World Youths Survey
Madrid 2011
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1. Summary

Getting to know Christ through the Pope and through the faith in the Church

“Getting to know Christ through the Pope and through the faith in the Church” are the most repeated responses by young people around the world that had been interviewed by GAD through an online survey in the World Youth Day Madrid 2011 newsletter.

To experience Christ and the commitment to the Church as the main reasons for the pilgrimage.

For 9 out of 10 young people interviewed the main reasons to attend to Madrid 2011 are to have a new experience (93%) and to spread the message of Jesus Christ (92%), to express their commitment to the Church (90%) and to satisfy their spiritual concerns (90%). Another popular motivation to attend WYD is to meet new people (87%) and to be with people who share commons beliefs (88%). The young people interviewed expects that the WYD Madrid 2011 will help strengthen their commitment to the Church (67%), enable them to become a voice for the Church’s message throughout the world (63%) allow them to make a contribution by helping spread faith in Jesus Christ (63%), and help strengthen their own commitment to society (58%).

9 out of 10 believe that the WYD has either changed their life or will change their life.

9 out of 10 young people interviewed have expressed that the WYD has either changed their life or believe that it will change their life (48% a lot, or somewhat 41%).

Thus, 1 out of 4 young people interviewed (28%) have participated previously in some WYD event. Of these people, more than a half traveled with the Pope to Cologne (61%) and to Sidney (44%). Additionally, almost everyone that attended the WYD of 2005 and of 2008 (98%) had a positive experience (80% very positive and 18% positive).

Faith as a fundamental element for life

Faith in Christ is a very positive influence to help forgive others (85%), being caring and help the needy (80%) and to mature and become a better person (79%). It’s also has a very positive influence on helping young people to accept suffering and to be happy (75%) and to have a clear way of thinking (67%).

The Pope and the Catholic Church as the best rated institutions.

The Pope and the Church are rated with a 8.9, above the NGO’s: Cáritas, Red Cross, MSF...
Have you ever attended a World Youth Day?

28.0%

Yes

72.0%

No

Which one?

- Cologne (’05) 60.8%
- Sidney (’08) 44.2%
- Rome (’00) 22.4%
- Toronto (’02) 18.8%
- Paris (’97) 8.4%
- Manila (’95) 3.4%
- S. Comp (’89) 3.2%
- Denver (’93) 3.1%
- Czestochowa (’91) 1.7%
- Buenos Aires (’87) 1%
3. Personal rate

How would you rate your experience?

- Very positive: 80.2%
- Positive: 17.9%
- Indifferent: 1.2%
- Negative: 0.3%
- Very negative: 0.3%
Do you have a friend or a relative who has ever attended a World Youth Day?

- Yes: 78.1%
- No: 21.9%
How did he/she rate his/her participation in the World Youth Day?

- Very positive: 76.4%
- Positive: 20.4%
- Indifferent: 1.3%
- Negative: 0.3%
- I don't know: 1.6%
How would you rate the following possible reasons as a pilgrim in World Youth Day?

- To have a new experience: 72.3% A lot, 21.2% Somewhat, 4.3% Little, 1.6% Not at all, 1.2% N/A
- To help spread the message of Jesus Christ: 68.0% A lot, 24.1% Somewhat, 5.7% Little, 1.2% Not at all, 1.9% N/A
- To express my commitment to the Church: 65.9% A lot, 24.2% Somewhat, 7.2% Little, 1.9% Not at all, 2.1% N/A
- To satisfy my spiritual concerns: 61.7% A lot, 27.6% Somewhat, 7.7% Little, 2.1% Not at all, 2.9% N/A
- To be with people who think like me: 58.0% A lot, 29.9% Somewhat, 7.8% Little, 2.9% Not at all, 2.3% N/A
- To meet new people: 53.5% A lot, 33.0% Somewhat, 10.4% Little, 2.3% Not at all, 2.3% N/A
7. Other reasons

How would you rate the following possible reasons as a pilgrim in World Youth Day?

- To discover the meaning of my life: 48.7% (A lot), 30.2% (Somewhat), 14.3% (Little), 4.7% (Not at all), 0% (N/A)
- To make a contribution to help improve society: 48.0% (A lot), 33.7% (Somewhat), 13.4% (Little), 2.9% (Not at all), 0% (N/A)
- To use my free time in activities that I enjoy: 41.7% (A lot), 34.0% (Somewhat), 16.7% (Little), 5.7% (Not at all), 0% (N/A)
- To visit Spain: 37.2% (A lot), 30.2% (Somewhat), 19.9% (Little), 11.0% (Not at all), 0% (N/A)
- To feel useful by helping others as a volunteer: 30.9% (A lot), 24.6% (Somewhat), 17.1% (Little), 13.2% (Not at all), 0% (N/A)
- I have friends who are volunteers: 14.0% (A lot), 13.3% (Somewhat), 17.0% (Little), 36.4% (Not at all), 0% (N/A)
Why do you think the young people from all over the world are coming to Madrid this year for World Youth Day? *(Reason 1 + Reason 2)*

- Meet Christ: 531 mentions
- Young people: 468 mentions
- Pope: 418 mentions
- Church: 372 mentions
- Faith: 351 mentions
- Experience: 274 mentions
- Life: 186 mentions
- Share: 120 mentions
- God: 116 mentions
- Youth: 115 mentions
- Spain: 72 mentions
- Spiritual: 65 mentions
- Love: 47 mentions
- Christian: 38 mentions
- Live: 26 mentions
- Closer: 17 mentions

# Mentions
Why do you think the young people from all over the world are coming to Madrid this year for World Youth Day? (Reason 1 + Reason 2)
And how much has the World Youth Day changed or will change your life?

- **A lot**: 48.4%
- **Somewhat**: 40.8%
- **Little**: 8.9%
- **Not at all**: 1.9%
Which of the following words best characterize young people nowadays? Young people are ...

- Tolerant: 65.7% \(=\) Intolerant: 34.3%
- Idealist: 63.1% \(=\) Skeptical: 36.9%
- Hard workers: 56.3% \(=\) Lazy: 43.7%
- Generous: 53.2% \(=\) Selfish: 46.8%
- Responsible: 50.0% \(=\) Lack a sense of duty: 50.0%
- Caring: 44.0% \(=\) Consumerists: 56.0%
12. Importance of faith in your life

To what extent do you think faith in Jesus Christ is positive …?

- To forgive others: 84.8% A lot, 12.5% Somehow, 1.9% Little, 1.8% Nothing, N/A
- To be caring and help the needy: 80.0% A lot, 17.8% Somehow, 1.6% Little, 1.9% Nothing, N/A
- To mature and become a better person: 79.2% A lot, 18.9% Somehow, 3.9% Little, 3.9% Nothing, N/A
- To accept suffering and to be happy: 74.6% A lot, 20.6% Somehow, 3.9% Little, 3.9% Nothing, N/A
- To have a clear way of thinking: 67.4% A lot, 27.0% Somehow, 4.8% Little, 5.2% Nothing, N/A
- To be responsible: 67.1% A lot, 27.0% Somehow, 5.2% Little, 5.2% Nothing, N/A
- To study and develop a work ethic: 55.5% A lot, 34.1% Somehow, 8.4% Little, 8.4% Nothing, N/A
- To become more independent: 49.1% A lot, 34.4% Somehow, 12.7% Little, 12.7% Nothing, N/A
### 13. Expectations

What do you expect of this World Youth Day? I expect that...
Select as many options as you want

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expectation</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>It will help strengthen the commitment of young people to the Church</td>
<td>66.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>It will be a voice for the Church's message throughout the world</td>
<td>63.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I can contribute to spread the faith in Jesus Christ</td>
<td>63.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>It will strengthen the commitment of young people within their own society</td>
<td>58.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I can meet people from around the world</td>
<td>56.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>It will be an opportunity to improve the knowledge of Madrid internationally</td>
<td>26.7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Finally, on a scale of 0 to 10, in which 0 is very bad and 10 is very good, how would you rate the following religious figures and institutions?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Figure/Institution</th>
<th>Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pope Benedict XVI</td>
<td>8.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Catholic Church</td>
<td>8.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cáritas</td>
<td>8.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red Cross</td>
<td>8.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF)</td>
<td>8.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manos Unidas</td>
<td>8.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unicef</td>
<td>7.9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
15. Technical survey specifications

**Universe:** subscribers of the World Youth Day Madrid 2011 newsletter

**Mode:** Online and auto-filled application. An IP address had the possibility to answer just one interview. There was a version of the questionnaire in Spanish and other in English.

**Age and gender distribution:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Less than 20</td>
<td>194</td>
<td>291</td>
<td>485</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 to 30</td>
<td>379</td>
<td>554</td>
<td>933</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>More than 30</td>
<td>179</td>
<td>203</td>
<td>382</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>752</td>
<td>1048</td>
<td>1,800</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Residence area distribution:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Spain</th>
<th>Rest of Europe</th>
<th>Latinamerica</th>
<th>NorthAmerica (USA &amp; Canada)</th>
<th>Africa</th>
<th>Rest of the world</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Percentage</strong></td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Margin of error:** The results are statistically accurate to within 3.2 percentage points

**Sample Size:** 1,800 people

**Fieldwork dates:** June 14th – 21st 2011
GAD is a research institute based in Madrid (Spain) with a multinational and professional team specialized in youth and social analysis among others.

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