

Spiritual State of the World’s Children: Summary Table, Cote d’Ivoire



Notes: Surveys were administered in randomly selected accessible schools. Inaccessible schools were those in conflict zones or areas of extremely low population, those where access was denied, and those that could not be reached by public transportation. Reported respondents are those who chose to participate and answered a particular question. Not all participants answered all questions. The composition of the sample set—4,510 students aged about 13 to 18, 55% urban and 61% male—indicates a skew toward urban and male attitudes. Data was collected from April to June 2010. SSWC was completed in September 2010 for OneHope by the Metadigm Group.

| Cote d’Ivoire | Positive Aspects | Negative Aspects | Key Notes |
|---|--|---|--|
| Family Relationships and Perspectives | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 84% feel that fathers frequently show love for them. 78% feel that mothers frequently show love for them. 83% frequently feel proud of their mothers and 69% of their fathers. 62% feel very close to their mothers. 46% feel very close to their fathers; younger students report this 12% more often than those 16 and older. 54% frequently seek advice from their fathers and 41% from their mothers. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 56% do not live with both natural parents. 18% do not live with an adult. 16% report that one or both parents have died. 43% spend less than 5 minutes per week talking to fathers and 24% to mothers about things that really matter to them. 70% sometimes or frequently wonder if their mothers and 63% if their fathers love them. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 74% report that their overall family experience has been positive. 52% agree that home is where they feel safe and loved. Urban and younger respondents indicated this more often than their rural and older peers. 31% define family as those who are related to one another by birth, adoption or marriage. 10% consider cohabiting homosexual couples to be families. |
| Relationships with People of the Opposite Sex | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 97% believe God meant marriage to last a lifetime. 95% expect to be very happy in their marriage. 84% do not expect their marriage to end in divorce. 78% believe that divorce is not acceptable where children are involved. 68% would like to be a virgin when they marry. 65% want a marriage like their parents’. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 74% agree that it is very hard to have a successful marriage these days. 62% indicated that premarital sex is always or sometimes acceptable for a couple in love. 54% of older students, 44% of rural students, 42% of males, and 36% overall report that they have had intercourse. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Female participants are more likely than male participants to value virginity. Males, rural (by 14%), and older youth (by 35%) report more often than their female, urban, and younger peers that they have had intercourse. Parents were the least reported source of information about sex. |
| Behaviors and Beliefs in Daily Life | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 98% report that they did not use an illegal drug in the three months before the survey was administered. 91% did not use tobacco. 56% report spending 4 or more hours weekly in studying school materials. Parents, the Bible, and teachers are reported to be the strongest influences in participants’ lives. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 73% lied to a friend or peer and 56% to an adult in the three months prior to the survey. 48% cheated on an exam or evaluation. 36% watched a pornographic movie. 29% gambled or bet money on something. 22% had been legally drunk. 18% stole money or a material possession. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> More males than females report that they watched a pornographic movie (by 22%), gambled (by 17%), or read a pornographic magazine (by 14%). Older participants more often than younger participants report that they had cheated on an exam, been drunk, or viewed pornography. |
| Religious Background and Practice | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 87% agree that God is the all-powerful, perfect creator of the universe who rules the world today. 84% report that a close relationship with God is very important for their futures. * 93% believe prayer can change what happens in life. * 89% agree that forgiveness of sins is only possible through faith in Jesus Christ. * 83% have made a personal commitment to Jesus that is still relevant in their lives. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 94% are not certain that God exists. 27% believe the creator God is no longer personally involved in their lives. * 83% believe the Holy Spirit is only a symbol. * 81% believe good people earn a place in heaven. * 60% believe all religions pray to the same God. * 44% believe Jesus didn’t physically return to life. * 35% believe that the idea of sin is outdated. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students who report “a lot” of influence by other faiths: 35% Islam, 15% new age, 7% traditional, 6% Buddhism, 4% Hinduism, and 14% other. 83% believe the Bible provides indisputable moral truth and 75% that this truth is the same for all people; but 53% believe they know something is morally right if it works in their lives. Youth under 16 report less agreement with the morality and relevance of the Bible/Koran, but they are also less tolerant of lawbreaking and lying. |
| Identity | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 80% of respondents report that they are somewhat or very satisfied with their lives. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 13% of respondents had suicidal thoughts in the three months before the survey. 8% report that they are not at all satisfied with their lives. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Younger students indicate significantly greater satisfaction with their lives. |

* About two-thirds of the total sample responded to these questions.