

TABLE 2. Selected characteristics of teenagers, by consistency of contraceptive use in most recent sexual relationship and gender

Characteristic	Use never vs. ever				Use never/sometimes vs. always			
	Males		Females		Males		Females	
	Never (N=123)	Ever (N=483)	Never (N=173)	Ever (N=689)	Never/sometimes (N=229)	Always (N=377)	Never/sometimes (N=359)	Always (N=503)
Consistency of use (%)‡								
Never	100.0	100.0	100.0	0.0	53.8	0.0	48.7	0.0
Sometimes	0.0	22.4	0.0	26.8	46.2	0.0	51.4	0.0
Always	0.0	77.6	0.0	73.2	0.0	100.0	0.0	100.0
Characteristics of most recent relationship								
Mean no. of yrs. partner is older than respondent	0.1	0.1	2.1	2.1	0.0	0.1	2.2	2.1
Met partner as stranger (%)	5.4	5.5	13.8	4.1***	3.8	6.5	8.3	4.4*
Type of relationship (%)								
Romantic	71.2	71.5	79.7	81.6	78.4	67.1†	85.1	78.5*
Liked	10.3	11.4	6.5	9.7	9.7	12.0	5.0	11.9
Nonromantic	18.5	17.1	13.8	8.7	11.9	20.9	9.9	9.6
Mean duration of presexual relationship (mos.)‡	3.2	4.6	4.5	4.5	3.8	4.7	4.5	4.5
Mean no. of presexual couple-like activities‡	3.7	5.2***	4.8	5.6**	4.6	5.1	5.2	5.6
Discussed contraception before sex (%)‡	30.3	44.0*	34.8	60.7***	38.4	43.2	47.3	61.6**
Physical violence (%)	14.5	10.2	11.3	9.7	15.4	8.3*	14.1	7.2**
Mean duration of sexual relationship (mos.)	4.2	5.3	4.3	6.8***	6.1	4.4*	7.0	5.9*
Sexual history (%)								
Aged ≥15 at first sex	61.0	66.5	72.1	60.5*	63.5	66.4	65.1	61.2
Contraceptive use in first relationship								
Never	38.2	19.4*	37.5	19.8**	28.1	20.3**	28.3	20.0**
Sometimes	16.0	12.9	21.8	21.4	20.5	9.0	28.5	16.6
Always	45.8	67.7	40.7	58.8	53.1	70.7	43.2	63.4
Mean lifetime no. of partners	3.2	3.3	3.5	3.3	3.2	3.3	3.6	3.2***
Contraceptive use in most recent relationship (%)§								
Most effective method used								
Hormonal	na	23.3	na	42.4	23.5	23.3	25.7	48.6
Condom	na	74.4	na	55.1	75.4	74.1	69.7	49.6
Other	na	2.3	na	2.6	1.1	2.7	4.6	1.8
Dual method use	na	25.6	na	25.0	26.8	25.2	15.7	28.5**
Family characteristics								
Two biological/adoptive parents (%)	35.0	42.0	44.2	41.1	33.8	44.7*	45.2	39.2
Mean parental education††	4.6	4.6	4.3	4.5	4.5	4.7	4.4	4.5
Individual characteristics (%)								
Race/ethnicity								
White	59.5	61.6	60.1	68.9	66.7	57.7*	65.4	68.2
Hispanic	13.4	14.7	14.3	7.8	13.6	14.9	10.6	8.0
Black	22.0	16.8	18.8	18.5	15.8	19.2	7.9	19.1
Asian	3.5	1.3	4.1	1.8	2.5	1.3	2.9	1.8
Other	1.7	5.6	2.8	3.1	1.4	6.9	3.2	3.0
Mean cognitive test score‡‡	97.9	102.7*	98.1	100.6†	100.1	102.7†	100.0	100.2
Mean religious services attendance§§	1.1	1.6**	1.8	2.0	1.3	1.7**	1.9	2.0
Had pregnancy/AIDS education in school (%)	84.8	87.5	90.7	87.7	87.8	86.4	89.7	87.4

*p<.05. **p<.01. ***p<.001. †p<.10. ‡Among the 1,297 respondents with a romantic or liked partner. §Among the 1,172 respondents reporting any method use. ††Highest educational level attained by a parent; 1=less than high school, 7=at least some graduate or professional school. ‡‡Modified Peabody Picture Vocabulary Test. §§0=never (or no religion), 4=at least once per week. Notes: na=not applicable. Data are weighted. Significance tests for categorical variables measure between-group differences among all categories.