

TABLE 1. Percentage distribution of U.S. young adults aged 18–29 in current sexual relationships, by selected characteristics, according to gender and pregnancy ambivalence status, National Survey of Reproductive and Contraceptive Knowledge, 2008–2009

Characteristic	Total (N=774)	Gender		Ambivalent	
		Male	Female	Yes	No
		(N=355)	(N=419)	(N=343)	(N=431)
AMBIVALENT**					
Yes	44.6	53.1	36.4	na	na
No	55.4	46.9	63.6	na	na
CONTRACEPTIVE USE					
Used method in past month‡					
Yes	81.6	83.1	80.0	75.7	86.3
No	18.5	16.9	20.0	24.3	13.7
Current method***,†					
Female-controlled methods	20.8	10.9	30.4	16.4	24.3
Male-controlled methods	28.5	35.6	21.7	24.1	32.1
Both female- and male-controlled methods	31.8	36.2	27.4	34.3	29.7
None	18.9	17.3	20.4	25.2	14.0
SOCIAL AND DEMOGRAPHIC					
Age					
18–19	26.4	25.9	26.8	23.1	29.0
20–21	16.9	13.0	20.6	16.8	16.9
22–24	20.1	21.7	18.5	19.0	21.0
25–29	36.7	39.4	34.0	41.1	33.1
Race/ethnicity†					
White	60.5	62.0	59.1	57.3	63.1
Black	18.1	16.6	19.5	16.4	19.5
Hispanic	15.1	15.9	14.5	20.8	10.6
Other	6.2	5.6	6.9	5.5	6.8
Education†					
<high school	15.4	11.2	19.5	17.0	14.1
High school/GED	31.9	35.2	28.7	36.5	28.2
Some postsecondary	34.1	35.0	33.2	34.0	34.2
≥college	18.6	18.6	18.6	12.4	23.5
Cohabiting					
Yes	28.3	26.5	30.0	31.7	25.5
No	71.7	73.5	70.0	68.3	74.5
PSYCHOSOCIAL					
Likelihood of having a baby with current partner†					
Not at all likely	19.9	24.8	15.2	14.7	24.1
Slightly likely	27.7	29.2	26.2	27.4	27.9
Quite likely	21.6	18.8	24.4	20.3	22.7
Extremely likely	30.8	27.2	34.3	37.6	25.3
Every pregnancy is a blessing***,§					
Strongly agree	55.7	44.8	66.4	67.2	46.4
Somewhat agree	23.4	28.0	18.8	20.6	25.6
Somewhat disagree	13.5	15.9	11.2	10.2	16.2
Strongly disagree	7.4	11.3	3.6	2.0	11.8
Pregnancy will happen regardless of contraceptive use§					
Strongly agree	21.8	20.5	23.0	30.0	15.2
Somewhat agree	19.3	18.3	20.3	22.8	16.5
Somewhat disagree	14.8	14.4	15.2	20.2	10.6
Strongly disagree	44.1	46.8	41.4	27.0	57.7
Likelihood of infertility‡					
Not at all likely	45.8	50.8	41.0	50.0	42.5
Slightly likely	36.6	32.7	40.5	27.5	43.9
Quite/extremely likely	17.6	16.6	18.5	22.5	13.6
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Distributions by gender differ at $p < .01$. *Distributions by gender differ at $p < .001$. †Distributions by ambivalence differ at $p < .05$. ‡Distributions by ambivalence differ at $p < .01$. §Distributions by ambivalence differ at $p < .001$. Notes: Percentages may not total 100.0 because of rounding. na=not applicable.

TABLE 2. Odds ratios from logistic regression analysis examining associations between selected characteristics of young adults and pregnancy ambivalence

Characteristic	Odds ratio
Gender	
Male	2.92***
Female (ref)	1.00
Likelihood of having a baby with current partner	
Not at all likely (ref)	1.00
Slightly likely	1.53
Quite likely	1.48
Extremely likely	2.21*
Every pregnancy is a blessing	
Strongly agree (ref)	1.00
Somewhat agree	0.44**
Somewhat disagree	0.39**
Strongly disagree	0.08***

* $p < .05$. ** $p < .01$. *** $p < .001$. Note: ref=reference group.

TABLE 3. Odds ratios from logistic regression analyses examining associations between selected characteristics of young adults and contraceptive use, by gender

Characteristic	Male (N=343)	Female (N=412)
AMBIVALENT		
Yes	0.35**	0.63
No (ref)	1.00	1.00
SOCIAL AND DEMOGRAPHIC		
Age		
18–19 (ref)	1.00	1.00
20–21	1.64	1.66
22–24	1.26	0.96
25–29	1.46	1.09
Race/ethnicity		
White (ref)	1.00	1.00
Black	1.46	0.27*
Hispanic	0.68	0.81
Other	0.73	0.62
Education		
<high school (ref)	1.00	1.00
High school/GED	0.68	4.34**
Some postsecondary	1.31	4.26**
≥college	1.19	17.89***
PSYCHOSOCIAL		
Every pregnancy is a blessing		
Strongly agree (ref)	1.00	1.00
Somewhat agree	4.31*	1.24
Somewhat disagree	0.77	0.50
Strongly disagree	0.40	0.46
Pregnancy will happen regardless of contraceptive use		
Strongly agree (ref)	1.00	1.00
Somewhat agree	0.61	0.99
Somewhat disagree	1.25	0.62
Strongly disagree	2.87*	0.78
Likelihood of infertility		
Not at all likely (ref)	1.00	1.00
Slightly likely	1.46	2.43*
Quite/extremely likely	2.85	1.38

*p<.05. **p<.01. ***p<.001. Note: ref=reference group.