

TABLE 1. Selected characteristics of female members of the National Longitudinal Survey of Youth 1997 cohort, by race and ethnicity and nativity

Characteristic	Total (N=3,294)	White (N=1,723)	Black (N=884)	U.S.-born Hispanic (N=557)	Foreign-born Hispanic (N=130)
DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS					
Had a teenage birth	20.3	16.5	29.6*	28.3*	41.9*,†,‡
Mean age at baseline (range, 12–17)§	14.40	14.42	14.33	14.30	14.46
FAMILY BACKGROUND					
Parent education					
<high school	13.1	8.4	19.2*	29.1*	62.8*,†,‡
High school	32.6	31.6	41.3	30.3	19.3
Some college	27.7	28.8	26.1	25.3	10.6
≥college	26.6	31.2	13.3	15.3	7.3
Family structure**					
Two parents	49.7	54.5	26.9*	48.1*,†	60.8†,‡
One parent and one stepparent	15.9	16.9	13.3	13.8	12.2
Single parent	30.5	25.9	49.9	34.5	25.7
Other	3.9	2.7	10.0	3.6	1.4
Mother had a teenage birth	25.7	21.8	40.9*	27.0*,†	45.6*,‡
Parenting style					
Authoritative	38.1	37.7	40.5	38.2	34.8
Authoritarian	14.8	14.2	17.1	16.2	14.0
Permissive	34.8	36.5	31.3	29.3	29.9
Uninvolved	12.3	11.7	11.1	16.3	21.4
INDIVIDUAL, PEER AND DATING CHARACTERISTICS					
Mean eighth-grade grades (range, 1–10)	7.42	7.63	6.81*	7.01*	6.64*
Mean delinquency index score (range, 0–9)††	1.08	1.06	1.08	1.32*	0.58*,†,‡
Mean substance use index score (range, 0–3)	1.21	1.30	0.85*	1.25†	0.53*,†,‡
Mean no. of negative peer characteristics (range, 0–5)	3.17	3.13	3.28*	3.28	3.29
Mean age at menarche (range, 13–19)	12.15	12.24	11.91*	11.87*	11.96*
Any dating in year before baseline	53.8	58.5	36.1*	52.8*,†	27.9*,‡
FIRST SEXUAL RELATIONSHIP					
Mean age at first sex	16.04	16.08	15.83*	16.03	16.56*,†,‡
Relationship status					
Just met/just friends/other	18.2	18.0	21.0	16.1†	13.3*,†,‡
Occasional dating	7.7	7.9	6.7	8.8	2.8
Steady dating	69.3	69.7	69.9	67.7	57.8
Engaged/cohabiting/married	4.9	4.4	2.4	7.4	26.2
Mean partner age difference (range, –5 to 15)	1.95	1.89	2.07	2.16	2.16
Partner of different race/ethnicity	20.3	19.3	14.0*	38.9*,†	13.6†
Contraceptive use at first sex	81.0	82.6	81.8	73.1*,†	57.4*,†,‡
SEXUAL EXPERIENCE AND CONTRACEPTIVE USE					
Mean no. of partners in last year (range, 0–10)	1.82	1.87	1.73	1.73	1.53
Mean effectiveness of contraceptive method at last sex (range, 1–10)	6.26	6.29	6.19	6.18	6.13
Mean contraceptive consistency (range, 0–1)	0.79	0.81	0.80	0.70*,†	0.67*,†

*Different from the mean or distribution for whites at $p < .05$. †Different from the mean or distribution for blacks at $p < .05$. ‡Different from the mean or distribution for U.S.-born Hispanics at $p < .05$. §Although respondents were aged 12–16 as of screening, some were aged 17 as of their interview. **Parents may be either biological or adoptive. ††Although there were 10 points possible in this index, this range reflects the responses among our sample. Note: Data are percentages unless otherwise noted.

TABLE 2. Selected characteristics of respondents, by race and ethnicity and teenage childbearing status

Characteristic	Full sample		White		Black		Hispanic†	
	No teenage birth	Teenage birth	No teenage birth	Teenage birth	No teenage birth	Teenage birth	No teenage birth	Teenage birth
DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTIC								
Mean age at baseline (range, 12–17)	13.81	14.26***	13.83	14.31***	13.75	14.11**	13.73	14.29***
FAMILY BACKGROUND								
Parent education								
<high school	11.7	29.6***	7.1	22.3***	18.2	31.3***	32.1	49.7**
High school	31.6	37.4	30.5	36.5	39.2	45.3	28.5	30.0
Some college	28.6	23.4	28.9	28.3	29.0	19.5	26.2	13.4
≥college	28.1	9.7	33.4	13.0	13.6	3.9	13.2	6.9
Family structure‡								
Two parents	52.6	34.1***	56.9	35.4***	30.9	18.9**	53.2	49.2
One parent and one stepparent	15.4	18.1	16.2	21.1	13.6	12.3	12.7	16.4
Single parent	29.1	40.6	25.0	37.9	46.3	55.3	32.5	30.2
Other	3.0	7.3	2.0	5.6	9.3	13.5	1.7	4.2
Mother had a teenage birth	23.0	43.1***	19.7	38.7***	36.8	52.3***	26.1	44.7***
Parenting style								
Authoritative	39.9	65.2***	40.2	30.3***	40.0	44.9	37.4	37.9
Authoritarian	15.1	16.3	14.2	18.1	19.4	13.0	15.7	15.3
Permissive	34.5	28.0	36.0	28.4	29.8	28.3	31.0	25.6
Uninvolved	10.5	20.5	9.6	23.1	10.8	13.8	16.0	21.3
INDIVIDUAL, PEER AND DATING CHARACTERISTICS								
Mean eighth-grade grades (range, 1–10)	7.58	6.31***	7.79	6.25***	6.92	6.34***	7.09	6.49**
Mean delinquency index score (range, 0–9)§	0.91	1.51***	0.89	1.63***	0.98	1.16	0.91	1.53**
Mean substance use index score (range, 0–3)	0.98	1.40***	1.05	1.68***	0.68	0.86*	0.91	1.19*
Mean no. of negative peer characteristics (range, 0–5)	2.76	3.38***	2.70	3.39***	2.97	3.29**	2.89	3.45***
Mean age at menarche (range, 13–19)	12.11	12.01	12.21	12.08	11.81	12.00	11.84	11.83
Any dating in year before baseline	43.7	56.2***	48.0	66.7***	26.4	35.0*	38.7	50.7***
FIRST SEXUAL RELATIONSHIP								
Mean age at first sex	16.16	15.19***	16.18	15.05***	15.95	15.37***	16.30	15.42***
Relationship status								
Just met/just friends/other	18.4	19.1*	18.1	21.2	21.9	17.9	16.1	14.4
Occasional dating	7.4	8.4	7.7	10.0	6.0	4.6	6.9	8.3
Steady dating	69.8	65.4	70.0	62.8	70.0	72.9	67.8	63.5
Engaged/cohabiting/married	4.5	7.1	4.2	6.0	2.0	4.7	9.3	13.9
Mean partner age difference (range, –5 to 15)	1.87	2.30***	1.83	2.35**	1.95	2.26	2.04	2.22
Partner of different race/ethnicity	21.1	21.2**	19.4	25.2*	15.8	13.5	38.8	18.1***
Contraceptive use at first sex	82.2	71.6***	83.3	74.4**	82.8	74.1*	74.9	59.9**
SEXUAL EXPERIENCE AND CONTRACEPTIVE USE								
Mean no. of partners in last year (range, 0–10)	1.70	1.88*	1.72	2.12***	1.63	1.63	1.71	1.49
Mean effectiveness of contraceptive method at last sex (range, 1–10)	6.28	6.22	6.30	6.16	6.20	6.31	6.17	6.30
Mean contraceptive consistency (range, 0–1)	0.82	0.66***	0.83	0.67***	0.82	0.72***	0.74	0.55***

*Different from the mean or distribution for no teenage birth at $p < .05$. **Different from the mean or distribution for no teenage birth at $p < .01$. ***Different from the mean or distribution for no teenage birth at $p < .001$. †U.S.- and foreign-born Hispanics. ‡Parents may be either biological or adoptive. §Although there were 10 points possible in this index, this range reflects the responses among our sample. Note: Data are percentages unless otherwise noted.

TABLE 3. Odds ratios from discrete-time logistic regression analyses assessing associations between respondents' characteristics and their likelihood of having had a teenage birth

Characteristic	Model 1	Model 2	Model 3	Model 4	Model 5
DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS					
Race/ethnicity					
White (ref)	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
Black	2.12***	1.31*	1.50***	1.49**	1.46**
U.S.-born Hispanic	1.88***	1.36*	1.33	1.37*	1.23
Foreign-born Hispanic	3.48***	1.83**	2.17***	1.94**	1.70*
Age	1.30***	1.34***	1.30***	1.36***	1.34***
FAMILY BACKGROUND					
Parent education					
<high school	na	1.59**	1.68***	1.65***	1.60**
High school (ref)	na	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
Some college	na	0.71*	0.75*	0.77	0.78
≥college	na	0.39***	0.44***	0.47***	0.51***
Family structure†					
Two parents (ref)	na	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
One parent and one stepparent	na	1.63***	1.42*	1.39*	1.38*
Single parent	na	1.57***	1.31*	1.25	1.25
Other	na	2.60***	2.21***	2.15***	2.12***
Mother had a teenage birth	na	1.72***	1.67***	1.57***	1.64***
Parenting style					
Authoritative (ref)	na	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
Authoritarian	na	1.07	0.85	0.84	0.86
Permissive	na	0.85	0.76*	0.73**	0.73*
Uninvolved	na	1.73***	1.27	1.21	1.20
INDIVIDUAL, PEER AND DATING CHARACTERISTICS					
Eighth-grade grades	na	na	0.87***	0.90***	0.91***
Delinquency index	na	na	1.05	1.00	0.98
Substance use index	na	na	1.15*	1.07	1.06
Negative peer characteristics	na	na	1.03	1.05	1.05
Age at menarche	na	na	1.00	1.04	1.05
Any dating in year before baseline	na	na	1.40**	1.27*	1.31*
FIRST SEXUAL RELATIONSHIP					
Age at first sex	na	na	na	0.74***	0.74***
Relationship status at first sex					
Just met/just friends/other	na	na	na	0.81	0.82
Occasional dating	na	na	na	0.97	0.98
Steady dating	na	na	na	1.00	1.00
Engaged/cohabiting/married	na	na	na	1.57*	1.41
Partner age difference	na	na	na	1.01	1.01
Partner of different race/ethnicity	na	na	na	1.01	1.05
Contraceptive use at first sex	na	na	na	0.61***	0.96
SEXUAL EXPERIENCE AND CONTRACEPTIVE USE‡					
No. of partners in last year	na	na	na	na	0.91**
Effectiveness of contraceptive method at last sex	na	na	na	na	1.02
Contraceptive consistency	na	na	na	na	0.30***
<i>F statistic</i>	39.93***	29.06***	26.13***	25.16***	23.02***
<i>df</i>	4	14	20	27	30

*p<.05. **p<.01. ***p<.001. †Parents may be either biological or adoptive. ‡Measures are time-varying. Notes: Calculations are based on 11,356 person-years of information. na=not applicable. ref=reference group.

TABLE 4. Predicted probabilities (percentages) from discrete-time logistic regression analyses assessing the likelihood of a teenage birth, by groups of characteristics, according to race and ethnicity

Scenario	White	Black	U.S.-born Hispanic	Foreign-born Hispanic
Average subgroup characteristics†	4.0	8.5	7.5	12.1
White family background‡	na	5.9*	5.6	8.2
White grades and dating	na	8.3	7.2	11.8
White age at first sex	na	7.9	7.4	13.8
White no. of partners and contraceptive consistency	na	8.1	6.8	10.1
White characteristics significant in the final model§				
All	na	5.1***	4.9*	8.0
All except dating	na	4.9***	4.8*	7.5
All except dating, family structure	na	5.3**	4.9*	7.3

*Different from the figure in the first row at $p < .05$. **Different from the figure in the first row at $p < .01$.

***Different from the figure in the first row at $p < .001$. †Average subgroup-specific characteristics based on person-year files. ‡Parent education, family structure, maternal fertility history and parenting style. §All family background characteristics, eighth-grade grades, dating experience, age at first sex, number of partners and contraceptive consistency. *Note:* na=not applicable.

TABLE 5. Odds ratios from discrete-time logistic regression analyses predicting a first teenage birth, by teenagers' characteristics, according to race and ethnicity

Characteristic	White (N=6,068)	Black (N=2,935)	Hispanic† (N=2,353)
DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS			
Age	1.36***	1.37***	1.35***
Foreign-born	na	na	1.37
FAMILY BACKGROUND			
Parent education			
<high school	2.42***	1.08‡	0.92‡
High school (ref)	1.00	1.00	1.00
Some college	0.88	0.70	0.48*
≥college	0.57*	0.38*	0.52
Two biological/adoptive parents	0.71*	0.75	1.03
Mother had a teenage birth	1.57*	1.56*	1.57
Parenting style			
Authoritative (ref)	1.00	1.00	1.00
Authoritarian	1.14	0.53*,‡	0.77
Permissive	0.79	0.74	0.74
Uninvolved	1.68*	0.80‡	0.86
INDIVIDUAL, PEER AND DATING CHARACTERISTICS			
Eighth-grade grades	0.88***	0.91*	1.01‡
Delinquency index	0.91	1.00	1.07
Substance use index	1.11	1.04	0.95
Negative peer characteristics	1.05	1.00	1.08
Age at menarche	1.03	1.12	1.10
Any dating in year before baseline	1.59*	1.03	1.34
FIRST SEXUAL RELATIONSHIP			
Age at first sex	0.74***	0.77***	0.68***
Steady dating, engaged, cohabiting or married at first sex	1.14	1.71*	1.02
Partner age difference	1.04	1.00	0.97
Partner of different race/ethnicity	1.21	1.29	0.44*,‡,§
Contraceptive use at first sex	1.23	0.75	0.86
SEXUAL EXPERIENCE AND CONTRACEPTIVE USE††			
No. of partners in last year	0.94	0.88*	0.81***,‡
Effectiveness of contraceptive method at last sex	1.05	1.00	0.99
Contraceptive consistency	0.24***	0.38***	0.35**
<i>F statistic</i>	15.82***	6.55***	5.91***
<i>df</i>	23	23	24

*p<.05. **p<.01. ***p<.001. †U.S.- and foreign-born Hispanics. ‡Different from the odds ratio for whites at p<.05. §Different from the odds ratio for blacks at p<.05. ††Measures are time-varying. Notes: na=not applicable.