

LIVING THROUGH COVID

GROWING UP IN QUEENSLAND
2021

1,542
QUEENSLANDERS
aged 13–18 had their say

SURVEY SNAPSHOT

COMMUNICATING WITH YOUNG PEOPLE

Participants were asked what they would do differently if they were a government leader communicating to young people about COVID-19.

These are some of the recurring themes...

WORST THINGS ABOUT LOCKDOWNS

27% Remote learning

I found doing schooling from home really difficult during lockdowns, as there was less structure and routine and it made it harder to learn.

Female, 17 years, Metropolitan

33% Not seeing friends or family

The worst thing for me was not being able to see friends but more importantly see family.

Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander and/or South Sea Islander, Female, 16 years, Central Queensland*

13% Recreational impact

The worst part of lockdowns for me was the inability to do the basic things I love to do like going to the beach, or going for a hike up in the mountains.

Male, 16 years, Metropolitan

45% I appreciate my freedom more

Sleeping in more, staying late, going to the bathroom whenever and eating whenever!

Gender not provided, 17 years, Metropolitan

40% I enjoyed schooling from home

More ability to be myself and to focus on school work, leading to better grades and ultimately a better me.

Male, 15 years, South East

39% I appreciate my friends more

I've become closer to friends around me (we've really found our ways through tough times)...

Female, 13 years, South East

27% I became closer to my family

I got to go on drives to help Dad with work.

Female, 17 years, Darling Downs South West

BEST THINGS ABOUT LOCKDOWNS

28% I appreciate school more

I learnt the value of face-to-face interactions ... I also have a new appreciation for my teachers and different technology.

Female, 16 years, Metropolitan

13% TAILOR COMMUNICATION TO YOUNG PEOPLE

Make a cartoon or show about COVID and put it on the kids channels so they can see what's happening and understand.

Non-binary, 13 years, Metropolitan

Make it more accessible, like using simpler language or info graphics and putting it all on Instagram, etc.

Female, 18 years, Darling Downs South West

12% BE REASSURING

I would have reassured teenagers and suggested ways to deal with the negative outcomes.

Female, 16 years, Central Queensland

Let them know that it's not that scary but you just gotta be careful and smart.

Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander and/or South Sea Islander, Male, 17 years, South East*

11% PROVIDE CLEAR INFORMATION

Providing more information to young people. It gives us a sense of security. With this information we might cope better and not constantly feel overwhelmed and unsure.

Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander and/or South Sea Islander, Male, 17 years, North Queensland*

The vaccine information was confusing for me. It was hard to understand why I didn't have to get it then all of a sudden I did.

Non-binary, 15 years, Metropolitan

* The Queensland Family and Child Commission recognises Aboriginal people, Torres Strait Islander people and South Sea Islander people as three unique peoples, with their own rich and distinct cultures, strengths and knowledge.