

UNITED STATES of AMERICA

American Women: World Champions of Faking Orgasms

American women reported having faked the most orgasms compared to their European and Canadian counterparts:

- More than half of American women surveyed (57%) reported having faked an orgasm with their current partner, the highest percentage of any of the countries surveyed. For the sake of comparison, this percentage is only 47% among Canadian women, 50% among British women, and 39% among Dutch women.
- Behind this figure, there are interesting differences between ethnicities to be observed: 60% of White and African American women report having faked orgasms, compared to 49% of Hispanic women.

Difficulties Having Orgasm

Four out of ten American women admit to having regular difficulties achieving orgasm.

That being said, American women did not rank highest:

- 44% of American women who have had sexual intercourse in the last 12 months reported having difficulty reaching orgasm "somewhat regularly." Slightly more French (49%), Canadian (46%), and Italian (46%) women reported difficulty reaching climax during intercourse. (Surveyors did not specify whether intercourse was oral, anal or vaginal.)
- These difficulties vary according to the ethnicity of the woman surveyed. White and African American women reported equal rates of difficulty reaching orgasm (45%), which is lower than the rate for Asian women (54%) and higher than the rate for Hispanic women (38%).

Possibly most surprisingly, more than one in 20 American women has never knowingly experienced an orgasm!

Among all of the countries surveyed, the United States is one of the countries with the highest percentage of women who reported having never experienced orgasm:

- 6% of American women fall into this category, twice as many as in European countries, including Germany (3%) or the Netherlands (3%).
- American women did not report the highest rate, however. 8% of British women and 10% of Canadian women report having never knowingly reached orgasm.

Sexuality in Relationships: A source of frustration for many American women

American women in relationships reported facing potential frustrations in bed:

- In the United States, 89% of women in a relationship reported reaching orgasm “fairly regularly.” Though a high figure, it falls below that of several European countries: Spain (94%), Italy (92%), the Netherlands (92%), Germany (91%).
- A little more than half of American women (58%) currently in a relationship reach orgasm at least once a week, which is more than in Canada (52%) or in European countries such as France and the United Kingdom (46% in both countries).

One out of five American women did not have an orgasm during their last sexual encounter.

This trend remained when women were asked more specifically about their recent sexual activity:

- 19% of American women did not have an orgasm during their last sexual encounter, a similar rate to those in Italy (19%) and Spain (18%).
- U.S. women reported that their partners – the vast majority of whom were men – reached orgasm approximately 95% of the time.

Sexual Practices

Compared to other countries surveyed, American women reported the most satisfaction from anal sex.

A detailed analysis of the sexual practices of American women revealed few outliers with two exceptions: cunnilingus and anal sex.

- American women seem to receive cunnilingus more frequently than women in the rest of the world. Almost three quarters (73%) receive it fairly regularly. Out of the women studied, only Dutch women receive it slightly more frequently (74%).
- Though the women surveyed engaged in similar sexual practices, U.S. women reported they were more likely to reach orgasm during anal sex: 42% reach orgasm without difficulty this way, the highest number among countries surveyed – especially when compared to France (25%) and Germany (27%).

Women are more likely to experience lack of orgasm during intercourse than men. Not a huge surprise, yet still an issue.

Though our culture's awareness surrounding female orgasm and sexual pleasure is evolving in a more positive way, large portions of American women still experience difficulty reaching orgasm with their partners.

- Over the last 12 months, almost eight out of 10 sexually active American women (78%) admit to having difficulty reaching orgasm.
- Over the last three months, almost six out of 10 women in relationships boast at least one orgasm per week (58%), though only 15% of these women reported having an orgasm "every day or almost every day."
- Over the last three months, a small minority of them had at least one orgasm per month (19%) and 6% had fewer than one per month. It is interesting to note that one out of every 10 women in a relationship (9%) has not had an orgasm for more than a year, and that 3% have never had one.
- The percentage of women who orgasm on a weekly basis also grows in relation to how they feel about their emotional relationships and about their own bodies: women who are satisfied with their love lives and with their bodies are more likely to orgasm at least once per week.
- One out of five American women (19%) did not have an orgasm during their last sexual encounter, a percentage that is four times greater than their partners (5%). Overall, women reach orgasm less easily than men.
- Even if most of the women surveyed (94%) reported that their partner reached orgasm during their last sexual encounter, a percentage that is very similar to results from previous studies, fewer than eight out of 10 women (79%) reached orgasm during the same encounter.
- In total, 69% of women in a relationship have orgasms with their current partners "often," while one fifth have one "sometimes" (20%) or "somewhat rarely" (6%).
- Lack of orgasm appears to have an impact on the quality of some women's sexual and emotional lives. In fact, women's satisfaction in these areas increases when they have more orgasms: 91% of women who have at least one orgasm per week say they are satisfied with their love lives, compared to 55% of women who have not had an orgasm over the last three months.
- Levels of sexual activity and orgasm frequencies among American women varied from ethnicity: 7% of non-Hispanic White women report having an orgasm almost every day, compared to 22% of Hispanic White women, 18% of African American women, and 20% of Asian women.

CAM4's View:

"The aim of our 2016 global sex survey was to investigate the complexity and reality of the female Orgasm as told by real women, the women of the world. The results are insightful and at times, surprising.

We found that the vast majority of the global female population has experienced problems achieving orgasm but that this cannot be solely attributed to a lack of sexual experience or to having an inactive sex life.

Physical or psychological conditions, such as being stressed, over-weight or in an unstable relationship is also not an indicator that the female would experience difficulties achieving orgasm. Interestingly, we found that the most popular sexual practices are not always the most effective, which may in some part explain why being part of a couple still does not guarantee that the female will achieve orgasm."

Derek Devlin, CAM4 - Head of Global PR & Content

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