

Religious Worship and the Challenge of Abstinence and Chastity

Sexual purity is a virtue that is becoming increasingly rare in today's culture. Those who are more motivated to remain sexually pure, have a common trait. Through data analysis, MARRI shows that chastity and abstinence are more prominent among those who attend church weekly or more.



Of Those Who Worshipped Weekly...	Of Those Who Never Worshipped...
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 14 percent had ever had sex at age 14 or younger. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 26 percent had ever had sex at age 14 or younger.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approximately 31 percent of 13 to 19 year olds had ever had sexual intercourse in the year prior to the study. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approximately 50 percent of 13 to 19 year olds had ever had sexual intercourse in the year prior to the study.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approximately 47 percent remained either monogamous or abstinent during their lifetime. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only 25.3 percent remained either monogamous or abstinent during their lifetime.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 15.3 percent had no sexual partners in the year prior to the study. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10.7 percent had no sexual partners in the year prior to the study.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approximately 22 percent had non-romantic sexual intercourse in the year prior to the study. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approximately 28 percent had non-romantic sexual intercourse in the year prior to the study.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Among those who were currently or previously married at the time of the study, 12.4 percent had committed adultery. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Among those who were currently or previously married at the time of the study, 24.8 percent had committed adultery.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12 percent had ever cheated on their spouse or cohabiting partner. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 19 percent had ever cheated on their spouse or cohabiting partner.

For a more in-depth look at the research and statistics highlighted above see our sources here:

1. [Intercourse age 14 or younger](#)
2. [Percentage of Adolescents Who Have Ever Engaged in Sexual Intercourse By Family Structure and Religious Worship](#)
3. [Number of Sexual Partners in Lifetime](#)
4. [Number of Sexual Partners in Previous Year](#)
5. [Non-Romantic Sexual Relationships by Family Structure and Religious Worship](#)
6. [Adultery by Religious Attendance](#)
7. [Ever Cheated on Spouse or Cohabiting Partner](#)

