Note: some respondents underwent more than one type of procedure.)

Observations:

Due to recent improvements in many ART procedures, the percentage of respondents indicating their higher order multiples were conceived as a result of one or more ART procedures has declined. Since 2003, more respondents to the Medical Birth Survey have indicated conceiving their higher order multiples following the use of ovulatory stimulating medications alone than following the use of ART procedures.