

TABLE 3. Percentage distribution of adolescents, by dating patterns at ages 13–14 and 15–16, according to gender balance of friendship groups at age 11–12, gender and race

Dating pattern	Mostly same-sex friends					Equal/mostly opposite-sex friends				
	All	Male	Female	Black	Non-black	All	Male	Female	Black	Non-black
Weekly dating	(N=831)	(N=382)	(N=449)	(N=274)	(N=557)	(N=513)	(N=249)	(N=264)	(N=223)	(N=290)
At neither age	73.1*	77.7*,†	68.7*	83.8*,‡	70.8*	62.9	65.0	60.9	72.0‡	59.8
At age 13–14 only	3.3	3.4	3.2	4.9	2.9	5.4	5.8	5.1	7.5	4.8
At age 15–16 only	20.2	16.3†	23.8	10.2*,‡	22.3	24.4	20.8	27.6	18.1‡	26.5
At both ages	3.5*	2.6*	4.3	1.1‡	4.0*	7.3	8.4	6.4	2.4‡	8.9
Steady dating	(N=781)	(N=367)	(N=414)	(N=257)	(N=524)	(N=483)	(N=241)	(N=242)	(N=209)	(N=274)
At neither age	57.3*	63.6*,†	51.3	62.0	56.4*	50.2	50.0	50.4	57.5‡	47.8
At age 13–14 only	12.9*	16.5†	9.5*	6.3‡	14.3*	18.6	20.9	16.5	9.9‡	21.6
At age 15–16 only	21.3	13.3†	30.3*	26.0	21.1	19.9	17.4	22.3	25.1	18.2
At both ages	7.8*	6.6*	8.9	5.7	8.2	11.3	11.8	10.8	7.5	12.5
Total	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 equal or mostly opposite-sex friends at $p < .05$. †Significantly different from percentage for females at $p < .05$. ‡Significantly different from percentage for nonblacks at $p < .05$. Notes: Percentages are weighted, and missing data are excluded. Ns are unweighted.