

Utilization of Family Planning Services by Currently Married Women 15-44 Years of Age

United States, 1973

Statistics, based on data collected in 1973 and 1974, are presented on the use of family planning services by currently married women. The percentage of women using such services and the location of the services are distributed by race and age of the respondent and by various socioeconomic variables.

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UTILIZATION OF FAMILY PLANNING SERVICES BY CURRENTLY MARRIED WOMEN 15-44 YEARS OF AGE

Francis Notzon, *Division of Vital Statistics*

INTRODUCTION

The National Survey of Family Growth (NSFG), a periodic survey conducted by the National Center for Health Statistics, was designed to provide information on fertility, family planning, and those aspects of maternal and child health that are closely related to child-bearing. This report presents statistics on the use of family planning services by currently married women, based on data collected in Cycle I of the NSFG. The percent of currently-married women using family planning services and the location of the services are presented according to race and age of the respondent, and according to various socio-economic variables.

The NSFG findings were based on personal interviews with about 9,800 women aged 15-44 who were either ever-married or single with their own children living in the household. The statistics in this report refer to the 7,566 women who were currently married at the time of the interview. Respondents were selected for participation in the survey on the basis of a multistage probability sample representing the noninstitutional population of the conterminous United States. The interviews were carried out in the 8-month period centering on September 13, 1973. Additional information concerning survey design, sampling variability, and definition of terms will be found in the Technical Notes at the end of this report.

SELECTED FINDINGS

Fifty-four percent of currently married women aged 15-44, approximately 14.4 million women, talked at least once with a physician or other trained person about family planning methods in the 5 years before being interviewed in 1973. Of this number, 84 percent talked with their own physician in his or her office or in a hospital, and 16 percent relied on all other sources, including general clinics, family planning clinics, and hospitals and other places, for their most recent family planning visit.

No significant change took place between 1970 and 1973 in the proportion of currently married women with a family planning visit during the year prior to the survey. Based on data from the 1970 National Fertility Survey, 31 percent of currently married women were considered to have made a family planning visit in the year before the survey.¹

Using data from Cycle I of the National Survey of Family Growth, the comparable figure for 1973 was 30 percent. Even when contraceptively sterile couples were eliminated, the

¹The directors of the 1970 National Fertility Study are Norman B. Ryder and Charles F. Westoff, Office of Population Research, Princeton University. The figure cited above was computed from the computer data tape for this survey, obtained from the Data and Program Library service at the University of Wisconsin at Madison.

Table A. Number and percent distribution of currently married women 15-44 years of age currently using the pill and reporting no family planning visit in the last 5 years by whether or not they had medical visits, pelvic exams, and pap smears: United States, 1973

Type of medical care	Number in thousands	Percent distribution
All women using the pill . . .	1,540	100.0
Medical visit	1,491	96.8
No medical visit	49	3.2
Pelvic exam	1,429	92.8
No pelvic exam	111	7.2
Pap smear	1,436	93.2
No pap smear	104	6.8

difference between the 1970 and 1973 figures remained nonsignificant.

In the National Survey of Family Growth, two criteria were used to determine if women had made a family planning visit in the last 5 years. The first criterion was whether or not they answered affirmatively to the question "During the last 5 years, has a doctor or other trained person prescribed or talked with you about a method for delaying or preventing pregnancy?" The second criterion was whether or not their reported date of the most recent family planning visit occurred within the 5 years prior to the interview.

These criteria may have failed to identify a significant number of women with a family planning visit. Since the question on date of family planning visit referred to the last time the respondent spoke with a physician or trained person about family planning methods, the reliability of the responses depended on the importance the respondent attached to the family planning aspect of a medical visit. Thus some respondents probably considered only the last time they discussed a choice of a family planning method as the "last time," while others counted the last time they had their prescription for pills (oral contraceptives) renewed, had their IUD checked, or mentioned in passing the subject of family planning during a medical visit which was primarily for another purpose.

This problem appears to be reflected in the findings shown in table A. For the 1.5 million

Table B. Number and percent distribution of currently married women 15-44 years of age reporting sterilization as current method of contraception by time since sterilizing operation: United States, 1973

Time since operation	Number	Percent distribution
All women	4,365,181	100.0
Less than 5 years	2,885,693	66.1
More than 5 years	1,479,488	33.9

women using the pill at the time of interview but reporting no family planning visit in the past 5 years, 93 percent had a pelvic exam and a similar percentage had a pap smear in the same time period. The pelvic exam and pap smear are widely recommended parts of a medical checkup for renewal of a prescription for the pill, and in many cases probably constituted a family planning visit within the intent of the questions. It appears that the wording and sequence of the questions missed some family planning visits of this type. Despite the probable undercount of women on the pill who had a family planning visit in the last 5 years, 77 percent of the women using the pill reported making such a visit in the last 5 years.

It should also be noted that statistics on family planning visits cited in this report do not exclude women reporting sterilizing operations for themselves or their husbands. Among women reporting a sterilizing operation as their current method of contraception, a significant proportion (33.9 percent) of these women or their husbands had their operation more than 5 years before the date of interview, and thus would not have required a family planning visit during the period under study (table B). This varies by age, with fewer younger women (15-29 years of age) having been sterilized and most of those who were, having had their operation within the 5-year period. Among older women (30-44 years of age), the proportion with family planning visits is undoubtedly significantly higher among the still-fecund women than among total women.

FAMILY PLANNING VISITS IN THE LAST 5 YEARS

Age, Race, and Ethnic Origin

A majority of currently married women (54 percent) made at least one family planning visit in the last 5 years (table 1 and figure 1). For currently married women over the age of 20, the percentage with a family planning visit in the last 5 years declined significantly with each successively older age group. A maximum proportion of almost 82 percent was attained in the age group 20-24, and the minimum figure of 21 percent was recorded for the age group 40-44.

Decreases with age in the proportion of women with a family planning visit can be partially attributed to the differences in contraceptive methods used by women of different age groups. An earlier report² states that in 1973

the pill and the intrauterine device (IUD) were the most popular contraceptive methods used by women aged 15-29. Although the pill remained a popular method of contraception among women aged 30-44, the majority of them preferred sterilization and more traditional methods of contraception such as the condom, the diaphragm, foam, rhythm, withdrawal, and the douche, which require fewer medical visits. Table 7 shows that women using the pill and the IUD reported a higher proportion of family planning visits in the past 5 years than did women using sterilization

²National Center for Health Statistics: Contraceptive utilization among currently married women 15-44 years of age, United States, 1973. *Monthly Vital Statistics Report*. Vol. 25, No. 7, Supp. (HRA) 76-1120. Health Resources Administration, Rockville, Maryland, Oct. 4, 1976. p. 4.

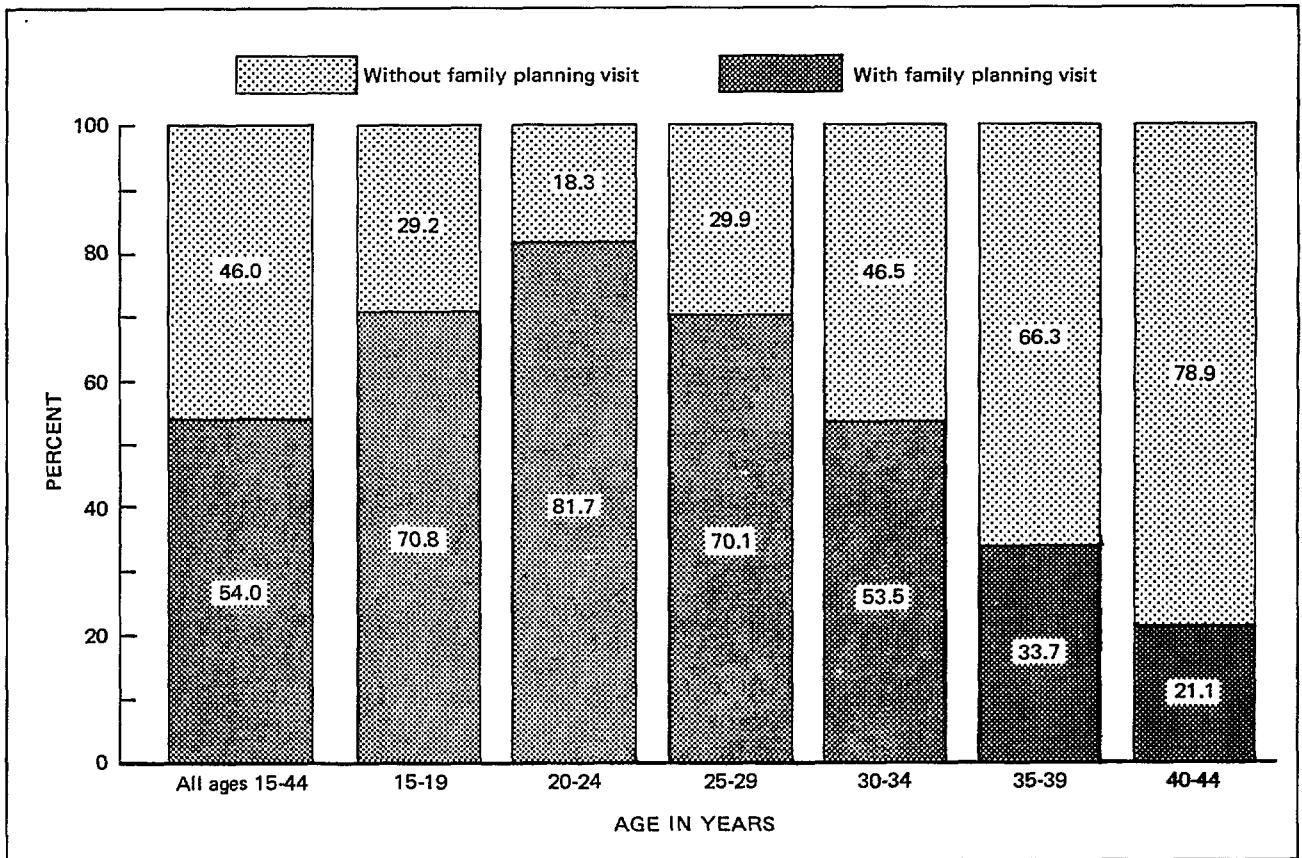


Figure 1. Percent of currently married women 15-44 years of age with and without a family planning visit in the last 5 years, by age: United States, 1973

or the more traditional methods of contraception. This difference was probably due to the more frequent medical visits for checkups, prescription renewal, and the like, associated with the use of the pill or IUD.

There was a significant difference between the percentage of white women and of Negro women with a visit in the last 5 years—55 percent for white women and 46 percent for Negro women (table 1 and figure 2). Both white and Negro wives with visits reached a maximum percentage in the age group 20-24 (83 percent for white women, 68 percent for Negro women), and a minimum in the age group 40-44 (22 percent for white and 16 percent for Negro women).

Among women of Spanish origin, 51 percent reported at least one family planning visit in the

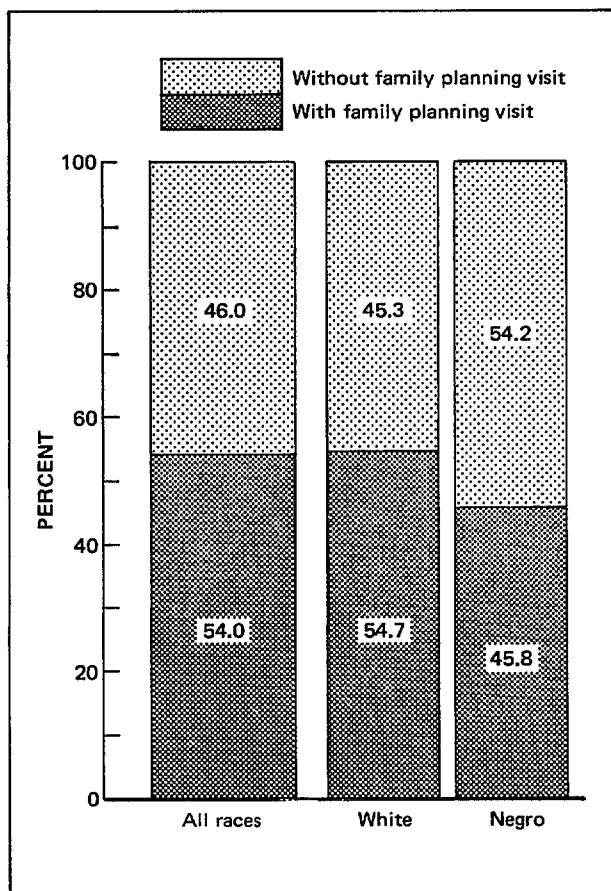


Figure 2. Percent of currently married women 15-44 years of age with and without a family planning visit in the last 5 years, by race: United States, 1973

last 5 years. This placed them between the percentage of white and of Negro women with a visit. The percentage of women of Spanish origin with a visit also varied significantly with age, declining from 65 percent for the age group 15-29 to 38 percent for the age group 30-44.

Other Characteristics

The percentage of both white and Negro women with a family planning visit in the last 5 years did not vary significantly with total family income (table 2). Family income is presented in this table as the ratio of total family income to poverty level income, as defined by the U.S. Bureau of the Census. Within each income category, in both racial groups, the proportion of women with a visit declined with age.

The distribution of currently married women with and without a family planning visit in the last 5 years by region, race, and age is shown in table 3. Among the four major regions of the United States, the highest percentage (58 percent) of women with a visit was in the West and the lowest (52 percent) was in the South. For white wives, there was no significant difference among the four regions. For Negroes, the percentage varied from 60 percent in the West to 43 percent in the South.

The proportion of currently married women with a family planning visit declined with increases in parity. Table 4 shows that 62 percent with 0-1 live births had a family planning visit, while only 40 percent of the women with 5 or more live births had a family planning visit. Much of this decrease probably can be accounted for by the older ages of women with larger numbers of live births. As explained earlier, these women tend to use contraceptive methods that require less frequent medical visits.

Both white and Negro women currently out of the labor force were more likely to have had a family planning visit in the last 5 years than were those currently in the labor force (table 5). Unlike the statistics on live births, this difference could not be accounted for by differences in age distribution, or use of contraceptive methods.

There was not a significant difference in the percent of women with a family planning visit between Catholic women (52.9 percent) and

Protestant women (53.5 percent) (table 6). When white women only were considered, the difference between the two religious groups remained not statistically significant. However, Negro Catholics were much more likely to have had a family planning visit in the last 5 years than were Negro Protestants (62.1 percent for Negro Catholics and 43.8 percent for Negro Protestants).

The distribution of currently married women with and without a family planning visit, by current method of contraception, is shown in table 7. Those women reporting the IUD as their current method of contraception were most likely to have had a family planning visit in the last 5 years (84 percent). Women reporting no current method of contraception were least likely to have had a visit (37 percent). Forty-nine percent of the women reporting female or male sterilization as their method of contraception had a visit in the last 5 years, in part because many of the sterilizing operations took place more than 5 years before the date of interview.

THE MOST RECENT VISIT

In Cycle I of the National Survey of Family Growth, data were also collected on characteristics of each woman's most recent family planning visit. This included information on the place of the visit, interval since last visit, and who initiated the conversation.

Location of Visit

Women who reported having talked to a physician or other trained person about methods of family planning in the 5-year period prior to the date of interview were asked for the location of the most recent visit. Their responses were classified by the interviewers into the following categories: own physician's office, own physician in hospital, general clinic, family planning clinic, hospital, and other places.

These data are useful in identifying medical services obtained from the respondent's own physician and those obtained from all other sources. For convenience, sources of family planning services other than the respondent's

own physician are referred to in this report as organized medical services. Own-physician services are considered to be those obtained in the office of the respondent's physician or with the respondent's own physician in a hospital. Organized services include the balance of the place-of-visit categories listed above.

Over 11.5 million currently married women, or 80.3 percent, went to their own physician's office for their most recent visit (table 8 and figure 3). In the other categories, 3.3 percent of the women with a visit saw their own physician in a hospital, 8.3 percent went to a general clinic, 4.6 percent went to a family planning clinic, 1.3 percent saw someone other than their own physician in a hospital, and 2.2 percent went to other places. Using the distinction discussed above, 84 percent (12 million) of the women with a family planning visit relied on their own physician, while 16 percent (2.4 million) of the women used organized medical services for their most recent visit.

Race, Age, and Ethnic Origin

Currently married Negro women were more likely to have used organized services for their most recent family planning visit than were currently married white women. Of those with a visit in the last 5 years, 41 percent of the Negro women and 14 percent of the white women received their family planning information from organized services. Eighteen percent of the Negro and 8 percent of the white women relied on general clinics; 17 percent of the Negro and 4 percent of the white women went to family planning clinics; and 4 percent of the Negro and 1 percent of the white women utilized non-personal physicians in hospitals for their most recent family planning visit.

For Negro wives with a visit in the last 5 years, the percentage using organized services was highest for the age group 15-19 (66 percent) and lowest for the age group 25-29 (32 percent). The percentage of white women using organized services also peaked at ages 15-19 (24 percent) but was lowest for the age group 30-34 (11 percent).

For women of Spanish origin, the proportion using organized services (35 percent) fell between the Negro and the white figures. The

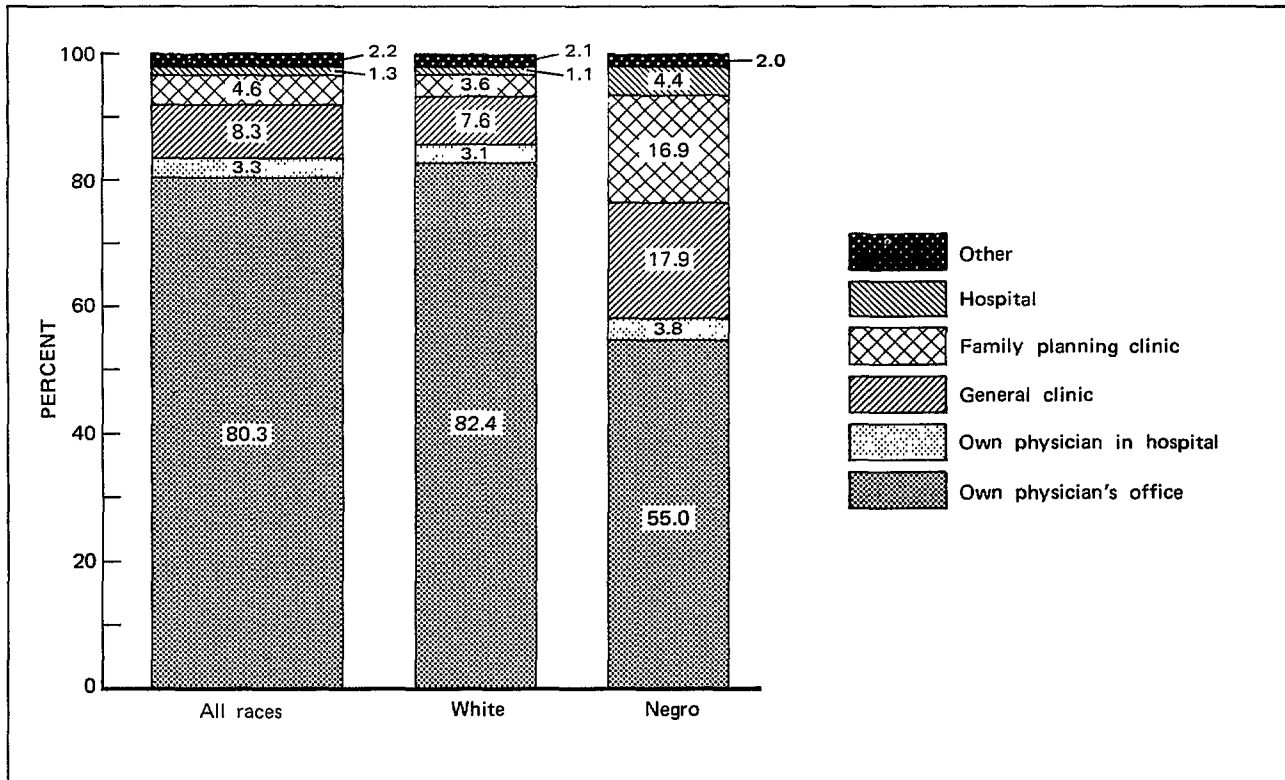


Figure 3. Source of family planning services utilized in the last 5 years by currently married women 15-44 years of age, by race: United States, 1973

percentage of Spanish-origin women relying on organized services did not vary significantly with age.

Other Characteristics

There is a negative relationship between total family income and the use of organized services for family planning visits, for both women of all races and white women (table 9). For women with a visit in the past 5 years, the percentage using organized services on their most recent visit ranged from 35 percent for those with incomes below the poverty level to 11 percent for those with incomes more than twice the poverty level. For Negro women there was a significant difference in the use of organized services between those below the poverty level (58 percent) and those with incomes more than twice the poverty level (31 percent), but the relationship was not consistent for all four income categories.

For currently married women with a family planning visit in the last 5 years, the percentage relying on organized services was highest in the West Region (22 percent) and lowest in the North Central Region (11 percent) (table 10). For white women the highest percentage was in the West (21 percent), and the lowest was in the Northeast (9 percent). There were no significant differences among regions for Negro women who used organized services for family planning information.

For all racial groups, wives with five or more live births were most likely to have used organized services (28 percent); significantly smaller proportions of women in the other birth-order categories utilized organized services (table 11). Regardless of the number of live births, the proportion using organized services was significantly higher for Negroes than for white women.

For white wives with a family planning visit in the last 5 years, there was no significant

difference between women in the labor force and women out of the labor force in the use of public services (table 12). However, Negro wives out of the labor force were more likely to utilize organized services than were those in the labor force.

In table 13, the distribution of currently married women by place of visit is shown for Catholic and Protestant women. There was no significant difference in the use of organized services between these two groups. When white women only or Negro women only were considered, the difference in the use of organized services remained not statistically significant.

Table 14 shows the distribution of women with a visit in the last 5 years by place of visit and method of contraception used at the time of the interview. The pill, IUD, and male or female sterilization are listed separately in the table. For convenience, these methods are referred to in this report as modern methods of contraception since they have been known or widely accepted as methods of family planning only since 1960. The more traditional methods—diaphragm, condom, foam, rhythm, withdrawal, douche, and other methods—are combined into a single category because the number of women using the individual methods was insufficient to permit reliable comparisons.

Seventeen percent of the users of modern contraceptives who had a family planning visit in the last 5 years utilized organized medical services, while only 13 percent of the users of traditional contraceptives used these services. Among the users of modern contraceptives who had a family planning visit, those using the IUD were most likely to have utilized organized services (23 percent); those using the pill were least likely to utilize organized services (16 percent).

Interval Since Latest Visit

The majority of women who had a family planning visit in the past 5 years had made their latest visit in the 3 years before the survey (table 15). Fifty-five percent of them had their most recent visit in the year preceding the survey, 74 percent had their most recent visit in the 2 years before the date of interview, and 86 percent had their most recent visit in the 3 years preceding the survey.

For both own-physician and organized services, more than half of the most recent visits took place in the year prior to the survey—54 percent for own-physician services and 61 percent for organized services. For both Negro and white women with a family planning visit in the last 5 years, 55 percent had their most recent visit in the last year.

Table 16 shows the distribution of women by place of visit, income level, and interval since last visit. For all four income levels, the majority of women had made their most recent visit in the year preceding the survey.

Initiator of Discussion

The discussion of family planning methods was initiated most often by the respondent rather than by the physician or other trained person (table 17). Almost 62 percent of the respondents indicated that they started the conversation, while 36 percent stated that the discussion was begun by the physician or trained person. However, those respondents using own-physician services initiated the family planning discussion more often than did the women relying on organized services (63 percent and 53 percent, respectively).



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Table 1. Number and percent distribution of currently married women 15-44 years of age with or without a family planning visit in the last 5 years, according to race or Spanish origin and age: United States, 1973

Race or Spanish origin and age	All women	Visit	No visit	All women	Visit	No visit
<u>All races</u>	Number in thousands			Percent distribution		
15-44 years-----	26,646	14,380	12,267	100.0	54.0	46.0
15-19 years-----	1,028	728	300	100.0	70.8	29.2
20-24 years-----	4,949	4,043	907	100.0	81.7	18.3
25-29 years-----	6,063	4,248	1,815	100.0	70.1	29.9
30-34 years-----	5,248	2,805	2,443	100.0	53.5	46.5
35-39 years-----	4,632	1,561	3,071	100.0	33.7	66.3
40-44 years-----	4,726	995	3,731	100.0	21.1	78.9
<u>White</u>						
15-44 years-----	24,249	13,273	10,976	100.0	54.7	45.3
15-19 years-----	915	669	246	100.0	73.1	26.9
20-24 years-----	4,469	3,715	754	100.0	83.1	16.9
25-29 years-----	5,579	3,949	1,630	100.0	70.8	29.2
30-34 years-----	4,768	2,592	2,175	100.0	54.4	45.6
35-39 years-----	4,199	1,416	2,782	100.0	33.7	66.3
40-44 years-----	4,320	931	3,389	100.0	21.6	78.4
<u>Negro</u>						
15-44 years-----	2,081	953	1,127	100.0	45.8	54.2
15-19 years-----	96	45	50	100.0	47.4	52.6
20-24 years-----	451	308	144	100.0	68.2	31.8
25-29 years-----	417	253	164	100.0	60.7	39.3
30-34 years-----	402	187	215	100.0	46.5	53.5
35-39 years-----	347	101	246	100.0	29.0	71.0
40-44 years-----	367	60	308	100.0	16.2	83.8
<u>Spanish origin¹</u>						
15-44 years-----	1,676	849	827	100.0	50.7	49.3
15-29 years-----	770	502	268	100.0	65.2	34.8
30-44 years-----	906	347	559	100.0	38.3	61.7

¹The Spanish origin classification was made independently of racial classification and includes women from both racial groups.

Table 2. Number and percent distribution of currently married women 15-44 years of age with or without a family planning visit in the last 5 years, according to income level, race, and age: United States, 1973

Income level, race, and age	All women	Visit	No visit	All women	Visit	No visit
<u>BELOW POVERTY INCOME</u>	Number in thousands			Percent distribution		
<u>All races</u>						
15-44 years-----	2,033	1,045	988	100.0	51.4	48.6
15-29 years-----	993	706	286	100.0	71.1	28.9
30-44 years-----	1,040	339	701	100.0	32.6	67.4
<u>White</u>						
15-44 years-----	1,681	880	800	100.0	52.4	47.6
15-29 years-----	857	632	225	100.0	73.7	26.3
30-44 years-----	824	249	575	100.0	30.2	69.8
<u>Negro</u>						
15-44 years-----	326	153	174	100.0	46.8	53.2
15-29 years-----	131	75	56	100.0	57.2	42.8
30-44 years-----	195	78	118	100.0	39.8	60.2
<u>100-149 PERCENT OF POVERTY INCOME</u>						
<u>All races</u>						
15-44 years-----	2,108	1,214	893	100.0	57.6	42.4
15-29 years-----	1,028	783	246	100.0	76.1	23.9
30-44 years-----	1,079	432	648	100.0	40.0	60.0
<u>White</u>						
15-44 years-----	1,717	1,033	684	100.0	60.2	39.8
15-29 years-----	851	667	183	100.0	78.5	21.5
30-44 years-----	867	366	500	100.0	42.2	57.8
<u>Negro</u>						
15-44 years-----	358	172	186	100.0	48.0	52.0
15-29 years-----	158	106	52	100.0	67.2	32.8
30-44 years-----	200	65	134	100.0	32.8	67.2

Table 2. Number and percent distribution of currently married women 15-44 years of age with or without a family planning visit in the last 5 years, according to income level, race, and age: United States, 1973—Con.

Income level, race, and age	All women	Visit	No visit	All women	Visit	No Visit
<u>150-199 PERCENT OF POVERTY INCOME</u>	Number in thousands			Percent distribution		
<u>All races</u>						
15-44 years-----	3,053	1,740	1,313	100.0	57.0	43.0
15-29 years-----	1,487	1,102	385	100.0	74.1	25.9
30-44 years-----	1,566	638	928	100.0	40.7	59.3
<u>White</u>						
15-44 years-----	2,742	1,590	1,152	100.0	58.0	42.0
15-29 years-----	1,361	1,022	340	100.0	75.0	25.0
30-44 years-----	1,380	568	812	100.0	41.2	58.8
<u>Negro</u>						
15-44 years-----	273	132	141	100.0	48.2	51.8
15-29 years-----	107	67	40	100.0	62.4	37.6
30-44 years-----	166	65	101	100.0	39.0	61.0
<u>200 PERCENT OF POVERTY INCOME AND ABOVE</u>						
<u>All races</u>						
15-44 years-----	19,452	10,380	9,072	100.0	53.4	46.6
15-29 years-----	8,531	6,427	2,104	100.0	75.3	24.7
30-44 years-----	10,921	3,953	6,968	100.0	36.2	63.8
<u>White</u>						
15-44 years-----	18,109	9,770	8,340	100.0	53.9	46.1
15-29 years-----	7,894	6,013	1,881	100.0	76.2	23.8
30-44 years-----	10,215	3,757	6,459	100.0	36.8	63.2
<u>Negro</u>						
15-44 years-----	1,124	497	626	100.0	44.3	55.7
15-29 years-----	567	358	210	100.0	63.1	36.9
30-44 years-----	556	140	417	100.0	25.1	74.9

Table 3. Number and percent distribution of currently married women 15-44 years of age with or without a family planning visit in the last 5 years, according to geographic region, race, and age: United States, 1973

Race and age	All women	Visit	No visit	All women	Visit	No visit
<u>NORTHEAST</u>						
Number in thousands			Percent distribution			
<u>All races</u>						
15-44 years-----	5,374	2,829	2,544	100.0	52.6	47.4
15-29 years-----	2,151	1,615	536	100.0	75.1	24.9
30-44 years-----	3,223	1,214	2,009	100.0	37.7	62.3
<u>White</u>						
15-44 years-----	4,860	2,594	2,266	100.0	53.4	46.6
15-29 years-----	1,921	1,476	445	100.0	76.8	23.2
30-44 years-----	2,939	1,119	1,820	100.0	38.1	61.9
<u>Negro</u>						
15-44 years-----	459	219	240	100.0	47.6	52.4
15-29 years-----	215	135	80	100.0	62.8	37.2
30-44 years-----	244	84	161	100.0	34.3	65.7
<u>NORTH CENTRAL</u>						
<u>All races</u>						
15-44 years-----	7,014	3,819	3,194	100.0	54.5	45.5
15-29 years-----	3,115	2,317	798	100.0	74.4	25.6
30-44 years-----	3,898	1,502	2,396	100.0	38.5	61.5
<u>White</u>						
15-44 years-----	6,615	3,617	2,999	100.0	54.7	45.3
15-29 years-----	2,938	2,190	748	100.0	74.5	25.5
30-44 years-----	3,677	1,427	2,251	100.0	38.8	61.2
<u>Negro</u>						
15-44 years-----	357	175	182	100.0	49.1	50.9
15-29 years-----	150	104	46	100.0	69.3	30.7
30-44 years-----	207	71	136	100.0	34.4	65.6

Table 3. Number and percent distribution of currently married women 15-44 years of age with or without a family planning visit in the last 5 years, according to geographic region, race, and age: United States, 1973—Con.

Race and age	All women	Visit	No visit	All women	Visit	No visit
<u>SOUTH</u>						
Number in thousands						
Percent distribution						
<u>All races</u>						
15-44 years-----	8,924	4,661	4,263	100.0	52.2	47.8
15-29 years-----	4,286	3,114	1,172	100.0	72.6	27.4
30-44 years-----	4,638	1,548	3,090	100.0	33.4	66.6
<u>White</u>						
15-44 years-----	7,703	4,149	3,554	100.0	53.9	46.1
15-29 years-----	3,722	2,778	943	100.0	74.7	25.3
30-44 years-----	3,981	1,370	2,611	100.0	34.4	65.6
<u>Negro</u>						
15-44 years-----	1,142	485	656	100.0	42.5	57.5
15-29 years-----	541	322	219	100.0	59.5	40.5
30-44 years-----	601	164	437	100.0	27.2	72.8
<u>WEST</u>						
<u>All races</u>						
15-44 years-----	5,335	3,070	2,265	100.0	57.5	42.5
15-29 years-----	2,488	1,973	515	100.0	79.3	20.7
30-44 years-----	2,847	1,097	1,751	100.0	38.5	61.5
<u>White</u>						
15-44 years-----	5,070	2,913	2,157	100.0	57.5	42.5
15-29 years-----	2,382	1,889	493	100.0	79.3	20.7
30-44 years-----	2,688	1,024	1,664	100.0	38.1	61.9
<u>Negro</u>						
15-44 years-----	123	74	49	100.0	60.3	39.7
15-29 years-----	58	45	*13	100.0	78.2	*21.8
30-44 years-----	65	29	36	100.0	44.4	55.6

Table 4. Number and percent distribution of currently married women 15-44 years of age with or without a family planning visit in the last 5 years, according to parity, race, and age: United States, 1973

Parity, race, and age	All women	Visit	No visit	All women	Visit	No visit
<u>0-1 PARITY</u>						
<u>All races</u>						
15-44 years-----	9,917	6,142	3,775	100.0	61.9	38.1
15-29 years-----	7,426	5,451	1,975	100.0	73.4	26.6
30-44 years-----	2,491	691	1,800	100.0	27.7	72.3
<u>White</u>						
15-44 years-----	9,010	5,761	3,248	100.0	63.9	36.1
15-29 years-----	6,845	5,122	1,723	100.0	74.8	25.2
30-44 years-----	2,165	639	1,526	100.0	29.5	70.5
<u>Negro</u>						
15-44 years-----	756	314	442	100.0	41.5	58.5
15-29 years-----	515	287	228	100.0	55.7	44.3
30-44 years-----	241	27	214	100.0	11.0	89.0
<u>2-4 PARITY</u>						
<u>All races</u>						
15-44 years-----	14,199	7,223	6,976	100.0	50.9	49.1
15-29 years-----	4,467	3,474	993	100.0	77.8	22.2
30-44 years-----	9,732	3,749	5,983	100.0	38.5	61.5
<u>White</u>						
15-44 years-----	13,125	6,685	6,440	100.0	50.9	49.1
15-29 years-----	4,022	3,150	872	100.0	78.3	21.7
30-44 years-----	9,102	3,535	5,568	100.0	38.8	61.2
<u>Negro</u>						
15-44 years-----	936	460	477	100.0	49.1	50.9
15-29 years-----	406	290	116	100.0	71.5	28.5
30-44 years-----	530	169	361	100.0	31.9	68.1
<u>5 OR MORE PARITY</u>						
<u>All races</u>						
15-44 years-----	2,531	1,015	1,516	100.0	40.1	59.9
15-29 years-----	147	94	*53	100.0	63.7	*36.3
30-44 years-----	2,383	921	1,462	100.0	38.7	61.3
<u>White</u>						
15-44 years-----	2,115	827	1,288	100.0	39.1	60.9
15-29 years-----	96	*61	*35	100.0	*63.7	*36.3
30-44 years-----	2,019	766	1,253	100.0	37.9	62.1
<u>Negro</u>						
15-44 years-----	389	180	209	100.0	46.3	53.7
15-29 years-----	42	28	*14	100.0	67.0	*33.0
30-44 years-----	347	152	195	100.0	43.8	56.2

Table 5. Number and percent distribution of currently married women 15-44 years of age with or without a family planning visit in the last 5 years, according to labor force status, race, and age: United States, 1973

Labor force status, race, and age	All women	Visit	No visit	All women	Visit	No visit
<u>IN LABOR FORCE</u>	Number in thousands			Percent distribution		
<u>All races</u>						
15-44 years-----	11,084	5,737	5,347	100.0	51.8	48.2
15-29 years-----	4,950	3,754	1,196	100.0	75.8	24.2
30-44 years-----	6,134	1,983	4,151	100.0	32.3	67.7
<u>White</u>						
15-44 years-----	9,829	5,210	4,620	100.0	53.0	47.0
15-29 years-----	4,443	3,426	1,017	100.0	77.1	22.9
30-44 years-----	5,387	1,784	3,603	100.0	33.1	66.9
<u>Negro</u>						
15-44 years-----	1,128	472	656	100.0	41.9	58.1
15-29 years-----	482	308	175	100.0	63.8	36.2
30-44 years-----	646	165	481	100.0	25.5	74.5
<u>NOT IN LABOR FORCE</u>						
<u>All races</u>						
15-44 years-----	15,562	8,642	6,919	100.0	55.5	44.5
15-29 years-----	7,089	5,265	1,825	100.0	74.3	25.7
30-44 years-----	8,472	3,378	5,095	100.0	39.9	60.1
<u>White</u>						
15-44 years-----	14,419	8,064	6,356	100.0	55.9	44.1
15-29 years-----	6,520	4,908	1,613	100.0	75.3	24.7
30-44 years-----	7,899	3,156	4,743	100.0	40.0	60.0
<u>Negro</u>						
15-44 years-----	953	481	472	100.0	50.5	49.5
15-29 years-----	482	298	183	100.0	61.9	38.1
30-44 years-----	471	183	288	100.0	38.8	61.2

Table 6. Number and percent distribution of currently married women 15-44 years of age with or without a family planning visit in the last 5 years, according to religion, race, and age: United States, 1973

Religion, race, and age	All women	Visit	No visit	All women	Visit	No visit
<u>CATHOLIC</u>						
<u>All races</u>						
			Number in thousands		Percent distribution	
15-44 years-----	7,661	4,056	3,605	100.0	52.9	47.1
15-29 years-----	3,326	2,447	879	100.0	73.6	26.4
30-44 years-----	4,335	1,609	2,726	100.0	37.1	62.9
<u>White</u>						
15-44 years-----	7,338	3,882	3,457	100.0	52.9	47.1
15-29 years-----	3,169	2,323	847	100.0	73.3	26.7
30-44 years-----	4,169	1,559	2,610	100.0	37.4	62.6
<u>Negro</u>						
15-44 years-----	183	113	69	100.0	62.1	37.9
15-29 years-----	106	82	*24	100.0	77.5	22.5
30-44 years-----	76	31	45	100.0	40.9	59.1
<u>PROTESTANT</u>						
<u>All races</u>						
15-44 years-----	17,301	9,248	8,053	100.0	53.5	46.5
15-29 years-----	7,791	5,816	1,974	100.0	74.7	25.3
30-44 years-----	9,510	3,432	6,078	100.0	36.1	63.9
<u>White</u>						
15-44 years-----	15,400	8,401	6,999	100.0	54.5	45.5
15-29 years-----	6,974	5,313	1,661	100.0	76.2	23.8
30-44 years-----	8,426	3,088	5,338	100.0	36.6	63.4
<u>Negro</u>						
15-44 years-----	1,817	795	1,021	100.0	43.8	56.2
15-29 years-----	797	483	313	100.0	60.7	39.3
30-44 years-----	1,020	312	708	100.0	30.6	69.4

Table 7. Number and percent distribution of currently married women 15-44 years of age with or without a family planning visit in the last 5 years, according to current contraceptive status: United States, 1973

Current contraceptive status	All women	Visit	No visit	All women	Visit	No visit
	Number in thousands			Percent distribution		
All women-----	26,646	14,380	12,267	100.0	54.0	46.0
Noncontraceptors-----	8,104	2,977	5,127	100.0	36.7	63.3
Contraceptors-----	18,542	11,403	7,141	100.0	61.5	38.5
Sterilization-----	4,365	2,133	2,232	100.0	48.9	51.1
Pill-----	6,690	5,163	1,527	100.0	77.2	22.8
IUD-----	1,781	1,494	288	100.0	83.9	16.1
Traditional methods-----	5,706	2,613	3,094	100.0	45.8	54.2

Table 8. Number and percent distribution of currently married women 15-44 years of age by place of most recent family planning visit in the last 5 years, according to race or Spanish origin and age: United States, 1973

Race or Spanish origin and age	All visits	Own physician			Organized medical services				
		Total	Office	Hospital	Total	General clinic	Family planning clinic	Hospital	Other places
<u>All races</u>		Number in thousands							
15-44 years----	14,380	12,019	11,548	470	2,361	1,198	657	189	316
15-19 years-----	728	531	514	*18	196	97	*66	*21	*13
20-24 years-----	4,043	3,192	3,068	124	851	430	260	*65	96
25-29 years-----	4,248	3,669	3,508	161	579	307	156	*52	*65
30-34 years-----	2,805	2,437	2,347	90	369	190	91	*18	*70
35-39 years-----	1,561	1,285	1,226	*59	275	144	*50	*28	*54
40-44 years-----	995	905	885	*19	90	*31	*34	*6	*20
<u>White</u>									
15-44 years----	13,273	11,354	10,937	416	1,920	1,010	483	147	279
15-19 years-----	669	507	491	*16	162	81	*51	*17	*13
20-24 years-----	3,715	2,997	2,881	116	719	390	198	*40	90
25-29 years-----	3,949	3,458	3,315	143	491	256	129	*49	*58
30-34 years-----	2,592	2,312	2,238	75	280	150	*56	*14	*60
35-39 years-----	1,416	1,208	1,160	*48	208	110	*37	*23	*38
40-44 years-----	931	871	853	*18	*60	*24	*12	*4	*20
<u>Negro</u>									
15-44 years----	953	560	525	36	393	171	161	42	*19
15-19 years-----	45	*15	*14	*1	30	*16	*10	*4	-
20-24 years-----	308	175	173	*3	132	40	62	*25	*6
25-29 years-----	253	173	164	*9	80	43	27	*3	*7
30-34 years-----	187	116	101	*15	71	35	31	*4	*1
35-39 years-----	101	51	45	*6	50	30	*10	*5	*5
40-44 years-----	60	29	28	*1	30	*7	*22	*2	-
<u>Spanish origin¹</u>									
15-44 years----	849	553	527	*26	296	111	119	*40	*27
15-29 years-----	502	317	304	*14	185	*64	74	*25	*22
30-44 years-----	347	236	223	*12	112	*46	*45	*15	*5

Table 8. Number and percent distribution of currently married women 15-44 years of age by place of most recent family planning visit in the last 5 years, according to race or Spanish origin and age: United States, 1973--Con.

Race or Spanish origin and age	All visits	Own physician			Organized medical services				
		Total	Office	Hospital	Total	General clinic	Family planning clinic	Hospital	Other places
<u>All races</u>		Percent distribution							
15-44 years----	100.0	83.6	80.3	3.3	16.4	8.3	4.6	1.3	2.2
15-19 years-----	100.0	73.0	70.6	*2.4	27.0	13.3	*9.1	*2.8	*1.8
20-24 years-----	100.0	79.0	75.9	3.1	21.0	10.6	6.4	*1.6	2.4
25-29 years-----	100.0	86.4	82.6	3.8	13.6	7.2	3.7	*1.2	*1.5
30-34 years-----	100.0	86.9	83.7	3.2	13.1	6.8	3.3	*0.6	*2.5
35-39 years-----	100.0	82.4	78.6	*3.8	17.6	9.2	*3.2	*1.8	*3.4
40-44 years-----	100.0	90.9	89.0	*1.9	9.1	*3.1	*3.4	*0.6	*2.0
<u>White</u>									
15-44 years----	100.0	85.5	82.4	3.1	14.5	7.6	3.6	1.1	2.1
15-19 years-----	100.0	75.8	73.4	*2.4	24.2	12.1	*7.7	*2.5	*1.9
20-24 years-----	100.0	80.7	77.5	3.1	19.3	10.5	5.3	*1.1	2.4
25-29 years-----	100.0	87.6	83.9	3.6	12.4	6.5	3.3	*1.2	*1.5
30-34 years-----	100.0	89.2	86.3	2.9	10.8	5.8	*2.2	*0.6	*2.3
35-39 years-----	100.0	85.3	81.9	*3.4	14.7	7.8	*2.6	*1.6	*2.7
40-44 years-----	100.0	93.6	91.6	*1.9	*6.5	*2.5	*1.3	*0.5	*2.1
<u>Negro</u>									
15-44 years----	100.0	58.8	55.0	3.8	41.2	17.9	16.9	4.4	*2.0
15-19 years-----	100.0	*33.9	*31.2	*2.7	66.1	*35.7	*22.7	*7.8	-
20-24 years-----	100.0	57.0	56.1	*0.9	43.0	13.0	20.1	*8.1	*1.9
25-29 years-----	100.0	68.5	64.8	*3.7	31.5	16.9	10.6	*1.3	*2.7
30-34 years-----	100.0	62.1	53.9	*8.1	37.9	18.7	16.7	*1.9	*0.5
35-39 years-----	100.0	50.8	44.8	*5.9	49.2	29.8	*9.5	*4.7	*5.2
40-44 years-----	100.0	49.0	46.7	*2.2	51.0	*11.9	*36.2	*3.0	-
<u>Spanish origin¹</u>									
15-44 years----	100.0	65.1	62.1	*3.0	34.9	13.0	14.0	*4.7	*3.1
15-29 years-----	100.0	63.2	60.5	*2.7	36.8	*12.8	14.7	*4.9	*4.3
30-44 years-----	100.0	67.9	64.3	*3.5	32.1	*13.3	*13.1	*4.3	*1.4

¹The Spanish origin classification was made independently of racial classification and includes women from both racial groups.

Table 9. Number of currently married women 15-44 years of age with a family planning visit in the last 5 years and percent distribution by place of most recent family planning visit, according to the ratio of family income to poverty level income, race, and age: United States, 1973

Income level, race, and age	With family planning visit in last 5 years		Own physician			Organized medical services				
	Num- ber in thou- sands	Percent	Total	Office	Hospi- tal	Total	Gen- eral clinic	Family plan- ning clinic	Hospi- tal	Other places
<u>BELOW POVERTY INCOME</u>										
Percent distribution										
<u>All races</u>										
15-44 years--	1,045	100.0	65.1	60.8	*4.3	34.9	16.5	11.6	*2.4	*4.5
15-29 years-----	706	100.0	65.7	61.4	*4.3	34.3	16.8	10.6	*2.9	*4.0
30-44 years-----	339	100.0	63.9	59.4	4.4	36.1	15.7	13.6	1.4	5.4
<u>White</u>										
15-44 years--	880	100.0	70.1	65.8	*4.3	29.9	13.7	10.2	*1.9	*4.1
15-29 years-----	632	100.0	68.5	64.4	*4.1	31.5	16.1	*9.2	*2.0	*4.3
30-44 years-----	249	100.0	74.0	69.2	*4.8	*26.0	*7.6	*12.8	*1.7	*3.9
<u>Negro</u>										
15-44 years--	153	100.0	41.8	36.9	*4.9	58.2	31.4	20.3	*5.5	*1.0
15-29 years-----	75	100.0	41.6	35.9	*5.7	58.4	*23.4	*22.4	*10.6	*2.1
30-44 years-----	78	100.0	41.9	37.8	4.0	58.1	39.1	*18.3	*0.7	-
<u>100-149 PERCENT OF POVERTY INCOME</u>										
<u>All races</u>										
15-44 years--	1,214	100.0	69.2	64.6	*4.6	30.8	15.6	9.8	*3.3	*2.2
15-29 years-----	783	100.0	69.8	65.0	*4.8	30.2	14.2	9.6	*3.4	*2.9
30-44 years-----	432	100.0	68.1	64.0	*4.2	31.9	18.0	*10.0	*3.0	*0.9
<u>White</u>										
15-44 years--	1,033	100.0	71.8	67.2	*4.6	28.2	14.2	8.3	*3.3	*2.5
15-29 years-----	667	100.0	70.5	65.8	*4.7	29.5	13.1	*9.7	*3.5	*3.3
30-44 years-----	366	100.0	74.2	69.7	*4.5	25.8	*16.2	*5.6	*3.0	*1.0
<u>Negro</u>										
15-44 years--	172	100.0	54.6	52.7	*1.9	45.4	22.0	19.4	*3.4	*0.6
15-29 years-----	106	100.0	67.0	65.5	*1.5	33.0	*18.3	*10.1	*3.6	*1.0
30-44 years-----	65	100.0	*34.5	*31.9	*2.5	65.5	*28.1	*34.4	*3.0	-

Table 9. Number of currently married women 15-44 years of age with a family planning visit in the last 5 years and percent distribution by place of most recent family planning visit, according to the ratio of family income to poverty level income, race, and age: United States, 1973—Con.

Income level, race, and age	With family planning visit in last 5 years		Own physician			Organized medical services				
	Num- ber in thou- sands	Percent	Total	Office	Hospi- tal	Total	Gen- eral clinic	Family plan- ning clinic	Hospi- tal	Other places
<u>150-199 PERCENT OF POVERTY INCOME</u>										
Percent distribution										
<u>All races</u>										
15-44 years--	1,740	100.0	74.2	70.5	*3.7	25.8	13.6	5.6	*2.7	*3.9
15-29 years-----	1,102	100.0	71.5	68.5	*3.0	28.5	15.2	6.7	*3.6	*3.0
30-44 years-----	638	100.0	78.8	73.8	*4.9	21.2	*10.9	*3.6	*1.3	*5.4
<u>White</u>										
15-44 years--	1,590	100.0	77.1	73.6	*3.4	22.9	12.9	*4.5	*2.2	*3.4
15-29 years-----	1,022	100.0	74.2	71.6	*2.6	25.8	14.3	*5.8	*3.0	*2.8
30-44 years-----	568	100.0	82.3	77.3	*4.9	17.7	*10.4	*2.2	*0.7	*4.5
<u>Negro</u>										
15-44 years--	132	100.0	46.3	42.0	*4.3	53.7	21.4	*15.9	*9.8	*6.5
15-29 years-----	67	100.0	*38.6	*35.4	*3.1	61.4	*26.4	*15.2	*13.4	*6.4
30-44 years-----	65	100.0	54.3	48.8	*5.5	45.7	*16.2	*16.7	*6.0	*6.7
<u>200 PERCENT AND ABOVE OF POVERTY INCOME</u>										
<u>All races</u>										
15-44 years--	10,380	100.0	88.7	85.8	2.9	11.3	5.8	3.1	0.7	1.7
15-29 years-----	6,427	100.0	87.0	83.9	3.1	13.0	6.8	4.0	*0.8	1.4
30-44 years-----	3,953	100.0	91.4	88.8	2.6	8.6	4.1	*1.6	*0.7	2.2
<u>White</u>										
15-44 years--	9,770	100.0	89.8	86.9	2.8	10.2	5.5	2.4	*0.6	1.7
15-29 years-----	6,013	100.0	88.2	85.0	3.2	11.8	6.5	3.3	*0.7	1.4
30-44 years-----	3,757	100.0	92.3	90.1	2.2	7.7	3.9	*1.1	*0.6	2.1
<u>Negro</u>										
15-44 years--	497	100.0	68.7	64.8	*3.9	31.3	11.5	15.3	*3.0	*1.6
15-29 years-----	358	100.0	65.8	64.4	*1.5	34.2	12.3	17.1	*3.1	*1.6
30-44 years-----	140	100.0	76.1	65.9	*10.2	23.9	*9.2	*10.7	*2.7	*1.4

Table 10. Number of currently married women 15-44 years of age with a family planning visit in the last 5 years and percent distribution by place of most recent visit, according to geographic region, race, and age: United States, 1973

Geographic region, race, and age	With family planning visit in last 5 years		Own physician			Organized medical services				
	Number in thousands	Per-cent	Total	Office	Hospital	Total	General clinic	Family planning clinic	Hospital	Other places
<u>NORTHEAST</u>										
Percent distribution										
<u>All races</u>										
15-44 years----	2,829	100.0	88.3	85.2	3.0	11.7	4.5	4.4	*1.6	*1.3
15-29 years-----	1,615	100.0	85.7	82.9	*2.8	14.3	6.5	4.8	*2.2	*0.8
30-44 years-----	1,214	100.0	91.6	88.4	*3.3	8.4	*1.8	*3.9	*0.8	*1.9
<u>White</u>										
15-44 years----	2,594	100.0	90.9	87.7	3.2	9.1	3.1	3.5	*1.1	*1.3
15-29 years-----	1,476	100.0	88.7	85.6	*3.1	11.3	4.9	*4.1	*1.4	*0.9
30-44 years-----	1,119	100.0	93.9	90.5	*3.4	6.1	*0.8	*2.8	*0.5	*1.9
<u>Negro</u>										
15-44 years----	219	100.0	57.5	56.9	*0.6	42.5	20.9	13.0	*8.0	*0.5
15-29 years-----	135	100.0	53.3	53.3	-	46.7	24.1	*12.0	*10.7	-
30-44 years-----	84	100.0	64.4	62.9	*1.5	35.6	*15.9	*14.6	*3.7	*1.4
<u>NORTH CENTRAL</u>										
<u>All races</u>										
15-44 years----	3,819	100.0	88.6	84.7	4.0	11.4	5.6	3.2	*1.3	*1.3
15-29 years-----	2,317	100.0	85.7	81.4	4.2	14.3	6.5	4.4	*1.7	*1.7
30-44 years-----	1,502	100.0	93.2	89.6	*3.6	6.8	*4.1	*1.2	*0.7	*0.8
<u>White</u>										
15-44 years----	3,617	100.0	89.8	86.1	3.8	10.2	5.1	2.7	*1.1	*1.4
15-29 years-----	2,190	100.0	86.6	82.4	4.2	13.4	6.5	3.8	*1.4	*1.8
30-44 years-----	1,427	100.0	94.8	91.7	*3.2	5.2	*2.9	*0.9	*0.6	*0.8
<u>Negro</u>										
15-44 years----	175	100.0	62.0	53.2	*8.7	38.0	17.4	*14.1	*6.3	*0.3
15-29 years-----	104	100.0	63.4	57.0	*6.5	36.6	*9.4	*19.0	*7.6	*0.5
30-44 years-----	71	100.0	59.8	47.8	*12.0	40.2	*28.9	*7.0	*4.3	-

Table 10. Number of currently married women 15-44 years of age with a family planning visit in the last 5 years and percent distribution by place of most recent visit, according to geographic region, race, and age: United States, 1973—Con.

Geographic region, race, and age	With family planning visit in last 5 years		Own physician			Organized medical services				
	Number in thousands	Percent	Total	Office	Hospital	Total	General clinic	Family planning clinic	Hospital	Other places
<u>SOUTH</u>										
<u>All races</u>										
15-44 years---	4,661	100.0	80.2	78.0	2.2	19.8	10.1	5.8	*1.0	2.8
15-29 years-----	3,114	100.0	80.5	78.5	*2.0	19.5	10.2	6.0	*0.9	2.4
30-44 years-----	1,548	100.0	79.6	77.0	*2.6	20.4	10.0	5.5	*1.1	*3.8
<u>White</u>										
15-44 years---	4,149	100.0	83.3	81.2	2.1	16.7	9.3	4.0	*0.8	2.6
15-29 years-----	2,778	100.0	83.0	80.9	*2.1	17.0	9.4	4.5	*0.8	*2.2
30-44 years-----	1,370	100.0	83.9	81.9	*2.0	16.1	9.1	*2.9	*0.9	*3.2
<u>Negro</u>										
15-44 years---	485	100.0	56.6	52.8	*3.9	43.4	16.9	21.1	*2.0	*3.4
15-29 years-----	322	100.0	59.9	58.0	*1.9	40.2	15.8	18.9	*1.8	*3.6
30-44 years-----	164	100.0	50.3	42.5	*7.8	49.7	18.9	25.3	*2.5	*3.1
<u>WEST</u>										
<u>All races</u>										
15-44 years---	3,070	100.0	78.1	73.9	4.2	21.9	12.5	4.6	*1.6	3.2
15-29 years-----	1,973	100.0	76.8	72.0	4.8	23.2	13.2	5.9	*1.8	*2.4
30-44 years-----	1,097	100.0	80.4	77.3	*3.1	19.6	11.4	*2.2	*1.4	*4.6
<u>White</u>										
15-44 years---	2,913	100.0	78.6	74.8	3.8	21.4	12.3	4.4	*1.6	3.0
15-29 years-----	1,889	100.0	76.9	72.6	4.3	23.1	13.3	5.8	*1.7	*2.4
30-44 years-----	1,024	100.0	81.8	78.9	*2.9	18.2	10.6	*2.0	*1.5	*4.1
<u>Negro</u>										
15-44 years---	74	100.0	69.0	68.4	*0.7	31.0	*17.3	*8.1	*4.9	*0.7
15-29 years-----	45	100.0	74.0	73.0	*1.1	26.0	*12.3	*4.6	*8.1	*1.1
30-44 years-----	29	100.0	*61.2	*61.2	-	*38.8	*25.3	*13.5	-	-

Table 11. Number of currently married women 15-44 years of age with a family planning visit in the last 5 years and percent distribution by place of most recent family planning visit, according to parity, race, and age: United States, 1973

Parity, race, and age	With family planning visit in last 5 years		Own physician			Organized medical services				
	Number in thousands	Percent	Total	Office	Hospi- tal	Total	Gen- eral clinic	Family plan- ning clinic	Hospi- tal	Other places
<u>0-1 PARITY</u>										
<u>All races</u>										
15-44 years-----	6,142	100.0	83.9	81.8	2.2	16.1	8.3	4.8	*0.9	2.1
15-29 years-----	5,451	100.0	83.2	80.8	2.4	16.8	8.6	5.1	*0.9	2.2
30-44 years-----	691	100.0	89.4	89.1	0.3	10.6	*6.1	*2.4	*0.9	*1.2
<u>White</u>										
15-44 years-----	5,761	100.0	85.2	83.0	2.2	14.8	8.0	4.2	*0.6	2.0
15-29 years-----	5,122	100.0	84.3	81.9	2.5	15.7	8.3	4.6	*0.6	2.2
30-44 years-----	639	100.0	92.0	92.0	-	*8.0	*5.2	*1.5	*0.7	*0.6
<u>Negro</u>										
15-44 years-----	314	100.0	62.8	60.9	*1.8	37.2	13.6	14.5	*6.9	*2.2
15-29 years-----	287	100.0	62.7	61.5	*1.2	37.3	13.1	14.9	*6.9	*2.4
30-44 years-----	27	100.0	*63.5	*54.6	*8.9	*36.5	*18.9	*10.5	*7.1	-
<u>2-4 PARITY</u>										
<u>All races</u>										
15-44 years-----	7,223	100.0	84.9	81.0	3.9	15.1	7.6	3.7	1.4	2.4
15-29 years-----	3,474	100.0	80.6	75.9	4.7	19.4	10.3	5.2	2.5	*1.4
30-44 years-----	3,749	100.0	88.9	85.8	3.1	11.1	5.1	2.3	*0.4	3.3
<u>White</u>										
15-44 years-----	6,685	100.0	86.7	83.1	3.6	13.3	6.8	2.9	1.3	2.3
15-29 years-----	3,150	100.0	82.8	78.2	4.6	17.2	9.3	4.1	2.4	*1.4
30-44 years-----	3,535	100.0	90.2	87.4	2.8	9.8	4.7	*1.7	*0.4	3.1
<u>Negro</u>										
15-44 years-----	450	100.0	62.5	57.4	*5.1	37.5	17.4	14.5	*3.1	*2.6
15-29 years-----	290	100.0	58.2	54.8	*3.4	41.8	20.1	15.8	*3.9	*2.0
30-44 years-----	169	100.0	69.7	61.7	*8.0	30.3	*12.7	*12.2	*1.8	*3.7
<u>5 OR MORE PARITY</u>										
<u>All races</u>										
15-44 years-----	1,015	100.0	72.0	66.4	*5.6	28.0	14.0	9.6	*3.0	*1.4
15-29 years-----	94	100.0	*58.2	*49.1	*9.0	*41.8	*11.7	*24.8	*0.6	*4.7
30-44 years-----	921	100.0	73.4	68.2	*5.3	26.6	14.2	8.0	*3.3	*1.1
<u>White</u>										
15-44 years-----	827	100.0	78.6	73.1	*5.5	21.4	11.3	*5.8	*3.0	*1.3
15-29 years-----	*61	*100.0	*58.0	*51.4	*6.6	*42.0	*13.6	*21.1	-	*7.2
30-44 years-----	766	100.0	80.3	74.8	*5.5	19.7	11.1	*4.5	*3.3	*0.8
<u>Negro</u>										
15-44 years-----	180	100.0	42.4	38.8	*3.7	57.6	26.8	27.4	*3.3	-
15-29 years-----	28	100.0	*51.9	*51.9	-	*48.1	*9.4	*36.5	*2.1	-
30-44 years-----	152	100.0	40.7	36.3	*4.4	59.3	30.1	25.7	*3.5	-

Table 12. Number of currently married women 15-44 years of age with a family planning visit in the last 5 years and percent distribution by place of most recent family planning visit, according to labor force status, race, and age: United States, 1973

Labor force status, race, and age	With family planning visit in last 5 years		Own physician			Organized medical services				
	Number in thousands	Percent	Total	Office	Hospital	Total	General clinic	Family planning clinic	Hospital	Other places
IN LABOR FORCE										
All races										
15-44 years--	5,737	100.0	84.9	82.9	2.0	15.1	7.7	4.4	*1.0	2.0
15-29 years-----	3,754	100.0	84.6	83.0	*1.6	15.4	7.8	5.1	*0.9	1.5
30-44 years-----	1,983	100.0	85.5	82.7	*2.8	14.5	7.3	*3.1	*1.2	*2.9
White										
15-44 years--	5,210	100.0	87.0	85.2	1.9	13.0	6.8	3.4	*0.9	1.9
15-29 years-----	3,426	100.0	86.3	84.7	*1.6	13.7	7.0	4.4	*0.8	*1.5
30-44 years-----	1,784	100.0	88.4	86.1	*2.4	11.6	6.5	*1.5	*1.0	*2.5
Negro										
15-44 years--	472	100.0	64.5	61.6	*2.9	35.5	16.6	14.4	*2.9	*1.6
15-29 years-----	308	100.0	64.5	63.0	*1.6	35.5	17.4	13.8	*2.6	*1.7
30-44 years-----	165	100.0	64.4	58.9	*5.4	35.6	*15.2	*15.6	*3.4	*1.4
NOT IN LABOR FORCE										
All races										
15-44 years--	8,642	100.0	82.7	78.6	4.1	17.3	8.8	4.7	1.5	2.3
15-29 years-----	5,265	100.0	80.1	75.5	4.6	19.9	10.3	5.5	1.9	2.2
30-44 years-----	3,378	100.0	86.8	83.4	3.3	13.2	6.5	3.4	*0.8	2.6
White										
15-44 years--	8,064	100.0	84.6	80.6	3.9	15.4	8.1	3.8	1.3	2.3
15-29 years-----	4,908	100.0	81.6	77.1	4.5	18.4	9.9	4.7	1.6	2.2
30-44 years-----	3,156	100.0	89.2	86.0	3.1	10.8	5.3	2.5	*0.7	2.3
Negro										
15-44 years--	481	100.0	53.2	48.6	*4.6	46.8	19.2	19.4	5.9	*2.4
15-29 years-----	298	100.0	55.4	52.6	*2.8	44.6	15.2	18.9	*8.0	*2.5
30-44 years-----	183	100.0	49.5	42.1	*7.4	50.5	25.8	20.1	*2.5	*2.1

Table 13. Number of currently married women 15-44 years of age with a family planning visit in the last 5 years and percent distribution by place of most recent family planning visit, according to religion, race, and age: United States, 1973

Religion, race, and age	With family planning visit in last 5 years		Own physician			Organized medical services				
	Number in thousands	Percent	Total	Office	Hospital	Total	General clinic	Family planning clinic	Hospital	Other places
<u>CATHOLIC</u>										
All races										
15-44 years----	4,056	100.0	84.5	81.3	3.1	15.5	6.8	4.8	1.9	2.1
15-29 years-----	2,447	100.0	83.1	80.0	3.1	16.9	7.0	5.8	2.1	2.0
30-44 years-----	1,609	100.0	86.5	83.3	*3.2	13.5	6.5	*3.3	*1.5	*2.2
White										
15-44 years----	3,882	100.0	85.7	82.9	2.9	14.3	6.6	4.3	*1.7	*1.7
15-29 years-----	2,323	100.0	84.2	81.5	*2.7	15.8	6.9	5.2	*1.8	*1.9
30-44 years-----	1,559	100.0	88.1	84.9	*3.2	11.9	6.1	*2.9	*1.5	*1.4
Negro										
15-44 years----	113	100.0	49.0	47.6	*1.4	51.0	*17.5	*20.2	*8.7	*4.6
15-29 years-----	82	100.0	50.4	50.4	-	49.6	*12.3	*19.7	*11.3	*6.3
30-44 years-----	31	100.0	*45.6	*40.4	*5.2	*54.4	*31.0	*21.7	*1.7	-
<u>PROTESTANT</u>										
All races										
15-44 years----	9,248	100.0	83.7	80.3	3.3	16.3	9.0	3.9	1.2	2.3
15-29 years-----	5,816	100.0	82.5	79.0	3.4	17.5	10.0	4.3	1.4	1.8
30-44 years-----	3,432	100.0	85.7	82.6	3.1	14.3	7.3	3.2	*0.8	3.0
White										
15-44 years----	8,401	100.0	86.0	82.7	3.3	14.0	8.1	2.7	0.9	2.3
15-29 years-----	5,313	100.0	84.4	80.8	3.5	15.6	9.4	3.2	*1.1	1.9
30-44 years-----	3,088	100.0	88.8	86.0	2.8	11.2	6.0	*1.6	*0.6	3.0
Negro										
15-44 years----	795	100.0	60.0	55.7	4.2	40.0	17.6	17.0	3.7	*1.7
15-29 years-----	483	100.0	61.9	59.2	*2.6	38.1	16.0	16.4	*4.1	*1.6
30-44 years-----	312	100.0	57.0	50.3	*6.7	43.0	20.0	17.9	*3.1	*2.0

Table 14. Number of currently married women 15-44 years of age with a family planning visit in the last 5 years and percent distribution by place of most recent family planning visit, according to current contraceptive status: United States, 1973

Current contraceptive status	With family planning visit in last 5 years		Own physician			Organized medical services				
	Number in thousands	Percent	Total	Office	Hospital	Total	General clinic	Family planning clinic	Hospital	Other places
All women----	14,380	100.0	83.6	80.3	3.3	16.4	8.3	4.6	1.3	2.2
Noncontraceptors---	2,977	100.0	83.5	79.2	4.3	16.5	7.5	3.6	2.4	3.0
Contraceptors-----	11,403	100.0	83.6	80.6	3.0	16.4	8.6	4.8	1.0	2.0
Sterilization----	2,133	100.0	82.4	76.0	6.4	17.6	9.7	*2.2	*3.0	*2.7
Pill-----	5,163	100.0	84.4	82.0	2.4	15.6	8.1	5.1	*0.7	1.7
IUD-----	1,494	100.0	76.9	74.9	*2.0	23.1	10.1	10.4	*0.4	*2.2
Traditional methods-----	2,613	100.0	86.9	84.8	*2.1	13.1	7.7	3.1	*0.5	*1.9

Table 15. Number of currently married women 15-44 years of age with a family planning visit in the last 5 years by race and percent distributions by interval since last visit, according to place of most recent visit: United States, 1973

Race and interval since last visit	All visits	Own physician			Organized medical services				
		Total	Office	Hospital	Total	General clinic	Family planning clinic	Hospital	Other places
Number in thousands									
All races Number of women ¹ -----	14,380	12,019	11,548	470	2,361	1,198	657	189	316
Percent distribution									
All intervals----	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Within 12 months-----	55.1	53.9	54.3	43.2	60.9	59.4	71.3	44.0	55.3
13-24 months-----	18.9	18.8	18.7	20.3	19.4	17.8	17.3	*22.2	28.6
25-36 months-----	12.1	12.4	12.1	18.2	10.6	13.3	*6.1	*19.7	*4.4
37-60 months-----	13.0	14.0	13.8	17.1	8.1	8.4	*3.9	*14.1	*11.7
White									
Number in thousands									
Number of women ¹ -----	13,273	11,354	10,937	416	1,920	1,010	483	147	279
Percent distribution									
All intervals----	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Within 12 months-----	55.1	54.0	54.3	45.7	61.6	60.7	71.7	*44.8	56.2
13-24 months-----	18.9	18.6	18.6	18.5	20.6	18.4	19.5	*23.6	28.9
25-36 months-----	12.0	12.4	12.1	18.8	9.6	12.4	*4.7	*16.8	*4.7
37-60 months-----	13.1	14.0	14.0	*15.9	7.5	7.7	*3.2	*14.8	*10.2
Negro									
Number in thousands									
Number of women ¹ -----	953	560	525	36	393	171	161	42	*19
Percent distribution									
All intervals----	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	*100.0
Within 12 months-----	55.5	52.9	54.0	*35.5	59.3	55.1	70.3	*41.0	*43.4
13-24 months-----	17.7	20.2	19.9	*25.6	14.1	16.0	*9.7	*17.2	*27.0
25-36 months-----	14.6	13.9	13.4	*20.0	15.6	17.6	*11.0	*29.8	*5.3
37-60 months-----	10.7	12.2	12.1	*14.3	8.7	*8.2	*6.4	*11.9	*24.3

¹Includes women with undetermined date of last visit.

Table 16. Number of currently married women 15-44 years of age with a family planning visit in the last 5 years by income level and percent distributions by interval since last visit, according to place of most recent visit: United States, 1973

Income level and interval since last visit	All visits	Own physician			Organized medical services				
		Total	Office	Hospital	Total	General clinic	Family planning clinic	Hospital	Other places
Number in thousands									
Below poverty income									
Number of women ¹ -----	1,045	681	635	*45	365	172	121	*25	*47
Percent distribution									
All intervals-----	100.0	100.0	100.0	*100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	*100.0	*100.0
Within 12 months-----	60.6	59.9	59.8	*60.1	62.1	57.9	72.4	*63.2	*50.0
13-24 months-----	14.9	16.7	16.3	*22.6	*11.5	*14.3	*9.2	*5.2	*10.4
25-36 months-----	12.4	10.7	*10.9	*8.4	*15.6	*18.3	*10.2	*31.6	*10.7
37-60 months-----	11.4	12.1	12.3	*8.9	*10.3	*8.7	*7.4	-	*28.8
Number in thousands									
100-149 percent of poverty income									
Number of women ¹ -----	1,214	841	785	*56	374	189	119	*40	*27
Percent distribution									
All intervals-----	100.0	100.0	100.0	*100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	*100.0	*100.0
Within 12 months-----	56.6	51.7	51.1	*59.2	67.7	64.6	82.7	*28.4	*82.2
13-24 months-----	19.0	21.8	21.1	*32.5	*12.6	*12.3	*1.3	*44.0	*17.8
25-36 months-----	10.2	10.9	11.7	-	*8.6	*13.9	*4.6	*1.3	-
37-60 months-----	12.0	13.0	13.4	*8.3	*9.7	*9.2	*7.2	*26.3	-
Number in thousands									
150-199 percent of poverty income									
Number of women ¹ -----	1,740	1,290	1,226	*64	450	237	97	*48	*67
Percent distribution									
All intervals-----	100.0	100.0	100.0	*100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	*100.0	*100.0
Within 12 months-----	54.9	50.0	49.9	*51.3	69.1	69.5	*69.8	*58.7	*74.2
13-24 months-----	21.5	22.6	23.3	*7.6	18.4	*12.0	*28.5	*19.0	*25.8
25-36 months-----	10.9	11.9	11.7	*15.5	*8.1	*11.1	*0.5	*19.9	-
37-60 months-----	12.3	15.1	14.6	*24.7	*4.3	*7.4	*0.6	*2.4	-
Number in thousands									
200 percent and above of poverty income									
Number of women ¹ -----	10,380	9,207	8,902	305	1,173	600	320	77	176
Percent distribution									
All intervals-----	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Within 12 months-----	54.3	54.2	54.8	36.0	55.2	54.2	67.1	*36.6	45.3
13-24 months-----	18.9	18.1	18.1	*20.4	24.5	22.7	22.9	*18.5	*36.2
25-36 months-----	12.4	12.7	12.3	*23.5	10.7	12.5	*6.9	*25.3	*5.1
37-60 months-----	13.4	14.0	13.9	*18.3	8.3	*8.5	*2.4	*19.7	*13.4

¹Includes women with undetermined date of last visit.

Table 17. Number of currently married women 15-44 years of age with a family planning visit in the last 5 years and percent distribution by person who initiated family planning conversation, according to place of most recent visit: United States, 1973

Person who initiated conversation	All visits	Own physician			Organized medical services				
		Total	Office	Hospital	Total	General clinic	Family planning clinic	Hospital	Other places
Number of women in thousands-----	14,380	12,019	11,548	470	2,361	1,198	657	189	316
Percent distribution									
All conversations-----	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Respondent-----	61.5	63.2	64.0	42.4	53.0	53.8	55.4	*29.1	59.5
Trained person-----	35.9	34.1	33.2	54.0	45.5	44.6	43.2	70.6	38.9
Don't remember don't know not ascertained-----	2.5	2.7	2.7	*3.6	*1.5	*1.6	*1.5	*0.3	*1.5

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APPENDIX I

TECHNICAL NOTES

Design of the Survey

The National Survey of Family Growth (NSFG), initiated in 1971, is designed to provide data on fertility, family planning, and related aspects of maternal and child health. Field work for Cycle I was carried out by the National Opinion Research Center in 1973 and early 1974 with September 13, 1973, as the midpoint of the interviewing.

A multistage probability sample of women in the noninstitutional population of the conterminous United States was used. Approximately 33,000 households were screened to identify the sample of women who would be eligible for the NSFG, i.e., women between the ages of 15 to 44 years, inclusive, who were currently married or previously married or who were never married but had natural children presently living in the household. In households with more than one eligible woman, a random procedure was used to select only one to be interviewed. Since the interviews were always conducted with the sample person, the term "respondent" is used throughout this report as synonymous with sample person. Interviews were completed for 3,856 Negro women and for 5,941 women of other races. A detailed description of the sample design will be presented in a forthcoming report "Sample Design, Estimation Procedures, and Variance Estimation for a National Survey of Family Growth."

The interview was highly focused on the respondents' marital and pregnancy histories, on their use of contraception and the planning status of each pregnancy, on the respondents'

intentions regarding the number and spacing of future births, on maternity and family planning services, and on a broad range of social and economic characteristics. While the interviews varied greatly in the time required for their completion, they averaged about 70 minutes. Quality control procedures were applied at all stages of the survey. This included a verification of listing completeness with unlisted dwelling units being brought into the sample, a preliminary field review of completed questionnaires for possible missing data or inaccurate administration, a 10-percent sample recheck of all households to be screened in the survey, observation of interviews in the field, and an independent recoding of a 5-percent subsample of completed interviews.

Reliability of Estimates

Since the statistics presented in this report are based on a sample, they may differ somewhat from the figures that would have been obtained if a complete census had been taken, using the same questionnaires, instructions, interviewing personnel, and field procedures. This chance difference between sample results and a complete count is referred to as sampling error. In addition, the results are also subject to nonsampling error due to respondent misreporting, data processing mistakes, and nonresponse. It is very difficult, if not impossible, to obtain accurate measures of nonsampling errors. These types of errors were kept to a minimum by the quality control procedures and other

methods incorporated into the survey design and administration.

Sampling error, or the extent to which samples may differ by chance from a complete count, is measured by a statistic called the standard error of estimate. Approximate standard errors for estimated numbers and percentages from this survey are shown in tables I and II for the total and white populations and in tables III and IV for the Negro population.

Table I. Approximate standard errors for estimated numbers for white and total women: 1973 National Survey of Family Growth

Size of estimate	Relative standard error	Standard error
50,000	30.0	15,000
100,000	21.2	21,000
200,000	15.0	30,000
500,000	9.5	47,000
1,000,000	6.7	67,000
2,000,000	4.8	95,000
5,000,000	3.0	151,000
10,000,000	2.2	216,000
20,000,000	1.5	311,000

The chances are about 68 out of 100 that an estimate from the sample would differ from a complete census by less than the standard error. The chances are about 95 out of 100 that the differences between the sample estimate and a complete count would be less than twice the standard error. The relative standard error is the ratio of the standard error to the statistic being estimated. In this report, numbers and percentages which have a standard error that is more

Table III. Approximate standard errors for estimated numbers for Negro women: 1973 National Survey of Family Growth

Size of estimate	Relative standard error	Standard error
25,000	25.3	6,000
50,000	17.9	9,000
100,000	12.7	13,000
150,000	10.3	16,000
250,000	8.0	20,000
350,000	6.8	24,000
500,000	5.7	28,000
750,000	4.7	35,000
1,000,000	4.0	40,000

than 25 percent of the estimate itself are considered "unreliable." They are marked with an asterisk to caution the user but may be combined to make other types of comparisons of greater precision.

In this report, terms such as "similar" and "the same" mean that any observed difference between two estimates being compared is not statistically significant. Similarly, terms such as "greater," "less," "larger," "smaller," etc., indicate that the observed differences are statistically significant. The normal deviate test with a .05 level of significance was used to test all comparisons which are discussed in the text. A statistically significant difference is one large enough that in repeated samples of the same size and type as this one such a large difference would be expected to be found in less than 5 percent of the samples. Lack of comment in the text between any two statistics does *not* mean the difference was tested and found not to be significant.

Table II. Approximate standard errors for estimated percentages expressed in percentage points for white and total women: 1973 National Survey of Family Growth

Base of percentage	Estimated percentage						
	2 or 98	5 or 95	10 or 90	20 or 80	30 or 70	40 or 60	50
100,000	3.0	4.6	6.4	8.5	9.7	10.4	10.6
500,000	1.3	2.1	2.8	3.8	4.3	4.6	4.7
1,000,000	0.9	1.5	2.0	2.7	3.1	3.3	3.3
3,000,000	0.5	0.8	1.2	1.5	1.8	1.9	1.9
5,000,000	0.4	0.6	0.9	1.2	1.4	1.5	1.5
7,000,000	0.3	0.5	0.8	1.0	1.2	1.2	1.3
10,000,000	0.3	0.5	0.6	0.8	1.0	1.0	1.1

Table IV. Approximate standard errors for estimated percentages expressed in percentage points for Negro women:
1973 National Survey of Family Growth

Base of percentage	Estimated percentage						
	2 or 98	5 or 95	10 or 90	20 or 80	30 or 70	40 or 60	50
5,000	7.9	12.3	17.0	22.6	25.9	27.7	28.3
10,000	5.6	8.7	12.0	16.0	18.3	19.6	20.0
50,000	2.5	3.9	5.4	7.1	8.2	8.8	8.9
100,000	1.8	2.7	3.8	5.1	5.8	6.2	6.3
300,000	1.0	1.6	2.2	2.9	3.3	3.6	3.6
500,000	0.8	1.2	1.7	2.3	2.6	2.8	2.8
700,000	0.7	1.0	1.4	1.9	2.2	2.3	2.4
1,000,000	0.6	0.9	1.2	1.6	1.8	2.0	2.0



APPENDIX II

DEFINITION OF TERMS

Family planning visit in last 5 years.—Women were considered to have made a family planning visit in the last 5 years if they answered affirmatively to the question “During the last 5 years, has a doctor or other trained person prescribed or talked with you about a method for delaying or preventing pregnancy?” In a few cases those answering “yes” to this question reported a date more than 5 years ago in response to the question “When was the last time you talked about methods of family planning with a doctor or trained person?” Such women were not counted among those with a family planning visit in the last 5 years.

Place of family planning visit.—Women with a family planning visit in the last 5 years were asked where the last (most recent) visit took place. The answers were classified in the following categories:

- Own doctor’s office or group of doctors.
- General medical clinic, hospital outpatient clinic, or public health clinic.
- Family planning clinic or office.
- Hospital (inpatient).
- Somewhere else.

Family planning visits that took place in a hospital were divided into subcategories as follows:

- With respondent’s regular physician,
- With an assigned physician,
- With someone else.

Source of services.—Based on the information about “place of family planning visit” and

“the attendant providing service in a hospital,” two types or sources of service were identified. Own-physician services are defined as medical services obtained by the respondent from her own physician, whether in the physician’s office or in a hospital. “Own physician” includes group practices and prepaid medical organizations. Medical services obtained from all other sources are defined as organized medical services. These are services obtained by the respondent from someone other than her own doctor at general clinics, family planning clinics, hospitals, or elsewhere.

Contraceptive status.—Classification of contraceptive status was based on replies to a series of questions concerning use or nonuse of contraception. Nonusers are those women who are classified as currently pregnant, seeking pregnancy, post partum, sterile for reasons other than limitation of family size, and those not using contraception for other reasons. Users are classified according to the specific methods they employ. If more than one method was being used, the most effective method was coded. Users include the contraceptively sterile, i.e., those women who had a sterilizing operation or whose husbands had such an operation at least partly for contraceptive reasons. For convenience, the specific methods are grouped into two broad categories. Modern contraceptive methods include the pill, the IUD, and male and female sterilization for contraceptive reasons. Traditional methods include the diaphragm, the condom, foam, rhythm, withdrawal, douche, and other less common methods.³

³For more detail, see pp. 22-23 of reference cited in footnote 2.

Age.—In this report, age is classified by the age of the respondent at her last birthday before the date of interview.

Race.—Classification by race, based on interviewer observation, was reported as Negro, white, or other. Race refers to the race of the woman interviewed.

Spanish origin.—A respondent was classified as being of Spanish origin if she reported her origin or descent as Mexican, Chicano, Mexican-American, Puerto Rican, Cuban, or other Spanish.

Labor force status.—A woman is categorized as being in the labor force if she was working full-time or part-time, had a job but was not at work because of temporary illness, vacation, or a strike, or if she was unemployed, laid off, or looking for work.

Poverty level.—The poverty index ratio was calculated by dividing the total family income by the weighted average threshold income of nonfarm residence, head under 65, based on the poverty levels shown in the U.S. Bureau of the Census, *Current Population Reports*, Series P-60, No. 98, "Characteristics of the Low-Income Population, 1973," table A-3. This definition takes into account the sex of the family head and the number of persons in the family. Total family income includes income from all sources for all members of the respondent's family.

Region.—Region refers to the part of the country where the respondent was living at the time of the survey according to the definition of the U.S. Bureau of the Census.

Parity.—Parity refers to the number of live births the respondent has had.

Marital status.—Persons are classified by marital status as married, widowed, divorced, separated, or never married. Married persons include those who report themselves as married or as informally married, such as living with a partner or common-law spouse. Persons who are temporarily separated for reasons other than marital discord, such as vacation, illness, or Armed Forces, are classified as married. Divorced persons are those whose most recent marriage was legally dissolved and who are free to remarry. The annulled, while having the legal status of never having been married, are classified together with the divorced. The category "separated" includes those who are legally or informally separated from their most recent spouse due to marital discord. The "never married" include those who have never had a formal marriage and do not consider themselves in any of the preceding categories. However, in the NSFG, single women with children of their own in the household were included and are separately classified. All tables in this report are based upon currently married women or those whose marital status at the time of the interview was "married."

Religion.—Women were asked whether they were Protestant, Catholic, Jewish or something else. Protestant includes most of the Christian groups other than Roman Catholic. The "other" category includes non-Christian religions and no religion.



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