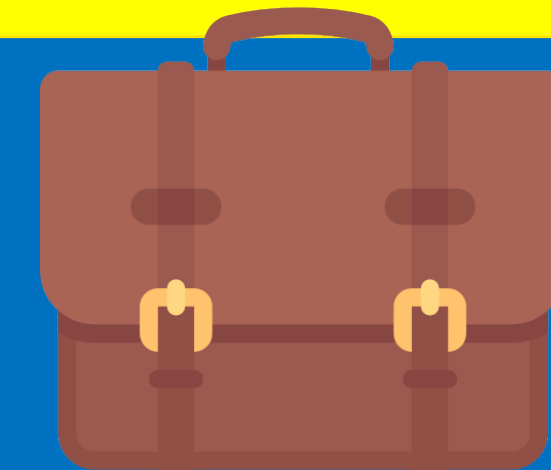


The Impact of COVID-19 on Youth (15-29) in Ontario



The COVID-19 pandemic has greatly impacted the lives of Canadians. The population that is most at risk for the most adverse long-term effects are Youth.

Three areas in which Youth in Ontario have been impacted are: **Education, Health and Economics**

94% of the world's student population have been impacted by school and other learning facility closures (UNESCO, 2020)

Barriers to Online / Virtual Learning

The average Canadian household has



12% no basic internet service

58% <1 device per family

These barriers contribute to

(Government of Ontario, 2020).

Learning Loss

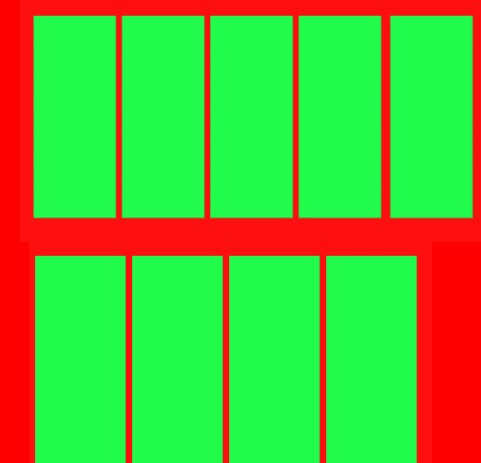
70% educators were worried that students would not be able to achieve the learning target set for the semester

77% educators reported that courses were behind schedule in covering the intended curriculum

By end of 2020-2021 school year students were on average:

5 months behind in math

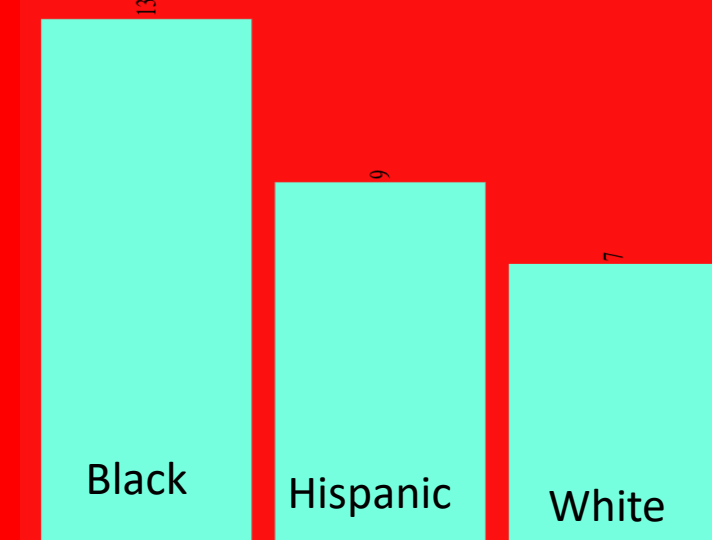
4 months behind in reading



Dorn et. al. (2021)

Greater Learning loss in vulnerable youth populations

Race (Cumulative months behind in math and reading by school race majority)

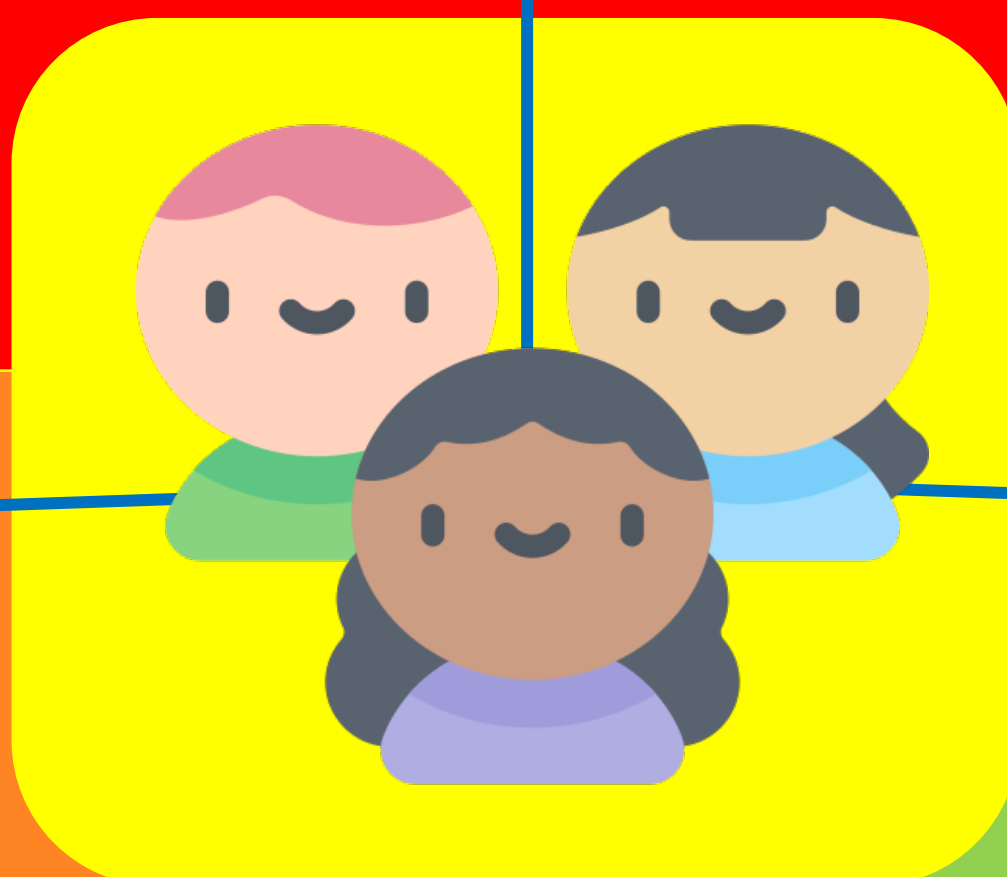


Household Income (Cumulative months behind in math and reading by schools avg. household income)



Dorn et. al. (2021)

Educational Issues



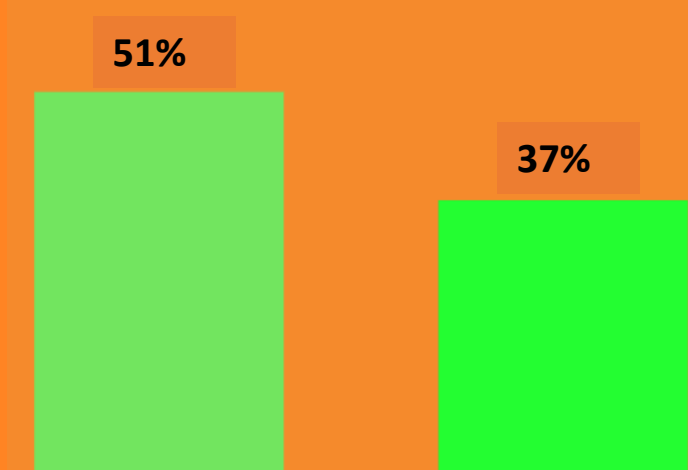
Mental and Physical Health Issues

ESTIMATED **10-20%** INCREASE IN YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH DISORDERS DURING THE PANDEMIC

The leading reason for poor mental health was **Social Isolation**

Data from Qualitative Analysis section of MRP

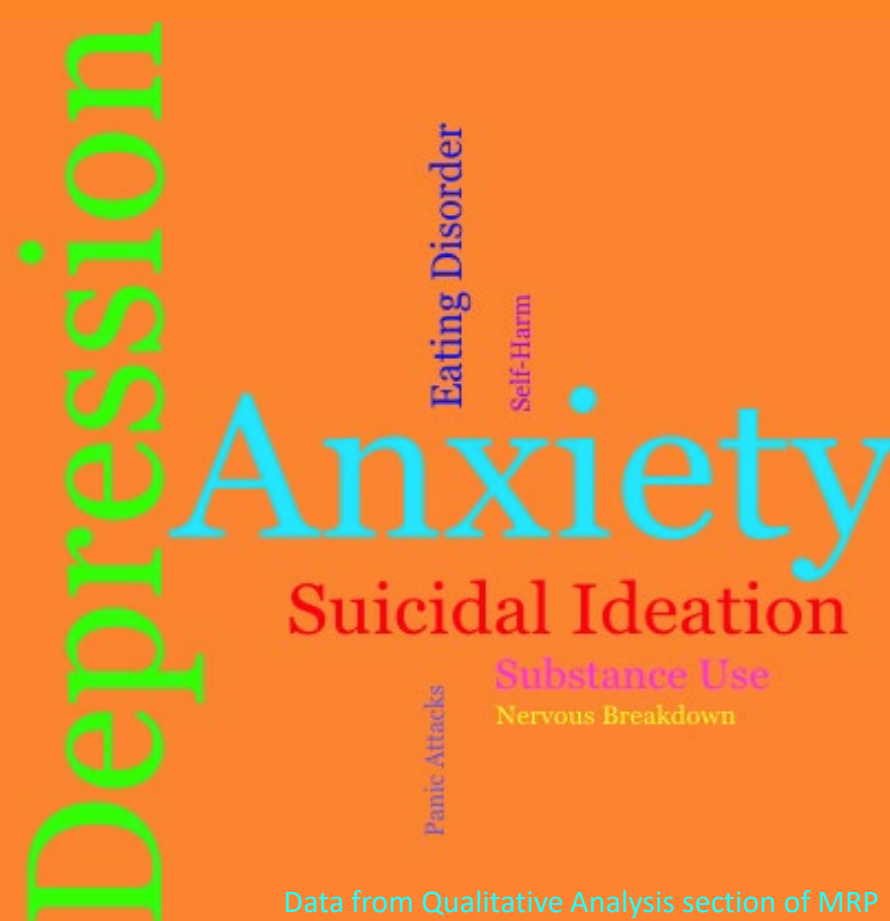
Movement behaviors of Youth before the pandemic and during the pandemic



Poor movement behaviors were reported during the Pandemic

(Watt & Colley, 2021; Statistics Canada)

Most common mental disorders Youth identified as experiencing during the pandemic



Data from Qualitative Analysis section of MRP

Economical Issues

The Youth unemployment rate hit a record-high of **29.4%** in May 2020

Long-term unemployment can affect future earnings of youth.

Up to an estimated **\$25000** loss of earnings in the next **five years**



Experiences of Youth who had planned to continue with current employment in April (2020)

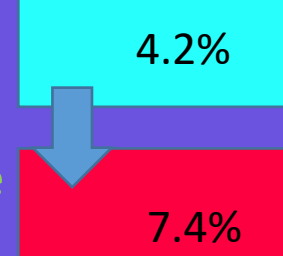


Stats Canada, 2020

Inequalities



The unemployment rate gap between racialized youth and white youth increased during the pandemic (2021) (Alook et al., 2021)



Globally, female unemployment rates declined 5% more than male employment rates (Barford et. Al, 2021).

An estimated 80% of all job losses in Canada were racialized workers (Alook et al., 2021).

Recommendations

Government

1. Develop a cross-section committee that oversees collaboration & communication across all public provincial organizations
2. Increase in financial support
3. Develop a provincial strategy for education recovery, mental health improvement and long-term employment plans for youth

Public & Private Organizations

1. **Prioritize research** across all sector pertain COVID-19 impacts on youth's education, health and employment prospect....and ways to improve....
2. **Develop plans and regulations for targeted supportive programs** that involves improving financial literacy, tailored learning, and mental health
3. **Conduct large-scale evaluations** on current prospect of youth and adopt changes in evaluation strategies accordingly

Care Providers

1. **Promote and develop intervention programs** for physical, social and mental well-being
2. **Promote and develop services & resources** tailored to vulnerable populations
3. **Increase education/training** amongst service and care providers on youth's physical, social, mental and financial health

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