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# Teenagers in the United States: Sexual Activity, Contraceptive Use, and Childbearing, National Survey of Family Growth 2006–2008



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention  
National Center for Health Statistics

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# Vital and Health Statistics

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Data From the National Survey of  
Family Growth

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention  
National Center for Health Statistics

Hyattsville, Maryland  
June 2010  
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**Objective**

This report presents national estimates of sexual activity, contraceptive use, and births among males and females 15–19 years of age in the United States in 2006–2008 from the National Survey of Family Growth (NSFG). Selected data are also presented from the 1988, 1995, and 2002 NSFGs, and from the 1988 and 1995 National Survey of Adolescent Males (NSAM), conducted by the Urban Institute.

**Methods**

Descriptive tables of numbers and percents are presented and discussed. Data were collected through in-person interviews of the household population in the United States, conducted between July 2006 and December 2008. Interviews were conducted with 7,356 females—1,381 of whom were teenagers—and 6,140 males—1,386 of whom were teenagers—for a total of 2,767 teenagers. The overall response rate for the 2006–2008 NSFG was 75%. The response rate for female teenagers was 77% and for male teenagers 75%.

**Results**

In 2006–2008, about 42% of never-married female teenagers (4.3 million), and about 43% of never-married male teenagers (4.5 million) had had sexual intercourse at least once. These levels of sexual experience have not changed significantly from 2002, the last time the NSFG collected these data.

Among never-married teenagers, 79% of females and 87% of males used a method of contraception at first sex. With a few exceptions, teenagers' use of contraceptives has changed little since 2002, and the condom remained the most commonly used method. One exception was an increase in the use of condoms and the use of a condom combined with a hormonal contraceptive (dual method use) among males. Another exception was a significant increase in the percent of female teenagers who had ever used periodic abstinence, or the “calendar rhythm” method. This method had been used by 17% of female teenagers in 2006–2008.

**Keywords:** Teenagers • sexual activity • contraceptive use • National Survey of Family Growth

# Teenagers in the United States: Sexual Activity, Contraceptive Use, and Childbearing, National Survey of Family Growth 2006–2008

by Joyce C. Abma, Ph.D., Gladys M. Martinez, Ph.D., and Casey E. Copen, Ph.D., Division of Vital Statistics

## Highlights

- In 2006–2008, the proportion of never-married females aged 15–19 who had ever had sexual intercourse was 42%. This was not a statistically significant change from 2002 when 46% of never-married teenaged females had ever had sexual intercourse (Table 1 and Figure 1). The percent sexually experienced has, however, declined steadily since 1988, when it was 51%. (This was a statistically significant decline.)
- In 2006–2008, the percent of never-married males aged 15–19 who ever had sexual intercourse, 43%, did not change significantly from 2002. This follows a significant decline among males from 1995 (55%) to 2002 (46%) (Table 2 and Figure 1).
- Both female and male teenagers whose mothers had their first birth as a teenager, and those who did not live with both parents at age 14, were more likely to be sexually experienced than those whose mothers had their first birth at age 20 or older, and those who lived with both parents at age 14 (Tables 1 and 2).
- The vast majority of never-married teenagers had not had intercourse in the month before the interview (76% of females and 79% of males, unchanged from 2002), but 12% of female and 10% of male teenagers had had sex four or more times in the month before the interview (Table 5 and Figure 3).
- Teenagers' most common first sexual partners are someone with whom they are “going steady” (72% of females and 56% of males) as opposed to someone in a less-involved relationship (for example, going out once in a while). The second most common relationship with the first sexual partner is having just met, and this is more common for males than females (25% males and 14% females) (Table 8 and Figure 5).
- Regarding total number of lifetime partners, 26% of females and 29% of males had had two or more partners. Teenaged females who were younger at first sex were much more likely to have had higher numbers of total partners (Table 11 and Figure 6). No changes occurred in number of partners since 2002, for males and females.
- The condom is the most commonly used method among sexually experienced teen females; 95% had used the condom at least once. The second most common method was withdrawal, with 58% having ever

- used this method, followed by the pill at 55%. Use of periodic abstinence, or the calendar rhythm method, has increased since 2002—in 2006–2008 17% of teenagers had ever used this method (Table 13 and Figure 8).
- Among never-married sexually experienced female teenagers, 79% used a contraceptive method at first intercourse, 68% used the condom, and 15% used the pill. There were no significant changes since 2002 in contraceptive use at first intercourse for female teenagers (Figure 9). Among never-married males, a significantly higher percent used the condom (81%) compared with 2002 (71%), but overall use of any method at first intercourse did not change significantly (Table 14).
  - Among never-married female and male teenagers, there was no change since 2002 in the percent using a method of contraception at last intercourse in the 3 months before the interview. About 84% of females and 93% of males used contraception at last intercourse. Among never-married male teenagers, however, there was a significant increase since 2002 in the percent using a condom and a hormonal method at the same time. Fifteen percent used this combination (Table 15).
  - Teenaged females are almost twice as likely to have a birth before reaching age 20 if they did not use a contraceptive method at their first sex (Table 17 and Figure 10). Young females are also twice as likely to have a birth in their teen years if their mother had a birth when she was a teenager (Table 17 and Figure 11).
  - In 2006–2008, among both female and male teenagers who had not yet had sex, the most common reason for not yet having done so was that it was “against religion or morals,” which was also the most common reason in 2002. The second and third most common reasons for females were “don’t want to get pregnant” and “haven’t found the right person yet” (Table 18).
  - Among males who had not yet had

sex, the percentage who reported that the reason for not yet having had sex was “don’t want to get a female pregnant” dropped from 25% in 2002 to 12% in 2006–2008 (Table 18).

- The majority of teenagers—64% of males and 71% of females—“agree” or “strongly agree” that “it is okay for an unmarried female to have a child.” Males’ agreement with this increased since 2002 (when it was 50%) while women’s agreement remained the same (Table 19).
- About 58% of never-married female and 47% of never-married male teenagers reported they would be “very upset” if they got pregnant (or got a partner pregnant). On the other hand, 14% of females and 18% of males would be “a little pleased” or “very pleased” if they got (a partner) pregnant. Thus, not all teenagers are motivated to avoid a pregnancy (Table 21).

## Introduction

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s (CDC) National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) conducts the National Survey of Family Growth (NSFG), a survey that collects data on factors affecting the formation, growth, and dissolution of families—including marriage, divorce, and cohabitation; contraception, sterilization, and infertility; pregnancy outcomes; and births. This information is gathered from women and men ages 15–44—generally, the reproductive age range. The NSFG is jointly planned and funded by NCHS and several other programs of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (see Acknowledgments).

The NSFG was established and first conducted by NCHS in 1973. Since then, the NSFG has been conducted seven times by NCHS—in 1973, 1976, 1982, 1988, 1995, 2002, and most recently, in 2006–2008. In 1973 and 1976 the survey interviewed women 15–44 years of age who were currently married or had been married; it was then considered too sensitive to

interview never-married women on these topics. In 1982, the survey was expanded to include women 15–44 regardless of marital status. Thus the sample began to include all females aged 15–44 including never-married teenagers. In 2002, the NSFG began to interview males aged 15–44, allowing analysis of a national sample of teenage males as well.

The primary purpose of this report is to publish selected data on the sexual activity, contraceptive use, and childbearing experience of the national sample of 15–19-year-old males and females interviewed in the NSFG during 2006–2008, and to present trends in these measures across selected years including 1988, 1995, and 2002. Prior to the NSFG’s inclusion of males in 2002, the National Survey of Adolescent Males (NSAM), conducted by the Urban Institute, interviewed a national sample of (never-married) teenaged males. This survey was conducted in the same years as the NSFG Cycles 4 and 5: 1988 and 1995. Thus, using the NSAM together with the NSFG data, trends can be examined for male and female teenagers for 1988, 1995, 2002, and 2006–2008.

## Background

This report focuses on factors related to birth and pregnancy rates and sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) for teenagers in the United States.

Explaining changes in these rates is central to the mission of the NSFG. Thus, the collection of data on sexual activity and contraceptive use is necessary to help explain these outcomes. This report updates some of the findings in a report published in 2004 from the 2002 NSFG (1). For selected findings, this report also presents data from a report published in 2001 from the 1988 and 1995 NSFG and the 1988 and 1995 National Survey of Adolescent Males (NSAM) (2).

Monitoring sexual activity and contraceptive use among teenagers is important due to the health and social costs of pregnancy, childbearing, and STDs among the teenaged population.

As a result of the concern with persistently high rates of teen pregnancy and birth in the United States, substantial effort and resources have been directed toward federal, state, and local programs over the past few decades. In addition, concern remains high over the threat and incidence of Human Immunodeficiency Virus or HIV, and of other STDs among young people.

## Pregnancies and Births

The U.S. birth rate for females 15–19 years of age was 42.5 births per 1,000 females in 2007, based on birth certificate data collected in CDC/NCHS's National Vital Statistics System (Table A) (3). That rate was higher than a number of other developed countries in the world. For example, according to the latest available data from the UN Population Division, the teen birth rate in Canada was 13, or about one-third of the U.S. rate, the rate in Germany was 10, and in Italy, 7, less than one-quarter the U.S. rate (Table A) (4).

The U.S. teen birth rate of 42.5 in 2007, however, is 31% lower than the peak rate in 1991, which was 61.8 per 1,000 (Table B) (5). Teen birth rates declined continuously from 1991 until 2005, followed by a modest increase of 5% in teen birth rates from 2005 to 2007 (3). The slight increase between 2005 and 2007 attracted much attention and generated concern that progress over the past two decades in reducing

**Table A. Births per 1,000 women 15–19 years of age: United States, 2007, and selected countries, most recent year available**

Country	Number of births per thousand
United States . . . . .	43
United Kingdom . . . . .	27
Portugal . . . . .	17
Australia . . . . .	16
Canada . . . . .	13
Spain . . . . .	13
France . . . . .	10
Germany . . . . .	10
Norway . . . . .	9
Italy . . . . .	7
Sweden . . . . .	6
Japan . . . . .	5
Netherlands . . . . .	5

SOURCES: See references 3 and 4 in text.

**Table B. Pregnancy and live birth rates for females 15–19 years of age, by age: United States, 1988–2008 (Rates per 1,000 women in specified group)**

	Live births			Pregnancies		
	15–19	15–17	18–19	15–19	15–17	18–19
All women						
1988 . . . . .	53.0	33.6	79.9	109.9	74.1	158.7
1990 . . . . .	59.9	37.5	88.6	116.8	77.1	167.7
1991 . . . . .	61.8	38.6	94.0	116.4	76.1	172.1
1995 . . . . .	56.0	35.5	87.7	101.1	67.4	153.4
2000 . . . . .	47.7	26.9	78.1	84.8	50.8	134.5
2002 . . . . .	43.0	23.2	72.8	76.0	44.1	124.4
2005 . . . . .	40.5	21.4	69.9	70.6	40.2	117.7
2006 . . . . .	41.9	22.0	73.0	---	---	---
2007 . . . . .	42.5	22.1	73.9	---	---	---
2008 . . . . .	41.5	21.7	70.7	---	---	---

--- Pregnancy rates are not available for those years.

NOTE: Years 1988, 1995, 2002, and 2007 correspond roughly to years of data collection for cycles of the National Survey of Family Growth.

SOURCES: See references 3 and 5 in the text.

teenage pregnancies could have stalled, at least temporarily (6,7). However, the most recent birth rate estimates, for 2008, show that the teen rate again declined from the rate in 2007 to 41.5 (3).

Estimates of age-specific pregnancy rates are produced by adding miscarriages and stillbirths (collected from pregnancy histories in the NSFG), and induced abortions (based on demographic characteristics of abortion patients collected from states by CDC's National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, which are adjusted to national estimates from the Guttmacher Institute). In 2005, the latest date for which estimates are available using methodology consistent with past rates, the teen pregnancy rate in the United States was 71 per 1,000 females 15–19, about 39% lower than in 1990 (Table B) (8). By age, the pregnancy rate for 15–17 year olds declined from 77 in 1990 to 40 in 2005, while for 18–19 year olds the pregnancy rate declined from 168 in 1990 to 118 in 2005. A recent report by the Guttmacher Institute suggests that pregnancy rates increased slightly from 2005 to 2006, paralleling the birth rate increase (not shown in Table B). According to their calculations, the teen pregnancy rate rose 3% from 2005 to 2006, reflecting increases in both birth and abortion rates among teenagers (9).

The focus of this report is on patterns and trends in sexual behavior, contraceptive use, and other related measures for the total teenage population. Although there remain very large variations by age and by race and Hispanic origin in the most recent teen pregnancy rates (2005) and birth rates (2008), results on these subgroup differences will be covered in an upcoming report based on the next release of data from the continuous NSFG, rather than in this report. As described in later sections, the next release of data from the continuous NSFG will include interviews from the final 2 years of the 4-year sample design, in addition to those from the 2006–2008 period. Given the importance of differences in pregnancy and STD risk behaviors by race and Hispanic origin, it is advisable to wait for these more stable estimates before presenting data for these subgroups.

## Sexually Transmitted Diseases

Sexually active adolescents aged 15–19 are at higher risk for acquiring some STDs than are adults for behavioral, biological, and cultural reasons (10). According to the most recent estimates, 15–19 year-old females continue to have higher rates of Chlamydia and gonorrhea than any other

age-sex group (10). While rates of syphilis among teenaged females and males are lower than those of other age groups, they have increased every year since the early 2000s (10). Estimates suggest that while representing 25% of the sexually experienced population, 15–24 year olds acquire nearly one-half of all new STDs (11). Chesson et al. (2004) estimate that the direct medical cost of these diseases among 15–24 year olds was at least \$6.5 billion in 2000 alone (12).

This report is a first look at data that will help to explain recent rates of birth, pregnancy, and STDs among teenagers. It is hoped that this and subsequent data from the continuous NSFG will be useful in understanding these and other issues that affect the health and well-being of teenagers in the United States.

## Strengths and Limitations of the Data

The strengths of the data in this report, based primarily on the 2006–2008 NSFG, include the following:

- The data are drawn from interviews with large national samples that were interviewed in comparable ways in 1988, 1995, 2002, and 2006–2008.
- The interviews in each cycle were conducted in person by professional, trained female interviewers. Interviewers were supplied with visual aids, such as show-cards, life-history calendars, and “help screens” containing definitions of terms and other guides. These were used to help clarify terms and concepts for the respondent, so that meanings were standardized across respondents, thereby enhancing the quality of the data.
- The data from each survey were processed and coded in ways to make them as comparable as possible, so that trends could be measured reliably.

- The NSFG includes all teenagers 15–19 years of age in the household population of the United States, by virtue of being a household survey, as opposed to a school survey.
- The NSFG also includes characteristics to identify groups in which sexual risk behaviors are more and less common: for example, age, education of the teenager’s mother, age of the teenager’s mother when she had her first child, and others. The NSFG also collected extensive data on contraceptive use, sexual activity, and childbearing experience, including retrospective histories. In addition, the NSFG collects information on sexual partners, such as his or her age, and information on the circumstances surrounding sexual intercourse such as degree to which it was wanted and type of relationship with the partner.
- The response rates for the survey have been high—about 80% in 1988, 1995, and 2002. Despite an increasingly challenging climate for surveys (13), response rates remain high for 2006–2008 at 75%, with rates at 75% for male teenagers and 77% for female teenagers.

The limitations of the data shown in this report include the following:

- Subgroup analysis using this initial data set is limited:
- This report is based on interviews with 2,767 teenagers in the first 10 quarters (2½ years) of NSFG interviewing, sampled from 85 randomly selected areas of the United States. The full sample, available sometime in 2011, will be based on a larger sample, including over 4,000 teenagers, sampled from 110 randomly selected areas of the United States. Thus, findings in this report can be reported for the total population of male and female teenagers, but reporting by race and Hispanic origin and some other smaller subgroups is best postponed until the second data release. More information about this can be found in the “Methods” section of this report, and in [Appendix I](#): “Technical Notes.”

- The data in this report, like all survey data, are subject to sources of nonsampling error. These include interviewer and respondent factors such as possible misunderstanding of questions on the part of the interviewer or respondent and bias due to giving socially desirable answers. The preparation and the conduct of the survey were designed specifically to minimize these sources of error (14).
- Since the NSFG is a cross-sectional survey, it is also subject to recall error. Questions rely on respondents’ recall when reporting on their past experiences. However, the experiences that are highlighted in this report are likely to have occurred in the very recent past to individuals aged 15–19 years.
- The NSFG is designed to provide national estimates by demographic subgroups; it is not designed to yield estimates for individual states. Therefore, no state data are available from this survey.

## Methods

### Data Collection

The 2006–2008 National Survey of Family Growth, or NSFG, was based on 13,495 face-to-face interviews—7,356 with women and 6,139 with men, aged 15–44 years in the household population of the United States. Interviews were conducted with 2,767 teenagers—1,381 females and 1,386 males. The interviews were administered in person by trained female interviewers in the selected persons’ homes. The 2006–2008 sample is a nationally representative multistage area probability sample drawn from 85 areas, or “Primary Sampling Units” (PSUs) across the country.

To protect the respondent’s privacy, only one person was interviewed in each selected household. In 2006–2008, those aged 15–19 years were sampled at higher rates than others, as were black and Hispanic adults. These groups were also oversampled in 2002. For teenagers, interviews averaged about 47 minutes.

Most of the data in this report were collected by Computer-Assisted Personal Interviewing, or CAPI. The questionnaires were programmed into laptop computers and administered by an interviewer. The data for two measures in this report, concerning whether first intercourse was wanted or voluntary, come from the self-administered portion of the interview. This Audio Computer Assisted Self-Interview (ACASI) mode of interviewing is a more private mode of data collection because it allows the respondent to hear the questions and response choices over headphones, read it on the screen if so desired, and enter a response into the computer without the interviewer knowing what the response was. This mode of interviewing was used to ask the more sensitive items in the survey.

The continuous NSFG is based on a design and fieldwork plan that differs from previous cycles: interviewing is intended to be continuous rather than periodic. Although the sample design is new, the interviewing procedures are similar to those used in previous, periodic surveys. Further details about how the survey was conducted were published in September 2009 (14). Additional information on the methods and procedures of the survey is available in another report (15).

## Statistical Analysis

Standard errors were calculated, and 95% confidence intervals presented, for each statistic shown in this report. The 95% confidence interval is a commonly used measure of the sampling error of a statistic. It means that in 95% of samples of the size and type used here, the estimated percentage would fall in that range. In popular accounts of surveys and polls, it is often called the “margin of error” of the survey. For example, if a statistic is 20.0% and the confidence interval is 17%–23%, 95% of samples of that size and type would produce estimates between 17% and 23%. Further details can be found in [Appendix I](#), “Technical Notes.”

The next several paragraphs discuss an important difference between this report and the reports on teenagers from

previous cycles of the NSFG that it updates. Unlike the previous reports on teenagers, this first report will be updated with an upcoming release of additional interviews.

Standard errors (thus the width of the confidence intervals) are generally higher in 2006–2008 than they were in the 1995 and 2002 NSFG surveys, due to the design of the continuous NSFG. This is particularly true for statistics associated with the subgroups defined by race and Hispanic origin (Hispanic, non-Hispanic white, and non-Hispanic black) among the teenaged subpopulation. For this reason, statistics classified by race and Hispanic origin and some other small subgroups are generally not stable enough to be interpreted in this first release as concrete findings. Data by race and Hispanic origin are not included in the main tables of the report, but are shown in [Appendix Tables I–XVI](#), so that readers can be aware of the size of the confidence intervals associated with each estimate. Discussion of statistics in this report is limited to what is presented in the main tables (1–21): The total population of teenagers, for females and males, and in some cases age groups, background characteristics, and parental characteristics where standard errors are low enough to allow reliable interpretation of the results.

The next NSFG data file is expected to be released in 2011. That file will include the 13,495 interviews completed in 2006–2008, and another 8,500 or more conducted from January 2009 through June 2010, for a total of approximately 22,000 interviews drawn from 110 PSUs. That file is expected to include a total of approximately 4,500 interviews from teenagers. Sampling errors using those data are expected to be significantly smaller because of the larger sample size and the larger number of areas from which the interviews are drawn. That sample will allow analyses, for 2006–2010, of smaller subgroups for both male and female teenagers, including Hispanic origin and race groups and other standard correlates that have been used in prior reports (1,2). Analysis of changes across the periods 2006–2008 and 2009–2010, may also be possible for some groups.

Significance of subgroup differences and of trends between two time points was determined by examining confidence intervals for overlap or lack of overlap. Additionally, since this method of examining confidence intervals for overlap is more conservative than standard significance testing (16), two-tailed *t*-tests at the 5% level were also used. The *t*-test method was used to confirm or reject nonsignificance when confidence intervals overlapped. In other words, when the confidence interval for a statistic associated with category “a” overlapped with that for category “b,” before concluding that “a” was not significantly different from “b,” the *t*-test was conducted to validate or refute that assumption. However, if the confidence intervals did not overlap, there was no need for a supplementary *t*-test to claim that the differences were significant. These two methods serve complementary purposes for this report: Confidence intervals are easily interpreted without consulting another source; for comparisons, the *t*-test supplements them by providing an appropriate and acceptable level at which to accept or reject hypotheses about differences. A weighted least squares regression method was used to test the significance of trends that involved more than two time points.

Lack of comment regarding the difference between any two statistics does not mean that the difference is not significant. Readers can identify significant differences themselves by noting nonoverlapping confidence intervals. However, overlap cannot be assumed to mean lack of significance, and further testing using *t*-tests is recommended.

All estimates in this report were weighted to reflect the U.S. teenaged population, that is, persons aged 15–19 years of the United States. (Teenagers 15–19 years of age living on military bases or in institutions were not included in the survey or in this report.) The sample did include persons temporarily living away from the household in a college dormitory, sorority, or fraternity (14).

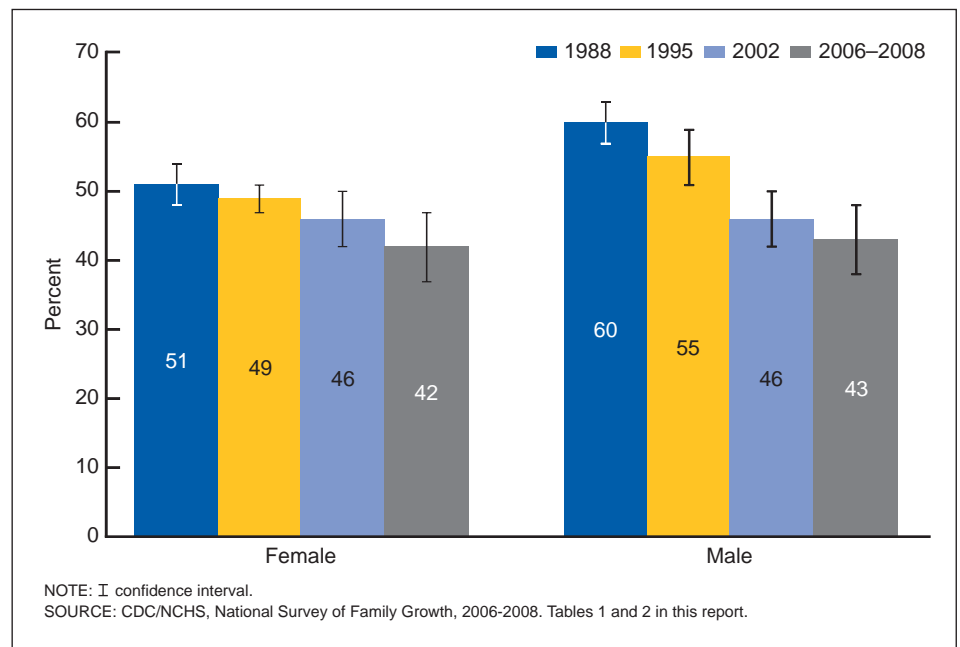
Analyses for most tables were conducted through weighted bivariate

cross tabulations. For one table (17), which presents probabilities of a first birth at each age from 15 to 20, life table methodology was used.

Statistics for this report were produced using SAS software, Version 9.2 (<http://www.sas.com/>). To calculate standard errors taking into account the complex sampling design of the NSFG, one of two approaches was used, which yield the same results: the procedure “Surveyfreq” within SAS and the statistical package SUDAAN (<http://www.rti.org/sudaan>).

For three tables in this report (11, 12, and 17) women who were older than 19 years of age at interview are also included. Many questions in the NSFG capture information from women about past events. The age was expanded in these tables because additional ages were needed to provide information on events that happened *during their teenage years*, when using ages 15–19 years at interview was not possible or practical. [Tables 11](#) and [12](#) focus on nonvoluntary and unwanted first sexual intercourse. Due to reporting requirements in cases of statutory rape, only women ages 18–44 years were asked these questions, so the information does not exist for minors (age 15–17 years at interview). However, the questions ask respondents to recall their first sex, which could have happened at any age. Therefore, it is possible to present data on this important aspect of first intercourse for women who had first sex as a teenager, even if they are currently older than 19 years of age. Women aged 18–24 years are presented so the number of years of age covered is similar to the other tables and the oldest women were teenagers in the relatively recent past, namely the last 5 years.

Since [Table 17](#) presents life table estimates of the probability of a first birth (see previous text), for statistical stability, it is necessary to have sufficient observations at each year of age to contribute enough person years to calculate the risk of having had a first birth before reaching each individual age. These probabilities are calculated based on retrospective reporting of the age at the first birth (for those who have had a birth). Including ages up to 24



**Figure 1. Never-married females and males aged 15–19 who have ever had sexual intercourse: United States, 1988–2008**

allows sufficient observations at each age during the teenage years.

Interviews were conducted with 1,883 females aged 18–24 years and 1,596 males aged 18–24 years. The total sample sizes for the age range 15–24 for females is 2,670 and for males it is 2,412. The response rates for those ages 20 and older were 78% for females and 74% for males. These response rates are similar to the aforementioned rates for teenagers.

Some tables present statistics for all teenagers and some for teenagers who have never been married. Teenagers who have never been married are a population of particular interest since they are at risk of nonmarital pregnancy and childbearing. In addition, to analyze the time series since 1988, the universe of teenagers must be consistent for each survey year, across female and male teenagers. In 1988 the NSAM male universe was limited to never-married teenagers. In 2006–2008, as in past cycles, very few teenagers had ever been married: 1.4% of females and 0.6% of males.

This report is intended to present some statistics on the sexual, contraceptive, and pregnancy experience of teenagers in the United States through 2006–2008. It is the first report on teenagers from the 2006–2008

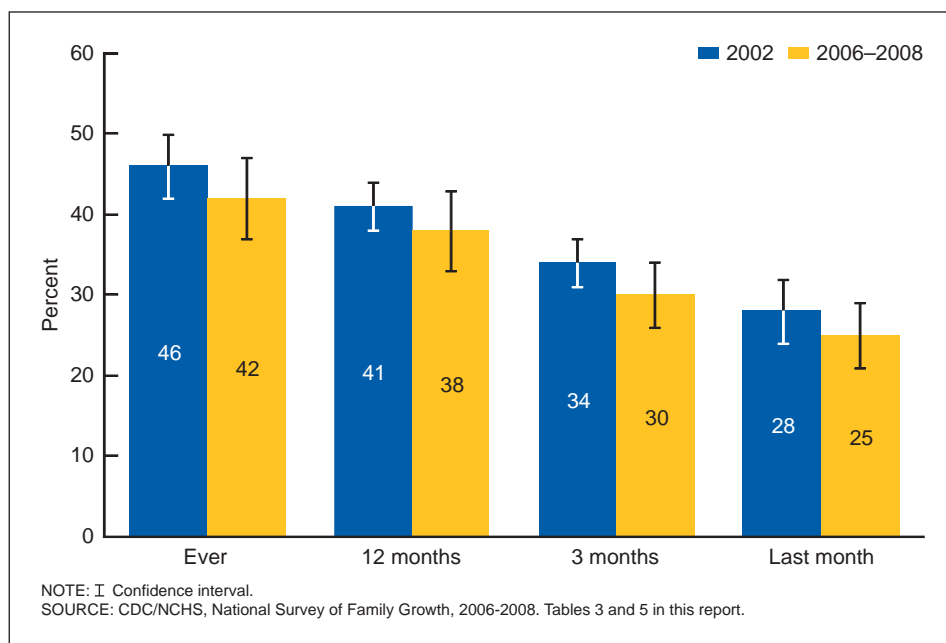
NSFG, and as such is not intended to be an exhaustive treatment of this very complex subject. The results presented in this report are descriptive; the report does not attempt to demonstrate cause-and-effect relationships.

## Results

### Sexual Behavior: Trends and Current Prevalence Among Teenagers and Partner Information

#### Sexual experience

[Tables 1](#) and [2](#) and [Figure 1](#) present the percent of never-married female teenagers ([Table 1](#)) and male teenagers ([Table 2](#)) who were sexually experienced (have ever had heterosexual vaginal intercourse), for the years 1988, 1995, 2002, and 2006–2008. [Table 1](#) shows that in 2006–2008, 42% of never-married teenage females had experienced sexual intercourse at least once. Although 4 percentage points lower than the percent sexually experienced in 2002, this change was not statistically significant. Overall, in the 19-year period from 1988 to



**Figure 2. Never-married females aged 15–19 who have had intercourse in the last 12 months, in the last 3 months, and in the last month: United States 2002 and 2006–2008**

2006–2008, the percent of teenage females sexually experienced declined significantly (from 51% in 1988 to 42% in 2006–2008). This decline has been gradual and steady over these years with very small, nonsignificant changes between any two of the survey years. From a long-term perspective, these small, nonsignificant changes actually represent improvements over the years prior to 1988 since data going back to the early 1970s documented higher percentages of female teenagers becoming sexually experienced with each survey year (17).

In 2006–2008, the percentage of never-married sexually experienced teenage males was very close to that of females: 43% (Table 2 and Figure 1). Also, like females, the small decline in the percent sexually experienced since 2002 (3 percentage points) was not statistically significant. For males, this represents a departure from a past trend, because relatively large and statistically significant declines in the percent sexually experienced took place between each of the years the NSAM and the NSFG were conducted: 5 percentage points between 1988 (60%) and 1995 (55%), and 9 percentage points between 1995 and 2002 (46%).

Another current, national source of information on teenagers is the Youth

Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS), a biennial survey of high school students in the United States, conducted by CDC. In this survey of students in 9th through 12th grades, the majority are aged 15–17. The most recent data show a significant decrease overall from the percent sexually experienced in 1991 to the percent in 2007, but from 2005 to 2007, there was no significant change in the percent sexually experienced, overall (18). Although comparability between NSFG teenagers and the YRBS sample is very limited (the YRBS population is younger and does not contain out-of-school youth), the nature of the long-term trend, the slowing or stopping of a long-term decrease in sexual experience, is similar to that found with the NSFG data. A report aligning YRBS data on high school students' sexual activity and contraceptive use with NSFG data on contraceptive methods also showed a trend toward lower pregnancy risk from 1991 to 2003, then no change through 2007 (19).

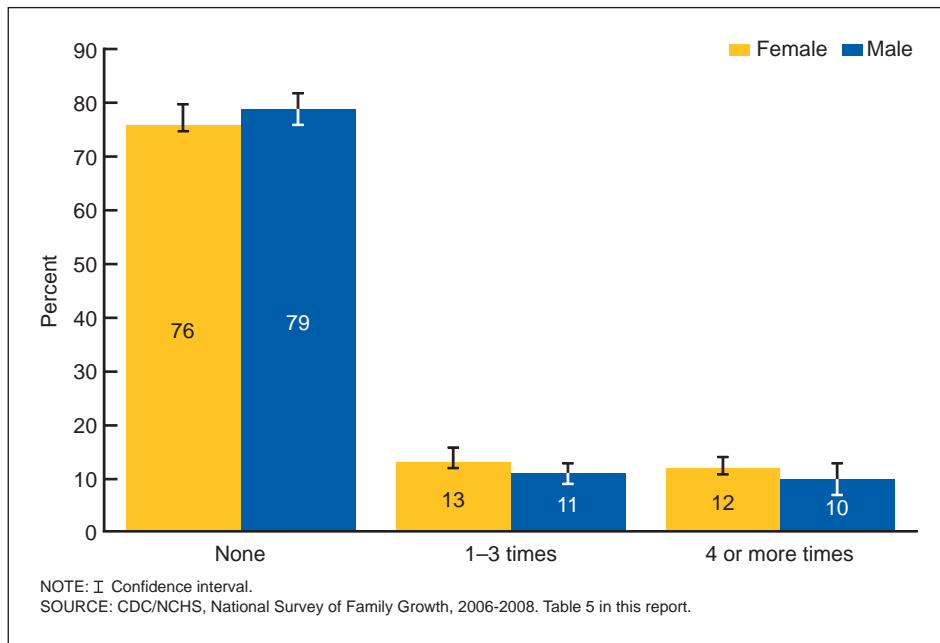
For both male and female teenagers, a significantly smaller percent were sexually experienced if they lived with both parents when they were 14 years of age, and if their mothers had their first birth at age 20 and older. For example, 37% of female never-married teenagers who lived with both parents were

sexually experienced compared with 53% among those who lived in any other parental arrangement.

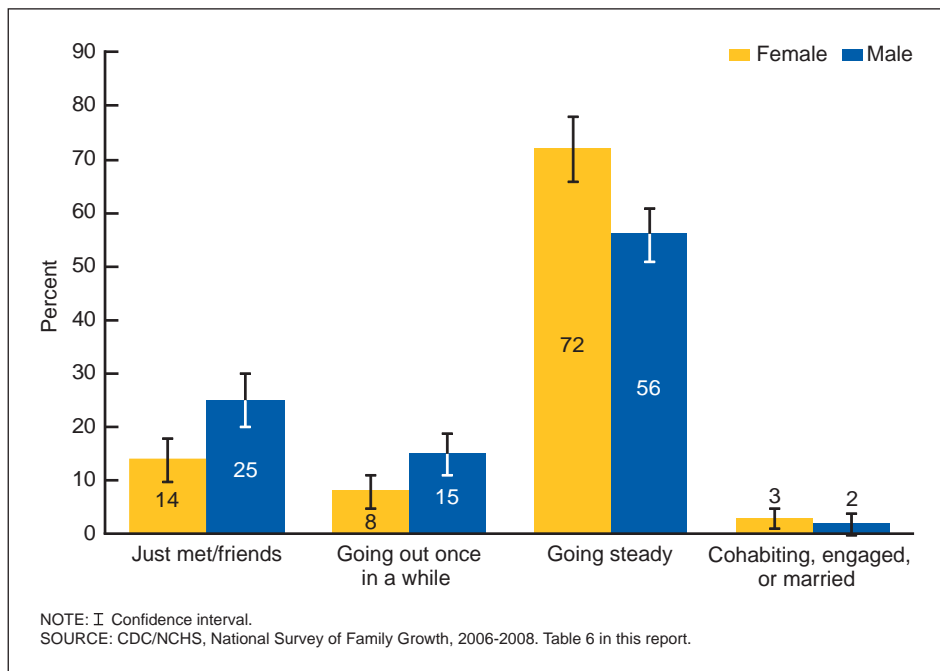
## Frequency of sexual activity

Teens who are sexually experienced, that is, have had sex at least once, vary as to how recently and how often they have had sex (Figure 2, and Tables 3 and 4). This is an important component of risk of pregnancy and STDs. Figure 2 shows, for never-married female teenagers, for 2002 and 2006–2008: one-quarter had sex within a month of the survey, 30% within 3 months, and 38% within 12 months. There was no significant change from 2002 to 2006–2008 in the percent of male and female teenagers who had sex within 1 month, 3 months, or 12 months of the survey. Having had sex in the past 3 months is a commonly used indicator of current risk and signifies the population “sexually active” at a given point in time. Even though the percent of female teenagers who were sexually active (had sex in the past 3 months) did not change from 2002 to 2006–2008, the longer-term decline, from 1988 to 2006–2008, was significant (1,2). This is similar to the pattern for the percent that were sexually experienced (Table 1).

Table 4 shows that the percents of never-married teenaged males who had sex within the various time frames were very similar to those of teenaged females: 28% had sex in the past 3 months and 38% had sex sometime in the past year. Older male and female teenagers were more likely to have had sex within the past 3 months and within the past 12 months. A much lower percentage of female teenagers from households with both parents present had sex in the past 3 months compared with those from both stepparent and single-parent households. For example, for female teenagers, among those from two-parent households, 19% had sex in the past 3 months compared with 31% from stepparent households and 35% from single-parent households. For both female and male teenagers, those whose mothers had a birth as a teenager were much more likely to have had sex in the past 3 months (Tables 3 and 4).



**Figure 3. Frequency of intercourse in the last 4 weeks among never-married females and males 15-19: United States, 2006-2008**



**Figure 4. Relationship with partner at first intercourse among males and females aged 15-19: United States, 2006-2008**

The majority of teenagers did not have sex in the month prior to the survey (Table 5 and Figure 3): 79% of never-married males and 76% of never-married females did not have sex at all during the 4-week period prior to the survey (Table 5 and Figure 3). On the other hand, 12% of never-married teenaged females and 10% of

never-married teenaged males had sex four or more times within the 4 weeks before the survey. Older teenagers were more likely to have had sex one to three times and four or more times within the past 4 weeks compared with younger teenagers.

The next several tables present information on relationships with first

partners, numbers of partners within different timeframes, and circumstances of first sexual intercourse, for both females and males.

### Relationship with first partner

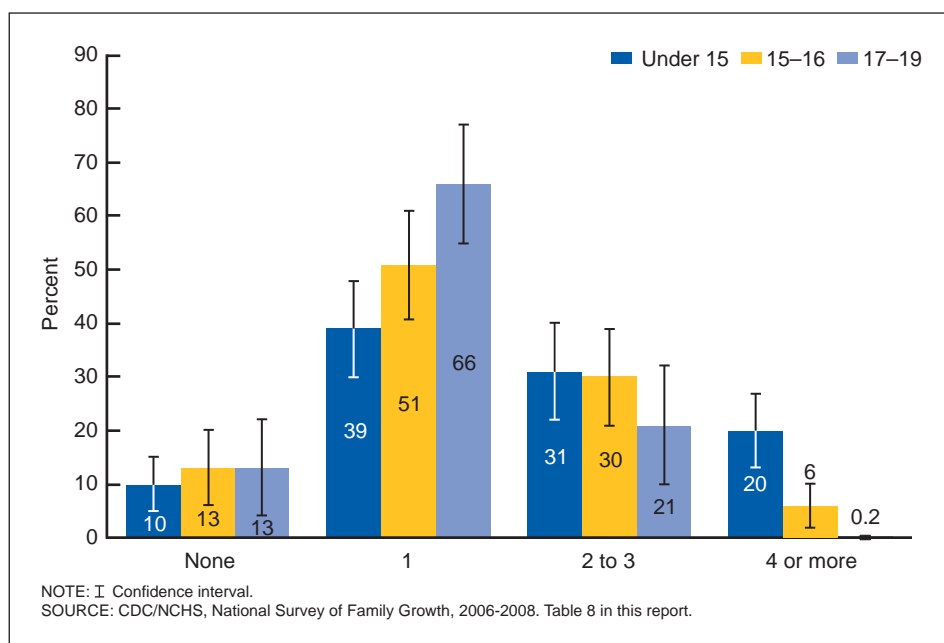
Fourteen percent of female teenagers and 25% of male teenagers had first sex with someone they had just met or with whom they were “just friends” (Table 6). The majority of teenagers had first sex with someone with whom they were “going steady” (72% of females and 56% of males). The percent of females who had their first sex with a cohabiting partner, fiancée or fiancé, or spouse was 3.4, and for males it was 2.0. The distribution of sexually experienced teenagers across these types of relationship with first partner was very similar to the distribution in 2002 (1). Figure 4 illustrates male-female differences across the types of relationships. A significantly lower percent of male teenagers reported the relationship with their first partner as “going steady,” compared with female teenagers, and a significantly higher percent of males reported a more casual relationship with their first partner.

### Number of partners

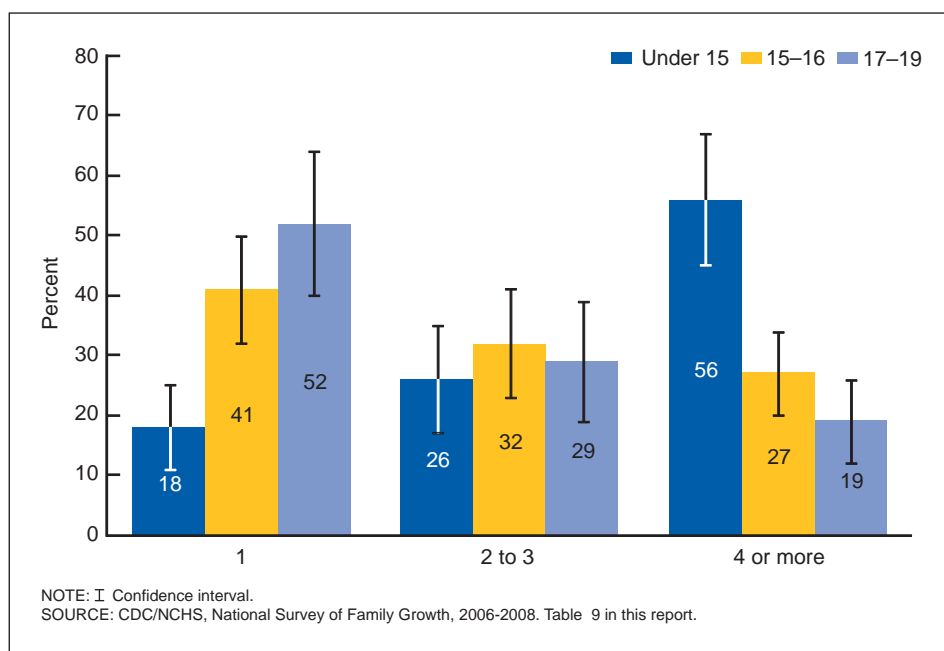
During the year before the survey, 25% of teenaged females had sex with only one partner (Table 7) while 3% had sex with four or more partners during the year. Similar to female teenagers, 22% of male teenagers had sex with just one partner (Table 8) and 4% had sex with four or more partners over the past year. For male teenagers, younger age at first sexual intercourse was associated with higher percentages having had multiple partners over the past year (Figure 5).

More than one-quarter of female and male teenagers had more than one sexual partner in their lives: 26% of female teenagers and 29% of male teenagers had had more than one partner (Tables 9 and 10). The proportion having had four or more sexual partners was 14% for female teenagers and 16% for male teenagers. These proportions have remained the same since 2002 (1).





**Figure 5. Number of female sexual partners in the last 12 months for males 15–19, by age at first sex: United States, 2006–2008**



**Figure 6. Number of male sexual partners in lifetime for females aged 15–19, by age at first sex: United States, 2006–2008**

Younger age at first sex led to higher numbers of partners for teenagers, if only because those who began having sex at an earlier age had more time to accumulate partners. Figure 6 shows the magnitude of the differences for females by age at first intercourse. Among never-married females whose first sex was under 15 years of age, more than

one-half had had sex with four or more partners by the time of the interview (56%). This is in contrast to 27% among those whose first sex was at ages 15–16 and 19% among those whose first sex was at ages 18–19. These large differences by age at first sex existed for never-married males as well. This shows the importance of age at first sex

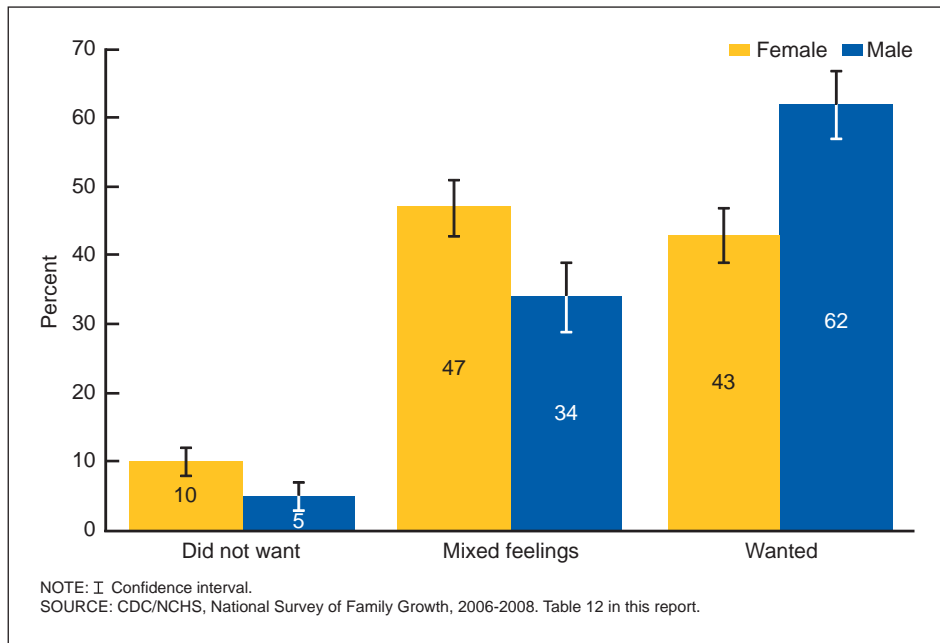
for its impact on the level of sexual risk behaviors among teenagers.

### Nonvoluntary first intercourse

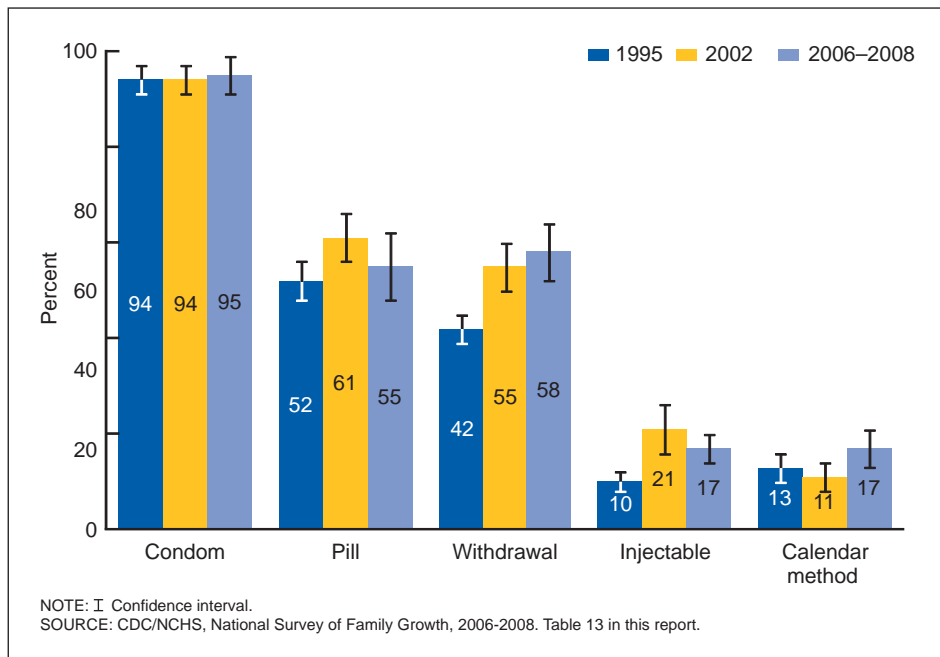
National data have documented that for a small percentage of teenagers, first intercourse was not voluntary (1). Table 11 shows that in 2006–2008, among females aged 18–24 who had first sex before age 20, 7% experienced nonvoluntary first sex. This percentage is not significantly different from 2002 when 9% of females aged 18–24 reported experiencing nonvoluntary first sex before age 20 (1). Consistent with earlier findings, first intercourse with an older male partner was more likely to be nonvoluntary: 13% of those whose first sex was with a partner 3 or more years older reported that it was nonvoluntary, compared with 4% of those whose first sex was with a younger or same-age partner.

To provide a fuller understanding of nonvoluntary intercourse, the NSFG survey also asked the degree to which first intercourse was wanted by the respondent (Table 12 and Figure 7). This question allowed respondents to choose from “really didn’t want it to happen at the time”; “I had mixed feelings—part of me wanted it to happen at the time and part of me didn’t” and “I really wanted it to happen at the time.” This was asked of both males and females aged 18–44.

Among females aged 18–24 whose first sex was before age 20, 10% “really didn’t want it to happen at the time,” 47% had mixed feelings, and 43% “really wanted it to happen at the time.” This varied depending on the age at first sex. For those who had first sex at 14 years or younger, 18% really didn’t want it to happen compared with 8% among those whose first sex was at age 18 or 19. On the other hand, more than one-quarter of females aged 18–24 whose first sex was at age 14 or younger (29%) really wanted it to happen at the time. First sex with an older partner was associated with much higher percents of females reporting “really didn’t want it to happen.” Among those whose first partners were 3 or more years older, 19% reported that they didn’t really want it to happen at



**Figure 7. How much first sex was wanted when it happened among females and males aged 18–24 who had their first sex before age 20: United States, 2006–2008**



**Figure 8. Ever-use of contraception among sexually experienced females aged 15–19, by method of contraception: United States, 1995, 2002, and 2006–2008**

the time compared with 5% among those whose first partners were the same age or younger.

Males aged 18–24 who had first sex before age 20 had higher percents than females reporting “I really wanted it to happen at the time” to describe their

first sexual intercourse, as shown in Table 12 and Figure 7. Age at first sexual intercourse and age of the first female partner showed no consistent association with wantedness of first sex for males.

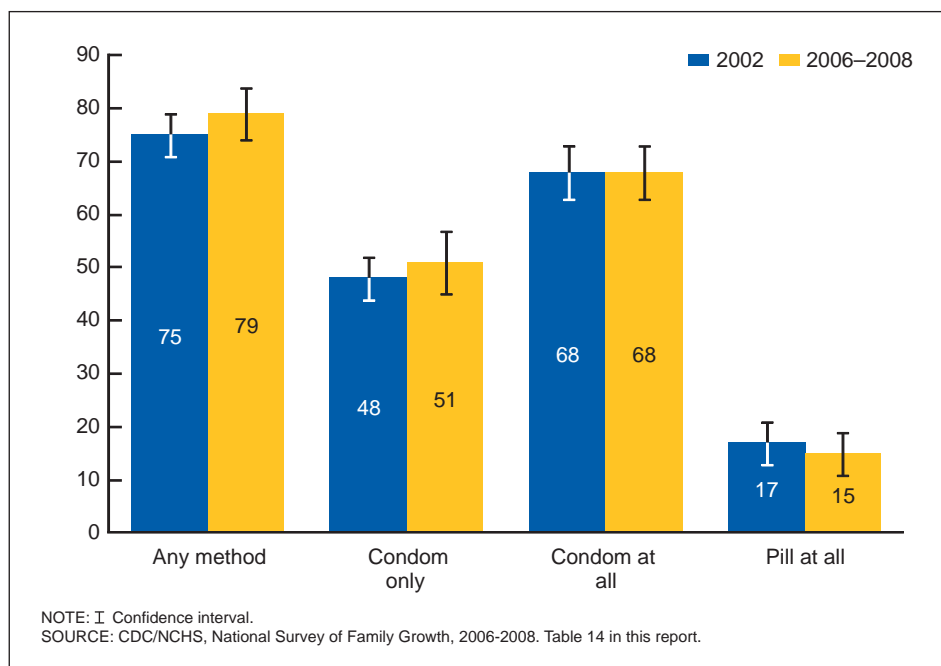
## Contraceptive Use Among Teenagers

The next several tables (Tables 13–16) show findings on several different aspects, or measures, of contraceptive use among teenagers: having ever used a method, use at first intercourse, and use at the most recent intercourse. The first two of these tables are limited to teenagers that have ever had vaginal intercourse. The third, presenting recent contraceptive use, is limited to teenagers who had sex within the 3 months before the interview, and the fourth table is limited to those who had sex within the month before the interview. A separate report using the 2006–2008 NSFG provides a comprehensive look at contraceptive use among all women of primary reproductive ages (15–44). It includes trends as early as 1982, and includes race and Hispanic differences for this larger age range (20).

### Ever-use of contraceptives

Table 13 and Figure 8 show the percent of sexually experienced females 15–19 years of age who have ever used each of several methods of birth control in 1995, 2002, and most recently in 2006–2008. From 1995 to 2006–2008, the data show that virtually all sexually experienced teenagers have used some method of contraception. Since 1995, more than 96% of sexually experienced female teenagers had ever used a contraceptive method. The most commonly used method among teenagers in 2006–2008 remained the condom (used by 95% in 2006–2008), followed by withdrawal (used by 58%) and the pill (used by 55%).

Since 2002, the use of highly effective hormonal contraceptive injectables (primarily Depo-Provera™) remained stable. In 2006–2008, 17% of female teenagers used this method, not significantly different from the 21% who used it in 2002. Use of the contraceptive patch increased significantly from about 2% in 2002, when it was newly introduced, to 11% by 2006–2008. In 2006–2008, emergency contraception had been used



**Figure 9. Use of contraception at first sex among females aged 15–19, by method used: United States, 2002, and 2006–2008**

by 11% of female teenagers, similar to the level in 2002 (8%, a nonsignificant change from 11%). One other notable change was a significant 6 percentage-point increase in periodic abstinence, or calendar rhythm method, from 11% in 2002 to 17% in 2006–2008. A small percent of sexually experienced female teenagers (7%) had used the recently introduced contraceptive ring. Use of the female condom remained low at 1%.

### Contraceptive use at first intercourse

Table 14 shows never-married sexually experienced females and males 15–19 years of age, by their use of contraception at their first intercourse, for 2006–2008 and for 2002. Figure 9 shows this for females. Among females, 79% used a contraceptive method at first sex. The most common method at first intercourse was the condom, at 68%, followed by the pill (15%) and withdrawal (8%). No significant change occurred in the percent of teenaged females using contraception at first intercourse, overall, and for specific methods.

Among sexually experienced teenaged males, 87% reported having used a method at first intercourse. There

was no significant change between 2002 and 2006–2008 in the percentage who used any method of contraception at first intercourse, and this was true also for most of the specific methods. However, use of the condom did increase between 2002 and 2006–2008 from 71% to 82%. There was also a significant increase in use of dual methods, that is, the condom and a (partner's) hormonal method at the same time. Nineteen percent of males reported dual method use at first intercourse in 2006–2008 compared with 11% in 2002.

### Contraceptive use at most recent intercourse

For never-married females and males 15–19 who had sexual intercourse in the 3 months before the interview, Table 15 shows the percentage that used a method of birth control at the most recent (last) sexual intercourse, for 1988, 1995, 2002, and 2006–2008. Contraceptive use at last intercourse among sexually active females has remained stable since 2002, as was the case for contraceptive use at first intercourse. The increases in contraceptive use seen between 1995 and 2002 (1) did not continue into the mid-to-later 2000s.

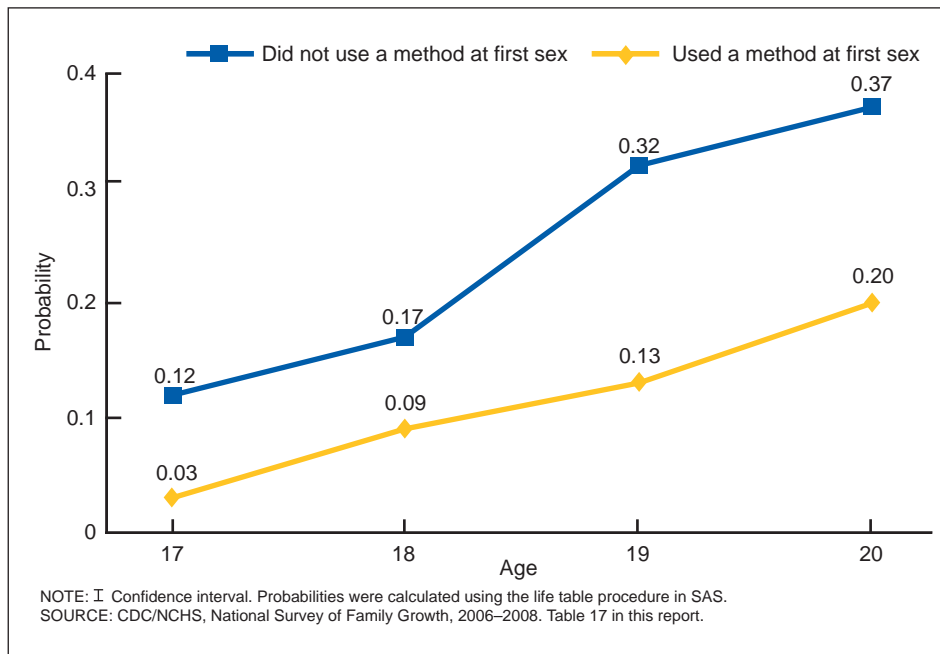
In 2006–2008, 84% of these female teenagers used a method at their most recent intercourse: 55% used the condom, 31% the pill, and 21% used both the condom and the pill (or another hormonal method) at the same time. Ten percent used other hormonal methods including injectables, emergency contraception, and the patch.

Data for never-married, sexually active males also show no significant change between 2002 and 2006–2008 in the use of any method of contraception at last intercourse (Table 15). Ninety-three percent used a method of contraception at last intercourse. The observed increase in condom use from 71% in 2002 to 79% in 2006–2008 was not statistically significant. However, the use of a condom along with a hormonal contraceptive, or dual use, did increase significantly among never-married males, from 24% in 2002 to 35% in 2006–2008.

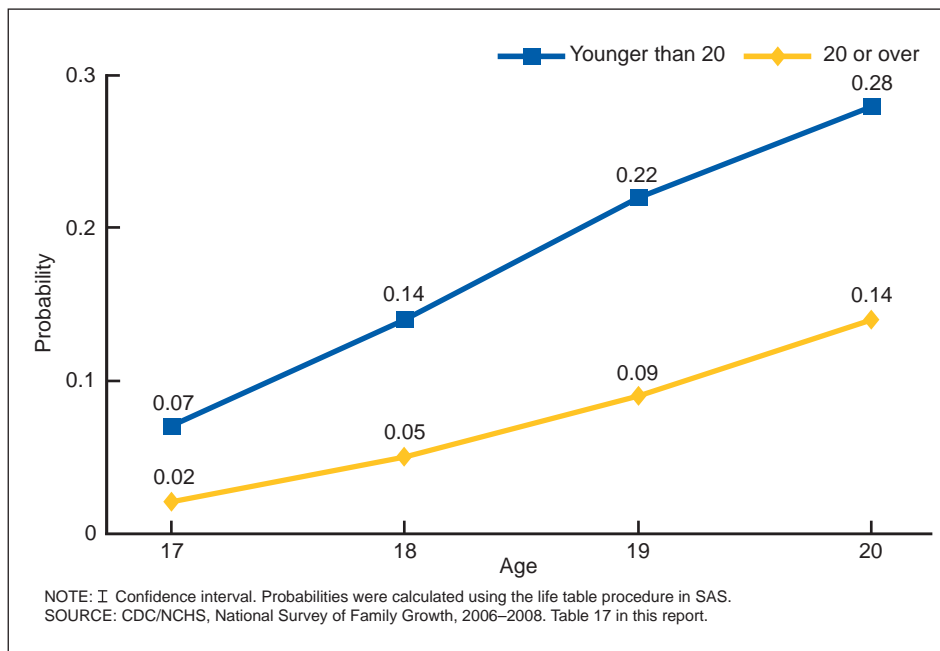
Table 16 shows, for never-married females and males 15–19 years of age, the consistency of their condom use in the 4 weeks before the interview. About one-half of never-married female teenagers and 71% of never-married male teenagers reported that they used condoms consistently, that is, 100% of the time, in the last 4 weeks. For female teenagers, a higher percentage (45%) reported not using the condom at all, if they had only one partner in the past 12 months compared with those who had two or more partners in the past 12 months (25%).

### Births to Teenagers

The NSFG 2006–2008 data show that the probability of having had a birth before age 20, for females aged 15–24, was 18% (Table 17). This probability is the same as that shown in the 2002 NSFG data (1) and was calculated using life table methodology in this and the previous report. The increase in the probability of having a birth with each age can be seen in Table 17. In 2006–2008, the probability of young females aged 15–24 having had a birth by age 15 was less than 1% compared with 18% by age 20. Among those who did not use contraception at first sex, the risks by age were higher and the



**Figure 10. Probability of a first birth by age 17, 18, 19, and 20 for women 15–24 years of age, by whether they used contraception at first intercourse: United States, 2006–2008**



**Figure 11. Probability of a first birth by age 17, 18, 19, and 20 for women 15–24 years of age, by their mother’s age at first birth: United States, 2006–2008**

increase by age was sharper (Figure 10).

As has been widely documented, adolescents’ mother’s characteristics also influence their timing of a first birth (21). For young females whose mother also had a birth before age 20, the probability of a birth by age 19 was 22% compared with 9% of those whose mother delayed childbearing until after

age 20 (Figure 11). The same relationship holds true for mother’s level of education. In addition, having lived with both biological parents at age 14 had a positive impact on delaying the age at first birth. The probability of having a birth by age 19 was 7% for young females who lived with both parents at age 14 compared with 21%

for those who lived with a biological mother and a stepfather at age 14 and 23% for those who had other living arrangements.

## Reasons for Not Having Had Sex: Attitudes About Premarital Sex, Parenthood, Marriage, Cohabitation, and Condom Use

Table 18 shows responses of teenagers that have never had sex to a question asking them to choose the most important reason for not having had intercourse yet. The response choices were: “against religion or morals”; “don’t want to get pregnant/get a female pregnant”; “don’t want to get a sexually transmitted disease”; “haven’t found the right person yet”; “in a relationship, but waiting for the right time”; and “other.” The most frequent reason given for not having had sex remained the same as it had been in 2002: that it is “against religion or morals”; 41% of teenage females and 35% of teenage males chose this as their main reason (1). The only change since 2002 in reasons for not having had sex was among males: the percent of males choosing “don’t want to get female pregnant” as their main reason for not having had sex declined by one-half between 2002 and 2006–2008: from 25% to 12% (1). For males in 2006–2008, “haven’t found the right person yet” was the second most common reason chosen (27%), while for females, “don’t want to get pregnant” (18%) and “haven’t found the right person yet” (17%) were the second and third most common reasons chosen. Teenagers were least likely to choose “don’t want to get a sexually transmitted disease” as the reason for not having had sex.

Attitudes of teenagers about sexual activity, nonmarital childbearing, and marriage and cohabitation are presented in Table 19. Since 2002, the largest change in these was in males’ attitudes toward nonmarital childbearing: the percent responding “agree” or “strongly agree” with the statement “it is ok for an unmarried female to have a child”

increased from 50% to 64%. Males were also more likely to agree or strongly agree that “any sexual act between two consenting adults is all right” in 2006–2008 (80%) than they were in 2002 (74%). Attitudes toward divorce changed modestly among females: in 2006–2008, 40% agreed or strongly agreed that “divorce is usually the best solution when a couple can’t seem to work out their marriage problems,” down from 48% in 2002 (1).

No other changes occurred since 2002 in the other attitude measures included in the survey: the acceptability of nonmarital sex among teenagers and marriage and cohabitation (1). The majority of male (68%) and female teenagers (60%) agreed that it is okay for unmarried 18 year olds to have sex if they have strong affection for each other, but smaller percentages agreed to the same statement regarding 16 year olds (39% of males and 27% of females). Most male teenagers agreed that “it is better for a person to get married than to go through life being single” (70%) as did a smaller percentage of females (55%). About one-third of male and female teenagers had reservations about cohabitation, agreeing or strongly agreeing that “a young couple should not live together unless they are married.” This stands in contrast to the growing prevalence of cohabitation in the United States (22).

Both the 2002 and the 2006–2008 NSFGs included questions about feelings toward condom use. [Table 20](#) shows these responses, and is limited to teenagers who had sex at least once in the 3 months prior to the survey, or the “sexually active” subpopulation that is “currently” at risk of unprotected intercourse, in 2002 and in 2006–2008. This table shows that no changes took place in teenagers’ degree of positive or negative feelings about aspects of condom use since 2002. Thirty-six percent of sexually active male teenagers thought there was a “pretty good” or “almost certain” chance using a condom would reduce physical pleasure. This perception was greater among those who did not use a condom at last sex: 44% who did not use a condom at last sex responded “pretty good” or “almost certain” chance

compared with 33% among those who actually used a condom at last sex. This difference by whether a condom was used at last sex was even more pronounced for females: among those not using a condom at last sex, 22% thought there was a “pretty good” or “almost certain” chance using a condom would reduce physical pleasure, compared with 7% among those who used a condom.

Particularly with other aspects of condom-related attitudes, teenagers’ beliefs and perceptions generally supported its use: the vast majority of sexually active teenagers (86% of males and 96% of females) reported a “pretty good” or “almost certain” chance they would appreciate if a condom were used during intercourse and only 10% of females and 8% of males thought it would be embarrassing to discuss using a condom with a partner.

Finally, [Table 21](#) depicts teenagers’ reactions to the prospect of getting (a female) pregnant “now.” Neither male nor female teenagers showed any changes since 2002 in their reactions to a hypothetical pregnancy (1). In 2006–2008, among never-married teenagers, 14% of females and 18% of males reported they would be “a little pleased” or “very pleased” if they became pregnant now or got a female pregnant now. On the other hand, 58% of females and 47% of males reported they would be “very upset” if this happened. Teenagers that have never had sex and teenagers living with both biological parents at age 14 were more likely than other groups to report they would be very upset if they became pregnant now or got a female pregnant now.

## Conclusion

The data in this report provide an update of information from the 2002 and earlier time points of NSFG data, on the indicators of sexual activity, contraceptive use, childbearing, and other factors affecting the risk of pregnancy and STD and HIV infection among the teenage population in the United States. Compared with data from

2002, the 2006–2008 NSFG shows that very few changes occurred in any of the measures, including the immediate determinants of pregnancy and STD risk (sexual activity and contraceptive use) as well as the nature and circumstances of sexual experiences, and attitudes toward topics related to teen sex, childbearing, and unions. This stands in contrast to long-term trends from 1988 to 2002 that were more consistently toward *reductions* in sexual risk behaviors.

The percent of never-married male and female teenagers who were sexually experienced remained unchanged from 2002 to 2006–2008. There were also no significant changes in the use of a contraceptive method at first intercourse or last (recent) intercourse among never-married teenagers. However, there were changes in specific methods: males’ use of the condom at first intercourse increased, as did their use of a condom and (female) hormonal method at the same time, at last (recent) intercourse. The 2006–2008 data showed that female teenagers had used a wider array of hormonal methods than was possible in previous years: substantial percentages had ever used emergency contraception (17%), the contraceptive patch (11%), and the contraceptive ring (7%). Pill and injectable use have not changed significantly since 2002. Female teenagers’ use of the less effective, nonhormonal, nondevice method of periodic abstinence (calendar rhythm method) also increased significantly since 2002, from 11% to 17%. Together these developments suggest no clear-cut trend in exposure to the risk of pregnancy and STDs since 2002. This is a departure from the trends during prior years (for example, 1988–2002), when there were declines in sexual activity and increases in contraceptive use among teenagers, consistent with declines in teenage pregnancy and birth rates during that period. The lack of change in risk behaviors between 2002 and 2006–2008 is consistent with recent trends in teenage pregnancy and birth rates, when despite small fluctuations in rates between 2005 and 2008 the birth rates were essentially the same in 2002 and 2007—years that correspond to the last

two NSFG survey years.

As previous data showed, having first sex at a younger age within the teenage years is associated with more negative circumstances and consequences. Females who were younger at first sex are more likely to report it was unwanted; both females and males who were younger at first sex are more likely to accumulate higher numbers of sexual partners and have more partners within a recent time frame.

Attitude measures show that most teenagers are motivated to avoid a pregnancy, but 70% of female and well over one-half of male teenagers are accepting of nonmarital childbearing. The percent of males approving of nonmarital childbearing increased by 14 percentage points since 2002. Males in 2006–2008 were also less likely to cite pregnancy avoidance as a reason for delaying first intercourse.

These are some of the notable findings in this report which is intended to present some basic, descriptive statistics on teenage risk behaviors and to update previous reports. With forthcoming additional data from the continuous NSFG, analyses will be possible on subgroups within the teenage population, adding to what is known about race and Hispanic origin differentials in underlying risks for pregnancy, early childbearing, and STDs. Further analyses are needed that take advantage of the detailed information and retrospective histories available in the NSFG data.

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**Table 1. Number of never-married females 15–19 years of age who have ever had sexual intercourse: United States, 1988, 1995, 2002, and 2006–2008**

Characteristic	1988			1995			2002			2006–2008		
	Number in thousands	Percent	95% confidence interval	Number in thousands	Percent	95% confidence interval	Number in thousands	Percent	95% confidence interval	Number in thousands	Percent	95% confidence interval
Total <sup>1</sup>	8,631	51.1	47.7–54.5	8,509	49.3	46.5–52.1	9,598	45.5	41.8–49.1	10,283	41.6	36.6–46.6
Age												
15–17 years	5,244	37.2	32.4–42.0	5,293	38.0	34.5–41.5	5,815	30.3	26.3–34.5	5,810	27.7	23.2–32.1
18–19 years	3,387	72.6	67.7–77.5	3,216	68.0	63.9–72.1	3,783	68.8	63.5–73.6	4,474	59.7	50.0–69.3
Mother's age at first birth												
Under 20 years	3,161	63.7	58.3–69.1	2,761	59.8	54.3–65.3	2,983	56.3	49.9–62.5	3,166	54.0	46.7–61.3
20 years or older	5,470	43.8	39.3–48.3	5,666	43.8	40.6–47.0	6,531	40.6	35.9–45.5	6,986	35.6	30.3–40.8
Family structure at age 14 years												
Both biological or adoptive parents	5,547	44.9	40.5–49.3	4,851	42.5	38.9–46.1	6,078	38.7	34.6–42.9	6,492	33.7	28.5–38.8
Other <sup>2</sup>	3,084	62.2	---	3,659	58.3	---	3,520	57.2	50.9–63.2	3,791	55.2	47.8–62.5

--- Data not available.

<sup>1</sup>Includes persons whose mother had no births, not shown separately.

<sup>2</sup>“Other family structures” refer to anything other than two biological or adoptive parents, including single parent, stepparent, and no parents.

NOTE: Numbers and percents reflect heterosexual vaginal sexual intercourse only, not other types of sexual activity.

SOURCE: CDC/NCHS, National Survey of Family Growth (1988, 1995, 2002, and 2006–2008).

**Table 2. Never-married males 15–19 years of age who have ever had sexual intercourse: United States, 1988, 1995, 2002, and 2006–2008**

Characteristic	1988			1995			2002			2006–2008		
	Number in thousands	Percent	95% confidence interval	Number in thousands	Percent	95% confidence interval	Number in thousands	Percent	95% confidence interval	Number in thousands	Percent	95% confidence interval
Total <sup>1</sup>	8,905	60.4	56.5–64.3	9,038	55.2	51.3–59.1	10,139	45.7	41.5–49.8	10,676	42.6	37.5–47.7
Age												
15–17 years	5,485	50.0	45.3–54.7	5,658	43.1	39.4–46.8	5,726	31.3	27.0–36.0	6,643	28.8	22.8–34.8
18–19 years	3,419	77.3	72.2–82.4	3,380	75.4	70.1–80.7	4,413	64.3	57.9–70.1	4,032	65.2	57.8–72.6
Mother's age at first birth												
Under 20 years	2,832	71.6	66.0–77.2	3,597	68.6	64.0–73.2	2,485	55.6	48.3–62.6	2,804	57.2	48.6–65.8
20 years or older	6,073	55.0	50.2–59.8	5,441	46.8	41.7–51.9	7,575	42.2	37.5–47.1	7,787	37.3	32.3–42.4
Family structure at age 14 years												
Both biological or adoptive parents	6,278	57.0	52.3–61.6	6,173	50.4	45.3–55.5	6,974	40.4	35.7–45.3	6,955	36.9	30.4–43.3
Other <sup>2</sup>	2,628	68.3	---	2,865	65.1	---	3,165	57.1	50.4–63.7	3,721	53.3	46.5–60.1

--- Data not available.

<sup>1</sup>Includes persons whose mother had no births, not shown separately.

<sup>2</sup>“Other family structures” refer to anything other than two biological or adoptive parents, including single parent, stepparent, and no parents.

NOTE: Numbers and percentages reflect heterosexual vaginal sexual intercourse only, not other types of sexual activity.

SOURCES: CDC/NCHS, National Survey of Family Growth (females, 1988, 1995, 2002, and 2006–2008), and Urban Institute, National Survey of Adolescent Males (males, 1988 and 1995).

**Table 3. Females aged 15–19 who have ever had sex, had sex in the past 12 months, and had sex in the past 3 months: United States, 2006–2008**

Characteristic	Number in thousands	Ever had sex		Had sex in last 12 months		Had sex in last 3 months	
		Percent	95% confidence interval	Percent	95% confidence interval	Percent	95% confidence interval
Total <sup>1</sup>	10,431	42.4	37.5–47.3	38.9	34.2–43.7	30.8	26.8–34.8
Never-married female							
Total <sup>1</sup>	10,283	41.6	36.6–46.6	38.1	33.2–42.9	29.9	25.8–33.9
Age							
15–17 years	5,810	27.7	23.2–32.1	25.3	21.0–29.5	18.3	14.9–21.7
18–19 years	4,474	59.7	50.0–69.3	54.7	45.6–63.8	44.9	36.7–53.1
Living arrangements							
Both biological or adoptive parents	4,682	28.9	23.3–34.4	25.0	19.5–30.5	18.7	14.0–23.5
Biological and step or adoptive parent	1,299	50.1	39.6–60.7	48.1	37.5–58.7	31.1	21.9–40.3
Single parent (biological, adoptive, or stepparent)	2,639	47.2	39.6–54.7	43.0	35.6–50.4	35.1	29.2–41.0
Mother's age at first birth							
Under 20 years	3,166	54.0	46.7–61.3	50.7	43.0–58.4	41.7	34.6–48.7
20 years or older	6,986	35.6	30.3–40.8	31.9	26.9–37.0	24.1	20.0–28.2

<sup>1</sup>Includes persons in living arrangements that did not include parents or parent figures, and persons whose mother had no births, not shown separately.

NOTE: Numbers and percentages reflect heterosexual vaginal sexual intercourse only, not other types of sexual activity.

SOURCE: CDC/NCHS, National Survey of Family Growth (2006–2008).

**Table 4. Males aged 15–19 who have ever had sex, had sex in the past 12 months, and had sex in the past 3 months: United States, 2006–2008**

Characteristic	Number in thousands	Ever had sex		Had sex in last 12 months		Had sex in last 3 months	
		Percent	95% confidence interval	Percent	95% confidence interval	Percent	95% confidence interval
Total <sup>1</sup>	10,777	43.1	38.1–48.1	38.1	33.4–42.8	28.7	24.2–33.2
Never-married male							
Total <sup>1</sup>	10,676	42.6	37.5–47.7	37.5	32.7–42.2	28.1	23.5–32.6
Age							
15–17 years	6,643	28.8	22.8–34.8	25.9	20.3–31.5	19.0	14.0–24.1
18–19 years	4,032	65.2	57.8–72.6	56.5	49.6–63.4	42.9	37.0–48.9
Living arrangements							
Both biological or adoptive parents	5,652	31.8	25.1–38.4	27.5	21.1–33.9	20.3	14.4–26.1
Biological and step or adoptive parent	1,209	44.0	33.8–54.1	38.5	29.1–47.9	24.7	16.3–33.0
Single parent (biological, adoptive, or stepparent)	2,757	52.5	45.3–59.6	48.1	41.3–54.9	35.4	28.6–42.3
Mother's age at first birth							
Under 20 years	2,804	57.2	48.6–65.8	48.7	39.5–58.2	38.1	28.6–47.6
20 years or older	7,787	37.3	32.3–42.4	33.5	28.8–38.2	24.5	20.1–28.8

<sup>1</sup>Includes persons in living arrangements that did not include parents or parent figures, and persons whose mother had no births, not shown separately.

NOTE: Numbers and percentages reflect heterosexual vaginal sexual intercourse only, not other types of sexual activity.

SOURCE: CDC/NCHS, National Survey of Family Growth (2006–2008).



**Table 5. Frequency of sex in the past 4 weeks for females and males aged 15–19: United States, 2006–2008**

Characteristic	Number in thousands	Percent distribution	Frequency of sexual intercourse					
			0		1–3 times		4 or more times	
			Percent	95% confidence interval	Percent	95% confidence interval	Percent	95% confidence interval
<b>Female</b>								
Total . . . . .	10,431	100.0	74.6	71.2–78.0	12.5	9.7–15.2	12.9	10.9–15.0
Never-married female:								
Total . . . . .	10,283	100.0	75.5	72.1–78.9	12.7	9.9–15.4	11.8	9.8–13.9
Age:								
15–17 years. . . . .	5,810	100.0	85.7	82.4–89.0	8.2	5.5–10.8	6.1	4.2– 8.1
18–19 years. . . . .	4,474	100.0	62.3	55.5–69.0	18.5	13.9–23.1	19.2	14.2–24.3
<b>Male</b>								
Total . . . . .	10,777	100.0	78.2	74.7–81.6	11.4	8.9–13.8	10.5	8.1–12.9
Never-married male:								
Total . . . . .	10,676	100.0	78.9	75.5–82.4	11.4	8.9–13.9	9.7	7.4–11.9
Age:								
15–17 years. . . . .	6,643	100.0	87.9	84.6–91.1	7.8	5.3–10.3	4.3	2.6– 6.0
18–19 years. . . . .	4,032	100.0	64.1	58.5–69.8	17.3	13.3–21.4	18.5	13.9–23.1

NOTES: Numbers and percentages reflect heterosexual vaginal sexual intercourse only, not other types of sexual activity. Percentages may not add to 100 due to rounding.

SOURCE: CDC/NCHS, National Survey of Family Growth (2006–2008).

**Table 6. Relationship with partner at first sex for females and males aged 15–19: United States, 2006–2008**

Relationship	Female		Male	
	Number in thousands			
	Percent distribution	95% confidence interval	Percent distribution	95% confidence interval
Total . . . . .		4,425		4,647
Total . . . . .	100.0	...	100.0	...
Just met or just friends. . . . .	13.8	9.9–17.6	25.1	19.8–30.3
Going out once in a while . . . . .	8.2	5.3–11.0	14.7	10.8–18.7
Going steady. . . . .	71.9	66.1–77.7	56.2	50.5–61.9
Cohabiting, engaged, or married. . . . .	3.4	0.6– 6.2	2.0	0.0– 4.3

... Category not applicable.

0.0 Quantity more than zero but less than 0.05.

NOTES: Numbers and percentages reflect heterosexual vaginal sexual intercourse only, not other types of sexual activity. Percentages may not add to 100 due to rounding.

SOURCE: CDC/NCHS, National Survey of Family Growth (2006–2008).

**Table 7. Number of male sexual partners in the 12 months prior to the interview for females aged 15–19: United States, 2006–2008**

Characteristic	Number in thousands	Percent distribution	Number of partners in last 12 months										
			Never had sex		Had sex but not in last 12 months		1			2–3		4 or more	
			Percent	95% confidence interval	Percent	95% confidence interval	Percent	95% confidence interval	Percent	95% confidence interval	Percent	95% confidence interval	
Total	10,431	100.0	57.6	52.7–62.5	3.5	2.3– 4.7	25.3	20.2–28.4	10.3	8.1–12.8	3.3	2.1– 4.5	
Never-married female													
Total	10,283	100.0	58.4	8.4–11.0	3.5	0.4– 0.8	24.3	3.4– 4.7	10.5	2.1–10.5	3.3	0.7– 3.3	
Age													
15–17 years	5,810	100.0	72.3	67.9–76.8	2.4	1.1– 3.7	14.1	10.7–17.6	8.3	5.5–11.1	2.8	1.0– 4.7	
18–19 years	4,474	100.0	40.3	30.7–50.0	5.0	2.5– 7.6	37.5	29.6–45.5	13.3	9.4–17.1	3.8	2.3– 5.4	
Age at first sex													
Never had sex	6,006	100.0	100.0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Under 15 years	1,119	100.0	...	...	10.8	4.8–16.7	50.5	39.0–62.1	29.2	18.6–39.8	9.5	2.4–16.6	
15–16 years	1,969	100.0	...	...	7.4	3.3–11.5	61.8	54.8–68.8	24.7	17.2–32.2	6.1	2.6– 9.6	
17–19 years	1,189	100.0	...	...	8.2	2.2–14.2	60.5	50.3–70.7	22.0	13.1–31.0	9.3	5.3–13.2	

... Category not applicable.

NOTES: Numbers and percentages reflect heterosexual vaginal sexual intercourse only, not other types of sexual activity. Percentages may not add to 100 due to rounding.

SOURCE: CDC/NCHS, National Survey of Family Growth (2006–2008).

**Table 8. Number of female sexual partners in the 12 months prior to the interview for males aged 15–19: United States, 2006–2008**

Characteristic	Number in thousands	Percent distribution	Number of partners in last 12 months										
			Never had sex		Had sex but not in last 12 months		1			2–3		4 or more	
			Percent	95% confidence interval	Percent	95% confidence interval	Percent	95% confidence interval	Percent	95% confidence interval	Percent	95% confidence interval	
Total	10,777	100.0	56.9	51.9–61.9	5.0	3.4– 6.7	21.9	18.1–25.6	12.1	9.2–14.9	4.1	2.8– 5.4	
Never-married male													
Total	10,676	100.0	57.4	52.3–62.5	5.1	3.4– 6.7	21.5	17.8–25.2	12.0	9.1–14.9	4.0	2.7– 5.2	
Age													
15–17 years	6,643	100.0	71.2	65.2–77.2	2.9	1.5– 4.3	16.6	11.5–21.8	6.8	4.7– 8.9	2.5	1.1– 3.9	
18–19 years	4,032	100.0	34.8	27.4–42.2	8.7	5.0–12.4	29.5	23.9–35.1	20.6	14.5–26.7	6.4	3.9– 9.0	
Age at first sex													
Never had sex	6,130	100.0	100.0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Under 15 years	1,498	100.0	...	...	10.2	5.0–15.5	39.3	30.3–48.3	30.5	21.9–39.2	20.0	12.8–27.2	
15–16 years	2,048	100.0	...	...	13.0	6.1–19.8	51.0	40.9–61.0	30.1	21.3–38.9	6.0	1.9–10.1	
17–19 years	999	100.0	...	...	12.5	4.0–20.9	66.4	55.0–77.8	20.9	10.4–31.5	0.2	0.0– 0.5	

... Category not applicable.

0.0 Quantity more than zero but less than 0.05.

NOTE: Numbers and percentages reflect heterosexual vaginal sexual intercourse only, not other types of sexual activity.

SOURCE: CDC/NCHS, National Survey of Family Growth (2006–2008).

**Table 9. Number of male sexual partners in lifetime for females aged 15–19: United States, 2006–2008**

Characteristic	Number in thousands	Percent distribution	Number of partners in lifetime							
			0		1		2–3		4 or more	
			Percent	95% confidence interval	Percent	95% confidence interval	Percent	95% confidence interval	Percent	95% confidence interval
Total	10,431	100.0	57.6	52.6–62.4	16.4	13.5–19.8	12.3	9.9–15.3	13.7	11.0–16.9
Never-married female										
Total	10,283	100.0	58.4	53.4–63.3	15.8	12.9–19.3	12.2	9.7–15.2	13.6	10.9–16.9
Age										
15–17 years	5,810	100.0	72.3	67.7–76.5	12.0	9.1–15.6	8.2	5.9–11.3	7.5	5.4–10.3
18–19 years	4,474	100.0	40.3	31.2–50.2	20.8	15.2–27.8	17.3	12.9–22.9	21.5	16.5–27.6
Mother's education										
No high school diploma or GED <sup>1</sup>	1,544	100.0	46.3	37.0–55.8	19.9	13.7–28.0	15.1	9.5–23.2	18.7	12.9–26.4
High school diploma or GED <sup>1</sup>	3,079	100.0	58.9	52.0–65.6	12.7	9.1–17.5	13.2	8.8–19.2	15.2	10.2–22.0
Some college or higher	5,632	100.0	61.2	53.2–68.7	16.5	12.2–21.9	10.9	7.8–15.1	11.4	8.6–15.1
Age at first sex										
Never had sex	6,006	100.0	100.0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Under 15 years	1,119	100.0	...	...	18.0	11.1–28.1	25.6	16.9–36.9	56.3	45.4–66.7
15–16 years	1,969	100.0	...	...	40.9	32.1–50.4	31.7	23.3–41.5	27.4	20.0–36.3
17–19 years	1,189	100.0	...	...	52.1	40.1–63.9	28.6	19.3–40.3	19.3	11.6–30.3

... Category not applicable.

<sup>1</sup>GED is General Educational Development high school equivalency diploma.

NOTES: Numbers and percentages reflect heterosexual vaginal sexual intercourse only, not other types of sexual activity. Percentages may not add to 100 due to rounding.

SOURCE: CDC/NCHS, National Survey of Family Growth (2006–2008).

**Table 10. Number of female sexual partners in lifetime for males aged 15–19: United States, 2006–2008**

Characteristic	Number in thousands	Percent distribution	Number of partners in lifetime							
			0		1		2–3		4 or more	
			Percent	95% confidence interval	Percent	95% confidence interval	Percent	95% confidence interval	Percent	95% confidence interval
Total	10,777	100.0	56.9	51.8–61.8	14.4	11.3–18.3	13.0	10.5–15.9	15.7	13.4–18.3
Never-married male										
Total	10,676	100.0	57.4	52.3–62.4	14.5	11.3–18.4	12.6	10.3–15.3	15.5	13.2–18.1
Age										
15–17 years	6,643	100.0	71.2	64.8–76.8	12.7	8.4–18.7	9.9	7.3–13.3	6.3	4.7– 8.3
18–19 years	4,032	100.0	34.8	27.8–42.5	17.6	13.1–23.1	16.9	13.4–21.1	30.7	25.7–36.3
Mother's education										
No high school diploma or GED <sup>1</sup>	1,260	100.0	52.7	42.1–63.0	10.1	5.9–16.7	16.6	10.4–25.3	20.7	15.1–27.7
High school diploma or GED <sup>1</sup>	3,712	100.0	49.2	42.0–56.4	15.9	11.7–21.3	15.2	11.2–20.3	19.7	15.1–25.3
Some college or higher	5,649	100.0	64.2	57.5–70.5	14.7	10.3–20.6	9.9	7.3–13.3	11.1	8.3–14.8
Age at first sex										
Never had sex	6,130	100.0	100.0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Under 15 years	1,498	100.0	...	...	16.0	9.7–25.3	26.0	19.0–34.5	58.0	50.3–65.3
15–16 years	2,048	100.0	...	...	31.3	21.6–42.9	33.1	24.5–42.9	35.6	27.7–44.5
17–19 years	999	100.0	...	...	66.8	55.6–76.4	27.6	18.8–38.5	5.6	2.5–12.1

... Category not applicable.

<sup>1</sup>GED is General Educational Development high school equivalency diploma.

NOTE: Numbers and percentages reflect heterosexual vaginal sexual intercourse only, not other types of sexual activity. Percentages may not add to 100 due to rounding.

SOURCE: CDC/NCHS, National Survey of Family Growth (2006–2008).

**Table 11. Nonvoluntary first sex for females 18–24 years of age at interview whose first sex was before age 20: United States, 2006–2008**

Characteristic	Number in thousands	First intercourse was not voluntary <sup>1</sup>	
		Percent	95% confidence interval
Total	10,139	7.1	5.2– 9.0
Age of male partner			
Younger	675	3.6	0.0– 7.4
Same age or 1 year older	1,941	3.8	0.9– 6.6
1–2 years older	4,440	5.3	2.0– 8.6
3 or more years older	3,083	12.8	8.1–17.5

<sup>1</sup>See “Definitions of Terms” for question and response wording.

NOTE: Numbers and percentages reflect heterosexual vaginal sexual intercourse only, not other types of sexual activity.

SOURCE: CDC/NCHS, National Survey of Family Growth (2006–2008).

**Table 12. How much first sex was wanted when it happened for females and males aged 18–24 at interview who had first sex before age 20: United States, 2006–2008**

Characteristic	Number in thousands	Percent distribution	How much first sex was wanted <sup>1</sup>					
			I really didn't want it to happen at the time		I had mixed feelings—part of me wanted it to happen at the time and part of me didn't		I really wanted it to happen at the time	
			Percent	95% confidence interval	Percent	95% confidence interval	Percent	95% confidence interval
<b>Female</b>								
Total	10,139	100.0	9.8	7.8–11.8	47.1	43.0–51.1	43.1	39.1–47.1
Age at first sex:								
14 years or younger	1,635	100.0	18.0	11.3–24.8	53.1	44.1–62.2	28.8	20.9–36.7
15–17 years	6,016	100.0	8.4	6.2–10.6	49.9	44.4–55.4	41.7	36.3–47.0
18–19 years	2,488	100.0	7.8	3.7–11.8	36.0	28.6–43.4	56.2	48.5–64.0
Age of male partner:								
Younger	675	100.0	5.1	0.0–10.2	39.0	19.9–58.0	56.0	37.4–74.5
Same age	1,941	100.0	5.2	2.1– 8.4	46.9	37.6–56.3	47.8	38.1–57.6
1–2 years older	4,440	100.0	6.2	3.6– 8.8	49.7	42.5–56.8	44.1	37.1–51.2
3 or more years older	3,083	100.0	19.2	14.1–24.3	45.1	37.2–53.0	35.7	27.9–43.6
<b>Male</b>								
Total	10,171	100.0	4.8	2.9– 6.7	33.5	28.7–38.3	61.7	56.6–66.8
Age at first sex:								
14 years or younger	2,345	100.0	6.5	2.9–10.1	37.4	31.1–43.8	56.1	50.1–62.1
15–17 years	5,676	100.0	4.4	1.9– 7.0	32.4	24.3–40.5	63.1	54.4–71.8
18–19 years	2,149	100.0	4.0	0.5– 7.5	32.0	24.7–39.4	63.9	55.4–72.5
Age of female partner:								
3 or more years younger	1,389	100.0	7.1	0.2–14.0	22.3	14.3–30.3	70.6	60.1–81.0
1–2 years younger	2,448	100.0	6.0	1.5–10.4	32.9	24.0–41.8	61.1	52.0–70.2
Same age	4,268	100.0	4.0	1.6– 6.5	38.8	29.8–47.7	57.2	48.2–66.2
Older	2,066	100.0	3.6	0.6– 6.5	30.7	22.2–39.1	65.8	57.3–74.2

<sup>1</sup>Based on a response to a question in the self-administered portion of the questionnaire asking which of the three responses comes closest to describing how much he or she wanted the first intercourse to happen.

NOTE: Numbers and percentages reflect heterosexual vaginal sexual intercourse only, not other types of sexual activity.

SOURCE: CDC/NCHS, National Survey of Family Growth (2006–2008).

**Table 13. Ever-use of contraception among sexually experienced females aged 15–19, by method of contraception: United States, 1995, 2002, and 2006–2008**

Method	1995		2002		2006–2008	
	Number in thousands					
Total . . . . .	4,552		4,598		4,425	
	Ever used					
	Percent	95% confidence interval	Percent	95% confidence interval	Percent	95% confidence interval
Any method . . . . .	96.2	94.5–97.9	97.7	96.0–98.7	98.5	96.3–99.4
Pill . . . . .	51.6	47.9–55.3	61.4	55.7–66.9	55.2	48.3–61.9
Injectable . . . . .	9.7	7.6–11.9	20.7	16.4–25.7	17.0	14.0–20.5
Emergency contraception . . . . .	*	*	8.1	5.7–11.4	10.7	8.0–14.0
Contraceptive patch . . . . .	...	...	1.5	0.7– 3.6	10.5	7.2–15.0
Contraceptive ring . . . . .	...	...	...	...	7.0	4.1–11.6
Condom . . . . .	93.5	91.2–95.7	93.7	90.8–95.7	95.1	90.9–97.4
Female condom . . . . .	1.1	0.3– 1.8	1.7	0.9– 3.2	1.4	0.7– 3.1
Periodic abstinence—calendar . . . . .	13.2	10.5–15.8	10.8	8.1–14.2	16.6	13.1–20.7
Withdrawal . . . . .	42.3	38.3–46.3	55.0	50.4–59.5	57.8	51.6–63.8
Other methods . . . . .	14.5	11.7–17.2	9.9	7.4–13.1	7.1	4.6–10.6

\* Figure does not meet standard of reliability or precision.

... Category not applicable.

SOURCE: CDC/NCHS, National Survey of Family Growth (2006–2008).

**Table 14. Use of contraception at first sex among females and males aged 15–19, by method used: United States, 2002 and 2006–2008**

Number of females and males and contraceptive use at first sex	2002		2006–2008	
	Number in thousands			
Total . . . . .	4,362		4,277	
	Percent	95% confidence interval	Percent	95% confidence interval
<b>Female</b>				
Any method . . . . .	75.2	71.1–79.2	78.5	73.6–83.4
Pill (at all) . . . . .	16.6	12.6–20.6	15.3	10.5–20.1
Other hormonal <sup>1</sup> . . . . .	2.3	0.8– 3.7	4.8	2.3– 7.3
Condom (at all) . . . . .	67.5	63.4–71.6	68.2	62.7–73.7
Condom only . . . . .	48.4	43.5–53.4	50.8	45.2–56.4
Withdrawal . . . . .	7.9	4.7–11.0	8.1	4.5–11.7
All other methods <sup>2</sup> . . . . .	2.2	0.9– 3.5	0.6	0.0– 1.3
Dual methods (hormonal and condom) . . . . .	13.8	10.0–17.7	14.2	10.0–18.4
No method . . . . .	24.8	20.8–28.9	21.5	16.6–26.4
	Number in thousands			
Total . . . . .	4,629		4,545	
	Percent	95% confidence interval	Percent	95% confidence interval
<b>Male</b>				
Any method . . . . .	82.3	78.0–86.7	87.0	83.2–90.7
Pill (at all) . . . . .	15.1	11.2–19.0	19.7	14.1–25.3
Other hormonal <sup>1</sup> . . . . .	2.1	0.7– 3.5	2.1	0.0– 4.3
Condom (at all) . . . . .	71.1	66.3–75.9	81.5	76.7–86.4
Condom only . . . . .	55.5	50.7–60.4	59.0	52.5–65.5
Withdrawal . . . . .	9.9	7.1–12.7	10.7	7.2–14.3
All other methods <sup>2</sup> . . . . .	3.2	1.6– 4.7	0.7	0.1– 1.3
Dual methods (hormonal and condom) . . . . .	10.6	7.8–13.4	18.9	13.9–23.9
No method . . . . .	17.7	13.3–22.0	13.0	9.3–16.8

... Category not applicable.

0.0 Quantity more than zero but less than 0.05.

<sup>1</sup>Includes Lunelle injectable, emergency contraception, and contraceptive patch in 2002; adds contraceptive ring (Nuva-Ring) and Implanon implant in 2006–2008.<sup>2</sup>All other methods, excluding condom and hormonal methods. Thus, if other method was combined with condom or hormonal method, it is not counted. Other methods include withdrawal, sterilization, IUD, female condom, diaphragm, cervical cap, spermicidal foam, jelly, cream or suppository, sponge, calendar rhythm method, and "other" methods.

NOTE: Statistics for condom "at all," pill "at all," and other hormonal reflect use of that method regardless of whether it was used alone or in combination with another method.

SOURCE: CDC/NCHS, National Survey of Family Growth (2002 and 2006–2008).

**Table 15. Use of contraception at last sex among never-married females and males aged 15–19 who had sex in the 3 months prior to the interview, by method used: United States, 1988, 1995, 2002, and 2006–2008**

Number of females, males, and contraceptive use at last sex	Number in thousands							
	1988		1995		2002		2006–2008	
	Percent	95% confidence interval	Percent	95% confidence interval	Percent	95% confidence interval	Percent	95% confidence interval
<b>Total</b> . . . . .	3,521		3,225		3,304		3,071	
<b>Female</b>								
Pill (at all) . . . . .	42.7	37.8–47.6	25.0	21.2–28.8	34.2	28.3–40.1	30.5	23.6–37.4
Other hormonal <sup>1</sup> . . . . .	...	...	7.0	4.6– 9.4	9.1	5.6–12.6	10.4	6.1–14.7
Condom (at all) . . . . .	31.3	26.7–35.9	38.2	33.8–42.6	54.3	48.5–60.2	54.7	46.8–62.6
All other methods <sup>2</sup> . . . . .	9.3	6.7–11.9	9.6	6.7–12.5	5.1	2.7– 7.5	8.7	4.8–12.5
Dual methods (hormonal and condom) . . . . .	3.3	1.7– 4.9	8.4	5.9–10.9	19.5	14.6–24.4	20.8	14.7–27.0
No method . . . . .	20.1	15.7–24.5	29.3	24.6–34.0	16.8	12.5–21.1	16.5	11.4–21.7
Any method . . . . .	79.9	75.5–84.3	70.7	66.0–75.4	83.2	78.9–87.5	83.5	78.3–88.6
<b>Male</b>								
<b>Total (number in thousands)</b> . . . . .	3,847		3,416		3,165		2,996	
Pill (at all) . . . . .	37.4	32.8–42.0	28.2	22.0–34.4	31.0	25.5–36.5	38.6	31.6–45.5
Other hormonal <sup>1</sup> . . . . .	...	...	2.8	1.6– 4.0	6.3	3.4– 9.3	8.4	4.3–12.6
Condom (at all) . . . . .	53.3	47.8–58.8	63.9	58.5–69.3	70.7	64.9–76.5	78.6	73.0–84.3
All other methods <sup>2</sup> . . . . .	13.6	9.4–17.8	10.0	6.7–13.3	2.0	3.5–10.3	3.0	1.4– 4.7
Dual methods (hormonal and condom) . . . . .	15.2	12.1–18.3	16.5	12.0–21.0	23.9	19.3–28.5	35.3	28.0–42.7
No method . . . . .	15.8	11.3–20.3	18.2	13.3–23.1	9.3	4.7–13.9	6.7	3.4–10.0
Any method . . . . .	84.2	79.7–88.7	81.8	76.9–86.7	90.7	86.1–95.3	93.3	90.0–96.6

... Category not applicable.

<sup>1</sup>Includes Depo-Provera injectable and Norplant implants in 1995; adds Lunelle injectable, emergency contraception, and contraceptive patch in 2002; adds contraceptive ring (Nuva-Ring) and Implanon implant in 2006–2008.

<sup>2</sup>All other methods, excluding condom and hormonal methods. Thus, if other method was combined with condom or hormonal method, it is not counted. Other methods include withdrawal, sterilization, IUD, female condom, diaphragm, cervical cap, spermicidal foam, jelly, cream or suppository, sponge, calendar rhythm method, and "other" methods.

NOTE: Statistics for condom "at all," pill "at all," and other hormonal reflect use of that method regardless of whether it was used alone or in combination with another method.

SOURCE: CDC/NCHS, National Survey of Family Growth (1988, 1995, 2002, and 2006–2008).

**Table 16. Number of never-married females and males 15–19 years of age who had sexual intercourse in the 4 weeks prior to the interview, and percent distribution by consistency of condom use, according to selected characteristics: United States, 2006–2008**

Characteristic	Number in thousands	Percent distribution	Frequency of condom use					
			None		Some		Every time	
			Percent	95% confidence interval	Percent	95% confidence interval	Percent	95% confidence interval
<b>Female</b>								
<b>Total</b> . . . . .	2,525	100.0	36.1	29.7–42.6	12.2	7.1–17.4	51.6	43.5–59.8
Number of partners in the past 12 months:								
1 partner . . . . .	1,454	100.0	45.0	35.4–54.6	5.2	2.4– 7.9	49.9	39.8–60.0
2 or more partners . . . . .	1,067	100.0	24.6	15.0–34.2	21.5	11.0–32.1	53.9	39.5–68.3
<b>Male</b>								
<b>Total</b> . . . . .	2,362	100.0	19.9	14.3–27.0	8.8	5.3–14.5	71.3	64.5–77.3
Number of partners in the past 12 months:								
1 partner . . . . .	1,654	100.0	19.3	13.4–27.0	6.4	3.1–12.8	74.3	65.5–81.5
2 or more partners . . . . .	578	100.0	20.3	12.6–31.1	10.7	5.8–18.9	69.0	59.2–77.3

NOTE: Numbers and percentages reflect heterosexual vaginal sexual intercourse only, not other types of sexual activity. Percentages may not add to 100 due to rounding.

SOURCE: CDC/NCHS, National Survey of Family Growth, 2006–2008.

**Table 17. Probability of a first birth by age 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, and 20 for females aged 15–24: United States, 2006–2008**

Characteristic	Number in thousands	Probability of a first birth by age—					
		15	16	17	18	19	20
Total	20,570	0.00	0.01	0.04	0.08	0.13	0.18
Contraceptive use at first sex							
Used contraception at first sex	10,137	0.00	0.01	0.03	0.09	0.13	0.20
Used more than one method at first sex	2,022	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.02	0.06	0.07
Did not use contraception at first sex	2,812	0.02	0.05	0.12	0.17	0.32	0.37
Mother's age at first birth							
Under 20 years	6,132	0.01	0.02	0.07	0.14	0.22	0.28
20 years or older	14,212	0.00	0.01	0.02	0.05	0.09	0.14
Mother's education							
No high school diploma or GED <sup>1</sup>	3,320	0.01	0.04	0.12	0.18	0.28	0.37
High school diploma or GED <sup>1</sup>	5,861	0.00	0.01	0.04	0.09	0.14	0.19
Some college or higher	11,285	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.04	0.07	0.12
Family structure at age 14 years <sup>2</sup>							
Both biological or adoptive parents	13,045	0.00	0.01	0.02	0.04	0.07	0.11
Biological mom and stepfather	2,284	0.00	0.01	0.06	0.15	0.21	0.33
Other	5,242	0.01	0.02	0.06	0.13	0.23	0.29

0.00 Quantity more than zero but less than 0.05.

<sup>1</sup>GED is General Educational Development high school equivalency diploma.<sup>2</sup>Other family structures refer to anything other than two biological or adoptive parents or biological mother and stepfather, including one biological parent and no other parents(s)/parent-figures or no parent(s)/parent-figures.

NOTE: Probabilities were calculated using the life table procedure in SAS.

SOURCE: CDC/NCHS, National Survey of Family Growth (2006–2008).



**Table 18. Main reason for never having had sex for females and males aged 15–19 who have never had sex: United States, 2006–2008**

Sex and reason	Age					
	15–19		15–17		18–19	
	Number in thousands					
Total . . . . .	5,966		4,172		1,793	
	Percent distribution	95% confidence interval	Percent distribution	95% confidence interval	Percent distribution	95% confidence interval
Total . . . . .	100.0	...	100.0	...	100.0	...
Reason have not yet had sex:						
Against religion or morals . . . . .	41.5	33.7–49.6	38.4	32.8–44.4	48.5	31.7–65.5
Don't want to get pregnant . . . . .	17.7	13.1–23.4	22.1	16.5–29.0	7.4	3.4–15.7
Don't want to get a sexually transmitted disease . . . . .	6.4	4.4– 9.4	5.8	3.6– 9.4	7.8	4.0–14.7
Haven't found the right person yet . . . . .	16.8	13.0–21.4	15.5	12.0–19.7	19.9	11.8–31.6
In a relationship, but waiting for the right time . . . . .	7.3	4.9–10.7	6.3	4.0– 9.7	9.5	4.5–18.8
Other reason . . . . .	10.4	7.6–14.1	11.9	8.3–16.7	6.9	2.6–17.0
	Number in thousands					
Total . . . . .	6,086		4,690		1,396	
	Percent distribution	95% confidence interval	Percent distribution	95% confidence interval	Percent distribution	95% confidence interval
Total . . . . .	100.0	...	100.0	...	100.0	...
Reason have not yet had sex:						
Against religion or morals . . . . .	34.8	29.6–40.4	33.6	28.2–39.3	39.1	28.2–51.3
Don't want to get (a female) pregnant . . . . .	12.4	9.4–16.1	13.8	10.1–18.5	7.8	3.8–15.3
Don't want to get a sexually transmitted disease . . . . .	7.1	5.0– 9.9	7.9	5.6–11.0	4.3	1.2–13.9
Haven't found the right person yet . . . . .	26.8	22.6–31.5	25.1	20.7–30.2	32.6	24.3–42.1
In a relationship, but waiting for the right time . . . . .	9.3	6.7–12.8	9.8	6.6–14.3	7.4	4.2–12.8
Other reason . . . . .	9.6	6.6–13.7	9.9	6.5–14.7	8.8	4.1–17.7

. . . Category not applicable.

NOTE: Sex refers to heterosexual vaginal sexual intercourse only, not other types of sexual activity.

SOURCE: CDC/NCHS, National Survey of Family Growth (2006–2008).

**Table 19. Attitudes about sexual activity, nonmarital childbearing, and marriage and cohabitation for females and males aged 15–19: United States, 2006–2008**

Statement and sex	Number in thousands	Percent distribution	Strongly agree		Agree		Disagree		Strongly disagree		Neither agree nor disagree	
			Percent	95% confidence interval	Percent	95% confidence interval	Percent	95% confidence interval	Percent	95% confidence interval	Percent	95% confidence interval
<b>Sexual activity</b>												
Any sexual act between two consenting adults is all right:												
Female	10,431	100.0	14.8	11.9–18.1	60.4	56.0–64.6	16.9	13.9–20.4	6.2	3.2–11.8	1.7	.74–3.7
Male	10,777	100.0	15.7	13.0–18.7	64.1	60.1–67.9	15.7	13.0–18.8	3.4	2.0– 5.9	1.2	.50–3.0
It is all right for unmarried 18 year olds to have sexual relations if they have strong affection for each other:												
Female	10,431	100.0	9.2	6.8–12.2	50.9	45.7–56.2	24.1	20.6–28.0	15.5	11.6–20.3	0.3	.12–.97
Male	10,777	100.0	12.0	9.6–14.8	56.2	52.0–60.3	20.8	18.0–23.8	10.6	7.9–14.2	0.4	.16–1.2
It is all right for unmarried 16 year olds to have sexual relations if they have strong affection for each other:												
Female	10,431	100.0	2.4	1.4– 4.1	25.0	21.7–28.5	40.8	36.9–45.0	31.1	26.2–36.5	0.7	.32–1.4
Male	10,777	100.0	2.8	2.0– 3.8	36.2	31.6–41.1	37.7	34.1–41.5	22.6	18.6–27.2	0.7	.40–1.3
<b>Nonmarital childbearing</b>												
It is okay for an unmarried female to have a child:												
Female	10,431	100.0	14.8	12.1–17.9	56.0	49.9–62.0	20.9	17.5–24.7	6.8	3.9–11.6	1.5	.80–2.9
Male	10,777	100.0	7.0	5.2– 9.4	56.9	51.8–61.8	28.4	24.7–32.5	7.2	5.1–10.1	0.5	.23–1.2
<b>Marriage and cohabitation</b>												
It is better for a person to get married than to go through life being single:												
Female	10,431	100.0	11.2	7.9–15.8	44.1	39.7–48.5	36.0	31.7–40.5	8.0	6.0–10.7	0.7	.37–1.3
Male	10,777	100.0	21.3	18.0–25.0	49.1	45.7–52.5	24.8	21.5–28.3	3.8	2.6–5.5	1.0	.53–2.0
A young couple should not live together unless they are married:												
Female	10,431	100.0	10.9	6.0–19.0	22.9	19.6–26.6	51.1	46.2–56.0	14.9	12.0–18.4	0.2	.10–0.5
Male	10,777	100.0	7.4	5.3–10.3	24.6	21.2–28.2	55.6	50.9–60.2	11.9	9.7–14.6	0.5	.22–1.3
Divorce is usually the best solution when a couple can't seem to work out their marriage problems:												
Female	10,431	100.0	6.6	4.8– 8.9	32.6	28.5–36.9	44.2	40.1–48.5	16.1	13.1–19.5	0.6	.26–1.2
Male	10,777	100.0	9.5	7.1–12.7	33.7	30.8–36.6	38.9	35.3–42.7	17.5	14.5–21.1	0.4	.13–1.1

NOTE: Percentages may not add to 100 due to rounding.

SOURCE: CDC/NCHS, National Survey of Family Growth (2006–2008).

**Table 20. Attitudes about condom use by condom use at last sex for females and males aged 15–19 who had sex in the 3 months prior to the interview: United States, 2002 and 2006–2008**

Characteristic	Number in thousands 2002	Number in thousands 2006–2008	What is the chance that . . .											
			If your partner or you used a condom during sex, you would feel less physical pleasure?				It would be embarrassing for you and a new partner to discuss using a condom?				If a new partner used a condom, you would appreciate it/if you used a condom, a new partner would appreciate it?			
			2002		2006–2008		2002		2006–2008		2002		2006–2008	
			Pretty good or almost certain chance		Pretty good or almost certain chance		Pretty good or almost certain chance		Pretty good or almost certain chance		Pretty good or almost certain chance		Pretty good or almost certain chance	
			95% confidence interval	Percent	95% confidence interval	Percent	95% confidence interval	Percent	95% confidence interval	Percent	95% confidence interval	Percent	95% confidence interval	
<b>Female</b>														
Total . . . . .	3,512	3,217	15.3	11.7–19.8	14.2	10.1–19.6	11.7	8.4–16.0	9.9	6.4–15.0	92.1	88.6–94.6	95.8	93.2–97.4
Did NOT use a condom at last sex . . . . .	1,669	1,514	22.4	15.7–30.9	22.2	14.7–32.2	12.4	8.3–18.1	12.6	6.6–22.8	88.2	82.2–92.3	92.2	86.9–95.5
Did use a condom at last sex . . . . .	1,843	1,702	8.9	5.6–13.7	6.9	3.9–11.8	11.0	6.8–17.5	7.5	4.7–11.5	95.7	91.5–97.9	98.9	97.2–99.6
<b>Male</b>														
Total . . . . .	3,234	3,097	37.7	32.4–43.3	35.5	29.9–41.1	9.7	6.1–15.1	7.9	4.3–11.5	81.9	76.0–86.6	85.8	79.9–91.8
Did NOT use a condom at last sex . . . . .	963	684	60.1	48.1–71.1	43.6	31.7–55.5	18.1	9.7–31.4	13.1	3.6–22.6	71.3	57.5–82.0	71.1	54.8–87.5
Did use a condom at last sex . . . . .	2,270	2,413	28.1	22.4–34.6	33.1	26.6–39.6	6.1	3.5–10.5	6.4	2.6–10.2	86.4	80.9–90.5	90.0	85.6–94.4

NOTE: Other response categories were: “No chance,” “A little chance,” “A 50–50 chance.”

SOURCE: CDC/NCHS, National Survey of Family Growth (2006–2008).

**Table 21. Responses to the statement “If you got pregnant now/got a female pregnant now, how would you feel?” for never-married females and males aged 15–19: United States, 2006–2008**

Characteristic	Number in thousands	Percent distribution	Very upset		A little upset		A little pleased		Very pleased	
			Percent	95% confidence interval	Percent	95% confidence interval	Percent	95% confidence interval	Percent	95% confidence interval
<b>Female</b>										
Total	10,283	100.0	57.6	53.0–62.0	28.5	25.2–32.0	8.8	6.7–11.6	4.9	3.3– 7.1
Age:										
15–17 years	5,810	100.0	61.4	55.9–66.7	29.2	24.9–33.8	6.5	4.1– 9.9	2.8	1.7– 4.8
18–19 years	4,474	100.0	52.6	45.1–60.0	27.5	22.5–33.2	11.9	8.5–16.5	7.5	4.5–12.0
Ever had sex:										
Yes	4,277	100.0	43.2	37.7–48.8	35.1	29.8–40.9	12.6	9.3–17.0	8.9	5.7–13.4
No	6,006	100.0	67.7	61.3–73.5	23.8	19.5–28.7	6.2	3.8– 9.7	2.0	1.1– 3.6
Family structure at age 14 years: <sup>1</sup>										
Both biological or adoptive parents	6,492	100.0	65.9	60.3–71.1	23.0	18.7–27.9	7.1	4.7–10.7	3.9	2.1– 6.9
Biological mother and stepfather	1,305	100.0	41.1	31.2–51.6	42.5	31.4–54.4	11.1	5.5–21.3	5.4	2.5–11.3
Other	2,487	100.0	44.4	37.2–51.8	35.4	29.2–42.3	12.1	8.0–18.0	7.2	4.4–11.6
<b>Male</b>										
Total	10,676	100.0	47.0	42.3–51.8	34.3	30.6–38.2	13.4	10.4–17.0	4.1	3.0– 5.7
Age:										
15–17 years	6,643	100.0	53.4	46.9–59.8	31.5	26.4–37.2	11.1	8.0–15.4	2.6	1.6– 4.3
18–19 years	4,032	100.0	36.5	30.7–42.7	38.8	33.6–44.3	17.0	12.8–22.4	6.6	4.6– 9.5
Ever had sex:										
Yes	4,545	100.0	34.7	29.4–40.5	39.3	34.9–44.0	18.1	13.8–23.4	6.2	4.3– 8.7
No	6,130	100.0	56.2	50.0–62.2	30.5	25.5–36.0	9.8	6.9–13.7	2.6	1.4– 5.0
Family structure at age 14 years: <sup>1</sup>										
Both biological or adoptive parents	6,955	100.0	52.3	46.8–57.8	31.5	27.8–35.5	12.0	8.6–16.5	3.0	1.9– 4.8
Biological mother and stepfather	1,070	100.0	33.6	24.0–44.8	37.2	25.9–50.0	22.6	13.6–35.1	6.7	3.1–13.5
Other	2,651	100.0	38.7	31.0–47.0	40.2	32.1–49.0	13.2	9.3–18.4	6.1	4.2– 8.7

<sup>1</sup>Other family structures refer to anything other than two biological or adoptive parents or biological mother and stepfather, including one biological parent and no other parents(s)/parent-figures or no parent(s)/parent-figures.

NOTES: Percentages may not add to 100 because responses of “would not care” (coded only if respondent insisted), are not shown separately. Sex refers to heterosexual vaginal sexual intercourse only, not other types of sexual activity.

SOURCE: CDC/NCHS, National Survey of Family Growth (2006–2008).

## Appendix I: Technical Notes

### Sample Design and Fieldwork Procedures

The 2006–2008 National Survey of Family Growth, or NSFG, was based on 13,495 face-to-face interviews—7,356 with women and 6,139 with men, aged 15–44 years of age in the household population of the United States. The interviews were administered in person by trained female interviewers in the selected persons' homes. The 2006–2008 sample is a nationally representative multistage area probability sample drawn from 85 areas across the country. The sample is designed to produce national, not state, estimates.

Persons were selected for the NSFG in five major steps:

- Large areas (counties and cities) were chosen first.
- Within each large area or “Primary Sampling Unit,” (PSU) groups of adjacent blocks, called segments, were chosen at random.
- Within segments, addresses were listed and some addresses were selected at random.
- The selected addresses were visited in person, and a short “screener” interview was conducted to see if anyone 15–44 years of age lived there.
- If so, one person was chosen at random for the interview and was offered a chance to participate.

The NSFG questionnaires and materials were reviewed and approved by the NCHS Research Ethics Review Board (formerly known as the Institutional Review Board or IRB), and by the University of Michigan's Institutional Review Board (or IRB). The female questionnaire lasted an average of about 80 minutes and the male questionnaire lasted about 60 minutes. For teenagers, interviews averaged about 47 minutes for males and females. All respondents were given written and oral information about the survey and were informed that participation was voluntary. Adult respondents 18–44 years of age were asked to sign a consent form but were

not required to do so. For minors 15–17 years of age, signed consent was required first from a parent or guardian, and then signed assent was required from the minor. Consent forms were signed electronically on the interviewer's computer. The overall response rate for the survey was about 75%—about 76% for women and 73% for men. The response rate for female teenagers was 77% and for male teenagers, 75%.

Female interviewers were hired and trained by the survey contractor, the University of Michigan's Institute for Social Research, under the supervision of NCHS. Interviewing occurred from about July 1, 2006, through December 2008. Most of the data in this report were collected by Computer-Assisted Personal Interviewing, or CAPI, with the interviewer administering the interview, and a small portion was collected by Audio Computerized Self-Administered Interviewing (ACASI), with the respondent reading or listening to the questions with no interviewer intervention. The questionnaires were programmed into laptop computers, and administered by an interviewer, usually in the respondent's home. Respondents in the 2006–2008 survey were offered \$40 as a “token of appreciation” for their participation. More detailed information about the methods and procedures of the study has been described in a report on the planning and development of the continuous NSFG (14) and a report on the continuous NSFG's sample design, weighting, imputation, and variance estimation (15).

### Statistical Analysis and Sampling Errors in the 2006–2008 National Survey of Family Growth

Statistics for this report were produced using SAS software, Version 9.2 (<http://www.sas.com>). To calculate standard errors taking into account the complex sampling design of the NSFG, one of two approaches was used that

yield the same results: the procedure “Surveyfreq” within SAS, and the statistical package SUDAAN (<http://www.rti.org/sudaan>).

In simple terms, the standard error is a measure of the variation of a statistic (such as a percentage) that occurs because it is drawn from a sample, instead of a complete count of the more than 22 million males and females aged 15–19 in the United States. The standard errors of comparable statistics are somewhat larger in 2006–2008 than they were in the 1995 and 2002 NSFG surveys. This is an expected result of the design of the 2006–2008 NSFG, which involved interviewing in a smaller number of areas (85 areas, or PSUs in 2006–2008 compared with 120 areas in 2002 and 198 areas in 1995). Use of a smaller number of areas reduces the cost of the NSFG and increases quality control, but it increases sampling errors.

So that readers have straightforward information on the precision of each statistic, the tables and figures present confidence intervals, which are derived from standard errors, rather than the standard errors themselves. When the standard error is smaller, the high and low points of the confidence interval are closer together, and the estimate is said to be more “reliable” or more stable. Since the standard errors are somewhat larger in the 2006–2008 survey than in prior NSFG surveys, the confidence intervals are somewhat wider than in the previous NSFGs.

Correlates presented in the tables may differ from prior reports in this series and differ across tables. The inclusion and exclusion of correlates in the tables was based partly on substantive relevance and partly on strength of the statistics associated with the correlate. If the statistics for the correlate in the particular table resulted in statistics with very low precision, it was generally excluded (symmetry across male and female presentations was also a consideration in deciding which correlates to include).

Due to large standard errors, this first report from the continuous NSFG

does not include data by race and Hispanic origin in the main tables. But these data are shown in supplemental tables so that readers can be aware of the size of the confidence intervals associated with each estimate (see Appendix [tables I–XVI](#)). Data by race and Hispanic origin are shown in the supplemental tables for both the newer (23) and an earlier (24) classification standard for the reporting of race and Hispanic origin on federal surveys. The earlier reporting standard was used in prior reports on this topic and allows comparison across all four surveys of the NSFG (1988, 1995, 2002, and 2006–2008). The difference between the earlier and newer classification standard involves individuals who chose more than one race. In the NSFG, respondents who identify multiple race categories were allowed to select one group that best described them. The classification used in this report shows all respondents by the one race group that they chose, or in the case of multiple-race respondents, by the one group that best describes them.

The next NSFG data file is expected to be released in 2011. That file will have the 13,495 interviews completed in 2006–2008, plus another approximately 9,100 conducted from January 2009 through June 2010, for a total of approximately 22,600 interviews drawn from 110 areas, or PSUs. That file should include about 4,600 interviews with teenagers. Sampling errors using those data are expected to be significantly smaller because of the larger sample size, and the larger number of areas from which the interviews are drawn. That sample will allow analyses of smaller subgroups for both men and women, including those within the teen sample.

Two variables that are usually included in analyses of sexual risk behaviors because of their strong associations are education and poverty level. They are not included in this report because this report focuses on teenagers. Education is not meaningful because among teenagers it is a “proxy” for age, and poverty level is not reliably reported by teens. Instead, parental characteristics that are also strongly correlated with sexual risk

behaviors are included in these tables if standard error sizes allow. The one most directly related to family socioeconomic status is mother’s education, which is included in some of the tables.

**Table I. Never-married females 15–19 years of age who have ever had sexual intercourse, by Hispanic origin and race: United States, 2006–2008**

Characteristic	Number in thousands	Percent	95% confidence interval
Total <sup>1</sup>	10,283	41.6	36.6–46.6
Hispanic origin and race <sup>2</sup>			
Hispanic or Latina	1,735	42.7	33.6–51.9
Non-Hispanic white	6,299	40.1	33.7–46.5
Non-Hispanic black	1,685	46.4	36.7–56.1
Hispanic origin and race <sup>3</sup>			
Hispanic or Latina	1,735	42.7	33.6–51.9
Not Hispanic or Latina:			
White, single race	6,126	39.7	33.5–45.8
Black or African American, single race	1,606	45.1	35.3–55.0

<sup>1</sup>Includes persons of other or multiple race and origin groups, not shown separately.

<sup>2</sup>The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) classification beginning in 1977.

<sup>3</sup>OMB classification beginning in 1997.

NOTES: Table I corresponds to Table 1 in "Detailed Tables." Numbers and percentages reflect heterosexual vaginal sexual intercourse only, not other types of sexual activity.

SOURCE: CDC/NCHS, National Survey of Family Growth (2006–2008).

**Table II. Never-married males 15–19 years of age who have ever had sexual intercourse, by Hispanic origin and race: United States, 2006–2008**

Characteristic	Number in thousands	Percent	95% confidence interval
Total <sup>1</sup>	10,676	42.6	37.5–47.7
Hispanic origin and race <sup>2</sup>			
Hispanic or Latino	1,870	45.2	38.2–52.1
Non-Hispanic white	6,368	38.3	31.4–45.2
Non-Hispanic black	1,655	60.6	50.7–70.4
Hispanic origin and race <sup>3</sup>			
Hispanic or Latino	1,870	45.2	38.2–52.1
Not Hispanic or Latino:			
White, single race	6,128	38.9	31.8–46.0
Black or African American, single race	1,558	60.9	50.7–71.1

<sup>1</sup>Includes persons of other or multiple race and origin groups, not shown separately.

<sup>2</sup>The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) classification beginning in 1977.

<sup>3</sup>OMB classification beginning in 1997.

NOTES: Table II corresponds to Table 2 in "Detailed Tables." Numbers and percentages reflect heterosexual vaginal sexual intercourse only, not other types of sexual activity.

SOURCE: CDC/NCHS, National Survey of Family Growth (2006–2008).

**Table III. Females aged 15–19 who have ever had sex, had sex in the past 12 months, and had sex in the past 3 months, by Hispanic origin and race: United States, 2006–2008**

Characteristic	Ever had intercourse			Last 12 months		Last 3 months	
	Number in thousands	Percent	95% confidence interval	Percent	95% confidence interval	Percent	95% confidence interval
Total <sup>1</sup> . . . . .	10,431	42.4	37.5–47.3	38.9	34.2–43.7	30.8	26.8–34.8
Never-married female							
Total <sup>1</sup> . . . . .	10,283	41.6	36.6–46.6	38.1	33.2–42.9	29.9	25.8–33.9
Hispanic origin and race <sup>2</sup>							
Hispanic or Latina . . . . .	1,735	42.7	33.6–51.9	37.2	26.6–47.8	26.5	18.4–34.5
Non-Hispanic white . . . . .	6,299	40.1	33.7–46.5	37.0	31.1–42.9	29.6	24.4–34.8
Non-Hispanic black . . . . .	1,685	46.4	36.7–56.1	43.4	33.7–53.0	33.7	25.6–41.8
Hispanic origin and race <sup>3</sup>							
Hispanic or Latina . . . . .	1,735	42.7	33.6–51.9	37.2	26.6–47.8	26.5	18.4–34.5
Not Hispanic or Latina:							
White, single race . . . . .	6,126	39.7	33.5–45.8	36.6	30.9–42.2	29.7	24.5–35.0
Black or African American, single race . . . . .	1,606	45.1	35.3–55.0	42.0	32.3–51.8	33.1	24.5–41.6

<sup>1</sup>Includes persons of other or multiple race and origin groups, not shown separately.<sup>2</sup>The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) classification beginning in 1977.<sup>3</sup>OMB classification beginning in 1997.

NOTES: Table III corresponds to Table 3 in "Detailed Tables." Numbers and percentages reflect heterosexual vaginal sexual intercourse only, not other types of sexual activity.

SOURCE: CDC/NCHS, National Survey of Family Growth (2006–2008).

**Table IV. Males aged 15–19 who ever had sex, had sex in the past 12 months, and had sex in the past 3 months, by Hispanic origin and race: United States, 2006–2008**

Characteristic	Ever had intercourse			Last 12 months		Last 3 months	
	Number in thousands	Percent	95% confidence interval	Percent	95% confidence interval	Percent	95% confidence interval
Total <sup>1</sup> . . . . .	10,777	43.1	38.1–48.1	38.1	33.4–42.8	28.7	24.2–33.2
Never-married male							
Total <sup>1</sup> . . . . .	10,676	42.6	37.5–47.7	37.5	32.7–42.2	28.1	23.5–32.6
Hispanic origin and race <sup>2</sup>							
Hispanic or Latino . . . . .	1,870	45.2	38.2–52.1	40.9	35.0–46.7	27.3	21.7–32.9
Non-Hispanic white . . . . .	6,368	38.3	31.4–45.2	34.6	27.8–41.4	26.1	19.3–32.8
Non-Hispanic black . . . . .	1,655	60.6	50.7–70.4	49.3	40.7–57.8	37.7	30.0–45.4
Hispanic origin and race <sup>3</sup>							
Hispanic or Latino . . . . .	1,870	45.2	38.2–52.1	40.9	35.0–46.7	27.3	21.7–32.9
Not Hispanic or Latino:							
White, single race . . . . .	6,128	38.9	31.8–46.0	35.1	28.2–42.1	26.6	19.7–33.5
Black or African American, single race . . . . .	1,558	60.9	50.7–71.1	49.7	41.0–58.4	37.6	29.7–45.4

<sup>1</sup>Includes persons of other or multiple race and origin groups, not shown separately.<sup>2</sup>The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) classification beginning in 1977.<sup>3</sup>OMB classification beginning in 1997.

NOTES: Table IV corresponds to Table 4 in "Detailed Tables." Numbers and percentages reflect heterosexual vaginal sexual intercourse only, not other types of sexual activity.

SOURCE: CDC/NCHS, National Survey of Family Growth (2006–2008).



**Table V. Frequency of sex in the past 4 weeks for females and males aged 15–19, by Hispanic origin and race: United States, 2006–2008**

Characteristic	Number in thousands	Percent distribution	Frequency of sexual intercourse					
			0 times		1–3 times		4 or more times	
			Percent	95% confidence interval	Percent	95% confidence interval	Percent	95% confidence interval
<b>Female</b>								
Total <sup>1</sup> . . . . .	10,431	100.0	74.6	71.2–78.0	12.5	9.7–15.2	12.9	10.9–15.0
Never-married female:								
Total <sup>1</sup> . . . . .	10,283	100.0	75.5	72.1–78.9	12.7	9.9–15.4	11.8	9.8–13.9
Hispanic origin and race: <sup>2</sup>								
Hispanic or Latina . . . . .	1,735	100.0	79.4	72.6–86.3	10.0	5.1–14.8	10.6	6.1–15.0
Non-Hispanic white . . . . .	6,299	100.0	75.7	71.2–80.1	10.7	7.6–13.8	13.7	10.2–17.2
Non-Hispanic black . . . . .	1,685	100.0	69.4	60.9–77.9	22.1	12.4–31.7	8.5	5.0–12.1
Hispanic origin and race: <sup>3</sup>								
Hispanic or Latina . . . . .	1,735	100.0	79.4	72.6–86.3	10.0	5.1–14.8	10.6	6.1–15.0
Not Hispanic or Latina:								
White, single race . . . . .	6,126	100.0	75.5	71.0–80.0	10.7	7.6–13.8	13.8	10.3–17.3
Black or African American, single race . . . . .	1,606	100.0	70.5	61.5–79.5	20.9	10.9–30.9	8.6	5.0–12.2
<b>Male</b>								
Total <sup>1</sup> . . . . .	10,777	100.0	78.2	74.7–81.6	11.4	8.9–13.8	10.5	8.1–12.9
Never-married male:								
Total <sup>1</sup> . . . . .	10,676	100.0	78.9	75.5–82.4	11.4	8.9–13.9	9.7	7.4–11.9
Hispanic origin and race: <sup>2</sup>								
Hispanic or Latino . . . . .	1,870	100.0	81.3	75.7–86.9	9.1	5.6–12.6	9.6	5.2–14.0
Non-Hispanic white . . . . .	6,368	100.0	79.9	75.9–84.0	9.6	6.6–12.6	10.5	7.4–13.7
Non-Hispanic black . . . . .	1,655	100.0	71.5	64.3–78.7	19.3	13.3–25.3	9.2	4.7–13.6
Hispanic origin and race: <sup>3</sup>								
Hispanic or Latino . . . . .	1,870	100.0	81.3	75.7–86.9	9.1	5.6–12.6	9.6	5.2–14.0
Not Hispanic or Latino:								
White, single race . . . . .	6,128	100.0	79.6	75.5–83.8	9.8	6.7–12.9	10.6	7.3–13.8
Black or African American, single race . . . . .	1,558	100.0	71.9	64.6–79.2	19.6	12.9–26.2	8.6	4.2–12.9

<sup>1</sup>Includes persons of other or multiple race and origin groups, not shown separately.

<sup>2</sup>The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) classification beginning in 1977.

<sup>3</sup>OMB classification beginning in 1997.

NOTES: Table V corresponds to Table 5 in "Detailed Tables." Numbers and percentages reflect heterosexual vaginal sexual intercourse only, not other types of sexual activity. Percentages may not add to 100 due to rounding.

SOURCE: CDC/NCHS, National Survey of Family Growth (2006–2008).

**Table VI. Relationship with partner at first sex for males and females aged 15–19, by Hispanic origin and race: United States, 2006–2008**

Characteristic	Number in thousands	Percent distribution <sup>1</sup>	Just met or just friends		Going out once in a while		Going steady		Cohabiting, engaged, or married	
			Percent	95% confidence interval	Percent	95% confidence interval	Percent	95% confidence interval	Percent	95% confidence interval
<b>Female</b>										
Total <sup>2</sup> . . . . .	4,425	100.0	13.8	9.9–17.6	8.2	5.3–11.0	71.9	66.1–77.7	3.4	0.6– 6.2
Hispanic origin and race: <sup>3</sup>										
Hispanic or Latina . . . . .	819	100.0	6.1	0.8–11.3	8.8	2.6–15.0	75.1	60.7–89.5	9.1	0.0–22.0
Non-Hispanic white . . . . .	2,592	100.0	14.7	9.4–20.0	8.4	4.2–12.6	70.9	63.7–78.0	2.4	0.4– 4.4
Non-Hispanic black . . . . .	782	100.0	19.8	8.0–31.6	5.9	1.5–10.2	69.7	59.0–80.5	*	*
Hispanic origin and race: <sup>4</sup>										
Hispanic or Latina . . . . .	819	100.0	6.1	0.8–11.3	8.8	2.6–15.0	75.1	60.7–89.5	9.1	0.0–22.0
Not Hispanic or Latina:										
White, single race . . . . .	2,490	100.0	14.7	9.3–20.1	8.6	4.3–13.0	70.5	63.2–77.8	2.4	0.3– 4.4
Black or African American, single race . . . . .	725	100.0	20.1	8.1–32.1	4.6	1.4– 7.9	70.3	58.7–81.8	*	*
<b>Male</b>										
Total <sup>2</sup> . . . . .	4,647	100.0	25.1	19.8–30.3	14.7	10.8–18.7	56.2	50.5–61.9	2.0	0.0– 4.3
Hispanic origin and race: <sup>3</sup>										
Hispanic or Latino . . . . .	866	100.0	30.1	21.2–39.0	13.6	4.9–22.3	46.2	35.7–56.8	9.4	0.0–19.5
Non-Hispanic white . . . . .	2,518	100.0	25.2	17.1–33.3	9.6	5.0–14.2	62.4	54.7–70.2	*	*
Non-Hispanic black . . . . .	1003	100.0	21.7	13.3–30.1	24.0	13.7–34.2	51.9	41.0–62.7	*	*
Hispanic origin and race: <sup>4</sup>										
Hispanic or Latino . . . . .	866	100.0	30.1	21.2–39.0	13.6	4.9–22.3	46.2	35.7–56.8	9.4	0.0–19.5
Not Hispanic or Latino:										
White, single race . . . . .	2,461	100.0	25.5	17.2–33.7	9.7	5.1–14.4	62.0	54.0–70.0	*	*
Black or African American, single race . . . . .	949	100.0	22.1	13.4–30.8	23.7	12.7–34.7	51.6	40.4–62.9	*	*

0.0 Quantity more than zero but less than 0.05.

\* Figure does not meet standard of reliability of precision.

<sup>1</sup>Includes persons in "other" types of relationships, not shown separately.<sup>2</sup>Includes persons of other or multiple race and origin groups, not shown separately.<sup>3</sup>The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) classification beginning in 1977.<sup>4</sup>OMB classification beginning in 1997.

NOTES: Table VI corresponds to Table 6 in "Detailed Tables." Numbers and percentages reflect heterosexual vaginal sexual intercourse only, not other types of sexual activity.

SOURCE: CDC/NCHS, National Survey of Family Growth (2006–2008).

**Table VII. Number of male sexual partners in the 12 months prior to the interview for females aged 15–19, by Hispanic origin and race: United States, 2006–2008**

Characteristic	Number in thousands	Percent distribution	Number of partners in last 12 months										
			Never had sex		Had sex but not in last 12 months		1			2–3		4 or more	
			Percent	95% confidence interval	Percent	95% confidence interval	Percent	95% confidence interval	Percent	95% confidence interval	Percent	95% confidence interval	
Total <sup>1</sup>	10,431	100.0	57.6	52.7–62.5	3.5	2.3–4.7	25.3	20.2–28.4	10.3	8.1–12.8	3.3	2.1–4.5	
Never-married female													
Total <sup>1</sup>	10,283	100.0	58.4	8.4–11.0	3.5	0.4–0.8	24.3	3.4– 4.7	10.5	2.1–10.5	3.3	0.7–3.3	
Hispanic origin and race <sup>2</sup>													
Hispanic or Latina	1,735	100.0	57.3	48.1–66.4	5.5	1.7–9.3	26.1	18.2–34.0	7.2	2.7–12.5	3.5	0.7–6.3	
Non-Hispanic white	6,299	100.0	59.9	53.5–66.3	3.1	1.5–4.7	22.3	17.4–27.2	11.5	8.1–14.8	3.2	1.5–4.9	
Non-Hispanic black	1,685	100.0	53.6	43.9–63.3	3.0	1.3–4.8	29.6	20.7–38.5	11.8	5.4–18.2	1.9	0.1–3.8	
Hispanic origin and race <sup>3</sup>													
Hispanic or Latina	1,735	100.0	57.3	48.1–66.4	5.5	1.7–9.3	26.1	18.2–34.0	7.2	2.7–12.5	3.5	0.7–6.3	
Not Hispanic or Latina:													
White, single race	6,126	100.0	60.3	54.2–66.5	3.1	1.4–4.8	21.9	17.0–26.8	11.4	8.0–14.7	3.3	1.6–5.1	
Black or African American, single race	1,606	100.0	54.9	45.0–64.7	3.1	1.3–4.9	28.9	19.8–38.0	11.1	4.3–17.8	2.0	0.1–4.0	

<sup>1</sup>Includes persons of other or multiple race and origin groups, not shown separately.

<sup>2</sup>The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) classification beginning in 1977.

<sup>3</sup>OMB classification beginning in 1997.

NOTES: Table VII corresponds to Table 7 in "Detailed Tables." Numbers and percentages reflect heterosexual vaginal sexual intercourse only, not other types of sexual activity.

SOURCE: CDC/NCHS, National Survey of Family Growth (2006–2008).

**Table VIII. Number of female sexual partners in the 12 months prior to the interview for males aged 15–19, by Hispanic origin and race: United States, 2006–2008**

Characteristic	Number in thousands	Percent distribution	Number of partners in last 12 months										
			Never had sex		Had sex but not in last 12 months		1			2–3		4 or more	
			Percent	95% confidence interval	Percent	95% confidence interval	Percent	95% confidence interval	Percent	95% confidence interval	Percent	95% confidence interval	
Total <sup>1</sup> . . . . .	10,777	100.0	56.9	51.9–61.9	5.0	3.4– 6.7	21.9	18.1–25.6	12.1	9.2–14.9	4.1	2.8–5.4	
Never–married male													
Total <sup>1</sup> . . . . .	10,676	100.0	57.4	52.3–62.5	5.1	3.4– 6.7	21.5	17.8–25.2	12.0	9.1–14.9	4.0	2.7–5.2	
Hispanic origin and race <sup>2</sup>													
Hispanic or Latino . . . . .	1,870	100.0	54.8	47.9–61.8	4.3	2.0– 6.6	28.2	21.0–35.4	10.6	5.0–16.2	2.1	0.8–3.4	
Non-Hispanic white . . . . .	6,368	100.0	61.7	54.8–68.6	3.7	1.7– 5.7	19.1	14.1–24.2	11.4	7.6–15.3	4.1	2.4–5.7	
Non-Hispanic black . . . . .	1,655	100.0	39.4	29.6–49.3	11.3	5.9–16.8	24.1	17.2–31.0	19.3	13.1–25.4	5.9	2.5–9.3	
Hispanic origin and race <sup>3</sup>													
Hispanic or Latino . . . . .	1,870	100.0	54.8	47.9–61.8	4.3	2.0– 6.6	28.2	21.0–35.4	10.6	5.0–16.2	2.1	0.8–3.4	
Not Hispanic or Latino: . . . . .													
White, single race . . . . .	6,128	100.0	61.1	54.0–68.2	3.7	1.6– 5.8	19.1	13.8–24.4	11.9	7.9–15.8	4.2	2.5–5.9	
Black or African American, single race . . . . .	1,558	100.0	39.1	28.9–49.3	11.2	5.6–16.8	25.2	17.8–32.5	18.3	12.1–24.5	6.2	2.7–9.8	

<sup>1</sup>Includes persons of other or multiple race and origin groups, not shown separately.

<sup>2</sup>The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) classification beginning in 1977.

<sup>3</sup>OMB classification beginning in 1997.

NOTE: Table VIII corresponds to Table 8 in "Detailed Tables." Numbers and percentages reflect heterosexual vaginal sexual intercourse only, not other types of sexual activity.

SOURCE: CDC/NCHS, National Survey of Family Growth (2006–2008).

**Table IX. Number of male sexual partners in lifetime for females aged 15–19, by Hispanic origin and race: United States, 2006–2008**

Characteristic	Number in thousands	Percent distribution	Number of partners in lifetime							
			0		1		2–3		4 or more	
			Percent	95% confidence interval	Percent	95% confidence interval	Percent	95% confidence interval	Percent	95% confidence interval
Total <sup>1</sup>	10,431	100.0	57.6	52.6–62.4	16.4	13.5–19.8	12.3	9.9–15.3	13.7	11.0–16.9
Never-married female										
Total <sup>1</sup>	10,283	100.0	58.4	53.4–63.3	15.8	12.9–19.3	12.2	9.7–15.2	13.6	10.9–16.9
Hispanic origin and race <sup>2</sup>										
Hispanic or Latina	1,735	100.0	57.3	48.0–66.1	23.9	17.4–32.0	10.0	5.8–16.6	8.8	4.7–15.9
Non-Hispanic white	6,299	100.0	59.9	53.3–66.1	12.8	9.6–16.8	12.2	9.1–16.3	15.2	11.5–19.7
Non-Hispanic black	1,685	100.0	53.6	43.9–63.0	16.6	10.4–25.4	15.2	9.6–23.3	14.6	10.5–20.0
Hispanic origin and race <sup>3</sup>										
Hispanic or Latina	1,735	100.0	57.3	48.0–66.1	23.9	17.4–32.0	10.0	5.8–16.6	8.8	4.7–15.9
Not Hispanic or Latina:										
White, single race	6,126	100.0	60.3	54.1–66.3	12.6	9.3–16.8	11.9	8.9–15.8	15.1	11.5–19.8
Black or African American, single race	1,606	100.0	54.9	45.0–64.4	15.9	9.7–25.0	14.8	9.0–23.4	14.5	10.4–19.9

<sup>1</sup>Includes persons of other or multiple race and origin groups, not shown separately.<sup>2</sup>The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) classification beginning in 1977.<sup>3</sup>OMB classification beginning in 1997.

NOTES: Table IX corresponds to Table 9 in "Detailed Tables." Numbers and percentages reflect heterosexual vaginal sexual intercourse only, not other types of sexual activity. Percents may not add to 100 due to rounding.

SOURCE: CDC/NCHS, National Survey of Family Growth (2006–2008).

**Table X. Number of female sexual partners in lifetime for males aged 15–19, by Hispanic origin and race: United States, 2006–2008**

Characteristic	Number in thousands	Percent distribution	Number of partners in lifetime							
			0		1		2–3		4 or more	
			Percent	95% confidence interval	Percent	95% confidence interval	Percent	95% confidence interval	Percent	95% confidence interval
Total <sup>1</sup>	10,777	100.0	56.9	51.8–61.8	14.4	11.3–18.3	13.0	10.5–15.9	15.7	13.4–18.3
Never-married male										
Total <sup>1</sup>	10,676	100.0	57.4	52.3–62.4	14.5	11.3–18.4	12.6	10.3–15.3	15.5	13.2–18.1
Hispanic origin and race <sup>2</sup>										
Hispanic or Latino	1,870	100.0	54.8	47.8–61.7	14.5	10.1–20.4	13.8	10.3–18.4	16.8	12.1–22.9
Non-Hispanic white	6,368	100.0	61.7	54.6–68.3	14.2	10.0–19.9	9.9	7.0–13.8	14.2	11.3–17.7
Non-Hispanic black	1,655	100.0	39.4	30.1–49.6	16.4	9.6–26.5	22.3	15.6–30.8	21.9	17.0–27.8
Hispanic origin and race <sup>3</sup>										
Hispanic or Latino	1,870	100.0	54.8	47.8–61.7	14.5	10.1–20.4	13.8	10.3–18.4	16.8	12.1–22.9
Not Hispanic or Latino:										
White, single race	6,128	100.0	61.1	53.9–68.0	14.1	9.7–20.1	10.1	7.2–14.0	14.7	11.7–18.3
Black or African American, single race	1,558	100.0	39.1	29.5–49.7	16.9	9.9–27.4	23.2	16.1–32.2	20.8	16.2–26.4

<sup>1</sup>Includes persons of other or multiple race and origin groups, not shown separately.<sup>2</sup>The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) classification beginning in 1977.<sup>3</sup>OMB classification beginning in 1997.

NOTES: Table X corresponds to Table 10 in "Detailed Tables." Numbers and percentages reflect heterosexual vaginal sexual intercourse only, not other types of sexual activity. Percentages may not add to 100 due to rounding.

SOURCE: CDC/NCHS, National Survey of Family Growth (2006–2008).

**Table XI. Nonvoluntary first sex for females 18–24 years of age at interview whose first sex was before age 20, by Hispanic origin and race: United States, 2006–2008**

Characteristic	First intercourse was not voluntary <sup>1</sup>		
	Number in thousands	Percent	95% confidence interval
Total <sup>2</sup> . . . . .	10,139	7.1	5.2– 9.0
Hispanic origin and race <sup>3</sup>			
Hispanic or Latina . . . . .	1,780	6.4	1.1–11.8
Non-Hispanic white . . . . .	6,048	7.9	5.2–10.6
Non-Hispanic black . . . . .	1,786	5.6	2.2– 9.0
Hispanic origin and race <sup>4</sup>			
Hispanic or Latina . . . . .	1,780	6.4	1.1–11.8
Not Hispanic or Latina:			
White, single race . . . . .	5,810	7.4	4.9– 9.8
Black or African American, single race. . . . .	1,699	5.9	2.4– 9.5

<sup>1</sup>See "Definitions of Terms" for question and response wording.

<sup>2</sup>Includes persons of other or multiple race and origin groups, not shown separately.

<sup>3</sup>The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) classification beginning in 1977.

<sup>4</sup>OMB classification beginning in 1997.

NOTE: Table XI corresponds to Table 11 in "Detailed Tables."

SOURCE: CDC/NCHS, National Survey of Family Growth (2006–2008).

**Table XII. How much first sex was wanted when it happened for females and males aged 18–24 at interview who had first sex before age 20, by Hispanic origin and race: United States, 2006–2008**

Characteristic	Number in thousands	Percent distribution	How much first sex was wanted <sup>1</sup>						
			I really didn't want it to happen at the time		I had mixed feelings — part of me wanted it to happen at the time and part of me didn't		I really wanted it to happen at the time		
			Percent	95% confidence interval	Percent	95% confidence interval	Percent	95% confidence interval	
<b>Female</b>									
Total <sup>2</sup> . . . . .	10,139	100.0	9.8	7.8–11.8	47.1	43.0–51.1	43.1	39.1–47.1	
Hispanic origin and race: <sup>3</sup>									
Hispanic or Latina . . . . .	1,780	100.0	10.4	5.4–15.4	44.6	34.0–55.3	45.0	34.7–55.2	
Non-Hispanic white . . . . .	6,048	100.0	9.0	6.5–11.5	46.0	40.4–51.5	45.0	39.2–50.8	
Non-Hispanic black . . . . .	1,786	100.0	12.4	7.3–17.5	52.8	44.0–61.6	34.8	24.9–44.6	
Hispanic origin and race: <sup>4</sup>									
Hispanic or Latina . . . . .	1,780	100.0	10.4	5.4–15.4	44.6	34.0–55.3	45.0	34.7–55.2	
Not Hispanic or Latina:									
White, single race . . . . .	5,810	100.0	8.3	6.0–10.6	46.6	41.1–52.2	45.0	39.3–50.8	
Black or African American, single race . . . . .	1,699	100.0	13.1	7.8–18.3	54.4	45.8–63.0	32.6	23.4–41.7	
<b>Male</b>									
Total <sup>2</sup> . . . . .	10,171	100.0	4.8	2.9– 6.7	33.5	28.7–38.3	61.7	56.6–66.8	
Hispanic origin and race: <sup>3</sup>									
Hispanic or Latino . . . . .	2,149	100.0	7.2	2.5–11.9	38.7	25.2–52.1	54.1	42.1–66.1	
Non-Hispanic white . . . . .	6,073	100.0	3.7	1.4– 5.9	28.5	23.7–33.3	67.8	62.7–73.0	
Non-Hispanic black . . . . .	1,692	100.0	6.4	0.7–12.1	42.0	33.9–50.1	51.6	42.1–61.1	
Hispanic origin and race: <sup>4</sup>									
Hispanic or Latino . . . . .	2,149	100.0	7.2	2.5–11.9	38.7	25.2–52.1	54.1	42.1–66.1	
Not Hispanic or Latino:									
White, single race . . . . .	5,980	100.0	3.7	1.4– 5.9	28.0	23.2–32.9	68.3	63.2–73.4	
Black or African American, single race . . . . .	1,552	100.0	7.0	0.8–13.1	43.1	34.3–51.9	50.0	39.7–60.2	

<sup>1</sup>Based on a response to a question in the self-administered portion of the questionnaire asking which of the three responses comes closest to describing how much he/she wanted the first intercourse to happen.

<sup>2</sup>Includes persons of other or multiple race and origin groups, not shown separately.

<sup>3</sup>The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) classification beginning in 1977.

<sup>4</sup>OMB classification beginning in 1997.

NOTES: Table XII corresponds to Table 12 in "Detailed Tables." Numbers and percentages reflect heterosexual vaginal sexual intercourse only, not other types of sexual activity.

SOURCE: CDC/NCHS, National Survey of Family Growth (2006–2008).

**Table XIII. Number of never-married females and males 15–19 years of age who had sexual intercourse in the 4 weeks prior to the interview, and percent distribution by consistency of condom use, by Hispanic origin and race: United States, 2006–2008**

Characteristic	Number in thousands	Percent distribution	Frequency of condom use					
			None		Some		Every time	
			Percent	95% confidence interval	Percent	95% confidence interval	Percent	95% confidence interval
<b>Female</b>								
Total <sup>1</sup>	2,525	100.0	36.1	29.7–42.6	12.2	7.1–17.4	51.6	43.5–59.8
Hispanic origin and race: <sup>2</sup>								
Hispanic or Latina	357	100.0	43.0	24.2–61.8	17.7	1.5–34.0	39.3	22.1–56.5
Non-Hispanic white	1,533	100.0	38.3	28.7–47.9	11.8	6.3–17.2	49.9	39.1–60.8
Non-Hispanic black	515	100.0	25.3	13.1–37.4	9.7	2.5–16.9	65.1	50.1–80.0
Hispanic origin and race: <sup>3</sup>								
Hispanic or Latina	357	100.0	43.0	24.2–61.8	17.7	1.5–34.0	39.3	22.1–56.5
Not Hispanic or Latina:								
White, single race	1,502	100.0	38.2	28.6–47.9	12.0	6.4–17.6	49.8	38.8–60.7
Black or African American, single race	474	100.0	26.4	13.5–39.3	8.8	1.6–16.0	64.7	49.4–80.1
<b>Male</b>								
Total <sup>1</sup>	2,362	100.0	19.9	14.3–27.0	8.8	5.3–14.5	71.3	64.5–77.3
Hispanic origin and race: <sup>2</sup>								
Hispanic or Latino	355	100.0	27.5	16.6–41.8	8.6	4.7–15.0	64.0	50.7–75.4
Non-Hispanic white	1,279	100.0	18.0	10.8–28.2	10.9	5.6–20.2	71.2	60.5–79.9
Non-Hispanic black	472	100.0	14.0	6.2–28.7	5.7	2.3–13.4	80.3	66.1–89.5
Hispanic origin and race: <sup>3</sup>								
Hispanic or Latino	355	100.0	27.5	16.6–41.8	8.6	4.7–15.0	64.0	50.7–75.4
Not Hispanic or Latino:								
White, single race	1,248	100.0	16.8	9.8–27.2	10.9	5.5–20.6	72.3	61.5–81.0
Black or African American, single race	438	100.0	15.1	6.7–30.4	5.8	2.3–14.2	79.1	64.2–88.8

<sup>1</sup>Includes persons of other or multiple race and origin groups, not shown separately.<sup>2</sup>The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) classification beginning in 1977.<sup>3</sup>OMB classification beginning in 1997.

NOTES: Table XIII corresponds to Table 16 in "Detailed Tables." Numbers and percentages reflect heterosexual vaginal sexual intercourse only, not other types of sexual activity. Percentages may not add to 100 due to rounding.

SOURCE: CDC/NCHS, National Survey of Family Growth (2006–2008).

**Table XIV. Probability of a first birth by age 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, and 20 for females aged 15–24, by Hispanic origin and race: United States, 2006–2008**

Characteristic	Number in thousands	Probability of a first birth by age—					
		15	16	17	18	19	20
Total <sup>1</sup>	20,570	0.00	0.01	0.04	0.08	0.13	0.18
Hispanic origin and race: <sup>2</sup>							
Hispanic or Latina	3,517	0.01	0.03	0.09	0.16	0.23	0.30
Non-Hispanic white	12,715	0.00	0.01	0.03	0.05	0.10	0.14
Non-Hispanic black	3,201	0.00	0.01	0.04	0.09	0.17	0.25
Hispanic origin and race: <sup>3</sup>							
Hispanic or Latina	3,517	0.01	0.03	0.09	0.16	0.23	0.30
Not Hispanic or Latina:							
White, single race	12,308	0.00	0.01	0.02	0.05	0.09	0.13
Black or African American, single race	3,046	0.00	0.01	0.04	0.10	0.18	0.27

0.00 Quantity more than zero but less than 0.05.

<sup>1</sup>Includes persons of other or multiple race and origin groups, not shown separately.<sup>2</sup>The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) classification beginning in 1977.<sup>3</sup>OMB classification beginning in 1997.

NOTES: Table XIV corresponds to Table 17 in "Detailed Tables." Probabilities were calculated using the life table procedure in SAS.

SOURCE: CDC/NCHS, National Survey of Family Growth 2006–2008.



**Table XV. Main reason for never having had sex for females and males aged 15–19 who have never had sex, by Hispanic origin and race: United States, 2006–2008**

Gender and reason	Hispanic origin and race <sup>1</sup>						Hispanic origin and race <sup>2</sup>							
	Hispanic or Latina		Not Hispanic or Latina				Hispanic or Latina		Not Hispanic or Latina					
			Non-Hispanic white		Non-Hispanic black				White, single race		Black or African American, single race			
Female	Number in thousands													
Total <sup>3</sup>	974		3,760				894		974		3,684		872	
	Percent distribution	95% confidence interval	Percent distribution	95% confidence interval	Percent distribution	95% confidence interval	Percent distribution	95% confidence interval	Percent distribution	95% confidence interval	Percent distribution	95% confidence interval		
Total	100.0	---	100.0	---	100.0	---	100.0	---	100.0	---	100.0	---		
Reason didn't have sex:														
Against religion or morals	30.9	22.2–41.1	47.3	38.0–56.8	31.1	18.4–47.5	30.9	22.2–41.1	47.4	38.3–56.6	31.6	18.6–48.4		
Don't want to get pregnant	19.1	13.6–26.2	16.6	11.0–24.3	19.8	11.9–31.2	19.1	13.6–26.2	16.6	10.9–24.4	20.3	12.2–31.9		
Don't want to get a sexually transmitted disease	8.1	4.4–14.5	4.4	2.2– 8.4	11.8	7.1–19.0	8.1	4.4–14.5	4.4	2.2– 8.4	12.1	7.3–19.5		
Haven't found the right person yet	16.6	10.1–26.2	18.6	13.3–25.3	13.3	7.4–22.8	16.6	10.1–26.2	18.7	13.4–25.4	13.6	7.6–23.2		
In a relationship, but waiting for the right time	10.3	5.6–18.3	5.5	2.9–10.0	12.7	6.6–23.1	10.3	5.6–18.3	5.5	3.0–10.1	13.0	6.7–23.6		
Other reason	14.9	7.9–26.5	7.7	4.9–12.1	11.3	4.9–23.8	14.9	7.9–26.5	7.5	4.7–11.9	9.4	3.5–23.0		
Male	Number in thousands <sup>3</sup>													
Total	1,007		3,918				639		1,007		3,735		596	
	Percent distribution	95% confidence interval	Percent distribution	95% confidence interval	Percent distribution	95% confidence interval	Percent distribution	95% confidence interval	Percent distribution	95% confidence interval	Percent distribution	95% confidence interval		
Total	100.0	---	100.0	---	100.0	---	100.0	---	100.0	---	100.0	---		
Reason didn't have sex:														
Against religion or morals	27.4	19.2–37.4	37.0	29.8–44.7	29.9	17.0–47.0	27.4	19.2–37.4	37.6	30.3–45.5	31.0	17.6–48.6		
Don't want to get (a female) pregnant	12.1	8.4–17.1	12.2	8.1–18.0	18.3	9.8–31.5	12.1	8.4–17.1	12.8	8.6–18.8	19.6	10.4–33.9		
Don't want to get a sexually transmitted disease	12.3	6.0–23.6	4.4	2.7– 6.9	16.6	9.4–27.5	12.3	6.0–23.6	4.4	2.7– 7.1	15.5	8.6–26.4		
Haven't found the right person yet	30.4	20.2–43.0	26.5	21.1–32.7	17.5	10.4–27.9	30.4	20.2–43.0	26.9	21.3–33.3	17.9	10.2–29.5		
In a relationship, but waiting for the right time	6.5	3.3–12.7	10.8	7.2–15.9	8.1	2.7–21.9	6.5	3.3–12.7	10.3	6.9–15.3	7.7	2.3–22.8		
Other reason	11.3	3.4–31.6	9.1	6.0–13.7	9.6	4.3–20.1	11.3	3.4–31.6	7.9	5.3–11.7	8.3	3.3–19.3		

--- Category not applicable.

<sup>1</sup>OMB classification beginning in 1977.

<sup>2</sup>OMB classification beginning in 1997.

<sup>3</sup>Includes persons of other or multiple race and origin groups, not shown separately.

NOTE: Table XV corresponds to Table 18 in "Detailed Tables." Sex refers to heterosexual vaginal sexual intercourse only, not other types of sexual activity.

SOURCE: CDC/NCHS, National Survey of Family Growth (2006–2008).

**Table XVI. Responses to the statement “If you got pregnant now/got a female pregnant now, how would you feel?” for never-married females and males aged 15–19, by Hispanic origin and race: United States, 2006–2008**

Responses	Number in thousands	Percent distribution	Very upset		A little upset		A little pleased		Very pleased	
			Percent	95% confidence interval	Percent	95% confidence interval	Percent	95% confidence interval	Percent	95% confidence interval
<b>Female</b>										
Total <sup>1</sup> . . . . .	10,283	100.0	57.6	53.0–62.0	28.5	25.2–32.0	8.8	6.7–11.6	4.9	3.3– 7.1
Hispanic origin and race: <sup>2</sup>										
Hispanic or Latina . . . . .	1,735	100.0	53.2	44.4–61.9	26.5	18.9–35.9	14.2	7.8–24.7	6.0	3.2–10.9
Non-Hispanic white . . . . .	6,299	100.0	62.8	57.0–68.3	27.9	23.6–32.7	5.8	3.4– 9.7	3.4	1.8– 6.6
Non-Hispanic black . . . . .	1,685	100.0	42.3	34.1–51.0	36.2	28.7–44.4	9.7	6.4–14.6	10.3	6.2–16.7
Hispanic origin and race: <sup>3</sup>										
Hispanic or Latina . . . . .	1,735	100.0	53.2	44.4–61.9	26.5	18.9–35.9	14.2	7.8–24.7	6.0	3.2–10.9
Not Hispanic or Latina:										
White, single race . . . . .	6,126	100.0	63.2	57.2–68.8	27.7	23.5–32.3	5.9	3.4– 9.9	3.2	1.6– 6.5
Black or African American, single race . . . . .	1,606	100.0	43.2	34.4–52.4	36.0	28.4–44.3	9.6	6.2–14.5	10.5	6.2–17.3
<b>Male</b>										
Total <sup>1</sup> . . . . .	10,676	100.0	47.0	42.3–51.8	34.3	30.6–38.2	13.4	10.4–17.0	4.1	3.0– 5.7
Hispanic origin and race: <sup>2</sup>										
Hispanic or Latino . . . . .	1,870	100.0	25.3	16.0–37.6	37.1	29.7–45.3	27.3	19.2–37.2	9.7	5.5–16.8
Non-Hispanic white . . . . .	6,368	100.0	56.6	51.3–61.7	33.1	28.1–38.5	8.0	5.6–11.2	1.8	.9– 3.5
Non-Hispanic black . . . . .	1,655	100.0	32.6	23.8–42.8	40.3	32.3–48.8	19.3	13.8–26.3	7.2	4.5–11.4
Hispanic origin and race: <sup>3</sup>										
Hispanic or Latino . . . . .	1,870	100.0	25.3	16.0–37.6	37.1	29.7–45.3	27.3	19.2–37.2	9.7	5.5–16.8
Not Hispanic or Latino:										
White, single race . . . . .	6,128	100.0	57.3	52.0–62.5	33.5	28.4–39.0	6.7	4.7– 9.6	1.9	0.9– 3.6
Black or African American, single race . . . . .	1,558	100.0	32.5	23.2–43.3	39.2	30.8–48.3	20.4	14.6–27.6	7.4	4.5–11.9

<sup>1</sup>Includes persons of other or multiple race and origin groups, not shown separately.

<sup>2</sup>The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) classification beginning in 1977.

<sup>3</sup>OMB classification beginning in 1997.

NOTES: Table XVI corresponds to Table 21 in “Detailed Tables.” Percentages may not add to 100 because responses of “would not care” (coded only if respondent insisted) are not shown separately.

SOURCE: CDC/NCHS, National Survey of Family Growth (2006–2008).

## Appendix II: Definitions of Terms

This appendix defines the terms corresponding to data from the 2006–2008 NSFG. The definitions of measures from the 1995 and 1988 NSFG and the 1995 and 1998 NSAM can be found in Appendix II, p. 52, of *“Sexual Activity and Contraceptive Practices Among Teenagers in the United States, 1988 and 1995,”* a prior report in this series published in 2001 (2). That report also contains a table of question wording for key measures, for easy comparability (Table XV, p. 21). For definitions of measures in 2002, see Abma et al. 2004 (1). Any changes in questions and question design between years were done with the goal of maintaining comparability as a top priority. These definitions are sorted alphabetically within two groups: the sexual activity and contraceptive use measures, and the demographic characteristics and family background measures.

### Sexual Activity, Contraceptive Use, and Childbearing Measures

*Age at first sexual intercourse*—Age at first sexual intercourse is defined as the respondent’s age when he or she first had heterosexual, vaginal intercourse. (Female recode = VRY1STAG): In the female questionnaire, it was based primarily on the following question:

*“Thinking about the very first time in your life that you had sexual intercourse with a man, how old were you?”*

In cases where the respondent refused to provide or did not know the age, but did provide the date of first intercourse, it was based on this date. Respondents who did not know their age at first intercourse were allowed to estimate their age (that is: between 15 and 18 or between 18 and 20) and this estimate was used when age and date were missing.

(Male recode = VRY1STAG): For males, the information could come from

one of several different places in the questionnaire. If the respondent’s first sex was with a partner within the past 12 months, the date of the first (or only) sex with that partner was used to calculate his age. If the respondent’s first sex was with his wife or cohabiting partner, the date of the first sex with that partner was used to calculate his age. Only respondents whose first sex was with a partner before the 12 months prior to the interview, who was not a current wife or cohabiting partner, were asked the direct question:

*“That very first time that you had sexual intercourse with a female, how old were you?”*

These respondents were allowed to respond to questions estimating the age, if the exact age was unknown, as in the female questionnaire.

*Age of first male partner*—(Female recode = FSEXPAGE): This measure is based primarily on a direct question asking:

*“How old was your first partner when you had sexual intercourse with him that first time?”*

If the respondent did not know or refused to report the first male partner’s age, she was asked to estimate his age relative to hers by choosing one of the following categories “1–2 years older,” “3–5 years older,” “6–10 years older,” “more than 10 years older,” “the same age,” “1–2 years younger,” “3–5 years younger,” “6–10 years younger,” or “more than 10 years younger.”

*Consistency of condom use in the past 4 weeks*—For females, this was determined by two questions: one asking for the number of times the respondent had sex in the past 4 weeks (see definition for “Frequency of sex in the past 4 weeks”) and another question asking for the number of those times a condom was used. For those who had only had sex once, this question was worded simply:

*“Did you use a condom?”*

For those who had had sex more than once, the question was:

*“How many of those times did you use a condom?”*

For males, the measure was determined in the same way. See definition for “Frequency of sex in the past 4 weeks” for males. Following the question about frequency of sex, males were asked:

*“And, in the last 4 weeks, how many of the times that you had sexual intercourse with a female did you use a condom?”*

*Contraceptive use at first sexual intercourse*—(Female recode = SEX1MTHD1–4): This variable is defined only for women. The recode describes whether any method was used the first time a woman had intercourse, and if so, what method(s). Since this recode is a series of four, it reflects up to four possible contraceptive methods used at the same time. This enables analysis of multiple method use and avoids coding only one hierarchically ranked method when more were used.

*Contraceptive use at last sex in the 3 months prior to interview*—(Female recode = MTHUSE3, METH3M1–METH3M4): This is defined for respondents who had sex in the past 3 months. For most respondents it is based on direct questions about method use with the last partner in the past 12 months, worded:

*“Looking at Card 33, the last time you had intercourse with [name of partner] in [date of last sex with him], did you or he use any method?”*

and

*“Which method or methods on Card 33 did you or he use?”*

If the respondent’s only partner in the past 3 months was her first partner ever, and she had only had sex with him once, method use is taken from recode SEX1MTHD1, which is described for the measure “Contraceptive use at first sexual intercourse.”

(Male recode = METH3M1–METH3M4): This is defined for male

respondents who had sex in the past 3 months. For the first year of interviewing (about July 2006 through June 2007), this is determined from one of two different question formats. The NSFG contained an experiment in which 30% of male respondents received one question format and 70% of male respondents received another question format. The “30% group” was asked about his and her method use in the same question:

*“Now think about the last time you had sexual intercourse with (PXNAME\_FILL). That last time, did you or she use any methods to prevent pregnancy or sexually transmitted disease? Please look at Card 45a for some examples of methods, before answering ‘yes’ or ‘no.’”*

If the respondent answered “yes,” he was asked:

*Looking at Card 45b, that last time, what methods did you and she use?*

The “70% group” was asked about his and her methods use separately:

*“Now please think about the last time you had sexual intercourse with (PXNAME\_FILL). That last time, did you, yourself, use any methods to prevent pregnancy or sexually transmitted disease? Please look at Card 46a for some examples of methods for males, before answering ‘yes’ or ‘no.’”*

If the respondent answered “yes,” he was asked:

*“Looking at Card 46b, that last time, what methods did you, yourself, use to prevent pregnancy or sexually transmitted disease?”*

and:

*“That last time that you had sexual intercourse with (PXNAME\_FILL), did she use any methods to prevent pregnancy or sexually transmitted disease? Please look at Card 47a for some examples of methods for females, before answering ‘yes’ or ‘no.’”*

If the respondent answered “yes,” he was asked:

*“Looking at Card 47b, that last time, what methods did she use to prevent pregnancy or sexually transmitted disease?”*

The two question formats were combined to result in the final measure used here. For the second 2 years of interviewing (around July 2007 through December 2008), the experiment was discontinued and every male respondent received the question format that asked for his and her method use separately (the second set of questions mentioned previously). The measure could be reflecting the male’s responses about his wife or cohabiting partner, or a nonmarital, noncohabiting partner, depending on who he last had sex with in the past 3 months.

*Ever had sexual intercourse—* (Female recode = HADSEX); (Male recode = HADSEX): This was ascertained from a single question in the male and female questionnaires, asked of respondents who had never been pregnant (females), and had never cohabited or been married. For those respondents, it was assumed that they had ever had sexual intercourse. The questions were as follows, with wording consistent with prior years for both males and females:

(Male questionnaire):

*“Have you ever had sexual intercourse with a female (sometimes this is called making love, having sex, or going all the way)?”*

(Female questionnaire):

*“At any time in your life, have you ever had sexual intercourse with a man, that is, made love, had sex, or gone all the way?”*

*Ever-use of birth control methods—*These data are based on a series of questions that begins with the following:

*“Card 30 lists methods that some people use to prevent pregnancy or to prevent sexually transmitted disease. As I read each one, please tell me if you have ever used it for any reason. Please answer yes even if you have only used the method once.”*

*“Have you ever used birth control pills?”*

*“Have you ever used condoms or rubbers with a partner?”*

*“Have you ever had sex with a partner who had a vasectomy?”*

*“Have you ever used Depo-Provera™, an injectable (or shot) given once every 3 months?”*

*“Have you ever used Lunelle, a once-a-month injection?”*

*“Have you ever had sex with a partner who used withdrawal or ‘pulling out’?”*

*“Have you ever used rhythm or safe period by calendar to prevent pregnancy?”*

This series of questions continued until 11 methods had been asked about individually. Then, the respondent was asked the following:

*“On the right side of Card 30 is a list of some other methods of birth control. Which, if any, of the methods listed on that side of the card have you ever used? Please tell me the method even if you have only used it once.”*

The methods that were listed on the right side of the card are: Hormonal implant (Norplant™ or Implanon™); IUD, coil, loop; cervical cap; diaphragm; female condom, vaginal pouch; foam; jelly or cream; suppository, insert; Today™ sponge; other method. The interviewer recorded every method that the respondent had used.

In other sections of the interview, the respondent had the opportunity to report having used a method even if she said she had never used it to the above series of questions. In the case of the pill and male condom, recodes “PILLR” and “CONDOMR” capture use of these methods as reflected in the “ever-use” series above, and as reflected anywhere else in the questionnaire.

*Frequency of sex in the past 4 weeks—*For both females and males, this measure is based on the direct question:

*“Now please think about the last 4 weeks. How many times have you had sexual intercourse with a male/female in the last 4 weeks?”*

*Had sex in the 3 months prior to the interview*—(Female recode = SEX3MO): For females, this measure is constructed from her report of the date of last sex with her last sexual partner. If this date was within 2 months of the date of interview, the respondent is counted as having had sex in the past 3 months.

(Male recode = SEX3MO): For males, this measure is constructed similarly to that of the females. It is constructed from his report of the date of last sex with either his most recent nonmarital, noncohabiting sexual partner, or from the date of last sex with his wife or cohabiting partner. The respondent is counted as having had sex in the 3 months prior to the interview if this date was within 2 months of the date of interview.

*Had sex in the 12 months prior to the interview*—(Female recode = PARTS1YR): For females, this was based primarily on a question asking:

*“During the last 12 months, that is, since (date), how many men, if any, have you had sexual intercourse with? Please count every male sexual partner, even those you had sex with only once.”*

(Male recode = SEX12MO): For males, this measure is constructed identically to the male measure for sex in the past 3 months, except that the respondent is counted as having had sex in the prior 12 months if the date of last sex with the last partner was within 11 months prior to the month of interview.

*How much first sexual intercourse was wanted*—In the self-administered part of the questionnaire, both male and female respondents 18–44 years of age who had ever had intercourse read on the computer screen (or heard over headphones) the following question:

*“Think back to the very first time you had vaginal intercourse with a (person of the opposite sex). Which would you say comes closest to describing how much you wanted that first vaginal intercourse to happen?”*

*“I really didn’t want it to happen at the time. . . 1”*

*“I had mixed feelings—part of me wanted it to happen at the time and part of me didn’t. . . 2”*

*“I really wanted it to happen at the time. . . 3”*

*Nonvoluntary first sexual intercourse*—For females (aged 18–44) in the ACASI part of the questionnaire, the question described previously on “How much first intercourse was wanted” was followed by this question:

*“Would you say then that this first vaginal intercourse was voluntary or not voluntary, that is, did you choose to have sex of your own free will or not?”*

The answer categories were “voluntary” and “not voluntary.” This wording is the same for the years 1995, 2002, and 2006–2008. This question was asked in the interviewer administered portion of the questionnaire in 1995 and the self-administered portion of the questionnaire in 2002 and 2006–2008.

*Number of partners in past 12 months*—(Female recode = PARTS1YR): For females, this was based on a question asking:

*“During the last 12 months, that is, since (date of 12 months prior to interview), how many men, if any, have you had sexual intercourse with? Please count every male sexual partner, even those you had sex with only once.”*

(Male recode = PARTS1YR): This measure for males is based on a variable that represents number of female sex partners in the last 12 months and a direct question worded as follows:

If a respondent only had one sexual partner in his lifetime, it is based on the question:

*“You said that you had sexual intercourse with a female once in your life. Was that in the last 12 months, that is, since (date of 12 months prior to interview)?”*

If a respondent had more than one sexual partner in his lifetime, it is based on the question:

*“How many different females have*

*you had sexual intercourse with in the past 12 months, that is, since (date of 12 months prior to interview)?”*

Respondents who responded “don’t know” or “refused” to the latter question, who were married or cohabiting, were assigned a value of 1.

*Number of partners in lifetime*—(Female recode = LIFPRTNR): This is based on a direct question, worded:

*“Counting all your male sexual partners, even those you had intercourse with only once, how many men have you had sexual intercourse with in your life?”*

If the respondent reported “don’t know,” she could then estimate a range of number of partners, providing the low and high numbers of the range. The measure was assigned the low number in these cases.

(Male recode = LIFPRTNR): This is based on direct questions as follows:

Men who had intercourse more than once, as indicated by “yes” to a question worded:

*“Have you had sexual intercourse more than once?”*

were asked:

*“(Altogether), How many different females have you ever had intercourse with? This includes any females you had intercourse with, even if it was only once or if you did not know her well.”*

If the respondent did not know or refused to report the number of lifetime partners, and had ever been married or ever cohabited, then the measure is assigned the total number of wives and cohabiting partners.

*Relationship with partner at first intercourse*—Female respondents who had ever had intercourse were asked,

*“At the time you had sexual intercourse with your first partner, how would you describe your relationship with him?”*

The response categories, presented to the respondent on a card, were as follows:

*Married to him*

*Engaged to him*  
*Living together in a sexual relationship, but not engaged*  
*Going with him or going steady*  
*Going out with him once in a while*  
*Just friends*  
*Had just met him*  
*Something else*

(Male recode = FSEXRLTN): For male respondents, the question was worded identically, but tailored to refer to the first partner if she had already been discussed:

*“At the time you first had sexual intercourse with (partner’s name/ your first partner), how would you describe your relationship with her?”*

The response categories were the same as those for females.

## Demographic and Parental or Family Background Measures

*Age*—(Female and Male recode = AGER). In this report, age is classified based on the respondent’s age as of the date of the interview. Sampled persons were eligible for the 2006–2008 NSFG if they were 15–44 years of age at the time of the household screening interview.

*Education of respondent’s mother*—(Female and Male recode = EDUCMOM). For a teenager who had not lived with both biological or both adoptive parents from birth or adoption to age 18, this question was asked to determine whether he or she had a mother or mother-figure:

*“Who, if anyone, do you think of as the woman who mostly raised you when you were growing up?”*

Response categories included: biological mother, adoptive mother, stepmother, father’s girlfriend, foster mother, grandmother, other female relative, female nonrelative, no such person, or other. All respondents, except for those who did not identify a mother-figure, were then asked:

*“Please look at Card 17. What is the highest level of education (she/*

*your mother) completed?”*

Response categories were as follows:

*Less than high school*  
*High school graduate or GED*  
*Some college but no degree*  
*2-year college degree*  
*4-year college graduate*  
*Graduate or professional school*

For the recode EDUCMOM, these were combined into four categories: less than high school; high school graduate or GED; some college but less than a 4-year degree; and 4-year Bachelor’s degree or higher.

*Family structure at age 14*—(Male and female recode PARAGE14). In the 2002 NSFG, respondents were asked:

*“Between your birth and your 18th birthday, did you always live with both your biological mother and biological father?”*

(The question wording was modified slightly if the respondent was still under 18 or he or she was adopted.) If the answer was “yes,” then the teenager was classified as living with both parents. If the answer was “no,” then the teenager was asked:

*“Now, think about when you were 14 years old. Looking at Card 10, what female and male parents or parent-figures were you living with at age 14?”*

Nine categories were shown on the card, including no parent or parent-figure present, biological mother or father, stepmother or father, and others.

*Living arrangements at interview*—(Male and female recode HHPARTYP). This variable is based on information on the relationship to the respondent of every member of the household at the time of the interview. This allows the distinctions among “both biological or adoptive parents,” “biological and step- or adoptive parent,” “single parent,” and “other” arrangements. “Other” refers to any other type of parental arrangement including no parents or parent-figures. This latter category occurs only rarely among the teenaged subgroup and is not presented separately

in this report.

*Marital status at interview*—(Recode = RMARITAL). This variable is based on the following question in the interview. In the version of the questionnaire that was administered approximately July 2006–June 2007, this question was worded:

*“Now I’d like to ask about your marital status. Please look at Card 1. What is your current marital status?”*

In the version of the questionnaire that was administered beginning in July 2007 (and subsequently), this question was worded:

*“Now I’d like to ask about marital status and living together. Please look at Card 1. What is your current marital or cohabiting status?”*

Response categories were:

*Married*  
*Not married but living together with a partner of the opposite sex*  
*Widowed*  
*Divorced*  
*Separated because you and your spouse are not getting along*  
*Never been married*

*(Respondent’s) Mother’s age at first birth*—Respondents were asked two questions about their mother’s or mother-figure’s births:

*“Including yourself, how many children did your mother have who were born alive to her?”*

Then they were asked:

*“How old was she when she had her first child who was born alive?”*

A follow-up question was asked for respondents who did not know the exact age:

*“Was she under 18, 18–19, 20–24, or 25 or older?”*

A small number of respondents reported “0” to the number of births their mother-figure had, which is

possible since this question includes nonbiological mothers of the respondent. They were not asked the subsequent questions.

*Race and Hispanic origin*—(Male and female recode = HISPRACE). Presented in Appendix [Tables I–XVI](#), respondents were classified as Hispanic, Non-Hispanic white, Non-Hispanic black, or Non-Hispanic other race, based on two other recoded variables, HISPANIC and RACE. All respondents who answered “yes” to the following question were coded as “Hispanic”:

*“Are you of Hispanic or Latino/Latina, or of Spanish origin?”*

The RACE recode was based on responses to the following question:

*“Which of the groups (below) describe your racial background? Please select one or more groups.”*

The racial groups shown were:

- American Indian or Alaskan Native
- Asian
- Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander
- Black or African American
- White

Up to four groups could be coded. Respondents who identified themselves with more than one racial group were asked to select one group that “*best* describes” them, and the RACE and HISPRACE recodes reflected this response. Because of limited sample size, Asian, Pacific Islander, Alaskan Native, and American Indian women are not shown separately; these groups are, however, included in the totals of Appendix [Tables I–XVI](#).

OMB guidelines issued after Cycle 5 of the NSFG (1995) on the classification of race require statistical reports to separate those who reported only one race from the small proportion of the population who reported more than one race (23). Large data sets such as the U.S. Census, the National Vital Statistics System, and some very large surveys can produce reliable statistics on mixed-race respondents. The NSFG’s sample size of 7,356 female and 6,140 male respondents does not yield reliable statistics for very small subgroups such as mixed-race respondents. In addition, it is not possible to recreate this racial

classification for the earlier time points in this report, particularly those based on NSAM data. In the interests of presenting categories consistent with prior reports, the earlier race classification is presented along with the 1997 revised OMB race classification in Appendix [Tables I–XVI](#). These tables contain only the race variable and only for the 2006–2008 time point. These tables do not show the “multiple races” category separately. The four categories that are shown are limited to “single race” to yield categories consistent with the 1997 revised OMB requirements. Specifically, these categories are:

- Hispanic or Latina
- Not Hispanic or Latina
  - Black or African American, single race
  - White, single race

The report that this one updates, based on 2002 data from the NSFG, also includes such supplementary tables analogous to Appendix [Tables I–XVI](#), so comparisons between 2002 and 2006–2008 on the revised race or ethnicity classification can theoretically be made. The 2002 supplementary tables can be found at the report (see reference 1) on the Internet, through the NSFG website: <http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nsfg.htm>.

# Vital and Health Statistics Series Descriptions

## ACTIVE SERIES

- Series 1. **Programs and Collection Procedures**—This type of report describes the data collection programs of the National Center for Health Statistics. Series 1 includes descriptions of the methods used to collect and process the data, definitions, and other material necessary for understanding the data.
- Series 2. **Data Evaluation and Methods Research**—This type of report concerns statistical methods and includes analytical techniques, objective evaluations of reliability of collected data, and contributions to statistical theory. Also included are experimental tests of new survey methods, comparisons of U.S. methodologies with those of other countries, and as of 2009, studies of cognition and survey measurement, and final reports of major committees concerning vital and health statistics measurement and methods.
- Series 3. **Analytical and Epidemiological Studies**—This type of report presents analytical or interpretive studies based on vital and health statistics. As of 2009, Series 3 also includes studies based on surveys that are not part of continuing data systems of the National Center for Health Statistics and international vital and health statistics reports.
- Series 10. **Data From the National Health Interview Survey**—This type of report contains statistics on illness; unintentional injuries; disability; use of hospital, medical, and other health services; and a wide range of special current health topics covering many aspects of health behaviors, health status, and health care utilization. Series 10 is based on data collected in this continuing national household interview survey.
- Series 11. **Data From the National Health Examination Survey, the National Health and Nutrition Examination Surveys, and the Hispanic Health and Nutrition Examination Survey**—In this type of report, data from direct examination, testing, and measurement on representative samples of the civilian noninstitutionalized population provide the basis for (1) medically defined total prevalence of specific diseases or conditions in the United States and the distributions of the population with respect to physical, physiological, and psychological characteristics, and (2) analyses of trends and relationships among various measurements and between survey periods.
- Series 13. **Data From the National Health Care Survey**—This type of report contains statistics on health resources and the public's use of health care resources including ambulatory, hospital, and long-term care services based on data collected directly from health care providers and provider records.
- Series 20. **Data on Mortality**—This type of report contains statistics on mortality that are not included in regular, annual, or monthly reports. Special analyses by cause of death, age, other demographic variables, and geographic and trend analyses are included.
- Series 21. **Data on Natality, Marriage, and Divorce**—This type of report contains statistics on natality, marriage, and divorce that are not included in regular, annual, or monthly reports. Special analyses by health and demographic variables and geographic and trend analyses are included.
- Series 23. **Data From the National Survey of Family Growth**—These reports contain statistics on factors that affect birth rates, including contraception and infertility; factors affecting the formation and dissolution of families, including cohabitation, marriage, divorce, and remarriage; and behavior related to the risk of HIV and other sexually transmitted diseases. These statistics are based on national surveys of women and men of childbearing age.

## DISCONTINUED SERIES

- Series 4. **Documents and Committee Reports**—These are final reports of major committees concerned with vital and health statistics and documents. The last Series 4 report was published in 2002. As of 2009, this type of report is included in Series 2 or another appropriate series, depending on the report topic.
- Series 5. **International Vital and Health Statistics Reports**—This type of report compares U.S. vital and health statistics with those of other countries or presents other international data of relevance to the health statistics system of the United States. The last Series 5 report was published in 2003. As of 2009, this type of report is included in Series 3 or another series, depending on the report topic.
- Series 6. **Cognition and Survey Measurement**—This type of report uses methods of cognitive science to design, evaluate, and test survey instruments. The last Series 6 report was published in 1999. As of 2009, this type of report is included in Series 2.
- Series 12. **Data From the Institutionalized Population Surveys**—The last Series 12 report was published in 1974. Reports from these surveys are included in Series 13.
- Series 14. **Data on Health Resources: Manpower and Facilities**—The last Series 14 report was published in 1989. Reports on health resources are included in Series 13.
- Series 15. **Data From Special Surveys**—This type of report contains statistics on health and health-related topics collected in special surveys that are not part of the continuing data systems of the National Center for Health Statistics. The last Series 15 report was published in 2002. As of 2009, reports based on these surveys are included in Series 3.
- Series 16. **Compilations of Advance Data From Vital and Health Statistics**—The last Series 16 report was published in 1996. All reports are available online, and so compilations of Advance Data reports are no longer needed.
- Series 22. **Data From the National Mortality and Natality Surveys**—The last Series 22 report was published in 1973. Reports from these sample surveys, based on vital records, are published in Series 20 or 21.
- Series 24. **Compilations of Data on Natality, Mortality, Marriage, and Divorce**—The last Series 24 report was published in 1996. All reports are available online, and so compilations of reports are no longer needed.

For answers to questions about this report or for a list of reports published in these series, contact:

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