

**Table 7. Percentage of U.S. women experiencing an unintended pregnancy during the first year of typical use and the first year of perfect use of contraceptives, and the percentage who have discontinued use by the end of the first year, by method**

Method	% experiencing failure during		% discontinuing*
	Typical use†	Perfect use‡	
Chance§	85	85	na
Spermicides**	26	6	60
Periodic abstinence	25	u	37
Calendar	u	9	u
Ovulation method	u	3	u
Symptothermal††	u	2	u
Postovulation	u	1	u
Cervical cap‡‡			
Parous women	40	26	58
Nulliparous women	20	9	44
Sponge			
Parous women	40	20	58
Nulliparous women	20	9	44
Diaphragm‡‡	20	6	44
Withdrawal	19	4	u
Condom§§			
Female	21	5	44
Male	14	3	39
Pill	5	u	29
Progestin only	u	0.5	u
Combined	u	0.1	u
IUD			
Progesterone T	2.0	1.5	19
Copper T 380A	0.8	0.6	22
LNg 20	0.1	0.1	19
Injectable	0.3	0.3	30
Implant	0.05	0.05	12
Tubal sterilization	0.5	0.5	0
Vasectomy	0.15	0.10	0

\*Among couples attempting to avoid pregnancy, the percentage who discontinue use within one year. †Among typical couples who initiate use of a method (not necessarily for the first time), the percentage who experience an accidental pregnancy during the first year if they do not stop use for any other reason. ‡Among couples who initiate use of a method (not necessarily for the first time) and who use it perfectly (both consistently and correctly), the percentage who experience an accidental pregnancy during the first year if they do not stop use for any other reason. §The percentages becoming pregnant are based on data from populations in which contraception is not practiced and from women who cease using contraceptives to become pregnant. In such populations, about 89% become pregnant within one year. This estimate was reduced slightly to represent the percentage who would become pregnant within one year among women now relying on reversible methods of contraception if they abandoned contraceptive use altogether. \*\*Foams, creams, gels, vaginal suppositories and vaginal film. ††Cervical mucus (ovulation) method supplemented by calendar in the preovulatory phase and by basal body temperature in the postovulatory phase. ‡‡With spermicidal cream or jelly. §§Without spermicides. Notes: na=not applicable. u=unavailable. Source: See reference 8.