

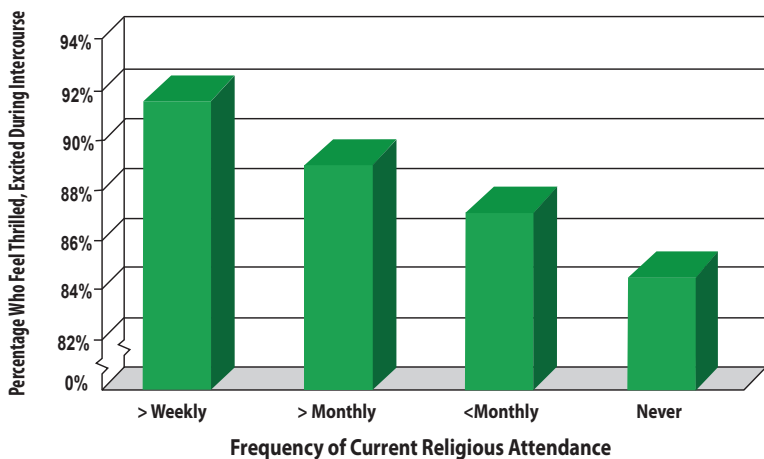
## Mapping America – Number 116

### “Feels Thrilled, Excited During Intercourse with Current Sexual Partner” by Marital Status and Religious Attendance

Percentage Who Feel Thrilled, Excited During Intercourse with Current Sexual Partner

by Current Religious Attendance (adults age 18-59)

Source: National Health and Social Life Survey, 1992

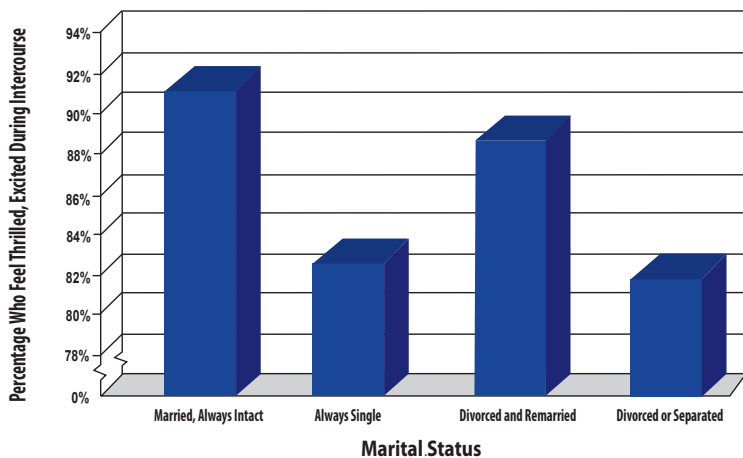


Althea Nagai, Ph.D.

Percentage Who Feel Thrilled, Excited During Intercourse with Current Sexual Partner

by Marital Status (adults aged 18-59)

Source: National Health and Social Life Survey, 1992

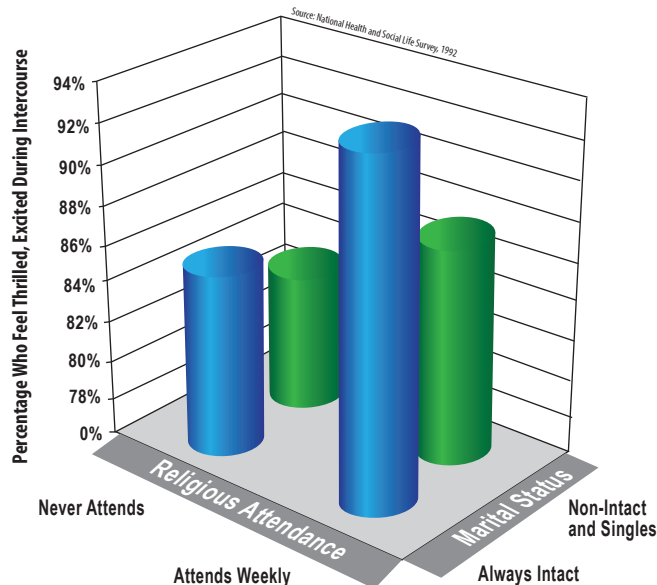


Althea Nagai, Ph.D.

Percentage Who Feel Thrilled, Excited During Intercourse with Current Sexual Partner

by Marital Status and Religious Attendance (adults aged 18-59) Combined

Source: National Health and Social Life Survey, 1992



Althea Nagai, Ph.D.

This chart looks at adults who feel thrilled or excited during intercourse with their current sexual partner at the extremes of four demographic quadrants.

These four quadrants are derived from combining two sets of marital statuses (always-intact vs. non-intact\* and singles) and two sets of religious attendance (high vs. low).

The individuals occupying the four corners (or four extremes) of these quadrants are:

The always-intact married individual that worships weekly;

The always-intact married individual that never worships;

The non-intact\* or single individual that worships weekly;

The non-intact\* or single individual that never worships.

(\* The non-intact group consists of divorced or separated and divorced and remarried individuals.)

## Feels Thrilled, Excited During Intercourse with Current Sexual Partner

The 1992 National Health and Social Life Survey shows that, of adults aged 18 to 59, those in intact marriages who worship weekly were most likely to report feeling thrilled and excited during intercourse with their current sexual partner.

### Religious attendance:

Those who worship weekly (91.7 percent) were most likely to report feeling thrilled and excited during intercourse with their current sexual partner, followed by those who worship less than weekly but at least monthly (89.1 percent), those who worship less than monthly (87.2 percent), and those who never worship (84.6 percent).

### Marital status:

Those in always-intact marriages were most likely (91.3 percent) to report feeling thrilled and excited during intercourse with their current sexual partner, followed by those who were divorced and remarried (88.9 percent), those who were always single (82.7 percent), and those who were divorced or separated (81.8 percent).

### Religious attendance and marital status combined:

Those in intact marriages who worship weekly (93.7 percent) were most likely to report feeling thrilled and excited during intercourse with their current sexual partner. Those in non-intact family structures and singles who worship weekly (87.2 percent), those in intact marriages who never worship (85.2 percent), and those in non-intact family structures and singles who never worship (83.1 percent) are less likely to feel thrilled and excited.

## Related Insight from Other Studies

Married men and women report the most sexual pleasure and fulfillment<sup>1</sup> and have more enjoyable sexual intercourse more often.<sup>2</sup> Among healthy senior citizens aged 80 to 102, married men and women are more likely to engage in and enjoy sexual activity and intercourse.<sup>3</sup>

Very religious women report greater satisfaction in sexual intercourse with their husbands than do moderately religious or non-religious women.<sup>4</sup>

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- 1 Robert T. Michael et al., *Sex in America: A Definitive Survey* (Boston: Little, Brown, and Company, 1994), 124-129; Edward O. Laumann et al., *The Social Organization of Sexuality: Sexual Practices in the United States* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1994), 364, table 10.5; Andrew Greeley, *Faithful Attraction: Discovering Intimacy, Love and Fidelity in American Marriage* (New York: Tom Doherty Association, 1991), see chapter 6. As cited in Glenn T. Stanton, "Why Marriage Matters." Available at <http://www.ampartnership.org/resourcecenter/news/89-why-marriage-matters.html> (accessed July 27, 2011).
  - 2 Linda J. Waite and Maggie Gallagher, *The Case for Marriage: Why Married People are Happier, Healthier, and Better off Financially*. As cited by Richard Niolon. Available at [http://successfulesingles.com/media\\_articles\\_files/The%20Case%20for%20Marriage:%20Why%20Married%20People%20Are%20Happier,%20Healthier,%20and%20Better%20off%20Financially.pdf](http://successfulesingles.com/media_articles_files/The%20Case%20for%20Marriage:%20Why%20Married%20People%20Are%20Happier,%20Healthier,%20and%20Better%20off%20Financially.pdf) (accessed July 27, 2011).
  - 3 Judy G. Bretschneider and Norma L. McCoy, "Sexual Interest and Behavior in Healthy 80- to 102-Year-Olds," *Archives of Sexual Behaviors* 17, no. 2 (1988): 125.
  - 4 Carol Tavris and Susan Sadd, *The Redbook Report on Female Sexuality* (New York: Delacorte Press, 1977).

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