Table 3 **Distribution of adolescents who knew that 2 years and over is the healthy period for birth spacing by sociodemographic characteristic and sex**

Characteristic	Boys (%)	Girls (%)	Total (n = 3114) (%)
Age (years)			
<16	74.35	70.93	72.21
16-	69.44	74.05	72.03
17-	73.95	79.13	76.64
18-	75.65	84.08	79.90
19 and above	74.36	80.64	76.77
Likelihood χ^2	8.95	20.21*	20.05*
Secondary school grade			
First	66.77	69.04	67.93
Second	73.00	80.82	76.79
Third	83.33	86.06	84.85
Likelihood χ^2	38.82*	53.1*	90.77*
Region[a]			
Muscat	72.55	76.41	74.54
Dhofar	72.53	83.24	78.75
Ad Dakhliya	78.28	78.21	78.25
North Ash Sharqiyah	75.85	72.95	74.23
South Ash Sharqiyah	65.22	76.59	70.76
North Al Batinah	67.96	74.78	71.55
South Al Batinah	74.83	82.19	78.89
Adh Dhahira	81.45	87.64	84.00
Musandam	56.50	56.23	56.38
Likelihood χ^2	28.4*	27.79*	41.86*
Mother's education			
Illiterate	77.04	78.78	77.90
Read & write	68.93	78.06	74.23
Primary/preparatory	72.18	79.53	76.22
Secondary and above	72.58	79.07	75.80
Don't know	54.69	59.56	56.75
Likelihood χ^2	36.47*	21.48*	52.59*
Father's education			
Illiterate	76.97	78.35	77.62
Read & write	74.30	76.79	75.68
Primary/preparatory	74.43	78.92	76.70
Secondary and above	73.67	82.33	78.03
Don't know	55.03	70.81	63.02
Likelihood χ^2	42.66*	11.931	44.34*
Total	73.18	77.90	75.60

*P < 0.05.
[a]Al Wusta was not included due to the low population density and difficulty in accessing it.