

# Spiritual State of the World's Children: Summary Table, Nigeria



Notes: Surveys were administered in randomly selected accessible schools. Inaccessible schools are those in conflict zones or areas of extremely low population, and those that cannot be reached by public transportation. Reported respondents are those who participated in the survey and answered the question. Not all participants answered all questions. The composition of the sample set is 3,412 students aged about 13 to 18 (population density and gender are proportional to the national population distribution). Data was collected from October 2007 to February 2008. SSWC was completed in June 2008 for OneHope by the Metadigm Group.

Nigeria	Positive Aspects	Negative Aspects	Key Notes
Family Relationships and Perspectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>76% feel very close to their mothers and 64% feel very close to fathers.</li> <li>73% feel that mothers and 60% that fathers frequently show love for them.</li> <li>72% report an overall positive family experience.</li> <li>71% of respondents report their parents as married.</li> <li>66% live with both natural parents.</li> <li>53% said home is where they feel safe and loved.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>72% sometimes or frequently wonder if their mothers and 63% if their fathers love them.</li> <li>14% report that one or both parents have died. The likelihood of parental death increases as population density increases and for older youth.</li> <li>13-14% accept that cohabiting homosexual couples are families.</li> <li>13% report that their parents have been divorced.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>50% of respondents favor a traditional description of family—those related by birth, adoption, or marriage. Urban students are the least likely to choose this definition.</li> <li>In a typical week rural youth spend significantly more time than their peers with both fathers and mothers talking about things that matter to them.</li> <li>Urban and younger students more often feel safe and loved at home.</li> </ul>
Relationships with People of the Opposite Sex	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>88% expect to be very happy in their marriage.</li> <li>85% believe God meant marriage to last a lifetime.</li> <li>75% think that where children are involved, divorce is not acceptable.</li> <li>75% indicate that premarital sex for a couple in love is never acceptable.</li> <li>73% do not expect that marriage will end in divorce.</li> <li>68% would like to be a virgin when they marry.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>65% agree that it is very hard to have a successful marriage these days.</li> <li>39% do not want a marriage like their parents'.</li> <li>36% would rather live with someone than marry.</li> <li>18% of all respondents indicate that they have had sexual intercourse.</li> <li>Parents were the least reported source of information about sex.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Females agree 13% more often that they would like to be a virgin at marriage and 13% less that they would rather live with someone than marry.</li> <li>Rural subjects are more likely to believe that marriage will end in divorce and less likely to want a marriage like their parents'.</li> <li>Males and rural and older youth are more likely than their peers to have had intercourse.</li> </ul>
Behaviors and Beliefs in Daily Life	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>90% report that they did not use an illegal drug in the three months before the survey.</li> <li>90% did not use tobacco.</li> <li>88% had not been legally drunk.</li> <li>83% did not gamble or bet money on something.</li> <li>62% read the Bible for an hour or more weekly.</li> <li>Reading the Bible and studying from school materials occupy the most time for students in a given week.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>57% believe that you have to bend the rules to your own benefit to get by.</li> <li>48% lied to a friend or peer and 47% to an adult in the three months prior to the survey.</li> <li>41% say it's ok to break the law if no one is hurt.</li> <li>27% cheated on an exam or evaluation.</li> <li>24-26% viewed pornographic materials.</li> <li>23% stole money or a material possession.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rural youth are 10% more likely than their semi-urban or urban peers to have stolen. They are twice as likely as urban youth to have used illegal drugs and four times more likely to have used tobacco. These trends and the likelihood of having been drunk increase as population decreases.</li> <li>Parents and the Bible are the greatest reported influences on subjects' thoughts and actions.</li> </ul>
Religious Background and Practice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* 89% believe forgiveness of sin is only possible through faith in Jesus Christ.</li> <li>* 88% believe the Bible is accurate in all it teaches.</li> <li>* 87% believe in the efficacy of prayer.</li> <li>86% believe the universe was created by God.</li> <li>83% describe God as the all-powerful, ruling creator.</li> <li>79% report that is very important in their futures.</li> <li>54% report that they will go to heaven when they die because they confessed sins and accepted Jesus.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>93% are not sure or do not believe God exists.</li> <li>* 83% believe the Holy Spirit is only a symbol.</li> <li>* 70% believe all religions pray to the same God.</li> <li>* 69% believe good people earn a place in heaven.</li> <li>* 58% deny Jesus' physical resurrection.</li> <li>50% believe in reincarnation.</li> <li>* 47% believe the whole idea of sin is outdated.</li> <li>Only 11% are sure there is a heaven and a hell; 10% believe the soul does not die with the body.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>88% of urban students agree that the Bible provides absolute moral truths without exception. 78% of the same group agrees that no one can be sure about moral truth.</li> <li>52% believe that a full and satisfying life is possible without the pursuit of spiritual maturity.</li> <li>Students who reported "a lot" of influence by other faiths: , 24% Islam, 16% other ,15% new age,13% traditional, 11% Buddhism, and 8% Hinduism.</li> </ul>
Identity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>75% of respondents report that they are somewhat or very satisfied with their lives.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>15% of respondents report suicidal thoughts in the three months before the survey.</li> <li>10% are not at all satisfied with their lives.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The most indicated desired condition for the future is having a close relationship with God.</li> </ul>

\* About 25% of survey participants did not answer these questions.