

# Does IPV Affect Entry Into Parenthood and Fertility Intentions?

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## Introduction

- Both unintended fertility and intimate partner violence (IPV) are public health concerns
- Overlap in who experiences unintended fertility and IPV
- Some evidence that IPV experience increases risk of unintended fertility

## Limitations of Prior Research

- Causal linkages unable to be detected
  - Focus on early pregnancies that are often unintended
  - Focus on unstable relationships that often have IPV
  - Cross-sectional data and selective samples
- Lack of attention to different types of births
  - IPV may lead to ambivalence about having a child
  - IPV could encourage sexual risk-taking
  - IPV may increase wanted births to please partner

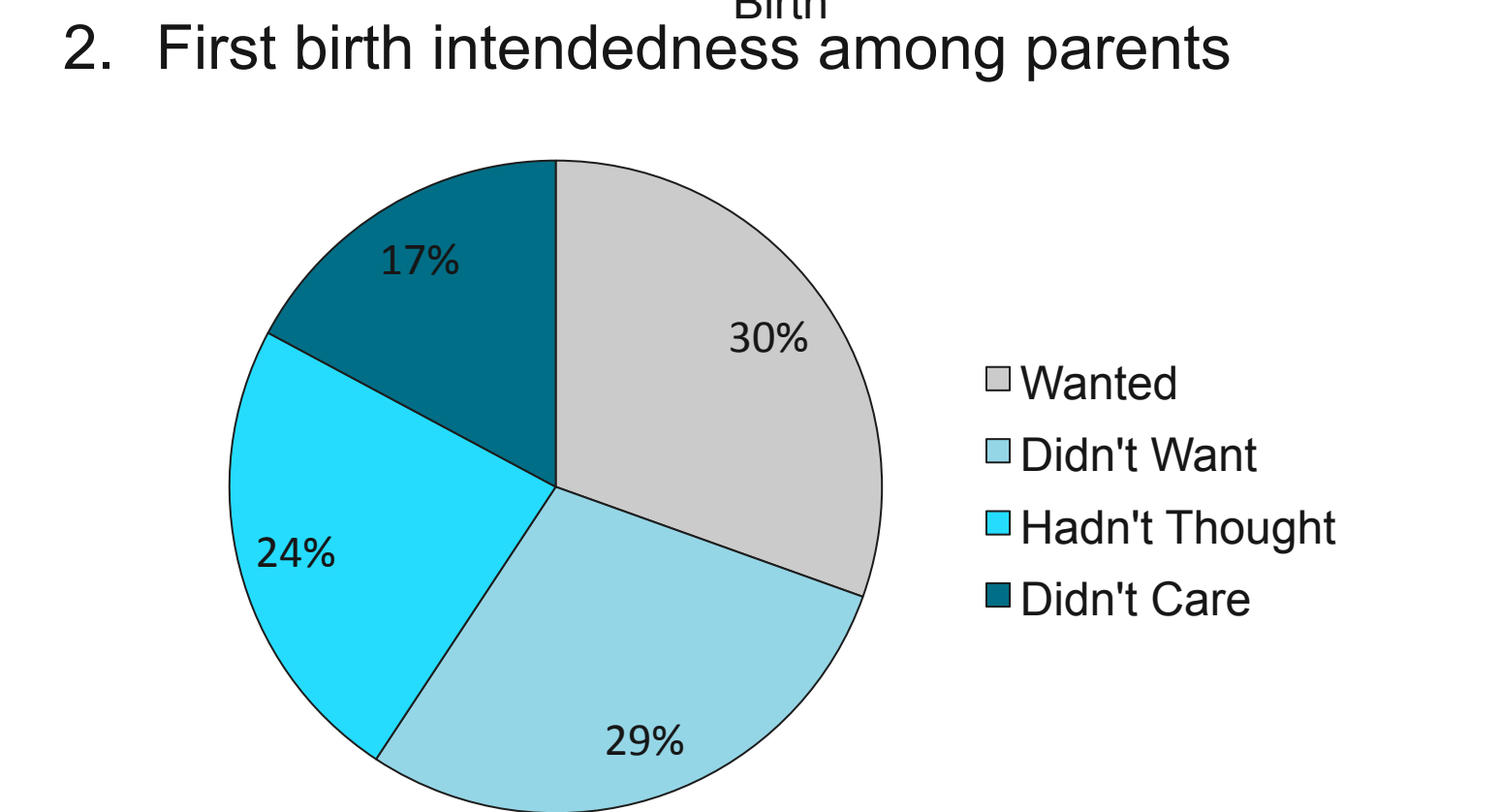
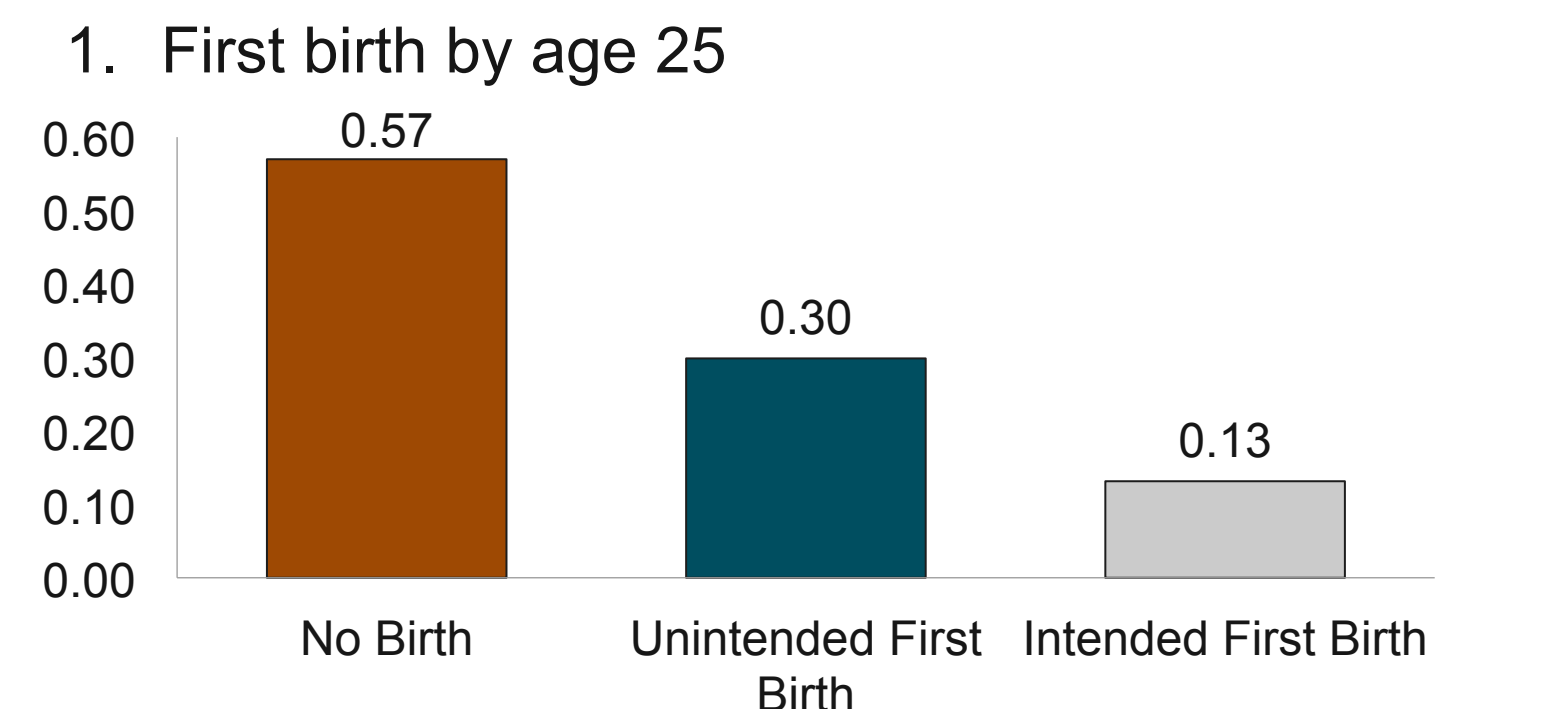
## Research Questions

- Are respondents who experience IPV more likely to enter parenthood before their 25<sup>th</sup> birthday?
- Among parents, does IPV experience predict the intendedness of first births?

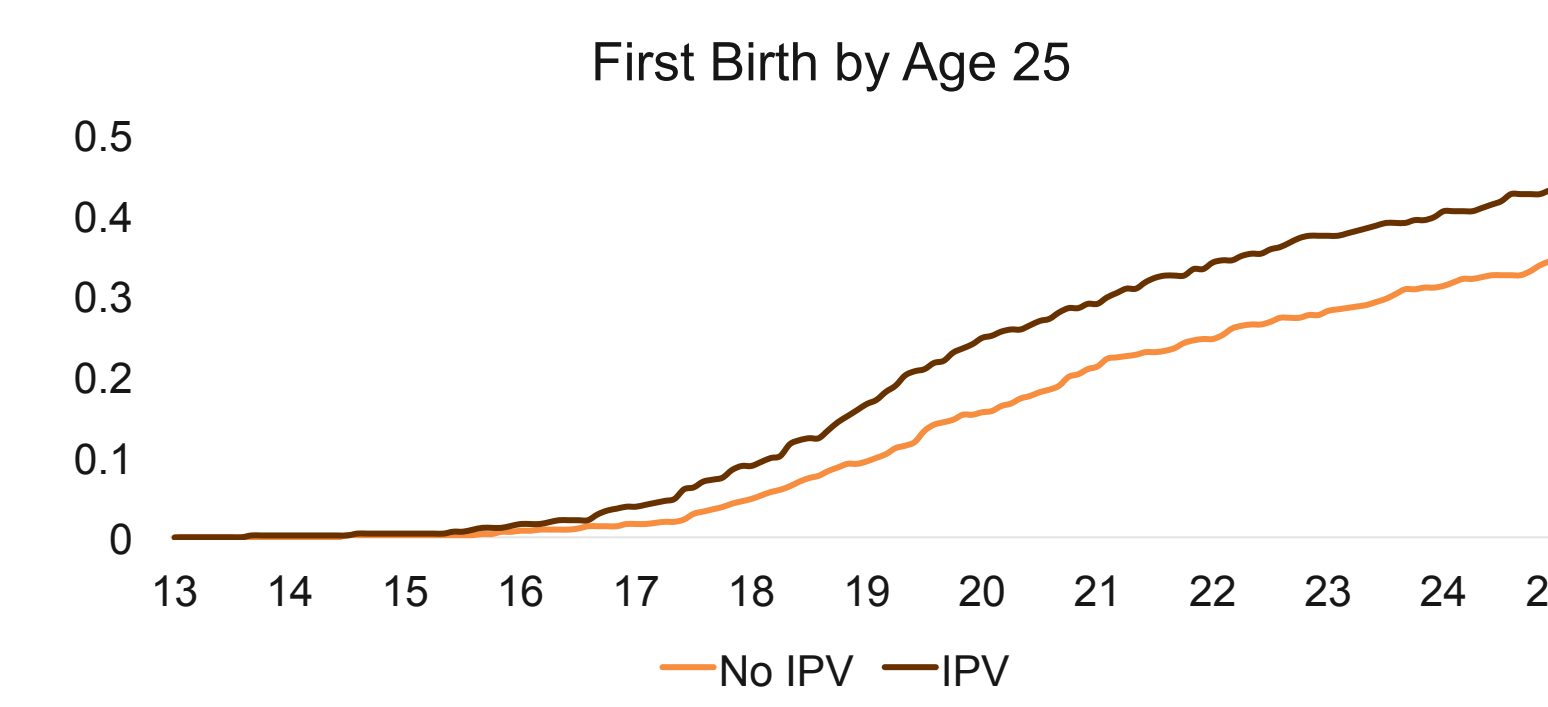
## Data

- Toledo Adolescent Relationships Study (TARS)
  - Five waves of data collected 2001-2012
  - Respondents ages 25-32 at fifth wave (N = 837)
  - Establish causal ordering of IPV and fertility
  - Rich set of fixed and time-varying socioeconomic, demographic, and psychosocial covariates linked to both IPV and fertility

## Dependent Variables



## IPV and Parenthood



## Event History Analyses

Table 1. Discrete-Time Logistic Regression

	First Birth vs. No Birth
IPV	1.09
Age	1.35 ***
Age <sup>2</sup>	1.00 ***
Relationship status	
Single	0.13 ***
Dating	0.27 ***
Cohabiting	1.05
Married	--

All models control for gender, contraceptive efficacy, delinquency, substance abuse, race/ethnicity, grades at wave 1, and living in a two biological parent household at wave 1. Covariates shown are time-varying.

Table 2. Discrete-Time Competing Risk: All Compared to Wanted First Births

	Didn't Want	Hadn't Thought	Didn't Care
IPV	0.95	0.99	1.23
Age	1.21 *	1.11	1.20
Age <sup>2</sup>	1.00	1.00	1.00 *
Relationship status			
Single	17.04 ***	13.26 **	12.26 **
Dating	3.92 **	5.48 ***	2.29
Cohabiting	1.28	2.08 *	2.69 *
Married	--	--	--

## Discussion

### Summary

- IPV does not lead to early fertility when controlling for relevant characteristics
- IPV does not increase risk of unintended fertility, even when accounting for more nuanced types of unintended fertility

### Implications

- Temporal ordering and better attention to sample selectivity are key to understanding linkages between IPV and fertility
- More work is needed to understand if unintended fertility causally increases the risk of IPV