## **The Problem**

Over 5 billion internet users worldwide spend an average of 7 hours per day on digital applications, leading to widespread digital disconnect from real-world experiences, passive consumption of content, fragmentation of personal histories, and difficulties in managing social connections. This excessive screen time results in significant productivity losses, with the US alone experiencing an annual cost of \$86.3 billion, highlighting the global economic and social impact of these issues.\*

<sup>\*</sup> The Impact of Unmanaged excessive screen time in the United States, American Optometric Association 2024