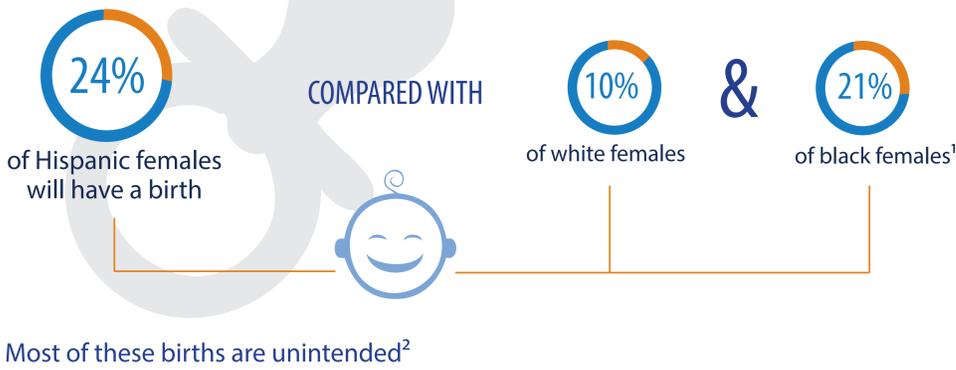


SEX AND CONTRACEPTIVE USE: A Focus on Female Hispanic Adolescents



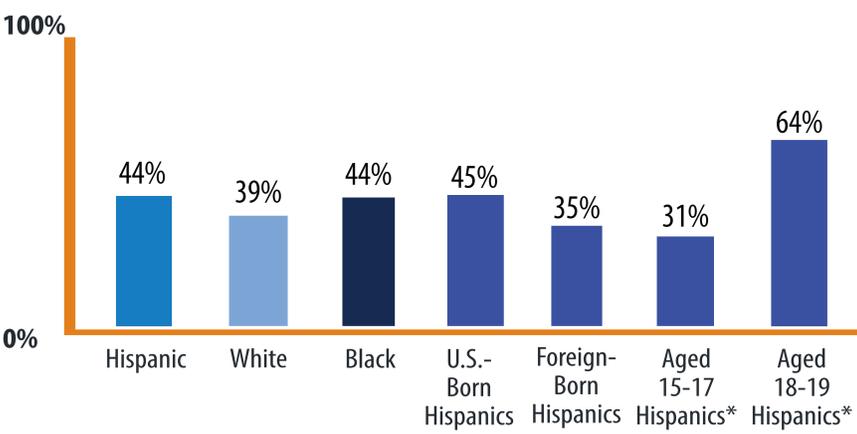
By age 20



The behaviors that put teens at most immediate risk of an early or unplanned pregnancy are

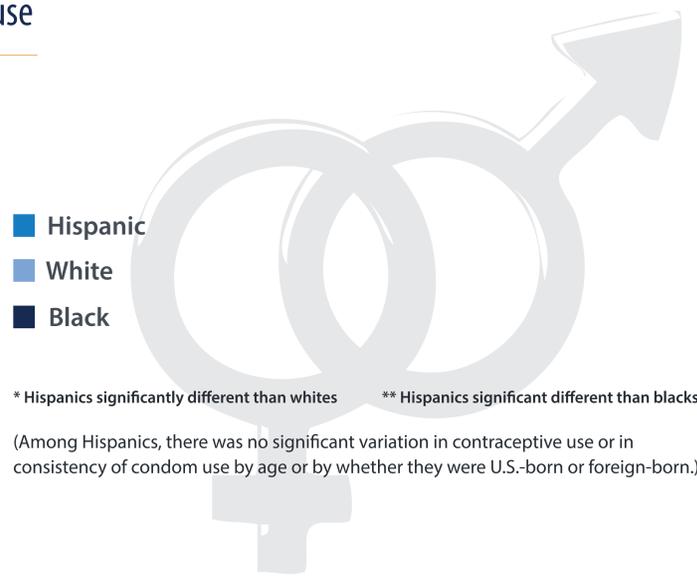
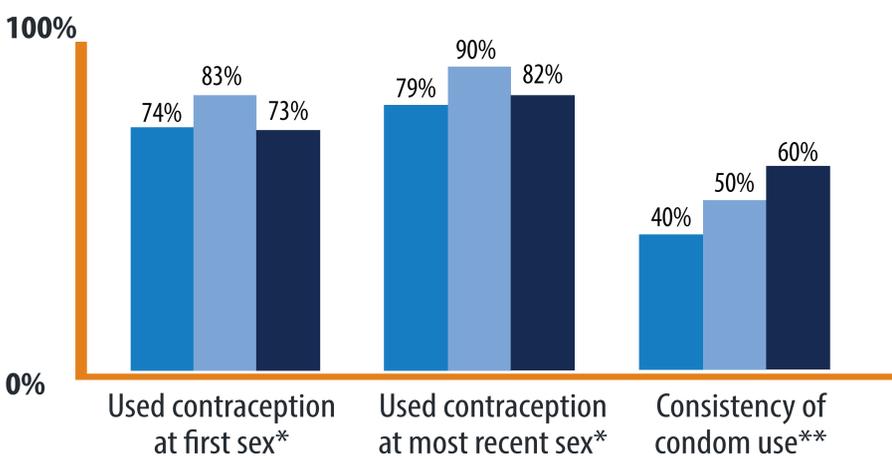


Less than half of Hispanic female adolescents have ever had sex

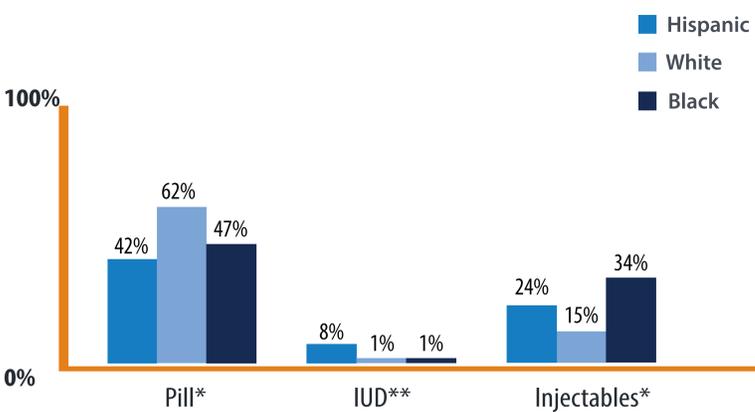


*18- to 19-year-olds significantly different than 15- to 17-year-olds

But those who have had sex report relatively low levels of contraceptive use

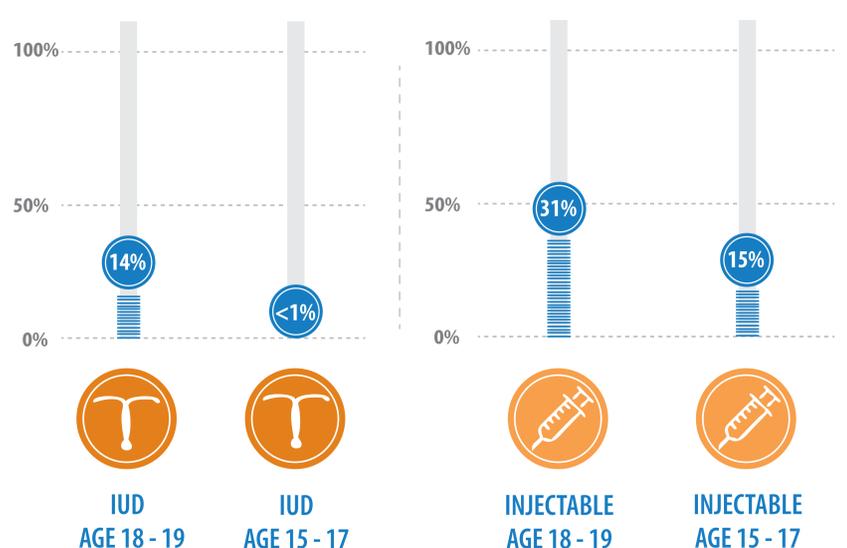


Hispanic teens are less likely than white teens to have used the pill, but more likely to have used IUDs or injectables⁺



* Hispanics significantly different than whites ** Hispanics significantly different than whites & blacks
+ Among sexually active teens
(There were no significant differences in method use among Hispanics born inside or outside the U.S.)

Older Hispanic teens were much more likely to have used the IUD or injectable, but many of them get the IUD after they have had a birth.³



SO?

High levels of teen childbearing among Hispanics highlight the need for efforts to help delay and reduce levels of sexual activity and increase contraceptive use. The relatively low levels of contraceptive use among Hispanics suggests the need for interventions that promote knowledge of, comfort with, and access to a range of highly-effective contraceptive methods. To be most effective, these efforts should be combined with efforts to delay sexual activity and be targeted to teens prior to their initiating sex or having children.

References
1 Welti, K. (2012). Child Trends' analysis of National Vital Statistics System birth data. Washington, DC: Child Trends.
2 Mosher, W. D., Jones, J., Abma, J.C. (2012). Intended and unintended births in the United States: 1982-2010. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Retrieved April 26, 2013, from <http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/nhsr/nhsr055.pdf>
3 Solorio, M. R., Yu, H., Brown, E. R., Becerra, L., & Gelberg, L. (2004). A comparison of Hispanic and white adolescent females' use of family planning services in California. Perspectives on Sexual and Reproductive Health, 36(4), 157-161.

Methods
This fact sheet used data from the 2006-2010 cycle of the National Survey of Family Growth (NSFG), a nationally representative survey conducted by the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) designed to gather information on family life, marriage and divorce, pregnancy, infertility, use of contraception, and the health of women and men ages 15 to 44. The analytic sample was limited to the 531 Hispanic, 423 non-Hispanic black, and 1,122 non-Hispanic white females aged 15-19 at the time of the survey. Analyses were conducted using the Stata statistical software package (version 11.0, Stata Corporation, College Station, Tex.), and utilized weighting procedures to account for design effects. All statistically significant differences by subgroups (p<.05) are noted in the figures.