Mental health is a significant issue for young people in the U.S. with 7 in 10 teens experiencing struggles. 64% of teens believe that COVID-19 will have a lasting impact on their generation’s mental health.

Even before COVID-19, 81% of teens viewed mental health as a significant issue for youth in the U.S. The current crisis has only further magnified the issue.

55% of teens say they’ve experienced anxiety in their life
45% have experienced excessive stress
43% have experienced depression in their life
61% of teens said the COVID-19 pandemic has increased their feeling of loneliness

What’s making teens feel stressed?

71% say schoolwork
67% feel pressure to keep feelings to themselves
65% say uncertainty about the future makes them feel anxious or depressed

How are teens are coping?

67% pretend to feel better to not worry anyone
65% deal with feelings on their own
45% try to ignore their feelings or spend more time alone
Teens are spending 75% of their waking hours on screens during COVID-19

Where do teens see opportunity?

82% of teens are calling on America to talk more openly and honestly about mental health issues
70% wish their school taught them more about mental health and coping mechanisms

79% of teens wish there was an inclusive environment or safe space for people in school to talk about mental health

The survey, which polled over 1,500 youth between the ages of 13-19 nationwide, was commissioned by National 4-H Council and conducted by The Harris Poll. 4-H, the nation’s largest youth development organization, grows confident young people who are empowered for life today and prepared for career tomorrow.