COVID-19 has magnified the inequality of Internet accessibility.

A new survey of U.K. and U.S. residents reveals dependency on the Internet and an urgent need to close the digital divide.

80% of respondents said the Internet has become more important in their lives because of the pandemic. But 49% of the world is still not connected.

- 50% rely on the Internet for health information
- 56% of U.S. respondents said their children could not continue education without the Internet
- 67% use the Internet for tracking news and information
- 75% say the Internet is critical for keeping in touch with loved ones

Over 50% of respondents ranked reliability an important aspect of the Internet with access a close second.

But only 1 in 4 respondents were aware that almost half the world lacks access to the Internet.

Learn more about the digital divide and what you can do to help close the gap.

See the full results and methodology of the Internet Public Pulse Survey.

About the Internet Society
Founded in 1992 by internet pioneers, the Internet Society (ISOC) is a global non-profit organization working to ensure the Internet remains a force for good for everyone. Through its community of members, special interest groups, and 130+ chapters around the world, the organization defends and promotes Internet policies, standards, and protocols that keep the Internet open, globally connected, and secure.

Visit internetsociety.org for more information.