

TABLE 2. Selected measures related to context of marriage, orphanhood and relationship characteristics among married Ethiopian women aged 20–24, by age at first marriage

Measure	Married before age 15 (N=273)	Married at ages 15–17 (N=498)	Married at ages 18–19 (N=432)
CONTEXT OF MARRIAGE			
Marriage arrangement***			
Arranged	89.0	71.1	52.1
Chosen	7.3	26.1	46.3
Abducted	3.7	2.8	1.6
Main supporters of marriage‡			
Father***	73.7	64.3	56.3
Mother***	81.0	68.7	64.0
Aunt*	14.2	12.0	7.9
Uncle**	17.5	11.8	9.1
Sister**	6.6	7.3	12.9
Brother	10.9	8.9	11.7
Grandmother***	8.9	4.8	2.1
Grandfather**	4.7	2.6	0.7
Religious leader	0.4	1.4	1.4
Community leader	0.4	0.6	0.2
Knew about marriage beforehand ***	32.7	65.6	83.0
Wanted to get married at the time***	30.7	64.0	79.7
Made to leave school to marry	5.8	9.4	10.6
ORPHANHOOD			
Father alive at time of wedding	83.6	81.3	80.7
Mother alive at time of wedding	90.1	87.5	88.6
Neither parent alive at time of wedding	2.9	4.8	4.9
RELATIONSHIP CHARACTERISTICS			
Length of time knew husband before wedding***			
Met on wedding day	70.9	43.3	21.1
<1 month	5.5	10.2	10.0
1–12 months	5.1	15.4	20.4
>1 yr.	7.6	11.6	32.5
Since childhood	10.9	19.4	16.0
Age difference***			
>10 yrs. younger	21.9	16.4	12.8
6–10 yrs. younger	47.8	38.3	35.6
1–5 yrs. younger	28.5	44.5	48.4
Same age or older	1.8	0.8	3.2
Mean age difference with husband (yrs.)***	–8.0	–7.3	–6.4

*p<.05. **p<.01. ***p<.001. ‡Among women with arranged marriages; multiple responses possible. Notes: Significance testing assessed differences in percentage distributions, percentages or means among groups of women married at different ages. Unless otherwise noted, all values are percentages.