

TABLE 1. Percentage distribution of members of a 1972–1973 birth cohort, by selected reproductive and relationship characteristics, according to age at assessment, New Zealand

Age at assessment and characteristic	Men	Women
AGE 21	(N=499)	(N=479)
Any first birth		
No	92.6	88.3
Yes	7.4	11.7
AGE 26†	(N=444)	(N=417)
First birth at age 21–25		
No	87.4	82.7
Yes	12.6	17.3
Failed pregnancy by age 25‡		
No	90.6	92.6
Yes	9.4	7.4
Induced abortion by age 25‡		
No	84.7	85.1
Yes	15.3	14.9
In a relationship at age 21		
No	44.1	27.8
Yes	56.0	72.3
Status of relationship at age 21		
No regular relationship	46.3	32.5
Regular partner	36.0	32.5
Cohabiting	16.2	29.7
Married	1.5	5.3
No. of sexual partners before age 21		
0	12.0	8.4
1	14.3	16.9
2–4	21.8	29.5
5–9	21.6	25.5
≥10	30.3	19.8
AGE 32†	(N=371)	(N=336)
First birth at age 26–31		
No	74.4	62.8
Yes	25.6	37.2
Failed pregnancy by age 31‡		
No	87.3	89.0
Yes	12.7	11.0
Induced abortion by age 31‡		
No	79.9	83.0
Yes	20.1	17.0
In a relationship at age 26		
No	33.2	21.4
Yes	66.8	78.6
Status of relationship at age 26		
No regular relationship	37.2	23.3
Regular partner	17.0	16.2
Cohabiting	33.9	37.4
Married	12.0	23.1
No. of sexual partners at age 21–25		
0	4.0	2.7
1	18.1	32.0
2–4	31.8	34.9
5–9	21.5	20.3
≥10	24.6	10.2
Total	100.0	100.0

†Excludes those who had a live birth in an earlier age period. ‡Includes only failed pregnancies and abortions that occurred prior to a first birth. Note: Percentages may not add to 100.0 because of rounding.

TABLE 2. Percentage of men and women reporting a first live birth, by prior sexual and reproductive events, according to age at first birth, and relative risks (and 95% confidence intervals) from Poisson regression analyses examining associations between these events and the likelihood of a first birth

Event and age at first birth	Men		Women	
	%	Relative risk	%	Relative risk
AGE AT FIRST COITUS				
First birth prior to age 21				
≤14	21.0	3.1 (1.6–6.0)	25.7	2.0 (1.2–3.4)
15–17 (ref)	6.8	1.0	12.8	1.0
≥18	2.3	0.3 (0.1–1.0)	0.8	0.1 (0.0–0.4)
First birth at age 21–25				
≤14	19.4	1.4 (0.7–2.5)	27.5	1.3 (0.8–2.3)
15–17 (ref)	14.1	1.0	20.4	1.0
≥18	8.5	0.6 (0.3–1.1)	8.5	0.4 (0.2–0.8)
First birth at age 26–31				
≤14	17.4	0.5 (0.3–1.1)	55.6	1.4 (1.0–2.0)
15–17 (ref)	32.0	1.0	39.8	1.0
≥18	20.6	0.6 (0.4–1.0)	29.1	0.7 (0.5–1.0)
		<i>p</i> =.0001		<i>p</i> =.0004
FAILED PREGNANCY				
First birth at age 21–25				
No (ref)	12.6	1.0	16.7	1.0
Yes	23.1	1.8 (1.0–3.5)	30.0	1.8 (1.0–3.2)
First birth at age 26–31				
No (ref)	23.9	1.0	35.4	1.0
Yes	40.9	1.7 (1.1–2.6)	60.0	1.7 (1.2–2.3)
		<i>p</i> =.85		<i>p</i> =.87
INDUCED ABORTION				
First birth at age 21–25				
No (ref)	13.2	1.0	15.8	1.0
Yes	15.9	1.2 (0.6–2.3)	25.8	1.6 (1.0–2.7)
First birth at age 26–31				
No (ref)	28.8	1.0	36.8	1.0
Yes	14.7	0.5 (0.3–0.9)	39.3	1.1 (0.7–1.5)
		<i>p</i> =.05		<i>p</i> =.17

Notes: *p* values are from Wald tests and indicate whether associations differ by age period at first birth. ref=reference category.

TABLE 3. Percentage of men reporting a first birth, by selected relationship characteristics, and relative risks (and 95% confidence intervals) from Poisson regression analyses examining associations between these characteristics and the likelihood of a first birth

Characteristic and age at first birth	%	Relative risk	Incidence rate ratio	
			Model 1†	Model 2‡
IN A RELATIONSHIP AT 21				
First birth at age 21–25				
No (ref)	12.4	1.0	1.0	1.0
Yes	17.6	1.5 (0.9–2.6)	1.3 (0.7–2.1)	1.2 (0.7–2.1)
IN A RELATIONSHIP AT 26				
First birth at age 26–31				
No (ref)	12.6	1.0	1.0	1.0
Yes	33.2	2.8 (1.7–4.5) <i>p</i> =.11	2.6 (1.5–4.2)	2.5 (1.5–4.1)
STATUS OF RELATIONSHIP AT 21				
First birth at age 21–25				
No regular relationship (ref)	12.4	1.0	1.0	1.0
Regular partner	13.2	1.1 (0.6–2.1)	0.9 (0.5–1.7)	0.9 (0.5–1.7)
Cohabiting	29.2	2.5 (1.4–4.7)	2.1 (1.1–3.8)	2.2 (1.2–4.0)
Married	33.3	2.9 (0.6–15.2)	2.4 (0.5–12.5)	2.2 (0.4–11.6)
STATUS OF RELATIONSHIP AT 26				
First birth at age 26–31				
No regular relationship (ref)	13.4	1.0	1.0	1.0
Regular partner	18.8	1.5 (0.8–2.8)	1.4 (0.7–2.6)	1.3 (0.7–2.5)
Cohabiting	32.8	2.6 (1.6–4.2)	2.4 (1.5–3.9)	2.3 (1.4–3.8)
Married	67.7	5.3 (3.3–8.5) <i>p</i> =.86	4.9 (3.0–8.0)	4.4 (2.7–7.1)
NO. OF SEXUAL PARTNERS BEFORE 21				
First birth at age 21–25				
0	7.1	0.7 (0.2–2.6)	1.4 (0.4–5.6)	1.4 (0.4–5.7)
1 (ref)	8.5	1.0	1.0	1.0
2–4	12.4	1.5 (0.5–4.0)	1.5 (0.5–4.0)	1.5 (0.6–4.1)
5–9	12.8	1.5 (0.8–5.3)	1.5 (0.6–4.1)	1.5 (0.6–4.1)
≥10	17.7	2.1 (0.8–5.3)	2.1 (0.8–5.3)	2.2 (0.9–5.6)
NO. OF SEXUAL PARTNERS AT AGE 21–25				
First birth at age 26–31				
0	36.4	0.6 (0.2–1.4)	1.4 (0.5–3.5)	1.3 (0.5–3.3)
1 (ref)	41.7	1.0	1.0	1.0
2–4	24.4	0.6 (0.4–0.9)	0.6 (0.4–0.9)	0.6 (0.4–0.9)
5–9	26.3	0.6 (0.4–1.0)	0.6 (0.4–1.0)	0.7 (0.4–1.1)
≥10	17.6	0.4 (0.2–0.7) <i>p</i> =.21	0.4 (0.3–0.7)	0.5 (0.3–0.8)

†Includes years sexually active as exposure. ‡Includes years sexually active as exposure and abortion prior to a first birth as a covariate. Notes: *p* values are from Wald tests and indicate whether associations differ by age period at first birth. ref=reference category.

TABLE 4. Percentage of women reporting a first birth, by selected relationship characteristics, and relative risks (and 95% confidence intervals) from Poisson regression analyses examining associations between these characteristics and the likelihood of a first birth

Characteristic and age at first birth	%	Relative risk	Incidence rate ratio	
			Model 1†	Model 2‡
IN A RELATIONSHIP AT 21				
First birth at age 21–25				
No (ref)	17.5	1.0	1.0	1.0
Yes	20.0	1.2 (0.8–2.0)	1.0 (0.6–1.7)	1.0 (0.6–1.6)
IN A RELATIONSHIP AT 26				
First birth at age 26–31				
No (ref)	14.7	1.0	1.0	1.0
Yes	44.2	3.1 (1.8–5.5) <i>p=01</i>	2.9 (1.7–5.1)	2.9 (1.7–5.1)
STATUS OF RELATIONSHIP AT 21				
First birth at age 21–25				
No regular relationship (ref)	18.3	1.0	1.0	1.0
Regular partner	12.7	0.7 (0.4–1.3)	0.6 (0.3–1.1)	0.6 (0.3–1.1)
Cohabiting	25.5	1.5 (0.9–2.5)	1.3 (0.8–2.1)	1.2 (0.7–2.0)
Married	46.2	2.7 (1.3–5.4)	2.3 (1.1–4.6)	2.5 (1.2–5.0)
STATUS OF RELATIONSHIP AT 26				
First birth at age 26–31				
No regular relationship (ref)	16.9	1.0	1.0	1.0
Regular partner	28.6	1.8 (0.9–3.3)	1.6 (0.9–3.1)	1.6 (0.9–3.1)
Cohabiting	44.4	2.7 (1.6–4.6)	2.6 (1.5–4.3)	2.5 (1.5–4.2)
Married	59.0	3.6 (2.1–6.1) <i>p=.21</i>	3.4 (2.0–5.7)	3.4 (2.0–5.7)
NO. OF SEXUAL PARTNERS BEFORE 21				
First birth at age 21–25				
0	13.3	0.8 (0.3–2.4)	1.6 (0.6–4.8)	1.6 (0.5–4.8)
1 (ref)	13.3	1.0	1.0	1.0
2–4	13.3	1.0 (0.5–2.1)	1.0 (0.5–2.1)	1.0 (0.5–2.0)
5–9	24.0	1.8 (0.9–3.5)	1.8 (0.9–3.5)	1.7 (0.8–3.3)
≥10	21.5	1.6 (0.8–3.4)	1.6 (0.8–3.4)	1.5 (0.7–3.2)
NO. OF SEXUAL PARTNERS AT AGE 21–25				
First birth at age 26–31				
0	12.5	0.2 (0.0–1.5)	0.4 (0.1–2.6)	0.5 (0.1–2.6)
1 (ref)	40.6	1.0	1.0	1.0
2–4	37.2	0.9 (0.7–1.3)	0.9 (0.7–1.3)	0.9 (0.6–1.3)
5–9	37.0	0.9 (0.6–1.3)	0.9 (0.6–1.3)	0.9 (0.6–1.3)
≥10	35.5	0.9 (0.5–1.5) <i>p=.13</i>	0.9 (0.5–1.5)	0.8 (0.5–1.5)

†Includes years sexually active as exposure. ‡Includes years sexually active as exposure and abortion prior to a first birth as a covariate. Notes: *p* values are from Wald tests and indicate whether associations differ by age period at first birth. ref=reference category.