

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



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—4,034 students aged about 13 to 18, with 71% aged 16 and over, 53% male, 44% semi-urban, and 38% rural (population density and gender are proportional to the national population distribution)—indicates a skew toward older and away from urban attitudes. Data was collected from March to July 2010. SSWC was completed in September 2010 for OneHope by the Metadigm Group.

Zambia	Positive Aspects	Negative Aspects	Key Notes
Family Relationships and Perspectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 79% report an overall positive family experience. 70% feel that mothers and 53% that fathers frequently show love for them. 61% of respondents report their parents as married. 57% report home is where they feel safe and loved. 68% feel very close to their mothers. 44% feel very close to their fathers with males report so 9% more often than females. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 53% do not live with both natural parents. 21% report that their father and 11% that their mother is dead or they do not know him or her. 24% report that one or both parents have died. 12% report that their parents have been divorced. 51% sometimes or frequently wonder if their mothers and 48% if their fathers love them. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Older subjects report 11% less often than their younger peers that their parents are married. 50% favor a traditional idea of family—those related by birth, adoption, or marriage. Rural subjects adopt this view 11% less than their peers. 21-23% regard cohabiting homosexual couples as families. Acceptance of this view increases as population density decreases.
Relationships with People of the Opposite Sex	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 93% expect to be very happy in their marriage. 90% believe God meant marriage to last a lifetime. 82% do not admire the single life. 78% do not expect that marriage will end in divorce. 71% indicate premarital sex for a couple in love is never acceptable. 57% want a marriage like their parents'. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 72% agree that it is very hard to have a successful marriage these days. 57% would rather live with someone than marry. 41% of males, 39% of rural youth, 36% of older subjects, and 32% of all respondents report that they have had sexual intercourse. 39% think that where children are involved, divorce is acceptable. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 63% do not want to be a virgin when they marry. But 76% would wait to have sex after marriage if they could change the past. Male are less likely to want to be virgins when they marry (by 16%) and more often want to live with someone without marriage (by 15%). Parents were the least reported source of information about sex.
Behaviors and Beliefs in Daily Life	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 92% report that they did not use an illegal drug in the three months before the survey. 91% did not use tobacco. 86% had not been legally drunk. 68% pray daily. 64% attend religious services weekly or more often. 45% indicated that they read the Bible for an hour or more weekly. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 74% lied to a friend or peer and 68% to an adult in the three months prior to the survey. 45% say it's ok to break the law if no one is hurt. 44% tried to physically and 45% to emotionally hurt someone. 34% watched a pornographic movie. 21% gambled or bet money on something. 20% stole money or a material possession. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 65% know that something is morally or ethically right if it works in their life. Male participants are 18% more likely than females to have watched pornography. Reported drinking increases and gambling decreases with population density. Urban subjects 11% less often recall a time when their beliefs changed their actions.
Religious Background and Practice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 92% report that faith is very important in their lives. 92% believe in the efficacy of prayer. 90% believe Jesus never sinned. 88% are sure God exists, and 86% agree that He is the all-powerful creator who rules the world. 87% have made a personal commitment to Jesus that is still relevant in their lives. 72% do not believe all religions teach equal truths 57% report they will go to heaven when they die because they confessed sins and accepted Jesus. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 86% believe the Holy Spirit is only a symbol. 66% believe good people earn a place in heaven. 54% believe all religions pray to the same God. 35% deny Jesus' physical resurrection. 24% of subjects indicate that they have no religious affiliation and do not practice a personal faith. This response increases sharply as population density decreases. 18% do not know what will happen after they die. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 81% believe the universe was created by God. This belief decreases with population density. 75% agree that the Bible provides absolute moral truths that are the same for all people in all situations. But 69% agree that moral truth means different things to different people and no one can be absolutely positive that they have the truth. Students who reported "a lot" of influence by other faiths: 13% new age, 11% Islam, 11% traditional, 9% Buddhism, 9% Hinduism, and 14% other.
Identity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 70% of respondents report that they are somewhat or very satisfied with their lives. Over 40% report "a lot" of influence by the Bible and the Christian faith in their lives. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12% of respondents report suicidal thoughts in the three months before the survey. Females reported this 6% more often than males. 13% are not at all satisfied with their lives. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The most indicated desirable condition for the future is a close relationship with God. 32% believe that a full and satisfying life is possible without the pursuit of spiritual maturity.