

National  
 Organization of  
 Mothers  
 Of  
 Twins  
 Clubs, Inc.

SUBJECT: PARENTS OF TWINS RESEARCH STUDY

RESEARCHER: Betty Jean Case

DATE: 1983-1984

**PURPOSE:** This study was aimed at gathering information from mothers of twins to be used in a chapter of her book, "We Are Twins But Who Am I?" Only six (6) questions from the original survey were evaluated for statistics. Other responses to questions were generalized under respective topics throughout her book.

**METHOD:** Surveys were distributed through NOMOTC. Over eight hundred (800) mothers of twins replied.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Note the following abbreviations: IG - Identical Girls, IB - Identical Boys, FG - Fraternal Girls, FB - Fraternal Boys, B/G - Boy/Girl Twins.

1. How early was the diagnosis of twins made?

	1st trimester	2nd trimester	3rd trimester	at delivery
IG	15%	38%	26%	21%
IB	18%	33%	26%	22%
FG	25%	38%	17%	20%
FB	20%	36%	27%	16%
B/G	25%	40%	14%	21%
Total (%)	21%	37%	22%	20%

2. Were the twins premature?

	YES	NO
IG	46%	54%
IB	28%	72%
FG	25%	75%
FB	32%	68%
B/G	32%	68%
Total (%)	33%	67%

3. Were the twins a home or hospital delivery?

All the respondents had a hospital delivery except for two who delivered at home and one who delivered in the car.

4. Were the twins born naturally, or a C-section?

	Vaginal	C-Section	Both
IG	66%	34%	
IB	60%	34%	6%
FG	53%	45%	2%
FB	58%	39%	3%
B/G	50%	47%	3%
Total (%)	57%	40%	3%

5. What was the weight difference in the twins?

	0-4oz.	5-8oz.	9-12oz.	13-16oz.	Over one lb.
IG	32%	23%	13%	16%	16%
IB	36%	18%	14%	18%	13%
FG	29%	22%	15%	14%	19%
FB	28%	23%	12%	18%	18%
B/G	27%	20%	11%	12%	31%
Total (%)	31%	21%	13%	16%	19%

6. Were there complications?

	YES	NO
IG	68%	32%
IB	63%	37%
FG	83%	17%
FB	82%	18%
B/G	75%	25%
Total (%)	74%	26%

6a. If yes to question six (6) were there complications for one or both?

	ONE	BOTH
IG	76%	24%
IB	71%	29%
FG	83%	17%
FB	71%	29%
B/G	81%	19%
Total (%)	76%	24%

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CONCLUSION:

1. The majority of twins were diagnosed in the 2nd trimester, although 20% in this group were not diagnosed until delivery.
2. Prematurity was more likely in identical girls than all other twin types. Fraternal girls were least likely to be premature.
3. Hospital deliveries were the rule.

4. C-Section rates were 43%, with 3% having one vaginally and one C-Section. Boy/Girl twins had the highest C-Section rate.
5. Thirty one percent of all twin types weighed between 0 to 4 ounces of each other. Thirty-one percent of boy/girl twins' weight varied by more than a pound. Identical boys had the least weight difference of all.
6. Approximately one quarter of all twins had some complications. Identical boys had highest complication rate. Same-sex fraternal had the lowest rate. Most complications involved only one twin, with 25% involving both.

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An accompanying article to the Research Report can be found in *MOTC's Notebook*, Summer Issue 1988, "A Mother of Twins Speaks," by Betty Jean Case.