

Data Brief 297. Urban and Rural Variation in Fertility-related Behavior Among U.S. Women, 2011–2015

Data table for Figure 1. Percentage of women who had their first sexual intercourse by age 16 and by age 18 among women aged 18–44, by urban and rural residence: United States, 2011–2015

Place of residence	First sex by age 16		First sex by age 18	
	Percent (standard error)	Confidence interval	Percent (standard error)	Confidence interval
Urban ¹	41.7 (1.03)	39.63–43.77	68.6 (1.04)	66.49–70.67
Rural ¹	51.2 (2.33)	46.49–55.91	79.6 (1.69)	75.99–82.85

¹The mean age at first sexual intercourse among women who have ever had intercourse was 17.4 for those in urban areas (standard error = 0.08) and 16.6 for those in rural areas (standard error = 0.10).

NOTE: Residence is measured at the time of interview.

SOURCE: NCHS, National Survey of Family Growth, 2011–2015.

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Data table for Figure 2. Percent distribution of current marital and cohabitation status among women aged 18–44, by urban and rural residence: United States, 2011–2015

Place of residence	Married		Cohabiting		Formerly married, not cohabiting		Never married, not cohabiting	
	Percent (standard error)	Confidence interval	Percent (standard error)	Confidence interval	Percent (standard error)	Confidence interval	Percent (standard error)	Confidence interval
Urban	42.1 (1.01)	40.06–44.10	15.7 (0.66)	14.37–17.02	8.7 (0.44)	7.86–9.64	33.6 (0.95)	31.67–35.49
Rural	40.7 (2.83)	35.08–46.57	18.6 (1.57)	15.55–21.94	11.6 (0.95)	9.73–13.59	29.1 (2.54)	24.16–34.50

NOTE: Residence is measured at the time of interview.

SOURCE: NCHS, National Survey of Family Growth, 2011–2015.

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Data table for Figure 3. Percent distribution of number of births among women aged 18–44, by urban and rural residence: United States, 2011–2015

Place of residence	0 births		1 birth		2 births		3 births or more	
	Percent (standard error)	Confidence interval						
Urban ¹	41.6 (1.09)	39.40–43.76	18.4 (0.55)	17.36–19.57	20.9 (0.68)	19.60–22.34	19.0 (0.78)	17.51–20.66
Rural ¹	30.3 (2.01)	26.33–34.48	19.2 (1.21)	16.85–21.73	25.7 (1.87)	22.09–29.67	24.8 (1.98)	20.91–28.94

¹The mean number of births for women in urban areas was 1.28 (standard error = 0.03) and 1.56 for rural areas (standard error = 0.06).
NOTE: Residence is measured at the time of interview.

SOURCE: NCHS, National Survey of Family Growth, 2011–2015.

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Data table for Figure 4. Percent distribution of contraceptive method use at last sexual intercourse in the last 12 months among women aged 18–44, by urban and rural residence: United States, 2011–2015

Place of residence	No method		Less effective method		Moderately effective method		Most effective method	
	Percent (standard error)	Confidence interval	Percent (standard error)	Confidence interval	Percent (standard error)	Confidence interval	Percent (standard error)	Confidence interval
Urban	21.0 (0.71)	19.61–22.45	25.4 (0.80)	23.79–27.00	23.3 (0.87)	21.54–25.04	30.4 (0.81)	28.77–32.03
Rural	21.0 (1.74)	17.65–24.70	18.6 (1.69)	15.35–22.21	19.6 (1.15)	17.39–22.02	40.8 (2.30)	36.17–45.46

NOTES: Residence is measured at the time of interview. Less effective methods of contraception include condom, withdrawal, fertility awareness-based methods, female condom, foam, jelly, suppository, emergency contraception, and other methods. Moderately effective methods include oral contraceptive pill, injectable, contraceptive patch, contraceptive ring, and diaphragm. Most effective methods include female or male sterilizing operation or sterility, contraceptive implant, and intrauterine device. Women who used more than one method of contraception were classified by the method that was most effective at preventing pregnancy.

SOURCE: NCHS, National Survey of Family Growth, 2011–2015.