

Medical Birth Survey Data

Statistics Current to June 2007

Infants

The Average Multiple Birth Baby						
Multiple type	Average weeks gestation	hirth	Average days in NICU (Neonatal Intensive Care Unit)	NICU Range	Average days in hospital	Hospital Range
Twins	35.5 weeks	5lbs 7oz	3 days	0 to 24	11 days	2 to 56
Triplets	33.1 weeks	4lbs 1oz	19 days	0 to 336	23 days	0 to 336
Quadruplets	31.3 weeks	3lbs 4oz	31 days	0 to 127	37 days	0 to 150
Quintuplets	29.8 weeks	2lbs 12oz	47 days	0 to 194	53 days	4 to 384
Sextuplets	29.1 weeks	2lbs 8oz	56 days	10 to 195	65 days	32 to 119

Average Birth Weights					
Gestation	Twins	Triplets	Quadruplets	Quintuplets	
<25 weeks		2 lb 3 oz	1 lb 6 oz	1 lb 2 oz	
25 weeks		1 lb 10 oz	1 lb 10 oz	1 lb 9 oz	
26 weeks		1 lb 14 oz	1 lb 11 oz	1 lb 8 oz	
27 weeks		2 lb 0 oz	2 lb 4 oz	1 lb 14 oz	
28 weeks		2 lb 7 oz	2 lb 4 oz	2 lb 3 oz	
29 weeks		2 lb 9 oz	2 lb 7 oz	2 lb 10 oz	
30 weeks	3 lb 0 oz	3 lb 0 oz	2 lb 12 oz	2 lb 11 oz	
31 weeks		3 lb 5 oz	3 lb 2 oz	2 lb 14 oz	
32 weeks		3 lb 10 oz	3 lb 7 oz	3 lb 7 oz	
33 weeks		4 lb 0 oz	3 lb 14 oz	4 lb 6 oz	
34 weeks		4 lb 6 oz	4 lb 3 oz	3 lb 14 oz	
35 weeks	5 lb 10 oz	4 lb 13 oz	4 lb 11 oz		
36 weeks	5 lb 2 oz	5 lb 2 oz	4 lb 14 oz	5 lb 10 oz	
37 weeks	7 lb 0 oz	5 lb 5 oz	5 lb 5 oz	4 lb 5 oz	

38 weeks	6 lb 3 oz	5 lb 3 oz	6 lb 2 oz	
39 weeks		6 lb 0 oz		

(Note: most NICUs measure infants in grams not pounds and ounces. To assist parents of infants in the NICU, we provide an online weight conversion tool that converts weights in grams into pounds and ounces as well as weights in pounds and ounces into grams.)

Multiple type and birth order	Average days in the NICU
Twins	
1	3.5
2	3.3
Triplets	
1	18.3
2	18.5
3	19.9
Quadruplets	
1	28.4
1 2 3	29.0
3	30.7
4	36.6
Quintuplets	
1	40.7
2	43.1
3 4	46.5
4	54.0
5	57.9
Sextuplets	
1	73.3
2	45.7
1 2 3 4	49.8
4	43.5
5 6	53.0
6	64.5

Average Days in the NICU by Multiple Delivery Type and Birth Order				
Birth Order	Vaginal C-Section			
Triplets				
1	29.8	17.8		
2 23.6		18.3		
3 22.6		19.7		

Quadruplets		
1	44.0	27.7
2	33.8	28.8
3	14.7	30.8
4	38.7	36.5

Average days in the NICU by Multiple Type and Gestation						
Gestation	Gestation Triplets		Quintuplets			
<25 weeks	60.8	18.9	68.5			
25 weeks	113.5	90.0	83.0			
26 weeks	90.0	76.4	80.6			
27 weeks	82.0	52.9	75.8			
28 weeks	55.2	63.4	58.3			
29 weeks	46.9	47.9	49.0			
30 weeks	39.6	39.2	48.5			
31 weeks	30.7	28.6	38.3			
32 weeks	22.6	24.5	30.2			
33 weeks	16.8	18.3	7.0			
34 weeks	11.4	8.5	20.2			
35 weeks	6.2	8.1				
36 weeks	3.0	5.7	2.0			
37 weeks	3.5	0.2				
38 weeks	9.3					

Gender and Zygosity							
Multiples	Male	Female	No Answer	Identical	Fraternal	Combined	Unknown
Twins	38.5%	61.5%		15.4%	84.6%	n/a	0%
Triplets	49.4%	49.5%	1.06%	2.9%	80.7%	11.6%	4.9%
Quadruplets	46.1%	46.8%	7.08%	0.4%	84.0%	9.6%	6%
Quintuplets	48.4%	39.9%	11.63%	0%	76.7%	15.5%	7.8%
Sextuplets	14.3%	50.0%	35.71%	0%	100%	0%	0%

Average Gender Differences in Weight				
Multiple Type Females Males				
Twins	5 lbs 1 oz	6 lbs 1 oz		
Triplets	4 lbs 0 oz	4 lbs 3 oz		

Quadruplets	3 lbs 5 oz	3 lbs 5 oz
Quintuplets	2 lbs 7 oz	2 lbs 15 oz
Sextuplets	2 lbs 6 oz	2 lbs 10 oz

8% of the multiple birth infants in this survey were transferred to another hospital's NICU.

Infant				
Complications/Treatments	Triplets	Quadruplets	Quintuplets	Sextuplets
Death	0.84%	3.28%	8.53%	0.00%
Gastro esophageal reflux	1.64%	2.75%	4.65%	2.38%
Gavage/IV feeding	57.21%	70.19%	73.26%	61.90%
Heart defect	4.10%	5.07%	9.69%	4.76%
Hernia	7.19%	10.78%	15.89%	16.67%
Infection	3.48%	5.07%	3.49%	2.38%
Intraventricular hemorrhage (IVH)	3.53%	6.34%	9.30%	2.38%
Intubation for 24+ hours	23.54%	34.67%	43.41%	50.00%
Jaundice	51.04%	59.51%	58.91%	47.62%
Meningitis	.29%	.53%	0.00%	0.00%
Necrotizing enter colitis (NEC)	1.44%	2.22%	1.55%	2.38%
O2 after discharge	.40%	.32%	.39%	0.0%
O2 in the NICU	6.39%	7.93%	9.30%	0.0%
Other	3.31%	3.38%	5.04%	2.38%
Periventricular leukomalasia (PVL)	.24%	.74%	.39%	0.0%
Retinopathy of Prematurity (ROP)	4.86%	10.57%	14.73%	19.05%
Seizures	.35%	.63%	1.16%	0.0%
Surfactant treatment	15.77%	20.40%	29.07%	45.24%
Surgeries	5.17%	9.83%	13.57%	9.52%
Transfusions	16.19%	27.48%	44.19%	54.76%