STUDENTS WEIGH IN, PART II: Learning & Well-Being During COVID-19

A DISCUSSION OF FINDINGS & IMPLICATIONS
TUESDAY, MARCH 16TH 2020 | 9:30am PT / 12:30pm ET

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Dr. Jen de Forest | Jimmy Simpson, Jr.
OPENING REMARKS

Titilola Harley

Program Officer, K-12 Solutions

Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
WHO ARE WE LISTENING TO?

More than 500,000 students
952 schools
37 states
6 Areas of Insight

THE COVID EFFECT
EXPERIENCE OF LEARNING
OBSTACLES TO VIRTUAL LEARNING
RELATIONSHIPS WITH TEACHERS
CONNECTION
POST SECONDARY PLANS
THE COVID EFFECT
50% of secondary students in fall 2020 reported that they felt moderately or significantly affected by COVID-19.
The COVID-19 Effect

- In-person: 57%
- Virtual: 50%
- Hybrid: 48%
EXPERIENCE OF LEARNING
In most of my classes, I learn a lot almost every day.
In most of my classes, I learn a lot almost every day.

By Learning Setting

64% 61% 59%
In-person Virtual Hybrid

Statistically significant difference
72% of students identified at least one barrier to learning.
Do any of the following make it hard for you to do your best in school?

- Limited or no internet access: 20%
- Limited or no access to a computer or device: 27%
- Does not receive free or reduced-price lunch: 8%
- Receives free or reduced-price lunch: 15%
Learning from students’ experiences of virtual learning
WHILE DISTANCE LEARNING

The amount of time I spend...

...online in live instruction with my teachers is...

- Not enough or somewhat too little time: 9%
- The right amount of time: 62%
- Too much or somewhat too much time: 29%
While distance learning...

...I can take breaks when I need them 48%

...someone usually notices if I'm not paying attention 35%
OBSTACLES TO VIRTUAL LEARNING

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Mental health is the new #1 obstacle to learning...
## TOP 5 OBSTACLES TO VIRTUAL LEARNING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Obstacle</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Feeling depressed, stressed, or anxious</td>
<td>46%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Distractions at home and family responsibilities</td>
<td>44%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>My health or the health of my family members</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Limited or no internet access</td>
<td>26%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not having an adult who can help me with my schoolwork</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Do any of the following make it hard for you to do your best in school?

- Feeling depressed, stressed or anxious: 33%
- Other: 79%

Survey conducted by YouthTruth
Mental health is the new #1 obstacle to learning; however, not for all students.
OBSTACLE LOAD
BY RACE/ETHNICITY

Average number of obstacles to learning faced by different student groups:

- Asian: 1.78
- White: 1.83
- Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander: 1.92
- American Indian or Alaska Native: 2.16
- Black or African American: 2.24
- Multiracial: 2.28
- Hispanic or Latinx: 2.28

Statistically significant difference

TOP 3 OBSTACLES TO VIRTUAL LEARNING

All Students
- Feeling depressed, stressed, or anxious
- Distractions at home and family responsibilities
- My health or the health of my family members

Hispanic/Latinx Students
- Distractions at home and family responsibilities
- Feeling depressed, stressed, or anxious
- My health or the health of my family members

Black or African-American Students
- Distractions at home and family responsibilities
- Feeling depressed, stressed, or anxious
- Limited or no internet access

INSIGHT 3: OBSTACLES TO VIRTUAL LEARNING | #STUDENTSWEIGHIN
RELATIONSHIPS
WITH
TEACHERS

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Most of my teachers try to understand what my life is like outside of school.
I really feel like part of my school’s community.

- In-person: 52%
- Hybrid: 50%
- Virtual: 48%
SOCIAL INTERACTION WHILE DISTANCE LEARNING

The amount of time I spend...

- interacting with my classmates is...
  - Not enough or somewhat too little time: 41%
  - The right amount of time: 48%
  - Too much or somewhat too much time: 11%

- interacting with my friends is...
  - Not enough or somewhat too little time: 49%
  - The right amount of time: 41%
  - Too much or somewhat too much time: 10%
POST SECONDARY PLANS
1 in 4 high school seniors’ postsecondary plans have changed since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic
SENIORS’ POSTSECONDARY PLANS
After you finish high school, what do you expect to do next?

- **Attend a 4-year college**: 52% (Pre-COVID), 51% (Fall 2020)
- **Attend a 2-year college**: 22% (Pre-COVID), 16% (Fall 2020)
- **Work full time at a job**: 6% (Pre-COVID), 8% (Fall 2020)
- **I’m not sure**: 8% (Pre-COVID), 13% (Fall 2020)
Leading through Listening

Jenny Curtin
Senior Program Officer, Education
Barr Foundation
Boston, MA

Kevin Gardner
Principal
Doherty High School, Colorado Springs School District 11
Colorado Springs, CO

Dr. Raymond Gonzalez
Superintendent
Westwood Regional School District
Township of Washington, NJ
Q & A
Let’s keep the conversation alive.

Titilola Harley

Jenny Curtin

Kevin Gardner

Dr. Raymond A. Gonzalez

Dr. Jen de Forest

Jimmy Simpson, Jr.
Thank you.

To learn more or bring YouthTruth to your community, reach out to us via: hello@youthtruthsurvey.org.