

# Current Contraceptive Status Among Women Aged 15–49: United States, 2017–2019

Kimberly Daniels, Ph.D., and Joyce C. Abma, Ph.D.

## Key findings

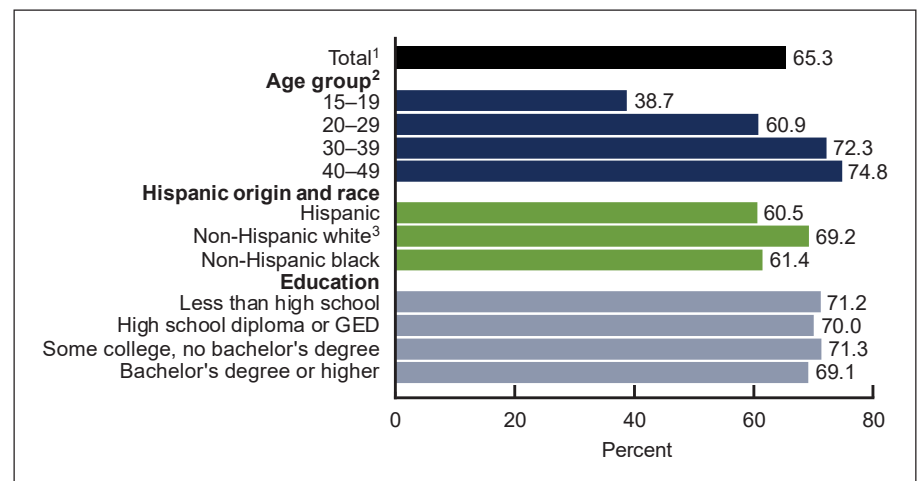
### Data from the 2017–2019 National Survey of Family Growth

- In 2017–2019, 65.3% of women aged 15–49 in the United States were currently using contraception.
- The most common contraceptive methods currently used were female sterilization (18.1%), oral contraceptive pills (14.0%), long-acting reversible contraceptives (LARCs) (10.4%), and the male condom (8.4%).
- Use of LARCs was higher among women aged 20–29 (13.7%) and 30–39 (12.7%) compared with women aged 15–19 (5.8%) and 40–49 (6.6%).
- Current condom use was higher among Hispanic women (10.5%) and non-Hispanic black women (11.0%) compared with non-Hispanic white women (7.0%).
- With higher education, female sterilization declined and use of the pill increased.

Nearly all women use contraception in their lifetimes (1), although at any given time, they may not be using contraception for reasons such as seeking pregnancy, being pregnant or postpartum, or not being sexually active. Using data from the 2017–2019 National Survey of Family Growth (NSFG), this report provides a snapshot of current contraceptive status, in the month of interview, among women aged 15–49 in the United States. In addition to describing use of any method by age, Hispanic origin and race, and education, patterns of use are described for the four most commonly used contraceptive methods: female sterilization; oral contraceptive pills; long-acting reversible contraceptives (LARCs), which include contraceptive implants and intrauterine devices; and the male condom.

## In 2017–2019, approximately 65% of women aged 15–49 were currently using contraception.

Figure 1. Percentage of women currently using any contraceptive method among all women aged 15–49 and by age group, Hispanic origin and race, and education: United States, 2017–2019



<sup>1</sup>Includes persons of other and multiple race and origin groups, not shown separately.

<sup>2</sup>Significant linear trend across all four age groups.

<sup>3</sup>Significantly different from non-Hispanic black women and Hispanic women.

NOTES: The population size referenced for women aged 15–49 is 72.7 million. Analyses of education are limited to women aged 22–49 at the time of interview. Less than high school is no high school diploma or GED. Access data table for Figure 1 at: <https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/databriefs/db388-tables-508.pdf#1>.

SOURCE: National Center for Health Statistics, National Survey of Family Growth, 2017–2019.



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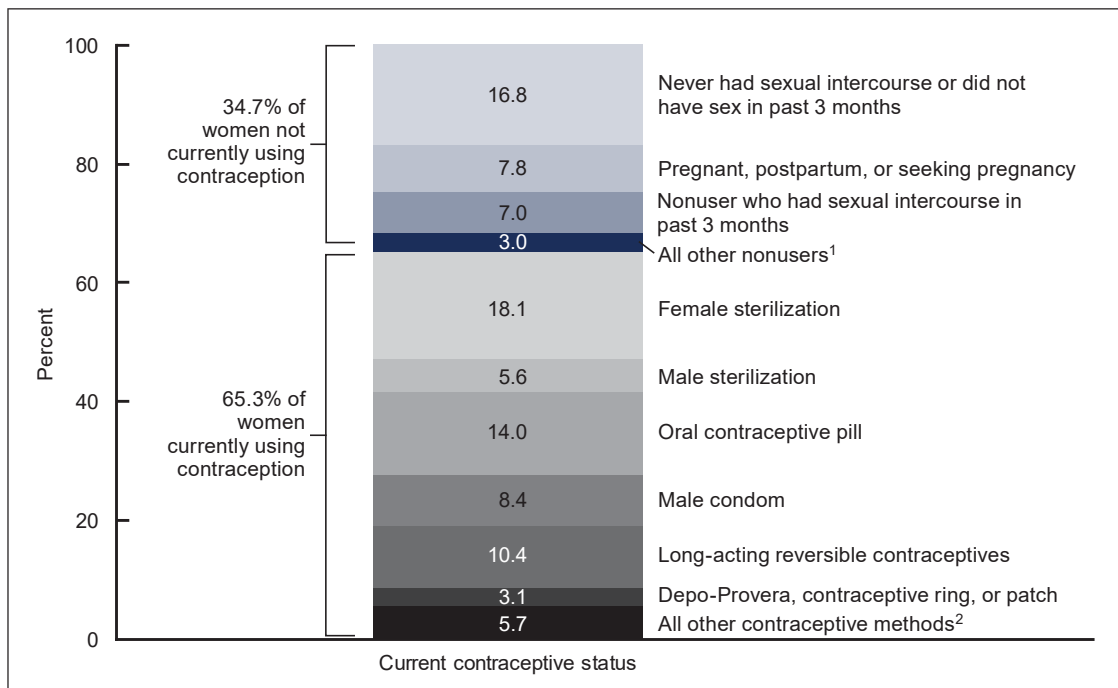
- In 2017–2019, 65.3% of women aged 15–49 in the United States were currently using a method of contraception (Figure 1).

- Current contraceptive use increased with age, from 38.7% among women aged 15–19 to 74.8% among women aged 40–49.
- The percentage of non-Hispanic white women currently using contraception (69.2%) was higher compared with non-Hispanic black (61.4%) and Hispanic (60.5%) women.
- Current contraceptive use did not differ significantly across education (69.1%–71.3%).

**Female sterilization, the pill, the male condom, and LARCs were the most common methods women reported currently using in 2017–2019.**

- The most common contraceptive methods currently used among women aged 15–49 were female sterilization (18.1%), the pill (14.0%), LARCs (10.4%), and the male condom (8.4%) (Figure 2).
- In 2017–2019, approximately 35% of women aged 15–49 were not currently using contraception, including for reasons such as seeking pregnancy, being pregnant or postpartum, or not being sexually active.

Figure 2. Percent distribution of women aged 15–49, by current contraceptive status: United States, 2017–2019



<sup>1</sup>Additional categories of nonusers, such as nonsurgical sterility, are shown in the accompanying data table.  
<sup>2</sup>Other methods grouped in this category are shown in the accompanying data table.  
 NOTES: Percentages may not add to 100 due to rounding. Women currently using more than one method are classified according to the most effective method they are using. Long-acting reversible contraceptives include contraceptive implants and intrauterine devices. Access data table for Figure 2 at: <https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/databriefs/db388-tables-508.pdf#2>.  
 SOURCE: National Center for Health Statistics, National Survey of Family Growth, 2017–2019.

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*Keywords: pill • condom • LARC • National Survey of Family Growth*

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