TABLE 4. Odds ratios from logistic regression analyses assessing the likelihood of acquiring an STD during young adulthood, by selected characteristics, according to gender

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Characteristic</th>
<th>Females (N=5,297)</th>
<th>Males (N=4,505)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Model 1</td>
<td>Model 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age/partners’ age difference†</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&lt;16, partner ≥ 3 yrs. older</td>
<td>3.02***</td>
<td>2.64**</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&lt;16, partner &lt; 3 yrs. older</td>
<td>1.35</td>
<td>1.16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>≥16, partner ≥ 3 yrs. older</td>
<td>1.04</td>
<td>1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>≥16, partner &lt; 3 yrs. older (ref)</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Never had sex</td>
<td>1.20</td>
<td>1.04</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Individual and family characteristics

Race/ethnicity

White (ref) | na | 1.00 | 1.00 | na | 1.00 | 1.00 |
Black       | na | 5.54*** | 5.44*** | na | 4.52*** | 4.48*** |
Hispanic    | na | 1.64* | 1.65* | na | 3.07*** | 3.08*** |
Other       | na | 1.75 | 1.74 | na | 2.08* | 2.09* |

Age at Wave 3 (range, 18–27) | na | 0.95 | 0.95 | na | 0.90 | 0.91 |
Age at Wave 3 (range, 13–17) | na | 1.01 | 1.01 | na | 1.05 | 1.04 |
PVT score (range, 0–4)        | na | 0.99 | 0.99 | na | 0.98** | 0.98** |

Parent-teenager connectedness‡ (range, 1–9) | na | 1.00 | 1.00 | na | 0.95 | 0.94 |
Live with two biological/adoptive parents | na | 0.82 | 0.82 | na | 0.82 | 0.82 |
Receive government aid         | na | 1.43* | 1.46* | na | 1.09 | 1.11 |
Had pregnancy/AIDS education   | na | 0.86 | 0.86 | na | 0.82 | 0.82 |
Parent education’ (range, 1–9) | na | 1.11 | 1.10 | na | 1.17 | 1.18 |
Parent-teenager communication‡ (range, 0–4) | na | 0.96 | 0.96 | na | 0.97 | 0.97 |
Substance use index‡ (range, 0–5) | na | 0.91 | 0.89 | na | 1.11 | 1.10 |
Educational aspirations (range, 0–4) | na | 0.91 | 0.91 | na | 1.14 | 1.14 |

Relationship history characteristics

No. of sexual partners by Wave 2 (range, 0–10) | na | na | 1.00 | na | na | 1.18 |
Ever had a nonromantic partner (ref) | na | na | 1.72* | na | na | 0.85 |
Ever forced to have sex$ | na | na | 0.80 | na | na | na |

F          | 6.16*** | 13.53*** | 11.13*** | 4.50*** | 8.03*** | 8.23*** |
df        | 5      | 21      | 25      | 5      | 21      | 23      |

*P<.05. **P<.01. ***P<.001. †Measured at Waves 1 and 2; refers to riskiest relationship. ‡Higher scores denote higher levels of the characteristic. §Females only. Notes: na=not applicable. ref=reference group. PVT=Peabody Picture Vocabulary Test. For definitions of scales, see page 20.

of marriage. Reporting no sexual partners through Wave 2 was associated with reduced odds of this outcome (odds ratio, 0.5). When individual- and family-level controls were included, this association was unchanged. Being black or Hispanic and reporting higher levels of substance use were associated with elevated odds of fathering a child outside of marriage, while levels of cognitive ability and parent education were inversely related to the odds of fathering a child outside of marriage.

Controlling for relationship characteristics eliminated the association of not having had a sexual partner by Wave 2, but the associations of individual and family controls remained unchanged. One relationship history characteristic, number of sexual partners, was positively associated with a respondent’s likelihood of fathering a child outside of marriage.

Positive STD test. Females who had had sex at a young age with a partner at least three years their senior had elevated odds of testing positive for an STD (odds ratio, 2.4). Additionally, being black or Hispanic and receipt of government aid were related to increased odds of a positive STD test result. Also, the odds of testing positive for an STD were raised if females had ever had a nonromantic partner (1.7).

Among males, those who had had sex before age 16 with a similar-aged partner had elevated odds of testing positive for an STD (odds ratio, 2.1). This association was not significantly reduced by the addition of individual- and family-level controls. Black, Hispanic and other minority racial or ethnic groups had increased odds of a positive STD test, and the likelihood of testing positive was inversely related to cognitive ability. With the addition of relationship history characteristics, having sex at a young age lost significance, but neither relationship history measure was associated with a positive STD test for males.

Contrast Analyses

Teenage births. In contrast analyses that included just the age and age difference measure (the first model in Table 5), females who had had early sex with an older partner had almost twice as high odds of having a teenage birth as females whose riskiest relationship had begun before age 16 with a similar-aged partner (odds ratio, 1.8); they had more than three times as high odds of having a teenage birth as those who had had sex at age 16 or older with a partner three or more years their senior (3.1). These differences were no longer significant in models controlling for individual- and family-level characteristics and for these as well as relationship history characteristics.

None of the contrasts of the combined age and age difference variable were associated with teenage fatherhood. However, in the initial model, males who had had sex before age 16 had higher odds of this outcome than males who had had sex at a later age, regardless of partner age difference (odds ratio, 2.1). This difference did not remain significant in the subsequent models.

Nonmarital births. Females who had had early sex with an older partner were more likely to experience a nonmarital birth than both females who had had early sex with a similar-aged partner (odds ratio, 1.7) and those who had had sex later with an older partner (1.5). After controls for individual and family characteristics were added, neither of these comparisons remained significant. Among males, those who had had early sex with an older partner did not differ significantly from either comparison group in any of the models assessing nonmarital birth.

Positive STD test. In each model, females who had had sex before age 16 with an older partner had at least twice as high odds of testing positive for an STD as those who had had early sex with a similar-aged partner and those who had sex at age 16 or older with an older partner. For males, none of the comparisons among combined age and age difference categories were significant. However, males who had had sex before age 16 had twice