JIM 2020: Jugend, Information, (Multi-) Media Basisstudie zum Medienumgang 12- bis 19-Jähriger in Deutschland

Engl. transl.: JIM 2020: Youth, information, (multi-) media Basic study on media usage by 12 to 19 year olds in Germany

# Keywords

* Youth
* information
* multimedia
* credibility
* trust in media
* digitization
* corona
* covid-19

# Details

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* Internet usage, practices and engagement
* Risks and harms
* Literacy and skills
* Online safety and policy regulation

## Sample

The population for the study was German-speaking children and adolescents between the ages of twelve and 19 in the Federal Republic of Germany. This population became between June 8 and July 20, 2020 (excluding the regional holiday periods), a representative sample of 1,200 target persons was interviewed. In 2020, the type of survey was changed for the first time and part of the sample was collected using an online questionnaire. In what is known as mixed mode, 70 percent of the telephone interviews were computer-assisted (CATI) and 30 percent were interviews as part of an online access panel (CAWI). In view of an internet coverage of almost 99 percent in the group of twelve to 19 year olds, it seemed justifiable to carry out some of the surveys online, since the selection of online and non-online users in this age group is practical doesn't matter. In the telephone survey (CATI), too, the media situation of the young target group was taken into account with a combined landline and mobile network sample (ADM Dual Frame). Even if only moderate methodological changes were made in the current survey, a change in method always means a certain restriction in the comparability of the data with the studies of previous years. Deviations from the target structure were balanced out by iterative weighting according to the characteristics: "Gender x age total" and federal state (each based on: Federal Statistical Office, as of December 31, 2019). The survey therefore forms a representative picture of the approx. 6.2 million German-speaking young people in this age group. The field work and data verification was carried out by the Gesellschaft für Innovative Marktforschung mbH (GIM) in Wiesbaden. The sample of the JIM study 2020 comprised 52 percent boys and young men and 48 percent girls and young women, the possibility of specifying a diverse gender was given, but this was not mentioned in this sample, accordingly this is in the further presentations not taken into account

# Abstract

The year 2020 turned the everyday life of young people upside down: Most of the leisure activities were not possible, schools were closed for weeks and months and some learning was done via distance learning. Accordingly, changes in the media behavior of young people could also be expected. In 2020, the young people experienced a significant boost in equipping them with media devices. Personal ownership of a computer or laptop increased from 65 to 72 percent, and that of your own tablet from 25 to 38 percent. Every third young person now has a television with Internet access. The special situation in 2020 also resulted in significantly longer media usage times. According to the young people, the daily internet usage time has increased significantly from 205 minutes in 2019 to 258 minutes in 2020.

# Outcome

When comparing the results to last year’s, an increase in media devices is clear, especially the increase in wearables (+12 percentage points), streaming boxes/sticks (+11 percentage points), tablets (+10 percentage points), smart speakers (+10 percentage points), and laptops (+9 percentage points).

Schools and learning have been dominated by the pandemic in 2020: school closures and home-schooling have defined an everyday life that is anything but ordinary for young people. The prevailing teaching model of the coronavirus crisis is the hybrid form of teaching in which pupils have both attendance phases in school and periods where they must study at home. At the time of this study, 69 % of the young people interviewed were being taught with such a model. 57 % of the pupils receive teaching materials and tasks by email, 55 % use a school-based cloud or the school’s own online platform. Almost one third are taught conventionally with printed books while one quarter use a video conferencing system. Using chat apps such as WhatsApp for communication and exchanging teaching materials accounts for just under 15 %. Overall, online-learning for schools has been rated on average with a grade of 2.7 (1 being excellent and 6 a fail). Noteworthy is the fact that the older classes in particular (against the background of their preparations for their final exams) are dissatisfied with the requirements of self-guided and selforganised learning. The fear that health problems could occur within their personal environment is a key concern among the young people. These fears are directed, however, much more towards their own family than towards themselves. Over half of those interviewed said they missed meeting with friends, sporting activities, and attending parties and events.

The internet is the central everyday medium: 89 % of young people are online every day. According to their own estimates, daily usage time rose sharply to 258 minutes (205 minutes in 2019) during coronadominated 2020. Entertainment accounts for the largest percentage of online usage (34 %). Communication (27 %) and games (28 %) have an almost equal share. Searching for information accounts for 11 % of daily usage time. With regards to gender distribution, differences are particularly evident in the areas of communication and games. One third of online use by girls is spent on the area of communication whereas for boys it is only 23 %. Conversely, boys spent a much higher percentage of their time (34 %) on games (girls: 19 %). Both genders devote roughly one tenth of their online time to searching for information. (boys: 12 %, girls: 11 %).

Concerning dealing with harassment or hate on the Internet, currently 29 % of the young people interviewed stated that false or offensive things had been spread about them. After years with relatively stable values of approximately 20 %, this is a significant increase. Boys are slightly more affected by this problem than girls and especially older youths report such offensive content and comments much more frequently. A possible reason for this could be the lack of physical gatherings and face-to-face communication. This has shifted a considerable part of daily communication to the Internet and, as a result, these values are based on a significantly higher volume of communication. Furthermore, more than half of those interviewed were confronted with hate messages on the Internet in the space of a month. Almost half of the young people reported encountering extreme political views and conspiracy theories on the Internet. 37 % reported insulting comments, for example on social networks, and every third person encountered fake news. Only one quarter of the young people could say that they had not been confronted with any of these phenomena within the last month.