



## **The number of kids who watch videos on YouTube is increasing**

Young Americans were asked about how they watch videos. More kids are watching videos online. They watch every day.

The number of young people who watch videos online has doubled in the last four years. They are spending twice as long watching videos than they did four years ago.

Young people mostly use YouTube. YouTube is a popular video website. Anyone can post videos. Children younger than 13 years old are not supposed to be able to use it.

“It really is the air they breathe,” said Michael Robb. He helps run the group that ran the survey. The group tracks the way young people use the Internet. It also gives advice to parents.



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### **YouTube Is The Favorite Site**

The group talked to more than 1,000 young people between 8 and 18 years old. Preteens are kids between the ages of 8 and 12 years old. Teens are people between the ages of 13 and 18 years old. About half of preteens watch videos every day. About three-fourths of the teens watch videos daily. A survey was done in 2015. The number was half as much back then.

Young people would rather watch videos online. They are watching regular television less. Only a third of teens said they enjoy watching TV “a lot.” Four years ago, young people enjoyed watching television much more.

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About a quarter of preteens watch YouTube Kids. YouTube Kids is made for preteens and younger children. Most of the children that watch YouTube Kids still said they liked regular YouTube more.

### **Parents Should Be Monitoring More**

Farshad Shadloo works for YouTube. "YouTube is not a site for people under 13," Shadloo said. This rule is posted on YouTube's website.

Many children can still easily get on YouTube. Part of the problem is that parents are too busy, said Sarah Domoff. She studies how technology affects families. She also studies how technology affects young people.

She said parents could be doing more. She thinks YouTube should do more, too. It should try harder to keep young kids off the website.

Some people do not think YouTube can really change. Robb said the website is made to keep people watching videos.

Robb warned families to protect their children's time. He said families should try to have times and spaces where kids cannot use their devices.