

Table 1. Twelve-month continuation rates, median length of use (in months) and commodity requirements per couple-year of protection (CYP), by contraceptive method

Method	Continuation rate	Length of use in months*	Requirements for one CYP†
Pill	0.52	12.9	14 cycles
Injectable	0.49	11.7	12.6 injections
Condoms	0.63	18.0	105 units
IUD	0.72	25.3	1 device
Sterilization‡	na	129.6	1 procedure

*Calculated using a life-table methodology, assuming constant risk of discontinuation from month to month. The monthly survivorship function s is estimated from the 12-month continuation rate r using $s=r^{1/12}$; the median number of months of continuation t is solved for in the equation $st=0.5$. †CYP requirements for oral contraceptives, condoms and injectables correspond to "empirical" CYP conversion factors from Stover J et al. (see table sources). The requirement for one-month injectables was calculated from conversion factors for two- and three-month injectables. ‡The average age at sterilization is 30 years (see reference 1). Following the recommendations of Stover J et al. (see table sources), this corresponds to 10.8 years of contraceptive protection. *Note:* na=not applicable. *Sources:* **Oral contraceptives, injectables and IUDs**—Instituto Nacional de Estadística, Geografía e Informática, *Encuesta Nacional de la Dinámica Demográfica*, Mexico City: Instituto Nacional de Estadística, 1992; **condoms**—Hatcher RA et al., *Contraceptive Technology*, 16th ed., New York: Irvington Publishers, 1994; **sterilization**—Stover J et al., *Empirically Based Conversion Factors for Calculating Couple-Years of Protection*, Chapel Hill, NC: The Evaluation Project, 1997.