Highlights

* Cross-sectional online survey conducted in Qatar between July to December 2020
* The study was carried out after the first COVID-19 wave and before the second wave
* Factors associated with moderate-to-severe depression-anxiety included:
  + Arab ethnicity and never married status
  + History of psychiatric disorder and confirmed/suspected COVID-19 infection
  + Worries induced by frequent use of social media for COVID-related updates
  + Higher perceived loneliness and lower levels of religiosity