

















### Survey Objectives and Methodology

From **July 13-19**, PSB Research interviewed **N=1200** Americans **ages 18-74** to understand Americans' perceptions of and sentiments toward masturbation, the ways in which they masturbate, the role of masturbation in their relationships, and their views on and interest in masturbation tools. Quotas were set by age and gender, and the audience was split evenly between men and women.

#### **Survey Flow** Sample N=1200 respondents were **Masturbation Rates Masturbation** Screeners surveyed. They fit the following and Rationales Routines US census criteria: Males and Females 18-74 **Talking About Role of Masturbation Sex Toys and Tenga ► Males**: 50% of survey (N=595); Masturbation **Brand Assessment** in Relationships **Females** 50% (N=605)

### **Key Audiences**

#### **GENERATION:**



MILLENNIALS
Ages 18-34
(n=400)



GEN X Ages 35-54 (n=450)



BOOMERS Ages 55-74 (n=350)

#### **RELATIONSHIP STATUS:**



IN
RELATIONSHI
P
(Married or

P (Married or otherwise committed) (n=645)



NOT IN RELATIONSHI P

P (Single, divorced or widowed) (n=554)

#### **GENDER:**



MALE (n=595)



FEMALE (n=605)

#### **SEX TOY OWNERSHIP:**



OWN A SEX TOY (n=368)



DO NOT OWN A SEX TOY



# Masturbation is an almost universal behavior, most frequently taking place in the bedroom for relief and sexual pleasure

88%

of all respondents have masturbated, including 95% of men and 81% of women

**Men**, **Millennials** and **Singles** masturbate more frequently than their female, older or coupled peers...

Among those who masturbate at least monthly on average:



Men masturbate an average of **15** times per month vs. fewer than **8** times for women

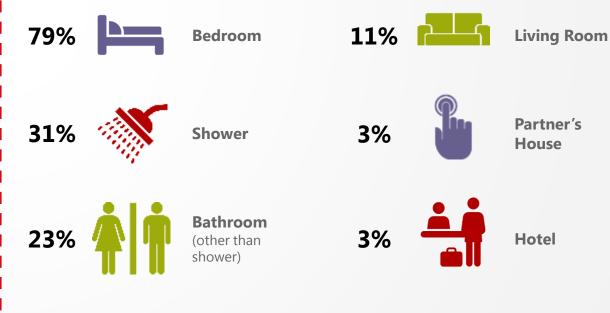


Millennials masturbate **15** times per month vs. **12** times monthly for Gen X and **7** times monthly for Boomers



Singles masturbate **16** times monthly; those in relationships: **10** on average

...But there is broad agreement on where they normally masturbate:





# Most common reasons for masturbating include relief of sexual tension and stress and efforts to achieve sexual pleasure

**63**%

of men and 54% of women who masturbate do so to relieve sexual tension, the reason most commonly cited

### Reasons commonly cited for masturbating:

Relief

THE PARTY OF THE P

Relieve sexual tension



Relax/relieve stress

**26**%



To help me

Millennials are most likely to masturbate to relieve stress, with 63% doing so compared to 51% of Gen X and 46% of Boomers

**Sexual Pleasure** 



Achieve sexual pleasure on my own



Achieve sexual pleasure when partner unavailable



**Men** are far more likely that women to masturbate out of **boredom** – 22% of men but just 13% of women do

**Preparation for Sex** 



Explore sexual preferences/ desires





Feel more comfortable with my body



Improve sexual performance

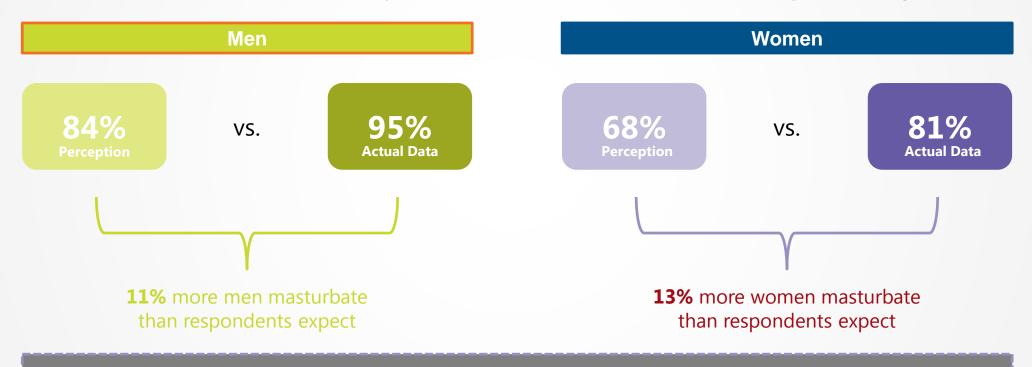
Nearly 1 in 5 **Millennials** (18%) masturbate to **improve sexual performance**, well above the hares of Gen X (13%) and Boomers (7%) who do



### Current perceptions of masturbation underestimate real-life actions

The public's underestimation of masturbation rates suggests an opportunity to promote TENGA in the context of a public-education campaign about masturbation and sexual wellbeing

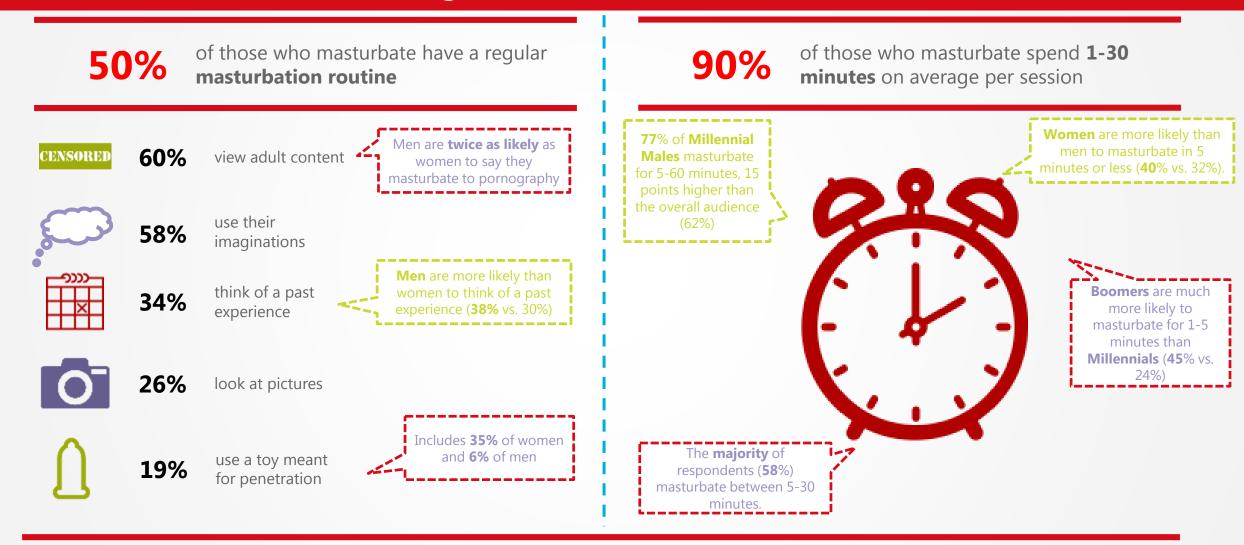
Share of men and women whom respondents believe masturbate vs. masturbation rates reported in survey



**Men's** average estimate of the share of women who masturbate (**70%**) is five points closer to women's actual reported masturbation rates (**81%**) than women's own average prediction (**65%**), indicating that women are less likely to discuss masturbation with peers



# Half of the population has a regular masturbation routine, primarily using adult content and their imagination as visual aids or tools





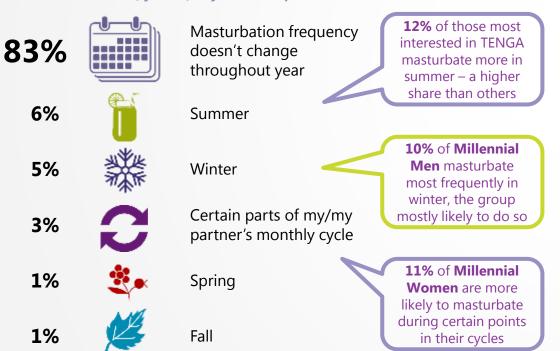
# Most respondents maintain consistent rates of masturbation through the year, though they tend to perform the act later in the day

**16** 

is the average age respondents began masturbating: Age 14 for men and 18 for women

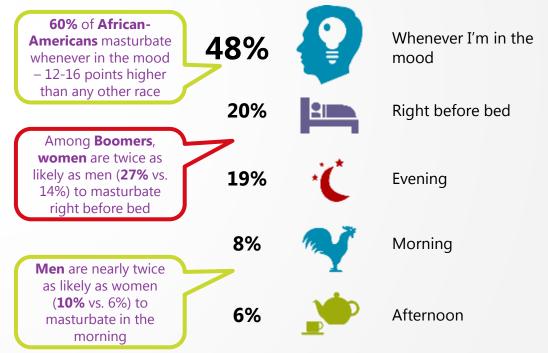
Though most respondents' masturbation frequency stays consistent through the year, **Millennials** are more likely to masturbate more during a specific time of year (24%) than Gen X (14%) or Boomers (12%)

#### Time of year, if any, when respondents masturbate most:



Just over half of respondents masturbate at a certain time of day, with nearly 4 in 10 reserving their masturbation for after dark

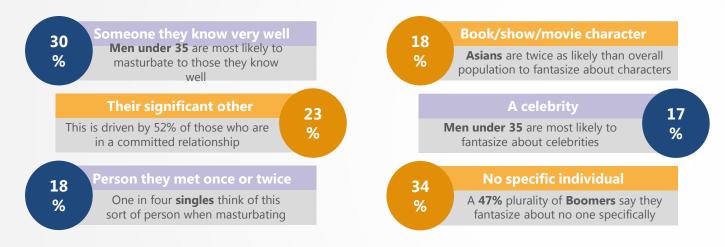
#### Time of day when respondents usually masturbate:





## Fantasies primarily center around real-life people, with 1 in 5 claiming to think about their significant other

Respondents are most likely to masturbate to the fantasy of **someone they know well**, with **men** far more likely to do so than women



#### Celebrities most frequently mentioned as objects of fantasies during masturbation:



**Jennifer Aniston** 



Jennifer



**Jennifer Lopez** 



**Katy Perry** 

As the all-female list of most-mentioned celebrities suggests, **men are more likely than women** to mention celebrities as sexual fantasies

Those who think of prior sexual experiences while masturbating are most likely to think of times with **both past and current partners** 



**Singles** are **much more likely** to masturbate to previous partners than respondents in committed relationships (63% vs. 8%)

**Females** are almost three times as likely than Males to think about previous experiences with their **current partner** while masturbating (**32**% vs. 11%)

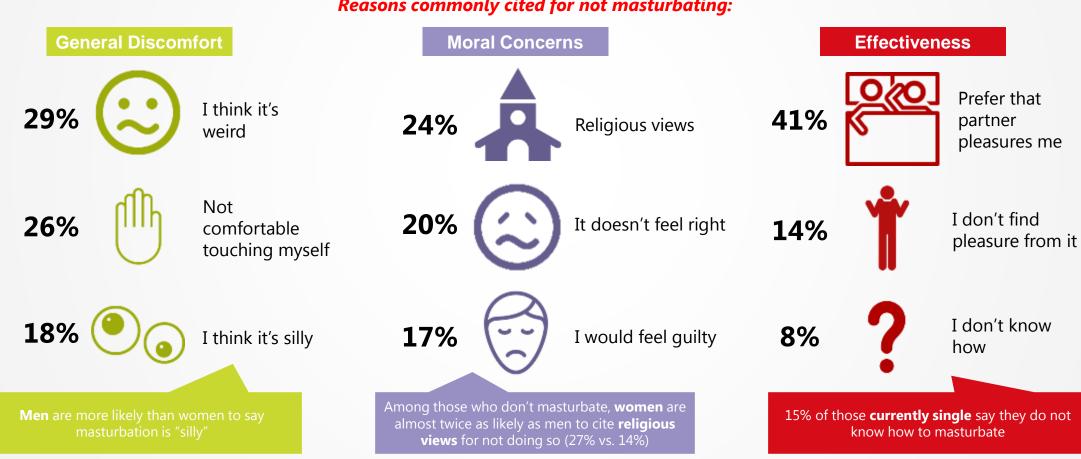
**Males** are more than three times as likely than Females to think about previous experiences with their **previous partners** (34% vs. 11%)



### Top reasons for not masturbating include discomfort and moral concerns regarding the act

of women, 16% of Boomers, and 31% of those who haven't had sex have not masturbated

### Reasons commonly cited for not masturbating:





## While masturbation is still a taboo topic, especially for older generations, Millennials show more open-mindedness

**54%** 

feel uncomfortable discussing masturbation openly; only 17% are very comfortable doing so

Generations differ widely on comfort level in discussing masturbation

% of those comfortable discussing masturbation:



54%



45%



36%



**Men** are **5 points** more likely than women to be very comfortable discussing masturbation

**83% of** respondents rarely or never discuss masturbation openly, including nearly half (**48%**) who never do so. Boomers are most reluctant, with nearly two in three (**64%**) never discussing masturbation openly.

Respondents cite **embarrassment** and **privacy** as key reason why it is hard to discuss masturbation

"Religion perhaps. Maturity, people may think it is gross, some view it as bad behavior, embarrassing" – Female, Gen X

"Masturbation is similar to sex, but it differs in the fact that one is engaging in pleasuring oneself. I feel like people would feel ashamed to admit that they have sexual needs." – Female, Millennial

> "It's private and I was raised in a house that did not talk about anything sexual. Ever." – Female, Boomer

**57%** 

don't think it is culturally acceptable to discuss masturbation

"It's a very private thing. US culture is very judgmental about ALL things sexual... lots of double standards and mixed messages. No one likes being judged and-or pigeon-holed." – Male, Boomer

"As a culture we are not open about sex or anything to do with it. Parents struggle to have the sex talk with their children because of the lack of sexual openness.— Female, Millennial

**Boomers**, whites and those unsatisfied with their sex lives are especially likely to believe that it is not culturally acceptable to discuss masturbation





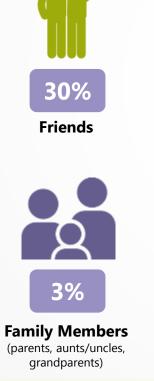
### Respondents are commonly comfortable discussing masturbation only with their friends or relationship partners, if anyone

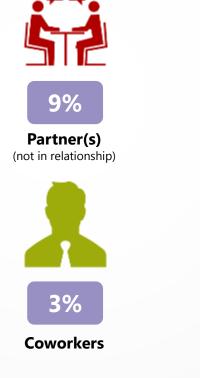
**41%** 

have been asked about masturbation, including 30% who have been asked by a partner and 20% by a friend

### Those with whom respondents are most comfortable speaking about masturbation















### Embarrassment and fear of judgment frequently lead respondents to lie about masturbating frequently, while watching porn, or at all

have lied about masturbation, including 36% of men and 22% of women

Common reasons for lying about masturbation include embarrassment and **fear of being judged** by friends, family or partners

Respondents were most likely to lie about having masturbated at all, the **frequency** with which they do and the fact that they watch porn while doing so



"Honestly, it's because I felt too embarrassed and ashamed to admit it. I felt that if I said it, my friends would think less of me or treat me

differently." - Female, Gen X

"When I was much younger, just admitting I masturbated." - Female, Boomer



"It's really intimate information. I don't want jokes, teasing, or anything else because it's humiliating. I fail to see how it's anyone's business but my own." - Male, Millennial



"I lied to my parents about watching porn." - Male,



"Did not want my parents who were very religious at the time to know I was doing that." – Male, Boomer

"The amount of times I masturbated in any given month."

- Male Boomer







# Most respondents masturbate less frequently in relationships than while single, though many still do so as an easy way of achieving pleasure

**92%** 

have been in a relationship, including 85% of Millennials, 94% of Gen X and 98% of Boomers

Reasons to masturbate while in a relationship include one's partner being **unavailable**, **ease of orgasm**, and **personal enjoyment** 

"Sometimes they aren't around, I travel frequently, sometimes I just flat out want to masturbate." – Female, Millennial

"Sometimes it's easier for me to achieve orgasm by masturbating rather than through intercourse." – Female. Gen X

> "You can't get sex whenever you want but you can masturbate whenever you want" – Male, Boomer

Reasons to <u>not</u> masturbate in a relationship include **guilt** and being **sexually fulfilled** by one's partner

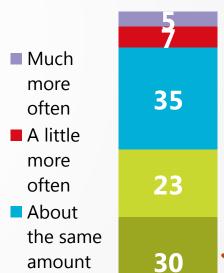
"I want to save those feelings for my partner." – Female, Millennial

"It doesn't feel right to do it if you have a partner already" – Male Gen X

"If I have a partner, I will get satisfied by him and don't need to masturbate." – Female, Boomer

Most respondents masturbate **less frequently** in a relationship than when single

### How often respondents masturbate in a relationship (compared to when single)



beginning of a relationship interest in sex increases and need for sexual release increases.' – Female, Boomer

"Especially at the

"My partner and I have sex often enough that I don't feel as much of a need to masturbate" – Female, Millennial



# Masturbation is normal even in a relationship, with 7 in 10 openly discussing it with a partner

**85**%

masturbate when they are in a relationship and 68% say their partners are aware of it

9 in 10 respondents overall are comfortable with their relationship partners masturbating...

Comfort rates vary by only a few points across gender and generational demographics

Reasons for comfort with partner's

masturbation

If comfortable with partner masturbating

72% It's a natural thing to do

60% I also masturbate

I know it's not about me

26% It's to improve their sexual performance

Reasons for discomfort with partner's masturbation

If uncomfortable with partner masturbating

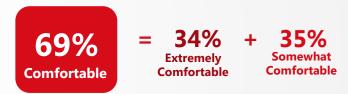
52% I don't like to think about it

29% I'm not there

I don't like that they watch

...and **7 in 10** are comfortable discussing masturbation with their partner

Share comfortable discussing masturbation with partner:



Reasons for discomfort in discussing masturbation with partner:

"It is such a private topic that I feel embarrassed talking about it" – Female, Boomer

> "Because most men think it is them not being able to fulfill their partner's needs." – Female, Gen X

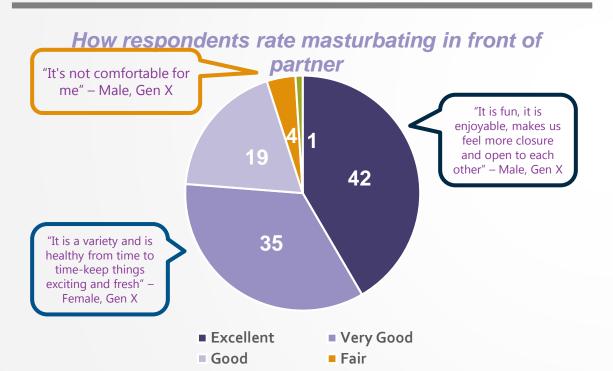


## Overwhelming majorities of respondents enjoy masturbating for their partner or watching their partner do so for them

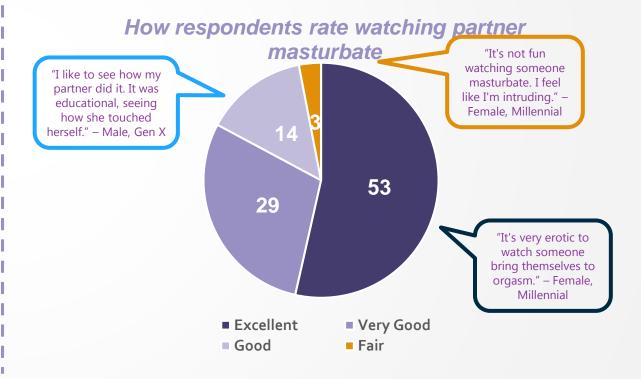
**52**%

have masturbated for their partner or watched their partner masturbate

Many respondents find masturbating in front of one's partner a fun way to vary their relationships' sexual experience

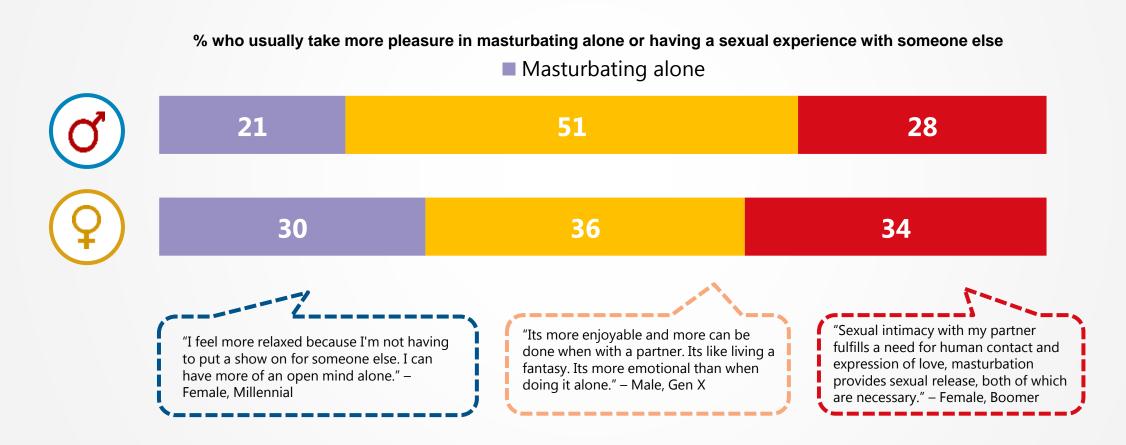


The majority of respondents find the experience of watching their partner masturbate to be "excellent," and nearly all rate it positively overall



## For Males, the act of self-pleasure is not as satisfying as sexual experiences with another person

Women are almost evenly divided on whether it is more pleasurable to masturbate alone (30%) or have a sexual experience with another person (36%). Another third (34%) say both are equally pleasurable.





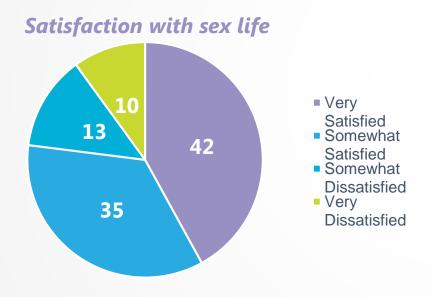
## Respondents have high satisfaction with both their sex and masturbation lives, though they are more satisfied with the latter

**77%** 

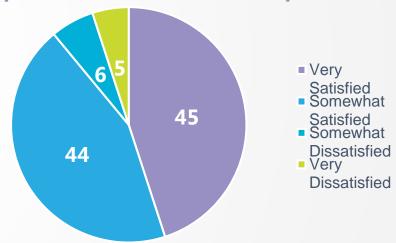
are satisfied with their sex lives, while 89% – 12 points more – are satisfied with their "masturbation lives"

Nearly **8 in 10** respondents report **satisfaction** with their sex lives, though little more than half of those satisfied individuals are "very satisfied"

Respondents' satisfaction with their masturbation lives **exceeds** satisfaction with their sex lives, though most of the difference is due to the higher share of respondents **somewhat** – not very – **satisfied** with their masturbation







% of those very satisfied with their sex lives % of those very satisfied with



% of those very satisfied with their masturbation lives

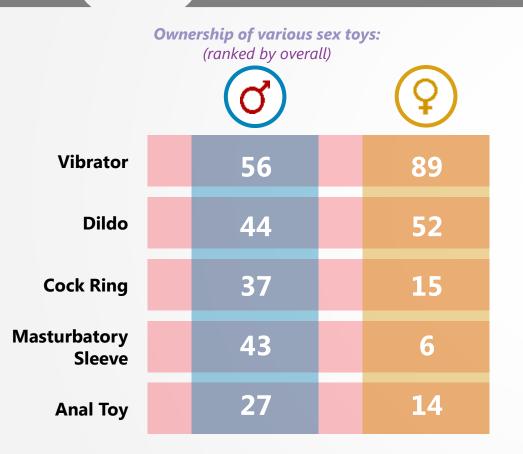


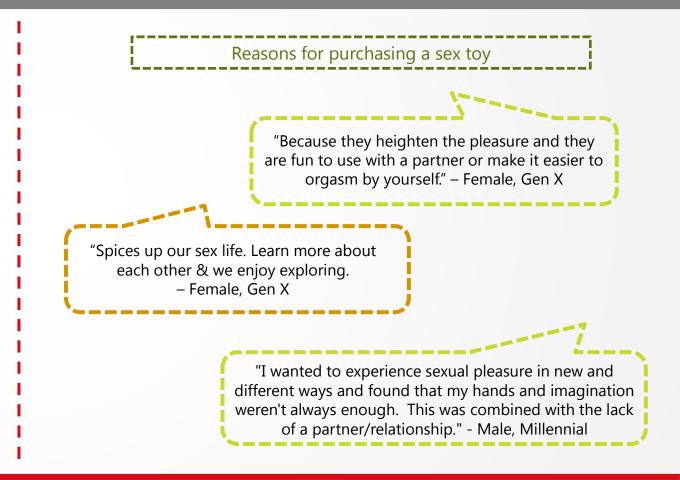


## Sex toy owners are more likely to be Females, with vibrators being the primary toy. Males tend to own vibrators, dildos and sleeves

**31%** 

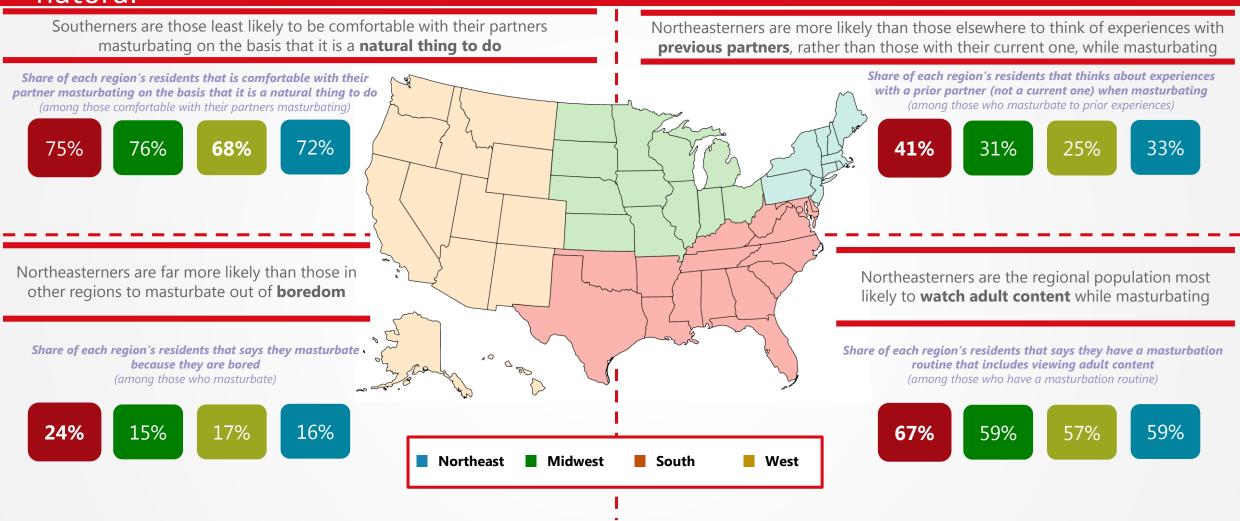
own a sex toy, including 20% of men and 42% of women







In the east of the U.S., Northerners are those most likely to watch porn and masturbate out of boredom, while Southerners are less reluctant to view the act as natural

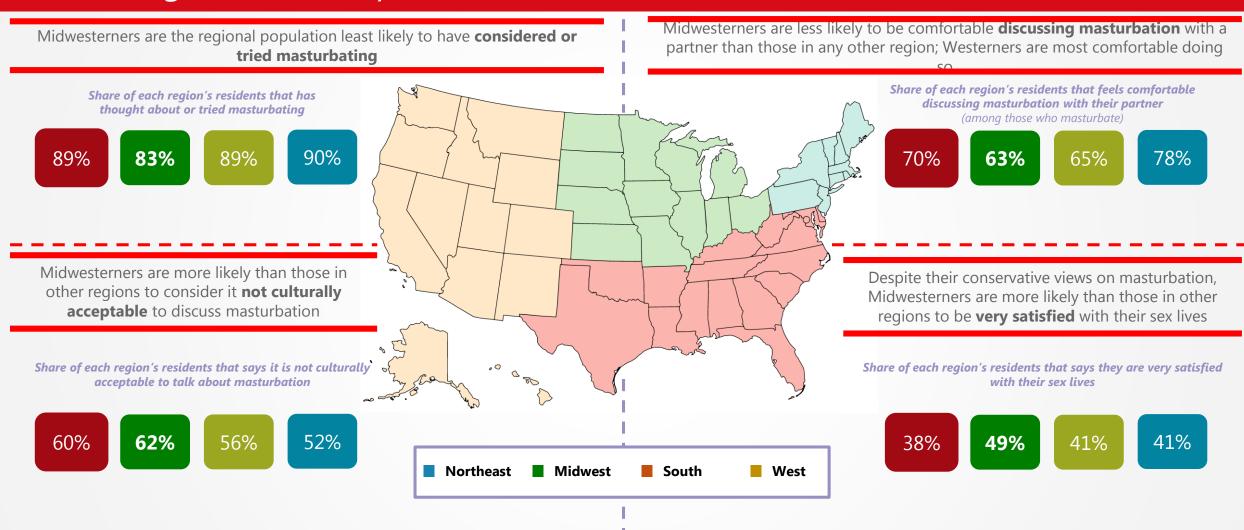


The **Northeast** includes: Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, and Vermont The **South** includes: Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, the District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia and West Virginia

The **Midwest** includes: Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota and Wisconsin The **West** includes: Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington and Wyoming



# Midwesterners hold more conservative views on masturbation than those in other regions, but they are more satisfied with their sex lives

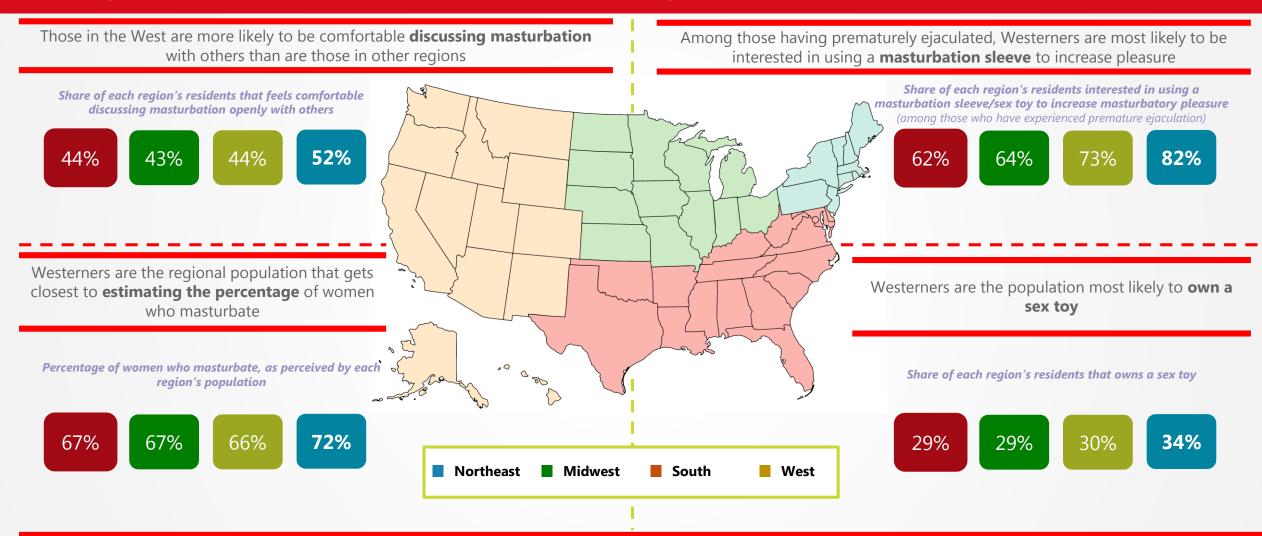


The **Northeast** includes: Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, and Vermont The **South** includes: Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, the District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia and West Virginia

The **Midwest** includes: Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota and Wisconsin The **West** includes: Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington and Wyoming



# Western residents are generally more open to discussing masturbation and using sex toys than those in other U.S. regions



The **Northeast** includes: Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, and Vermont The **South** includes: Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, the District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia and West Virginia

The **Midwest** includes: Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota and Wisconsin The **West** includes: Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington and Wyoming



While Trump voters masturbate more often in relationships than Clinton voters, Clinton backers are more open about the act with partners and more likely to watch porn while they masturbate

Trump voters are **5 points** more likely than Clinton voters to masturbate while in a relationship...

**Share of each candidates' voters that masturbates in a relationship** (among those who have masturbated and been in a relationship)



88%



83%

...But Clinton voters are **9 points** more likely than Trump voters to say their relationship partners are aware that they masturbate

Share of each candidates' voters whose relationship partners are aware they masturbate

(among those who masturbate in a relationship)



70%



**61%** 

Clinton voters are **9 points** more likely than Trump voters to watch "adult content" while they masturbate

**Share of each candidates' voters that watches adult content while masturbating** (among those who have a masturbation routine)



63%



54%

Clinton voters are **5 points** more likely than Trump voters to be very satisfied with their sex lives

Share of each candidates' voters who are "very satisfied" with their sex lives



**45%** 



40%



## Clinton voters are more open to discussing masturbation with a partner and using sex toys for both pleasure and performance

Clinton voters are **10 points** more likely than Trump voters to be comfortable discussing masturbation with their partner

Share of each candidates' voters that is comfortable discussing masturbation with a partner (among those who masturbate)



**72%** 



62%

Trump voters are **15 points** more likely than Clinton voters to say watching their partner masturbate is "excellent"

Share of each candidates' voters that rates watching their partner masturbate as "excellent"

(among those who have done so)



64%



49%

Clinton voters are **10 points** more likely than Trump voters to be interested in they/their partners using a masturbation sleeve to increase masturbation pleasure

Share of each candidates' voters interested in they or partner using a masturbation sleeve to make masturbation when alone more pleasurable (among those who(se partner) have experienced premature ejaculation)



77%



**67%** 

Clinton voters are **7 points** more likely to be open to buying a sex toy in the future

Share of each candidates' voters that is open to idea of buying a sex toy in the future (among those who do not own sex toys)



**56%** 



**49%** 

Trump voters are **9 points** more likely than Clinton voters to say masturbating for their partner is "excellent"

Share of each candidates' voters that rates masturbating in front of their partner as "excellent" (among those who have done so)



48%



39%

Clinton voters are **6 points** more likely than Trump voters to be comfortable with they/their partners using a masturbation sleeve so they can last longer

Share of each candidates' voters interested in they or partner using a masturbation sleeve when alone to last longer when together (among those who(se partner) have experienced premature ejaculation)



74%



**68%** 



### Thank you!

### For more info on TENGA & The United State(s) of Masturbation Survey, please visit:

www.UnitedStatesofMasturbation.com

### Check out our MNR:

https://www.multivu.com/players/English/7929351-tenga-inaugural-masturbation-survey

### Find us on social:

Facebook: TENGAGlobal

Twitter: <a><u>@TENGA\_Global</u></a>

Instagram: <u>@TENGA\_PR</u>

YouTube: TENGAChannel

### **Media Contact:**

Rebecca Westelman 617-899-6409 Rebecca.Westelman@bm.com

