variables (p<.05) to be included in the multivariate analysis.

We then performed unconditional binomial logistic regression analyses using the forward procedure for predictors of nonuse, using two types of models. The first covered all women in the sample and controlled for all explanatory variables that were significant in the bivariate analysis. Spearman rank correlation coefficients were also calculated to identify the associations between schooling and the other variables that explained nonuse from the initial model.

To further control the effects of age, we constructed a model based on the woman’s age-group and performed three separate logistic regressions predicting the likelihood of nonuse for each of three age-groups—15–24-year-olds, 25–39-year-olds and 40–49-year-olds.

Results

Bivariate Analyses

A majority of the women (56%) were aged 25–39, nearly two-thirds had not finished primary school (65%) and 70% were formally married (Table 1, page 133). In addition, most women were not covered by any health insurance (88%) and did not have paid employment (87%). Overall, 36% of the sample had never practiced contraception.

Table 2 presents data on never-use of contraceptives, broken down by social, demographic and reproductive characteristics. The likelihood of nonuse was higher among those who first became parents at age 16 or younger. Women not covered by social security health insurance were 63% more likely to have never used a method than were those who were covered by such insurance. Moreover, nonuse was 59% more likely among women who first became pregnant at age 20 or older than among those whose first pregnancy occurred at age 16 or younger.

Finally, a U-shaped rather than linear trend was observed for the association between the woman’s age and the likelihood of nonuse, as both the youngest women and those in a nuclear family were more likely to be nonusers.