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YOUNG ADULT REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH SURVEY
IN TWO DELEGATIONS OF MEXICO CITY

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CHAPTER 1.

Introduction

There has been much recent interest in teenage fertility in Latin America, including concerns about early initiation of childbearing, unintended pregnancies, and the relatively high rate of premarital conceptions among women entering unions (1-3). However, representative sample surveys in Latin America, directed at young people to document their attitudes toward sexual education and sexual activity, history of sexual experience, and use of contraception, have been rare. Most investigations on teenagers have been conducted using either clinic populations or school populations as the study group (4-7). It is obvious that these populations are not representative of the general population.

The Mexico City Household Survey of Young Adult Reproductive Health was developed along the lines of the Johns Hopkins Surveys of Adolescent Sexuality based on a nationally representative sample of young women aged 15-19 living in households in the United States (8-11). The Mexico City Survey was conducted by the Center for Adolescent Orientation and the Mexican Academy of Medical Demography in two large delegations of the city, Venustiano Carranza and Iztapalapa, during the period March-July 1985. The total population of these delegations is almost 2 million. Seventy percent of the households in this area are classified as lower socioeconomic by the Mexican Electoral Commission, and 30 percent are classified as middle socioeconomic.

The primary reasons for selecting these two delegations were: (1) By limiting the geographic area, better quality control was possible to study the

feasibility of a Young Adult Reproductive Health Survey, since it was the first household survey of this type in Latin America; (2) a smaller geographic area helped minimize field costs; and (3) young adult centers were in operation in these two delegations, and the results could be used as baseline data for the future evaluation of the activities of these centers.

Methodology

Personal interviews were conducted with a multistage area probability sample of men and women 15-24 years of age with interviews conducted by trained male and female interviewers, respectively, that lasted an average of 25 minutes. Independent samples were selected for male and female respondents. The interview focused on previous formal or informal courses on sex education and their content, attitudes toward sex education, sexual activity, family planning, fertility, history of sexual experience, and use of contraceptives as well as a wide range of social, economic, and demographic characteristics. A summary of the sampling design is presented here. Those readers who are interested in a detailed description of the sampling design are referred to the Spanish language report (12).

Based on results from the 1980 census, the average number of young adults 15-24 years of age per household was estimated as follows for each of the two delegations:

| | <u>Females</u> | <u>Males</u> |
|---------------------|----------------|--------------|
| Venustiano Carranza | .50 | .54 |
| Iztapalapa | .62 | .64 |

To obtain a self-weighted sample of approximately 1,000 females and 1,000 males, it was estimated that it would be necessary to visit 3,600 households (1,800 for each sex) based on a minimum of 0.55 young adults per household. Males and females would be interviewed in independent samples for each sex.

Dividing 3,600 into the total number of 363,119 households in the two delegations results in a probability of selection equal to 0.009914 or 1/100.87 essentially equal to 1/100.

The primary sampling unit was the block selected with probability proportional to the number of households. The second stage of the sampling design included segments or clusters of 18 contiguous households (expected to yield 10 young adults each) in each block chosen in the first stage of selection. To determine the number of blocks required, the total number of households was divided by the cluster size times the inverse of the probability of selection of the household (sampling fraction), or

$$\frac{363,119}{18 \times 100.87} = 199.99$$

This number was rounded to 200 for the systematic selection of blocks following a random start. Of the 200 blocks selected, 100 were assigned to the male sample and 100 to the female sample.

However, during the first week of field work, a lower proportion of young adults per household was found--approximately 0.45 per household instead of the expected 0.55. Two decisions were made: Revise the total number of households to be visited, based on a minimum of 0.40 young adults per household, and increase the sample size from 1,000 to 1,500 young adults of each sex. Thus, a doubling of the cluster size to 36 households, or 3,600 for each sex, times 0.40 per household would yield approximately 1,440 young adults (as described below, the final ratio of young adults per household was 0.50 for females and 0.45 for males). The overall sampling fraction in this case was 1/50.

Given that the statistics presented in this paper are based on a probability sample, we are able to calculate sampling errors to measure the variation associated with the estimate presented. For example, the 95 percent confidence interval for the variable premarital sexual experience, utilizing two standard errors, would be 2.8 percent and 4.7 percent for females and males 15-19 years of age, respectively, including the estimated design effect.

As shown in the upper portion of Table 2-1, 26.4 percent of households in the male sample had at least one eligible respondent identified compared with 31.1 percent of households in the female sample. The lower portion of Table 2-1 shows that there were 1,539 and 1,735 possible male and female respondents, respectively. Complete interviews were obtained for 91.1 percent of eligible male respondents for a total of 1,402 interviews, and 91.1 percent of eligible female respondents for a total of 1,581 interviews. Five to six percent of identified eligible respondents of each sex could not be interviewed after three to nine visits to the household. Refusals were low--only 1.2 percent for males and 2.4 percent for females.

CHAPTER 3.

General Characteristics of Respondents

Very few 15-to-19-year-olds have ever been married or in a consensual union-- only 12.5 percent of females and 4.4 percent of males (Table 3-1). Even among 20-24-year-olds, only 56.8 percent of females and 28.1 percent of males have ever been married or reported a consensual union. Males 20-24 years of age report better education levels compared with females--50.2 percent with greater than a secondary education compared with 31.8 percent. However, for 15-19-year-olds, the proportion of males (24.5 percent) and females (20.1 percent) with greater than a secondary education is similar so that educational differences may be narrowing, or they don't appear until after age 20. A substantially greater proportion of females than males report that they neither study or work. In fact, only 8.3 percent of 15-19-year-old males and 3.8 percent of 20-24-year-old males report that they neither study or work. These same figures for females were 26.9 and 43.7 percent, respectively.

The age distribution of young adults with complete interviews is compared with 1980 census data for the same two delegations--Venustiano Carranza and Iztapalapa. The age distribution found in the survey is somewhat younger when compared with census data collected 5 years earlier. This is true for both females and males and is reflected in the average age, which is 19.4 for both sexes in the census and 19.2 and 19.0 for females and males, respectively, in the household survey.

CHAPTER 4.

Sexual Experience and Use of Contraception

As shown in the top panel of Table 4-1, of the females interviewed, 13.4 percent of 15-19-year-olds and 39.1 percent of 20-24-year-olds reported that they have had premarital sexual intercourse. These figures for the males were 43.5 and 85.7 percent, respectively. The proportion reporting premarital sexual intercourse increases with age, levelling off at ages 22-24 for women and 21-24 for men. Similar patterns are seen for never married young adults (bottom panel), except that the proportions are smaller, since they do not include those who have already entered into a marital union who were more likely to have had premarital intercourse. The differences for males are minimal because very few men have entered into a marital union.

Age at first premarital sexual intercourse is shown in Table 4-2. Almost 13 percent of females (12.7 percent) had their first premarital intercourse at less than 15 years of age. The mean age is 17.0. Sexual experience begins earlier for men. More than one-fourth (26.9 percent) of sexually experienced males report that their first experience was before age 15. The mean age at first intercourse is 15.7. By age 19, more than 90 percent of sexually experienced males have had their first relation.

Almost all women who have had premarital sexual relations reported that their first partner was either their steady boyfriend or they were engaged (Table 4-3). For younger males, the majority of first sexual partners were considered friends and for older males, slightly less than one-half were friends, and one-half were reported to be their fiance or steady girlfriend. About 6 percent of males reported that their first partner was a prostitute.

Most females (81.1 percent) and males (63.1 percent) reported that their first premarital partner was older than they were (Table 4-4). The mean age of first partners for females was 20.6 compared with 17.0--their mean age at first intercourse. The gap in age difference decreases as the age at first intercourse increases. For males, whose mean age at first premarital intercourse is 15.7, the mean age of their first partner was 18.4. Of those who report their first intercourse at less than 15 years of age and 15-17 years of age, only 28.7 and 31.3 percent of their partners were their age or younger, respectively. If their first premarital experience was 18 or 19 years of age, approximately one-half (49.3 percent) of their partners were their ages or younger and if they were 20-24 years of age, almost two-thirds (65.9 percent) of their partners were their age or younger.

Most females and males, who had first intercourse at 18 years old or older, reported a motel or hotel as the place of first premarital sexual intercourse (Table 4-5). For those who had first intercourse at less than 18 years of age, most reported their house or their partner's house as the place of first intercourse.

As shown in Table 4-6, only 22.4 percent of females and 31 percent of males reported using contraception at the time of their first premarital intercourse. The use of contraception increases with age from 14.6 to 32.0 percent for females and from 16.3 to 51.2 percent for males. The methods principally used were rhythm or condoms (Table 4-7). A greater percentage of female users reported rhythm as their method of contraception. We cannot rule out the possibility that some males did not know that their partner was using the rhythm method as they may not have been familiar with their partner's menstrual cycle patterns. We also compared use of contraception, and specifically the

rhythm method, during first premarital sexual intercourse and knowledge of the fertile period during the menstrual cycle (see Chapter 7 for more detailed data on knowledge of the fertile period). A greater proportion of females using contraception reported correct knowledge of the fertile period than males (Table 4-8). However, this difference was not statistically significant (at the $p=.05$ level). Also, knowledge of the fertile period was essentially equal if she reported the rhythm method or any other method of contraception. For males, knowledge of the fertile period was essentially the same if they used or did not use contraception at first premarital intercourse.

Sixty-nine percent of female users, and 54.1 percent of males said that it was a joint decision on the part of the couple to use contraception (Table 4-9). More men than women stated that the decision belonged to their partner or that the partner made the decision. A greater proportion of males and females used contraception at first intercourse if they had sex education in school (Table 4-10). Obviously, educational achievement has an effect also. As mentioned in Chapter 7, a multivariate analysis to further study this relationship will be forthcoming following this report.

Most nonusers of contraception at first premarital intercourse reported that they didn't expect to have intercourse at that time and were not prepared to use contraception (Table 4-11). No knowledge of contraception is a factor for those less than 18 years of age among both males and females. Among females less than 20 years of age at time of first intercourse, 13.5 percent stated that they desired a pregnancy. For females 20-24 years of age at first intercourse, one-fourth (26.5 percent) stated that they desired a pregnancy. Less than 2 percent of males gave this reason for not using contraception.

The next set of tables (4-13 through 4-15) deal with females whose first sexual intercourse occurred at marriage. The tables deal with females only since almost all ever married males report premarital sexual experience. However, to put these women into perspective, the proportion of both females and males reporting premarital sexual intercourse by marital status is shown in Table 4-12. For females, slightly over one-half of those ever married report premarital sexual experience in both the 15-19- and 20-24-year- old age groups in contrast to the 3:1 difference (20-24-year-olds vs. 15-19- year-olds) in premarital sexual experience seen for all women and never married women. Thus, those women who had first intercourse at the time of marriage represent slightly less than half of all married women at 15-24 years of age.

Only 19.7 percent of women who were virgins at marriage reported using contraception at first sexual intercourse—13.8 percent of those married before 18 years of age and 24.8 percent of those married between 18 and 24 years of age (Table 4-13). As shown in Table 4-14, most contracepting women reported using either rhythm or oral contraceptives. The proportion using contraception at first intercourse within marriage (19.7 percent) is not very different than the proportion using at first premarital intercourse (22.4 percent as shown in Table 4-6). However, reasons for not using contraception are substantially different. As shown in Table 4-11, most women and men who reported premarital intercourse at age 15 or higher did not anticipate or did not expect to have intercourse when they did. For women who did not use contraception when first intercourse occurred at marriage, 48.7 percent reported that they desired a pregnancy. When married at ages 20-24, 60.6 percent desired a pregnancy. The second most important reason (21.2 percent) was no knowledge of contraception, which was inversely related to age at marriage.

As mentioned previously, the premarital sexual experience rate for males is much higher than that for females. However, about 30 percent of unmarried respondents of each sex who have had sexual experience were currently sexually active (intercourse within the past month), (Table 4-16). Of those currently sexually active, 75.0 percent of females and 81.8 percent of males reported using contraception. Further analysis of the data will look at the interval from first sexual intercourse without contraception to the beginning of use of contraception and relationship of first pregnancy and first use of contraception.

A final table concerning current sexual activity (Table 4-17) shows the frequency of relations for sexually active unmarried young adults. The great majority of both females and males report having sexual relations only one to three times during the past month. All but one female respondent reported only one sexual partner while about one-fourth of the males reported more than one sexual partner.

The methods used by sexually active unmarried females and males are shown in Table 4-18. Almost half of sexually active females report rhythm (41.7 percent) followed by oral contraceptives (19.4 percent) and the IUD and injectables (11.1 percent each). Fewer women reported the use of the orals at first intercourse, and none reported the IUD. Sexually active males also reported rhythm (29.0 percent) as their most used method. More males than females reported withdrawal, vaginal methods, and condom. Withdrawal and vaginal methods were reported by a greater proportion of younger males and oral contraception by a greater proportion of older males.

About 60 percent of married females (60.9 percent) and males (58.7 percent) report they are currently using contraception (Table 4-19). For females, this ranges from 37.6 percent of 15-19-year-olds to 67.2 percent of 20-24-year-olds. Compared with sexually active unmarried females, married females use more effective methods with 76.7 percent using the IUD (38.5 percent), oral contraceptives (27.4 percent), or injectables (10.8 percent) (Table 4-20). Married men follow the same patterns—more than half of their partners use either the IUD or oral contraceptives.

There is unknown information on reasons for not using contraception for 14.1 percent of married females and 29.7 percent of married males (Table 4-21). However, for those reporting reasons, most married couples that are not using contraception are not doing so for reasons related to pregnancy or fecundity. Almost two-thirds of the females are currently pregnant or want to get pregnant. The same is true for 46.8 percent of the male's partners. If we exclude the unknown responses, these figures are 81.1 percent and 66.6 percent for females and males, respectively.

The majority of unmarried females and males who are current users of contraception obtain them from other than Government programs* (Table 4-22). A much greater proportion of young adults who are married use Government sources of contraception (50.6 percent of females and 47.3 percent of males) compared with very few unmarried young adults (11.5 percent of females and 8.7 percent of males). A large proportion of unmarried users of rhythm or withdrawal report sources where they received information and/or orientation about the method. Sources for specific methods used by married women are shown in Table 4-23.

*IMSS, SSA, and ISSSTE

Respondents were asked if they would use contraception if they were to have sexual relations in the next 2 weeks. The proportion that would use contraception is shown in Table 4-24 by history of sexual experience: 73.8 percent of females and 84.9 percent of males stated that they would use contraception. Generally, there are not real differences by age or history of sexual experience. However, for sexually experienced females who are currently sexually active, there is a strong, positive relationship between age group and reported intent to use contraception. The same data are shown by current marital status in Table 4-25, and in all age categories fewer married females and males would use contraception. As shown in the next table (4-26), this is primarily because a very high proportion of noncontracepting married females or partners of married males are pregnant or desire a pregnancy. In fact, the lower percentage of sexually active younger women that would use contraception shown in Table 4-24 probably reflects more recently married women that are pregnant or desire a pregnancy.

A significant minority of unmarried females and males stated that contraceptives are bad for health reasons. However, since only 2.7 percent of sexually experienced females and 1.0 percent of sexually experienced males gave this as a reason for not using contraception at first intercourse, we suspected that mostly young adults with no sexual experience gave this as a reason "if they were to have sexual relations in the next 2 weeks." We looked at this response by sexual experience and 91.2 percent of females and 75.0 percent of males who gave this response were in fact virgins. Thus, they were reporting that contraceptives were bad for health, not on the basis of their experience but on what they have heard.

CHAPTER 5.

Fertility

This chapter presents data available on numbers of pregnancies reported by female respondents. By age 20, one-fifth of all women have been pregnant (Table 5-1). Among sexually experienced women, almost two-thirds of those with premarital sexual experience have been pregnant by age 20.

As shown in Table 5-2, half (51.5 percent) of the ever pregnant women reported one pregnancy, 29.1 percent reported two pregnancies, and 19.4 percent three or more pregnancies. Nine percent of 15-17-year-olds have already had two pregnancies, and 5.8 percent of 20-24-year-olds have had four or more pregnancies. The distribution of number of pregnancies by age group by premarital and postmarital sexual experience is similar (Table 5-3).

Whereas 31.7 percent of all women 15-24 have had at least one pregnancy (Table 5-1), 26.7 percent have had at least one live birth. This figure compares favorably to data from the 1982 National Demographic survey in Mexico in which 25.1 percent of 15-24-year-old women in metropolitan areas reported at least one live birth (13). The percent distribution of age at first birth is shown in Table 5-4 by age group.

The age-specific fertility rate for the 24 month period prior to the survey was 51.4 per 1,000 for 15-19-year-olds and 154.0 per 1,000 for 20-24-year-olds (Table 5-5). These rates follow the decline reported for metropolitan areas in Mexico during the 1970's (14).

In Table 5-6, we estimate the percentage of first births premaritally conceived among women ever-in-union by comparing the date of first birth and date of first union. Overall, 31.1 percent--about one-third--of ever-in-union women had a premarital conception. A similar estimate of premaritally conceived births from the 1982 National Demographic Survey was 28.5 percent for metropolitan areas (15). The proportion increases with education for births within the first 7 months of union. There does not appear to be any relationship between educational attainment and births before the union.

The percentage of last pregnancies reported as unintended by age group is shown in Table 5-7. The percentage reported as unintended increases with parity due to the increase by parity reported by 20-24-year-olds, who represent approximately 80 percent of the pregnancies reported. Thus, a better comparison of unintended pregnancies may be by marital status rather than age group, as shown in Table 5-8. Currently married women reported that 12.7 percent of their last pregnancies were unintended. However, this figure increases sharply as the number of pregnancies increases. For those with only one pregnancy, only 4.9 percent were reported as unintended compared with 29.0 percent for women with more than two pregnancies. In contrast, 50.0 percent of first pregnancies to never married women were reported as unintended.

Another interesting observation is in order. Since 54.0 percent of ever-in-union women had premarital sexual experience (Table 4-12), the 31.1 percent of all women-in-union with a premaritally conceived first birth represents 58 percent of women-in-union with premarital sexual experience.

CHAPTER 6:

Sex Education and Use of Youth Centers

The first section of this chapter presents information on sex education within and outside the school system: How many receive formal classes, how classes are taught, and what is being taught. Also, information on what young people think sex education is and how and when it should be taught is presented. The second section discusses problems that young adults identified as prevalent within their peer groups. Participation in youth centers was also examined as well as preferred activities and schedules for youth centers. These data should be useful in designing sex education curricula as well as activities and services that youth centers can offer to promote greater knowledge in the area of reproductive health. Youth centers can play an important role in supplementing sex education received at home as well as at school.

Table 6.1 presents information on whether or not young adults received a formal class in sex education and if so, whether or not they received the class at school or outside the school system by age. Eighty percent of the women and 75.2 percent of the men received some formal sex education. Only 15.2 percent of the women and 11.2 percent of the men received a formal class outside the school system, and usually those who did also had a class at school.

Sex education was officially introduced into the curriculum of the public school system around 1974, which may explain why older respondents were less likely to report attending sex education classes in the schools. The target years for the program have been the fifth and sixth years of primary school. Before getting married, it is not uncommon for the young couple to attend a seminar about marriage. One component of this seminar includes sex education

and information on family planning. Attendance of these seminars may explain the positive correlation between sex education outside schools and age.

As Table 6.2 shows, 56.9 percent of the women and 42.4 percent of the men who have had a formal class in school received their first class in the last 2 years of primary school. Thus, a high percentage of respondents did not receive the first class until later than specified in the guidelines. For both sexes, only a small percentage had their first sex education class beyond the secondary level.

Table 6.3 presents data on the sex and professional status of the person who gave the first class in sex education at school. More than half of the women were taught by a woman and 58.4 percent of the men by a man. Eighty percent or greater for both sexes were taught by teachers and much smaller percentages by physicians, psychologists, social workers, etc.

The respondents who had had a class in sex education at school were asked if that first class contained information about the menstrual cycle, contraceptive methods, and sexually transmitted diseases. Respondents may have confused the subject matter of subsequent classes with that of the first class. If this were the case, the association between time of first class and percentage who had learned about a specific topic would be even stronger, since reporting of having learned about a subject would be inflated among those who had a first class in primary school. Table 6.4 shows that for all topics, the higher the grade in school one received his or her first class, the more likely the class was to include that topic. Women were more likely than men to receive information regarding the menstrual cycle while men were more likely than women to learn about STDs in their first class except in cases in which the first class occurred above the secondary level.

Men and women received information about contraceptive methods at about the same rate; if the first class was given the fifth year of primary or before, only about 27 percent of both sexes received information on contraceptive methods. When the first class was given during the first year of secondary, 52.4 percent of the women and 57.7 percent of the men received this information. These percentages increased to greater than 80 percent for both sexes when the first class occurred at a level greater than secondary. The low coverage of contraceptive methods in these first classes has serious implications when compared with the ages at which sexual relations begin. Of respondents who reported having had premarital sexual relations at the time of interview, 23.6 percent of the women and 46.9 percent of the men said that their first sexual relation occurred at age 15 or younger (see Table 4.2). Young adults who are initiating sexual activity need to have access to information and methods in order to make responsible decisions concerning pregnancy.

As the first column of Table 6.4 shows, almost all first classes of sex education contained information on the menstrual cycle for the women. Table 6.5 presents the cumulative distribution of the women's age at which they received their first class that contained information on the menstrual cycle and the age at menarche. At age 12, 49.8 percent of the women had begun to menstruate while 46.7 percent of the women who had had a class had a first class containing information on the menstrual cycle. At age 13, 77.8 percent had experienced menarche while only 65.8 percent had had a class that included the pertinent information. There were also about 300 women who never had a class, reducing the percentage to 50 percent. The most appropriate time to introduce the theme of menstruation is before menarche occurs. The policy for introducing sex education into the curriculum of the fifth and sixth years of primary school should ensure that young women receive this information before

menarche. However, less than 50 percent of the young women had received information on menstruation by age 12, indicating that the policy has not been implemented.

In Table 6.1, we observed that 15.2 percent of the women and 11.2 percent of the men had received formal instruction in sex education outside the school system. Table 6.6 summarizes where these other classes occurred, the sex and profession of the instructor, and the information contained therein. About a quarter of both sexes received classes through the auspices of IMSS--the Mexican Institute of Social Security. Smaller percentages of both sexes had classes at a church or with a religious group, DIF (Sistema Nacional de Desarrollo de la Familia), and youth centers. The SSA (Mexican Ministry of Health) was also an important source for women.

As in the schools, most women had classes with women and most men with men. Unlike the schools where the instructors were largely teachers, almost half of the instructors were physicians. Equally high percentages of both sexes received information on the menstrual cycle and contraceptive methods while 73.4 percent of the women learned about STDs compared with 89.8 percent of the men.

Respondents were also asked the source of the first information they received about sexual relations that was not in a classroom. Apparently the question was not well understood because 25 percent of the women 20-24 years of age reported never having received information and another 14 percent responded the school, even though the question explicitly ruled out this option (data not shown). Consequently, this information has not been included in the report.

In order to determine what young adults understand by the term sex education, respondents were asked about their perceptions. The answers were coded as follows: biological concept and biopsychosocial concept. The primary objective of the question was to investigate the suspicion that young adults perceive only the biological aspects of sex education. Furthermore, as Tables 6.7 and 6.8 indicate, formal classes appear to reinforce this biological interpretation. Regardless of whether or not the respondent had had a class in school or outside of school, the majority of men and women who expressed an opinion understood sex education to be exclusively biological in orientation.

If the respondent never had sex education in school, 28.8 percent of the women and a third of the men could not express an opinion. If a class was taken outside the school, male and female respondents were more likely to understand sex education as including psychosocial aspects. Such classes are usually offered by the church and public institutions to couples engaged to marry. These classes emphasize the development of personal relationships. For both sexes, the older a person the more likely he or she was to have an opinion and to define sex education in biopsychosocial terms. Having achieved higher levels of education also meant a greater likelihood of having an opinion; nevertheless, among respondents who achieved greater than a secondary education, 69.2 percent of the women and 53.4 percent of the men restricted their view of sex education to the biological aspects.

Tables 6.9 and 6.10 present the respondents' opinions about the most appropriate age at which sex education should be initiated. The majority of both sexes believe sex education should begin between the ages of 11 and 14, which is in agreement with the public school policy. If a respondent had had sex education in school, he or she was more likely than someone who had not had a

class to recommend sex education before the age of 11. The older the respondent, the more likely he or she was to encourage sex education at early ages. Larger percentages of men than women consistently recommended the initiation of sex education as late as 15-20 years of age. Why recommendations should vary by sex is not clear.

All respondents were asked their opinion regarding the best way to teach sex education in the school classroom. The clear majority of both sexes recommended that boys and girls not be separated (Tables 6.11 and 6.12). Men and women who had had a class at school were more likely than those who had never attended a class to recommend classes with the sexes together. Older ages, and especially greater levels of education, were also associated with higher percentages recommending that classes address both sexes together. The policy to include sex education in the school curriculum has not stipulated how classes are to be organized, and they may vary according to instructor preference.

All respondents were questioned about what they perceived to be the most common problem for young people in their age group. The identification of areas of concern for young adults should help guide youth centers in selecting activities and services. These data have been tabulated in Table 6.13 according to age. Men and women both view the primary problem as drugs and alcohol. However, it is interesting to note that for both sexes, as age increases, the importance of drugs and alcohol as a problem decreases while the importance of the lack of employment, especially for the men, increases. Relatively few respondents reported concern about sex as the most important problem in their peer group. It is important for program planners, who are designing components for the promotion of reproductive health, to remember that the topic of sexuality should be complemented by the other topics that the youths themselves identify as important.

Respondents were asked what type of activities they preferred that a youth center offer, and what the best schedule might be to fit their needs. These data are presented in Tables 6.14, 6.15, and 6.16, respectively. The implications of these results are obvious. Almost half of the women and greater than half of the men preferred organized sports, although the percentages dropped as age increased. Second in importance for both sexes were cultural and artistic activities and these percentages increased with age. Vocational orientation and orientation to drugs and alcohol were also mentioned by sizable proportions of each sex; however, considering the very large percentage of each sex that mentioned drugs and alcohol as the largest problem (Table 6.13) of their age groups, the desire for counseling on drugs and alcohol is surprisingly small, especially for the men who were the most adamant about drugs as a problem. Either the respondents failed to need these services for themselves but recognized the need in others, or they were reluctant to admit their own need to the interviewer. Also, they may regard a youth center as a place to have fun and not a place to attend counseling sessions.

Table 6.15 and 6.16 show schedule preference by age group and work status for females and males, respectively. Women preferred to attend activities at youth centers in the afternoons and their second choice was the morning. This is true for all ages. If she worked and studied, evenings and weekends offered popular alternatives. Men's preferences were distinct from the women's: The men 15-17 years of age, who either studied exclusively or neither worked nor studied, preferred the afternoons. If they worked exclusively or worked and studied, mornings and afternoons were equally attractive and evenings a close third choice. Older men who were students generally preferred the afternoon, and those who worked found mornings, afternoons and evenings all good choices.

Tables 6.17 and 6.18 focus on the experience that young adults in Venustiano Carranza and Iztapalapa have had with youth centers. Table 6.17 shows that relatively small proportions of both sexes have ever participated in such a center: 17.1 percent of the women and 15.8 percent of the men. Table 6.18 presents the reasons why respondents who know of a center have never participated in any activities. About half of each sex reported as a reason the lack of time and as age of the respondent increased, so did the importance of this reason. Dislike/lack of interest and lack of availability were also important reasons for both sexes. The reasons for not participating indicate that these young adults are a difficult group to attract. It is important to establish programs or activities where these young people are found: schools, the workplace, and the community in general.

CHAPTER 7:

Knowledge of Reproductive Health

This chapter presents information on knowledge of young adults concerning several aspects of reproductive health: sexually transmitted diseases, contraceptive methods, the fertile period and the health risks of childbearing. These data should be useful in designing sex education curricula and IE&C programs to help young adults understand the health risks of intercourse and pregnancy and to provide them with information on how to avoid these risks.

Tables 7.1 and 7.2 provide data on the knowledge of three STDs (syphilis, gonorrhea and herpes) by level of education and whether or not the respondent had sex education in school. During the interview, the respondent was asked to spontaneously name the STDs that he or she knew. If a particular disease was not mentioned, the interviewer asked the respondent if he or she had ever heard of it. The interviewer also inquired about trichomonas and chancre, but these two have not been included in the tables because they were so rarely known. Syphilis and gonorrhea were better known than herpes. Of the women who had sex education in school, two-thirds had heard of syphilis and gonorrhea while only a third had heard of herpes. For women without a class in sex education, half as many had heard of the diseases. Men showed greater knowledge of STDs than women.

For both sexes, education was positively associated with knowledge. It is worthwhile noting that generally the young adults with at least a secondary education but no sex education in school reported a greater knowledge of STDs than the young adults who had a primary education and had had sex education in

school. It appears that education has a much larger impact than a class but as indicated in Table 6.4, less than half of the first sex education classes in primary school included STDs as a topic.

Table 7.3 provides data on knowledge of STDs among young adults according to their current age, marital status, and whether or not they have had premarital sexual intercourse. Women whose first sexual relation occurred before marriage were more likely than women whose first relationship took place at the time of marriage to have heard of STDs. This comparison could not be made for men because of the very small number of men who did not have intercourse before marriage. Unmarried men who have had intercourse have heard of STDs more frequently than the unmarried, unexperienced men and the ever-married men. In general, the older a person was, the greater his or her knowledge.

Table 7.4 presents the percentage of young men and women who have heard of each method of contraception by age groups. Knowledge of methods is very high among women with over 89 percent or more reporting that they have heard of oral contraceptives, injectables, female sterilization, and the IUD. Ninety percent of the men had heard of orals and condoms. Women were more familiar than men with the methods most commonly used by women (orals, injectables, female sterilization, and the IUD). On the other hand, men showed greater knowledge than women of barrier methods, condoms, and withdrawal.

Knowledge of methods varied according to whether the respondents had had sex education at school as seen in Table 7.5. Among the women, the differences were not large for such methods as orals, injectables, female sterilizations, the IUD, and Billings. Differences in knowledge of the "male" methods were greater. Exposure to sex education at school translated into percentages at least 10 points higher than knowledge and no class. For the men, sex education

at school made little difference (less than 10 percentage points) in the knowledge of orals, injectables, and Billings. For other methods, however, differences were much larger. Controlling for education achieved may attenuate any impact of a class in school upon knowledge.

Knowledge of contraceptive methods was expected to vary according to whether or not the respondent had engaged in sexual intercourse and, in fact, it did. In Table 7.6, for both sexes knowledge was greater when the respondent had had sexual relations. Women who had premarital intercourse were more likely than women who didn't have intercourse until marriage to have heard of condoms or rhythm. These are also two of the methods that a woman or a couple might be most likely to choose if sexual activity were sporadic.

Table 7.7 presents the proportion of young adults that correctly identified at what point in the menstrual cycle a woman was most likely to become pregnant. When analyzed by education, respondents who had completed more than secondary schooling were the most likely to identify the correct answer (2 weeks after the onset of menstruation). Nevertheless, the percentages are not high: 39.5 percent of the women and only 29.6 percent of the men.

Men and women who had never had sexual intercourse were the least likely to know when the fertile period occurs. The group most likely to know, and the group perhaps at greatest risk of an unintended pregnancy, were individuals who have never been married but are sexually experienced.

Table 7.8 also provides information on knowledge of the fertile period by whether or not the respondent had a class on sex education at school, controlling for age and level of education achieved. Controlling for education, knowledge of the fertile period was higher for those who had not had a class

as compared with those who had had a class, with the exception of men with a primary education. Education, however, was positively associated with knowledge for women whether or not they had a class, but for men only if they did not have a class. In general, the older the respondent the more likely he or she was to correctly identify the fertile period.

Clearly many factors contribute to the knowledge of when a woman in her menstrual cycle is most fertile. To determine more precisely which variables best explain the difference in knowledge, further multivariate analyses are necessary, which are beyond the scope of this report but will be carried out in the future.

The final table of this chapter discusses the perceptions young adults have concerning the risks of childbearing. They were asked between what ages there is likely to be less risk of pregnancy complications. These data are tabulated in Table 7.9. The Family Planning Division of the Mexican Institute for Social Security has defined as high risk women under the age of 20 and older than 35. The percentages in the table refer to the respondents who reported an age younger than 20 and exceeding 35. For example, 38.0 percent of the women 15-17 years of age believed that pregnancy below the age of 20 was not associated with increased risks compared with 43.7 percent of the men in the same age group. However, only 10.4 percent of the women and 6.9 percent of the men said that pregnancy over 35 was not particularly risky. In general, large proportions of men and women do not consider childbearing under 20 hazardous. It could be that they consider age 20 as safe but would have considered under age 18 as risky. Women with a secondary education were the least likely to include ages less than 20 (25.2 percent). At the upper limit of the range, women who initiated sexual relations at the time of marriage were the least likely to report ages over 35 (3.8 percent).

There is some reason to believe that this question was not fully understood by all interviewees. At times, unreasonably young ages were reported. These respondents probably understood the question to ask about biological easibility as opposed to the safest ages for reproduction. Another question that seemed to be "biologically" interpreted concerned the age at which a man and a woman are sufficiently responsible to have their first child. This question was designed to elicit ages that indicated emotional maturity; however, the data were inconsistent with the results of the question to determine ideal age for marriage: Average ages indicating "responsibility" were considerably lower than average ideal ages for marriage. Consequently, the data for this latter question have not been analyzed.

CHAPTER 8:

Attitudes Toward Contraception and Sexuality

This chapter focuses on the attitudes that young Mexican adults have concerning marriage, childbearing, sexual activity, and family planning. Specifically, respondents were asked what they consider to be the ideal age of marriage, family size, and relationship before engaging in sexual relations. Also analyzed are opinions on the appropriateness of a married woman working. In reference to contraception, respondents were asked whose responsibility it is to use a contraceptive method and what methods are the most appropriate for their age group. Finally, a series of questions on attitudes towards contraception, sexual practices and roles, and sex education are studied.

This information was collected for several reasons. First, myths and stereotypes abound concerning what young adults think and do, but much of this information is of anecdotal origin. The tables that follow provide objective data on what young adults think about issues concerning reproductive health. Secondly, the data should be useful in designing IE&C programs. Program managers need to know what behaviors and attitudes need to be reinforced and which require intervention.

Table 8.1 shows the ideal age at marriage for both men and women by selected characteristics. Both sexes agreed that the ideal age at marriage for women was lower than for men. However, the female interviewees thought that the ideal age for a woman was slightly higher than did the male respondents. Also, women thought that men should marry at an older age than the men reported for themselves. The age group of the respondent did not affect the reported ideal age, but education and student status did have an impact. Generally, the more education a respondent (male or female) had, the more likely he or she was to

report higher ages. Respondents who were studying and working at the same time also reported higher ideal ages. Single and separated men and women reported higher ideal ages for both sexes than did their married counterparts.

For young adults currently or ever in union, Table 8.2 presents the age at which the respondents were married or entered a consensual union compared with the respondent's ideal age at marriage, i.e., did they marry at their ideal age, at a younger or older age? The majority of young adults (86.8 percent of the women and 83.0 percent of the men) married at an age below their ideal. Relatively small percentages of both men and women actually married at the ages they reported as ideal. The older the age at marriage, the higher the percent of young adults that thought the age at which they married was ideal, or that they married older than their ideal.

The ideal number of children by level of education and sex is presented in Table 8.3. The majority of respondents reported two children as their ideal. Educational achievement among the men was not associated with the ideal number of children. However, an inverse association appears for the women; the higher the level of education achieved, the smaller the ideal number of children. The largest difference appears between women with a primary education or less and those with secondary or greater; 37.2 percent of the former want three or more children compared to 20.8 percent of the latter.

Table 8.4 presents information on a series of questions on attitudes concerning whether married women should work. Two-thirds of the women but less than half of the men answered yes to the question, "Should a married woman work?" Twenty-four percent of the women and 38.3 percent of the men said, "No, she shouldn't," while 9.2 percent of the women and 13.8 percent of the men said it "depended." The higher the respondent's education, the more likely he or she

was to be supportive of a wife working. Of men with greater than a secondary education, two-thirds believed that a married woman should work compared with 82.8 percent of the women in the same educational group.

If the answer to the question, "Should a married woman work?" was no, the reason most frequently response given by both men and women was, "A woman should dedicate herself to caring for the home and children." When an interviewee responded that whether or not a married woman should work "depended," they were asked on what. The primary response was, "If the financial situation was not good."

The results of Tables 8.3 and 8.4 suggest some interesting findings about young Mexican adults, particularly young females. The higher a woman's education, the smaller the number of children she reported as ideal. Likewise, the higher the education, the more likely she was to think that a married woman should work. Better educated women appear to want to work and have fewer children; they may perceive a conflict between working and having a large family. They may also be aware of the high costs of providing education to large numbers of children and the necessity to work to meet these costs.

The next two tables present information on the ideal type of relationship that should exist between a couple before engaging in sexual relations. During the interview, the respondent was given a card on which was printed the question, "Which is the alternative that best describes your way of thinking about sexual relations?" and four alternative answers. The first answer is, "You agree with having sexual relations with friends or acquaintances"--summarized by "friend;" the second answer, "You agree with having sexual relations between boyfriend and girlfriend although they have no plans to marry"--summarized as "boyfriend/ girlfriend;" the third answer, "You agree with having sexual

relations only if the couple has plans to marry"--summarized as "fiance/fiancee;" and finally, "You are never in agreement with having sexual relations outside of marriage"--summarized by "husband/wife." Since the answers were rather lengthy, the purpose of the card was to aid the interviewee to recall the answers and choose the one that best described his or her feelings.

Table 8.5 shows the ideal relationship for sexual relations by sex, age group, education, marital status, and sexual experience. Large differences between male and female respondents exist. Sixty percent of the women reported that the ideal relationship for sexual relations to be initiated was marriage while 29.0 percent said the couple should have plans for marriage. In contrast, the men's answers were fairly evenly distributed over the four relationship categories. Only about half of the men thought the couple should be married or have plans for marriage. Men and women 15-19 used stricter criteria in choosing the ideal relationship as compared with 20-24-year-olds. This relationship may be explained more by experience than by age. The older the person, the more likely he or she was to have had sexual experience. As discussed below, sexual experience affects how respondents feel about sex outside marriage. For women who had achieved better than a secondary education, almost half defined the ideal relationship as other than marriage, but there was no regular association with education. For men, there was a much clearer relationship between education and ideal relationship: the more educated, the less likely to report marriage.

Whether or not the respondent had had intercourse and when first intercourse occurred in relation to marriage, had a clear effect on the most appropriate relationship. For women, the ideal relationship was similar if she had initiated sexual relations only when she married or had not yet had sexual intercourse. Over 90 percent in both groups reported that the partner should

be a husband or fiance. Among the men, the category most likely to answer marriage before initiating sexual relations were those who had never been married and had never engaged in intercourse. For both men and women, the group least likely to report marriage as the ideal relationship were those who had never been married but had initiated sexual relations. Again these results suggest that experience has colored their attitudes.

Table 8.6 shows the actual relationship at the time of first coitus by ideal relationship and sex of the respondent. For this table, the categories fiance/fiancee and boyfriend/girlfriend have been collapsed, because so few people answered fiance/fiancee to define who his or her partner was at first intercourse. Virtually all women described their partner at first intercourse as their husband or their boyfriend/fiance as compared with only 32.4 percent of the men. Among women who said the ideal relationship for intercourse was marriage, about half reported their husband as their first partner and a little less than half reported a boyfriend/fiance. Almost three quarters of the women whose ideal relationship was a boyfriend/fiance reported their first partner as fitting that description. For men, with whom they had intercourse the first time was not associated with the ideal relationship. Those saying marriage was about as likely to initiate sexual relations with a friend as those reporting that the most appropriate relationship was a friend.

Table 8.7 provides information on attitudes towards who in the sexual relationship should make the decision to use a contraceptive method. More than 90 percent of both female and male respondents said that the decision should be made jointly. When just one sex was indicated, generally it was the woman. As the level of education increased, the proportion that believed that the decision should be taken by both parties also increased.

The three tables that follow present information on what contraceptive methods young adults think are the most appropriate for their age group. They provide important information for program planners who provide services to young adults. Table 8.8 summarizes these findings. Thirty-four percent of the women reported oral contraceptives, 16.6 percent the IUD, and 15.8 percent injectables. Almost a third of the men chose condoms. Their second most appropriate method was orals, followed by rhythm and injectables. Women who had greater than a secondary education were more likely to recommend orals and rhythm as compared with women with a primary level education (Table 8.9). The choices of the IUD and injectables were negatively associated with education. Education influenced men's attitudes toward the most appropriate method less than it did for women. Only rhythm showed a strong positive association with education.

Table 8.10 presents the most appropriate method by whether or not the respondent has ever been married and whether or not he or she has had sexual intercourse. Never married women who have not had sexual relations were more likely to report orals (37.8 percent) than were ever married women (26.7 percent). In comparison, ever-married women were the most likely to recommend the IUD (31.6 percent) and the unmarried sexually inactive the least likely (7.9 percent). Unmarried women who had had sexual relations were the most likely to report rhythm and married women the least likely. The unmarried, experienced group was also the most likely to consider condoms and barrier methods as the most appropriate methods.

Almost 40 percent of the male respondents without sexual experience thought condoms the most appropriate method. Once men had had intercourse, condom preference dropped by more than 10 points. The recommendation of oral contraceptives was not affected by marital and sexual experience; about 21 percent

favored orals. Like the women, the married men were the most likely to report the IUD, and rhythm was favored by the unmarried sexually experienced group.

The last in this series of tables about appropriate methods of contraception shows the relationship between the hypothetical most appropriate method and the actual method used at the time of last intercourse (Table 8.11). The methods most frequently used at last intercourse (within the last 30 days) among female respondents, in order of frequency, were the IUD, orals, rhythm, and injections. Almost two-thirds of the IUD and oral contraceptive users cited their method of choice as the most appropriate one. More than half of the injectable users did likewise. However, less than one-third of the rhythm users (31.7 percent) said that rhythm was the most appropriate method.

Almost three-fourths of the men whose last sexual partner used orals had declared orals as the most appropriate method. Precisely half of the rhythm users recommended that method and less than half of the men in the other method groups thought the method they were using was the most appropriate.

Among female rhythm users and male withdrawal users, only 32 percent had reported those methods as the most appropriate methods while 56.1 percent of the women and 32.0 percent of the men had indicated a modern clinical method (orals, IUD, injectables, or sterilization), suggesting that sexual activity may have been unexpected or that there exists a lack of services to provide the methods that young adults consider best to use.

The next group of tables presents information on attitudes towards contraception, sexual practices and roles, and sex education. The results of these tables should serve to orient teachers, health care providers, social workers, counselors, and psychologists who work with young adults. Many of the items concern commonly held beliefs--for example--masturbation is harmful to one's

health, condoms interfere with sexual pleasure, and a woman should be a virgin when she marries. Many traditional beliefs, such as those involving the roles of men and women, are changing as a result of increasing levels of education, modernization, and many other factors. Professionals who work with young adults need information to better understand the needs of this special age group. The interviewer read a statement and the respondent was asked if he or she agreed with it. The respondent was not explicitly given the opportunity to say that he or she did not know or was uncertain; however, the interviewer could code an uncertain response when such an option was the most appropriate. The percentages in agreement with the statement are found in the tables as well as the percentage of "don't know" answers whenever it was greater than 5 percent.

Table 8.12 contains statements related to contraception, masturbation, virginity, and homosexuality. Young men tended to be slightly more positive about contraceptive methods than the women: 28.9 percent of the men compared to 39.9 percent of the women agreed that there was "no use" in using contraception because methods fail. As education increased, the percentages who agree with this statement declined for both sexes. Greater than a third of the men compared with about a fifth of the women did not think condoms interfered with a woman's pleasure. However, 47.4 percent of women did not answer and 21.3 percent of the men did not know. Although some of the respondents may not have had experience with condoms, interviewers reported that the statement was not well formulated.

Only a small percentage of both men and women agreed with the statement that married couples who use contraception do not like children and the percentage decreased as education increased.

Men were more likely than women to agree that masturbating occasionally is okay; however, more women than men said that they did not know. The percent who said they did not know decreased with education. As levels of education increased, both sexes found masturbation more acceptable. However, men were also more likely to say that masturbation was unhealthy.

A slightly higher percentage of women (54.7 percent) agreed that a woman should be a virgin at marriage than did the men (45.9 percent) but as more education was attained, the less important a woman's virginity became. On the other hand, a higher percentage of men (66.4 percent) thought it necessary for a man to enter marriage with sexual experience than did the women (51.1 percent). As with virginity, the percent who said that a man should have sexual experience before marriage decreased with education. When asked if he or she would marry someone of the opposite sex who had never had sexual relations, the percentage in agreement increased with education among women. Almost no men would object to marrying a virgin.

More than half of both sexes sanctioned having a friend who was a homosexual. The association with education was positive and especially strong among female interviewees.

Attitudes towards sexual roles and sexual education are presented in Table 8.13. Men (13.7 percent) were at least twice as likely as were women (6.6 percent) to believe that if a woman works, she deceives her husband. The relationship with education was clear for both sexes: The more educated, the less likely the respondent was to share this view. For women who had greater than a secondary education, less than 2 percent agreed with the statement, and only 7.4 percent of the men with the same level of education agreed. Men and women responded similarly to the statement, "If a married woman works, it is

because her husband does not love her," with only small percentages in agreement. The delegation of responsibility exclusively to the woman for kitchen work and child care was shared by about a quarter of both sexes but had a strong inverse relationship with education.

In general, men were more likely than women to agree that the man should decide how many children the couple will have. In contrast, women were more likely than men to support the idea that it is God who should decide the size of the family. In both instances, better educated men and women thought the couple should decide whereas those with less education would leave it up to someone else.

Both men and women were generally supportive of the idea, "It's okay for parents to talk about sex with their small children." For both sexes who had achieved greater than a secondary education, about 90 percent were in agreement. However, men were more likely than women to believe that parents who provide their children with sex education, by doing so, encourage them to have sexual relations. While only 12.1 percent of the women espoused this view, 26.9 percent of the men held this opinion. The percent diminished as the level of education increased.

Men and women's view towards pornography as helpful in the process of sex education for youth were similar. Almost half of both sexes of the least educated group agreed while only 12.5 percent of the women and 18.4 percent of the men in the most educated group reported this attitude.

Conclusions

There is currently great concern regarding high fertility and unintended pregnancies among the teenage and young adult population in Latin America. In response to this concern, many family planning programs aimed at this age group have recently been implemented in urban areas. In Mexico City, very few males and only 12 percent of females are married by age 20. For young adults 20-24 years of age, 43 percent of females have never been married, and 72 percent of males have never been married. This survey provides the first representative data on this age group so that teenage-young adult programs may be better planned and evaluated. For example, the fact that only one out of three sexually experienced, unmarried young adults are sexually active helps explain the low continuation rate found in programs aimed at adolescents and young adults. Data from a continuation study in Mexico City show similar results as does survey data in Panama (16, 17).

Low frequency of sexual activity and principally one partner are reported by most sexually active young adults. The low frequency and apparent sporadic nature of sexual activity among young people may contribute to inconsistent use of contraception as reported in the Caribbean (18-19). In addition, about 50 percent of current users of contraception among unmarried young adults were obtaining their contraceptive supplies from private sources and not from official programs. However, the most commonly used method was rhythm and, in this same survey, only 22 percent of respondents could identify the most fertile period during the woman's menstrual cycle (20).

Obviously, we have no easy way to verify the validity of responses in this survey--especially data on premarital sexual intercourse. Are women under-reporting sexual experience; are males overreporting (the macho effect)? The incremental increase in premarital sexual intercourse for females by individual years of age is what we might expect, but there may be an underlying under-reporting at all ages. For those reporting sexual experience, responses to followup questions on age at first intercourse, relationship of partner, use and source of contraception, and current sexual activity were internally consistent. However, one area that is possibly troublesome is the fact that males as well as females report their partner at first intercourse to be older. For females, the first partner is 3.6 years older on the average. For males, the first partner is reported to be 2.3 years older once we eliminate those males whose first partner was a prostitute. This difference is more notable for young teenagers less than 18 years of age at first intercourse. We can only assume that, in part, younger males--upon initiating sexual activity--seek out older, already sexually experienced females at their first sexual experience. This has also been reported in Jamaica and Guatemala where the majority of first sexual relationships of young males are with older women (21, 22).

There are currently no other representative young adult household surveys in Latin America with data available for comparison with the Mexico City Survey. A young adult survey has been conducted in Guatemala City (22), but only preliminary data are available, and a similar survey is planned for Jamaica in early 1987. However, there is some sexual experience and contraceptive use data available for females 15-24 years of age from national family planning/maternal-child health surveys recently conducted in Panama and Brazil that included a special module for young adults (17, 23). As shown in Table 9-1, reported premarital sexual experience for 15-19- and 20-24-year-old females is actually quite similar in Guatemala City, Brazil, and Panama compared with the

two delegations surveyed in Mexico City. However, whereas 22 percent of females in Mexico City used contraception at first premarital intercourse, only 14 percent reported doing so in Brazil, and only 11 percent in Guatemala City and Panama (data not shown). Also, as shown in Table 9-2, a greater proportion of young women in both Brazil and Panama use oral contraceptives and fewer use rhythm or vaginal methods. There is greater reliance on withdrawal and far less use of the condom in Brazil. The principal reason for nonuse of contraception at first intercourse--didn't expect or plan to have intercourse at that time--is the same as reported in the United States (24).

Sexual experience rates for females in this survey are lower than those found in the U.S. where 43 percent of never married 15-19-year-olds and 73 percent of never married 20-24-year-olds report premarital sexual intercourse (25). Also, in the U.S., 48 percent of 15-19-year-old females reported using a contraceptive method at first premarital intercourse compared with only 22 percent in Mexico City. However, in the U.S., only 25 percent of Hispanic women reported using a contraceptive method at first premarital intercourse (26).

In Mexico City, we estimate that 31 percent of first births to ever-in-union women 15-24 years of age have been premaritally conceived. The comparable figure in the U.S. in 1982 for women under age 18 or 18-19 at marriage was 37 percent and 25 percent, respectively. Forty-three percent of ever-married Hispanic women (15-44) in the U.S. had premarital pregnancies.

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TABLE 2-1

Household and Individual Interview Status, by Sex
 Mexico City Young Adult Survey, 1985
 (Percent Distribution)

| <u>Household Selection</u> | <u>Female</u> | <u>Male</u> |
|--|---------------|-------------|
| No eligible respondent | 55.6 | 60.4 |
| Eligible respondent identified | 31.1 | 26.4 |
| No housing unit | 8.8 | 8.7 |
| Vacant household | 2.4 | 3.3 |
| Resident not home* | 1.9 | 1.0 |
| Refusal | 0.2 | 0.2 |
| TOTAL | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Number of Households | (3,936) | (3,858) |
| Ave. Number of Respondents per Occupied Household | (0.50) | (0.45) |
| <u>Individual Selection</u> | | |
| Completed interview | 91.1 | 91.1 |
| Eligible respondent not home* | 4.9 | 6.2 |
| Eligible respondent refusal | 2.4 | 1.2 |
| Other | 1.6 | 1.5 |
| TOTAL | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Number of Possible Respondents | (1,735) | (1,539) |
| Complete Interviews | (1,581) | (1,402) |

*After three to nine visits to household.

TABLE 3-1

Survey Respondents by Age Group and Sex, by Marital Status,
Completed Education, and Work Status
Mexico City Young Adult Survey, 1985
(Percent Distribution)

| <u>Characteristics</u> | <u>Female</u> | | | <u>Male</u> | | |
|------------------------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| | <u>Total</u> | <u>15-19</u> | <u>20-24</u> | <u>Total</u> | <u>15-19</u> | <u>20-24</u> |
| <u>Marital Status</u> | <u>100.0</u> | <u>100.0</u> | <u>100.0</u> | <u>100.0</u> | <u>100.0</u> | <u>100.0</u> |
| Never married/union | 67.8 | 87.6 | 43.3 | 85.4 | 95.7 | 71.9 |
| Previously married/ union | 2.3 | 0.9 | 4.0 | 3.6 | 1.8 | 5.9 |
| Consensual union | 6.0 | 3.8 | 8.8 | 2.5 | 1.3 | 4.1 |
| Married | 23.9 | 7.8 | 44.0 | 8.6 | 1.3 | 18.1 |
| <u>Education</u> | <u>100.0</u> | <u>100.0</u> | <u>100.0</u> | <u>100.0</u> | <u>100.0</u> | <u>100.0</u> |
| Primary or less | 24.1 | 20.0 | 29.2 | 16.7 | 15.9 | 17.7 |
| Secondary | 50.6 | 59.9 | 39.0 | 47.6 | 59.6 | 32.0 |
| >Secondary | 25.3 | 20.1 | 31.8 | 35.7 | 24.5 | 50.2 |
| <u>Work Status</u> | <u>100.0</u> | <u>100.0</u> | <u>100.0</u> | <u>100.0</u> | <u>100.0</u> | <u>100.0</u> |
| Student only | 35.7 | 53.9 | 13.0 | 37.4 | 49.7 | 21.4 |
| Student and works | 6.6 | 4.5 | 9.4 | 12.5 | 10.0 | 15.8 |
| Works only | 22.8 | 14.3 | 33.5 | 43.5 | 31.8 | 58.8 |
| Doesn't study or work | 34.4 | 26.9 | 43.7 | 6.4 | 8.3 | 3.8 |
| Unknown/other | 0.4 | 0.5 | 0.4 | 0.3 | 0.2 | 0.3 |
| Number of Cases: | 1,581 | 876 | 705 | 1,402 | 793 | 609 |

NOTE: In this and subsequent tables, subtotals may not add to 100.0 due to rounding.

TABLE J-2

Survey Respondents by Age Group Compared with
Age Distribution Reported in the 1980 Census*
Percent Distribution and Average Age

| <u>Age Group</u> | <u>1980 Census</u> | | <u>1985 Survey</u> | |
|----------------------|--------------------|--------------|--------------------|--------------|
| | <u>Females</u> | <u>Males</u> | <u>Females</u> | <u>Males</u> |
| 15-19 | 51.7 | 52.2 | 55.4 | 56.6 |
| 15-17 | 31.0 | 31.4 | 32.8 | 34.0 |
| 18-19 | 20.7 | 20.8 | 22.6 | 22.6 |
| 20-24 | 48.3 | 47.8 | 44.6 | 43.4 |
| TOTAL | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Average Age | 19.4 | 19.4 | 19.2 | 19.0 |

*Census data for delegations Iztapalapa and Venustiano Cananza.

TABLE 4-1

All Women and Men Who Reported Premarital Sexual Intercourse,
and Never Married Women and Men Who Reported
Premarital Sexual Intercourse, by Age
Mexico City Young Adult Survey, 1985

| Age | All Women and Men | | | |
|-------|--|------|-----------------|------|
| | Percent Who Have Had Premarital Intercourse | | Number of Cases | |
| | Female | Male | Female | Male |
| 15-19 | 13.4 | 43.5 | 876 | 793 |
| 20-24 | 39.1 | 85.7 | 705 | 609 |
| 15 | 6.0 | 19.5 | 166 | 164 |
| 16 | 8.0 | 33.8 | 162 | 151 |
| 17 | 11.0 | 41.0 | 191 | 161 |
| 18 | 17.4 | 59.5 | 178 | 158 |
| 19 | 23.5 | 64.2 | 179 | 159 |
| 20 | 29.1 | 78.0 | 165 | 150 |
| 21 | 36.8 | 85.5 | 125 | 138 |
| 22 | 43.0 | 85.4 | 149 | 130 |
| 23 | 43.5 | 94.6 | 138 | 92 |
| 24 | 45.3 | 89.9 | 128 | 99 |

| Age | Never Married Women and Men | | | |
|-------|-------------------------------------|------|-----------------|------|
| | Percent Who Have Had Intercourse | | Number of Cases | |
| | Female | Male | Female | Male |
| 15-19 | 7.2 | 41.2 | 767 | 759 |
| 20-24 | 20.7 | 81.5 | 305 | 438 |
| 15 | 3.7 | 19.0 | 162 | 163 |
| 16 | 4.6 | 33.8 | 153 | 151 |
| 17 | 5.3 | 40.5 | 169 | 158 |
| 18 | 10.3 | 56.5 | 145 | 147 |
| 19 | 13.0 | 60.0 | 138 | 140 |
| 20 | 19.4 | 74.4 | 93 | 129 |
| 21 | 20.0 | 82.4 | 65 | 108 |
| 22 | 15.8 | 79.3 | 57 | 87 |
| 23 | 23.4 | 93.5 | 47 | 62 |
| 24 | 27.9 | 86.5 | 43 | 52 |

TABLE 4-2

Age at First Premarital Sexual Intercourse by Sex
 Mexico City Young Adult Survey
 (Percent Distribution)

| <u>Age at First Premarital Intercourse</u> | <u>Females</u> | <u>Males*</u> |
|--|----------------|---------------|
| <13 | 1.5 | 7.6 |
| 13 | 2.5 | 6.8 |
| 14 | 8.7 | 12.5 |
| 15 | 10.9 | 20.0 |
| 16 | 16.0 | 17.9 |
| 17 | 20.1 | 13.6 |
| 18 | 16.0 | 12.5 |
| 19 | 11.2 | 4.4 |
| 20 | 6.9 | 2.3 |
| 21 | 2.5 | 1.4 |
| 22 | 1.8 | 0.7 |
| 23 | 1.5 | 0.2 |
| 24 | <u>0.3</u> | <u>0.1</u> |
| TOTAL | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| No. of Cases | 393 | 864 |
| Mean age at first inter- course | 17.0 | 15.7 |
| Mean age of partner | 20.6 | 18.4 (18.0)** |

*Excludes three males with unknown age at first intercourse.

**Excludes 52 males who reported first partners to be prostitutes and 1 first intercourse reported as rape.

TABLE 4-4

Age of Partner by Age of First Premarital Sexual Intercourse
 Mexico City Young Adult Survey, 1985
 (Percent Distribution)

| Age First Premarital Relation | Female's Partner | | | | | | Total | Mean Age* | No. of Cases |
|-------------------------------------|------------------|-------------|---------------|------|------|---------|-------|--------------|-----------------|
| | Younger | Same Age | Older (Years) | | | Unknown | | | |
| | | | 1-2 | 3-5 | 6+ | | | | |
| (Female) | | | | | | | | | |
| <15 | 0.0 | 6.0 | 18.0 | 44.0 | 28.0 | 4.0 | 100.0 | 18.1 | 50 |
| 15-17 | 4.3 | 10.3 | 32.4 | 27.0 | 25.5 | 0.5 | 100.0 | 19.9 | 185 |
| 18-19 | 7.5 | 15.9 | 22.4 | 34.6 | 18.7 | 0.9 | 100.0 | 21.4 | 107 |
| 20-24 | 17.6 | 9.8 | 31.3 | 25.5 | 13.7 | 2.0 | 100.0 | 23.5 | 51 |
| TOTAL | 6.4 | 11.2 | 27.7 | 31.0 | 22.4 | 1.3 | 100.0 | 20.6 | 393 |
| | | | | | | | | | |
| Age First Premarital Relation | Male's Partner | | | | | | Total | Mean Age* | No. of Cases |
| | Younger | Same Age | Older (Years) | | | Unknown | | | |
| | | | 1-2 | 3-5 | 6+ | | | | |
| (Male) | | | | | | | | | |
| <15 | 7.7 | 21.0 | 25.3 | 24.0 | 20.3 | 1.7 | 100.0 | 16.3 | 233 |
| 15-17 | 12.2 | 19.1 | 26.4 | 20.7 | 20.5 | 1.1 | 100.0 | 18.6 | 444 |
| 18-19 | 26.7 | 22.6 | 20.5 | 14.4 | 13.6 | 2.1 | 100.0 | 19.8 | 146 |
| 20-24 | 41.5 | 24.4 | 12.2 | 9.8 | 7.2 | 4.9 | 100.0 | 21.1 | 41 |
| TOTAL | 14.8 | 20.5 | 24.4 | 20.0 | 18.7 | 1.6 | 100.0 | 18.4 | 864** |

*Excludes those partners with unknown age.

**Excludes three males with unknown age at first intercourse.

TABLE 4-5

Place of First Premarital Sexual Intercourse by
Age at First Premarital Sexual Intercourse
Mexico City Young Adult Survey, 1985
(Percent Distribution)

| Place | Total | Females | | | |
|--------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| | | Age | | | |
| | | <15 | 15-17 | 18-19 | 20-24 |
| Motel/hotel | 38.2 | 31.2 | 30.3 | 48.6 | 52.0 |
| Partner's house | 29.5 | 39.6 | 28.1 | 29.9 | 24.0 |
| Respondent's house | 15.6 | 12.5 | 20.5 | 10.3 | 12.0 |
| Friend's house | 7.4 | 6.2 | 8.1 | 6.5 | 8.0 |
| Car | 2.8 | 2.1 | 4.3 | 0.9 | 2.0 |
| Open air | 1.8 | 4.2 | 2.2 | 0.9 | 0.0 |
| Public baths | 1.3 | 2.1 | 2.2 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| School | 1.3 | 2.1 | 1.6 | 0.9 | 0.0 |
| Other | 0.8 | 0.0 | 1.1 | 0.9 | 0.0 |
| Unknown | <u>1.3</u> | <u>0.0</u> | <u>1.6</u> | <u>1.0</u> | <u>2.0</u> |
| TOTAL | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| | | Males | | | |
| Motel/hotel | 27.9 | 12.5 | 28.8 | 45.9 | 41.5 |
| Partner's house | 21.3 | 27.2 | 20.3 | 15.1 | 21.9 |
| Respondent's house | 18.6 | 23.3 | 18.7 | 9.6 | 22.0 |
| Friend's house | 12.2 | 9.9 | 13.1 | 15.8 | 4.9 |
| Car | 4.6 | 3.9 | 5.2 | 4.1 | 4.9 |
| Open air | 8.7 | 12.1 | 8.1 | 6.2 | 4.9 |
| Public baths | 2.3 | 2.2 | 2.3 | 3.4 | 0.0 |
| School | 1.7 | 5.6 | 0.5 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Other | 2.4 | 3.4 | 2.9 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Unknown | <u>0.2</u> | <u>0.0</u> | <u>0.2</u> | <u>0.0</u> | <u>0.0</u> |
| TOTAL | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |

TABLE 4-6

Reported Use of Contraception at First Premarital Sexual
Intercourse by Age at First Premarital Intercourse and Sex
Mexico City Young Adult Survey, 1985

| <u>Age at First Premarital Intercourse</u> | <u>Percent Who Used Method at First Premarital Intercourse</u> | | <u>Number of Cases</u> | |
|--|--|--------------|------------------------|--------------|
| | <u>Females</u> | <u>Males</u> | <u>Females</u> | <u>Males</u> |
| <15 | 14.6 | 16.3 | 50 | 233 |
| 15-17 | 17.3 | 30.2 | 185 | 444 |
| 18-19 | 30.2 | 50.0 | 107 | 146 |
| 20-24 | 32.0 | 51.2 | 51 | 41 |
| TOTAL | <u>22.4</u> | <u>31.1</u> | <u>393</u> | <u>864*</u> |

*Excludes three males with unknown age at first intercourse.

TABLE 4-7

Contraceptive Use by Method at First Premarital Sexual Relation,
by Age at First Intercourse and Sex
Mexico City Young Adult Survey, 1985
(Percent Distribution)

| <u>Sex and Age at First Intercourse</u> | <u>Rhythm</u> | <u>Condom*</u> | <u>PII</u> | <u>Vaginal Methods</u> | <u>Withdrawal</u> | <u>Injectable</u> | <u>Unk./ Other</u> | <u>TOTAL</u> | <u>No. of Cases</u> |
|---|---------------|----------------|------------|----------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------------------|--------------|-------------------------|
| <u>Female</u> | | | | | | | | | |
| <18 | 38.5 | 20.5 | 7.7 | 12.8 | 12.8 | 7.7 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 39 |
| 18-24 | 47.9 | 20.8 | 10.4 | 12.5 | 6.2 | 2.1 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 48 |
| TOTAL | 43.7 | 21.5 | 9.2 | 12.6 | 9.2 | 4.6 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 87 |
| <u>Male</u> | | | | | | | | | |
| <18 | 26.2 | 22.1 | 16.3 | 11.6 | 11.0 | 5.2 | 7.6 | 100.0 | 172 |
| 18-24 | 28.7 | 22.1 | 13.9 | 10.7 | 8.5 | 11.7 | 4.3 | 100.0 | 94 |
| TOTAL | 27.1 | 22.2 | 15.4 | 11.3 | 10.2 | 7.5 | 6.4 | 100.0 | 266 |

*Includes combined methods.

TABLE 4-8

Knowledge of Fertile Period During Menstrual Cycle, by Sex,
By Use of Contraception at First Premarital Sexual Intercourse
Mexico City Young Adult Survey, 1985

| Use of Contraception During First Premarital Sexual Intercourse | % With Knowledge | |
|--|------------------|------------|
| | Females | Males |
| Yes | 43.7 (87) | 27.1 (266) |
| Rhythm | 42.1 (38) | 30.6 (72) |
| Other | 44.9 (49) | 25.8 (194) |
| No* | 32.9 (255) | 27.9 (569) |

*Excludes nonusers that said they were trying to get pregnant.

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TABLE 4-9

Decision to Use: Contraceptive Users at First Premarital Sexual Intercourse
Mexico City Young Adult Survey, 1985
(Percent Distribution)

| | <u>Decision to Use</u> | |
|----------------|------------------------|-------------|
| | <u>Female</u> | <u>Male</u> |
| Both together | 69.0 | 54.1 |
| Partner | 20.7 | 31.6 |
| Respondent | 10.3 | 13.9 |
| Don't remember | <u>0.0</u> | <u>0.4</u> |
| TOTAL | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| No. of Cases | (87) | (266) |

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TABLE 4-10

Percentage Using Contraception at First Premarital Sexual Intercourse,
by Education and Sex, by History of Sexual Education in School
Mexico City Young Adult Survey, 1985

| Sex Education Class in School | Females** | | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------|-----------|------------|------------|
| | Total | <Primary | Secondary | >Secondary |
| Yes | 27.9 (276) | 15.5 (58) | 23.2 (139) | 45.6 (79) |
| No | 8.8 (113) | 5.6 (72) | 6.7 (30) | * (11) |

| Sex Education Class in School | Males*** | | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------|-----------|------------|------------|
| | Total | <Primary | Secondary | >Secondary |
| Yes | 34.0 (621) | 28.6 (49) | 32.0 (272) | 36.7 (300) |
| No | 23.3 (232) | 17.4 (86) | 28.9 (90) | 23.2 (56) |

*Less than 25 cases.

**Excludes one female with unknown information on use of contraception.

***Excludes 12 males with unknown information on use of contraception.

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TABLE 4-11

Reason Did Not Use Contraception at Time of First Premarital
Sexual Intercourse, by Age at First Intercourse
Mexico City Young Adult Survey, 1985
(Percent Distribution)

| Reasons | Females* | | | | | Males** | | | |
|--|----------|-------|-------|-------|-------|---------|-------|-------|-------|
| | Total | <15 | 15-17 | 18-19 | 20-24 | Total | <15 | 15-17 | 18-24 |
| Didn't expect to have intercourse | 43.2 | 32.5 | 43.0 | 47.9 | 47.1 | 56.5 | 45.7 | 60.1 | 66.7 |
| No knowledge of contraception | 24.7 | 50.0 | 26.2 | 13.7 | 11.8 | 30.8 | 45.2 | 27.0 | 13.3 |
| Desired pregnancy | 13.5 | 7.5 | 11.4 | 15.1 | 26.5 | 1.6 | 0.0 | 1.4 | 5.6 |
| Thought they (partner) would not get preg. | 4.1 | 5.0 | 3.4 | 5.4 | 2.9 | 0.7 | 1.1 | 0.4 | 1.1 |
| Responsibility of partner | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 3.8 | 2.1 | 4.7 | 4.5 |
| Contraceptives bad for your health | 2.7 | 0.0 | 4.7 | 1.4 | 0.0 | 1.0 | 1.1 | 0.3 | 3.3 |
| Did not know where to obtain | 2.0 | 0.0 | 2.7 | 1.4 | 2.9 | 1.4 | 1.6 | 1.4 | 1.1 |
| Responsible for your actions | 1.7 | 0.0 | 3.4 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Did not want to use | 1.7 | 2.5 | 0.7 | 5.5 | 0.0 | 0.2 | 0.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| Other | 6.4 | 2.5 | 4.6 | 9.6 | 8.8 | 4.0 | 3.2 | 4.4 | 4.4 |
| TOTAL | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| No. of Cases | 296 | 40 | 149 | 73 | 34 | 574 | 188 | 296 | 90 |

*Three women raped at first intercourse excluded from this table.

**Excludes 3 males with unknown age at first intercourse and 12 males who could not recall use of contraception at first intercourse.

TABLE 4-12

Percentages of Females and Males Who Reported Premarital Sexual Intercourse, by Current Marital Status and Age Group
Mexico City Young Adult Survey, 1985

| Age Group | Percent Who Reported Premarital Sexual Intercourse | | | | | |
|-----------|--|---------------|--------------|-------|---------------|--------------|
| | Females | | | Males | | |
| | Total | Never Married | Ever Married | Total | Never Married | Ever Married |
| 15-19 | 13.4 | 7.2 | 56.9 | 43.5 | 41.2 | 94.1 |
| 20-24 | 39.1 | 20.7 | 53.2 | 85.7 | 81.5 | 96.5 |
| | Number of Cases | | | | | |
| 15-19 | 876 | 767 | 109 | 793 | 759 | 34 |
| 20-24 | 705 | 305 | 400 | 600 | 438 | 171 |

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TABLE 4-13

Use of Contraception Among Females Whose First Sexual Intercourse Occurred at Marriage, by Age at Marriage
Mexico City Young Adult Survey, 1985

| <u>Age</u> | <u>Percent Using Contraception</u> | <u>No. of Cases</u> |
|------------|------------------------------------|---------------------|
| <18 | 13.8 | 109 |
| 18-24 | 24.8 | 126 |
| TOTAL | 19.7 | 235 |

TABLE 4-14

Contraceptive Use by Method Among Females Whose First Sexual
Intercourse Occurred at Marriage
Mexico City Young Adult Survey, 1985
(Percent Distribution)

| <u>Method</u> | <u>Percent</u> |
|-----------------|----------------|
| Rhythm | 43.5 |
| Pill | 28.3 |
| Condom | 10.9 |
| | |
| Injections | 6.5 |
| Withdrawal | 6.5 |
| Vaginal methods | 4.4 |
| | |
| TOTAL | 100.0 |
| | |
| No. of Cases | 46 |

TABLE 4-15

Reasons Did Not Use Contraception When First Sexual Intercourse Occurred at Marriage, by Age of Marriage
Mexico City Young Adult Survey, 1985
(Percent Distribution)

| <u>Reasons</u> | <u>Total</u> | <u>Females</u> | | |
|--|--------------|----------------|--------------|--------------|
| | | <u><18</u> | <u>18-19</u> | <u>20-24</u> |
| Desired pregnancy | 48.7 | 42.6 | 50.8 | 60.6 |
| No knowledge of contra- ception | 21.2 | 27.7 | 18.0 | 9.1 |
| Not prepared | 9.0 | 6.4 | 14.8 | 6.1 |
| Contraceptives bad for your health | 4.8 | 6.4 | 3.3 | 3.0 |
| Did not want to use | 3.2 | 5.3 | 1.6 | 0.0 |
| Did not know where to obtain | 3.2 | 4.3 | 1.6 | 3.0 |
| Could not obtain | 1.6 | 1.1 | 1.6 | 3.0 |
| Sex not satisfactory with contraception | 1.1 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 6.1 |
| Other | 7.4 | 6.2 | 8.3 | 9.1 |
| TOTAL | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| No. of Cases | 189 | 94 | 62 | 33 |

TABLE 4-16

Proportion of Unmarried Females and Males with Sexual Intercourse in Past Month and Percentage Using Contraception, by Sex and Age Group
Mexico City Young Adult Survey, 1985

| Age Group | Females | | | Males | | |
|-----------|------------|----------------------|--------------------------------|-------------|----------------------|--------------------------------|
| | All | Sexually Experienced | Percentage Using Contraception | All | Sexually Experienced | Percentage Using Contraception |
| 15-19 | 2.3 (775) | 28.6 (63) | * | 9.6 (773) | 22.6 (327) | 77.0 (74) |
| 20-24 | 9.0 (333) | 33.0 (91) | 86.7 (30) | 26.2 (474) | 31.6 (393) | 83.9(124) |
| TOTAL | 4.3 (1108) | 31.2 (154) | 75.0 (48) | 15.9 (1247) | 27.5 (720) | 81.8 (198) |

NOTE: Number of cases in parentheses.

*N <25 cases.

TABLE 4-17

Frequency of Sexual Relations in Past Month, Sexually Active
Unmarried Females and Males 15-24 Years of Age
Mexico City Young Adult Survey, 1985

| <u>Frequency</u> | <u>Females</u> | <u>Males*</u> |
|----------------------------------|----------------|---------------|
| 1 | 27.1 | 35.2 |
| 2 | 39.6 | 30.6 |
| 3 | 14.6 | 12.2 |
| 4 | 4.2 | 8.2 |
| 5 | 4.2 | 6.1 |
| 6-10 | 8.3 | 5.1 |
| 11-24 | 2.1 | 2.0 |
| 25+ | <u>0.0</u> | <u>0.5</u> |
| TOTAL | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| No. of Cases | 48 | 196 |
| % with more than one partner: | 2.1 | 24.7 |

*Excludes two males with unknown
frequency.

TABLE 4-18

Method Used in Past Month Among Unmarried,
Sexually Active Females and Males, by Age Group
Mexico City Young Adult Survey, 1985
(Percent Distribution)

| <u>Method</u> | <u>Female</u> | <u>Male</u> | | |
|-----------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| | <u>Total</u> | <u>Total</u> | | |
| | <u>15-24</u> | <u>15-24</u> | <u>15-19</u> | <u>20-24</u> |
| Rhythm | 41.7 | 29.0 | 29.8 | 28.6 |
| Pill | 19.4 | 17.3 | 8.8 | 21.9 |
| IUD | 11.1 | 3.1 | 3.5 | 2.9 |
| Injectables | 11.1 | 8.0 | 7.0 | 8.6 |
| Withdrawal | 5.6 | 11.1 | 14.0 | 9.5 |
| Vaginal methods | 5.6 | 16.7 | 21.1 | 14.3 |
| Condom* | 2.8 | 12.3 | 12.3 | 12.4 |
| Other | 2.8 | 2.5 | 3.5 | 1.9 |
| TOTAL | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Number of Cases | 36 | 162 | 57 | 105 |

*Includes combined methods.

TABLE 4-19

Percentage of Married Females and Males
Currently Using Contraception, by Age Group
Mexico City Young Adult Survey, 1985

| Age Group | Percentage Using Contraception | | No. of Cases | |
|--------------|-----------------------------------|-------|--------------|------------|
| | Females | Males | Females | Males |
| 15-19 | 37.6 | * | 101 | 20 |
| 20-24 | 67.2 | 59.3 | <u>372</u> | <u>135</u> |
| TOTAL | 60.9 | 58.7 | 473 | 155 |

*Less than 25 cases.

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TABLE 4-20

Method Used: Current Users of Contraception
 Married Females and Males, by Age Group
 Mexico City Young Adult Survey, 1985
 (Percent Distribution)

| Method | Females | | | Males | | |
|---------------|---------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| | Total | 15-19 | 20-24 | Total | 15-19 | 20-24 |
| IUD | 38.5 | 36.8 | 38.8 | 31.9 | ** | 36.2 |
| Pill | 27.4 | 26.3 | 27.6 | 28.6 | ** | 25.0 |
| Injectables | 10.8 | 13.2 | 10.4 | 4.4 | ** | 3.8 |
| Rhythm | 9.7 | 13.2 | 9.2 | 17.6 | ** | 16.2 |
| Condom* | 5.2 | 5.3 | 5.2 | 11.0 | ** | 12.5 |
| Sterilization | 4.9 | 0.0 | 5.6 | 2.2 | ** | 2.5 |
| Withdrawal | 2.4 | 5.3 | 2.0 | 4.4 | ** | 3.8 |
| Other | 1.0 | 0.0 | 1.2 | 0.0 | ** | 0.0 |
| TOTAL | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | ** | 100.0 |
| No. of Cases | 288 | 38 | 250 | 91 | 11 | 80 |

*Includes combined methods.

**Less than 25 cases.

TABLE 4-21

Reasons Not Using Contraception
 Married Females, by Age Group, and Males 15-24
 Mexico City Young Adult Survey, 1985
 (Percent Distribution)

| <u>Reason</u> | <u>Total</u> | <u>Females</u> | | <u>Males Total</u> |
|--|--------------|----------------|--------------|------------------------|
| | | <u>15-19</u> | <u>20-24</u> | |
| Currently pregnant | 55.1 | 57.1 | 54.1 | 31.2 |
| Desires pregnancy | 10.8 | 9.5 | 11.5 | 15.6 |
| Post-partum period | 2.7 | 6.3 | 0.8 | 0.0 |
| Partner not fecund | 1.1 | 0.0 | 1.6 | 0.0 |
| Contraceptives bad for health | 5.4 | 6.3 | 4.9 | 7.8 |
| Think they don't need | 4.3 | 3.2 | 4.9 | 0.0 |
| Sex not satisfactory with contraception | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 3.1 |
| Partner opposes | 0.5 | 0.0 | 1.6 | 3.1 |
| Other | 6.0 | 6.4 | 5.0 | 9.5 |
| Unknown | 14.1 | 11.2 | 15.6 | 29.7 |
| TOTAL | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| No. of Cases | 185 | 63 | 122 | 64 |

TABLE 4-22

Source of Contraception for Current Users of Contraception,
by Sex and Marital Status
Mexico City Young Adult Survey, 1985
(Percent Distribution)

| <u>Source of Contraception</u> | <u>Female</u> | | <u>Male</u> | |
|------------------------------------|------------------------|----------------|------------------------|----------------|
| | <u>Not Married</u> | <u>Married</u> | <u>Not Married</u> | <u>Married</u> |
| Private | 40.0 | 39.9 | 55.6 | 39.6 |
| IMSS | 8.6 | 29.5 | 5.6 | 36.3 |
| SSA | 0.0 | 14.2 | 0.6 | 7.7 |
| ISSTE/other public | 2.9 | 6.9 | 2.5 | 3.3 |
| Friends/relations* | 11.4 | 3.1 | 13.1 | 2.2 |
| School* | 11.4 | 0.7 | 5.0 | 1.1 |
| Books/magazines/class* | 14.3 | 0.7 | 4.4 | 2.2 |
| Other | 5.7 | 2.8 | 10.0 | 5.5 |
| Unknown | 5.7 | 2.1 | 3.1 | 2.2 |
| TOTAL | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Number of Cases | 36 | 288 | 162 | 91 |

*Information and/or orientation about method.

TABLE 4-23

Source of Contraception for Female Married Users of IUD,
Pill, Injectables, and Rhythm
Mexico City Young Adult Survey, 1985
(Percent Distribution)

| <u>Source</u> | <u>IUD</u> | <u>Pill</u> | <u>Inj.</u> | <u>Rhythm*</u> |
|----------------------------|------------|-------------|-------------|----------------|
| Ministry of Health | 24.3 | 10.1 | 9.7 | 3.6 |
| Social Security | 54.1 | 12.7 | 3.2 | 14.3 |
| Other public | 8.1 | 3.8 | 3.2 | 7.1 |
| Private physician/hospital | 11.7 | 11.4 | 12.9 | 21.4 |
| Pharmacy | 0.0 | 60.8 | 71.0 | 0.0 |
| MEXFAM | 0.9 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Friends/relatives | 0.0 | 1.3 | 0.0 | 21.4 |
| Magazines/books | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 3.6 |
| Church | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 3.6 |
| School | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 7.1 |
| Other | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 17.9 |
| Unknown | 0.9 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| TOTAL | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| No. of Cases | 111 | 79 | 31 | 28 |

*Source of information and/or orientation about method.

TABLE 4-24

Use of Contraception in Next 2 Weeks*, by Sexual
Experience History and Age Group, by Sex
Mexico City Young Adult Survey, 1985

| <u>Females</u> <u>Age Group</u> | <u>Percentage That Would Use Contraception</u> | | | | <u>Total**</u> |
|------------------------------------|--|----------------------------------|------------|-------------|----------------|
| | <u>No Sexual</u> <u>Experience</u> | <u>Sexually Experienced</u> | | | |
| | | <u>Currently Sexually Active</u> | | | |
| | | <u>No</u> | <u>Yes</u> | | |
| 15-17 | 73.3 (460) | 64.3 (28) | 48.3 (29) | 71.5 (517) | |
| 18-19 | 76.0 (250) | 68.9 (45) | 56.5 (62) | 71.7 (357) | |
| 20-24 | 78.9 (242) | 75.0 (144) | 75.2 (319) | 76.4 (705) | |
| TOTAL** | 75.5 (952) | 72.4 (217) | 70.5 (410) | 73.8 (1579) | |

| <u>Males</u> <u>Age Group</u> | <u>Percentage That Would Use Contraception</u> | | | | <u>Total**</u> |
|----------------------------------|--|----------------------------------|------------|-------------|----------------|
| | <u>No Sexual</u> <u>Experience</u> | <u>Sexually Experienced</u> | | | |
| | | <u>Currently Sexually Active</u> | | | |
| | | <u>No</u> | <u>Yes</u> | | |
| 15-17 | 86.2 (325) | 88.3 (120) | 76.7 (30) | 86.1 (475) | |
| 18-19 | 79.8 (119) | 86.9 (137) | 80.0 (60) | 83.0 (316) | |
| 20-24 | 82.7 (81) | 87.2 (296) | 82.8 (232) | 84.9 (609) | |
| TOTAL** | 84.3 (525) | 87.3 (553) | 81.7 (322) | 84.9 (1400) | |

*The question asked was, "If you were to have sexual intercourse in the next 2 weeks, would you use contraception?"

**Excludes 2 cases with unknown data.

() Number of cases in parenthesis.

TABLE 4-25

Use of Contraception in Next 2 Weeks*, by Marital Status
and Age Group by Sex
Mexico City Young Adult Survey, 1985

| <u>Females</u> <u>Age Group</u> | <u>Percentage That Would Use Contraception</u> | | | <u>Total</u> |
|------------------------------------|--|------------------|-------------|--------------|
| | <u>Marital Status</u> | | | |
| | <u>Married</u> | <u>Unmarried</u> | | |
| 15-17 | 45.4 (33) | 73.3 (486) | 71.5 (519) | |
| 18-19 | 50.0 (68) | 76.8 (289) | 71.7 (357) | |
| 20-24 | 71.0 (372) | 82.5 (333) | 76.4 (705) | |
| TOTAL | 66.2 (473) | 77.0 (1108) | 73.8 (1581) | |

| <u>Males</u> <u>Age Group</u> | <u>Percentage That Would Use Contraception</u> | | | <u>Total</u> |
|----------------------------------|--|------------------|-------------|--------------|
| | <u>Marital Status</u> | | | |
| | <u>Married</u> | <u>Unmarried</u> | | |
| 15-17 | ** (3) | 86.5 (473) | 86.1 (476) | |
| 18-19 | ** (17) | 83.7 (300) | 83.0 (317) | |
| 20-24 | 69.6 (135) | 89.2 (474) | 84.9 (609) | |
| TOTAL | 69.0 (145) | 86.8 (1247) | 84.9 (1402) | |

*The question asked was, "If you were to have sexual relations in the next 2 weeks, would you use contraception?"

**Less than 25 cases.

() Number of cases in parenthesis.

TABLE 4-26

Reasons Would Not Use Contraception in Next
2 Weeks, by Marital Status and Sex
Mexico City Young Adult Survey, 1985
(Percent Distribution)

| Reason | Married | | Unmarried | |
|---|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| | Females | Males | Females | Males |
| Currently pregnant | 61.9 | 52.1 | 1.2 | 1.2 |
| Desires pregnancy | 18.8 | 22.9 | 33.7 | 16.5 |
| Postpartum | 2.5 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Partner not fecund | 1.2 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.6 |
| | <u>84.4</u> | <u>75.0</u> | <u>34.9</u> | <u>18.3</u> |
| Contraceptives bad for health | 6.2 | 12.5 | 26.7 | 19.5 |
| Sex not satisfactory with contraception | 0.0 | 4.2 | 0.8 | 9.8 |
| Doesn't want to use | 0.6 | 2.1 | 2.0 | 7.9 |
| Doesn't expect to have relations | 0.0 | 0.0 | 5.5 | 6.7 |
| Doesn't know methods | 1.2 | 0.0 | 4.3 | 6.1 |
| Lack of confidence in efficacy | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.8 | 6.1 |
| Responsibility of partner | 0.6 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 4.3 |
| Assume responsibility | 0.0 | 0.0 | 7.1 | 3.7 |
| Religion doesn't permit | 0.0 | 0.0 | 3.1 | 2.4 |
| Ashamed to buy them | 0.0 | 0.0 | 3.1 | 1.8 |
| Doesn't think its needed | 4.4 | 0.0 | 1.2 | 1.8 |
| Partner opposes | 1.2 | 4.2 | 0.0 | 1.2 |
| Other | 1.3 | 0.0 | 1.5 | 2.4 |
| | <u>15.5</u> | <u>23.0</u> | <u>56.1</u> | <u>73.7</u> |
| Don't know | <u>0.0</u> | <u>2.1</u> | <u>9.0</u> | <u>7.9</u> |
| TOTAL | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| No. of Cases | 160 | 48 | 255 | 164 |

TABLE 5-1

Percentage of Women Ever-Pregnant by Age Group
 All Women and Women with Sexual Experience
 Mexico City Young Adult Survey, 1985

| <u>Age Group</u> | <u>All Women</u> | <u>Sexually Experienced</u> | |
|----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| | | <u>Pre- Marital</u> | <u>Post- Marital</u> |
| 15-17 | 6.4 | 52.3 | * |
| 18-19 | 20.5 | 63.0 | 79.4 |
| 20-24 | 66.0 | 81.1 | 91.5 |
| TOTAL | 31.7 | 74.5 | 88.9 |
| No. of Cases | 1581 | 393 | 234 |

*N <25 cases.

TABLE 5-2

Number of Pregnancies, by Age Group: Ever Pregnant Women
 Mexico City Young Adult Survey, 1985
 (Percent Distribution)

| <u>Pregnancies</u> | <u>Total</u> | <u>Age Group</u> | | |
|--------------------|--------------|------------------|--------------|--------------|
| | | <u>15-17</u> | <u>18-19</u> | <u>20-24</u> |
| 1 | 51.5 | 90.9 | 64.4 | 45.8 |
| 2 | 29.1 | 9.1 | 27.4 | 31.1 |
| 3 | 14.8 | 0.0 | 8.2 | 17.2 |
| 4+ | 4.6 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 5.8 |
| TOTAL | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| No. of Cases | 501 | 33 | 73 | 395 |

TABLE 5-3

Number of Pregnancies by Type of First Sexual Relation
 Ever Pregnant Women by Age Group
 Mexico City Young Adult Survey, 1985
 (Percent Distribution)

| <u>Pregnancies</u> | <u>Premarital</u> | | | <u>Postmarital</u> | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------------|--------------|--------------|
| | <u>Total</u> | <u>15-19</u> | <u>20-24</u> | <u>Total</u> | <u>15-19</u> | <u>20-24</u> |
| 1 | 51.4 | 72.5 | 44.8 | 51.4 | 73.0 | 46.8 |
| 2 | 30.1 | 21.7 | 32.7 | 27.9 | 21.6 | 29.2 |
| 3 | 14.7 | 5.8 | 17.5 | 14.9 | 5.4 | 17.0 |
| 4+ | 3.8 | 0.0 | 4.9 | 5.8 | 0.0 | 7.0 |
| TOTAL | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| No. of Cases | 292 | 69 | 223 | 209 | 37 | 172 |

Age at First Live Birth, by Age Group
 Women With at Least One Live Birth
 Mexico City Young Adult Survey, 1985
 (Percent Distribution)

| <u>Age</u> | <u>Total</u> | <u>Age Group</u> | |
|-----------------|--------------|------------------|--------------|
| | | <u>15-19</u> | <u>20-24</u> |
| 14 | 1.0 | 1.4 | 0.8 |
| 15 | 5.2 | 2.0 | 2.3 |
| 16 | 12.3 | 27.1 | 9.4 |
| 17 | 15.6 | 28.6 | 13.1 |
| 18 | 14.4 | 14.3 | 14.5 |
| 19 | 20.4 | 8.6 | 22.7 |
| 20 | 13.0 | -- | 15.6 |
| 21 | 9.5 | -- | 11.4 |
| 22 | 5.0 | -- | 6.0 |
| 23 | 2.4 | -- | 2.8 |
| 24 | 1.2 | -- | 1.4 |
| TOTAL | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| No. of Cases | 422 | 70 | 352 |

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TABLE 5-5

Age-Specific Fertility Rates, by Age Group
Metropolitan Areas of Mexico, 1971-1979, and
Mexico City Young Adult Survey, 1985

| <u>National Prevalence Survey, 1979*</u> | <u>Age Group</u> | |
|--|------------------|--------------|
| | <u>15-19</u> | <u>20-24</u> |
| 1971-1973 | 88.6 | 244.0 |
| 1974-1976 | 81.1 | 221.5 |
| 1977-1979 | 77.2 | 189.7 |
| <u>Young Adult Survey, 1985</u> | 51.4 | 154.0 |

*Reference 14.

TABLE 5-6

Women Ever in Union: Percentage of First Births
That Were Premaritally Conceived*, by Education
Mexico City Young Adult Survey, 1985

| <u>Education</u> | <u>Before Union</u> | <u>First 7 Mos. of Union</u> | <u>Total Premarital Conceptions</u> | <u>No. of Cases**</u> |
|------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------------|---|---------------------------|
| <Primary | 12.3 | 13.5 | 25.8 | 171 |
| Secondary | 8.2 | 23.9 | 32.1 | 159 |
| >Secondary | 12.1 | 30.3 | 42.4 | 66 |
| TOTAL | 10.6 | 20.5 | 31.1 | 396 |

*Comparison of date of first birth and date of first marriage
or union.

**Excludes 27 cases with one or both dates unknown.

TABLE 5-7

Percentage of Last Pregnancies Reported as Unintended
by Number of Pregnancies and Age Group
Mexico City Young Adult Survey, 1985

| <u>Number of Pregnancies</u> | <u>Total</u> | <u>15-19</u> | <u>20-24</u> | <u>No. of Cases</u> |
|----------------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|-------------------------|
| 1 | 10.9 | } 16.9 | 8.3 | 257 |
| 2 | 14.4 | | 14.6 | 146 |
| 3-6 | 28.9 | 16.0 | 30.0 | 97 |
| TOTAL, | 15.4 | 16.0 | 15.2 | 500* |
| No. of Cases | 500* | 106 | 394 | |

*Excludes one case with unknown planning status.

TABLE 5-8

Percentage of Last Pregnancies Reported as Unintended
by Number of Pregnancies and Marital Status
Mexico City Young Adult Survey, 1985

| <u>Number of Pregnancies</u> | <u>Total</u> | <u>Currently Married</u> | <u>Previously Married</u> | <u>Never Married</u> |
|----------------------------------|--------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 | 10.9 | 4.9 | ** | 50.0 |
| 2 | 14.4 | 13.4 | ** | ** |
| 3-6 | 28.9 | 29.0 | ** | ** |
| TOTAL | 15.4 | 12.7 | 15.2 | 50.0 |
| No. of Cases | 500 | 433* | 33 | 34 |

*Excludes one case with unknown planning status.

**Less than 25 cases.

TABLE 6.1

Exposure to Sex Education by Age Group and Sex
 Mexico City Young Adult Survey, 1985
 (Percent Distribution)

| <u>Sex Education</u> | <u>Age Group</u> | | | |
|-------------------------|------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| | <u>Total</u> | <u>15-17</u> | <u>18-19</u> | <u>20-24</u> |
| <u>Females</u> | | | | |
| Had a class | 80.2 | 86.3 | 82.1 | 74.8 |
| At school | 65.0 | 77.5 | 70.0 | 53.2 |
| Outside school | 2.6 | 1.9 | 0.9 | 4.0 |
| Both | 12.6 | 6.9 | 11.2 | 17.6 |
| Did not have a class | 19.8 | 13.7 | 17.9 | 25.2 |
| TOTAL | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| No. of Cases | (1581) | (519) | (357) | (705) |
| <u>Males</u> | | | | |
| Had a class | 75.2 | 76.9 | 76.0 | 73.1 |
| At school | 64.0 | 71.0 | 67.8 | 56.7 |
| Outside school | 1.9 | 0.6 | 1.0 | 3.4 |
| Both | 9.3 | 5.3 | 8.2 | 13.0 |
| Did not have a class | 24.8 | 23.1 | 23.0 | 26.9 |
| Total | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| No. of Cases | (1402) | (476) | (317) | (609) |

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TABLE 6.2

Year in School of First Sex Education Class by Sex
 Mexico City Young Adult Survey, 1985
 (Percent Distribution)

| <u>Year in School of First Class</u> | <u>Females</u> | <u>Males</u> |
|--|----------------|--------------|
| Primary <5th year | 20.6 | 14.8 |
| Primary 6th year | 36.3 | 27.6 |
| Secondary 1st year | 13.6 | 19.1 |
| Secondary 2nd year | 16.2 | 19.3 |
| Secondary 3rd year | 9.1 | 13.6 |
| > Secondary | 4.2 | 5.6 |
| TOTAL | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| No. of Cases | (1225)* | (1028) |

*Two women have been excluded due to unspecified year in school of the first class.

TABLE 6.3

Sex and Occupation of the Person who Gave the First
Class of Sex Education at School by Sex
Mexico City Young Adult Survey, 1985
(Percent Distribution)

| <u>Sex and Occupation</u> | <u>Females</u> | <u>Males</u> |
|--|----------------|--------------|
| <u>Sex of Person who Gave Class</u> | | |
| Female | 55.8 | 36.5 |
| Male | 37.0 | 58.4 |
| Both | 6.8 | 5.0 |
| Doesn't remember | 0.5 | 0.2 |
| <u>Occupation of Person who Gave Class</u> | | |
| Teacher | 80.0 | 86.8 |
| Physician | 9.0 | 6.4 |
| Counselor/psychologist | 3.0 | 5.0 |
| Social worker | 2.8 | 0.9 |
| Nurse | 2.4 | 0.8 |
| Sanitary napkin salesman | 1.5 | 0.0 |
| Other | 0.7 | 0.1 |
| Doesn't remember | 0.6 | 0.0 |
| TOTAL | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| No. of Cases | (1227) | (1028) |

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TABLE 6.4

Information Received at School about Menstruation, Contraceptive Methods, and Sexually Transmitted Diseases by Year in School of First Sex Education Class and Sex
Mexico City Young Adult Survey, 1985
(Percentage)

| Year in School of First Class | Content of First Sex Education Class | | | | | | | |
|----------------------------------|--|-------|---|-------|----------------------------------|-------|--------------|-------|
| | % With Information on Menstruation | | % With Information on Contraceptive Methods | | % With Information on STDs | | No. of Cases | |
| | Females | Males | Females | Males | Females | Males | Females | Males |
| | | | | | | | | |
| Primary <5th year | 97.6 | 80.3 | 27.8 | 27.0 | 27.0 | 46.1 | (252) | (152) |
| Primary 6th year | 98.9 | 86.6 | 26.3 | 27.8 | 29.2 | 44.7 | (445) | (284) |
| Secondary 1st year | 98.2 | 87.8 | 52.4 | 57.7 | 57.8 | 71.4 | (166) | (196) |
| Secondary 2nd year | 96.0 | 90.4 | 53.0 | 56.1 | 54.0 | 80.3 | (198) | (198) |
| Secondary 3rd year | 99.1 | 82.1 | 62.2 | 65.7 | 72.1 | 83.6 | (111) | (140) |
| > Secondary | 98.1 | 89.7 | 82.7 | 81.0 | 86.5 | 84.5 | (52) | (58) |

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TABLE 6.5

Age of Young Female Adults at the Time of First Sex Education
Class at School that Included Information on
Menstruation and Age at Menarche
Mexico City Young Adult Survey, 1985
(Cumulative Distribution)

| <u>Age</u> | <u>First Class that Included Information on Menstruation</u> | <u>Age at Menarche</u> |
|--------------------------------|--|----------------------------|
| 7-10 | 9.4 | 4.9 |
| 11 | 22.7 | 20.5 |
| 12 | 46.7 | 49.8 |
| 13 | 65.8 | 77.8 |
| 14 | 81.8 | 91.7 |
| 15-18 | 98.5 | 99.7 |
| 19-22 | 99.8 | 99.7 |
| Has not begun to menstruate | — | 99.9 |
| TOTAL | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| No. of Cases | (1203) | (1581) |

TABLE 6.6

Exposure to Sex Education Outside School: Location of Class, Sex, and Occupation of Person Who Gave the Class, and Content of Class by Sex
Mexico City Young Adult Survey, 1985
(Percentage and Percent Distribution)

| Class Outside School: | | |
|--|----------------|--------------|
| <u>Location/Sex/Occupation/Content</u> | <u>Females</u> | <u>Males</u> |
| % with class outside school | 15.2 | 11.2 |
| <u>Location of Class</u> | | |
| IMSS | 27.4 | 23.6 |
| Church, religious groups | 18.2 | 15.9 |
| SSA | 16.2 | 1.9 |
| DIF, DDF, other public institutions | 13.7 | 15.9 |
| Youth centers | 11.6 | 17.8 |
| Physician/private hospital | 5.4 | 5.1 |
| Work | 4.1 | 5.7 |
| University | 0.8 | 5.1 |
| Private home | 2.5 | 8.9 |
| TOTAL | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| <u>Sex of Person who Gave Class</u> | | |
| Woman | 45.2 | 23.6 |
| Man | 34.9 | 54.8 |
| Both | 19.5 | 21.7 |
| Doesn't remember | 0.4 | 0.0 |
| TOTAL | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| <u>Occupation of Person who Gave Class</u> | | |
| Physician | 45.2 | 46.5 |
| Social worker | 12.9 | 3.8 |
| Nurse | 11.2 | 5.7 |
| Teacher | 10.4 | 9.0 |
| Counselor/Psychologist | 8.7 | 18.5 |
| Religious person | 5.4 | 9.6 |
| Other | 5.0 | 6.3 |
| Doesn't remember | 1.2 | 0.6 |
| TOTAL | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| <u>Content Information (% including:)</u> | | |
| Menstruation | 88.8 | 84.1 |
| Contraceptive methods | 86.7 | 84.7 |
| Sexually transmitted diseases | 73.4 | 89.8 |
| No. of Cases | (241) | (157) |

TABLE 6.7

Concept of Sex Education for Females by Whether or Not They Had a Class
in School, Outside of School, Age Group, and Education
Mexico City Young Adult Survey, 1985
(Percent Distribution)

| <u>Class in School/Outside of School/Age/Education</u> | <u>Concept of Sex Education</u> | | | <u>Total</u> | <u>No. of Cases</u> |
|--|---------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------|-------------------------|
| | <u>Biological</u> | <u>Bio-Psyco- Social</u> | <u>Doesn't Know</u> | | |
| Total | 59.6 | 25.6 | 14.8 | 100.0 | (1581) |
| <u>Had Sex Education Class in School</u> | | | | | |
| Yes | 62.4 | 26.9 | 10.8 | 100.0 | (1227) |
| No | 50.3 | 20.9 | 28.8 | 100.0 | (354) |
| <u>Had Sex Education Outside of School</u> | | | | | |
| Yes | 58.1 | 36.5 | 5.4 | 100.0 | (241) |
| No | 59.9 | 23.6 | 16.5 | 100.0 | (1340) |
| <u>Age Group</u> | | | | | |
| 15-17 | 59.0 | 23.8 | 17.2 | 100.0 | (519) |
| 18-19 | 58.8 | 24.1 | 17.1 | 100.0 | (357) |
| 20-24 | 50.6 | 37.5 | 11.9 | 100.0 | (705) |
| <u>Education</u> | | | | | |
| <Primary | 51.4 | 18.7 | 29.9 | 100.0 | (381) |
| Secondary | 58.8 | 28.1 | 13.1 | 100.0 | (800) |
| >Secondary | 69.2 | 27.0 | 3.8 | 100.0 | (400) |

TABLE 6.8

Concept of Sex Education for Males by Whether or Not They Had a Class
in School, Outside of School, Age Group, and Education
Mexico City Young Adult Survey, 1985
(Percent Distribution)

| <u>Class in School/Outside of School/Age/Education</u> | <u>Concept of Sex Education</u> | | | <u>Total</u> | <u>No. of Cases</u> |
|--|---------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------|-------------------------|
| | <u>Biological</u> | <u>Bio-Psyco- Social</u> | <u>Doesn't Know</u> | | |
| Total | 44.9 | 35.7 | 19.4 | 100.0 | (1402) |
| <u>Had Sex Education Class in School</u> | | | | | |
| Yes | 49.9 | 35.9 | 14.2 | 100.0 | (1028) |
| No | 31.1 | 35.0 | 33.7 | 100.0 | (374) |
| <u>Had Sex Education Outside of School</u> | | | | | |
| Yes | 52.2 | 42.7 | 5.1 | 100.0 | (157) |
| No | 44.0 | 34.8 | 21.1 | 100.0 | (1245) |
| <u>Age Group</u> | | | | | |
| 15-17 | 42.4 | 30.3 | 27.3 | 100.0 | (476) |
| 18-19 | 46.1 | 35.1 | 18.8 | 100.0 | (317) |
| 20-24 | 46.3 | 40.2 | 13.5 | 100.0 | (609) |
| <u>Education</u> | | | | | |
| <Primary | 28.2 | 28.2 | 43.6 | 100.0 | (234) |
| Secondary | 44.5 | 33.8 | 21.7 | 100.0 | (668) |
| >Secondary | 53.4 | 41.6 | 5.0 | 100.0 | (500) |

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TABLE 6.9

Most Appropriate Age to Initiate Sex Education among Females by Whether or Not They Had a Class in School, Outside of School, Age Group, and Education
Mexico City Young Adult Survey, 1985
(Percent Distribution)

| <u>Class in School/ Outside School/ Age/Education</u> | <u>Most Appropriate Age to Initiate Sex Education at School</u> | | | | | <u>Total</u> | <u>No of Cases</u> |
|---|---|-------------|--------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|------------------------|
| | <u>3-7</u> | <u>8-10</u> | <u>11-14</u> | <u>15-20</u> | <u>Unknown</u> | | |
| TOTAL | 9.4 | 28.5 | 49.1 | 12.6 | 0.3 | 100.0 | (1581) |
| <u>Had Class in School</u> | | | | | | | |
| Yes | 9.6 | 30.5 | 49.2 | 10.5 | 0.2 | 100.0 | (1227) |
| No | 8.8 | 21.8 | 48.9 | 19.8 | 0.8 | 100.0 | (354) |
| <u>Had Class Outside School</u> | | | | | | | |
| Yes | 13.3 | 33.6 | 44.4 | 8.3 | 0.4 | 100.0 | (241) |
| No | 8.7 | 27.6 | 50.0 | 13.4 | 0.3 | 100.0 | (1340) |
| <u>Age Group</u> | | | | | | | |
| 15-17 | 5.0 | 24.5 | 56.3 | 14.1 | 0.2 | 100.0 | (519) |
| 18-19 | 9.5 | 30.2 | 44.5 | 15.1 | 0.6 | 100.0 | (357) |
| 20-24 | 12.6 | 30.6 | 46.2 | 10.2 | 0.3 | 100.0 | (705) |
| <u>Education</u> | | | | | | | |
| <Primary | 5.5 | 20.7 | 53.6 | 19.7 | 0.5 | 100.0 | (381) |
| Secondary | 6.7 | 29.1 | 51.4 | 12.6 | 0.1 | 100.0 | (800) |
| >Secondary | 18.5 | 34.8 | 40.5 | 5.8 | 0.5 | 100.0 | (400) |

TABLE 6.10

Most Appropriate Age to Initiate Sex Education among Males by Whether
or Not They Had a Class in School, Outside of School, Age Group, and Education
Mexico City Young Adult Survey, 1985
(Percent Distribution)

| <u>Class in School/ Outside School/ Age/Education</u> | <u>Most Appropriate Age to Initiate Sex Education at School</u> | | | | | <u>Total</u> | <u>No. of Cases</u> |
|---|---|-------------|--------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|-------------------------|
| | <u>3-7</u> | <u>8-10</u> | <u>11-14</u> | <u>15-20</u> | <u>Unknown</u> | | |
| TOTAL | 13.8 | 26.2 | 39.9 | 20.0 | 0.1 | 100.0 | (1402) |
| <u>Had Class in School</u> | | | | | | | |
| Yes | 15.0 | 28.1 | 41.0 | 15.8 | 0.1 | 100.0 | (1028) |
| No | 10.4 | 21.1 | 36.6 | 31.6 | 0.3 | 100.0 | (374) |
| <u>Had Class Outside School</u> | | | | | | | |
| Yes | 22.9 | 29.9 | 37.6 | 8.9 | 0.6 | 100.0 | (157) |
| No | 12.6 | 25.8 | 40.2 | 21.4 | 0.1 | 100.0 | (1245) |
| <u>Age Group</u> | | | | | | | |
| 15-17 | 9.0 | 21.4 | 43.5 | 26.0 | 0.0 | 100.0 | (476) |
| 18-19 | 12.0 | 27.4 | 40.1 | 20.5 | 0.0 | 100.0 | (317) |
| 20-24 | 18.4 | 29.4 | 36.8 | 15.0 | 0.3 | 100.0 | (609) |
| <u>Education</u> | | | | | | | |
| <Primary | 7.3 | 23.5 | 35.5 | 33.3 | 0.4 | 100.0 | (241) |
| Secondary | 10.8 | 22.3 | 42.4 | 24.6 | 0.0 | 100.0 | (668) |
| >Secondary | 20.8 | 32.8 | 38.6 | 7.6 | 0.2 | 100.0 | (500) |

TABLE 6.11

Most Appropriate Manner to Teach Sex Education at School According to
Females by Whether or Not They Had a Class in School, Outside of School,
Age Group, and Education
Mexico City Young Adult Survey, 1985
(Percent Distribution)

| <u>Class in School/ Outside School/ Age/Education</u> | <u>Most Appropriate Manner to Teach Sex Education</u> | | | | | | <u>Total</u> | <u>No. of Cases</u> |
|---|---|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|--------------|-------------------------|
| | <u>Sexes Together</u> | <u>Sexes Separate</u> | <u>Individ- ually</u> | <u>Doesn't Matter</u> | <u>Shouldn't Teach</u> | <u>No Opinion</u> | | |
| TOTAL | 66.6 | 15.9 | 7.1 | 8.7 | 1.4 | 0.3 | 100.0 | (1581) |
| <u>Had Class in School</u> | | | | | | | | |
| Yes | 69.8 | 13.5 | 6.7 | 9.4 | 0.9 | 0.1 | 100.0 | (1227) |
| No | 55.6 | 24.3 | 9.6 | 6.5 | 3.1 | 0.8 | 100.0 | (354) |
| <u>Had Class Outside School</u> | | | | | | | | |
| Yes | 70.1 | 12.4 | 9.1 | 7.9 | 0.4 | 0.0 | 100.0 | (241) |
| No | 66.0 | 16.6 | 6.7 | 8.9 | 1.6 | 0.3 | 100.0 | (1340) |
| <u>Age Group</u> | | | | | | | | |
| 15-17 | 60.9 | 19.6 | 6.7 | 11.2 | 1.2 | 0.4 | 100.0 | (519) |
| 18-19 | 65.8 | 15.1 | 8.1 | 9.5 | 1.4 | 0.0 | 100.0 | (357) |
| 20-24 | 71.2 | 13.6 | 6.8 | 6.5 | 1.6 | 0.3 | 100.0 | (705) |
| <u>Education</u> | | | | | | | | |
| <Primary | 48.3 | 29.4 | 11.6 | 5.8 | 3.9 | 1.0 | 100.0 | (381) |
| Secondary | 68.6 | 14.0 | 6.2 | 10.4 | 0.8 | 0.0 | 100.0 | (800) |
| >Secondary | 80.0 | 7.0 | 4.5 | 8.2 | 0.3 | 0.0 | 100.0 | (400) |

TABLE 6.12

Most Appropriate Manner to Teach Sex Education at School According to
Males by Whether or Not They Had a Class in School, Outside of School,
Age Group, and Education
Mexico City Young Adult Survey, 1985
(Percent Distribution)

| <u>Class in School/ Outside School/ Age/Education</u> | <u>Most Appropriate Manner to Teach Sex Education</u> | | | | | | <u>Total</u> | <u>No. of Cases</u> |
|---|---|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|--------------|-------------------------|
| | <u>Sexes Together</u> | <u>Sexes Separate</u> | <u>Individ- ually</u> | <u>Doesn't Matter</u> | <u>Shouldn't Teach</u> | <u>No Opinion</u> | | |
| TOTAL | 72.4 | 9.4 | 6.6 | 10.1 | 1.4 | 0.1 | 100.0 | (1402) |
| <u>Had Class in School</u> | | | | | | | | |
| Yes | 74.9 | 8.5 | 5.8 | 10.2 | 0.5 | 0.1 | 100.0 | (1028) |
| No | 65.5 | 12.0 | 8.8 | 9.9 | 3.7 | 0.0 | 100.0 | (374) |
| <u>Had Class Outside School</u> | | | | | | | | |
| Yes | 75.2 | 7.0 | 6.4 | 10.8 | 0.6 | 0.0 | 100.0 | (157) |
| No | 72.0 | 9.7 | 6.7 | 10.0 | 1.4 | 0.1 | 100.0 | (1245) |
| <u>Age Group</u> | | | | | | | | |
| 15-17 | 67.2 | 11.1 | 8.4 | 10.5 | 2.5 | 0.2 | 100.0 | (476) |
| 18-19 | 69.1 | 11.4 | 7.9 | 10.1 | 1.6 | 0.0 | 100.0 | (317) |
| 20-24 | 78.2 | 7.1 | 4.6 | 9.8 | 0.3 | 0.0 | 100.0 | (609) |
| <u>Education</u> | | | | | | | | |
| <Primary | 56.8 | 22.2 | 9.8 | 8.1 | 3.0 | 0.0 | 100.0 | (234) |
| Secondary | 70.5 | 8.5 | 7.8 | 11.2 | 1.8 | 0.2 | 100.0 | (668) |
| >Secondary | 82.2 | 4.6 | 3.6 | 9.6 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 100.0 | (500) |

TABLE 6.13

Most Frequent Problems Among Young Adults, by Sex and Age Group
 Mexico City Young Adult Survey, 1985
 (Percent Distribution)

| <u>Problems</u> | <u>Females</u> | | | <u>Males</u> | | |
|---|----------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| | <u>15-17</u> | <u>18-19</u> | <u>20-24</u> | <u>15-17</u> | <u>18-19</u> | <u>20-24</u> |
| Drugs and alcohol | 51.1 | 40.1 | 35.7 | 61.3 | 57.1 | 49.4 |
| Family problems | 13.3 | 17.4 | 14.5 | 4.8 | 5.7 | 5.6 |
| Education | 8.1 | 9.0 | 11.1 | 7.8 | 8.5 | 9.0 |
| Laziness and delinquency | 6.9 | 6.2 | 4.3 | 8.8 | 7.6 | 5.7 |
| Psychosocial problems | 4.4 | 5.3 | 8.5 | 1.9 | 1.3 | 3.3 |
| Unemployment | 3.8 | 5.9 | 7.4 | 6.9 | 12.0 | 17.9 |
| Sexuality | 3.7 | 5.9 | 4.7 | 4.2 | 2.2 | 1.3 |
| Lack of information and/or counselling | 2.9 | 4.2 | 6.7 | 2.1 | 4.4 | 5.4 |
| Other | 3.7 | 3.6 | 5.8 | 1.3 | 1.0 | 2.1 |
| Doesn't know | 2.1 | 2.5 | 1.4 | 0.8 | 0.3 | 0.2 |
| TOTAL | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| No. of Cases | (519) | (357) | (705) | (476) | (317) | (609) |

TABLE 6.14

Activities Preferred by Young Adults at Youth Centers, by Sex and Age Group
 Mexico City Young Adult Survey, 1985
 (Percent Distribution)

| <u>Activities</u> | <u>Females</u> | | | <u>Males</u> | | |
|-------------------------------------|----------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| | <u>15-17</u> | <u>18-19</u> | <u>20-24</u> | <u>15-17</u> | <u>18-19</u> | <u>20-24</u> |
| Sports | 47.4 | 46.5 | 38.2 | 67.0 | 58.0 | 50.6 |
| Cultural/artistic | 18.7 | 20.7 | 23.0 | 13.4 | 16.7 | 21.8 |
| Vocational counseling | 8.1 | 9.0 | 10.8 | 8.4 | 13.6 | 11.8 |
| Counseling for drugs and alcohol | 8.3 | 5.6 | 7.6 | 4.0 | 4.4 | 5.8 |
| Social | 3.8 | 5.6 | 5.1 | 2.7 | 1.6 | 3.9 |
| Counseling for sexual concerns | 4.0 | 5.0 | 3.8 | 2.5 | 2.2 | 2.6 |
| Other | 8.3 | 5.6 | 10.2 | 1.5 | 3.2 | 3.1 |
| Doesn't know | 1.3 | 2.0 | 1.3 | 0.4 | 0.3 | 0.3 |
| TOTAL | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| No. of Cases | (519) | (357) | (705) | (476) | (317) | (609) |

TABLE 6.15

Preferred Schedule for Attending Youth Centers
by Work Status and Age Group: Female Respondents
Mexico City Young Adult Survey, 1985
(Percent Distribution)

| Preferred Schedule by Age Group | Work Status | | | |
|------------------------------------|-------------|-------|--------------------|------------------------------|
| | Studies | Works | Studies & Works | Neither Studies Nor Works |
| <u>15-17</u> | | | | |
| Afternoon | 53.7 | 62.2 | * | 61.4 |
| Morning | 41.9 | 26.7 | * | 36.1 |
| Night | 1.2 | 8.9 | * | 0.8 |
| Weekends | 2.0 | 0.0 | * | 0.8 |
| Anytime | 0.6 | 0.0 | * | 0.8 |
| Doesn't have time | 0.6 | 2.2 | * | 0.0 |
| TOTAL | 100.0 | 100.0 | | 100.0 |
| No. of Cases | (341) | (45) | (12) | (119) |
| <u>18-19</u> | | | | |
| Afternoon | 61.1 | 56.3 | 59.3 | 57.3 |
| Morning | 31.3 | 30.0 | 18.5 | 37.6 |
| Night | 3.0 | 6.2 | 14.8 | 2.6 |
| Weekends | 3.8 | 6.2 | 7.4 | 0.0 |
| Anytime | 0.8 | 1.2 | 0.0 | 1.7 |
| Doesn't have time | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.8 |
| TOTAL | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| No. of Cases | (131) | (80) | (27) | (117) |
| <u>20-24</u> | | | | |
| Afternoon | 58.7 | 55.9 | 33.3 | 67.5 |
| Morning | 26.1 | 23.8 | 28.8 | 29.9 |
| Night | 4.4 | 8.5 | 15.2 | 0.6 |
| Weekends | 7.6 | 10.2 | 13.6 | 1.0 |
| Anytime | 1.1 | 0.8 | 4.6 | 0.6 |
| Doesn't have time | 2.1 | 0.8 | 4.6 | 0.3 |
| TOTAL | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| No. of Cases | (92) | (236) | (63) | (308) |

*Less than 25 cases.

TABLE 6.16

Preferred Schedule for Attending Youth Centers
by Work Status and Age Group: Male Respondents
Mexico City Young Adult Survey, 1985
(Percent Distribution)

| Preferred Schedule by Age Group | Work Status | | | |
|------------------------------------|-------------|-------|--------------------|------------------------------|
| | Studies | Works | Studies & Works | Neither Studies Nor Works |
| <u>15-17</u> | | | | |
| Afternoon | 41.2 | 38.5 | 35.7 | 34.2 |
| Morning | 53.8 | 35.9 | 33.3 | 52.6 |
| Night | 2.9 | 21.4 | 23.8 | 5.2 |
| Weekends | 1.4 | 4.2 | 4.8 | 0.0 |
| Anytime | 0.7 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 7.9 |
| Doesn't have time | 0.0 | 0.0 | 2.3 | 0.0 |
| TOTAL | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| No. of Cases | (279) | (119) | (42) | (38) |
| <u>18-19</u> | | | | |
| Afternoon | 57.4 | 31.8 | 46.0 | 50.0 |
| Morning | 30.4 | 31.1 | 18.9 | 50.0 |
| Night | 7.0 | 30.4 | 16.2 | 0.0 |
| Weekends | 4.4 | 6.8 | 8.1 | 0.0 |
| Anytime | 0.0 | 0.0 | 2.7 | 0.0 |
| Doesn't have time | 0.9 | 0.0 | 8.1 | 0.0 |
| TOTAL | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| No. of Cases | (115) | (135) | (37) | (28) |
| <u>20-24</u> | | | | |
| Afternoon | 52.3 | 44.7 | 31.2 | * |
| Morning | 23.1 | 15.1 | 20.8 | * |
| Night | 16.2 | 32.7 | 30.2 | * |
| Weekends | 6.2 | 5.3 | 14.6 | * |
| Anytime | 1.5 | 1.4 | 2.1 | * |
| Doesn't have time | 0.8 | 0.8 | 1.0 | * |
| TOTAL | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| No. of Cases | (130) | (358) | (96) | (23) |

*Less than 25 cases.

TABLE 6.17

Percentage of Young Adults Participating in Youth Centers
by Age Group and Sex
Mexico City Young Adult Survey, 1985

| <u>Age Group</u> | <u>Females</u> | <u>Males</u> |
|------------------|----------------|--------------|
| 15-17 | 17.7 (520) | 14.5 (476) |
| 18-19 | 19.4 (356) | 14.8 (317) |
| 20-24 | 15.5 (705) | 17.3 (608) |
| TOTAL | 17.1 (1581) | 15.8 (1401) |

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Table 6.18

Reasons Young Adults Have Not Participated in Youth Centers Among
 Respondents Who Know of a Youth Center by Sex and Age Group
 Mexico City Young Adult Survey, 1985
 (Percent Distribution)

| <u>Reasons</u> | <u>Females</u> | | | <u>Males</u> | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| | <u>15-17</u> | <u>18-19</u> | <u>20-24</u> | <u>15-17</u> | <u>18-19</u> | <u>20-24</u> |
| Doesn't have time | 50.8 | 50.0 | 62.3 | 48.3 | 51.3 | 72.5 |
| Doesn't like/not interested | 16.4 | 20.6 | 15.0 | 21.2 | 21.0 | 13.1 |
| No center accessible | 16.4 | 13.7 | 7.7 | 14.4 | 14.5 | 7.5 |
| Unaware of activities | 3.7 | 3.9 | 4.4 | 7.6 | 6.6 | 3.8 |
| No opportunity | 3.0 | 4.9 | 3.9 | 0.0 | 2.6 | 0.0 |
| Other | 4.4 | 4.9 | 6.8 | 7.6 | 4.0 | 3.1 |
| Doesn't know | 5.2 | 2.0 | 0.0 | 0.8 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| TOTAL | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| No. of Cases | (134) | (102) | (207) | (118) | (76) | (160) |

TABLE 7.1

Knowledge of Sexually Transmitted Diseases Among Female Young Adults
by Whether or Not They Had a Sex Education Class
and Current Level of Education
Mexico City Young Adult Survey, 1985

| <u>Class by Current Education</u> | <u>% With Knowledge of STDs</u> | | | <u>No. of Cases</u> |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------|-------------------------|
| | <u>Total</u> | <u>Spontaneous</u> | <u>Prompted</u> | |
| | <u>Syphilis</u> | | | |
| Had a class | 64.1 | 36.7 | 27.4 | (1227) |
| <u><Primary</u> | 20.7 | 1.6 | 19.1 | (183) |
| <u>>Secondary</u> | 71.6 | 42.8 | 28.8 | (1044) |
| Never had a class | 34.7 | 15.8 | 18.9 | (354) |
| <u><Primary</u> | 15.2 | 5.6 | 9.6 | (198) |
| <u>>Secondary</u> | 59.6 | 28.8 | 30.8 | (156) |
| | <u>Gonorrhea</u> | | | |
| Had a class | 62.7 | 29.9 | 32.8 | (1227) |
| <u><Primary</u> | 26.8 | 2.2 | 24.6 | (183) |
| <u>>Secondary</u> | 69.1 | 34.8 | 34.3 | (1044) |
| Never had a class | 35.9 | 15.0 | 20.9 | (354) |
| <u><Primary</u> | 18.2 | 6.1 | 12.1 | (198) |
| <u>>Secondary</u> | 58.3 | 26.3 | 32.0 | (156) |
| | <u>Herpes</u> | | | |
| Had a class | 32.4 | 5.0 | 27.4 | (1227) |
| <u><Primary</u> | 9.3 | 1.1 | 8.2 | (183) |
| <u>>Secondary</u> | 36.6 | 5.8 | 30.8 | (1044) |
| Never had a class | 15.8 | 1.4 | 14.4 | (354) |
| <u><Primary</u> | 8.1 | 1.0 | 7.1 | (198) |
| <u>>Secondary</u> | 25.6 | 1.9 | 23.7 | (156) |

TABLE 7.2

Knowledge of Sexually Transmitted Diseases Among Male Young Adults
by Whether or Not They Had a Sex Education Class
and Current Level of Education
Mexico City Young Adult Survey, 1985

| <u>Class by Current Education</u> | <u>% With Knowledge of STDs</u> | | | <u>No. of Cases</u> |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------|-------------------------|
| | <u>Total</u> | <u>Spontaneous</u> | <u>Prompted</u> | |
| | <u>Syphilis</u> | | | |
| Had a class | 83.2 | 59.3 | 23.9 | (1028) |
| <u><Primary</u> | 49.4 | 19.5 | 29.9 | (87) |
| <u>>Secondary</u> | 86.4 | 63.0 | 23.4 | (941) |
| Never had a class | 61.0 | 33.7 | 27.3 | (374) |
| <u><Primary</u> | 38.1 | 14.3 | 23.8 | (147) |
| <u>>Secondary</u> | 75.8 | 46.3 | 29.5 | (227) |
| | <u>Gonorrhea</u> | | | |
| Had a class | 88.5 | 57.5 | 31.0 | (1028) |
| <u><Primary</u> | 72.4 | 28.7 | 43.7 | (87) |
| <u>>Secondary</u> | 90.1 | 60.2 | 29.9 | (941) |
| Never had a class | 73.8 | 33.2 | 40.6 | (374) |
| <u><Primary</u> | 58.5 | 17.7 | 40.8 | (147) |
| <u>>Secondary</u> | 83.7 | 43.2 | 40.5 | (227) |
| | <u>Herpes</u> | | | |
| Had a class | 41.9 | 7.7 | 34.2 | (1028) |
| <u><Primary</u> | 21.8 | 0.0 | 21.8 | (87) |
| <u>>Secondary</u> | 43.8 | 8.4 | 35.4 | (941) |
| Never had a class | 24.3 | 5.1 | 19.2 | (374) |
| <u><Primary</u> | 12.9 | 3.4 | 9.5 | (147) |
| <u>>Secondary</u> | 31.8 | 6.2 | 25.6 | (227) |

Table 7.3

Percentage With Knowledge of STDs, by Marital Status and History of
Premarital Sexual Intercourse, by Sex and Age Group
Mexico City Young Adult Survey, 1985

| STD and Age Group | Never Married | | Ever Married | |
|----------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|--|-------------------------------|
| | Never Had Intercourse | Has Had Intercourse | Never Had Premarital Intercourse | Had Premarital Intercourse |
| <u>Females</u> | | | | |
| <u>Syphilis</u> | | | | |
| 15-17 | 52.6 | * | * | * |
| 18-19 | 62.0 | 57.6 | 35.3 | 45.0 |
| 20-24 | 71.4 | 79.4 | 47.3 | 59.0 |
| <u>Gonorrhea</u> | | | | |
| 15-17 | 48.0 | * | * | * |
| 18-19 | 62.0 | 57.6 | 32.4 | 55.0 |
| 20-24 | 69.7 | 79.4 | 49.5 | 61.3 |
| <u>Herpes</u> | | | | |
| 15-17 | 23.7 | * | * | * |
| 18-19 | 28.4 | 33.3 | 11.8 | 22.5 |
| 20-24 | 41.9 | 49.2 | 26.6 | 26.9 |
| <u>No. of Cases</u> | | | | |
| 15-17 | (460) | (24) | (13) | (22) |
| 18-19 | (250) | (33) | (34) | (40) |
| 20-24 | (241) | (63) | (188) | (212) |
| <u>Males</u> | | | | |
| <u>Syphilis</u> | | | | |
| 15-17 | 64.0 | 67.8 | * | * |
| 18-19 | 74.8 | 89.9 | * | 69.0 |
| 20-24 | 81.5 | 89.1 | * | 76.2 |
| <u>Gonorrhea</u> | | | | |
| 15-17 | 67.7 | 78.8 | * | * |
| 18-19 | 84.9 | 93.5 | * | 89.7 |
| 20-24 | 84.0 | 95.8 | * | 89.6 |
| <u>Herpes</u> | | | | |
| 15-17 | 23.4 | 27.4 | * | * |
| 18-19 | 38.7 | 41.1 | * | 27.6 |
| 20-24 | 49.4 | 50.1 | * | 36.0 |
| <u>No. of Cases</u> | | | | |
| 15-17 | (325) | (146) | (1) | (3) |
| 18-19 | (119) | (168) | (1) | (29) |
| 20-24 | (81) | (357) | (7) | (164) |

*Less than 25 cases.

TABLE 7.4

Percent With Knowledge of Contraceptive Methods,
by Sex and Age Group
Mexico City Young Adult Survey, 1985

| Contraceptive Methods | Females | | | | Males | | | |
|--------------------------|---------|-------|-------|-------|--------|-------|-------|-------|
| | Total | 15-17 | 18-19 | 20-24 | Total | 15-17 | 18-19 | 20-24 |
| Pill | 95.6 | 92.7 | 96.1 | 97.6 | 90.9 | 87.8 | 90.5 | 93.4 |
| Injectables | 94.3 | 92.1 | 93.0 | 97.3 | 84.6 | 76.0 | 82.3 | 92.4 |
| Female sterilization | 92.6 | 85.9 | 93.6 | 97.0 | 79.5 | 72.1 | 77.3 | 86.4 |
| IUD | 89.2 | 79.4 | 89.4 | 96.3 | 57.0 | 43.3 | 52.0 | 70.3 |
| Male sterilization | 76.4 | 61.5 | 77.0 | 87.1 | 77.2 | 66.4 | 74.4 | 87.2 |
| Vaginal methods | 72.4 | 59.5 | 72.0 | 82.1 | 79.0 | 69.5 | 82.3 | 84.6 |
| Rhythm | 65.6 | 50.9 | 64.7 | 76.9 | 70.3 | 58.6 | 69.7 | 79.6 |
| Condom | 65.0 | 53.2 | 65.8 | 73.2 | 90.2 | 85.7 | 89.6 | 94.1 |
| Withdrawal | 41.4 | 29.1 | 42.9 | 49.8 | 60.5 | 45.0 | 59.3 | 73.4 |
| Billings | 14.6 | 11.8 | 13.2 | 17.3 | 9.6 | 7.1 | 8.5 | 12.0 |
| No. of Cases | (1581) | (519) | (357) | (705) | (1402) | (476) | (317) | (609) |

TABLE 7.5

Percentage With Knowledge of Contraceptive Methods,
by Whether or Not They Had Sex Education Class in School, by Sex
Mexico City Young Adult Survey, 1985

| <u>Contraceptive Methods/Class</u> | <u>Sex</u> | |
|------------------------------------|----------------|--------------|
| | <u>Females</u> | <u>Males</u> |
| <u>Pill</u> | | |
| Had a class | 96.2 | 92.8 |
| Never had a class | 92.4 | 84.0 |
| <u>Injectables</u> | | |
| Had a class | 95.1 | 86.2 |
| Never had a class | 90.7 | 79.7 |
| <u>Female Sterilization</u> | | |
| Had a class | 93.4 | 84.8 |
| Never had a class | 89.8 | 62.8 |
| <u>IUD</u> | | |
| Had a class | 89.7 | 61.8 |
| Never had a class | 89.8 | 43.3 |
| <u>Male Sterilization</u> | | |
| Had a class | 80.1 | 83.3 |
| Never had a class | 63.3 | 59.6 |
| <u>Vaginal Methods</u> | | |
| Had a class | 74.7 | 83.3 |
| Never had a class | 64.4 | 66.0 |
| <u>Rhythm</u> | | |
| Had a class | 68.9 | 74.8 |
| Never had a class | 52.0 | 56.2 |
| <u>Condoms</u> | | |
| Had a class | 68.5 | 92.7 |
| Never had a class | 51.4 | 82.6 |
| <u>Withdrawal</u> | | |
| Had a class | 44.1 | 65.1 |
| Never had a class | 32.5 | 47.6 |
| <u>Billings</u> | | |
| Had a class | 15.6 | 10.5 |
| Never had a class | 11.0 | 7.0 |

TABLE 7.6

Percentage With Knowledge of Contraceptive Methods, by Marital Status
and History of Premarital Sexual Intercourse, by Sex
Mexico City Young Adult Survey, 1985

| Contraceptive Methods | Females | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|--|-------------------------------|
| | Never Married | | Ever Married | |
| | Never Had Intercourse | Has Had Intercourse | Never Had Premarital Intercourse | Had Premarital Intercourse |
| Pill | 94.7 | 98.3 | 97.4 | 96.0 |
| Injectables | 92.4 | 94.2 | 97.9 | 97.8 |
| Female sterilization | 91.0 | 93.3 | 96.6 | 94.5 |
| IUD | 85.2 | 90.8 | 96.2 | 96.4 |
| Male sterilization | 72.0 | 82.5 | 82.6 | 83.6 |
| Vaginal methods | 67.0 | 82.5 | 72.8 | 86.5 |
| Condom | 60.8 | 80.0 | 61.3 | 76.3 |
| Rhythm | 58.9 | 82.5 | 73.2 | 75.2 |
| Withdrawal | 35.0 | 53.3 | 47.7 | 53.3 |
| Billings | 14.1 | 18.3 | 12.3 | 16.4 |
| No. of Cases | (951) | (120) | (235) | (274) |
| | Males | | | |
| Pill | 86.7 | 93.4 | * | 93.4 |
| Injectables | 74.9 | 89.4 | * | 83.9 |
| Female sterilization | 73.7 | 82.3 | * | 86.7 |
| IUD | 44.8 | 60.7 | * | 77.0 |
| Male sterilization | 69.0 | 82.4 | * | 83.2 |
| Vaginal methods | 68.4 | 86.6 | * | 83.2 |
| Condom | 84.2 | 94.5 | * | 92.3 |
| Rhythm | 56.8 | 78.7 | * | 78.1 |
| Withdrawal | 44.6 | 70.3 | * | 69.9 |
| Billings | 7.6 | 11.2 | * | 9.2 |
| No. of Cases | (525) | (671) | (9) | (196) |

*Less than 25 cases.

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TABLE 7.7

Percentage With Knowledge of Fertile Period, by Sex Education
in School, Education, and Marital Status
by History of Premarital Sexual Intercourse, by Sex
Mexico City Young Adult Survey, 1985

| <u>Education and History of Premarital Intercourse by Marital Status</u> | <u>Sex</u> | |
|--|----------------|--------------|
| | <u>Females</u> | <u>Males</u> |
| <u>Sex Education in School</u> | | |
| Yes | 26.0 (1227) | 24.7 (1028) |
| No | 26.6 (354) | 22.5 (374) |
| <u>Education</u> | | |
| <Primary | 16.3 (381) | 19.2 (234) |
| Secondary | 24.1 (800) | 21.7 (668) |
| >Secondary | 39.5 (400) | 29.6 (500) |
| <u>Never Married</u> | | |
| Never had intercourse | 22.2 (952) | 18.5 (525) |
| Has had intercourse | 42.5 (120) | 28.2 (671) |
| <u>Ever Married</u> | | |
| Never had premarital intercourse | 29.4 (235) | * (9) |
| Had premarital intercourse | 29.9 (274) | 25.0 (196) |

*Less than 25 cases.

TABLE 7.8

Percentage With Knowledge of Fertile Period by Sex and Whether or Not
They Had Sex Education in School,
by Current Level of Education and Age Group
Mexico City Young Adult Survey, 1985

| Sex and Sex Education in School | Education and Age Group | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------|-----------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|-----------|------------|------------|
| | <Primary | | | | Secondary | | | | >Secondary | | | |
| | Total | 15-17 | 18-19 | 20-24 | Total | 15-17 | 18-19 | 20-24 | Total | 15-17 | 18-19 | 20-24 |
| <u>Females</u> | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Yes | 14.8 (183) | 13.6 (59) | 19.0 (42) | 13.4 (82) | 22.4 (683) | 16.0 (318) | 24.8 (149) | 30.1 (216) | 38.5 (361) | 26.2 (61) | 36.4 (99) | 43.3 (201) |
| No | 17.7 (198) | 7.9 (38) | 22.2 (36) | 19.4 (124) | 34.2 (117) | 19.4 (36) | * (22) | 44.1 (59) | 48.7 (39) | * (7) | * (9) | * (23) |
| <u>Males</u> | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Yes | 23.0 (87) | 18.2 (33) | * (20) | 23.5 (34) | 21.1 (511) | 17.2 (267) | 27.5 (109) | 23.7 (135) | 29.3 (430) | 28.6 (63) | 31.3 (112) | 28.6 (255) |
| No | 17.0 (147) | 15.6 (45) | 17.9 (28) | 17.6 (74) | 23.6 (157) | 20.6 (63) | 20.6 (34) | 31.4 (60) | 31.4 (70) | * (5) | * (14) | 35.3 (51) |

Less than 25 cases.

TABLE 7.9

Percentage Identifying the Most Dangerous Ages for Pregnancy, by Age Group,
Education, Work Status, and Sexual Experience, by Sex
Mexico City Young Adult Survey, 1985

| <u>Characteristics</u> | <u><20 Years</u> | | <u>>35 Years</u> | | <u>No. of Cases</u> | |
|--------------------------|---------------------|--------------|---------------------|--------------|---------------------|--------------|
| | <u>Females</u> | <u>Males</u> | <u>Females</u> | <u>Males</u> | <u>Females</u> | <u>Males</u> |
| <u>Age Group</u> | | | | | | |
| 15-17 | 38.0 | 43.7 | 10.4 | 6.9 | (519) | (476) |
| 18-19 | 41.7 | 42.0 | 11.8 | 9.2 | (357) | (317) |
| 20-24 | 35.0 | 40.4 | 4.5 | 14.1 | (705) | (609) |
| <u>Education</u> | | | | | | |
| <Primary | 47.5 | 42.7 | 5.8 | 10.7 | (381) | (234) |
| Secondary | 38.2 | 45.5 | 9.7 | 10.3 | (800) | (668) |
| >Secondary | 25.2 | 41.6 | 7.0 | 10.8 | (400) | (500) |
| <u>Work Status</u> | | | | | | |
| Studies | 31.9 | 43.1 | 9.4 | 8.8 | (564) | (524) |
| Works | 37.1 | 40.5 | 8.9 | 11.8 | (361) | (610) |
| Both | 33.3 | 43.4 | 8.6 | 10.8 | (105) | (175) |
| Neither | 44.1 | 58.4 | 6.1 | 10.1 | (544) | (89) |
| <u>Sexual Experience</u> | | | | | | |
| No experience | 34.6 | 42.8 | 9.7 | 6.1 | (952) | (525) |
| Post-marital | 39.6 | * | 3.8 | * | (235) | (9) |
| Premarital | 43.4 | 44.1 | 6.8 | 13.4 | (394) | (868) |

*Less than 25 cases.

TABLE 8.1

Mean Ideal Age of Marriage or Union by Age Group, Education,
Work Status, and Marital Status, by Sex
Mexico City Young Adult Survey, 1985

| <u>Characteristics</u> | <u>Ideal Age for Women</u> | | <u>Ideal Age for Men</u> | | <u>No. of Cases</u> | |
|------------------------|----------------------------|--------------|--------------------------|--------------|---------------------|--------------|
| | <u>Females</u> | <u>Males</u> | <u>Females</u> | <u>Males</u> | <u>Females</u> | <u>Males</u> |
| TOTAL | 23.6 | 22.8 | 26.2 | 24.9 | (1581) | (1402) |
| <u>Age Group</u> | | | | | | |
| 15-17 | 23.1 | 22.5 | 25.7 | 24.2 | (519) | (476) |
| 18-19 | 23.7 | 22.7 | 26.4 | 24.9 | (357) | (317) |
| 20-24 | 23.8 | 23.0 | 26.5 | 25.5 | (705) | (609) |
| <u>Education</u> | | | | | | |
| <Primary | 22.2 | 21.3 | 24.7 | 23.2 | (381) | (234) |
| Secondary | 23.3 | 22.6 | 25.8 | 24.6 | (800) | (668) |
| >Secondary | 24.3 | 23.3 | 27.3 | 25.9 | (400) | (500) |
| <u>Work Status</u> | | | | | | |
| Studies | 24.0 | 23.2 | 26.6 | 25.4 | (564) | (524) |
| Works | 24.0 | 22.4 | 27.0 | 24.4 | (361) | (610) |
| Both | 25.0 | 22.8 | 28.0 | 25.4 | (105) | (175) |
| Neither | 23.1 | 23.0 | 25.5 | 24.8 | (544) | (89) |
| <u>Marital Status</u> | | | | | | |
| In union | 22.6 | 22.1 | 25.5 | 24.2 | (473) | (155) |
| Separated | 23.0 | 23.2 | 26.4 | 25.5 | (36) | (50) |
| Never in union | 23.6 | 22.7 | 26.1 | 24.9 | (1072) | (1197) |

TABLE 8.2

Ideal Age of Marriage or Union Versus Actual Age at Union,
by Age at Union and Sex
Mexico City Young Adult Survey, 1985
(Percent Distribution)

| Females | | | | | |
|---|---------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------|-------|-----------------|
| Ideal Age of Marriage or Union vs. Actual Age at Union | | | | | |
| Age at Union | Union Occurred | Union Occurred at Ideal Age | Union Occurred | Total | No. of Cases |
| | Younger Than Ideal Age | | Later Than Ideal Age | | |
| TOTAL | 86.8 | 6.7 | 6.5 | 100.0 | (507) |
| <16 | 100.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 100.0 | (77) |
| 16 | 100.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 100.0 | (62) |
| 17 | 97.3 | 2.7 | 0.0 | 100.0 | (75) |
| 18 | 94.7 | 3.2 | 2.1 | 100.0 | (95) |
| 19 | 75.0 | 15.8 | 9.2 | 100.0 | (76) |
| 20-21 | 74.7 | 11.4 | 13.9 | 100.0 | (79) |
| 22-24 | 51.2 | 18.6 | 30.2 | 100.0 | (43) |

| Males | | | | | |
|---|---------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------|-------|-----------------|
| Ideal Age of Marriage or Union vs. Actual Age at Union | | | | | |
| Age at Union | Union Occurred | Union Occurred at Ideal Age | Union Occurred | Total | No. of Cases |
| | Younger Than Ideal Age | | Later Than Ideal Age | | |
| TOTAL | 83.0 | 6.5 | 10.5 | 100.0 | (153) |
| <18 | 100.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 100.0 | (24) |
| 18-19 | 90.9 | 5.4 | 3.6 | 100.0 | (55) |
| 20-21 | 71.4 | 8.2 | 20.4 | 100.0 | (49) |
| 22-24 | 72.0 | 12.0 | 16.0 | 100.0 | (25) |

TABLE 8.3

Ideal Family Size (Percent Distribution) and Mean Ideal Family Size
by Education and Sex
Mexico City Young Adult Survey, 1985

| <u>Ideal Family Size</u> | <u><Primary</u> | | <u>Secondary</u> | | <u>>Secondary</u> | |
|--------------------------|--------------------|--------------|------------------|--------------|----------------------|--------------|
| | <u>Females</u> | <u>Males</u> | <u>Females</u> | <u>Males</u> | <u>Females</u> | <u>Males</u> |
| 0-1 | 7.1 | 3.4 | 8.6 | 5.5 | 12.3 | 5.6 |
| 2 | 55.7 | 65.0 | 69.9 | 67.3 | 66.9 | 64.8 |
| 3 | 27.2 | 25.6 | 17.3 | 22.9 | 16.8 | 23.8 |
| >3 | 10.0 | 6.0 | 4.2 | 4.3 | 4.0 | 5.8 |
| TOTAL | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Mean | 2.9 | 2.4 | 2.4 | 2.4 | 2.1 | 2.3 |
| No. of Cases | (381) | (234) | (800) | (668) | (400) | (500) |

TABLE 8.4

Attitudes Toward Whether or Not a Married Woman Should Work
by Education and Sex
Mexico City Young Adult Survey, 1985
(Percent Distribution)

| | Total | <Primary | Secondary | >Secondary |
|--|----------------|----------|-----------|------------|
| | <u>Females</u> | | | |
| Should a married women work? | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Yes | 66.8 | 50.9 | 66.4 | 82.8 |
| No | 23.9 | 40.2 | 23.8 | 8.8 |
| It depends | 9.2 | 8.4 | 9.9 | 8.5 |
| No opinion | 0.1 | 0.5 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| No. of Cases | (1581) | (381) | (800) | (400) |
| Why not? | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Home and children are woman's responsibility | 69.8 | 64.7 | 71.0 | 85.7 |
| Only husband should work | 24.6 | 28.8 | 24.2 | 8.6 |
| To avoid problems | 4.8 | 5.9 | 3.7 | 5.7 |
| Other | 0.8 | 0.6 | 1.0 | 0.0 |
| No. of Cases | (378) | (153) | (190) | (35) |
| It depends on what? | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Bad economic situation if there are no children | 79.3 | 81.2 | 81.0 | 73.5 |
| If couple agrees | 9.7 | 0.0 | 12.6 | 11.8 |
| Other | 5.5 | 12.5 | 3.8 | 2.9 |
| No. of Cases | (145) | (32) | (79) | (34) |
| | <u>Males</u> | | | |
| Should a married woman work? | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Yes | 47.7 | 31.2 | 40.4 | 65.2 |
| No | 38.3 | 59.8 | 44.0 | 20.6 |
| It depends | 13.8 | 9.0 | 15.3 | 14.2 |
| No opinion | 0.2 | 0.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| No. of Cases | (1402) | (234) | (668) | (500) |
| Why not? | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Home and children are woman's responsibility | 66.1 | 62.8 | 64.3 | 75.7 |
| Only husband should work | 30.9 | 35.7 | 32.6 | 19.4 |
| To avoid problems | 2.6 | 1.4 | 3.1 | 2.9 |
| Other | 0.4 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 1.9 |
| No. of Cases | (537) | (140) | (294) | (103) |
| It depends on what? | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Bad economic situation | 89.7 | * | 90.2 | 88.7 |
| If there are no children | 0.5 | * | 0.0 | 1.4 |
| If couple agrees | 3.6 | * | 3.9 | 2.8 |
| Other | 6.1 | * | 5.9 | 7.0 |
| No. of Cases | (194) | (21) | (102) | (71) |

*Less than 25 cases.

TABLE 8.5

Ideal Relationship Before Having Sexual Relations by Age Group, Education,
and Marital Status by History of Premarital Sexual Intercourse, by Sex
Mexico City Young Adult Survey, 1985
(Percent Distribution)

| <u>Characteristics</u> | Females | | | | | | <u>No. of Cases</u> |
|--------------------------|--|----------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|---------------------|
| | <u>Ideal Relationship Before Having Sexual Relations</u> | | | | | | |
| | <u>Husband/ Wife</u> | <u>Fiance/ Fiancee</u> | <u>Boyfriend/ Girlfriend</u> | <u>Friend</u> | <u>Other</u> | <u>Total</u> | |
| TOTAL | 60.0 | 29.0 | 9.4 | 1.6 | 0.1 | 100.0 | (1581) |
| <u>Age Group</u> | | | | | | | |
| 15-17 | 69.4 | 22.7 | 6.6 | 1.2 | 0.2 | 100.0 | (519) |
| 18-19 | 60.2 | 31.6 | 7.3 | 0.8 | 0.0 | 100.0 | (357) |
| 20-24 | 52.9 | 32.3 | 12.5 | 2.3 | 0.0 | 100.0 | (705) |
| <u>Education</u> | | | | | | | |
| <Primary | 58.0 | 33.8 | 6.6 | 1.6 | 0.0 | 100.0 | (381) |
| Secondary | 64.0 | 26.0 | 8.2 | 1.6 | 0.1 | 100.0 | (800) |
| >Secondary | 53.8 | 30.5 | 14.2 | 1.5 | 0.0 | 100.0 | (400) |
| <u>Never Married</u> | | | | | | | |
| No intercourse | 68.2 | 24.5 | 6.3 | 1.0 | 0.0 | 100.0 | (952) |
| Intercourse | 21.7 | 44.2 | 30.0 | 4.2 | 0.0 | 100.0 | (120) |
| <u>Ever Married</u> | | | | | | | |
| Post-marital intercourse | 66.8 | 24.3 | 7.7 | 1.3 | 0.0 | 100.0 | (235) |
| Premarital intercourse | 42.3 | 42.3 | 12.4 | 2.6 | 0.4 | 100.0 | (274) |
| | | | | | | | |
| <u>Characteristics</u> | Males | | | | | | <u>No. of Cases</u> |
| | <u>Ideal Relationship Before Having Sexual Relations</u> | | | | | | |
| | <u>Husband/ Wife</u> | <u>Fiance/ Fiancee</u> | <u>Boyfriend/ Girlfriend</u> | <u>Friend</u> | <u>Other</u> | <u>Total</u> | |
| TOTAL | 24.5 | 31.7 | 21.2 | 22.5 | 0.1 | 100.0 | (1402) |
| <u>Age Group</u> | | | | | | | |
| 15-17 | 31.1 | 35.3 | 17.0 | 16.2 | 0.4 | 100.0 | (476) |
| 18-19 | 24.0 | 30.3 | 24.3 | 21.4 | 0.0 | 100.0 | (317) |
| 20-24 | 19.7 | 29.6 | 22.8 | 27.9 | 0.0 | 100.0 | (609) |
| <u>Education</u> | | | | | | | |
| <Primary | 32.5 | 31.2 | 14.1 | 21.8 | 0.4 | 100.0 | (234) |
| Secondary | 27.1 | 35.9 | 18.7 | 18.1 | 0.1 | 100.0 | (668) |
| >Secondary | 17.4 | 26.2 | 27.8 | 28.6 | 0.0 | 100.0 | (500) |
| <u>Never Married</u> | | | | | | | |
| No intercourse | 35.8 | 33.7 | 13.7 | 16.6 | 0.2 | 100.0 | (525) |
| Intercourse | 16.2 | 28.3 | 27.1 | 28.2 | 0.2 | 100.0 | (671) |
| <u>Ever Married</u> | | | | | | | |
| Post-marital intercourse | * | * | * | * | * | * | (9) |
| Premarital intercourse | 22.4 | 36.7 | 21.4 | 19.4 | 0.0 | 100.0 | (196) |

*Less than 25 cases.

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TABLE 8.6

Relationship to Partner at First Intercourse, by Ideal
Relationship, by Sex
Mexico City Young Adult Survey, 1985
(Percent Distribution)

| <u>Relationship at First Intercourse</u> | <u>Females</u> | | | |
|--|----------------|---------------------------|------------------------------|---------------|
| | <u>Total**</u> | <u>Ideal Relationship</u> | | |
| | | <u>Husband</u> | <u>Boyfriend/ Fiance</u> | <u>Friend</u> |
| Husband | 37.5 | 52.9 | 23.9 | * |
| Boyfriend/fiance | 59.8 | 45.1 | 72.6 | * |
| Friend | 1.9 | 1.0 | 2.9 | * |
| Other*** | 0.8 | 1.0 | 0.6 | * |
| TOTAL | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | * |
| No. of Cases | (627) | (297) | (314) | (15) |

| <u>Relationship at First Intercourse</u> | <u>Males</u> | | | |
|--|----------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------|
| | <u>Total**</u> | <u>Ideal Relationship</u> | | |
| | | <u>Wife</u> | <u>Girlfriend/ Financee</u> | <u>Friend</u> |
| Wife | 1.0 | 1.9 | 1.0 | 0.4 |
| Girlfriend/fiancee | 31.4 | 25.0 | 35.0 | 27.8 |
| Friend | 60.2 | 67.3 | 56.2 | 64.3 |
| Prostitute | 5.2 | 3.2 | 5.7 | 5.3 |
| Other*** | 2.2 | 2.6 | 2.0 | 2.2 |
| TOTAL | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| No. of Cases | (875) | (156) | (491) | (227) |

*Less than 25 cases.

**The total includes one man and one women for whom information about the ideal relationship was missing.

***Includes 3 women and one man who were raped.

TABLE 8.7

Attitudes Towards the Responsibility of Using
Contraceptive Methods, by Education by Sex
Mexico City Young Adult Survey, 1985
(Percent Distribution)

| Person(s) Who Should Decide | Total | Females | | |
|--------------------------------|--------|----------|-----------|------------|
| | | <Primary | Secondary | >Secondary |
| Both | 91.0 | 85.8 | 92.4 | 93.3 |
| Woman | 7.2 | 10.5 | 6.2 | 6.0 |
| Man | 1.0 | 2.4 | 0.8 | 0.0 |
| Up to the individual | 0.8 | 1.3 | 0.6 | 0.8 |
| No information | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| TOTAL | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| No. of cases | (1581) | (381) | (800) | (400) |
| | | Males | | |
| Both | 91.4 | 83.3 | 90.3 | 96.6 |
| Woman | 5.1 | 8.1 | 5.8 | 2.8 |
| Man | 3.1 | 7.3 | 3.6 | 0.4 |
| Up to the individual | 0.2 | 0.4 | 0.1 | 0.2 |
| No information | 0.2 | 0.8 | 0.1 | 0.0 |
| TOTAL | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| No. of Cases | (1402) | (234) | (668) | (500) |

TABLE 8.8

Most Appropriate Contraceptive Method for Young Adults, by Sex*
 Mexico City Young Adult Survey, 1985
 (Percent Distribution)

| <u>Most Appropriate Method</u> | <u>Females</u> | <u>Males</u> |
|------------------------------------|----------------|--------------|
| Pill | 34.0 | 21.3 |
| Injectables | 16.6 | 11.1 |
| IUD | 15.8 | 3.4 |
| Rhythm | 9.7 | 12.9 |
| Condom** | 6.6 | 31.2 |
| Vaginal methods | 3.6 | 7.6 |
| Sterilization | 2.6 | 2.8 |
| Withdrawal | 1.2 | 3.1 |
| Billings/other | 0.3 | 0.2 |
| No method | 1.0 | 1.1 |
| Shouldn't have sex | 0.4 | 0.6 |
| Doesn't know | 8.0 | 4.7 |
| Unknown | 0.2 | 0.0 |
| TOTAL | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| No. of Cases | (1581) | (1402) |

*The question was, "For young adults of your age that have sexual relations, what do you think is the most appropriate contraceptive method to avoid a pregnancy?"

**Includes condom combined with other methods.

TABLE 8.9

Most Appropriate Contraceptive Method for Young Adults,
by Education by Sex*
Mexico City Young Adult Survey, 1985
(Percent Distribution)

| Most Appropriate Method | Females | | | Males | | |
|-------------------------|----------|-----------|------------|----------|------------|------------|
| | <Primary | Secondary | >Secondary | <Primary | >Secondary | >Secondary |
| Pill | 29.9 | 34.4 | 37.2 | 22.6 | 20.8 | 21.2 |
| Injectables | 18.4 | 19.2 | 9.5 | 13.7 | 9.4 | 12.0 |
| IUD | 20.5 | 14.7 | 13.4 | 4.7 | 2.4 | 4.0 |
| Rhythm | 3.7 | 9.0 | 16.8 | 6.0 | 11.4 | 18.2 |
| Condom** | 4.2 | 5.9 | 10.2 | 29.5 | 34.2 | 28.2 |
| Vaginal methods | 2.6 | 3.4 | 5.3 | 6.8 | 7.4 | 8.4 |
| Sterilization | 4.7 | 2.4 | 1.0 | 2.6 | 3.4 | 2.6 |
| Withdrawal | 1.6 | 1.3 | 1.0 | 1.7 | 3.9 | 2.6 |
| Billings/other | 0.0 | 0.1 | 0.7 | 0.0 | 0.2 | 0.0 |
| No method | 1.8 | 0.8 | 0.8 | 1.7 | 1.0 | 0.8 |
| Shouldn't have sex | 0.3 | 0.5 | 0.3 | 1.3 | 0.7 | 0.2 |
| Doesn't know | 12.0 | 8.0 | 3.8 | 9.4 | 5.2 | 1.8 |
| Unknown | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| TOTAL | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| No. of Cases | (381) | (800) | (400) | (234) | (668) | (500) |

*The question was, "For young adults of your age that have sexual relations, what do you think is the most appropriate contraceptive method to avoid a pregnancy?"

**Includes condom combined with other methods.

TABLE 8.10

Most Appropriate Contraceptive Method by Marital Status and History of
Sexual Intercourse for Never Marrieds, by Sex*
Mexico City Young Adult Survey, 1985
(Percent Distribution)

| Most Appropriate Method | Females | | | Males | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------|------------------|-----------------|---------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| | Never Married | | Ever Married | Never Married | | Ever Married |
| | No Inter- course | Inter- course | | No Inter- course | Inter- course | |
| Pill | 37.8 | 35.0 | 26.7 | 21.7 | 20.6 | 22.4 |
| Injectables | 17.0 | 12.5 | 16.8 | 8.4 | 12.8 | 12.2 |
| IUD | 7.9 | 11.7 | 31.6 | 1.9 | 1.8 | 12.2 |
| Rhythm | 10.5 | 16.7 | 6.5 | 8.6 | 16.4 | 12.7 |
| Condom** | 6.9 | 9.3 | 5.5 | 38.3 | 28.5 | 22.4 |
| Vaginal methods | 3.1 | 7.5 | 3.9 | 4.6 | 9.5 | 9.3 |
| Sterilization | 2.7 | 0.0 | 2.9 | 3.0 | 2.5 | 3.9 |
| Withdrawal | 0.8 | 2.5 | 1.8 | 0.6 | 4.9 | 2.9 |
| Billings/other | 0.2 | 0.8 | 0.2 | 0.4 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| No method | 1.1 | 0.8 | 1.0 | 2.3 | 0.5 | 0.0 |
| Shouldn't have sex | 0.6 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.9 | 0.4 | 0.5 |
| Doesn't know | 11.1 | 3.2 | 3.1 | 9.3 | 2.1 | 1.5 |
| Unknown | 0.3 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| TOTAL | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| No. of Cases | (952) | (120) | (509) | (526) | (671) | (205) |

*The question was, "For young adults of your age that have sexual relations, what do you think is the most appropriate contraceptive method to avoid a pregnancy?"

**Includes condom combined with other methods.

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TABLE 8.11

Most Appropriate Contraceptive Method by the Method Used at Last Intercourse, by Sex
Mexico City Young Adult Survey, 1985
(Percent Distribution)

| Most Appropriate Method | Females | | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------|-------|--------|-------------|
| | Method Used at Last Intercourse | | | |
| | IUD | Pill | Rhythm | Injectables |
| IUD | 64.3 | 9.0 | 17.1 | 13.8 |
| Pill | 14.3 | 64.1 | 24.4 | 6.9 |
| Rhythm | 1.0 | 7.5 | 31.7 | 3.4 |
| Injectables | 9.2 | 4.5 | 12.2 | 55.2 |
| Condom** | 7.1 | 7.5 | 7.3 | 10.4 |
| Female sterilization | 1.0 | 3.0 | 2.4 | 3.4 |
| Withdrawal | 1.0 | 1.5 | 2.4 | 0.0 |
| No method | 2.0 | 1.5 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Doesn't know | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| TOTAL | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| No. of Cases | (98) | (67) | (41) | (29) |

| Most Appropriate Methods | Males | | | | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------|-------|-------|-----------------|--------|------------|
| | Method Used at Last Intercourse | | | | | |
| | Rhythm | Pill | IUD | Vaginal Methods | Condom | Withdrawal |
| Rhythm | 50.0 | 2.3 | 5.4 | 3.2 | 13.3 | 4.0 |
| Pill | 17.7 | 72.7 | 8.1 | 16.1 | 10.0 | 16.0 |
| IUD | 1.6 | 2.3 | 46.0 | 6.4 | 3.3 | 0.0 |
| Vaginal methods | 3.2 | 4.6 | 8.1 | 45.2 | 10.0 | 4.0 |
| Condom** | 16.1 | 11.3 | 16.2 | 19.4 | 43.4 | 28.0 |
| Withdrawal | 1.6 | 2.3 | 5.4 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 32.0 |
| Injectables | 8.1 | 0.0 | 8.1 | 9.7 | 13.3 | 12.0 |
| Female sterilization | 0.0 | 2.3 | 2.7 | 0.0 | 3.3 | 0.0 |
| Male sterilization | 0.0 | 2.3 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 3.3 | 4.0 |
| Abstinence | 1.6 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| TOTAL | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| No. of Cases | (62) | (44) | (37) | (31) | (30) | (25) |

*The question was, "For young adults of your age that have sexual relations, what do you think is the most appropriate contraceptive method to avoid a pregnancy?"

**Includes condom combined with other methods.

TABLE 8.12

Attitudes Towards Contraceptive Methods, Masturbation, Virginity,
and Homosexuality, by Education and Sex*
Mexico City Young Adult Survey, 1985

| <u>Contraceptives</u> | <u>Females</u> | | | | <u>Males</u> | | | |
|---|----------------|--------------------|------------------|----------------------|--------------|--------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| | <u>Total</u> | <u><Primary</u> | <u>Secondary</u> | <u>>Secondary</u> | <u>Total</u> | <u><Primary</u> | <u>>Secondary</u> | <u>>Secondary</u> |
| No reason to use, they fail | 39.9 | 46.5 | 41.1 | 28.5 | 28.9 | 37.2 | 33.4 | 19.0 |
| Doesn't know | 4.3 | 6.6 | 4.1 | 2.5 | 5.0 | 8.1 | 5.1 | 3.4 |
| Condoms do not take away a woman's pleasure | 20.2 | 21.3 | 18.0 | 23.8 | 37.7 | 38.5 | 36.8 | 38.6 |
| Doesn't know | 47.4 | 50.1 | 48.4 | 43.0 | 21.3 | 27.4 | 19.5 | 21.0 |
| Contracepting couples don't like children | 10.0 | 16.0 | 10.0 | 4.3 | 10.0 | 15.4 | 13.0 | 5.4 |
| <u>Masturbation</u> | | | | | | | | |
| It's okay once in a while | 46.4 | 39.4 | 47.3 | 51.5 | 75.0 | 72.2 | 74.1 | 77.4 |
| Doesn't know | 18.8 | 33.1 | 18.3 | 6.5 | 1.9 | 3.4 | 1.6 | 1.6 |
| Bad for the health | 35.4 | 36.2 | 38.0 | 29.5 | 49.0 | 62.8 | 53.6 | 36.4 |
| Doesn't know | 23.7 | 35.4 | 23.4 | 13.0 | 5.1 | 4.3 | 6.4 | 3.8 |
| <u>Virginity & Marriage</u> | | | | | | | | |
| Woman should be a virgin | 54.7 | 70.9 | 56.1 | 36.5 | 45.9 | 66.7 | 51.8 | 28.2 |
| Man should be sexually experienced | 51.1 | 60.9 | 47.9 | 48.3 | 66.4 | 70.9 | 67.7 | 62.6 |
| Doesn't know | 5.7 | 6.8 | 5.8 | 4.5 | 1.6 | 0.0 | 2.2 | 1.4 |
| Would marry a virgin | 84.7 | 70.6 | 88.3 | 91.0 | 97.1 | 94.9 | 97.6 | 97.4 |
| <u>Homosexuality</u> | | | | | | | | |
| It's okay to have a homosexual friend | 58.2 | 30.7 | 60.4 | 80.0 | 56.1 | 45.7 | 52.4 | 66.0 |
| No. of Cases | (1581) | (381) | (800) | (400) | (1402) | (234) | (668) | (500) |

*Percentage in agreement or said they didn't know (DK); DK shown only when equal to at least 5 percent for either or both of the sexes.

TABLE 8.13

Attitudes Towards Sexual Roles and Sex Education, by Education and Sex*
Mexico City Young Adult Survey, 1985

| <u>Sexual Roles & Sex Education</u> | <u>Females</u> | | | | <u>Males</u> | | | |
|---|----------------|--------------------|------------------|----------------------|--------------|--------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| | <u>Total</u> | <u><Primary</u> | <u>Secondary</u> | <u>>Secondary</u> | <u>Total</u> | <u><Primary</u> | <u>>Secondary</u> | <u>>Secondary</u> |
| <u>Sexual Roles</u> | | | | | | | | |
| If a woman works, she deceives her husband | 6.6 | 12.9 | 6.1 | 1.5 | 13.7 | 25.2 | 14.4 | 7.4 |
| If a married woman works, her husband doesn't love her | 5.5 | 14.4 | 3.9 | 0.3 | 7.6 | 20.5 | 6.4 | 3.0 |
| Kitchen work and child care are woman's work | 25.4 | 53.0 | 22.6 | 4.8 | 21.2 | 47.4 | 22.5 | 7.2 |
| The man should decide how many children his wife should have | 12.0 | 29.1 | 9.1 | 1.3 | 22.0 | 39.3 | 26.6 | 7.8 |
| God should decide how many children a couple has | 22.3 | 42.5 | 21.1 | 5.5 | 15.5 | 31.6 | 17.2 | 5.6 |
| <u>Sex Education</u> | | | | | | | | |
| It's okay for parents to talk to their children about sex | 78.8 | 66.4 | 78.8 | 90.8 | 74.8 | 53.8 | 70.5 | 90.2 |
| Parents who discuss sex with children lead them to have sexual relations | 12.1 | 26.0 | 9.8 | 3.8 | 26.9 | 43.6 | 28.1 | 17.4 |
| Pornography helps sex education of young adults | 28.3 | 44.9 | 28.4 | 12.5 | 25.3 | 41.0 | 25.0 | 18.4 |
| No. of Cases | (1581) | (381) | (800) | (400) | (1402) | (234) | (668) | (500) |

*Percentage in agreement.

TABLE 9-1

Percentage of 15-24-Year-Old Females Reporting
Premarital Sexual Intercourse, by Age Group
Guatemala City, Brazil, Panama, and Two Delegations in Mexico City
Mexico City Young Adult Survey, 1985

| <u>Age Group</u> | <u>Guatemala City*</u> (1986) | <u>Brazil*</u> (1986) | <u>Panama</u> (1984) | <u>Mexico City</u> (1985) |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|
| 15-19 | 11.6 | 12.9 | 14.2 | 13.4 |
| 20-24 | 35.0 | 34.6 | 37.4 | 39.1 |
| <u>Mean Age at First Intercourse</u> | 16.7 | ** | 16.7 | 17.0 |
| <u>No. of Cases</u> | | | | |
| 15-19 | 406 | 1,283 | 1,648 | 876 |
| 20-24 | 294 | 1,139 | 1,604 | 705 |

*Preliminary data

**Age at first intercourse data not yet available.

TABLE 9-2

Method Used at First Premarital Intercourse Among Females,
by Age at First Premarital Intercourse
Brazil, Panama, and Two Delegations in Mexico City
Mexico City Young Adult Survey, 1985

| Method | Brazil ^a | Panama | | Mexico City | |
|-----------------|---------------------|--------|-------|-------------|-------|
| | 13-24 | <18 | 18-24 | <18 | 18-24 |
| Pill | 48.7 | 55.7 | 56.4 | 7.7 | 10.4 |
| Condom | 3.8 | 19.3 | 16.2 | 20.5 | 20.8 |
| Withdrawal | 23.1 | 11.0 | 1.9 | 12.8 | 6.2 |
| Rhythm | 21.8 | 3.8 | 15.6 | 38.5 | 47.9 |
| Vaginal methods | 1.3 | 7.7 | 6.6 | 12.8 | 12.5 |
| Injectables | 0.0 | 0.0 | 1.4 | 7.7 | 2.1 |
| Other/unknown | 1.3 | 2.5 | 1.9 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| TOTAL | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| No. of Cases | 78 | 43 | 44 | 39 | 48 |

^aPreliminary data

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