

**TABLE 2. Percentage distribution of youth, by relationship characteristics and sexual activity, according to age, gender and race**

Characteristic	All			Gender						Race					
				Male			Female			Black			Nonblack		
	11-12	13-14	15-16	11-12	13-14	15-16	11-12	13-14	15-16	11-12	13-14	15-16	11-12	13-14	15-16
<b>Dating frequency</b>															
Never/almost never	91.6	71.4	46.2	89.1*	68.3*	48.4	94.1	74.6	44.1	91.6	79.2†	58.7†	91.6	69.2	42.9
<once per week	6.3	19.0	26.9	8.5*	19.3	27.5	4.1	16.0	26.3	5.3	11.5†	26.0	6.7	21.0	27.1
≥once per week	2.0	9.6	26.9	2.4	12.4	24.1*	1.8	9.4	29.7	3.1	9.2	15.4†	1.7	9.8	30.0
<b>Going steady‡</b>															
Yes	59.6	58.0	42.4	66.9*	55.2	32.9*	49.1	61.7	51.9	52.7	50.4†	54.5†	61.1	59.4	39.9
No	40.4	42.0	57.6	33.1	44.8	67.1	50.9	38.3	48.1	47.3	49.6	45.5	38.9	40.6	60.1
<b>Ever had sex</b>															
Yes	2.5	10.1	33.6	4.5*	11.9*	31.7	0.4	8.2	35.6	4.9†	18.4†	44.6†	1.8	7.8	30.6
No	97.5	89.9	66.4	95.5	88.1	68.3	99.6	91.8	64.4	95.1	81.6	55.4	98.2	92.2	69.4
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

\*Significantly different from percentage for females of the same age at  $p < .05$ . † Significantly different from percentage for nonblacks of the same age at  $p < .05$ . ‡Based on adolescents who had ever dated. Notes: Percentages are weighted, and missing data are excluded. Italics signify that age differences within the gender or racial category are significant at  $p < .05$ .