

GLOBAL YOUTH CULTURE

Tanzania Report

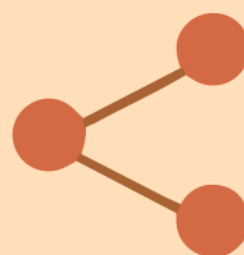


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INTRODUCTION

Each new generation is unique in its own way, and research can help us understand how the world looks through different eyes. The world's current generation of teens and young adults is sometimes called Generation Z. Across Tanzania, there are more than 10 million Generation Z teens ages 13-19 forming about 16% of the population.¹

This research reveals the beliefs, habits, influences, and struggles of the teens across Tanzania. The research also reveals their views of God, Jesus, the Bible, and the church. Data was collected across rural, semi-urban, and urban parts of Tanzania in July 2022.

This project was a follow-up from a larger global study that surveyed teens across more than 20 countries, including the African nations of Kenya, Nigeria, and South Africa. Modified versions of this survey have also been conducted in 10 additional African countries.



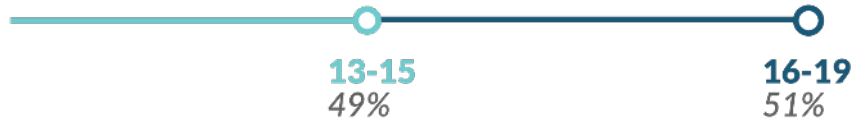
We hope you not only learn something new, but that your mind and heart are moved to action on behalf of this generation who so need the hope of the Gospel in their lives.

Every statistic in this study represents individual teens with their own sets of hopes, fears, and daily challenges. Each of those teens has a name, a story, and an eternal destiny. OneHope is dedicated to affecting those destinies by reaching every young person in every country with God's Word.

1 United Nations Population Division, Total Population Database, <https://population.un.org/wpp/DataQuery/> Accessed September 2022

ABOUT THE TEENS

AGES



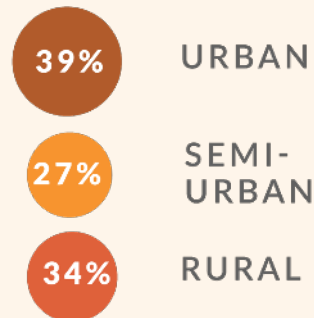
436 TEENS
SURVEYED



BOYS 45%

GIRLS 55%

LOCATION²



RELIGION

OTHER **17%**¹

MUSLIM 19%



CHRISTIAN **64%**



HOUSEHOLD



52% TWO
PARENTS



13% ONE
PARENT



16% OTHER
FAMILY
MEMBERS



19% OTHER
LIVING
SITUATION

¹ These teens identified as Jehovah's Witness or Mormon and for purposes of this research are considered separately from Christian.

² For purposes of this research study a rural area was defined as having a population of fewer than 2,500 people, semi-urban as 2,500-50,000, and an urban area as having a population of more than 50,000.

RELIGIOUS ATTITUDES AND BEHAVIORS

TANZANIA REPORT

What We Discovered

64% of teens in Tanzania identify as **Christian**.



Just 27% of teens display the beliefs and behaviors of **Committed Christians**.

90% of teens believe they have a responsibility to **share their faith with others**.



Around **half** say they frequently have **spiritual conversations** with others who do not share their beliefs.



27% of Muslim teens say they are open to attending a **Christian church service if invited**.



Christian teens report the church has **positively impacted their spiritual growth**.



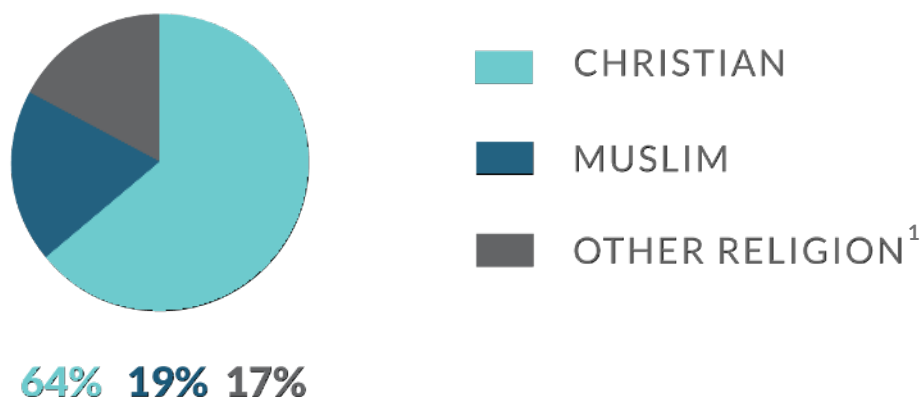
Teens say they would be most likely to **change their mind** about a religious belief based on **teachings from religious leaders**.

Religious Attitudes and Behaviors

This research study was uniquely comprehensive in examining the role faith and religion play in the lives of the teens in Tanzania.

What do they believe? How are they putting their beliefs into practice? We explored the religious attitudes and behaviors of these teens and the impact of those on other areas of their lives.

RELIGIOUS IDENTITY



The majority of the teens surveyed in Tanzania (64%) identified themselves as Christian. This is very close to official population estimates and reflects the religious realities of Tanzania.

Tanzanian teens also say their religion is important to them. Encouragingly, 96% say their faith beliefs or spiritual journey are an important part of their identity. In addition, 90% of teens agree they have a responsibility to share that faith with others.

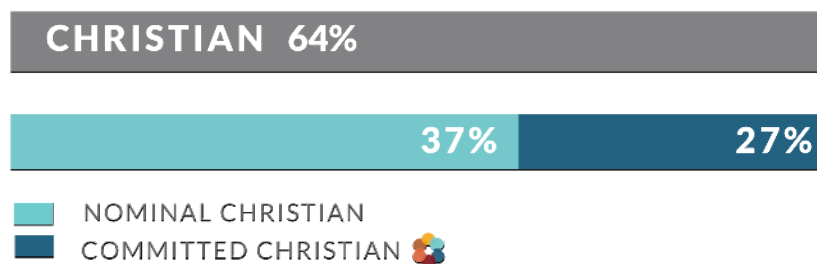
¹ These teens identified as Jehovah's Witness or Mormon and for purposes of this research are considered separately from Christian.

But what does it truly mean to be a Christian? We looked at the core beliefs and key spiritual disciplines that would reveal a teen is a Committed Christian.

6 TRAITS OF COMMITTED CHRISTIAN TEENS



When we re-examined teens according to this definition of committed faith, we immediately saw a big difference. Across Tanzania, fewer teens were seen to be Committed Christians. Any Christian teen who did not meet one or more of the criteria for committedness was considered to be a “Nominal Christian” in this study.



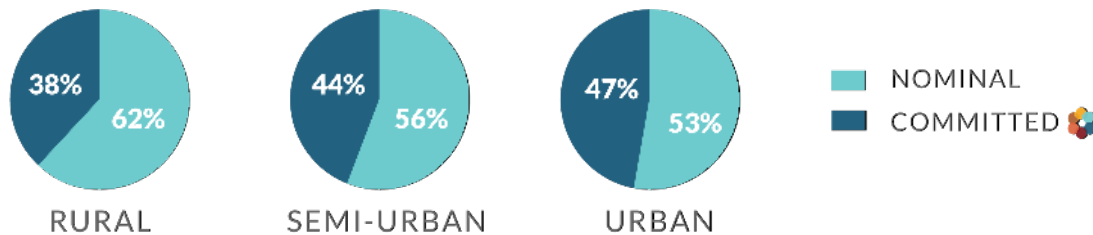
27% OF TEENS IN TANZANIA ARE COMMITTED CHRISTIANS

While this might seem discouraging, it is important to note that Africa had the most Committed Christian teens of any region in our global study. Globally, a mere 7% of teens surveyed were Committed Christians.¹

¹ OneHope. (August 2020). *Global Youth Culture, Global Report*. www.globalyouthculture.net

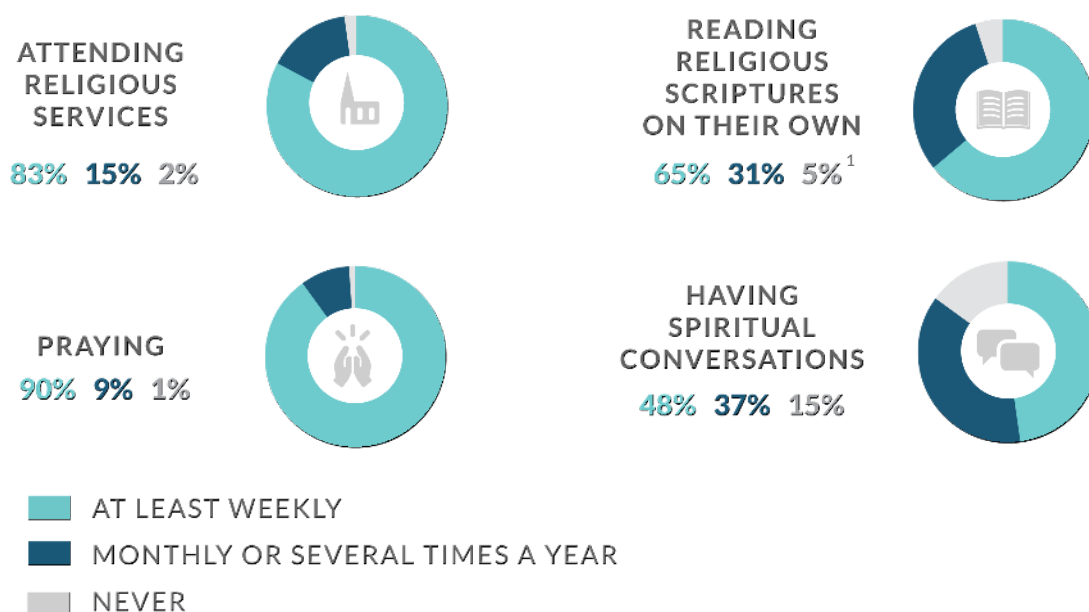
This is still a concerning gap, however, that shows there is work to be done in discipling Christians into the foundational beliefs and behaviors of their faith. This gap between Committeds and Nominals was seen in every area of the country, but most notably in rural areas and less so in urban areas.

CHRISTIANS BY LOCATION



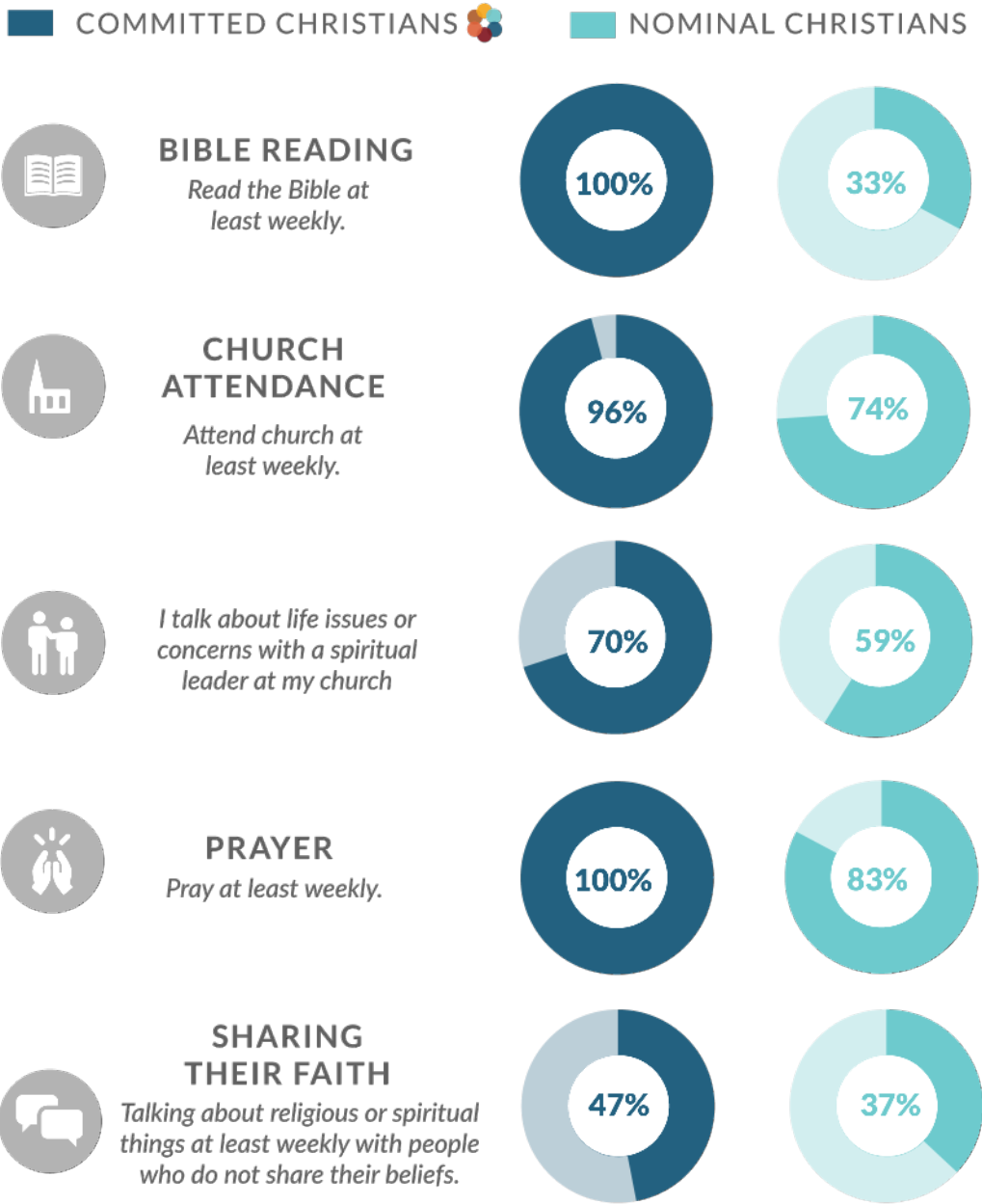
How Teens Practice Their Faith

Engaging in spiritual disciplines is how we grow our faith. We were encouraged to see that most teens in Tanzania are making religious practices a priority in their weekly schedule.



¹ Total adds to more than 100% due to decimal rounding.

Committedness to faith makes a big difference in teens' lives and how they choose to spend their time. Committed Christians are much more likely than Nominal Christians to regularly read their Bibles, go to church, pray, and share their faith.



42% OF CHRISTIAN TEENS TALK ABOUT RELIGION OR SPIRITUALITY WITH NON-CHRISTIANS AT LEAST WEEKLY

Teens and the Church

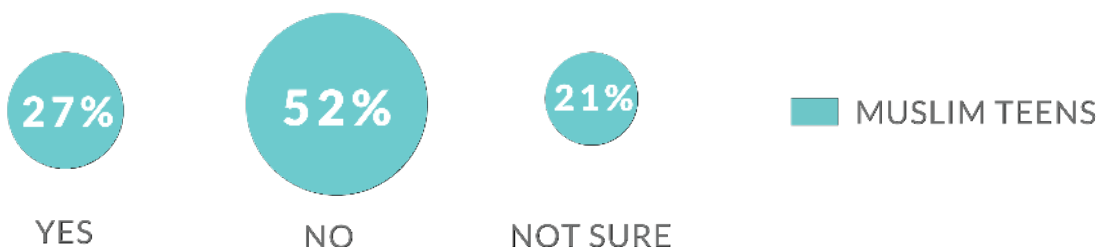
Most Christian teens in Tanzania (84%) said they attend religious services at least weekly. Overall, teens gave positive feedback about the impact of children's ministry in their lives, and most say they are currently being disciplined at their church. Girls are more likely than boys to say they talk about life issues or concerns with a spiritual leader at their church.



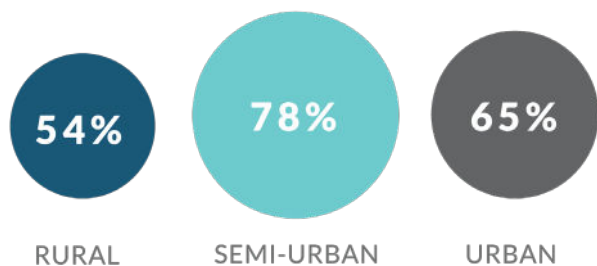
The majority of teens who do not currently attend church said that they would be open to attending if someone invited them (65%). More than a quarter (27%) of Muslim teens expressed openness as well. Notably, teens living in rural parts of Tanzania were less open to attending church than their peers living in semi-urban and urban areas.

OPEN TO ATTENDING CHURCH

I would be open to attending a Christian church service if someone invited me.



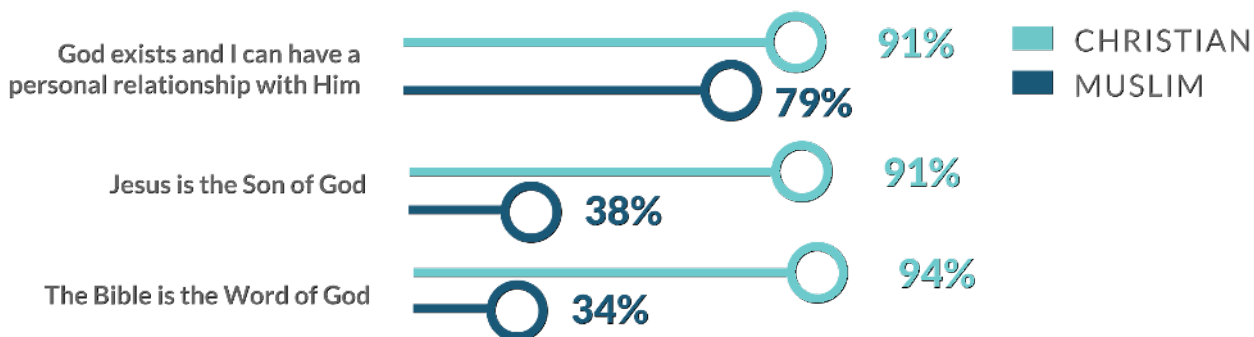
OPEN TO ATTENDING CHURCH BY LOCATION



65% OF TEENS WOULD COME TO CHURCH IF INVITED.

Spiritual Viewpoints

The vast majority of teens surveyed in Tanzania have scriptural views of God, Jesus, and the Bible. Encouragingly, even some Muslim teens agree that Jesus is the son of God and the Bible is the word of God. The majority of Muslims, however, say they never really think about Jesus or the Bible.



MUSLIM VIEWPOINTS



I never really think about Jesus

55%

I never really think about the Bible

60%

Despite general viewpoints that align with Scripture, there is still some confusion on the topic of absolute truth. Quite a few Tanzanian teens say all religions teach equally valid truths. This doesn't appear to align with the exclusive truth claims of many religions, including Christianity.

All religions teach equally valid truths



What Changes their Mind

We wanted to discover what would make teens change their mind about a religious belief they already hold. The most popular answer was teachings from religious leaders. This was different from the global trend but is reflective of Tanzania's culture built around community.

Tanzanian teens were observed to place less value on individual experiences or investigation. Instead, teens were more socially oriented, saying they would listen primarily to religious leaders, then friends or parents.

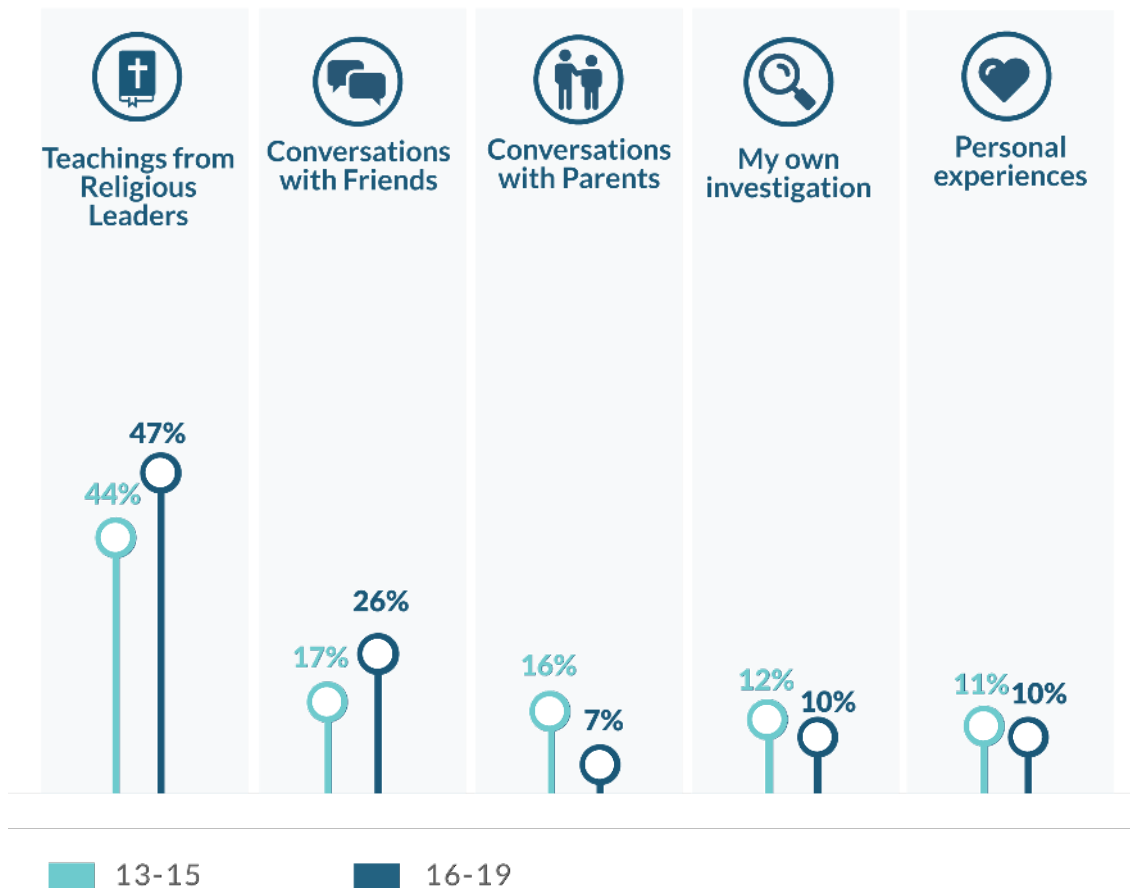
WHAT WOULD BE MOST
LIKELY TO CHANGE YOUR
MIND ABOUT A RELIGIOUS
BELIEF?



- 1 TEACHINGS FROM RELIGIOUS LEADERS **46%**
- 2 A CONVERSATION WITH FRIENDS **22%**
- 3 A CONVERSATION WITH MY PARENTS **11%**
- 4 MY OWN INVESTIGATION ONLINE OR IN BOOKS **11%**
- 5 PERSONAL EXPERIENCES SUCH AS AN ANSWER TO PRAYER **10%**

This priority order was similar regardless of a teen's gender, location, or religion. However, age was seen to play a role in who teens listen to. There was a declining influence of parents on older teens (ages 16-19). These teens are turning more to religious leaders as well as friends to shape their opinions.

INFLUENCES BY AGE



Conclusion

This data shows where teens are in their spiritual journey and helps us understand their religious identity, habits, and viewpoints. It also points us towards practical action as we seek to share the Gospel with non-believers and disciple Christian teens to maturity in faith.

- **DISCIPLE CHRISTIANS INTO DEEPER FAITH.**

Young people in Tanzania say faith is important to them, and many of them are Christian. However, this does not mean the church should grow complacent. Our research revealed that many of these believers have a nominal faith and need continued discipleship. How can we help these young people develop scriptural beliefs and spiritual disciplines that will move them from being nominal believers to mature, thriving Christians?

- **INSTILL LOVE OF THE BIBLE.**

Scripture engagement needs to be strengthened in the lives of young people. Many teens who call themselves Christian hardly ever read their Bible. How can we help this generation engage Scripture regularly, allowing it to speak to the real needs and challenges they face in their lives?

- **INVITE TEENS TO LEARN ABOUT JESUS.**

Most teens said teachings from religious leaders would be most likely to change their mind about religious beliefs. Some in this generation are confused about what to believe and whether all religions are equally valid. How can we open the doors of our churches and ensure teens feel welcome and invited in to learn about Jesus, who is the Way, the Truth, and the Life?

- **JOURNEY TOGETHER.**

It is encouraging to see that most churches have dedicated youth pastors and adults who are investing in the spiritual growth of the next generation. Spiritual mentors are critical, especially in the teen years when questions, doubts, and struggles often arise. How can we ensure every teen has someone they are journeying with and who they feel safe to share their concerns and challenges with?

- **EQUIP TEENS TO SHARE.**

Nearly all teens surveyed say they believe they have a responsibility to share their faith with others. However, relatively few young people are actually talking to others who do not share their religious beliefs. How can we equip teens to share the hope they have in Christ with their generation?

INFLUENCES AND GUIDING VOICES

TANZANIA REPORT

What We Discovered

Teens say their **parents** are the most **influential voices** in their lives.



86% of teens report their **family experience** has been positive, but **only half** live with **both parents**.



92% of teens believe it is important to **contribute to the well-being of their community**, and this attitude grows with age.



Rural teens are **less likely** than other teens to have **close family or friend relationships**.

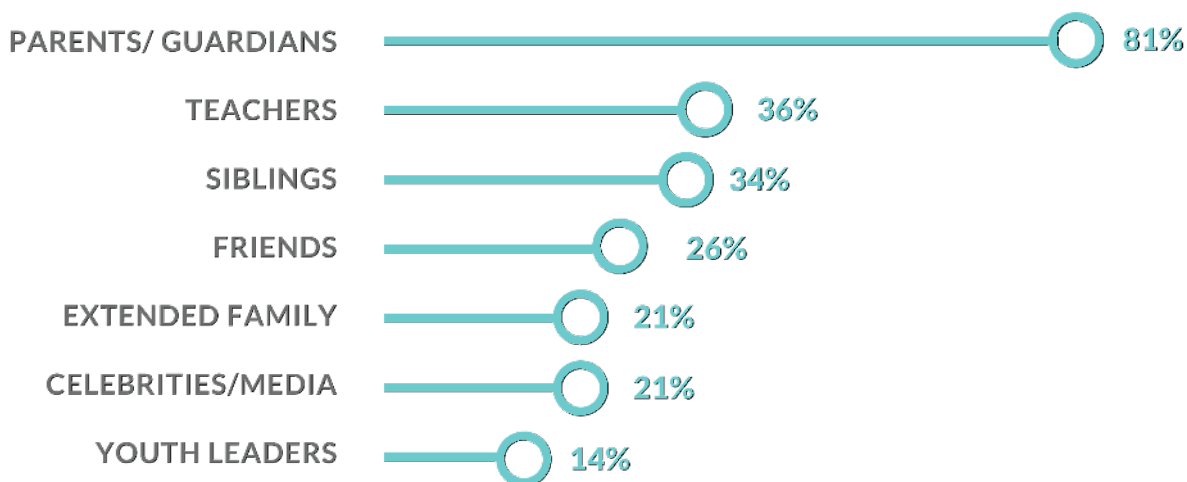


Urban teens are more likely to **seek guidance from family**, while rural teens rely on **religious leaders or texts**.

Friend and Family Relationships

When we asked teens who influences their ambitions in life, parents were by far the most popular option. Teachers and siblings were also identified as role models. We wanted to know a little more about teens' family relationships and how they are going.

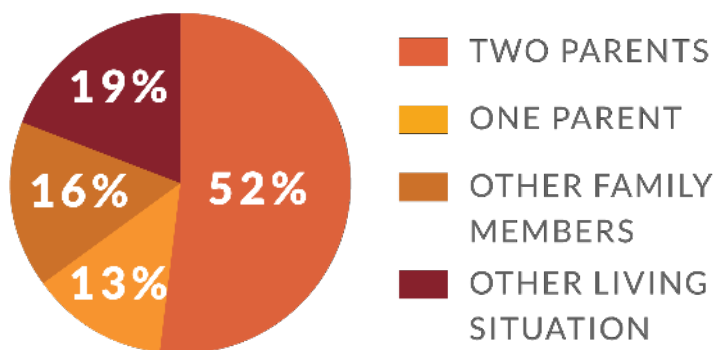
WHO INFLUENCES MY AMBITIONS IN LIFE ¹



Only half of teens surveyed in Tanzania live with both parents. However, the vast majority of teens (86%) still say their family experience has been positive overall. Encouragingly, most teens (76%) say they often talk to their parents about issues that really matter to them. Teens who have had a negative family experience are less likely to have these conversations.

HOUSEHOLD

I live with:



86%

OF TEENS SAY
THEIR FAMILY
EXPERIENCE
HAS BEEN
GOOD

¹ Note that the teens could select more than one answer to this question.

PARENT CONVERSATIONS

I talk to my parents/guardians about things that really matter to me



I often talk to my parents about issues that really matter to me

POSITIVE FAMILY EXPERIENCE: 77%

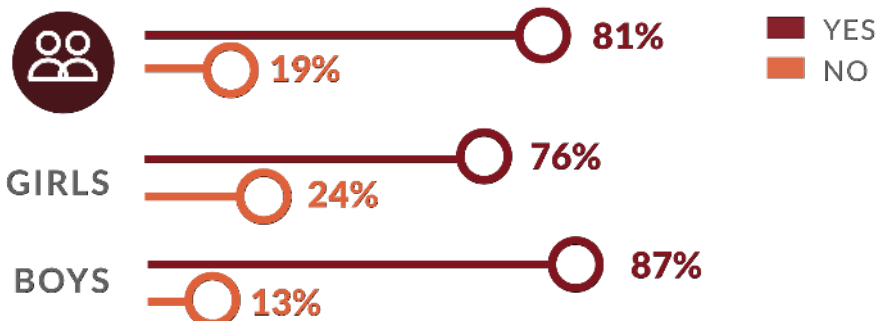
NEGATIVE FAMILY EXPERIENCE: 68%

The data revealed that rural teens are slightly more isolated in both family and friend relationships. Teens living in rural areas were the most likely to say they have had a negative family experience (19%) compared to teens in other locations. They were also more likely to say they don't have close friends who know them well (22%).

Encouragingly, the majority of teens in Tanzania (81%) indicated they have strong friendships in their lives. Girls, however, were less likely than boys to say they have close friends who know them well.

FRIENDSHIPS

I have close friends who know me well



Teens Trust Family

Teens tell us they turn to family more often than any other source for guidance on some of life's most important topics such as what is right and wrong. Family also remains the primary source of guidance for teens when they wonder about the meaning of life. Family is closely followed by religious leaders and texts for both topics.

RIGHT AND WRONG

CONVERSATIONS

Where I go most often for information or guidance about right and wrong

- 1 FAMILY MEMBERS **41%**
- 2 RELIGIOUS LEADERS/ TEXTS **40%**
- 3 TEACHERS/ COUNSELORS **11%**
- 4 FRIENDS/PEERS **4%**
- 5 OFFLINE MEDIA¹ **3%**
- 6 ONLINE/ SOCIAL MEDIA **2%**

MEANING OF LIFE

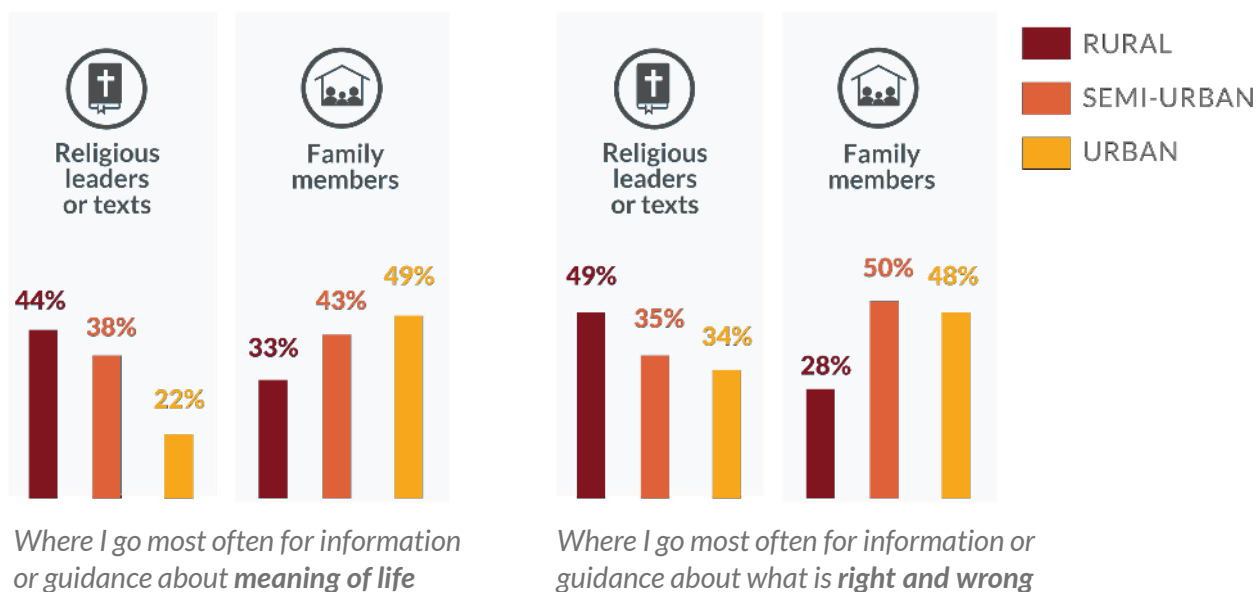
CONVERSATIONS

Where I go most often for information or guidance about meaning of life

- 1 FAMILY MEMBERS **41%**
- 2 RELIGIOUS LEADERS/ TEXTS **35%**
- 3 TEACHERS/ COUNSELORS **12%**
- 4 OFFLINE MEDIA **6%**
- 5 FRIENDS/PEERS **4%**
- 6 ONLINE/ SOCIAL MEDIA **2%**

¹ Includes books, magazines, television, radio, or newspaper.

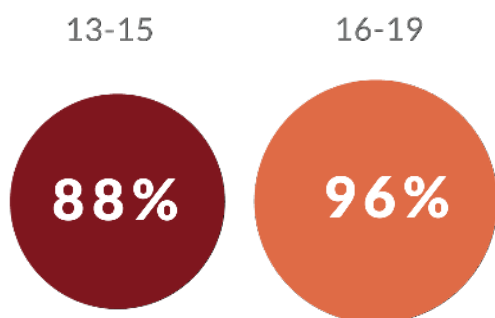
Teens in rural areas were less likely to go to their family for guidance, and more likely to lean on religious leaders and texts. The trend was reversed in urban areas.



Teens and Community

We were also curious how teens view their relationship to their community. Teens in Africa were seen to be highly community-oriented, and Tanzania followed this trend. The vast majority of teens (92%) said it is important for them to contribute to the well-being of their community. Feelings of responsibility appear to grow with age.

It is important to me to contribute to the well-being of my community:



92% OF TEENS SAY IT IS IMPORTANT TO CONTRIBUTE TO THEIR COMMUNITY

Conclusion

As today's teens navigate life's complex issues and questions, the voices they are listening to are critical. The sources teens trust and turn to shed insight on what they will believe. And what you believe has profound implications for how you will behave.

- **FAMILY HAS AN IMPORTANT ROLE.**

Encouragingly, teens report parents are a primary influence on their lives and young people trust their family members as guides for life's most important questions. Parents should not take lightly the privilege they have of speaking into their child's life. How can we equip families to step into this important role of discipling their children and teens within the home?

- **STRONG COMMUNITY IS ESSENTIAL.**

It is encouraging to see that most teens say they have close friends in addition to positive family relationships. However, this was not true for teens in all areas. Some teens are lacking people who know them well and can support them as they face challenges. How can we encourage teens to connect and share authentically with trusted people in their lives?

- **AFFIRM SCRIPTURE AS A GUIDE.**

We were glad to see that teens rank religious leaders and texts as important influences right after their family members. It is so important for young people to have God's truth as they navigate an increasingly confusing world. How can we continue to help young believers set Scripture as their guide and understand how to apply God's Word to their lives in practical and transformative ways?

- **CREATE WAYS TO CONTRIBUTE.**

This data showed that community relationships are important to this generation and teens want to do good for their community. But they will need to be empowered to contribute. How can we create opportunities for teens to both lead and serve within their communities?

PERSONAL EXPERIENCES AND STRUGGLES

TANZANIA REPORT

What We Discovered



Some teens in Tanzania are struggling with **depression and loneliness.**

Urban teens are at much **higher risk of suicide** than teens living in other locations.



Older teens are more likely than younger teens to be **struggling with their mental health.**



Teens who are dealing with **issues of sexuality** are at much higher **risk of suicide.**



Girls are twice as likely as boys to experience **suicidal ideation or make an attempt.**



Mental Health

We asked teens to tell us about their personal experiences and struggles within the past three months of their lives. Some teens report loneliness, high anxiety, or depression. Although teens in Tanzania are struggling with their mental health much less than their African peers, these rates are still substantial.

MENTAL HEALTH STRUGGLES

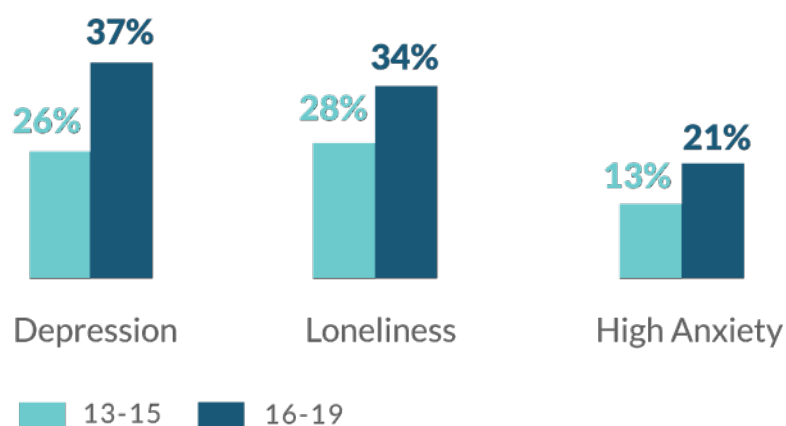
Within the past three months I have experienced:



Differences emerged when looking at the data by age. Older teens in Tanzania are struggling with their mental health more than younger teens.

OLDER TEENS STRUGGLE MORE

Within the past three months I have experienced:

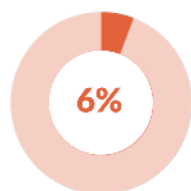


Suicide

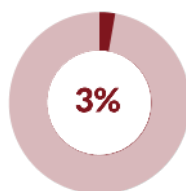
We asked teens to self-report if they had, within the last three months, experienced suicidal thoughts or made a suicide attempt. Sadly, some teens told us they had these experiences. Suicide risk was highly connected to location, with teens in urban areas being far more likely to have these struggles. Girls were also twice as likely as boys to have suicidal ideation or make an attempt on their life.

Within the past three months I have experienced:

SUICIDAL THOUGHTS



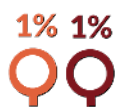
SUICIDE ATTEMPTS



SUICIDE RISK BY LOCATION

Within the past three months I have experienced:

 SUICIDAL THOUGHTS
 SUICIDE ATTEMPTS



RURAL



SEMI-URBAN



URBAN

SUICIDAL THOUGHTS

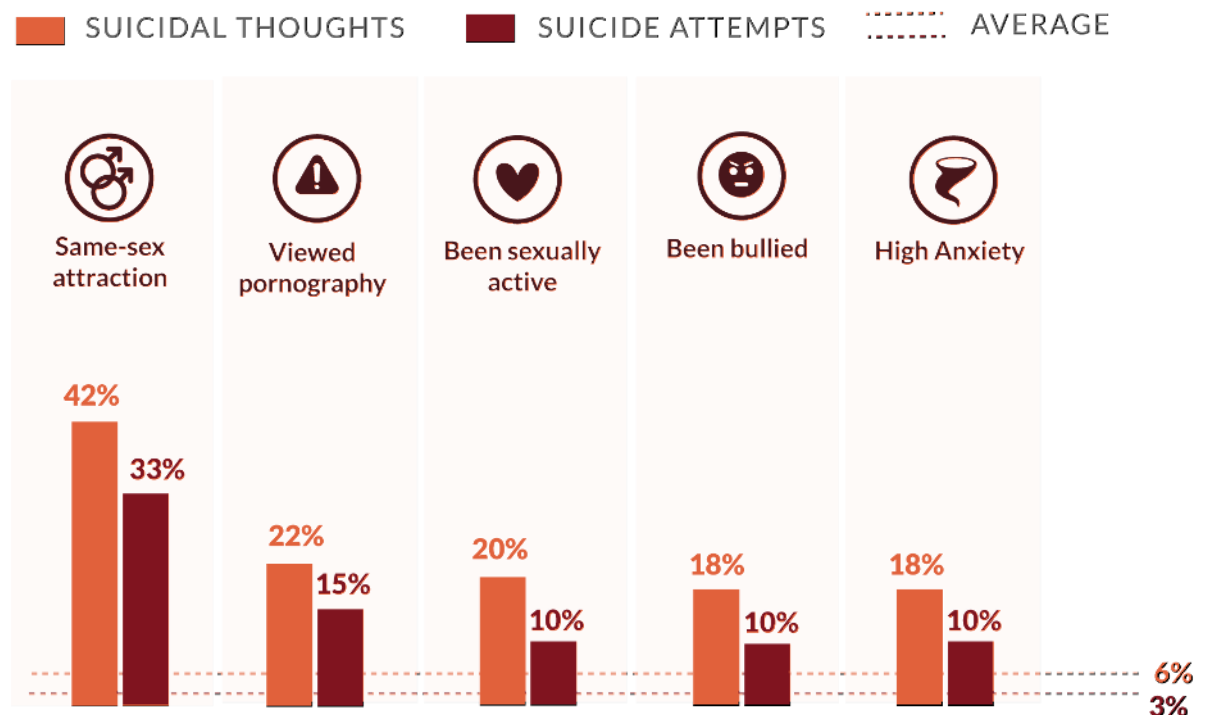
GIRLS  9%

BOYS  4%



Suicide risk is closely connected with other struggles teens are facing. Our research showed that teens in Tanzania who are dealing with issues of sexuality are more vulnerable to suicidal thoughts or making an attempt. Of teens who report recent same-sex attraction, 42% of them have had suicidal thoughts and 33% have made an attempt. Viewing pornography and being sexually active are also closely connected to suicide risk, as well as being bullied or having high anxiety.

5 CONNECTIONS WITH SUICIDE RISK



It is not necessarily one event or experience that triggers teens to try to take their life, but could be a series of small steps and thoughts that each build on the other. Regardless of the specific circumstances, this data shows that some teens are in seriously dark places that are driving them towards desperate action.

We should be heartbroken for young people who are hurting so deeply they want to end their lives. When it comes to suicide, we are not looking at numbers on a page—but at real people's lives. Any number is too many and any percentage too high.

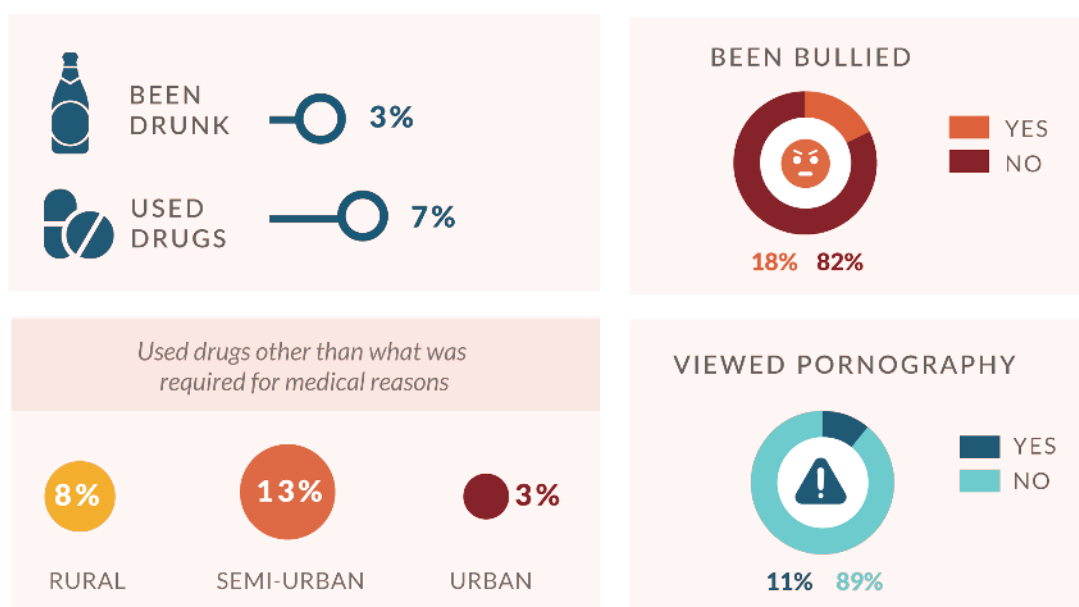
Other Struggles

The challenges teens face are not always visible from the outside. But they can have external expressions. A few teens in Tanzania reported recent drinking and drug usage. Drugs were seen to be more problematic in semi-urban areas, and for girls more than boys. Boys, on the other hand, were twice as likely as girls to have recently viewed pornography.

Bullying was also another notable challenge for this generation. Nearly 1 in 5 teens report recently having experienced this, with bullying being a more common experience for girls than boys. This data was a reminder that the teen years can be full of both private and public struggles that can really affect this generation's well-being.

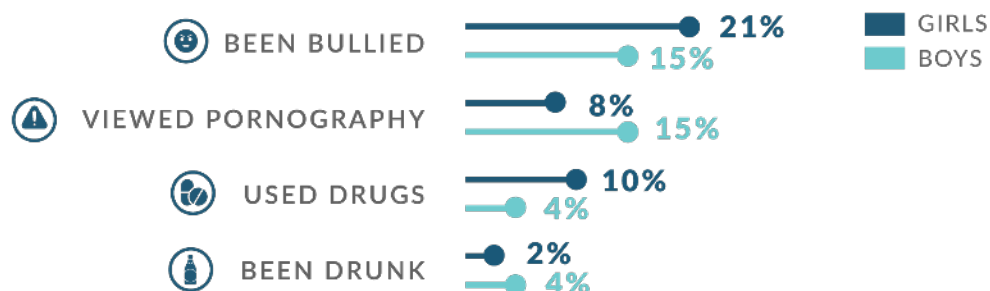
ALCOHOL AND DRUG USAGE

Within the past three months I have:



STRUGGLES BY GENDER

Within the past three months I have:



Conclusion

- **MENTAL HEALTH MATTERS.**

This research should be a wake-up call about the struggles teens are facing and how those work together to bring them down. We especially need to help older teens who are feeling these negative impacts more. How can we help young people feel seen, supported, and encouraged with the hope the Gospel holds for their lives?

- **SUICIDE RISK IS SERIOUS.**

Some teens are feeling very hopeless and even thinking about ending their lives. Teens living in large cities are especially vulnerable to suicidal thoughts and attempts. There also seems to be pressures surrounding gender that impact girls more than boys. How can we be alert to these concerns and ensure the teens we know are being cared for holistically?

- **STRUGGLES ARE CONNECTED.**

Teens are likely to be struggling in multiple areas of their lives. Issues of sexuality particularly connect to high suicide risk. We should seriously consider the circumstances we are creating for this generation that may be amplifying these challenges. How can we encourage them to seek help, rather than hide their challenges, and ensure they feel supported rather than shamed for their thoughts and actions?



DIGITAL CONNECTEDNESS AND IMPACT

TANZANIA REPORT

What We Discovered

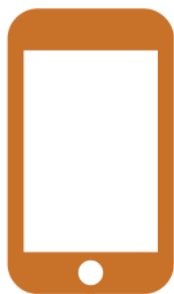


Half of smartphone users say they are online **at least weekly**.

Digital connection and **time online** increases for teens in **urban areas**.



42% of teens **own a phone**, most of which are smartphones.



Some teens recognize that their **online time** **takes away from healthy offline activities**.



Teens are divided on the impact of **social media** on their lives, reporting both **positive and negative effects**.

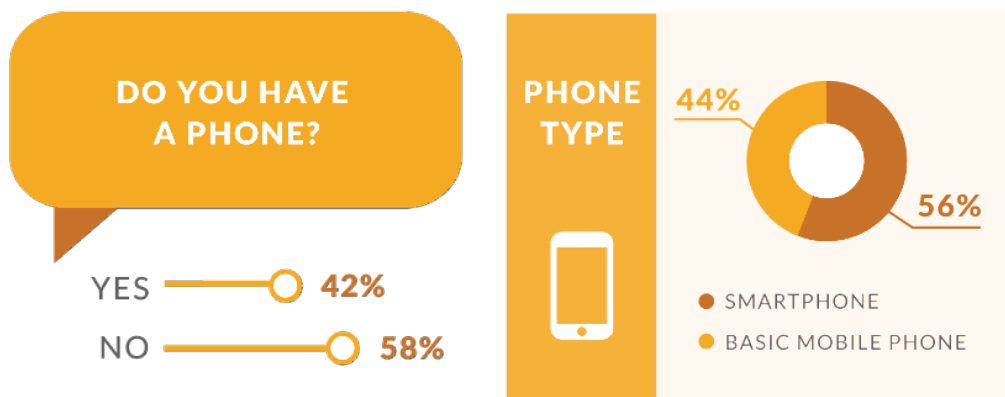
Most teens (**64%**) say they are online because they **want to be**, not because they have to be.



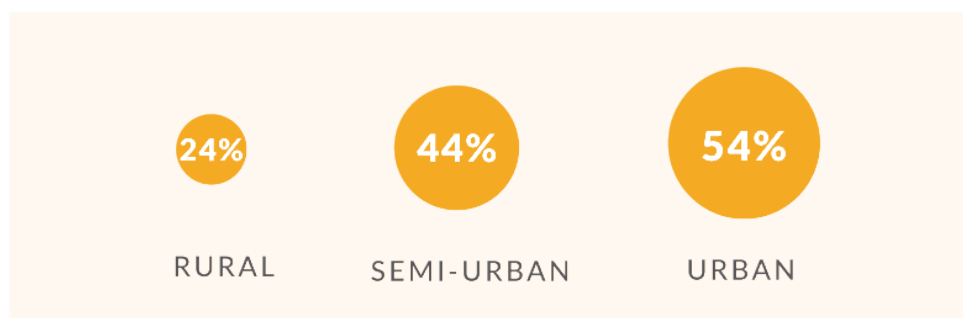
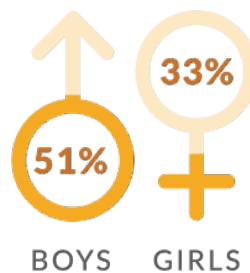
Teens and Technology

The Internet is something that appears to be shaping this generation. Teens have access to information, opinions, and influences at their fingertips. But how much is this affecting teens in Tanzania?

We wanted to find out how many teens have phones, how much time they are spending online, and how they are using social media. Forty-two percent of Tanzanian teens surveyed said they have a phone. Of those who do, more than half (56%) say they have a smartphone.



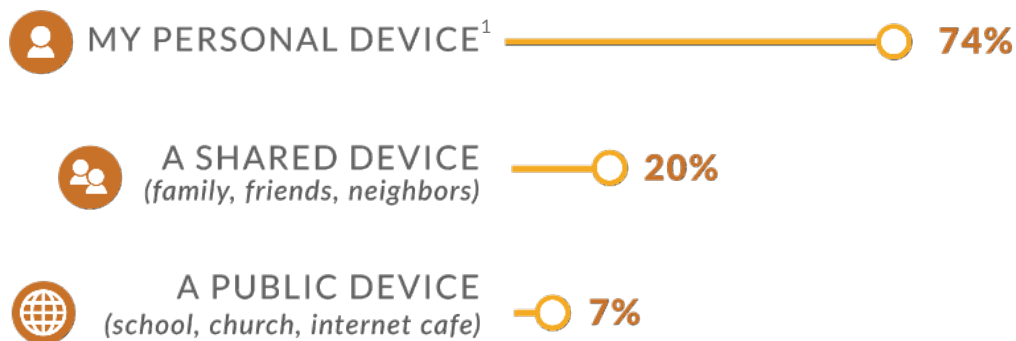
OWN A PHONE



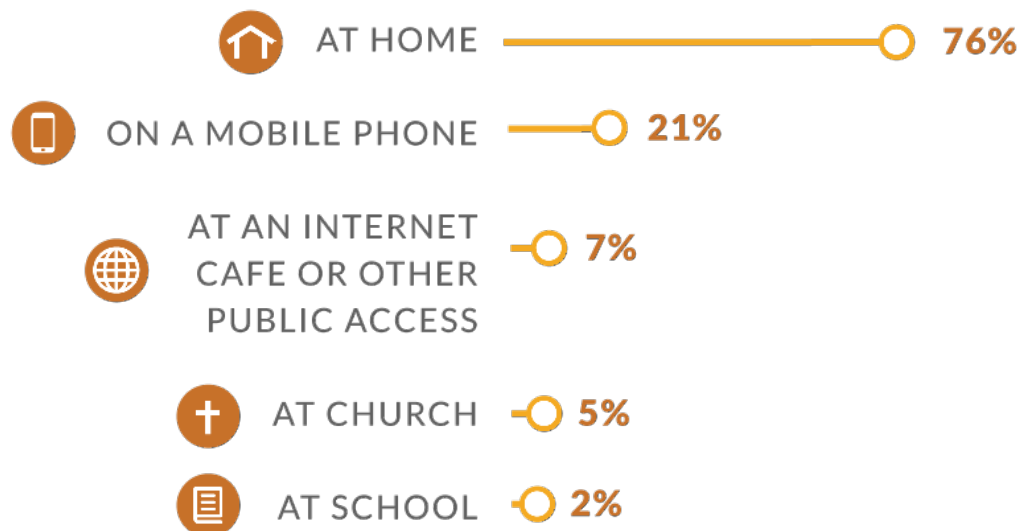
Of teens who are Internet connected, most use their personal device such as a smartphone to get online. But some teens have to share a device or use a public device.

Most say they get online from home. Some say their only access is through their mobile phone. A few teens have to go outside the home to an internet cafe, church, or school to get connected.

What device do you usually use to access the internet?



Where do you access the internet?²

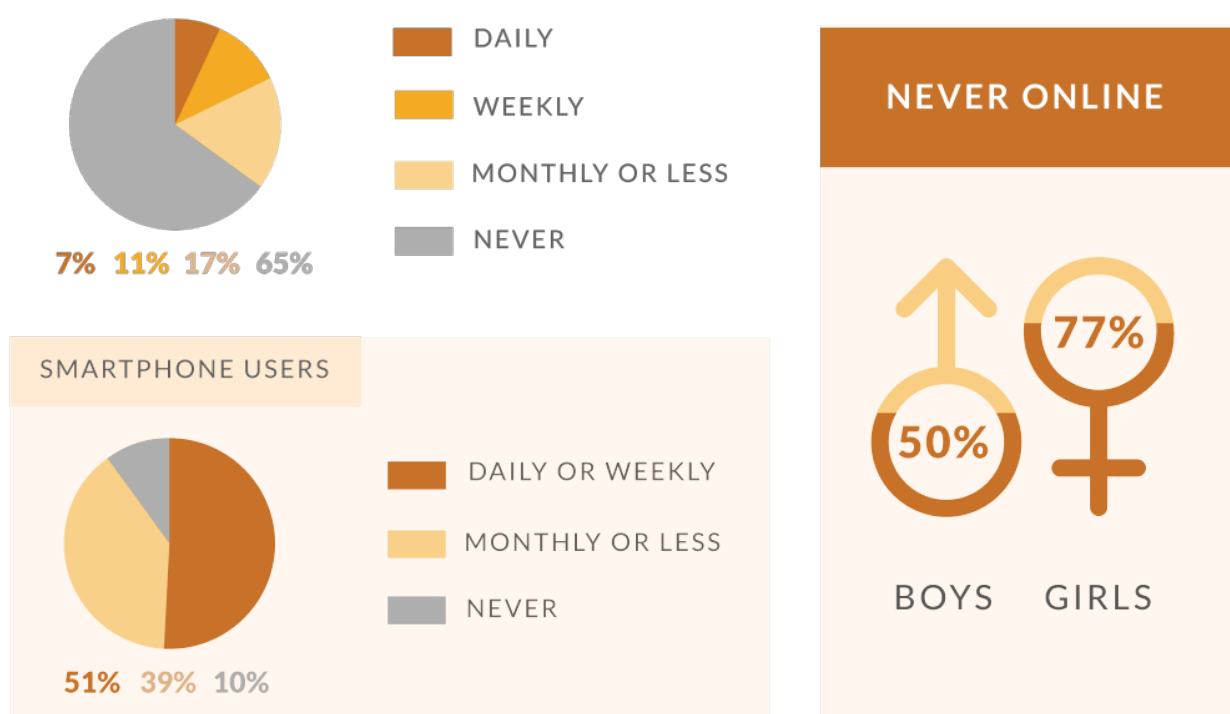


¹ Total adds to more than 100% due to decimal rounding.

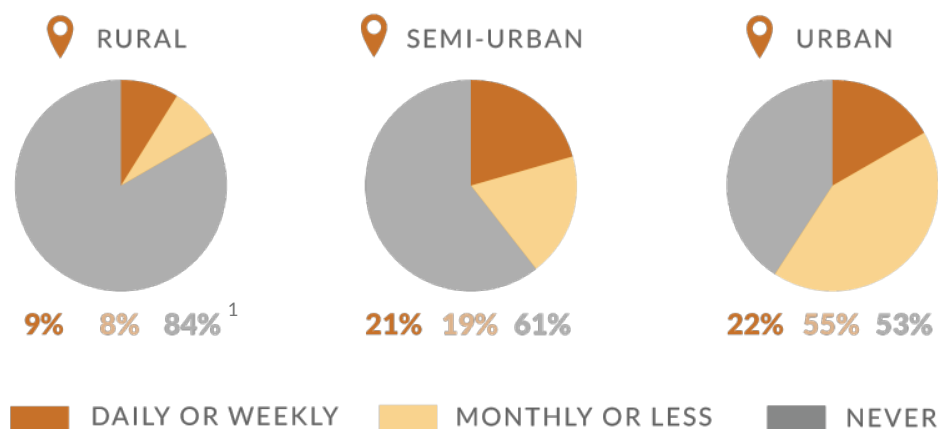
² Note that teens could select more than one answer to this question.

Internet access is not widespread for teens in Tanzania. Few teens say they are online daily. The majority (65%) say they are never online. This varies by location and gender. Girls are less likely to own a phone or access the Internet than boys. Teens living in rural areas are also less likely to be connected than urban youth. Smartphone users are much more likely to be online overall.

HOW OFTEN DO YOU HAVE INTERNET ACCESS?



INTERNET ACCESS BY LOCATION

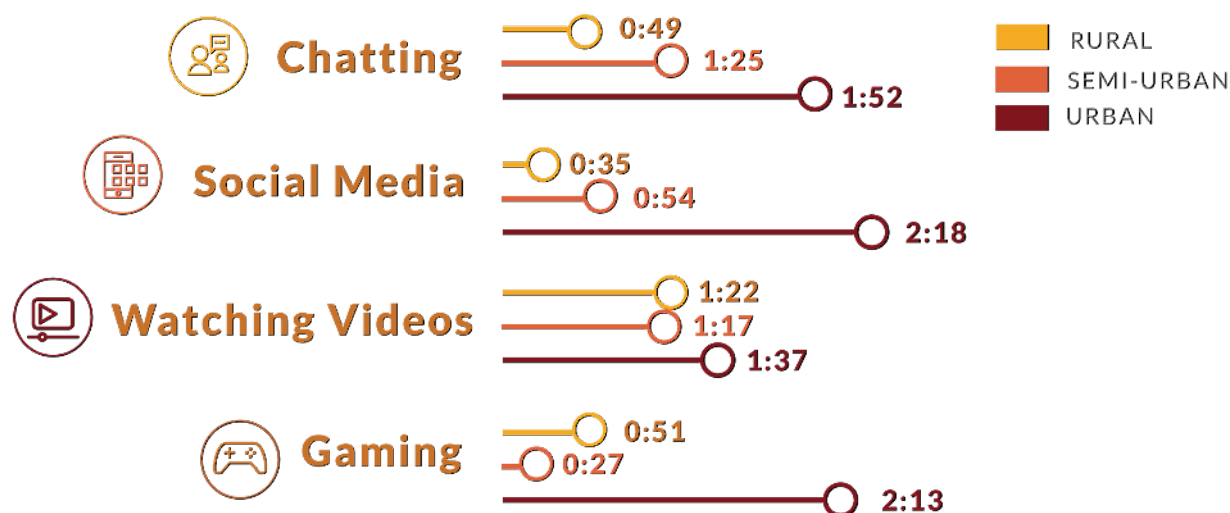


¹ Total adds to more than 100% due to decimal rounding.

Teens and the Internet

How much time are teens spending online, and what are they doing there? Teens surveyed in Tanzania report spending about an hour and a half on each category of online activity we asked about. Urban teens, however, are spending much more time than their peers on social media and gaming.

During a typical day, how much time do you spend online?



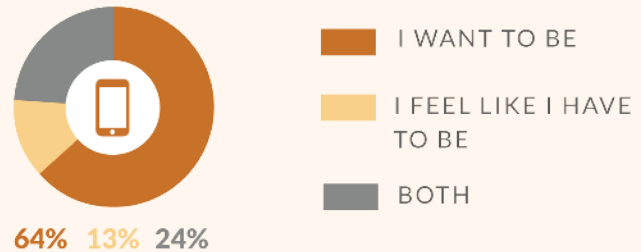
We were also curious about the experience of being online and whether this is something teens feel is contributing positively to their lives.

Most teens (64%) say they go online because they want to. However, girls are more likely to say they feel pressure to be online and to report that social media can negatively impact them.

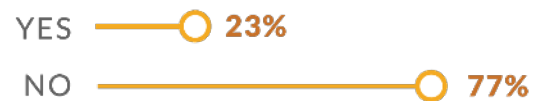
Overall, 23% of teens acknowledge that their time online can take away from healthy offline activities like exercising, seeing friends, reading, or sleeping.

This demonstrates that this generation is aware of the effects digital connectedness is having on them. Older teens were more likely to say their time online is unhealthy as compared with younger teens (28% vs 18%).

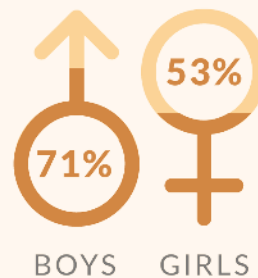
I AM ONLINE BECAUSE... ¹



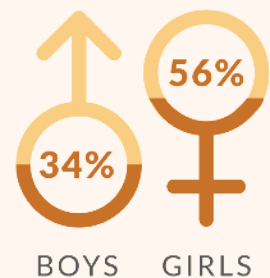
MY TIME ONLINE IS TAKING AWAY FROM HEALTHY OFFLINE ACTIVITIES



I AM ONLINE BECAUSE I WANT TO BE



SOCIAL MEDIA CAN MAKE ME FEEL SAD, ANXIOUS, OR DEPRESSED

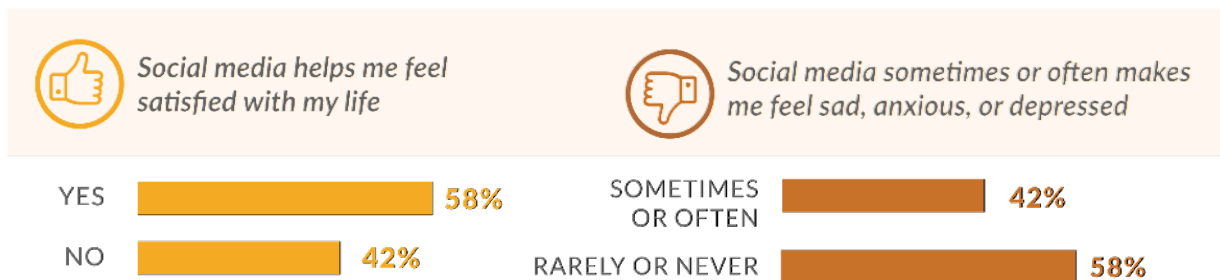


¹ Total adds to more than 100% due to decimal rounding.

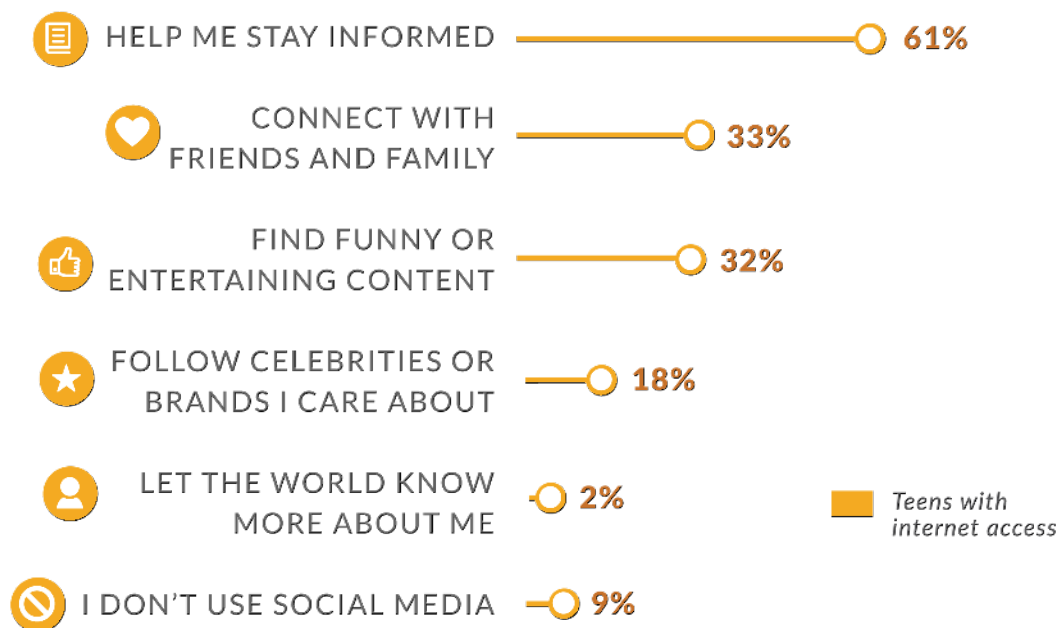


Teens and Social Media

When it comes to social media, teens were pretty divided about its effects on their lives. More than half (58%) said it helps them feel satisfied with their lives, but a significant number (42%) also said it can make them feel sad, anxious, or depressed. Girls were more likely than boys to identify those negative effects. Most teens said they use social media to help them stay informed.



I USE SOCIAL MEDIA PRIMARILY TO¹



¹ Note that teens could select up to two answers to this question.

Conclusion

Constant connectedness to digital platforms is becoming a way of life for today's young people. Tanzania is not far behind in this. More and more teens are owning phones and getting Internet-connected across the country. How will we help them navigate this new reality and engage them effectively with the Gospel message on these digital platforms?

- **LEVERAGE DIGITAL OPPORTUNITIES.**

Technology can be a powerful tool to reach this generation. Many teens, especially in our cities, are getting online and taking advantage of the apps, websites, and social media platforms available. How can we ensure there is Gospel content for them to find and life-giving online communities they can be a part of?

- **NAVIGATE THE TENSION.**

While this generation appears to be embracing digital, some teens recognize the tensions that devices are bringing to their lives. Girls are feeling these negative effects more than boys, and older teens are feeling that divide between their online and offline realities. How can we be mindful of the changes digital brings and help teens navigate their engagement in a healthy way?

- **POSITION FOR THE FUTURE.**

Digital connectedness is the future we are all headed towards, and youth are leading the way in this. We can't stop that, but we can take the journey with them rather than losing them to a digital world we are not part of and don't understand. As families, church leaders, and ministry workers we need to be aware of how the world is changing and how we may need to change with it. How can we embrace digital alongside this generation and bring both wisdom and innovation to this space?

IDENTITY AND RELATIONSHIPS

TANZANIA REPORT

What We Discovered

64% of teens believe gender is based on **sex at birth...**



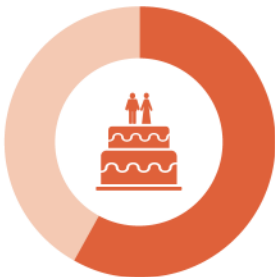
...but **many are confused** on this topic.



Very few teens report personally experiencing **gender identity confusion.**



Teachers are the **most influential** for teens on topics of **gender identity** and sexuality, while the influence of **religious leaders and texts** is low.



Most teens (**64%**) say marriage should be a **lifelong commitment**, but some say they are **not sure.**

Boys are more likely than girls to believe it is ok to have **sex before marriage.**



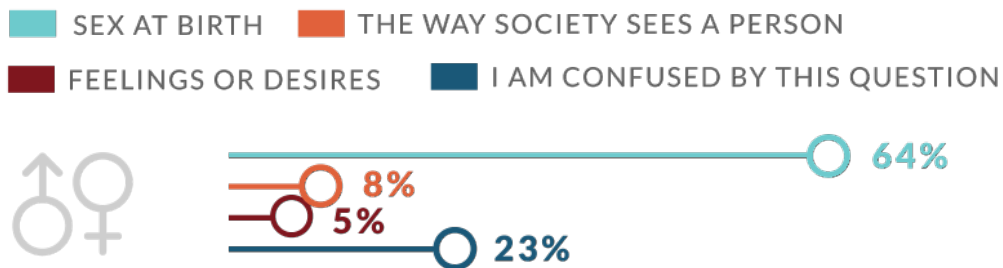
Gender Identity Viewpoints

Conversations around gender identity and sexuality are becoming more common among this generation. We wanted to find out the viewpoints of teens in Tanzania.

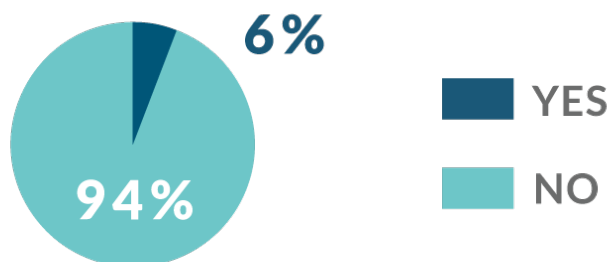
The majority said that gender is primarily based on a person's sex at birth. However, a good number of teens said this question confused them, which may indicate that this is not a very common conversation. The vast majority of teens said they have not personally experienced any gender identity confusion in their own lives.

VIEW OF GENDER

Gender is primarily based on:



Experienced gender identity confusion within the past three months:



Influences on the Conversation

We asked teens to share with us where they go for guidance about the complex topics of gender, sexuality, and sexual issues.

Teens say they look to teachers or counselors most often for guidance about these topics, followed by family members. The data showed that teens definitely rely on in-person relationships for guidance rather than looking online. However, it was notable how much the influence of religious leaders decreased, as compared to the authority they carried on other topics (see Influences and Guiding Voices section).

INFLUENCES ON GENDER VIEWS



Where I go most often for information or guidance about gender, sexuality & sexual issues.

- 1 **TEACHERS/COUNSELORS 31%**
- 2 **FAMILY 27%**
- 3 **FRIENDS/PEERS 14%**
- 4 **RELIGIOUS LEADERS/TEXTS 14%**
- 5 **OFFLINE MEDIA 9%**
- 6 **SOCIAL MEDIA/ONLINE 7%**

INFLUENCES BY LOCATION



TEACHERS/COUNSELORS

41%

RURAL

27%

SEMI-URBAN

23%

URBAN



FAMILY

15%

RURAL

31%

SEMI-URBAN

35%

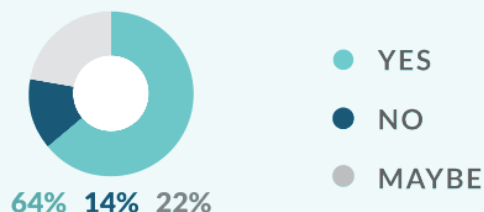
URBAN

Influences were seen to change by location.

Teens in rural areas are more reliant on their teachers, while urban teens are much more likely to go to family for advice.

Marriage Viewpoints

Should marriage be a lifelong commitment?



Marriage should be a lifelong commitment.

13-15



16-17

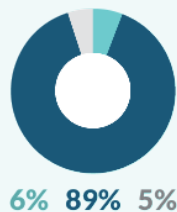


18-19

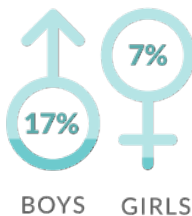


Do you believe it is ok to have sex before marriage?

● YES ● NO ● MAYBE



● YES OR MAYBE



● YES OR MAYBE

● 7%

RURAL

● 11%

SEMI-URBAN

● 15%

URBAN

We also investigated teens' beliefs about marriage.

The majority of teens in Tanzania (64%) said marriage should be a lifelong commitment. However, a significant number were unsure.

Attitudes trend by age, with older teens more certain that marriage should be lifelong.

Teens in Tanzania also say it is not ok to have sex before marriage.

However, there were some differences of opinion based on gender and location. Boys were more likely than girls to say this might be acceptable, as well as teens in urban areas.

Conclusion

A person's opinions do not stay the same forever, but for now we have a good view of what teens in Tanzania believe on the important topics of gender identity, sexuality, and marriage. In addition, we know where they are turning to for guidance and advice on these matters.

- **STRENGTHEN SCRIPTURAL VIEWPOINTS.**

It is reassuring to see that teens in Tanzania mostly have scriptural viewpoints on topics such as gender identity, sexuality, and marriage. But these topics continue to need cultivating as teens mature and begin to hear other opinions and voices. How can we help teens understand the plan God has for their sexuality and relationships and embrace that design in order to flourish?

- **PREPARE FOR CONFUSING CONVERSATIONS.**

The voice of culture speaks loudly to youth through music, media, and digital platforms. But culture will always continue to fall away from God's values. We need to prepare ourselves and this generation for honest conversations on topics like gender identity, same-sex attraction, and sex outside of marriage. We need to be ready not only to speak God's truth but to be good listeners for teens who may feel confused or doubtful on these topics.

- **RAISE THE INFLUENCE OF THE CHURCH.**

Pastors and church leaders are recognized authorities for topics like right and wrong and the meaning of life, but have become less relevant in other cultural conversations. Teens live in a world that is growing more complicated and confusing every day, but they need to know that the truth of God's Word does not change. Scripture speaks to every aspect of our lives. How can we communicate that to this generation and make the church a trusted voice and safe space for teens to navigate questions on gender and sexuality?

- **DISCIPLE THE FAMILY.**

Teens are looking to the adults in their life for guidance on these topics, and family members are an important guide. Teens often follow after their parents in their beliefs and attitudes. How can we disciple the entire family to have God's viewpoint on gender and sexuality?

LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

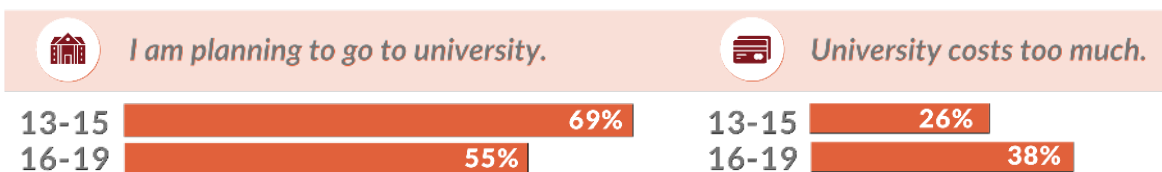
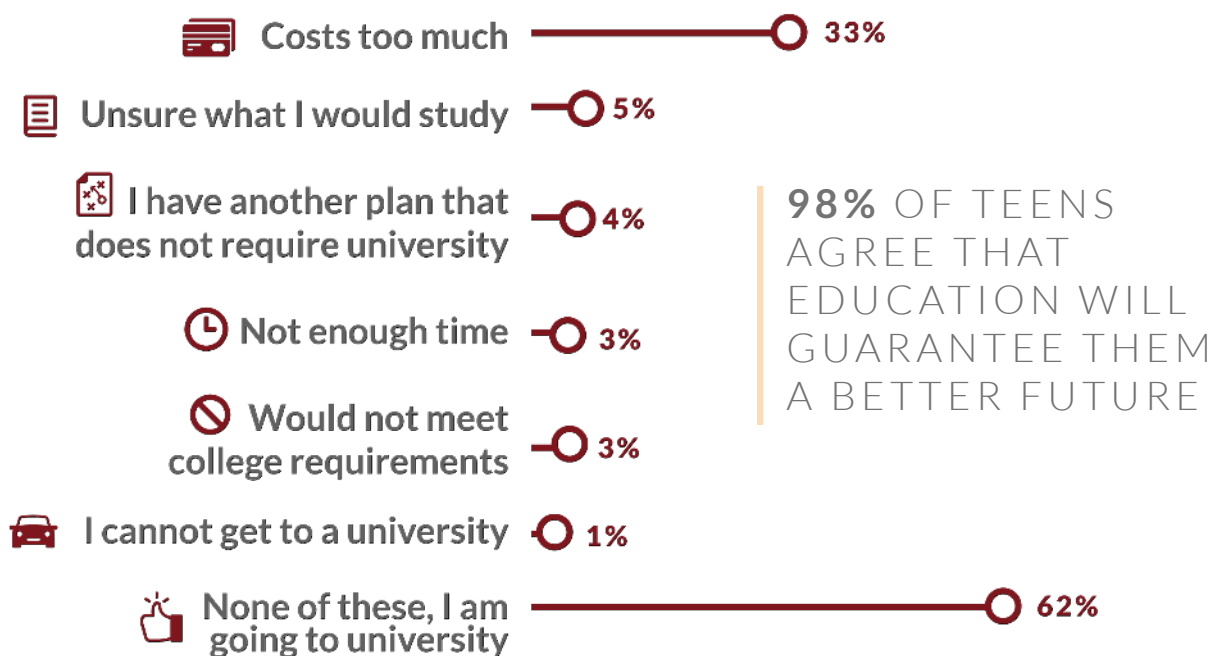
TANZANIA REPORT

Education

Nearly all teens in Tanzania see education as key to their future success. Ninety-eight percent say education is the primary thing that will guarantee them a better future. Most teens do not anticipate anything that would stop them from going to university. Among those who did identify a barrier, cost was the most frequently mentioned. Thirty-three percent of teens said this might stop them from attending.

Younger teens were more confident that they would be able to attend, as compared with older teens who were more likely to say it costs too much. Overall, it was encouraging to see that teens were not worried about barriers like time, college requirements, or being able to access a university.

WHAT WOULD STOP YOU FROM GOING TO UNIVERSITY?¹



¹ Note that teens could select up to two answers to this question.

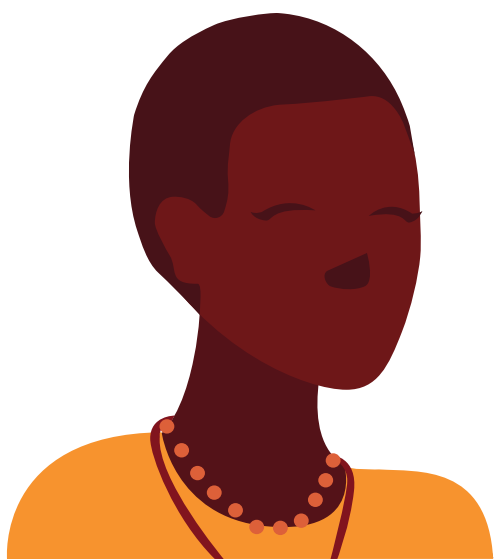
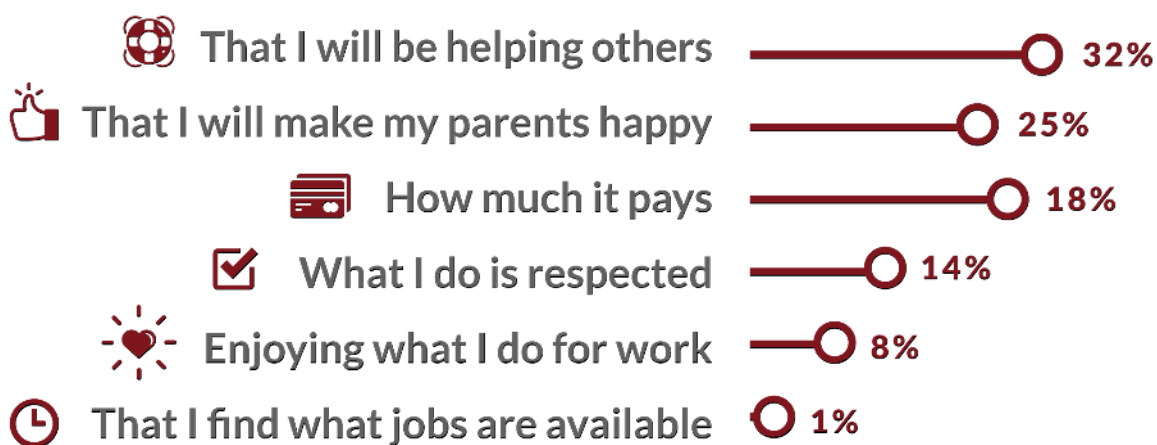
Career

Although they might not know what is ahead, teens do have an idea of what they want from their future career. Their top priority is that they would be helping others, followed by a desire to make their parents happy. How much a job pays and whether or not it is respected or enjoyable were lesser concerns. These priorities were similar regardless of a teen's age, gender, or location.

95% OF TEENS IN TANZANIA HAVE ENTREPRENEURIAL GOALS

Teens in Africa are some of the most ambitious of their global generation with a strong desire to be entrepreneurs. This was true in Tanzania as well. Nearly all teens surveyed (95%) said they would like to start a business or own their own company in the future.

TOP CAREER PRIORITIES



About OneHope

In partnership with local churches, ministries, and governments around the world, OneHope has reached more than 1.7 billion children and youth with God's Word. Based on in-country research OneHope conducts, Scripture programs are designed to be age and culturally relevant. Since 1987, OneHope has helped kids experience God's Story, sharing the life-changing message of hope with children and youth in every country.
onehope.net

About the Research

This project was an extension of a global research initiative that surveyed teens ages 13-19 in more than 20 countries. The global study was conducted in February-March of 2020. Research was conducted for this project in July 2022.

The data represents a variety of locations and regions throughout Tanzania and questions were customized to fit the national context. Teens were surveyed in-person at schools and submitted their answers on paper. Due to this difference in implementation, not all teens were required to answer every question. However, sample sizes were sufficient for every question included in this report.

Definitions

CHRISTIAN

Teens who self-identified as Christian, but not as Jehovah's Witness or Mormon.

COMMITTED CHRISTIAN

Teens who self-identified as Christian, but not as Jehovah's Witness or Mormon, and who met the following criteria:

- Believe God exists and they can have a personal relationship with Him.
- Believe Jesus is the Son of God.
- Believe that forgiveness of sins is only possible through faith in Jesus Christ.
- Believe the Bible is the Word of God.
- Read Scripture on their own daily or weekly.
- Pray daily or weekly.

Note that Committed Christian teens may be Catholic.

NOMINAL CHRISTIANS

Teens who self-identified as Christian, but not as Jehovah's Witness or Mormon, and who did not meet the criteria of core beliefs or habits established for Committed Christians.

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Suggested citation:

OneHope. (October 2022). *Global Youth Culture, Tanzania Report*.
www.globalyouthculture.net



GLOBAL YOUTH CULTURE