Before the coronavirus pandemic, children age 8 to 12 in lower-income households (household income < $35,000) spent an average of 5 hours and 49 minutes with media every day.

In 2021, this increased by 1 hour 43 minutes to 7 hours and 32 minutes.

Before the coronavirus pandemic, children age 13 to 18 in lower-income households spent an average of 8 hours and 32 minutes with media every day.

In 2021, this increased by 47 minutes to 9 hours and 19 minutes.

Average time spent with each media activity among children age 8 to 18 from lower-income households:

- Watching TV/DVDs on a TV, computer, tablet, or smartphone
  - Lower income: 1 hour and 56 minutes
  - Higher income: 1 hour and 22 minutes

- Watching online videos
  - Lower income: 1 hour and 23 minutes
  - Higher income: 1 hour and 2 minutes

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Gaming on a mobile device, computer, or console

Lower income: 1 hour and 46 minutes  Higher income: 1 hour and 19 minutes

On social media

Lower income: 1 hour and 25 minutes  Higher income: 1 hour and 14 minutes

Reading

Lower income: 42 minutes  Higher income: 34 minutes

Entertainment screen use differences, 2021

Entertainment screen use is significantly higher in lower-income households than higher-income households.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Among all</th>
<th>Lower income</th>
<th>Middle income</th>
<th>Higher income</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tweens (8- to 12-year-olds)</td>
<td>5:33</td>
<td>7:32\textsuperscript{a}</td>
<td>5:47\textsuperscript{b}</td>
<td>4:21\textsuperscript{c}</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teens (13- to 18-year-olds)</td>
<td>8:39</td>
<td>9:19\textsuperscript{a}</td>
<td>9:34\textsuperscript{a}</td>
<td>7:16\textsuperscript{b}</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: "Lower income" is < $35,000; "middle" is $35,000-99,999; and "higher" is $100,000 or more. "Tweens" refers to 8- to 12-year-olds; "teens" refers to 13- to 18-year-olds. Superscripts (a,b,c) are used to denote whether differences between groups are statistically significant (p<.05).
Children in lower-income households own fewer personal devices and have less access to these devices in their home compared to children in higher-income households (one exception is smartphone access and ownership, which is nearly the same).

Device access

- **Smartphone in the home**
  - Lower income: 86%
  - Higher income: 96%

- **Personal smartphone**
  - Lower income: 68%
  - Higher income: 65%

- **Tablet in the home**
  - Lower income: 60%
  - Higher income: 81%

- **Personal tablet**
  - Lower income: 40%
  - Higher income: 47%

- **Computer in the home**
  - Lower income: 41%
  - Higher income: 58%

- **Personal computer**
  - Lower income: 67%
  - Higher income: 94%

* "lower income" is < $35,000 and "higher income" is $100,000 or more
* "in the home" refers to household device ownership
* "personal" refers to devices that are the child's own

Device use and enjoyment: For many screen activities, there is a significant gap between frequency of use and enjoyment:

- **Watching online videos**
  - 78% of kids in lower-income households report watching online videos "every day," but only 65% enjoy watching online videos "a lot."

- **Watching TV**
  - 62% of kids in lower-income households report watching TV "every day," but only 36% enjoy watching TV "a lot."

- **Using social media**
  - 46% of kids in lower-income households report using social media "every day," but only 37% enjoy using social media "a lot."
48% of kids in lower-income households report playing video games on a mobile device "every day," but 41% enjoy playing video games on a mobile device "a lot."

31% of kids in lower-income households report playing video games on a console or computer "every day," and 45% enjoy playing video games on a console "a lot."

When looking at reading among kids in lower-income households ...

21% report reading for pleasure "every day."

35% report reading for pleasure less than monthly.

52% say they enjoy reading a lot/somewhat.

26% say they enjoy reading only a little or not at all.