



Embarrassing Or Intimate? Americans Have Mixed Feelings About Video Calls Amid The Pandemic (Video)

Americans have met an average of 10 new people online during their time in self-isolation, according to new research.

The survey asked 2,000 Americans about their digital communication habits while they've been sheltering in place due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Forty-four percent of respondents shared they've webcammed with a stranger for the first time during COVID-19.

And of those surveyed who have visited a webcamming site, 45% do so for just that reason – just to meet new people.

Conducted by OnePoll on behalf of Jasmin, the survey also found that 73% of respondents shared they crave emotional intimacy more than ever due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Another 67% of those surveyed shared they've struggled to socialize and communicate during their time in self-isolation.

Nearly three-quarters of respondents also shared they've felt increased feelings of loneliness and anxiety.

Common ways respondents are combatting their feelings of loneliness during lockdown included cleaning their homes, cooking and baking, meditating and binge-watching a TV show.

 Three in 10 respondents are also video calling friends and family and another 36% are texting and 34% are picking up the phone to call.

But of all modes of digital communication, 61% of respondents also shared that they prefer video calls because they're more intimate.

Video calls can get dicey, however, as respondents shared they've experienced their fair share of embarrassing moments.

One in five respondents shared they've had someone walk in the background of a video call naked.

Another 15% of those surveyed have either been caught talking to their pets or yelling at their children while on a video call.

Eleven percent of respondents have even been caught day drinking and 18% of respondents shared they've been caught on a video call not wearing pants.

Other ways respondents are trying to stay positive during lockdown included cleaning their homes, cooking and baking, meditating and binge-watching a TV show.

Twenty-two percent of those surveyed said they're also connecting with people on social media to feel less lonely.

Another two in 10 respondents said they've visited or watched a live streaming site to boost their moods.

TOP EMBARRASSING THINGS TO HAPPEN WHILE ON A VIDEO CALL

Talked for a while before realizing I was on mute	31%
Forgot to mute myself and said something embarrassing	29%
Had someone enter the room and interrupt the video call	27%
Forgot my camera was still on when I went to the bathroom	22%
Had someone walk in the background nude	20%
Wasn't wearing pants and didn't realize everyone could see	18%
Had someone do something embarrassing in the background	18%
Forgot to mute myself before taking a screenshot of the call	16%
Got caught talking to my pets	15%
Yelled at my children without muting myself	15%
Forgot to change the background image	13%
Got caught day drinking	11%
Fell asleep	9%

TOP 20 WAYS TO COPE WITH LONELINESS DURING COVID-19

Exercise	51%
Watch movies	41%
Text friends/family	36%
Call friends/family over the phone	34%
Clean my home	34%
Cook/bake	34%
Meditate	32%
Binge-watch a TV show	31%
Video call friends/family	30%
Have sex	28%
Read	28%
Learn a new skill	28%
Reorganize my home	25%
Masturbate	23%
Connect with people through social media	22%
Have an alcoholic beverage	21%
Watch online webcamming/live streaming sites	21%
Utilize online webcamming/live streaming sites to meet people	18%
Attend a virtual event	16%
Host a live streaming event	