Abstract

This article seeks to analyze contraceptive practices of Brazilian adolescents and to discuss associated vulnerability situations. A cross-sectional study was conducted, using the database of the National Survey on Demography and Health of Women and Children – PNDS 2006. Factors associated with the current use of contraceptive methods were investigated. The analysis included 986 sexually-active adolescents. Bivariate analysis between the outcome and each of the socioeconomic, demographic and reproductive characteristics of women was performed. The associations between variables were evaluated using multivariate logistic regression. Four factors related to outcome were identified in the multivariate analysis: having completed junior high school (aOR=2.29; CI 95% 1.07–4.85); being married or cohabiting with a partner (aOR=2.85; CI 95% 1.45–5.59); having used contraceptives during the first sexual intercourse (aOR=2.77; CI 95% 1.36–5.63); and having access to transportation to get to health center services (aOR=3.33; CI 95% 1.42–7.80). Adolescents with higher social vulnerability are at a disadvantage regarding adoption of contraceptive methods. This points to the need to establish intersectoral articulations of public policies, which could ensure their reproductive rights.

Keywords

Contraception, Adolescence, Contraceptive behavior, Vulnerability, Health services.