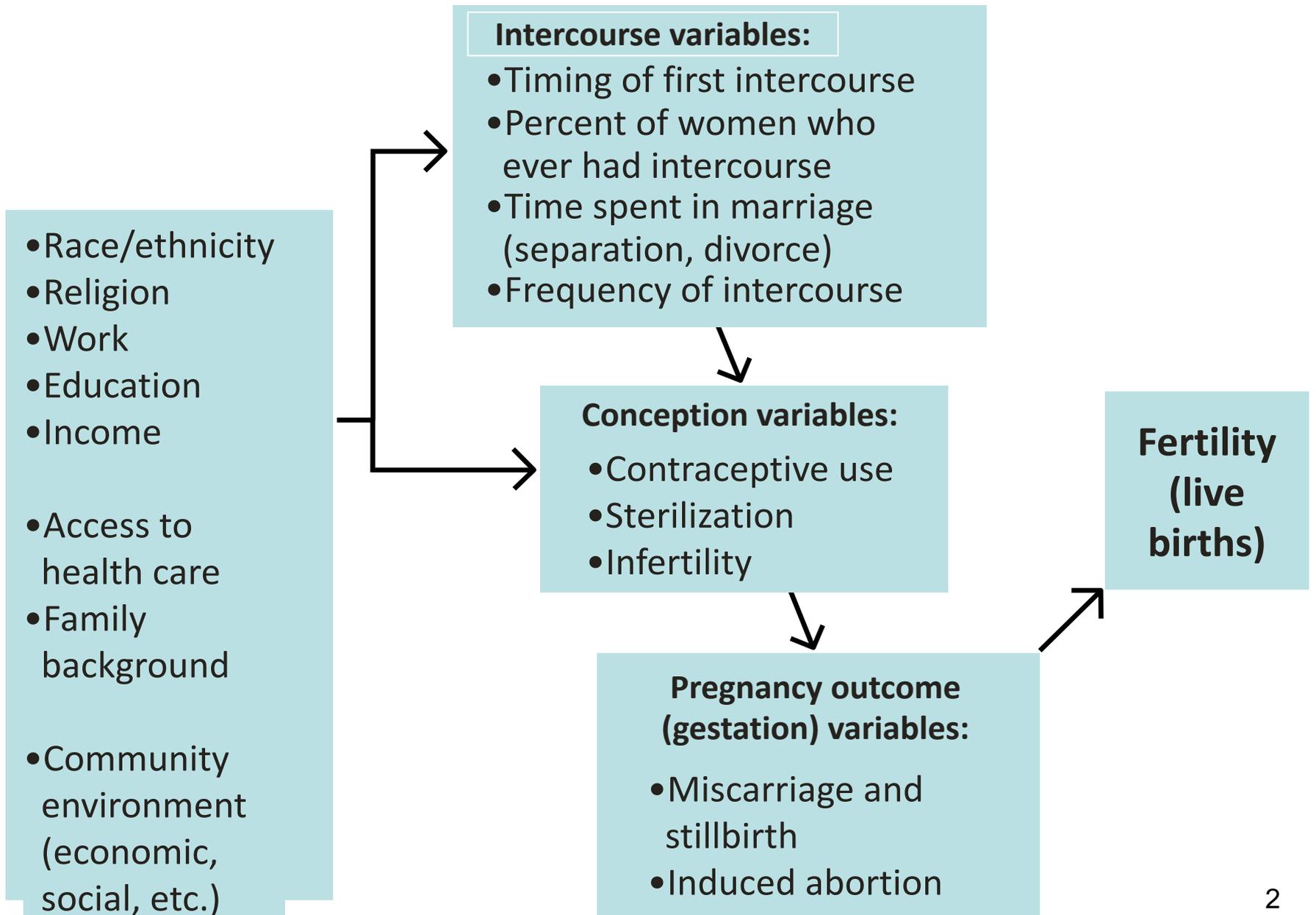


Designs for Cycle 7 of the National Survey of Family Growth

A report to the NCHS Board of Scientific Counselors, Sept 10, 2004

William D. Mosher, PhD, NSFG team leader

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NSFG History in Brief

Cycle	Year	Scope	Number of Interviews	Over-Samples	Average Length	Incentive Payment
1	1973	Ever-Married Women 15-44	9,797	Black Women	60 Minutes	No
2	1976	Ever-Married Women 15-44	8,611	Black Women	60 Minutes	No
3	1982	All Women 15-44	7,969	Black Women Teens	60 Minutes	No
4	1988	All Women 15-44	8,450	Black Women	70 Minutes	No
5	1995	All Women 15-44	10,847	Black Women Hispanic Women	100 Minutes	\$20
6	2002	Women 15-44 (n=7,643) Men 15-44 (n=4,928)	12,571	Blacks Hispanics Teens	F=85 Min M=60 Min	\$40

NSFG Web site

- www.cdc.gov/nchs/nsfg.htm has:
- Description of the NSFG
- The 1995 and 2002 Questionnaires
- PDF Files of all our NCHS reports
- Bibliographies of 360+ Reports & Journal articles using NSFG data files.
- Info on how to contact us to obtain data files.

FUNDING

The NSFG enjoys broad support from 10 programs within the Department of Health and Human Services

- ***National Center for Health Statistics, CDC***
- ***NIH's NICHD***
- ***Office of Population Affairs***
- Division of HIV-AIDS Prevention, CDC
- Division of Reproductive Health, CDC
- Office of Women's Health, CDC
- OASPE: The Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning & Evaluation
- Children's Bureau, ACF (Administration for Children and Families)
- Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, ACF
- Office of Child Support Enforcement, ACF

How the 2002 NSFG was done

- Contractor: Institute for Social Research (ISR), University of Michigan.
- Interviews in person with laptop computers
- Interviews in both English and Spanish
- Over-samples: Blacks, Hispanics, 15-24's
- Informed Consent:
 - Signed consent for adults (18-44)
 - Signed assent and signed parental consent for minors (15-17 years of age)

Average length of interview, NSFG Cycle 6 (2002)

	Male	Female
Interviewer-Administered CAPI	40 minutes	65 minutes
Self-Administered Audio CASI	20 minutes	20 minutes
TOTAL	60 minutes	85 minutes

2002 Female Questionnaire

- A. Age, race, education, family background
- B. Pregnancy history & adoption
- C. Marital & cohabitation history; sexual partner history for last 12 months
- D. Sterilization operations; fecundity impairments
- E. Contraceptive history; methods ever used, last 3 years; wanted & unwanted births.
- F. Birth control/family planning services in last 12 months
- G. Births expected in the future
- H. Infertility services; HIV tests.
- I. Health Insurance; Religion; Child Care; Attitudes

2002 Male Questionnaire

A. (Same as female Section A)

B. Ever/never had sex; vasectomy; infertility

Births, contraception, and when married or lived together:

C. -with Current wife or cohabiting partner

D. -with Sexual partners in last 12 months; first partner ever

E. -with Former wives & first cohabiting partner

F. -births and pregnancies fathered with other women

G. Activities with his children. Separate series for kids he
(a) lives with (b) does not live with.

H. Births expected in the future.

I. Health conditions; use of health care, HIV testing

J. Religion; military service; work; attitudes.

Self-administered data in the 2002 NSFG (for both males and females)

- Content Includes:
- Height and weight
- Alcohol, smoking, and drug use in last 12 months;
- Oral and anal sex with same sex partners;
- Vaginal, oral, and anal sex with opposite sex partners;
- Non-voluntary sex;
- Sexual orientation and attraction;
- STD history

A Brief Time-Line for Cycle 6

1997	Initial planning meetings; small contracts
1997-99	Wrote questionnaires & contract
1999	Awarded contract
2000	Programmed & tested questionnaires
2001	Pretest: 615 interviews
2001-2	Made revisions for main study
2002-3	Conducted main study; 12,571 interviews
2003-4	Edited data; Prepared file documentation
2004	Disclosure review; release public use file and first reports

NSFG Highlights for the next few months

- **NSFG Cycle 6 Data file released on CD-ROM**
 - Documentation will be web-based (interactive) for the first time.*
- ***Rpt on Contraception & FPS*** ***October***
- *Report on Teens* *Nov 1*
- *Report on Women* *December*
- *Report on Men* *February 2005*
- Tables for Healthy People 2010 FP Review (Nov 17, 2004)
- Series 1 & 2 (methodology) reports: Jan & March

Limitations of Current NSFG Design

- Data are not collected often enough; 6-7 years between surveys is too long.
- More frequent data would be better for:
 - Current policy issues (e.g., welfare reform; Marriage Initiatives; teen pregnancy; new contraceptive methods).
 - More recent data are always more persuasive.
 - Attracting new funders to support the survey.

July-Dec 2003: U of Michigan (ISR) did formal cost estimates for 3 designs for Cycle 7

CONSTRAINT:

Each design had to cost about what we are spending now: \$16.0 million over 5-6 fiscal years---i.e., about \$3 million a year into the NSFG contract.

Basic strategy: *Compare the present design to designs that reduce spending on re-programming the questionnaires, developing materials, & training new people. Put that money into interviewing. Do the interviewing as efficiently as possible.*

We compared these designs

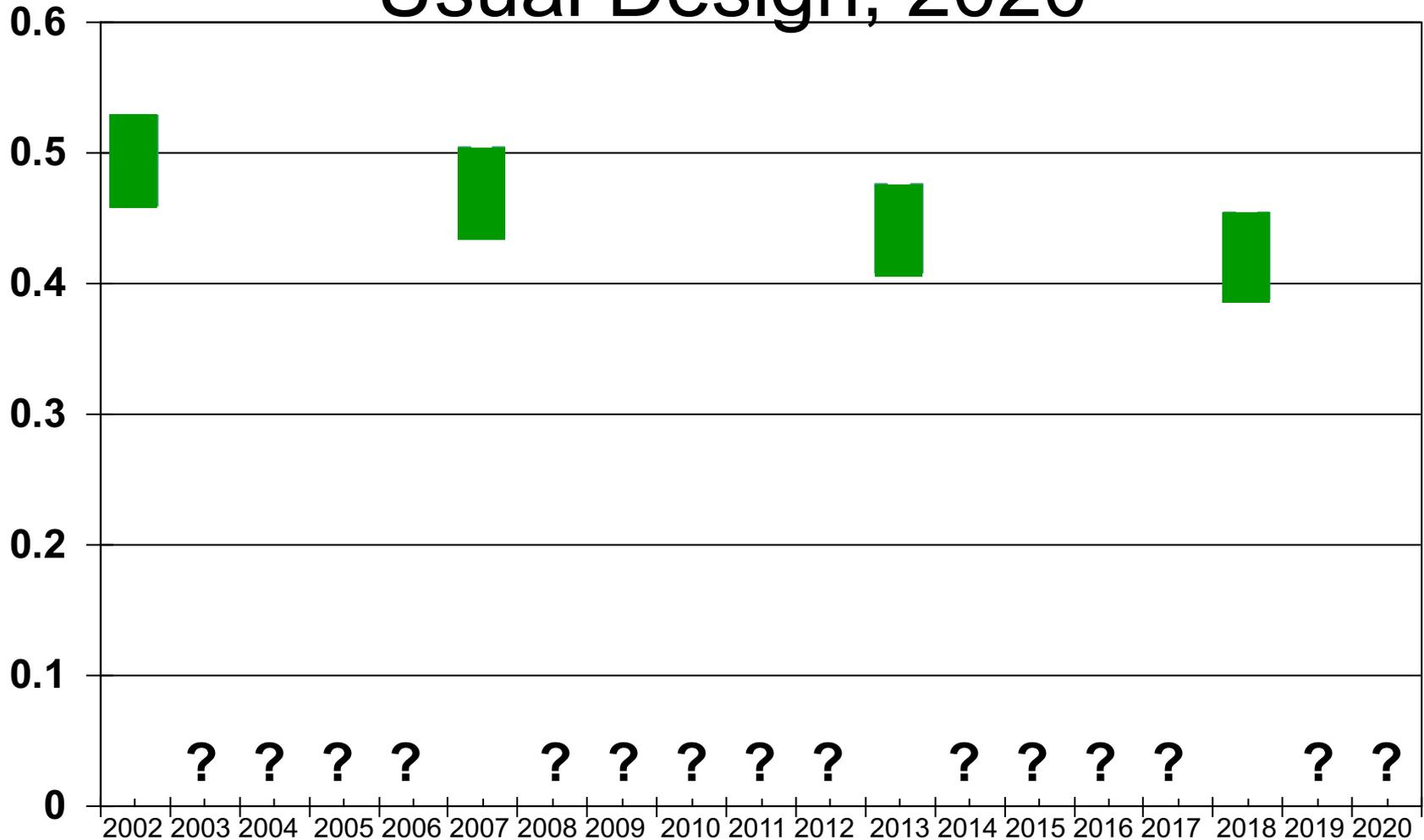
1. 1-year or 12-month or “traditional” design:
Do all interviews in 12 months in 120 major areas (Primary Sampling Units or PSU’s).
2. Continuous interviewing:
Interview about 4,350 people every year.
Use 33 PSU’s each year. About 60 interviewers.
\$16.0 million survey is done in 4 years.

NOTE: Sample size yields on next slide are conservative.
We assumed that Interviewer Productivity would be lower than in Cycle 6!

Sample size yields for the 2 designs

	<u>1 year (Cycle 6) design</u>	Continuous each year	Continuous after 4 years
TOTAL	12,100	4,350	17,400
15-19	2,200	800	3,100
Male	4,700	1,700	6,800
Female	7,400	2,650	10,600
Hispanic	2,600	950	3,800
Black	2,400	850	3,400

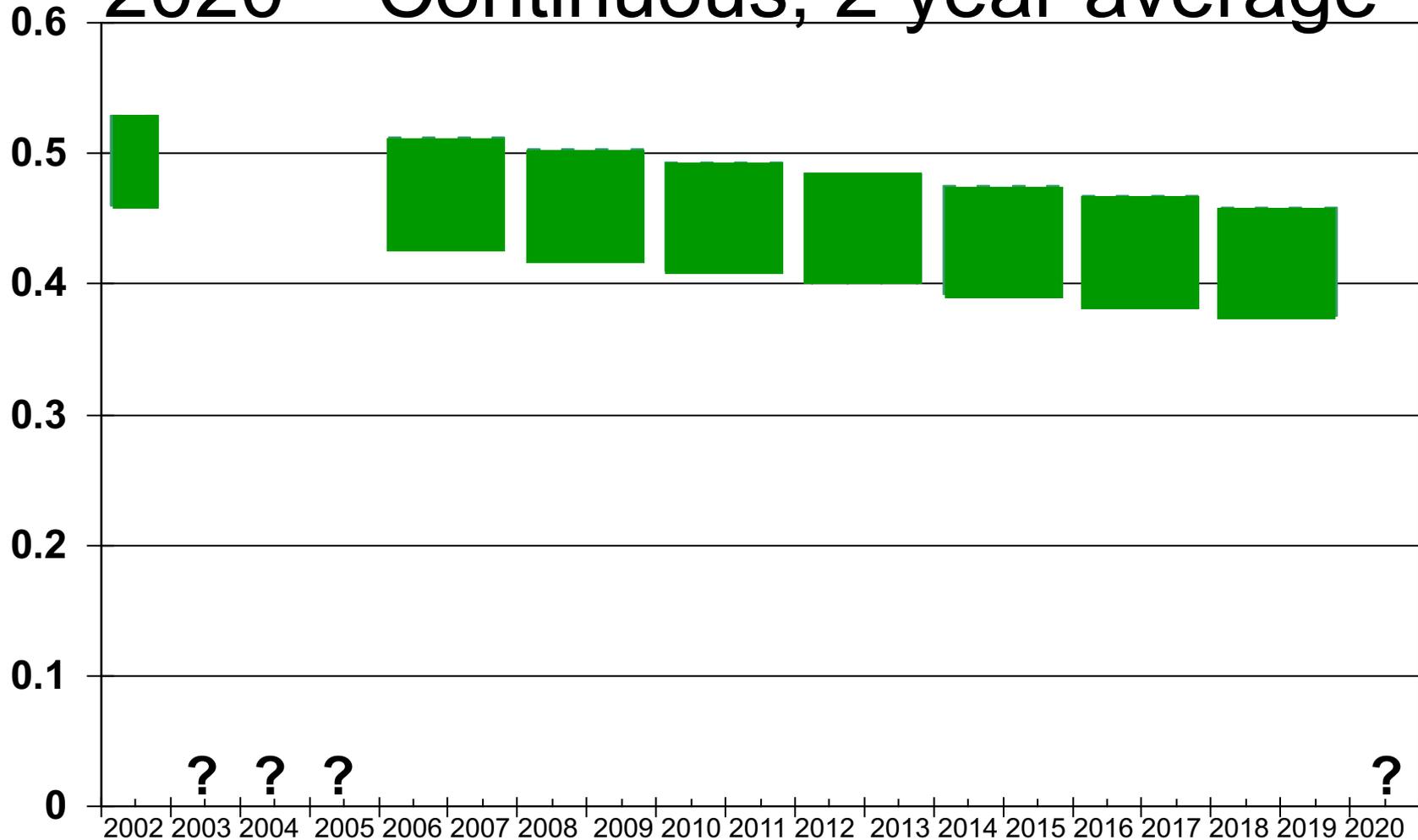
Proportion of Females 15-19 Ever Had Sex Usual Design, 2020



Assume 1% decline per year

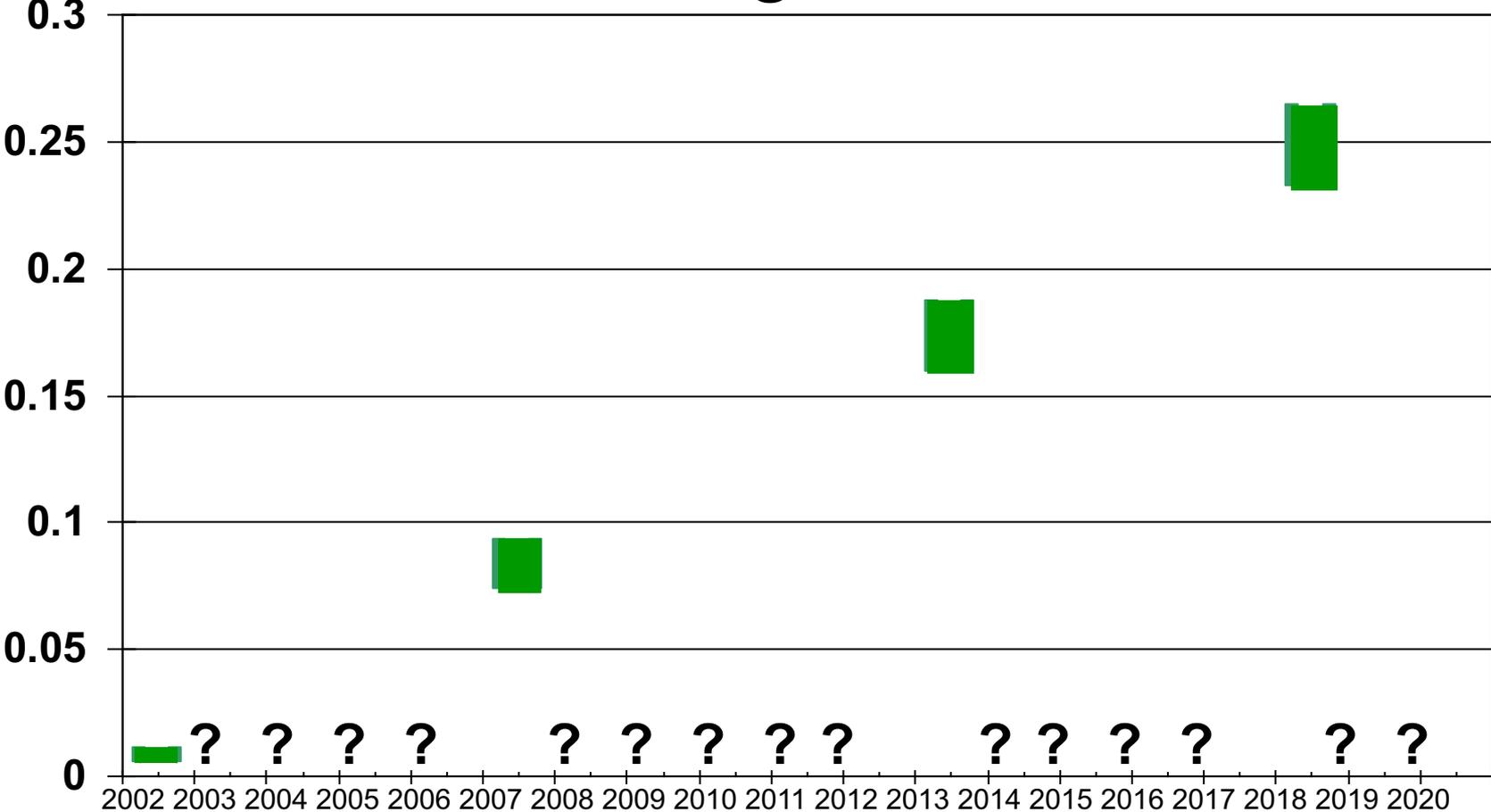
Proportion of Females 15-19 Ever Had Sex

2020 – Continuous, 2 year average



Assumes 1% decline per year

Proportion of Females 15-44 Using Contraceptive Patch Usual Design, 2020



Assumes increase of 1.5 percentage points per year

Summary Comparison of the designs

assuming the budget stays fixed

1. The 1-year (“traditional”) design: Sample yield = 12,100.
We cannot afford to do the interviewing until 2008.
Data available late 2009 or early 2010. (too late for HP 2010)
We do not recommend waiting this long.
2. Continuous interviewing: Sample yield = 17,400.
Data in time for HP 2010, based on 8,700 interviews.
Affordable: We could interview indefinitely at this pace
if we stay within the projected budget.

March 19, 2004:

The NSFG Funding Agency Representatives agreed to move the NSFG to continuous interviewing.

Preparing for Continuous Interviewing

- Finish Cycle 6 data files & initial reports Jan, 2005
- Finalize Questionnaires & spec Feb 1-May 31, 2005
- Questionnaire is final June 1, 2005
- Submit to IRB & OMB June 1, 2005
(CAPI programming & testing)
- IRB & OMB Clearance January, 2006
- Pretest Interviewing (n=300) March-April, 2006
- *Main Study Interviewing begins June 2006*

Design and Content Issues

1. Increasing the age range of the NSFG to 15-54 to improve data on marriage and divorce, cohabitation, child care, father involvement, infertility treatment, etc.
2. Increasing sample size, especially for teenagers.
3. State data (e.g, NY, California, Florida, Texas)
4. Collecting data on men in prisons and the military.
5. Improving data on the consistency and effectiveness of contraceptive use.
6. Improving pregnancy (abortion) reporting.

Survey Management Issues

1. Getting reports out more frequently. (How often?)
2. Getting data files out more frequently. (How often?)
3. Managing costs of fieldwork: especially gated communities, locked buildings, answering machines, and other contact problems.
4. How to handle requests for new content (without breaking the schedule or budget)
5. Handling disclosure review of small (annual?) data sets.
6. Setting priorities with a small staff.

Questions?

What questions do you have?