

# Spiritual State of the World’s Children: Summary Table, USA, Hispanic Youth



Notes: Surveys were administered online. Hispanic Americans composed 14.4% of the total USA sample. The composition of the sample set—739 youth aged 13 to 18, with 54% 16 to 18 and 59% female—indicates a slight skew towards older and female attitudes. Data was collected from August to October 2010. SSWC was completed in January 2011 for OneHope by the Metadigm Group.

USA Hispanic	Positive Aspects	Negative Aspects	Key Notes
<b>Family Relationships and Perspectives</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>67% of respondents report their parents as married.</li> <li>67% feel very close to their mothers.</li> <li>65% feel that mothers frequently show love for them.</li> <li>45% feel that fathers frequently show love for them.</li> <li>43% feel very close to their fathers.</li> <li>51% often talk with mothers about personal concerns (only 21% report the same of fathers).</li> <li>60% spend an hour or more weekly talking to mothers about things that really matter to them. 37% report the same of their fathers.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>46% to 48% consider a cohabiting homosexual couple a family.</li> <li>32% sometimes or frequently wonder if their fathers and 30% if their mothers love them.</li> <li>19% report that their parents have been divorced; another 7% reported them as never married.</li> <li>18% live with a single parent or step-parent; another 3% live with a grandparent.</li> <li>8% report their father is not alive or they do not know him. 9% are not at all close to their fathers.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>88% report an overall positive family experience.</li> <li>62% say home is where they feel safe and loved. Older respondents report this 11% less often than their younger peers.</li> <li>44% subscribe to a traditional definition of family—those related by birth, marriage, or adoption; 49% define family as any person or group they care deeply about.</li> <li>36% spend 15 minutes or less per week talking to fathers about things that really matter to them.</li> </ul>
<b>Relationships with People of the Opposite Sex</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>93% expect to be very happy in their marriage.</li> <li>78% believe God meant marriage to last a lifetime.</li> <li>76% do not expect that marriage will end in divorce.</li> <li>54% want a marriage like their parents’.</li> <li>46% indicate premarital sex for a couple in love is never acceptable.</li> <li>Parents are the most reported source of information about sex.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>73% think that where children are involved, divorce is acceptable.</li> <li>70% agree that it is very hard to have a successful marriage these days.</li> <li>42% do not wish to be a virgin when they marry.</li> <li>37% of older youth and 23% overall report that they have had sexual intercourse.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>64% would wait to have sex after marriage if they could change the past.</li> <li>Males (by 11%) and older participants (by 10%) are more likely to anticipate divorce; younger participants are 10% more likely than their peers to want to be a virgin when they marry.</li> <li>Only 5% of youth under 16 report that they have had sexual intercourse.</li> </ul>
<b>Behaviors and Beliefs in Daily Life</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>87% report that they did not use an illegal drug in the three months before the survey.</li> <li>87% did not try to physically hurt someone.</li> <li>81% did not cheat on an exam or evaluation.</li> <li>75% (only 66% of older participants) believe it is not ok to break the law—even if no one is hurt.</li> <li>Parents are reported to be the greatest influence on participants’ thoughts and actions.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>48% lied to a friend or peer and 47% to an adult in the three months prior to the survey.</li> <li>21% watched a pornographic movie.</li> <li>18% drank enough alcohol legally drunk.</li> <li>17% used tobacco.</li> <li>12% stole money or a material possession.</li> <li>Reading the Bible is the least reported use of participants’ time in a typical week.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Older participants are more likely to have watched a pornographic movie (by 23%), been drunk (by 19%), used tobacco (by 16%), or used illegal drugs (by 8%).</li> <li>57% know that something is morally or ethically right if it works in their lives.</li> <li>49% believe that you sometimes have to bend the rules to your own benefit to get by.</li> </ul>
<b>Religious Background and Practice</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>72% agree that the universe was created by God;</li> <li>69% indicate that the Bible/Koran provides a practical standard for living today.</li> <li>64% report that faith is very important in their lives.</li> <li>28% believe they will go to heaven because they confessed their sins and accepted Jesus as savior.</li> <li>* 85% believe prayer is effective. Only 30% pray daily.</li> <li>* 70% believe forgiveness of sins is only possible through faith in Jesus Christ.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>50% do not agree that the Bible provides a clear and indisputable description of moral truth.</li> <li>40% believe all religions teach equally valid truths.</li> <li>40% rarely attend religious services.</li> <li>31% are not sure or do not believe God exists.</li> <li>24% do not know what will happen after they die.</li> <li>* 76% believe the Holy Spirit is only a symbol.</li> <li>* 61% believe good people earn a place in heaven.</li> <li>* 58% believe all religions pray to the same God.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>67% agree that moral truth means different things to different people and that no one can be sure they know the truth.</li> <li>57% believe the pursuit of spiritual maturity is not necessary for a full and satisfying life.</li> <li>18% overall (25% of males) believe God created humans but is no longer involved in their lives</li> <li>* 42% deny Jesus’ physical resurrection.</li> <li>* 28% believe in reincarnation.</li> </ul>
<b>Identity</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>85% of respondents report that they are somewhat or very satisfied with their lives.</li> <li>42% report that having a close relationship with God is very important in their futures.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>14% of subjects report suicidal thoughts in the three months before the survey.</li> <li>15% are not at all or not too satisfied with their lives.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>After physical health (78%), a clear purpose for living (67%) is the most desired condition for participants’ futures.</li> </ul>

\* Approximately 75% of subjects responded to these questions.