



## The 2016 Yoga in America Study Conducted by Yoga Journal and Yoga Alliance

<u>The 2016 Yoga in America Study Conducted by Yoga Journal and Yoga Alliance is a</u> national study, benchmarking a similar study conducted in 2008 and 2012 by Yoga Journal. For this study, Yoga Journal and Yoga Alliance partnered with Ipsos Public Affairs to expand the understanding of the practice of yoga in America and to determine how Americans view yoga. This augmented study focused on the growing practice of yoga in America, from the perspectives of yoga practitioners, teachers, studio owners, as well as the non-practicing U.S. public.

### **The Key Audiences**

- General Population/All Americans : A sample of the American population as a whole of persons who are aged 18 and older.
- Yoga Practitioners: People who have practiced yoga in the last 6 months in a class setting and are not yoga teachers.
- Studio Owners: Studio owners who own one or more locations where yoga is practiced or taught.
- Teachers: Practitioners who have taught or led others in the past six months or who are in training to do so.



## **Executive Summary**

Top take-aways and an overview of key findings by audience



## **Key Findings**

- Yoga is gaining popularity. The number of American yoga practitioners has increased to over 36 million in 2016, up from 20.4 million in 2012. 28% of all Americans have participated in a yoga class at some point in their lives.
- Yoga is for everybody. There are more male and older practitioners than ever before (approximately 10 million male practitioners and almost 14 million practitioners over the age of 50 – up from about 4 million men and 4 million 55+ year olds in 2012).
- Yoga supports the economy. Yoga practitioners report spending over \$16 billion on yoga clothing, equipment, classes and accessories in the last year, up from \$10 billion in 2012.
- Yoga is appealing. 34% of Americans say they are somewhat or very likely to practice yoga in the next 12 months – equal to more than 80 million Americans. Reasons cited include flexibility, stress relief and fitness.



### Yoga is an increasing part of American life.

- ⇒ Since 2012, the percentage of Americans aware of yoga has climbed from 75 to 90 percent.
- ⇒ One in three Americans has tried yoga on their own (not in a class) at least once.

### Yoga complements other forms of exercise.

⇒ Over three quarters of practitioners also engage in exercise including running, group sports, weight lifting and cycling.

### Yoga is strongly correlated with having a positive self image.

- Practitioners are 20% more likely to say things like "I have a good sense of balance," "good dexterity," "good range of motion," or "give back to the community" than non-practitioners.
- Practitioners are highly concerned about their health, the environment and the community.
  - ⇒ Half of practitioners say they live green, eat sustainably and donate time to their community.

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## Key Findings: American Public - Yoga in America is Flourishing

- The practice and understanding of yoga are steadily increasing.
  - ⇒ Approximately 37 million Americans practice yoga today up significantly from 20 million in 2012.
  - ⇒ 75% of all Americans agree "yoga is good for you."
  - ⇒ 34% of Americans say they are at least somewhat likely to practice yoga in the next 12 months – representing more than 80 million Americans.
  - ⇒ Yoga's main attractions are the enjoyment of yoga itself, yoga's impact on health and yoga as a stress reliever.
  - ⇒ 74% of American practitioners have been practicing for less than 5 years.
  - $\Rightarrow$  9 out of 10 Americans have heard of yoga up from 7 out of 10 in 2012.

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### Key Findings: Yoga Practitioners - Yoga Enhances the Body, Mind, and Community

- Yoga practitioners have a more positive view of their capabilities than nonpractitioners
  - ⇒ 80% of practitioners self-report they have good balance compared to 64% of non-practitioners.
  - ⇒ 75% of practitioners self-report being physically strong compared to 57% of nonpractitioners.
  - ⇒ Practitioners are significantly more involved in many other forms of exercise than non-practitioners.

### Practitioners have stronger minds

⇒ 86% of practitioners report having a strong sense of mental clarity compared to 77% of non-practitioners.

### Yoga practitioners give back the community

⇒ 79% of yoga practitioners report giving back to the community compared to 59% of non-practitioners.

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⇒ Nearly half of all practitioners report donating time in their community.

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## Key Findings: Yoga Studio Owners are Dedicated Business Owners

- Yoga studio owners value training and certification of their instructors
  - ⇒ 91% of yoga studio owners believe it is important for their teachers to have a Yoga Alliance credential.
  - ⇒ 99% of Yoga studio owners believe that it is very important for teachers to continue learning through more training.
  - ⇒ 99% of Yoga studio owners believe that teachers should be knowledgeable about the yoga poses.
- Yoga studio owners have invested a lot in their studios
  - ⇒ Nearly half of studio owners have owned their studio for more than six years.
  - ⇒ Those who own multiple locations have recently expanded, likely with the increase of those practicing yoga.
  - ⇒ 62% of studio owners report their space is dedicated entirely to yoga.
  - ⇒ Nearly 40% of studio owners report serving between 100 and 500 students per week.
- Yoga studio owners face challenges
  - ⇒ Overhead costs represent about half of studio owners' income.

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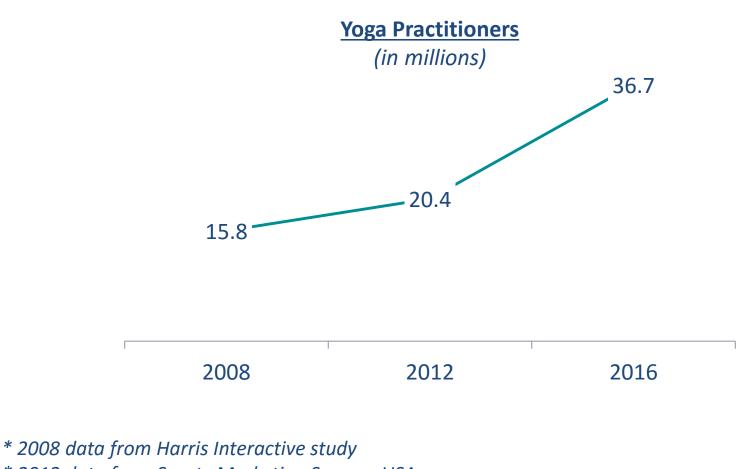


## Yoga in America

An examination of America's perceptions of and experience with yoga

## **Growth in American Yoga From 2008 to 2016**

The number of American practitioners has grown by over 50% over the last 4 years.

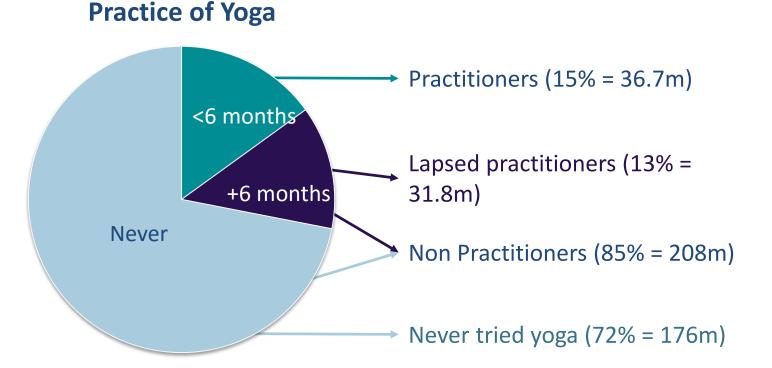


\* 2012 data from Sports Marketing Surveys USA

\* 2016 data from Ipsos Public Affairs

## Over 36 million Americans are Active Yoga Practitioners

An additional 30 million have practiced yoga at least once in their lives, but not in the last six months.

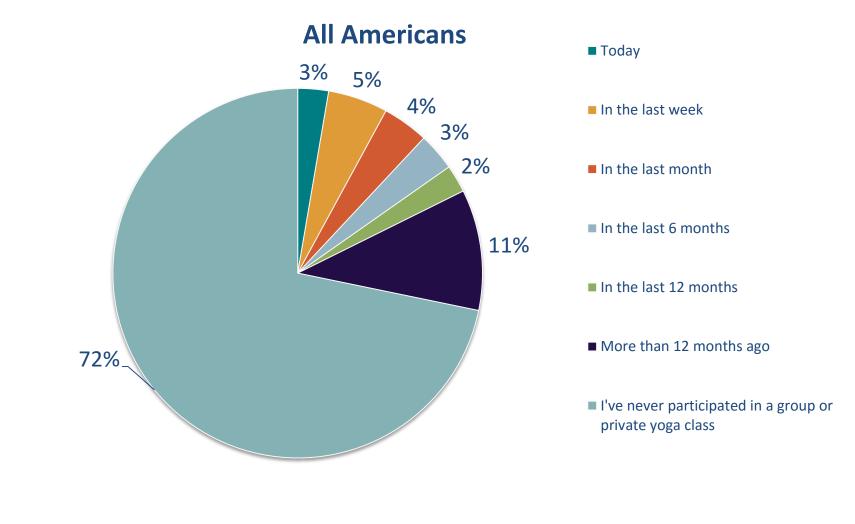


\* Based on estimate of population from survey data and the 245 million adults currently living in the United States according to U.S. Census estimates.

Q. Have you participated in a group or private yoga class...(Select the most recent)

## **28% of Americans have Participated in a Yoga Class**

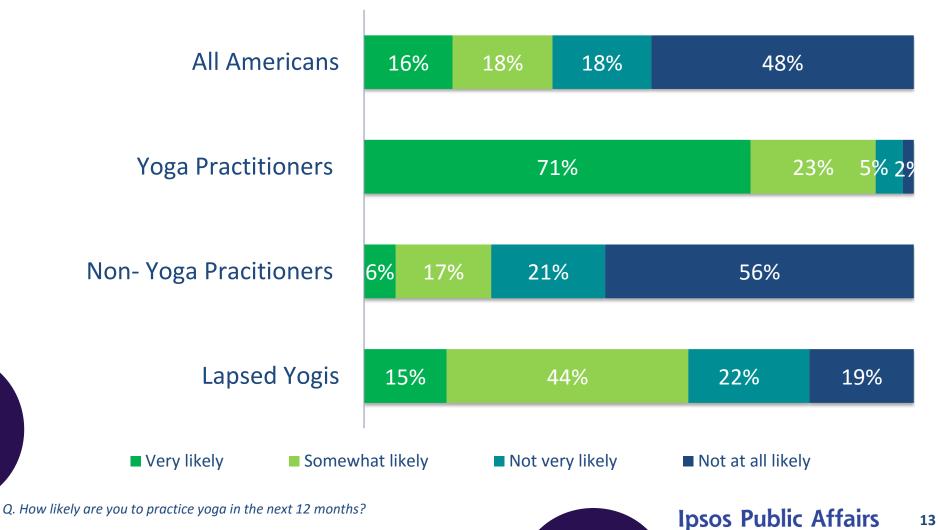
More than 36 million Americans (15%) have participated in a yoga class in the last 6 months.



Q. Have you participated in a group or private yoga class...(Select the most recent)

## **34% of Americans Will Likely Practice Yoga in the Next 12 months**

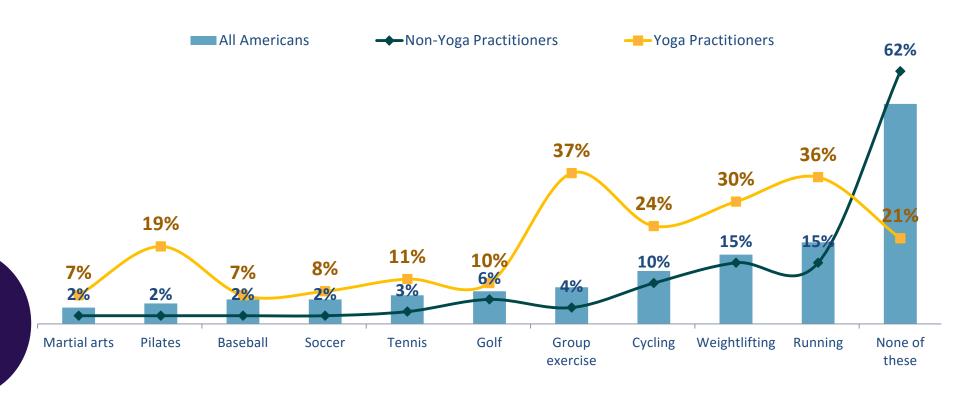
This includes 23% of non-practitioners who say they are likely to try yoga in the next 12 months.



Likelihood of Practicing Yoga in the next 12 months

## **Ipsos** Yoga Practitioners are Far More Active than Others

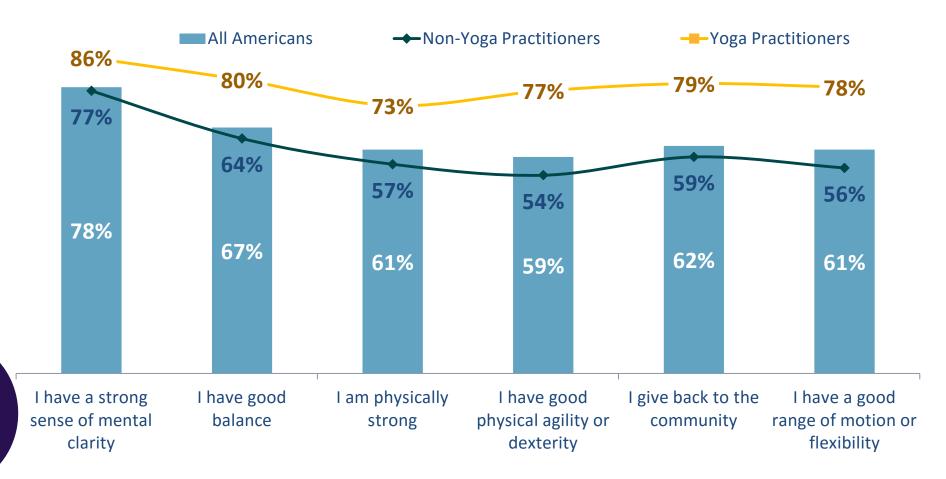
- Practitioners are far more active than non-practitioners, 62% of whom do not regularly engage in any of the following exercises.
- 37% of practitioners participate in other group exercises compared to just 9% of the general population.



*Q.* Which of the following activities, if any, do you regularly engage in? (Select all that apply)

## **Yoga Practitioners have a More Positive Image of Themselves**

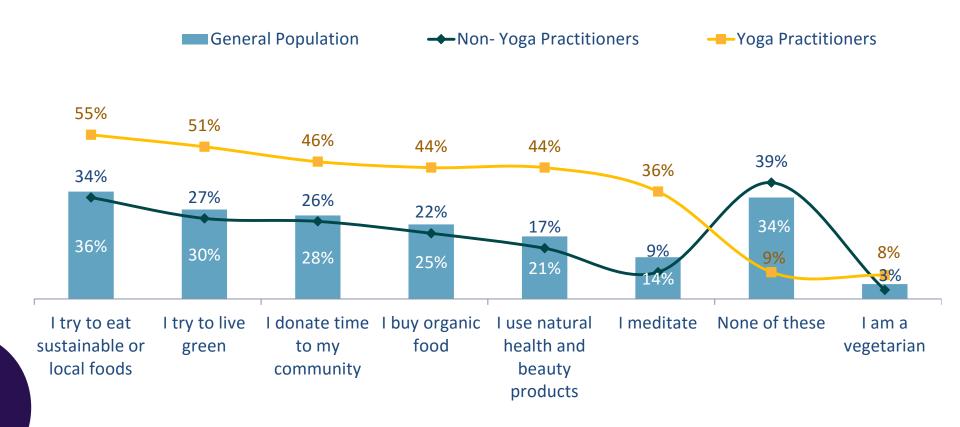
Practitioners are more likely to report they have a clear mind, give back the community, and have strong, agile bodies than non-practitioners or the public at large.



*Q.* To what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following? (Select one per row)

## Ipsos Practitioners are Environmentally and Socially Mobilized

Over 50% of practitioners report eating sustainable foods and living green compared to a third of Americans. Nearly 50% of all practitioners report donating time to their communities compared to just 26% of non-yoga practitioners.

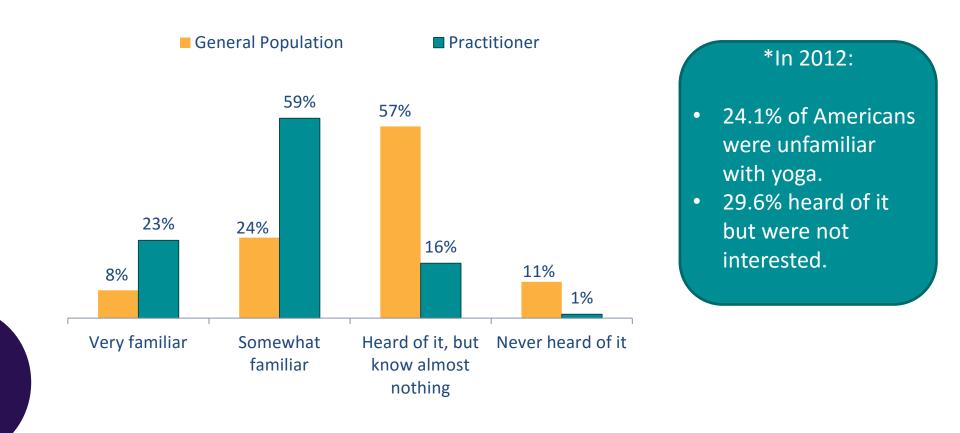


*Q.* Do any of the following apply to you? (Select all that apply)

**There is Greater Awareness of the History and Philosophy of Yoga** 

9 in 10 Americans are aware of the practice of yoga.

#### Familiarity with History and Philosophy of yoga



## **Americans See Many Positive Physical Benefits of Yoga**

### Yoga is broadly seen as a positive activity for physical and mental health.

36%	Yoga is good for you
35%	Yoga is a physical activity designed to increase flexibility
28%	Yoga is a practice of the body
33%	Yoga is a stress-reliever
29%	Practicing yoga postures is a form of meditation
25%	Yoga is a practice of the mind
26%	Yoga enhances performance in other exercises/sports
23%	Yoga is spiritual
21%	Yoga is one part of a spiritutal practice
22%	Yoga is a physical activity designed to increase strength
17%	Yoga is for really flexible people
13% 27	Yoga is for athletes
<b>15%</b> 23	Yoga is for women
15% 19%	I enjoy/enjoyed practicing yoga
<b>11%</b> 18%	Yoga is for young people
10% 18%	Yoga is boring/too quiet
8% 15%	Yoga is a fad
6% 13%	Yoga is not physical enough

36%		39%	5%2	% 18%
35%		39%	6%2	% 18%
28%	4	.5%	6%2%	20%
33%		40%	<mark>5%2</mark> %	21%
29%	Ĺ	13%	<mark>6%2</mark> %	20%
25%	439	%	7%2%	22%
26%	40%	6	6%2%	26%
23%	40%		11% 3%	23%
21%	41%		11% 4%	24%
22%	37%		.3% 5%	23%
17%	31%	22%	10%	19%
13% 27%	0 2	22%	16%	23%
15% 23%	6 19%		24%	18%
15% 19%	12%	16%	38	%
11% 18%	25%		26%	20%
10% 18%	23%	24	1%	24%
8% 15%	25%	29	%	22%
6% 13%	27%	29%		25%

Strongly agree Somewhat agree Somewhat disagree Strongly disagree

Don't know

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Q. Do you agree or disagree with each of the following? (Select one per row)

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ALL AMERICANS

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## Health Benefits of Yoga Drives Interest in Practicing Yoga

### Perceptions of exclusivity are a barrier.

### **Drivers of Interest in Practicing Yoga**

I enjoy/enjoyed practicing yoga Practicing yoga postures is a form of meditation Yoga is good for you Yoga is a stress-reliever Yoga enhances performance in other exercises/sports

### Yoga is for athletes Yoga is a physical activity designed to increase strength

Yoga is boring/too quiet Yoga is for really flexible people Yoga is for young people Yoga is not physical enough Yoga is spiritual

Yoga is a physical activity designed to increase flexibility Yoga is a practice of the mind Yoga is one part of a spiritual practice Yoga is a practice of the body Yoga is for women Yoga is a fad Likely to practice Yoga

### Ipsos Public Affairs 19

ALL AMERICANS NEGATIVE POSITIVE



## **Yoga Practitioners**

# Understanding yoga practitioners



### **Profile of Yoga Practitioners**

- Yoga practitioners are defined as people who have practiced yoga in the last 6 months in a group or private class setting and are not yoga teachers.
- Over 70 percent of yoga practitioners are women.
- They represent every region in the United States.
- They are from every age group.
- Yoga Enthusiasts are those who report practicing once a week or more.
- Non-regular practitioners are those who practice once a month or less.

Region		Ag	е	Gen	der
Northeast	23%	18 to 29	19%	Male	28%
Midwest	23%	<b>30 to 39</b>	23%	Female	72%
South	32%	40 to 49	20%		
West	22%	50 to 59	17%		
		60+	21%		

## A Regional Look at Yoga Practice in America

### Percentage of population who are yoga practitioners (by U.S. Census Division)





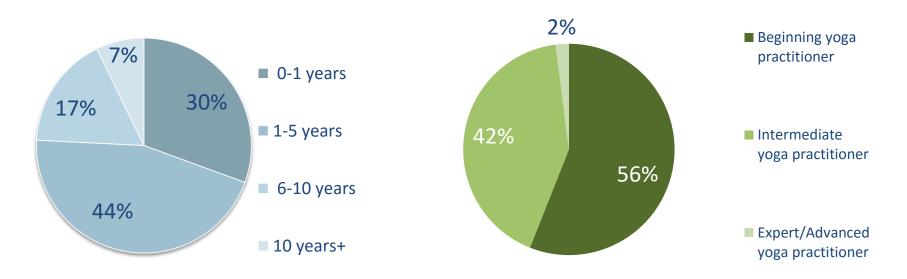
74% of yoga practitioners have been practicing for fewer than five years. 98% of practitioners consider themselves to be beginner-intermediate level practitioners.

### Length of Time Practicing

**Level of Experience** 

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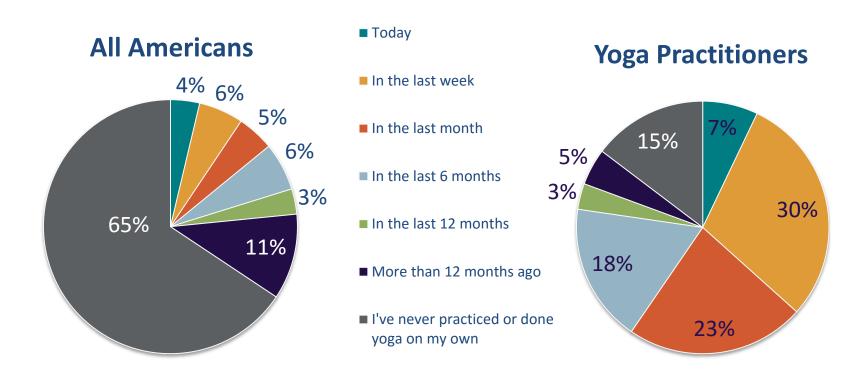
*Q. How long have you been practicing yoga? Your best estimate is fine (Select one)* 

*Q. Do you consider yourself a... (Select one)* 

Q. For you, is yoga primarily a physical activity or a spiritual activity? (Select one)

## **Practicing Yoga – Outside the Studio**

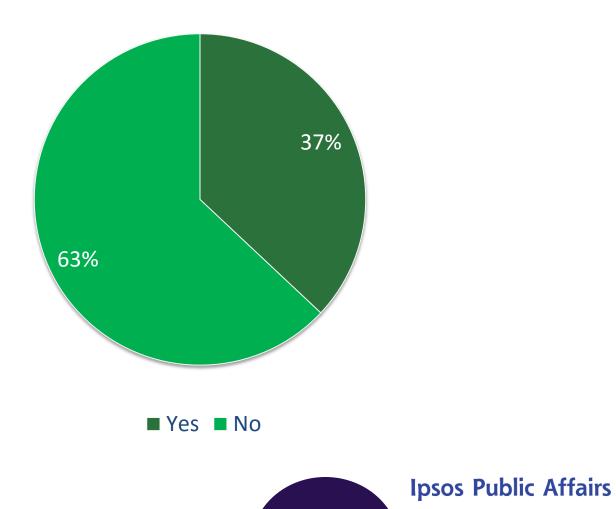
- 81% of practitioners have practiced yoga outside of the studio in the last 12 months.
- 24% of Americans have practiced yoga on their own in the last 12 months.



*Q.* Have you practiced yoga on your own (or with a video or app) and not a group or private class setting... (Select the most recent)

## **1**psos 37% of Practitioners have Children Under the Age of 18 Who Have Practiced Yoga

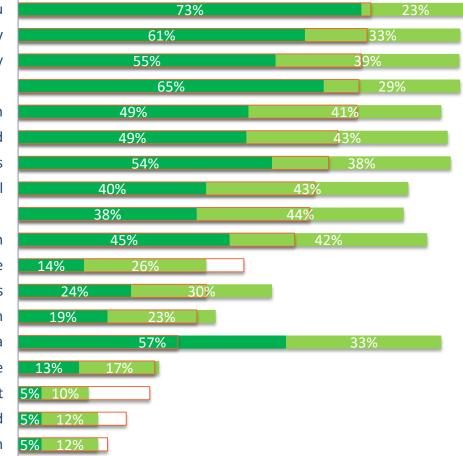
Do you have a child under 18 in your household who has taken a yoga class/is a practitioner?



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## Practitioners Believe in the Positive Impacts of Yoga

Over 90% of practitioners believe yoga enhances performance in other activities, and that yoga is generally good for you (96%).



gree 🔰 Somewhat agree

All Americans (total agree)

Yoga is good for you Yoga is a physical activity designed to increase flexibility Yoga is a practice of the body Yoga is a stress-reliever Practicing yoga postures is a form of meditation Yoga is a practice of the mind Yoga enhances performance in other exercises/sports Yoga is spiritual Yoga is one part of a spiritutal practice Yoga is a physical activity designed to increase strength Yoga is for really flexible people Yoga is for athletes Yoga is for women I enjoy/enjoyed practicing yoga Yoga is for young people Yoga is boring/too quiet Yoga is a fad Yoga is not physical enough

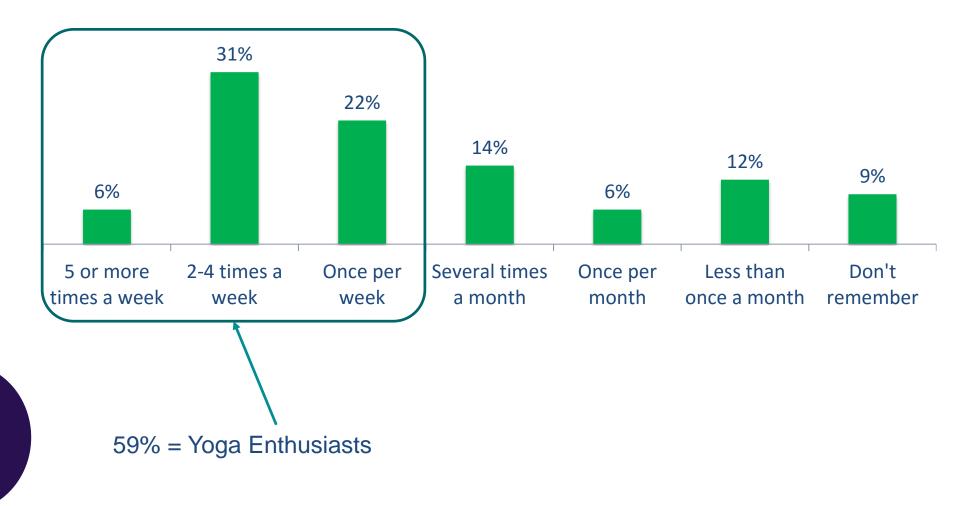
Strongly agree



*Q.* Do you agree or disagree with each of the following? (Select one per row)

## **The Majority of Practitioners Practice Once a Week or More**

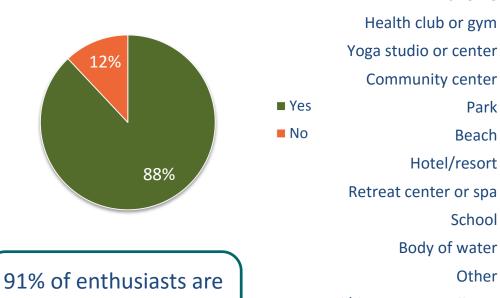
59% of practitioners practice at least once a week (yoga enthusiasts). 27% of practitioners are practicing once a month or less often.

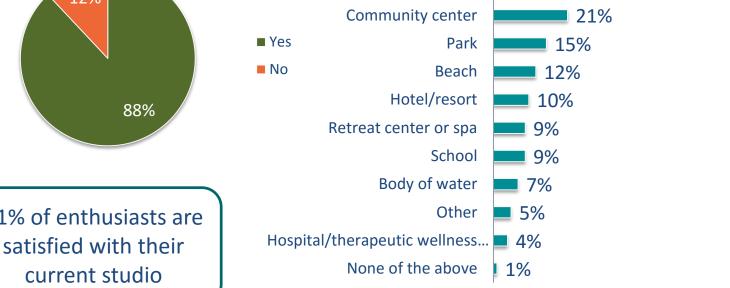


#### Most Practitioners are Satisfied with Where They Currently lpsos **Practice Yoga**

The most common out-of-home venues are yoga studios and gyms.

### Satisfaction with Studio





At home

### **Practicing Venues**

Q. In which of these venues have you ever practiced yoga? Q. Are you satisfied with your studio/center where you currently practice yoga? (Select one),

#### **Ipsos Public Affairs** 28

65%

48%

45%

### Personal Interest and Friends are the Top Two Reasons for Taking Up Yoga

A free class was a reason nearly 25% of practitioners began their practice.



Q. What encouraged you to start practicing yoga?

Flexibility and Stress Relief and Reduction are the Two Top Reasons Practitioners Began and Continue

50% of respondents cited improving overall health as a reason to start and to continue practicing.



Motivation to Start Practicing

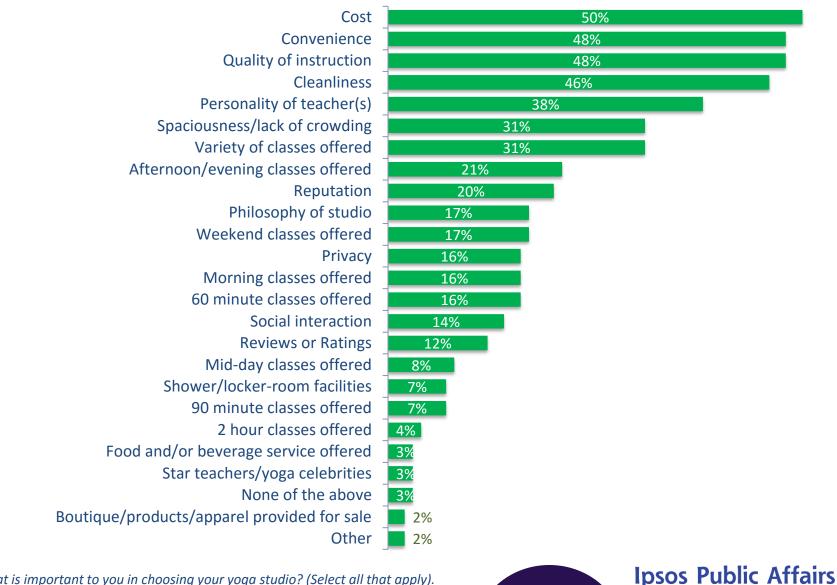
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Q. Which of the following personal reasons motivated you to start practicing yoga? Q. Which of the following personal reasons currently motivate you to practice yoga?

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Motivation to Continue Practicing

#### Cost, Convenience and Quality of Instruction are the most Ipsos **Important Studio Traits to Practitioners**



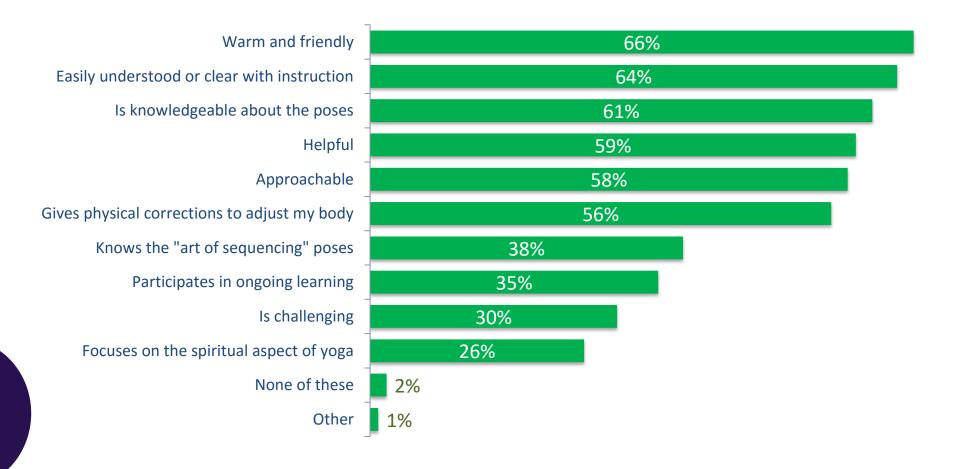
31

Q. What is important to you in choosing your yoga studio? (Select all that apply).

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## Top Qualities of Yoga Teachers Center around Personality and Knowledge

Practitioners believe warm and friendly demeanor, clarity, and knowledge of yoga poses are characteristics that make for a great yoga teacher.



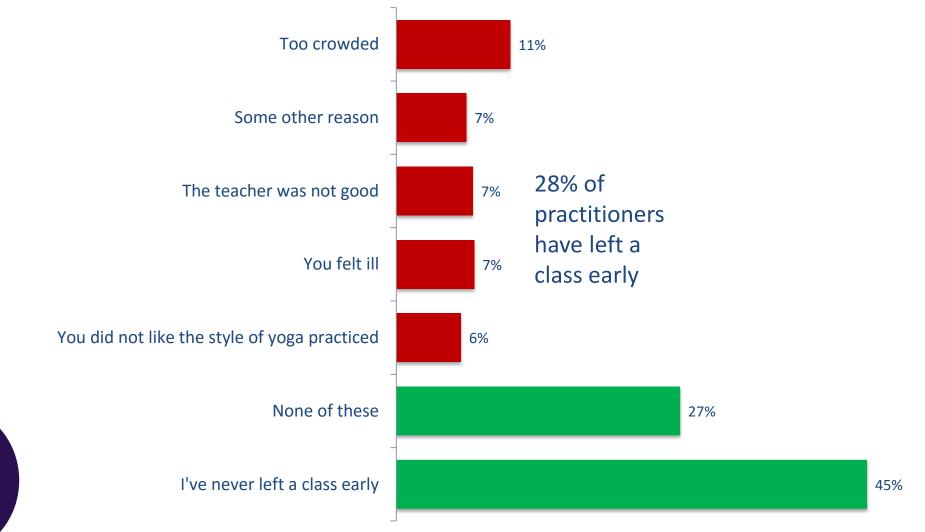
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Q. What are the characteristics of a great yoga teacher? (Select all that apply)

## **Nearly 50% of Yoga Practitioners Have Never Left a Class Early**

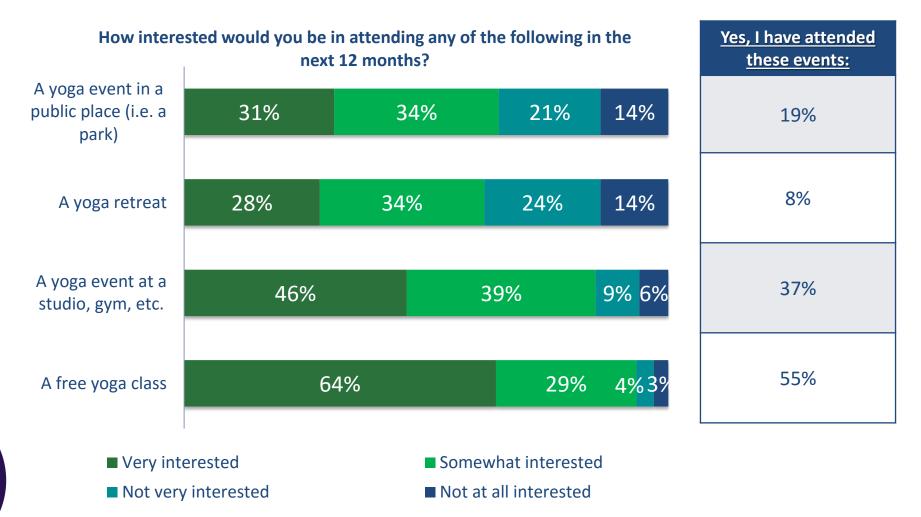
### Only 10% yoga practitioners left early because of overcrowding.



Q. Have you ever left an organized yoga class early because... (Select all that apply)

## Over 60% of Practitioners are Interested in Attending Yoga Events

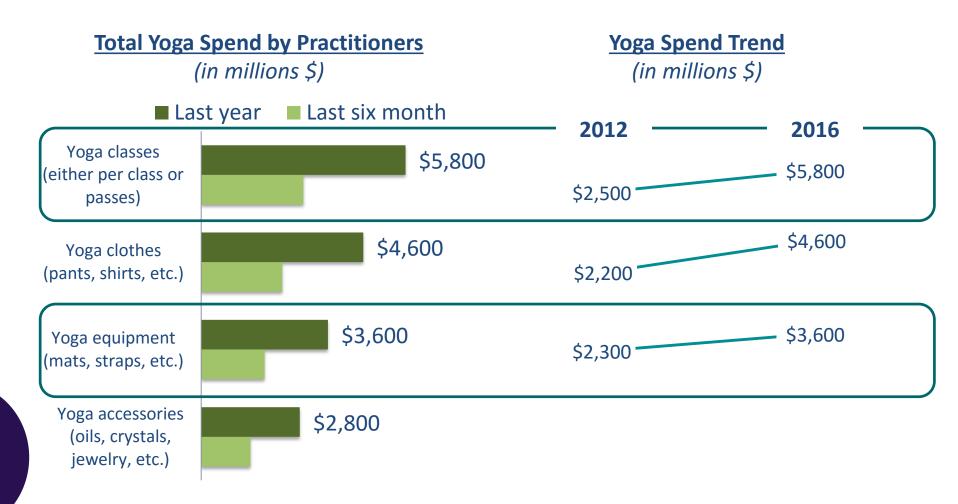
The level of interest is higher than past reported attendance.



Q. Have you ever attended any of the following? (Select all that apply)Q. How interested would you be in attending any of the following in the next 12 months?

## Survey Data Indicates that Practitioners spend over \$16 billion on Yoga

Business has increased from the estimated \$10b in 2012.



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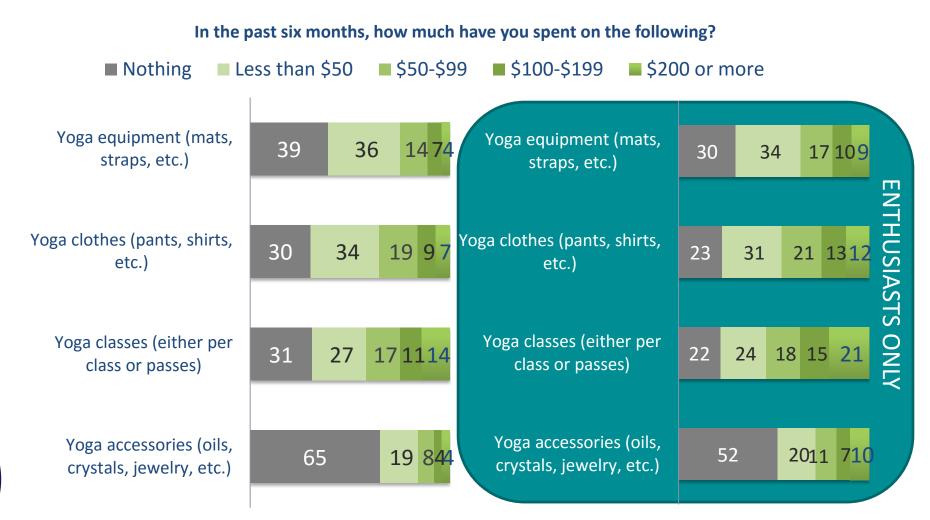
Totals extrapolated from survey data average spend (Q28), doubled for the whole year and multiplied by the number of practitioners.

\* 2012 data from Sports Marketing Surveys USA

\* 2016 data from Ipsos Public Affairs

# **Yoga Practitioners Spend the Most Money on Classes and Instruction**

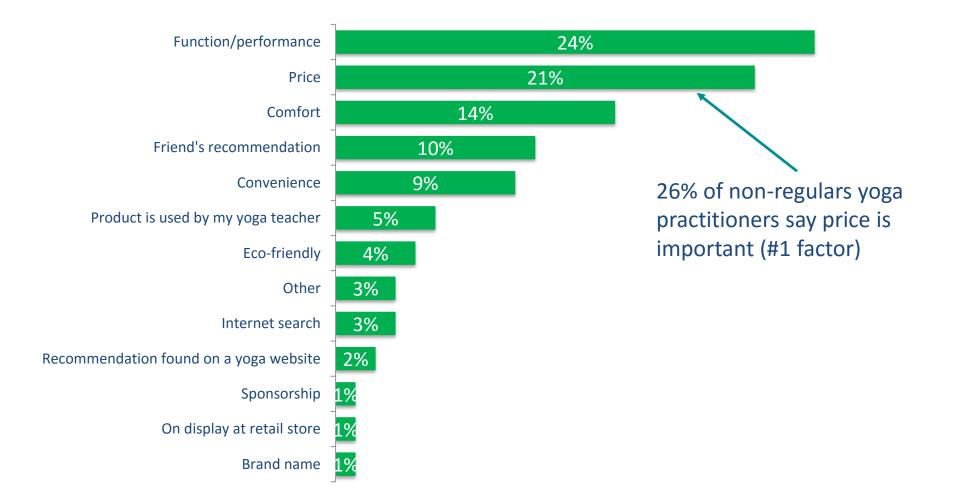
Nearly 70% of practitioners report purchasing yoga clothing in the last 6 months.



Q. In the past six months, how much have you spent on the following? Your best estimate is fine

### Function and Performance are the Most Important Factors When Choosing Yoga Products

Price and comfort are the next most important factors when choosing products.

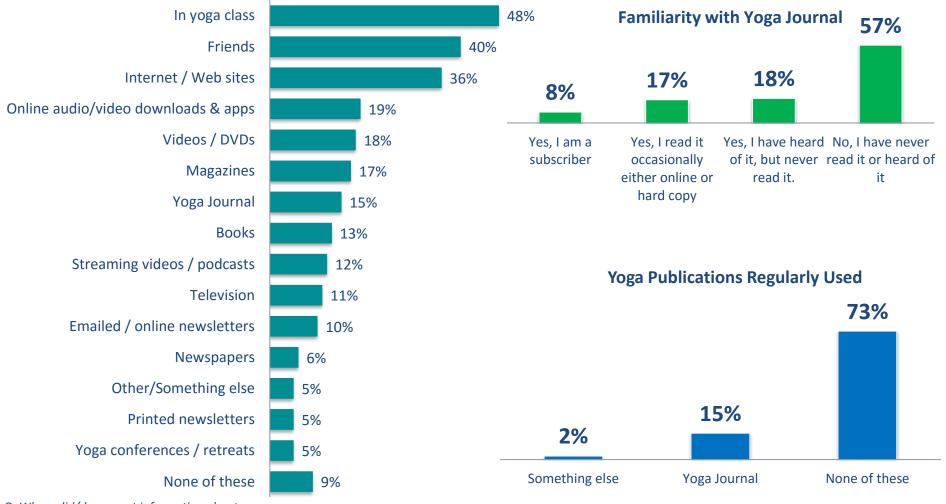


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# **Ipsos** Practitioners Get Information About Yoga from Class

# Friends and the Internet are other top common ways to obtain information about yoga.



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Q. Where did/do you get information about yoga

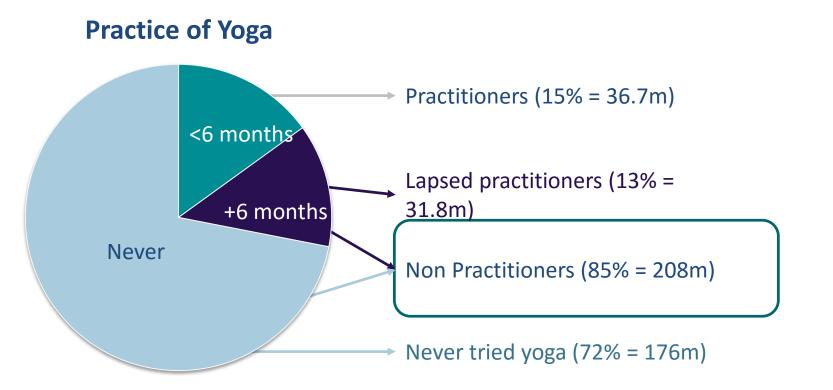
Q. What yoga or yoga related publications do you regularly use? (Select all that apply)

Q. Are you familiar with Yoga Journal? (Select one)



# **Non-Practitioners**

Perspectives of those who have never tried yoga or have lapsed their practice **There are 208 million non-practitioners in the U.S.** 

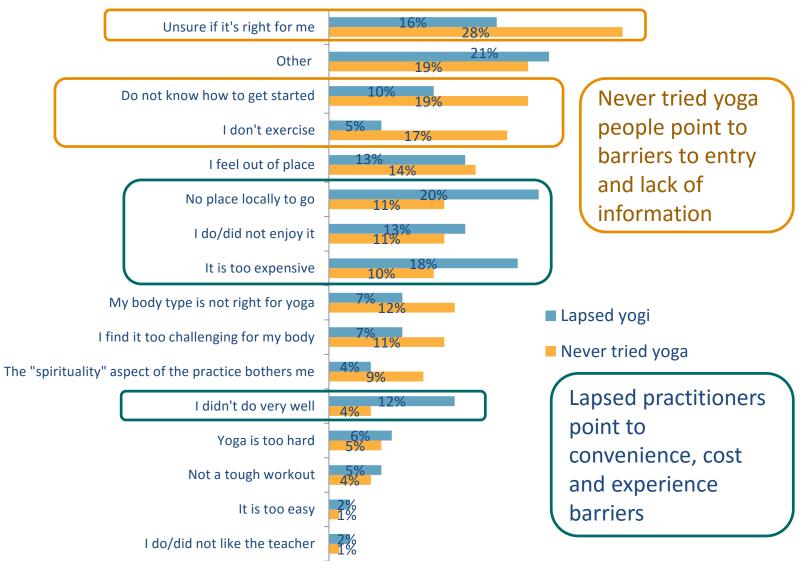


Q. Have you participated in a group or private yoga class...(Select the most recent)



# Lapsed Practitioners and Never-Practitioners Experience Different Barriers

Why Haven't You Practiced Yoga Recently (or Ever)?

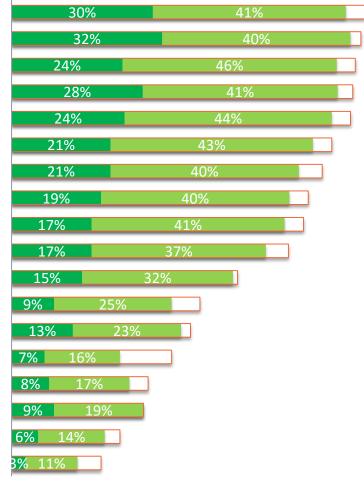


Q. Why have you not practiced yoga within the past six months (or ever)? (Select all that apply)

# **Ipsos** Yoga has a Positive Reputation Overall

#### Non-practitioners believe yoga will enhance performance in other activities (61%).

Yoga is good for you
Yoga is a physical activity designed to increase flexibility
Yoga is a practice of the body
Yoga is a stress-reliever
Practicing yoga postures is a form of meditation
Yoga is a practice of the mind
Yoga enhances performance in other exercises/sports
Yoga is spiritual
Yoga is one part of a spiritutal practice
Yoga is a physical activity designed to increase strength
Yoga is for really flexible people
Yoga is for athletes
Yoga is for women
I enjoy/enjoyed practicing yoga
Yoga is for young people
Yoga is boring/too quiet
Yoga is a fad
Yoga is not physical enough
Strongly agree



Somewhat agree

All Americans (total agree)

Q. Do you agree or disagree with each of the following? (Select one per row)



### Among Non-Practitioners, Enjoyment and Stress Relief are Key Drivers of Consideration to Practice Yoga

**Drivers of Interest in Practicing Yoga** 

I enjoy/enjoyed practicing yoga Practicing yoga postures is a form of meditation Yoga is good for you Yoga is a stress-reliever Yoga enhances performance in other exercises/sports

Yoga is boring/too quiet Yoga is for young people Yoga is spiritual

Yoga is a physical activity designed to increase flexibility Yoga is not physical enough Yoga is a practice of the mind Yoga is one part of a spiritual practice Yoga is a practice of the body Yoga is for athletes Yoga is for women Yoga is a fad Yoga is for really flexible people Yoga is a physical activity designed to increase strength Likely to practice Yoga

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NO IMPACT NEGATIVE POSITIVE



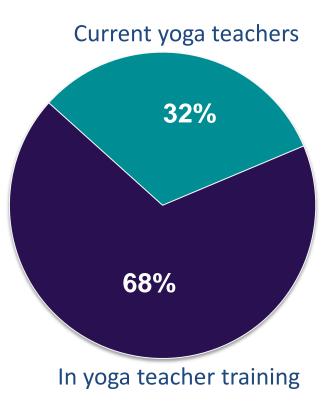
# **Yoga Teachers**

A look into the yoga teacher community – both experienced teachers and those who are currently in training

### Survey Data Indicates There are Two People Interested in Becoming a Teacher for Every One Actual Teacher

Additionally, there are two people in training to be a yoga teacher for every active teacher.

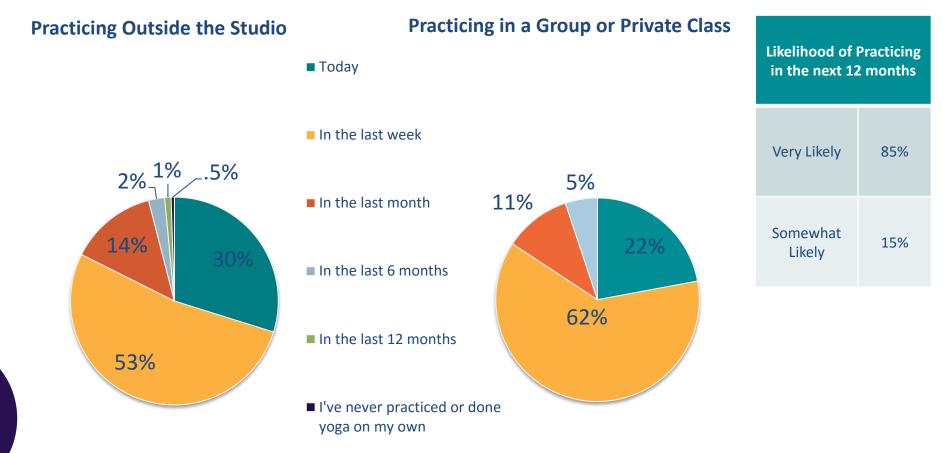
Are You Currently A Yoga Teacher?



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# Yoga Teachers and Trainees are Active Practitioners in Their Own Right

- Over 80% have participated in a yoga class in the last week as students.
- Over 82% have practiced yoga on their own in the last week.



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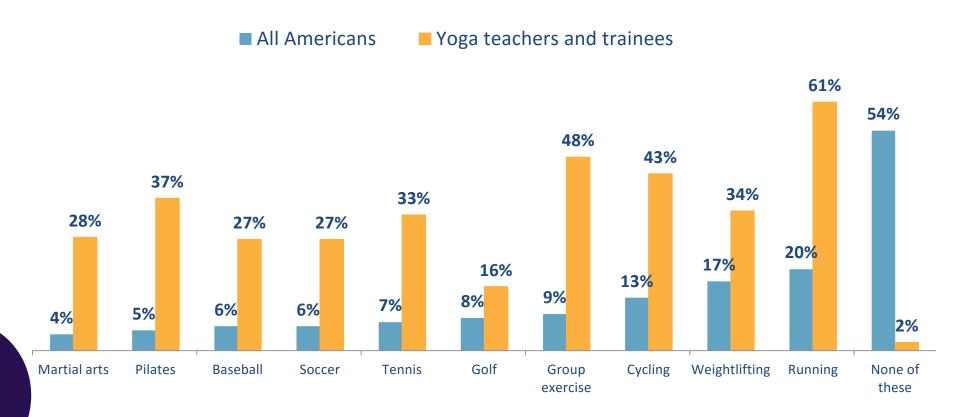
Q. Have you participated in a group or private yoga class...(Select the most recent)

A. Have you practiced yoga on your own (or with a video or app) and not a group or private class setting... (Select the most

- recent)
- Q. How likely are you to practice yoga in the next 12 months

# **Yoga Teachers and Trainees are Extremely Active Individuals**

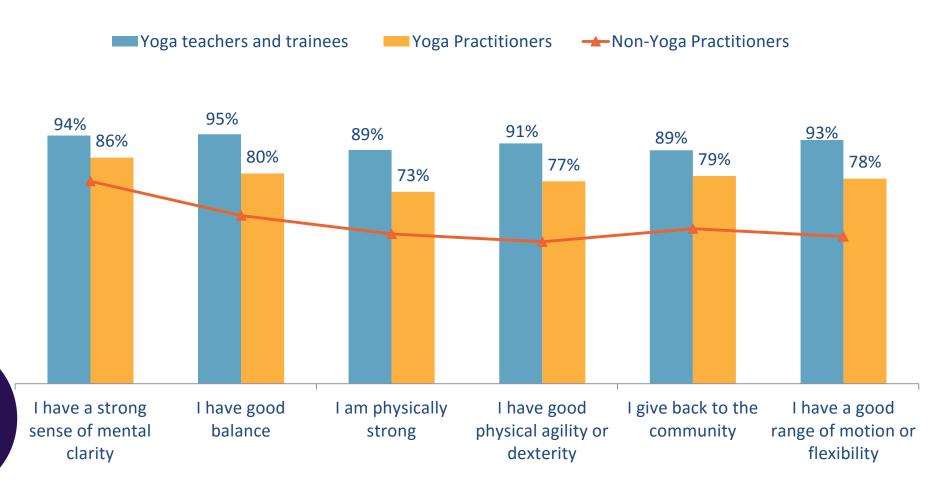
Yoga teachers and trainees are very active outside of their yoga practice, with 98% reporting participating in various activities outside of yoga.



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## Yoga Teachers and Trainees Have an Extremely Positive Image of Their Capabilities

Yoga teachers and trainees are even more likely to report they have a clear mind, give back the community, and have strong, agile bodies than yoga practitioners and non-practitioners.

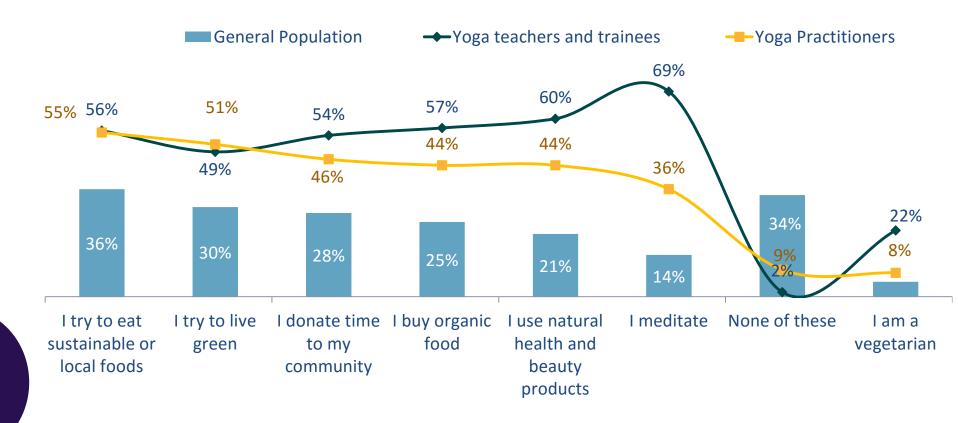


Q. To what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following? (Select one per row)

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# Yoga Teachers and Trainees are Tuned into Environmental and Social Issues

Yoga teachers and trainees are on par with yoga practitioners when it comes to living and eating consciously. Yoga teachers and trainees are twice as likely to be vegetarians and three times as likely to use natural health and beauty products than the general public.



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Q. Do any of the following apply to you? (Select all that apply)

# **Ipsos** Yoga Teachers and Trainees Make Time to Practice

Nearly all yoga teachers and trainees practice at least once a week, with most reporting practicing multiple times a week.



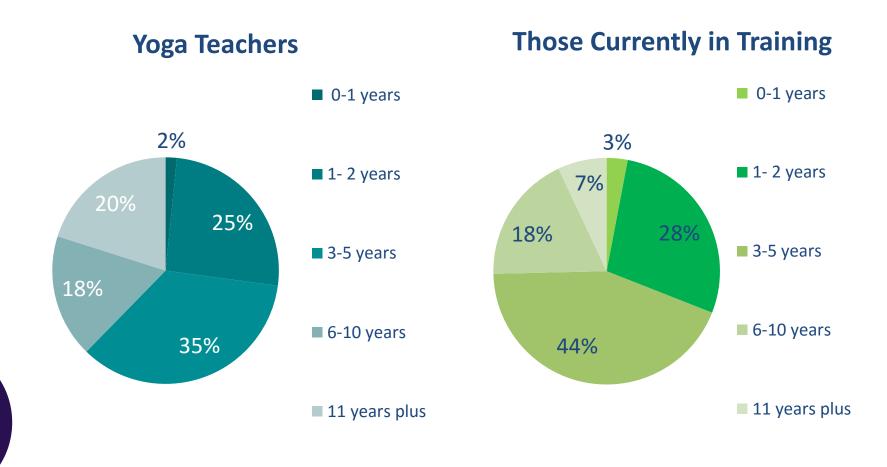
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Q. How frequently do you currently practice yoga? (Select one)

# **Most Teachers and Trainees are Experienced Practitioners**

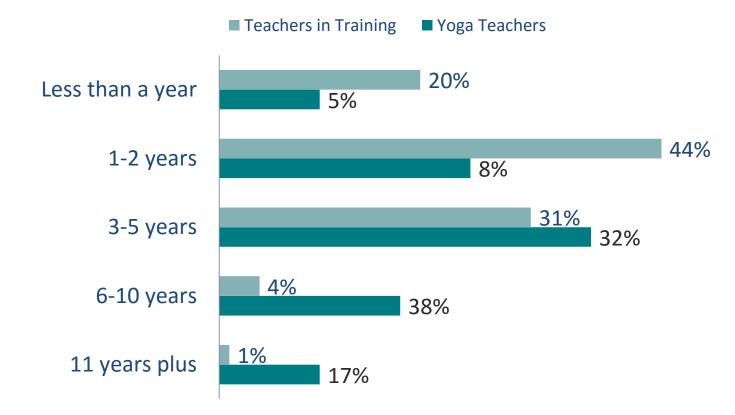
20% of yoga teachers have been practicing yoga for more than 10 years, and 25% of teachers in training have been practicing for 6 years or more.



*Q. How long have you been practicing yoga? Your best estimate is fine (Select one) Q. Do you consider yourself a... (Select one)* 

# Over Half of Yoga Teachers Have Been Teaching for More Than 6 Years

There is also an up and coming group of yoga teachers – 64% of teachers in training have been teaching for fewer than 2 years.



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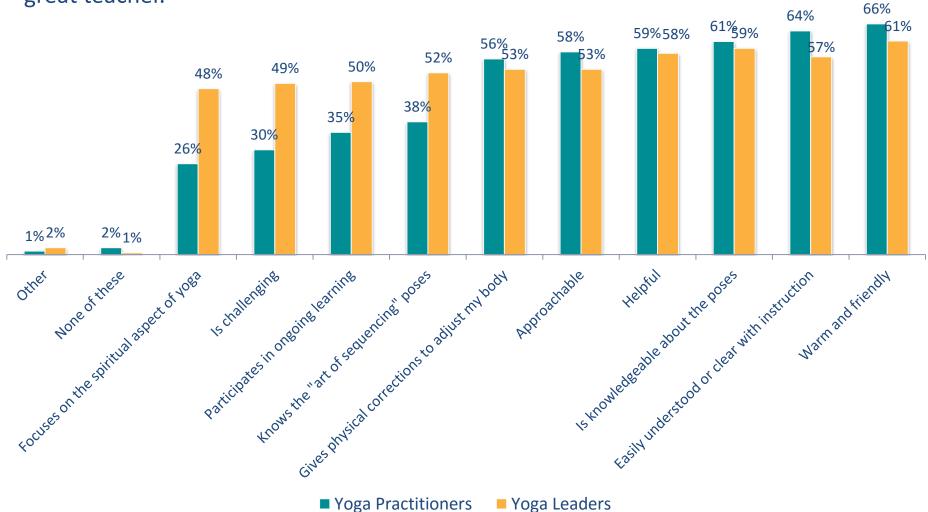
### Length of Time Teaching

Q. How long have you been teaching yoga? Your best estimate is fine (Select one)

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# Yoga Teachers, Trainees and Practitioners Believe the Same Qualities Make for a Good Yoga Teacher

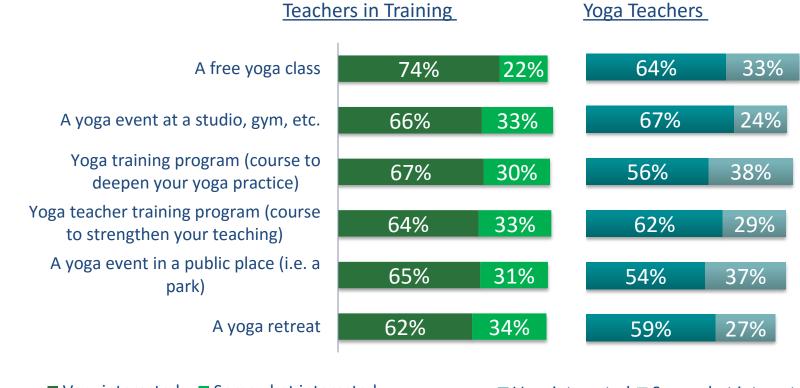
Yoga teachers, trainees and practitioners agree that a warm and friendly demeanor, clear instruction, and knowledge about the poses are qualities of a great teacher.



# **Yoga Teachers and Trainees are Interested in Training Programs**

Over 90% of yoga teachers expressed interest in attending all of these events, while past reported attendance is much lower than 90%.

How interested would you be in attending these events?



Very interested
Somewhat interested

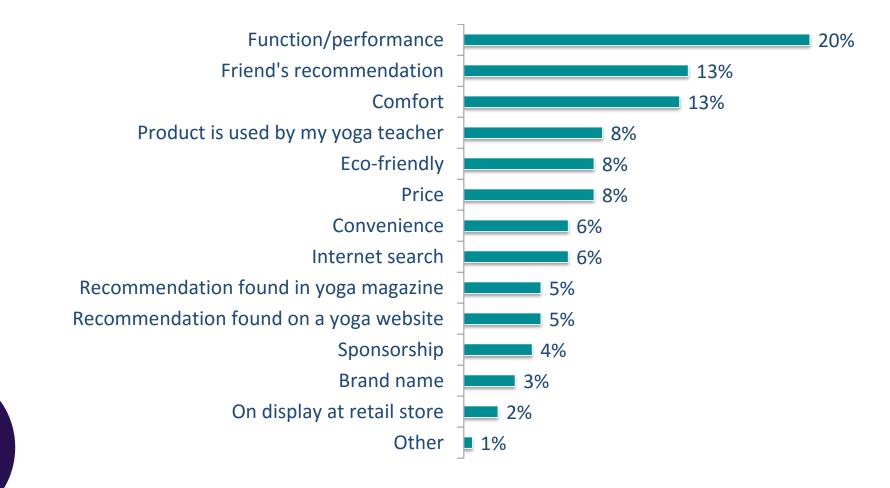
Very interested Somewhat interested

*Q. How interested would you be in attending any of the following in the next 12 months?* 

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## Function and Performance are the Most Important Factors When Choosing Yoga Products

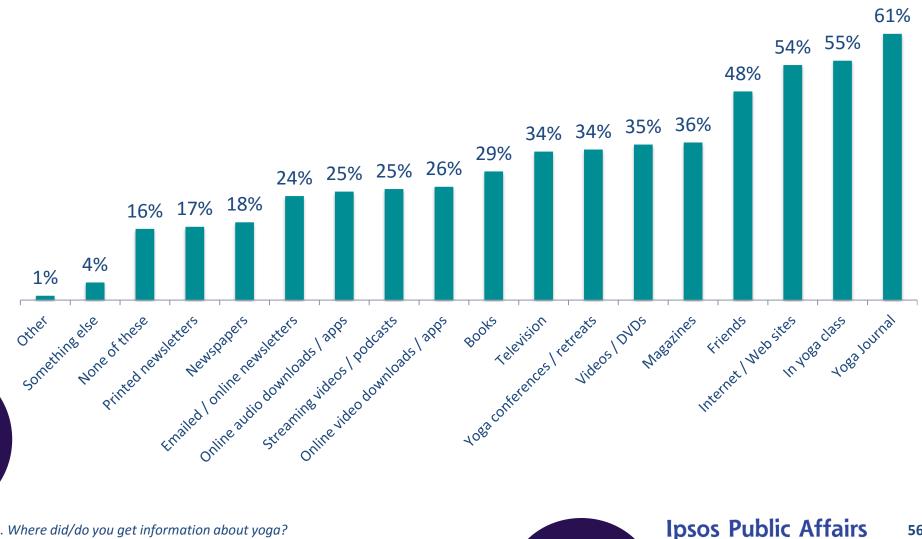
Word of mouth and comfort are the next most important factor for choosing products.



*Q.* Which is the most important factor for you in choosing a particular yoga-related product? (Select one)

#### Yoga Journal is the Primary Source of Information for Yoga lpsos **Teachers and Trainees**

Over 61% report utilizing Yoga Journal as a resource for information.

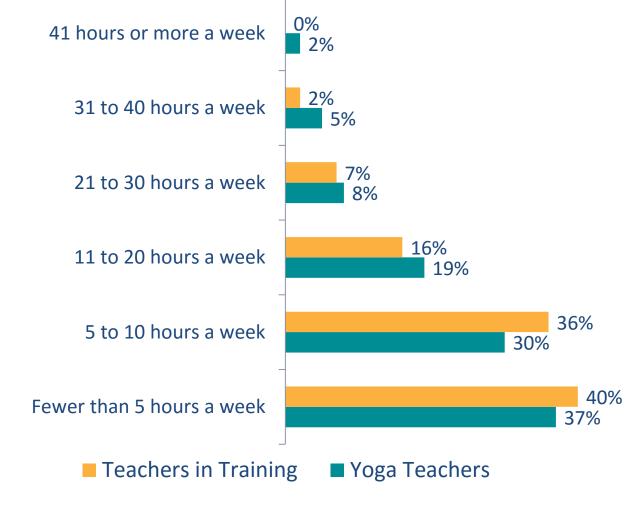


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# Few Yoga Teachers and Teachers in Training Teach Full Time

67% of yoga teachers work fewer than 10 hours per week.

How many hours a week do you lead classes?

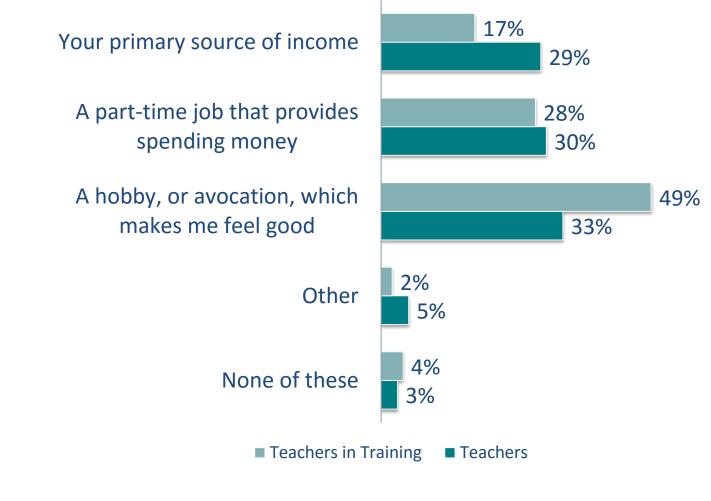


Q. How many hours a week do you lead yoga classes? (Select one)

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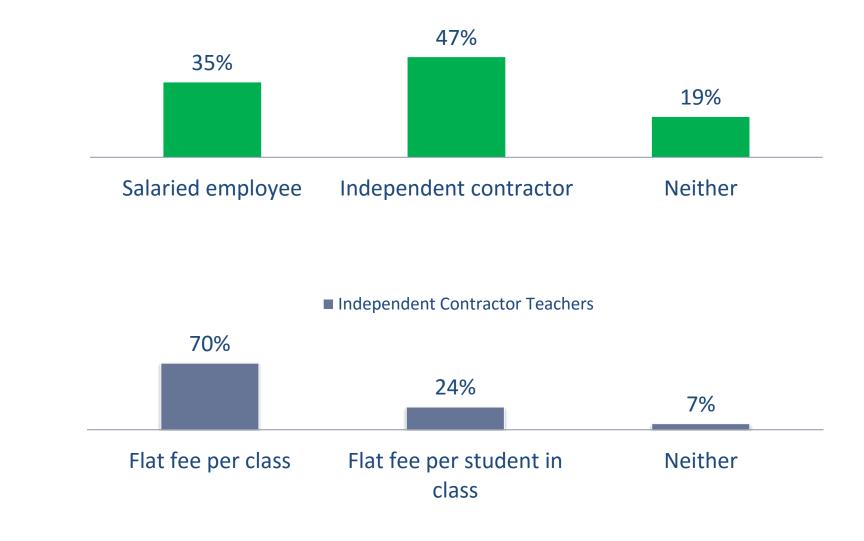
# Only 29% of Yoga Teachers Report Yoga is Their Primary Source of Income

#### Is yoga your primary income?



# Ipsos Most Yoga Teachers and Trainees are Paid a Flat Fee Per Class

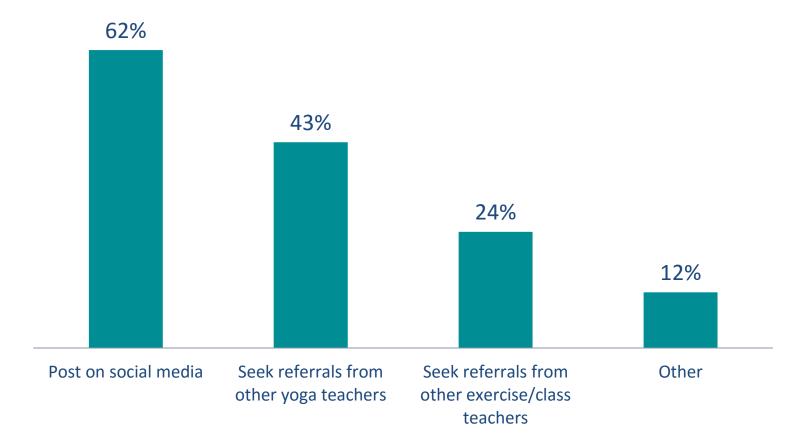
#### Nearly half of all yoga teachers and trainees report being independent contractors.



Q. Of the following, do you consider teaching yoga... (Select one) Q. How many hours a week do you lead yoga classes? (Select one)

# **Ipsos** Social Media is the Primary Method of Promoting Classes

#### Yoga teachers and trainees also seek referrals from within the yoga community.



#### **Promoting Yoga Classes**

*Q.* Which social media channels do you follow/use when it comes to your yoga practice? (Select all that apply) *Q.* Do you regularly do any of the following to promote your yoga classes? (Select all that apply)

### Improving Personal Practice and Learning are Top Reasons Teachers Use Social Media

Yoga teachers and trainees are using Facebook and YouTube most frequently.



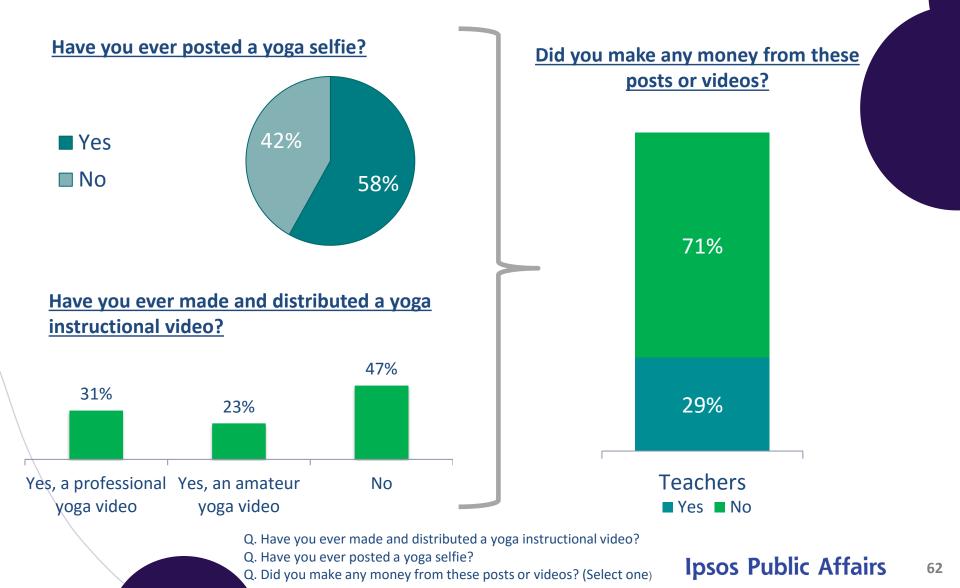
Social Media Channels Followed/Used

#### **Reasons for Following Social Media**

*Q.* What are you typically looking for when you go to these yoga resources? (Select all that apply) *Q.* Which social media channels do you follow/use when it comes to your yoga practice? (Select all that apply)

### More Than Half of Teachers and Trainees Report Posting a Yoga Selfie and Making and Distributing Yoga Instructional Videos

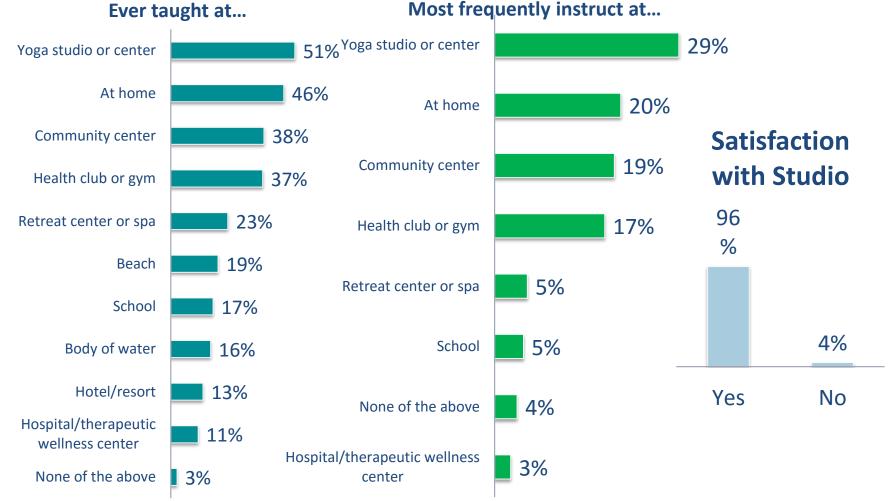
Nearly 30% reported making money from these posts or videos.



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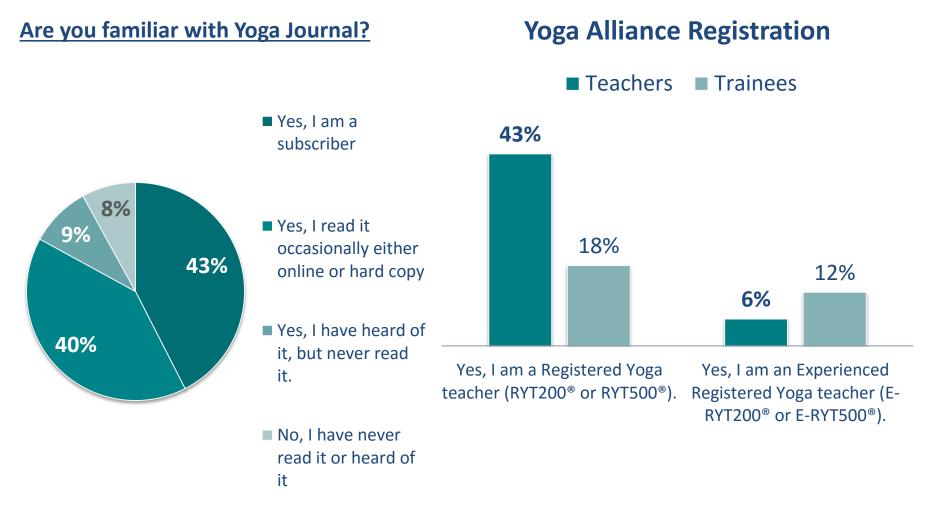
# Yoga Teachers and Trainees Teach Most Frequently at Yoga Studios

Over 95% of yoga teachers are satisfied with the location where they are currently teaching.



Q. In which of these venues have you ever instructed a yoga class? (Select all that apply) Q. In which of these venues do you most frequently instruct yoga classes? (Select one)

# **Yoga Journal is Read by Over 80% of Yoga Teachers and Trainees**



Q. Are you familiar with Yoga Journal? Q. Are you familiar with Yoga Alliance?

# **Yoga Teachers and Trainees Demographics**

Yoga Teachers		Yoga Teachers in Training	
Region	Percent	Region	Percent
Northeast	30%	Northeast	24%
Midwest	19%	Midwest	20%
South	30%	South	30%
West	21%	West	27%
Gender	Percent	Gender	Percent
Male	48%	Male	57%
Female	52%	Female	43%
Age	Percent	Age	Percent
18 to 34	49%	18 to 34	62%
35 to 54	36%	35 to 54	33%
55+	14%	55+	5%



# **Yoga Studios**

Perspectives of yoga studio owners

Ipsos

### Most Yoga Studio Owners Believe that Yoga in America is Headed in the Right Direction

Many studio owners reported that increased accessibility and interest in yoga as the main reasons for their positive outlook.

### Yoga in America



"I think it is headed in the wrong direction because its more geared toward fitness and less towards spirituality and lost the tradition."

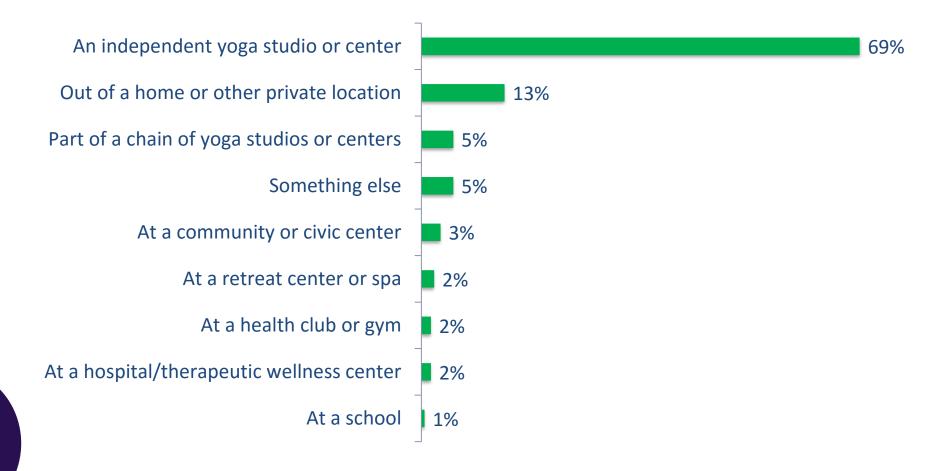
"Right Direction because it is becoming available to more and more communities" "Yoga is headed in the right direction because it is drawing in younger people and yoga is a sustainable practice."

"Right direction - I think its really open for people to practice how they want to and people interpret yoga in the way that fits them best there is plenty of variety and different styles and plenty of information for people to learn."

Q. Generally speaking, do you think that the practice of yoga in America is moving in the right direction, or is it on the wrong track?Q. In your own words, why do you think yoga in America is [Response from above]?

# This Study Focused on Independent Yoga Studios

Most of our studio owner sample represented independent yoga studios rather than gyms or health clubs.



Q. What type of facility is your yoga studio? Is your yoga facility...

# 65% of Yoga Studios Have Been in Operation for Six or More Years

Most studio owners have managed/owned their studios for less than five years (71%).

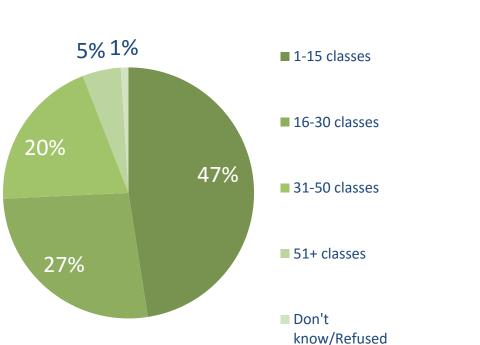
#### Length of Time Owning Studio **Yoga Space Uses** Your current yoga studio Dedicated to 6% 38% 38% 27% been in operation? 1% Yoga You owned or managed yoga studios beyond your 44% 12% 10% 22% 37% Share with current location? other 62% activities You owned or managed 41% 30% 23% 25% your current yoga studio? Don't know/ Refused 0-1 years 2-5 years 6-10 years 11 years+

Q. About how long, in years, have ...You owned or managed your current yoga studio? You owned or managed yoga studios beyond your current location? Your current yoga studio been in operation?

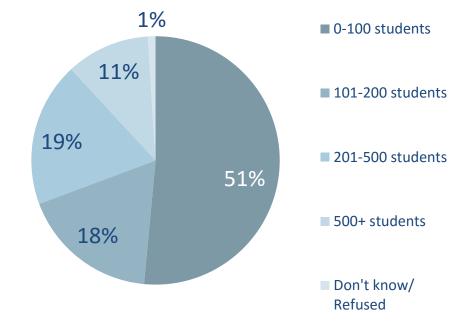
Q. Is your yoga space dedicated to yoga practice or do you share it with other activities?

# **1psos** 49% of Yoga Studios Serve 100 Students or More Per Week

More than half of yoga studios offer 30 more classes per week.



Number of Classes Offered per Week



**Number of Students Attending per Week** 

Q. About how many yoga classes does your studio offer in an average week? Your best estimate is fine.Q. And about how many students does your studio have in an average week? Again, your

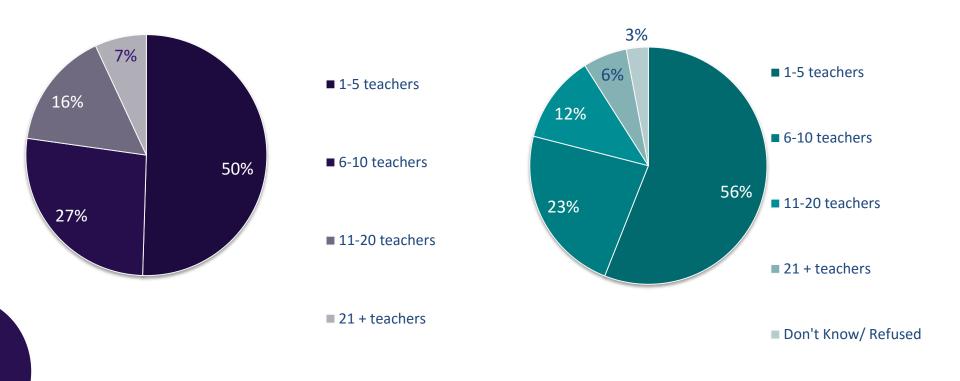
best estimate is fine.

# **50% of Yoga Studios Employ Five or Fewer Teachers**

The number of Yoga Alliance Registered Yoga Teachers closely reflects the number of yoga teachers working in yoga studios.

**Number of Regular Teachers** 

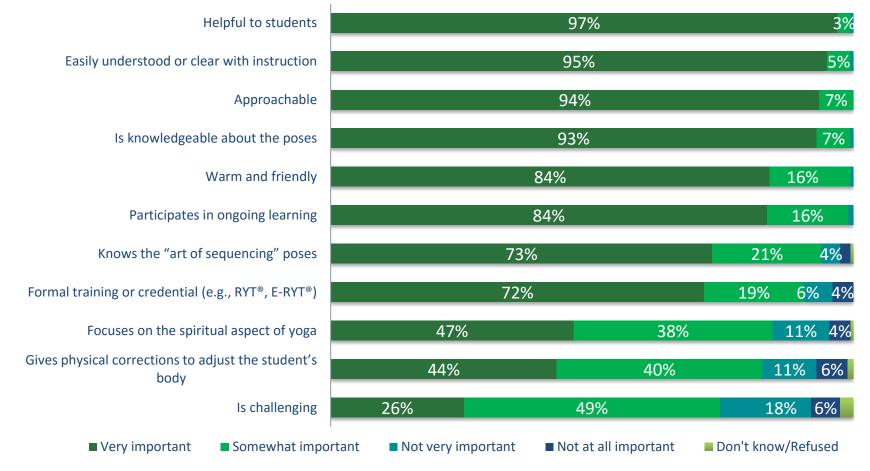
Number of Yoga Alliance Credentialed Teachers



Q. And how many of your regular teachers have credential like RYT<sup>®</sup> or E-RYT<sup>®</sup>? Q. First off, how many different yoga teachers do you have who are regular teachers at your studio?

### **1psos** 72% of Studio Owners Recognize Yoga Alliance's Credential as Very Important for Their Teachers

91% of studio owners believe it is important for their teachers to have Yoga Alliance's credential to teach at their studios.



**Ipsos Public Affairs** 

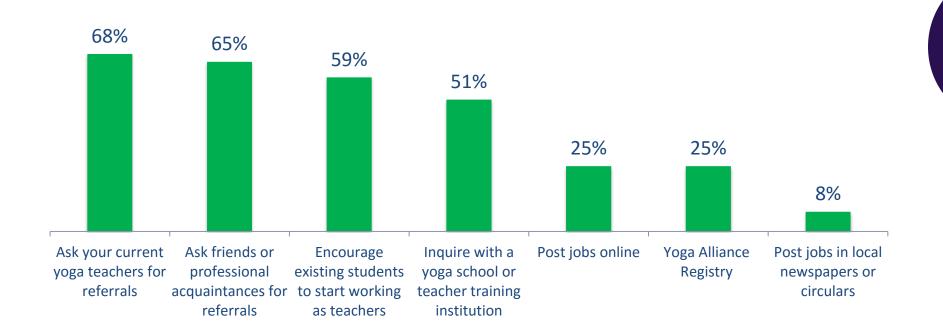
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#### **Teacher Characteristics Importance**

*Q.* How important is it for your yoga teachers to have each of the following attributes? Is it very important, somewhat important, not very important or not at all important?

#### Yoga Studio Owners use Referrals from Friends and Other Yoga Teachers to Hire New Teachers

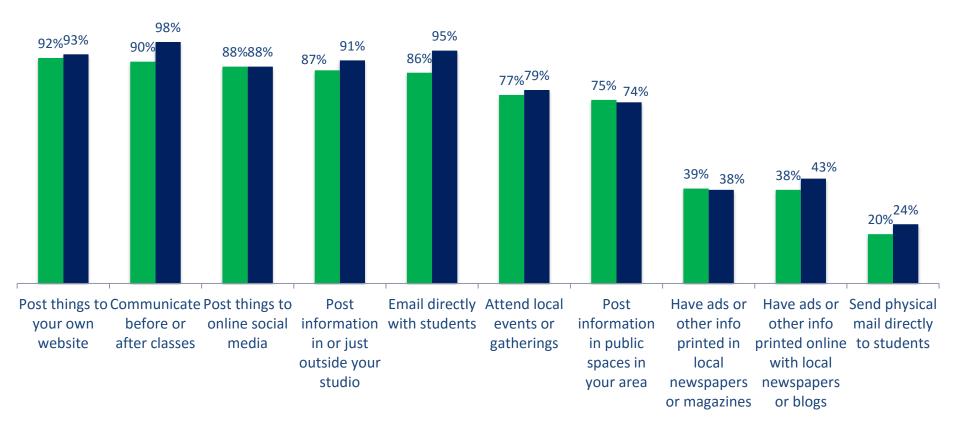
Nearly 60% of studio owners encourage students to begin working as teachers.



Q. How do you find new yoga teachers when you need them? I'll read a list of some potential activities, just say yes or no for each. Do you...

# **Studio Owners Primarily Market to Their Students Before and After Class in Person**

Studio owners also utilize their technological resources to email students directly or post messages to their websites, and to social media.



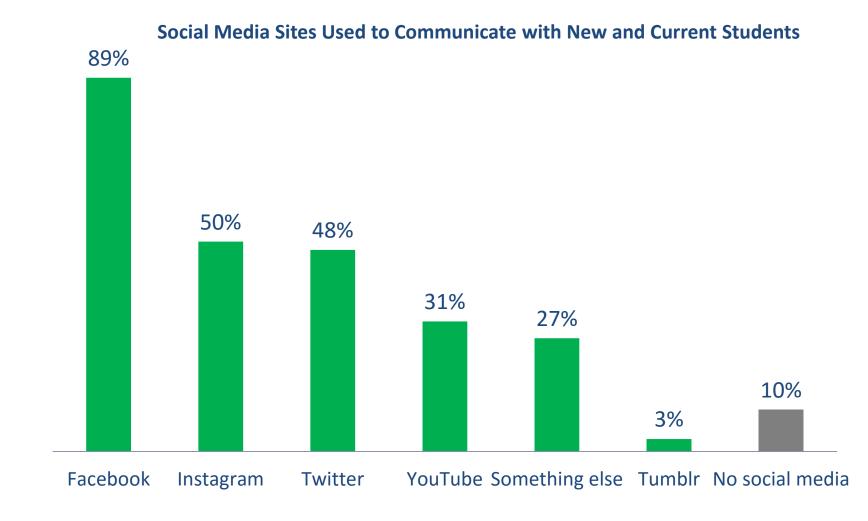
New Students

Current Students

Q. How do you typically communicate with current students? Do you..Q. And what do you do when you are trying to attract new students? Do you...

### A Vast Majority of Yoga Teachers Communicate with Their Current or Prospective Students Using Social Media

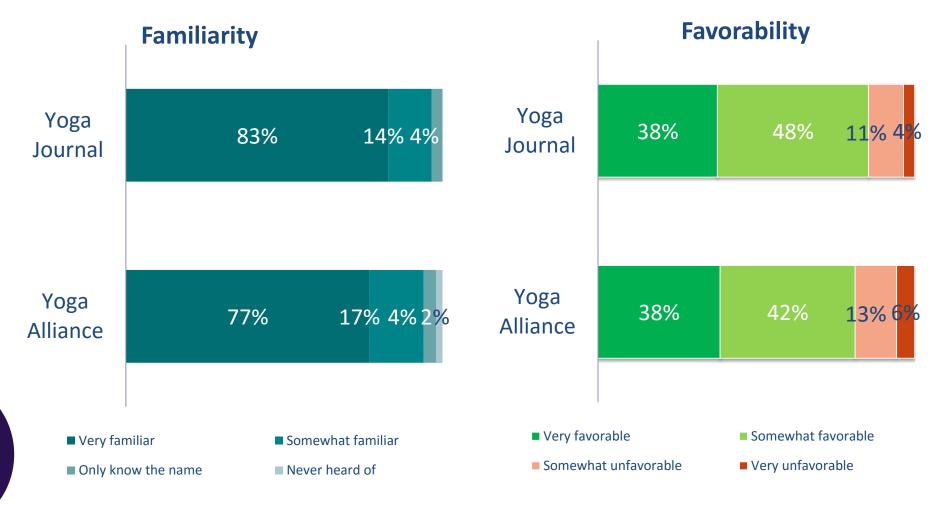
Facebook and Instagram are the most common platforms utilized.



Q. What social media sites do you use to communicate with current or new students?

A Large Majority of Studio Owners are Familiar with Yoga Journal and Yoga Alliance

Studio owners have an overwhelming favorable opinion of both Yoga Journal and Yoga Alliance.

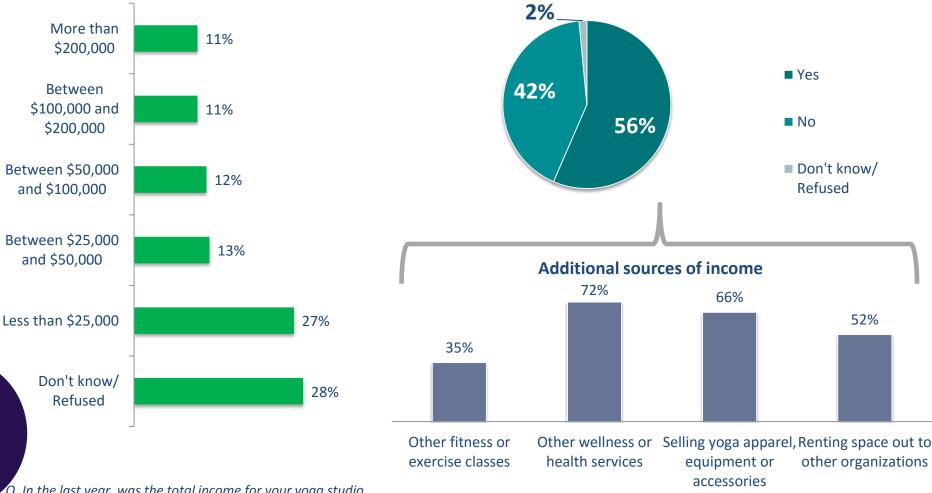


Q. How familiar are you, if at all, with the following organizations?

Q. And taking everything you know or have heard, how favorable are you towards the following organizations?

#### A Majority of Yoga Studios Produce Revenue from Sources Other lpsos than Yoga Classes

22% of yoga studio owners report having over \$100,000 in income for the yoga studio last year. Does your studio have income from sources other than yoga classes?



Q. In the last year, was the total income for your yoga studio...

Q. Does your studio have income from sources other than yoga classes?

Q. Which of the following, if any, are additional sources of income for your yoga studio?

### Rent and Teachers are the Main Cost for Studios

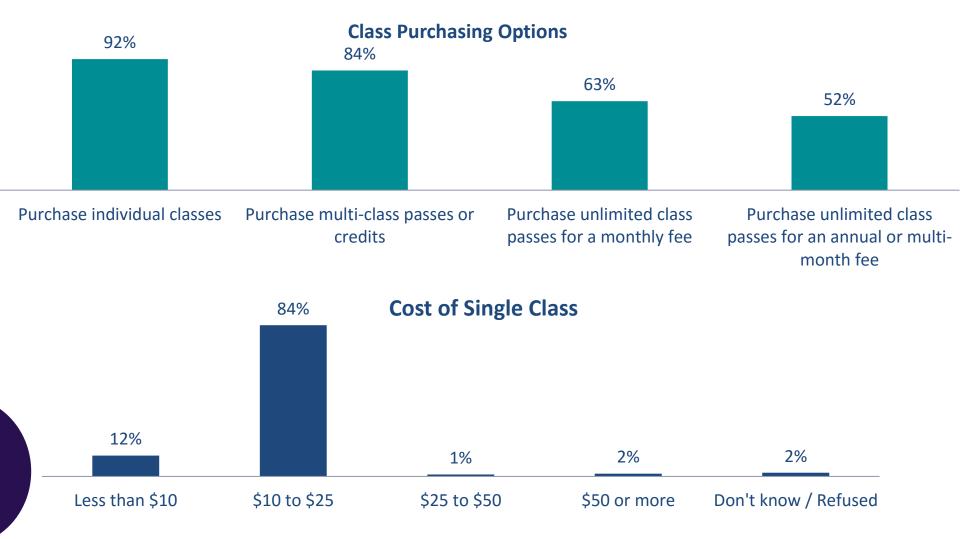
- 20% of studios report paying half or more their income towards rent or teachers.
- Only 5% of studios report staff AND rent taking half or more of their income.



#### Percentage of Income Spent on Overhead Costs

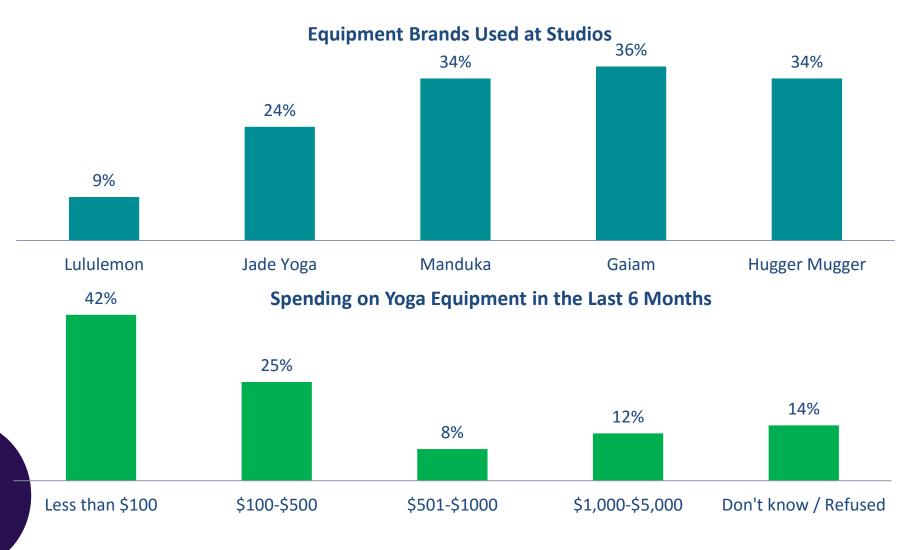
### A Majority of Studio Owners Report the Cost of a Single Class is in the Range of \$10-\$25

63% of studio owners allow for unlimited class passes for a flat fee.



Q. How do students purchase classes at your studio? Do they... Q. What is the average cost for students for a single class at your yoga studio?

### Just Over 10% of Studio Owners Report Spending \$1,000-\$5,000 on Yoga Equipment in the Last Six Months



Q. Does your studio own any yoga equipment (such as mats, blocks, etc.) from the following equipment companies?

Q. In the past six months, how much have you spent on yoga equipment for your studio?



## **Demographics**

A demographic breakdown of all audiences interviewed for the 2016 Yoga in America Study



### Demographics

General Population		Non-Practitioners		Yoga Practitioners	
Region	Percent	Region	Percent	Region	Percent
Northeast	18%	Northeast	17%	Northeast	23%
Midwest	22%	Midwest	22%	Midwest	23%
South	37%	South	37%	South	32%
West	23%	West	23%	West	22%
Gender	Percent	Gender	Percent	Gender	Percent
Male	48%	Male	49%	Male	28%
Female	52%	Female	51%	Female	72%
Age	Percent	Age	Percent	Age	Percent
18 to 29	18%	18 to 29	16%	18 to 29	19%
30 to 39	20%	30 to 39	18%	30 to 39	23%
40 to 49	17%	40 to 49	17%	40 to 49	20%
50 to 59	21%	50 to 59	23%	50 to 59	17%
60+	24%	60+	27%	60+	21%



# Methodology

An in-depth look at how the study was conducted

### Research Methodology Information - Americans and Practitioners

These are findings from an Ipsos poll conducted on behalf of Yoga Journal and Yoga Alliance, fielded October 7 – 16, 2015. For the survey, a sample of 2,021 U.S. adults over the age of 18 and an oversample of 1,707 yoga practitioners was interviewed online, in English.

The sample for this study was randomly drawn from Ipsos' online panel (see link below for more info on "Access Panels and Recruitment"), partner online panel sources, and "river" sampling (see link below for more info on the Ipsos "Ampario Overview" sample method) and does not rely on a population frame in the traditional sense. Ipsos uses fixed sample targets, unique to each study, in drawing sample. The source of these population targets is U.S. Census 2014 American Community Survey data. The sample drawn for this study reflects fixed sample targets on demographics.



### Research Methodology Information - Americans and Practitioners

Statistical margins of error are not applicable to online polls. All sample surveys and polls may be subject to other sources of error, including, but not limited to coverage error and measurement error. Where figures do not sum to 100, this is due to the effects of rounding. The precision of Ipsos online polls is measured using a credibility interval. In this case, the poll has a credibility interval of plus or minus 2.5 percentage points for the all Americans population (see link below for more info on Ipsos online polling "Credibility Intervals"). Ipsos calculates a design effect (DEFF) for each study based on the variation of the weights, following the formula of Kish (1965). This study had a credibility interval adjusted for design effect of the following (n=2,021, DEFF=1.5, adjusted Confidence Interval=4.0 for all respondents).

For more information about Ipsos online polling methodology, please go here http://goo.gl/yJBkuf



### Research Methodology Information - Studio Owners

These are findings from an Ipsos poll conducted on behalf of Yoga Journal and Yoga Alliance, fielded October 13 – 27, 2015. For the survey, a sample of 200 yoga studio owners over the age of 18 were interviewed via telephone, in English.

The MoE is a measure of sampling error. It is used to quantify the range of possible values for an observed sample statistic taking into account the possible sample variation, i.e., the larger the MoE the greater the uncertainty in the survey results with respect to the statistic being analyzed. More specifically, the MoE can be defined as the maximum absolute difference between the statistic and the actual population parameter being estimated that would be expected from a simple random sample, with a pre-determined confidence level.

When estimating percentages from this survey using the sample (200), the MoE is estimated to be approximately +/- 7.9 percentage points, with a confidence level of 95%.





For any queries related to this study please contact:

Yoga Alliance Media@YogaAlliance.org Yoga Journal DMacy@aimmedia.com