

# Appendix

The State of Young People during COVID-19



## How Learning Happens Survey Overview of COVID-19-Related Items April/May 2020

The novel virus caused by COVID-19 has disrupted life across the country and led to nationwide school closures. In the midst of this disruption and uncertainty, young people, teachers, parents, and other youth-serving professionals are working in new and creative ways to support young people’s education. In the interest of understanding how young people are doing in the midst of this crisis, the Center for Promise at America’s Promise Alliance conducted a nationally representative survey of youth across the country (N=3,300; 14.4% black, 25.3% Latinx, 49.4% white, 5.7% Asian, 3.8% multi-racial; 50.5% male, 48.5% female, 1% non-binary). Here is a demographic summary of the young people surveyed.

Demographics (N=3,300)	
<i>Gender</i>	
Male	50.5%
Female	48.5%
Non-binary	1%
<i>Race</i>	
White	49.4%
Black or African American	14.4%
Hispanic or Latino	25.3%
Asian American	5.7%
Pacific Islander	0.4%
American Indian or Native Alaskan	0.9%
Multiracial	3.8%
<i>Age</i>	
Range	13-19
Mean (Standard Deviation)	16.16 (1.48)
<i>Urbanicity</i>	
Large city	31.7%
Suburb of large city	32.9%
Small city or town	25.9%
Rural area	9.3%

The following summary shows each survey question asked, along with how young people responded. Young people surveyed were presented with a range of questions about their experiences with remote learning, their connectedness to schools, what they are concerned about, and their social and emotional well-being and mental health during this time.

### Question:

**Has your school building been closed due to the Coronavirus crisis?**

- Yes: 99.1%
- No: 0.8%

## **The frequency of students' communication with their school**

**Question:**

**Has your school provided opportunities for students to participate in online learning while your school building is closed?**

- Yes: 95.2%
- No: 2.4%

**Question:**

**In the past week, have you participated in the online learning opportunities that your school is providing?**

- Yes: 91.6%
- No: 5.2%

**Question:**

**Approximately how many days a week are you participating in online learning through your school?**

- 1 day per week: 2%
- 2 days per week: 4.3%
- 3 days per week: 17%
- 4 days per week: 18.3%
- 5 days per week: 47.5%
- More than 5 days per week: 10.9%

**Question:**

**During a typical day of online learning, approximately how many hours do you spend in class or working on assignments from your school?**

- 0 hours: 0.1%
- Less than one hour: 4.1%
- 1-2 hours: 28.3%
- 3-4 hours: 46.3%
- 5-6 hours: 15.9%
- 7-8 hours: 5.4%

- o Cumulative 4 hours or less per day of online learning (78.7%)

### **Further demographic analyses**

#### **Urbanicity**

- No significant differences based on urbanicity

#### **Race/Ethnicity**

- Asian American and black students report spending more days a week participating in online learning in comparison to white and Latinx students

## **How connected young people feel to their schools, school, adults, classmates during this time**

### **Question:**

**Since your school building closed, how often do you communicate with classmates from your school during a typical week?**

- Never: 13.3%
- 1 day a week: 11.9%
- 2 days a week: 13.6%
- 3 days a week: 14.5%
- 4 days a week: 10.3%
- 5 days a week: 14%
- 6 days a week: 4.1%
- 7 days a week: 18.3%
- o Cumulative less than half the week (53.3%)

### **Question**

**How connected do you feel to your school community during this time?**

- Not connected at all: 22.1%
- Somewhat connected: 50.2%
- Mostly connected: 19.5%
- Extremely connected: 8.2%

### **Further demographic analyses:**

#### **Urbanicity**

- Students in rural communities report feeling less connected to their school communities than students in cities, towns, or suburbs (though this might always be the case, we do not have data from pre-COVID)

#### **Race/Ethnicity**

- Asian students are more likely to feel disconnected from their school communities than white, black, and Latinx students

## Question

### How connected do you feel to school adults during this time?

- Not connected at all: 28.6%
- Somewhat connected: 47.5%
- Mostly connected: 16.7%
- Extremely connected: 7.7%

#### Further demographic analyses:

##### Urbanicity

- Students in cities and suburbs feel more connected to school adults and classmates in comparison to students who live in rural communities or small towns (again, this may always be true)

##### Race/Ethnicity

- Latinx students describe feeling less connected to school adults than white or black students

## Question

### How connected do you feel to your classmates during this time?

- Not connected at all: 23.3%
- Somewhat connected: 43.0%
- Mostly connected: 24.5%
- Extremely connected: 9.1%

#### Further demographic analyses:

##### Urbanicity

- No significant differences based urbanicity

##### Race/Ethnicity

- Latinx students describe feeling less connected to school classmates than white or black students

## Whether students have been provided with resources to support their social & emotional well-being

## Question:

**Since your school building closed, has an adult from your school suggested tools or resources to support your social and emotional well being?**

- Yes: 60.5%
- No: 39.5%

**Further demographic analyses:**

**Urbanicity**

- Youth living in Rural areas were less likely than youth living in Cities or Suburbs to report that adults from their school offered Tools or Resources to support their social and emotional well being
  - 62.0% youth living in Cities
  - 52.0% youth living in Rural settings
  - 63.0% youth living in Suburbs
  - 59.0% youth living in Towns

**Race/Ethnicity**

- Generally, there were no differences across race/ethnicity in regard to whether youth were offered tools or resources
- Youth who identified as “Other” race were less likely to be offered than Asian youth. However, we generally refrain from interpretation of findings related to the “Other” race category as there is wide variation in the populations of youth that identify within this category.
  - 59.0% of White Youth
  - 64.0% of Black Youth
  - 62.0% of Latinx Youth
  - 69.0% of Asian Youth
  - 53.0% of Other Youth

**Question:**

**To what extent have those resources been helpful?**

- Not very helpful at all: 7.4%
- A little helpful: 36.2%
- Helpful: 34.8%
- Very helpful: 21.6%
  - When students are offered resources, they are typically experienced as useful.

**Further demographic analyses:**

**Urbanicity**

- There were no differences by location in regard to whether youth found the tools/resources helpful

### Race/Ethnicity

- There were no differences across race/ethnicity in regard to whether youth found the tools/resources helpful
  - 93.1% of White Youth
  - 92.7% of Black Youth
  - 92.7% of Latinx Youth
  - 87.4% of Asian Youth
  - 94.1% of Other Youth

## Major areas of concern for young people since their building closed

### Question

Since your school building closed, how concerned have you been about the following:  
(Response scale: not at all concerned, less concerned than usual, concerned the same as usual, much more than usual)

	Not at all concerned	Less concerned than usual	Concerned the same as usual	Much more concerned than usual
Getting into college	23.3%	8%	41.8%	26.9%
Your family's physical health	10.6%	6.8%	35%	47.6%
Your family's emotional health	12.8%	8.4%	43.6%	35.1%
Your physical health	13%	9%	39.2%	38.8%
Your emotional health	14.4%	9.5%	40.7%	35.5%
Having your basic needs met (food, medicine, safety, etc...)	23.9%	8.9%	37.5%	29.6%
Your family's financial situation	17.3%	8.8%	33.7%	40.1%
Relationships with friends	19.4%	12.6%	38.5%	29.5%
School grades/performance	13.1%	11.8%	35.1%	40%
Uncertainty about the future	11.1%	7.8%	30.1%	50.9%

### Further demographic analyses for health concerns

Since your school building closed, how concerned have you been about the following:

- Your family's physical health
- Your family's emotional health
- Having your basic needs (food, medicine, safe place) met
- Your physical health
- Your emotional health

### Overall

- Overall, 52.4% of youth were more concerned about their health and their own health and their family's health since schools closed in March

### **Urbanicity**

- Youth in all areas were more concerned about health since school closed
  - o 55.7% of youth living in Cities
  - o 56.7% of youth living in Suburbs
  - o 51.2% of youth living in Towns
  - o 50.2% of youth living in Rural Areas
- There were no meaningful differences in regard to concern about health concerns across locales

### **Race/Ethnicity**

- Across racial/ethnic groups youth were more concerned about health
  - o 50.8% of Asian youth
  - o 51.0% of Black youth
  - o 49.6% of Hispanic youth
  - o 57.6% of White youth
- There were no meaningful differences in concern about health across racial/ethnic groups

### **Parent Place of Birth**

- 56.0% of youth whose parents were born in the US and 52.0% of youth whose parents were not born in the US reported increased concern about health
- There were no meaningful differences in regard to health concern by parent immigration status

### **Further demographic analyses for basic needs concern**

Since your school building closed, how concerned have you been about the following:

- Having your basic needs (food, medicine, safe place) met

### **Overall**

- Overall, 29.1% of youth were more concerned about having their basic needs met since schools closed in March

### **Urbanicity**

- Students from all locales were more concerned than usual about having their basic needs met
  - o 30.8% of youth living in cities
  - o 32.3% of youth living in Suburbs
  - o 26.0% of youth living in Towns
  - o 26.9% of youth living in Rural areas
- However, there were no meaningful differences in concern around having basic needs met across locales

### **Race/Ethnicity**

- Students from all racial/ethnic groups were more concerned than usual about having their basic needs met
  - o 25.0% of youth living in cities



- o 31.1% of youth living in Suburbs
  - o 31.6% of youth living in Towns
  - o 27.5% of youth living in Rural areas
- No statistically meaningful differences by race/ethnicity

### **Parent Place of Birth**

- 30.1% of youth with parents born in the US and 29.0% of youth with immigrant parents were more concerned than usual about having their basic needs met
- There were no statistically meaningful differences by parent immigration status

## **Further demographic analyses for financial concern**

Since your school building closed, how concerned have you been about the following:

- Your family's financial situation

### **Overall**

- Overall, 39.4% of youth reported being more concerned about their family's financial situation since school closed in March

### **Urbanicity**

- Youth from all locales expressed concern about their family's finances since schools closed in March
  - o 43.0% of youth living in Cities were more concerned
  - o 42.4% of youth living in Suburbs were more concerned
  - o 36.4% of youth living in towns were more concerned
  - o 38.5% of youth living in Rural areas were more concerned
- Youth living in cities were 11.7% more likely to report being concerned about their family's financial situation than youth living in towns

### **Race/Ethnicity**

- Youth of all races/ethnicities reported increased concern about their family's financial situation
  - o 33.9% of Asian youth
  - o 36.7% of Black youth
  - o 41.8% of Hispanic Youth
  - o 40.5% of White Youth
- Hispanic youth were 23.3% more likely to report increased concern around family financial situation than Asian youth

### **Parent Place of Birth**

- 41.0% of youth whose parents were born in the US and 40.2% of youth whose parents were not born in the US reported increased concern about their family's financial situation
- There were no statistically meaningful differences by parent immigration status

## **Further demographic analyses for education concerns**

Since your school building closed, how concerned have you been about the following:

- Getting into college
- School grades/performance

### **Overall**

- Overall, 38.9% of youth were more concerned about their current and future educational prospects since schools closed in March

### **Urbanicity**

- Youth in all areas were more concerned about education since school closed

- o 40.9% of youth living in Cities
- o 43.8% of youth living in Suburbs
- o 38.1% of youth living in Towns
- o 34.9% of youth living in Rural Areas

- There were no meaningful differences in regard to concern about education across locales

### **Race/Ethnicity**

- Across racial/ethnic groups youth were more concerned about education

- o 42.5% of Asian youth
- o 40.8% of Black youth
- o 39.3% of Hispanic youth
- o 39.4% of White youth

- There were no meaningful differences in concern about education across racial/ethnic groups

### **Parent Place of Birth**

- 39.3% of youth whose parents were born in the US and 41.7% of youth whose parents were not born in the US reported increased concern about education

- There were no statistically meaningful differences by parent immigration status

## **General sense of well-being for young people over the past month**

### **Adolescent General Health Questionnaire (GHQ-12)**

**In the last month, have you...**

**(Response scale: not at all, much less than usual, same as usual, much more than usual)**

	Not at all	Much less than usual	Same as usual	Much more than usual
Been able to concentrate on what you are doing?	8%	35.8%	44.1%	12.2%
Lost much sleep over worry?	30.2%	13.3%	31%	25.4%
Felt that you were playing a useful part in things?	20.7%	23.9%	42.6%	12.8%
Felt capable of making decisions about things?	8.7%	20.6%	55.2%	15.5%
Felt constantly under strain?	19.7%	16.9%	34.9%	28.5%
Been feeling unhappy and depressed?	25.2%	13.6%	30.8%	30.4%
Felt you could not overcome difficulties?	22.2%	15.7%	39.7%	22.4%
Been losing confidence in yourself?	30.4%	13%	32.2%	24.4%
Been feeling happy?	9%	27.1%	48.6%	15.3%

### Further Demographic analyses:

#### Urbanicity

- Youth in all locales reported poorer cognitive, and emotional health since schools closed in March
  - o 36.9% of youth living in Cities
  - o 34.6% of youth living in Suburbs
  - o 33.2% of youth living in Towns
  - o 31.9% of youth living in Rural areas
- Rates of poorer health were relatively uniform across locales with one exception:
  - o Youth living in Cities were 15.4% more likely report poorer physical, cognitive and emotional health than youth living in Rural areas

#### Race/Ethnicity

- Youth of all race/ethnicities reported poor physical, cognitive, and mental health since school closed in March
  - o 43.9% of Asian youth
  - o 30.5% of Black youth
  - o 39.6% of Hispanic youth
  - o 30.1% of White youth
- Asian and Hispanic youth were more likely than any other racial/ethnic group to report poorer physical, cognitive, and mental health
  - o Asian youth were 31.9% more likely to report poorer health than Black or White youth
  - o Hispanic youth were 30% more likely to report poorer health than Black or White youth
  - o Black and White youth reported poorer health at approximately the same rate

- o Asian and Hispanic youth reported poorer health at approximately the same rate

**Parent Immigration Status**

- 31.2% of youth with parents born in the US reported poorer cognitive, and mental health since schools closed in March
- 41.7% of youth with immigrant parents reported poorer cognitive, and mental health since schools closed in March
- Youth with parents who are immigrants were 33.6% more likely to experience poorer physical, cognitive, and mental health than youth with non-immigrant parents