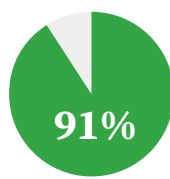


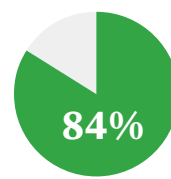
The Role of Media During the Pandemic: Connection, Creativity, and Learning for Tweens and Teens

Entertainment screen media has played an important role in helping young people make it through the pandemic.

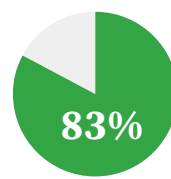
Percent of 8- to 18-year-olds who say that during the pandemic, media like TV, movies, video games, and social media has been important for:



Having fun



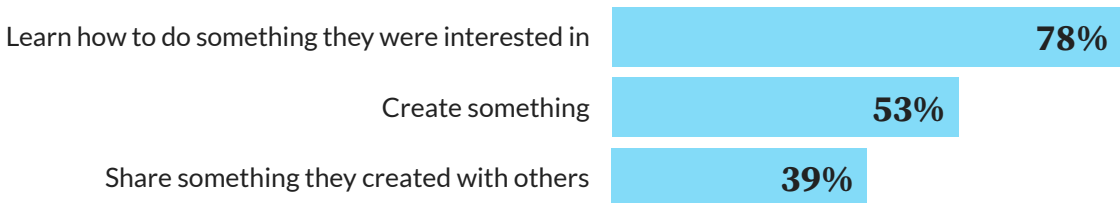
Keeping my mood up



Staying connected with family and friends

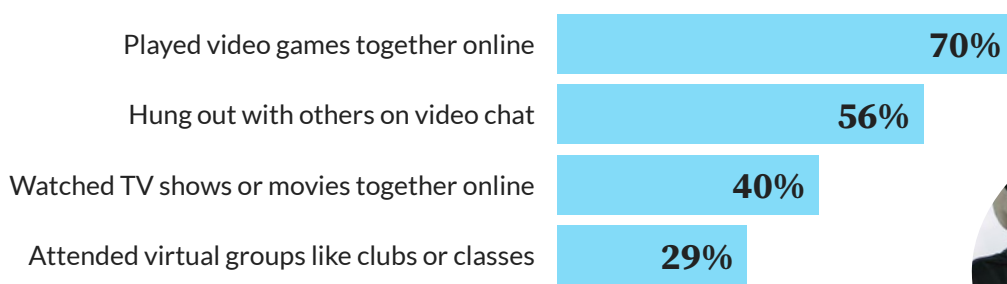
Teens and tweens use digital media to learn and create outside of school ...

During the pandemic, percent of 8- to 18-year-olds who have often or sometimes used digital devices to:



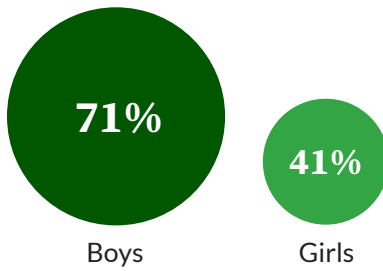
... and spend time socializing with others online (especially playing video games)!

During the pandemic, percent of 8- to 18-year-olds who have:

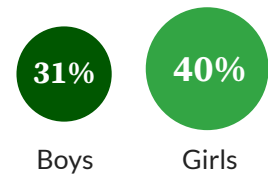


Boys and girls have not participated in activities equally.

Percent who have played video games with friends online at least once a month:

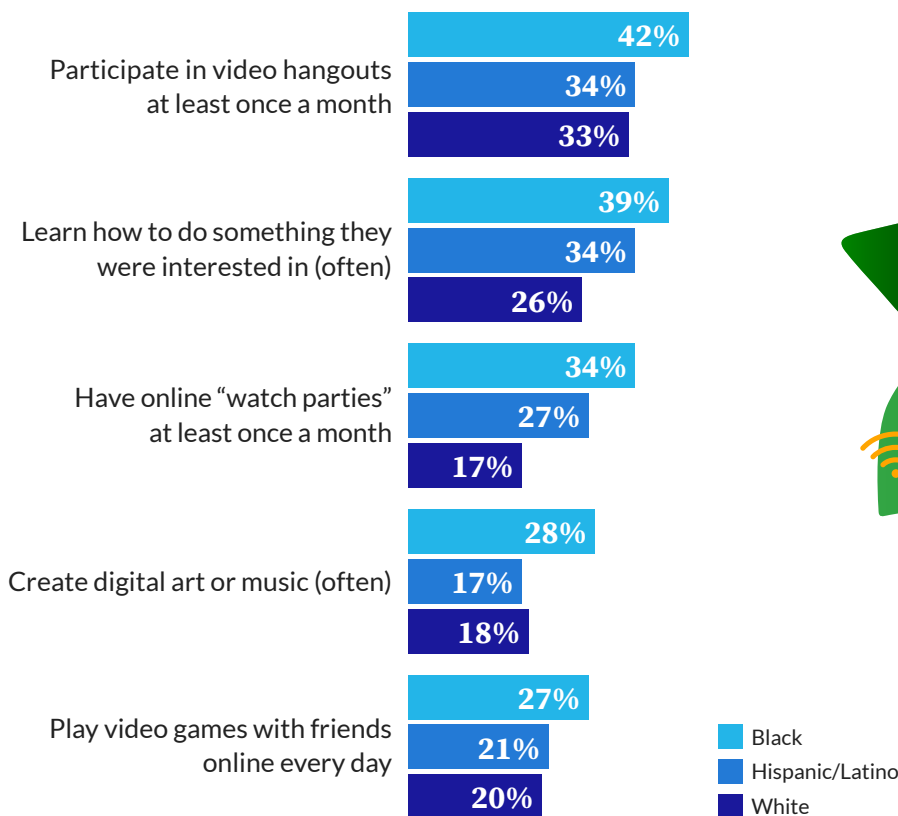


Percent who have participated in video hangouts with friends at least once a month:



Digital media has played an especially important role for Black tweens and teens in the pandemic.

Percent of 8- to 18-year-olds who have gone online to:

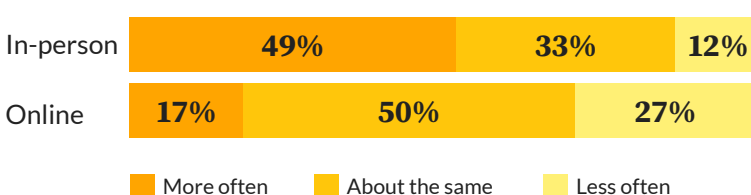


A sample of things tweens and teens said they learned to do online during the pandemic:

- Build a computer
- Practice yoga
- Do needle felting
- Make a worm farm
- Learn a dance
- Make slime
- Do BMX tricks
- Make homemade frosting
- Tie-dye clothes
- Build a playhouse
- Do card tricks
- Wash a rabbit
- Sew a stuffed turtle
- Make doll furniture
- Juggle
- Crochet
- Build a marble run
- Play the ukulele
- Find morel mushrooms
- Make stop-motion videos
- Fix a go-cart
- Build a Lego car
- Drop into a skate bowl without crashing

Many tweens and teens want to spend even more time socializing with friends in person now than they did before the pandemic.

Percent of 8- to 18-year-olds who want to get together with friends in-person or online "more" or "less" often than they did before the pandemic:



Note: Bars don't sum to 100% due to rounding and the exclusion of those who didn't respond to the question.

An unexpected upside to the pandemic? More time with family was the #1 thing tweens and teens said changed for the better.*



Methodology: The data in this report is from a nationally representative, probability-based online survey of 1,318 young people (age 8 to 18) in the United States. The survey was conducted from May 7 through June 3, 2021 by Ipsos Public Affairs for Common Sense Media, using Ipsos's KnowledgePanel®. The survey was offered in English or Spanish.

*As reported in an open-ended question.