

The impacts of COVID-19 on youth and adolescents



Points of concern for youth and adolescents

Most youth and adolescents are concerned about the risk of being infected with COVID-19, as well as about the impacts on their education, professional goals and financial situation.

Employment:

A lockdown forces young people to leave their job, and not everybody is able to go back to work after easing the lockdown. Unemployment rate is still high among youth and adolescents in the Southern region.

Financial aid:

Ethnic youth and adolescents comprise a large proportion of people who do not have access to COVID-19 financial aid:

- 36% of ethnic or stateless youth report that they are unable to get financial aid;
- 23% of ethnic youth, which are the largest proportion of the survey respondents, are not aware of the availability of such aid.

Impacts on health, sexual and reproductive health, and health service

- **One-third** of the ethnic or stateless youth report that they do not have health insurance, while 28% of this group do not know whether or not they have been insured;
- **One-fourth** of adolescent mothers report that they do not have health insurance, or that they are not aware of their health insurance status, and 36% of adolescent mothers state that their children are not insured, or they are not aware whether or not their children have been insured within the Universal Health Coverage;
- Youth and adolescents are mentally stressful during the COVID-19 pandemic, which may yield negative impact on their mental development;
- COVID-19 pandemic and the lockdown may lead to complication against youth's and adolescents' access to necessary sexual and reproductive healthcare information and services;



Reception of information

Internet and social media are the major channels allowing youth and adolescents to have access to information concerning COVID-19.

Youth and adolescents with disability

Measures implying social discrimination impede youth and adolescents with disability to access stores and public services.



The 6 surveys were conducted during March-July 2020 in order to evaluate the impacts of COVID-19 on general youth and adolescents who are in vulnerable status. There were 2,300 respondents, including ethnic and stateless groups, adolescent mothers, youth and adolescents with disability, youth and adolescents from 3 southern provinces, as well as LGBTQ youth and adolescents in Thailand.



This survey was conducted by the United Nations youth group working on youth and adolescents together with UNFPA.

