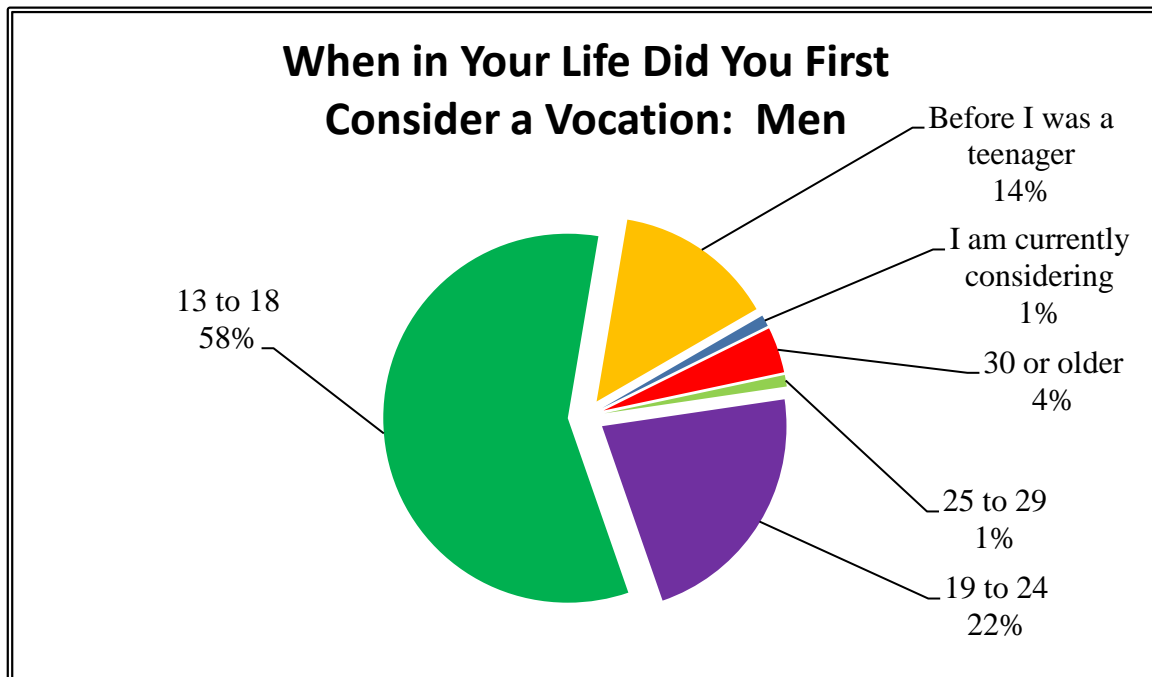


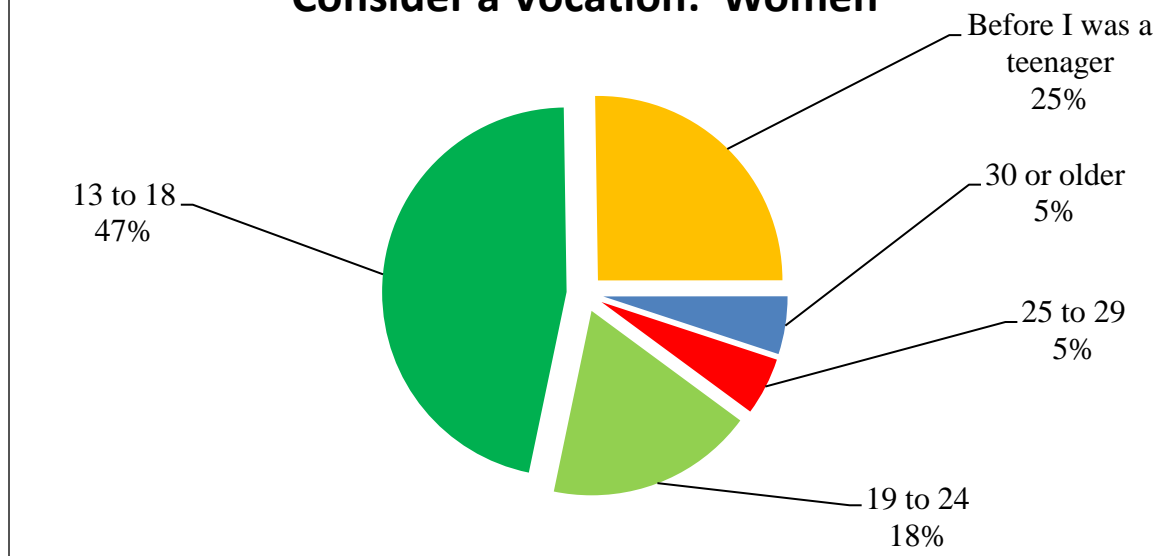
When Do Catholics First Consider a Vocation?

In 2012 the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) asked the Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate (CARA) to conduct a national survey on vocational consideration among Catholics who had never married. Thirteen percent of those sampled stated that they considered a vocation to the priesthood or religious life.

Both of the graphs below give a clear picture of when those 13 percent of Catholics start considering a vocation to priesthood and religious life. Almost six in ten males start considering a vocation in middle school and high school, while slightly less than half of women consider religious life at that age. The clear majority (72 percent) of Catholics consider priesthood and religious life before they are nineteen years old. This suggests that information about the priesthood and religious life is most effectively distributed to people in their teenage years or even younger.



When in Your Life Did You First Consider a Vocation: Women



*Data from "Consideration of Priesthood and Religious Life Among Never Married Catholics" September 2012.

To view the full CARA article go to: <http://cara.georgetown.edu/Publications/Publications.html>.