of 1995. For each listed relationship, respondents were asked if they and their partner had had sexual relations, defined as “vaginal intercourse (a man inserts his penis into a woman’s vagina), oral sex (a person puts his or her mouth on another person’s sex organs), or anal sex (a man inserts his penis into his partner’s anus or asshole).” Respondents were then asked to indicate which of these partners they had had sex with most recently, and 7,468 indicated they were still in a relationship with their most recent partner. The number of same-sex relationships was too small for meaningful analyses, and these relationships were dropped from this study. Given documented changes in love and sexual behavior across the first few months of relationships, we excluded relationships of less than three months’ duration.

Of the 6,978 respondents with qualifying opposite-sex relationships, 92% had complete data on demographic characteristics, age at first sex, sexual activities with their current partner and love between partners. The study sample consists of these 6,421 respondents. Eligible respondents with missing data were somewhat less likely than others to be cohabiting and more likely to be black or Hispanic (p<.05).

Measures and Analyses

Relationships were categorized as cohabiting or married on the basis of the respondent’s report. If the respondent was not cohabiting with or married to the partner, we categorized the relationship as dating.

Respondents were asked whether they and their partner had ever engaged in each of four sexual activities—vaginal sex, fellatio (male receptive oral sex), cunnilingus (female receptive oral sex) and anal sex.

They also were asked “how much do you love [partner]?” and “how much do you think [partner] loves you?” Answer choices were “a lot,” “somewhat,” “a little” or “not at all.” On the basis of these questions, four categories were created to describe the pattern of love in the current relationship, as perceived by the respondent: neither partner loves the other a lot, the partners love each other a lot, the respondent loves the partner a lot (not reciprocated) and the partner loves the respondent a lot (not reciprocated).

In addition, several respondent characteristics were controlled for: age at Wave 3 (in years), age at first intercourse (in years), sex (male or female), and race and ethnicity (Hispanic, non-Hispanic black, Asian, other or non-Hispanic white). Age at first intercourse was included because of its associations with a variety of later sexual behaviors and outcomes.

We used the Stata statistical package and employed the subpopulation options as recommended by the Carolina Population Center to incorporate weights, adjust for Add Health’s sampling design and provide estimates that are standardized to the U.S. Census Bureau estimates of this age-group’s demographic characteristics. We first used univariate and tabular analyses to determine the weighted percentages of young adult males and females who had engaged in each sexual activity with their current partners. We then used multiple logistic regression models to determine predictors of each type of sexual activity. As almost all of the respondents had had vaginal sex in their current relationship, this outcome was not examined. Preliminary analyses showed significant interactions between respondent’s sex and love between partners, so males and females were assessed separately. Interaction terms involving respondent’s age were not significant and were dropped from our final analyses.

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**TABLE 2. Percentage distribution of young adults, by whether they had ever engaged in selected sexual activities with their current partner of more than three months, by sex**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>All (N=6,421)</th>
<th>Females (N=3,735)</th>
<th>Males (N=2,686)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vaginal intercourse*</td>
<td>Yes 98.9 99.5 98.1</td>
<td>No 1.1 0.5 1.9</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fellatio*</td>
<td>Yes 84.2 82.6 86.7</td>
<td>No 15.8 17.4 13.3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cunnilingus*</td>
<td>Yes 85.0 86.6 82.7</td>
<td>No 15.0 13.4 17.3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anal sex</td>
<td>Yes 22.7 22.6 22.9</td>
<td>No 77.3 77.4 77.1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100.0 100.0 100.0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Females and males differ significantly at p<.05. Note: Percentages are weighted.

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**FIGURE 1. Percentage distribution of young adults, by sexual activities they had ever engaged in with their current partner of at least three months**

- Vaginal sex, cunnilingus and fellatio
- Vaginal sex, cunnilingus, fellatio and anal sex
- Vaginal sex only
- Vaginal sex and cunnilingus
- Vaginal sex and fellatio
- Other combinations