

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



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 distribution of the sample population indicates that urban populations\* will be severely underrepresented. SSWC was completed in October 2008 for OneHope by the Metadigm Group.

Uganda	Positive Aspects	Negative Aspects	Key Notes
Family Relationships and Perspectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>69% report an overall positive family experience.</li> <li>68% of respondents live with two parents.</li> <li>55% report that their parents are married.</li> <li>45% feel very close to their fathers.</li> <li>64% feel very close to their mothers.</li> <li>39% feel that fathers frequently show love for them.</li> <li>56% feel that mothers frequently show love for them.</li> <li>32% frequently seek advice from their fathers.</li> <li>44% frequently seek advice from their mothers.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6% report that both parents have died.</li> <li>17% report that one parent has died.</li> <li>25% report that their father is not alive or that they do not know him.</li> <li>33% spend less than 5 minutes per week talking to fathers and 20% to mothers about things that really matter to them.</li> <li>48% sometimes or frequently wonder if their mothers and 51% if their fathers love them.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>51% of respondents agreed that any group of people who live together is a family, but only 8% to 10% confirmed that unmarried couples without children or homosexual couples could be a family.</li> <li>Rural respondents were 9% more likely to report that their parents are married and 17% more likely to live with both natural parents.</li> <li>Urban youth reported at a much higher rate than rural youth—33% to 24%—that their father is not alive or they do not know him.</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>82% believe God meant marriage to last a lifetime.</li> <li>51% indicated that premarital sex for a couple in love is never acceptable.</li> <li>57% do not believe that parents should get a divorce if there are children involved.</li> <li>56% would like to have a marriage like their parents'.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>64% agree that it is very hard to have a successful marriage these days.</li> <li>57% do not wish to be a virgin when they marry.</li> <li>27% of males and 26% of older students reported that they have had sexual intercourse.</li> <li>22% overall reported that they have had sex.</li> <li>Parents are the least reported source of information about sex.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Males and rural students were less likely to want to be virgins when they marry. Urban students were significantly more likely to believe that premarital sex is never acceptable, even for couples in love.</li> <li>Males reported 11% more often than females that they had had intercourse. And rural youth were almost twice as likely as urban youth to report this.</li> </ul>
Behaviors and Beliefs in Daily Life	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>92% report that they did not use an illegal drug in the three months before the survey was administered.</li> <li>95% did not use tobacco.</li> <li>86% had not been legally drunk.</li> <li>Studying from school materials and reading a book occupy most of students' time in a given week, followed by listening to music and reading the Bible.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>60% lied to a friend or peer in the three months prior to the survey.</li> <li>53% lied to a parent, teacher, or adult.</li> <li>33% read a pornographic magazine.</li> <li>22% gambled or bet money on something.</li> <li>18% stole money or a material possession.</li> <li>45% said it is ok to break the law if no one is hurt.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There is tension between respondents' knowledge and practice of morality. 85% think the Bible contains moral truth and 80% that that truth is the same for all people. But about two-thirds hold to a more pragmatic morality for their own lives. They said: sometimes you have to break the rules (70%); lying is sometimes necessary (65%); and no one can be certain about universal moral truth (58%).</li> </ul>
Religious Background and Practice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>89% said they have a responsibility to share their faith.</li> <li>86% believe that prayer can change what happens.</li> <li>86% agree that forgiveness of sins is only possible through faith in Jesus Christ.</li> <li>85% have made a personal commitment to Jesus that is still relevant in their lives.</li> <li>57% pray and 29% read religious scriptures daily.</li> <li>46% believe they will go to heaven because they accepted Jesus as savior.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>84% believe all religions pray to the same God.</li> <li>87% believe the Holy Spirit is only a symbol, not a living entity.</li> <li>46% believe Jesus did not physically return to life.</li> <li>81% believe that good people earn a place in heaven.</li> <li>40% believe in reincarnation.</li> <li>61% believe that ghosts may or do exist and influence life.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Respondents are most heavily influenced by the Bible, the Christian faith, and parents.</li> <li>Students who reported "a lot" of influence by other faiths include 7% Buddhism, 7% new age, 20% Islam, 17% indigenous/traditional, 6% Hinduism, and 15% other.</li> <li>Rural youth were more likely than urban students to believe in unforgivable sins, reincarnation, and that all religions believe the same truths.</li> </ul>
Identity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>50% of respondents report that they are very satisfied with their lives.</li> <li>Only 8% report that they are not at all satisfied.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>12% of respondents had suicidal thoughts in the three months before the survey.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>81% report that living with a high degree of integrity is very important for their future.</li> </ul>

\*CIA Factbook (<https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/ug.html>) reports the urban population of Uganda at 13% in 2008. Despite the underrepresentation noted above, the survey results may be indicative of the actual youth population as a whole.