Digital Services and Online safety survey

Engl. transl.: Digital Services and Online safety survey

# Keywords

* Digital services
* online safety
* parents
* adults

# Details

## Year

2021

## Issued

2021

## Language

English

## Authors

Red C Research Commissioned by Comreg Ireland

## Type

Short report

## Topics

## Sample

2,000 Irish adults and parents

## Implications For Parents About

Parental practices / parental mediation

## Implications For Policy Makers About

## Implications For Stakeholders About

Industry

# Abstract

"This survey of 2,000 Irish adults and parents highlights the benefits of online services, their awareness and perceptions of online harms and the approaches to protecting themselves and children online.
The survey finds usage of a range of online services is very high, with search and communication services being used most often. More than 80% use messaging apps on a daily basis, while more than 75% use social media daily.
Survey participants recognise that there are both benefits and challenges associated with the use of online services. Ease of access to information (78%) was the most commonly reported benefit of online services while security of personal data (67%) and fake news (66%) were the most commonly reported challenges.Two thirds (67%) of survey participants report becoming more conscious of their privacy online over the last year. The majority have taken actions to help keep themselves safe online, such as increasing privacy settings (72%) or blocking someone (71%) but deleting comments or reporting someone to a social media company are less common.
Nearly two-thirds (64%) of parents have rules about how long or when their children are allowed to go online. More advanced digital controls such as software that limits the people children can be in contact with or services to limit the time children spend online are used less frequently by parents. The majority of parents check a child’s online behaviour at least sometimes, such as the apps they have downloaded (69%) or the online content they view (69%)"

# Outcome

"Search Communication are the most frequently used purposes for using online services. More than 90% use a search engine on a daily basis, while more than 80% use messaging apps or email daily. 83% of respondents use online banking at least once a week.
At least two-thirds identify ease of access to information (78%), supporting transactions (69%) and always being connected to friends and family (67%) (e.g. video calling) as benefits of online services.
Security of personal data (67%), Fake news (66%), Privacy of personal data (63%) and Harmful content (e.g. bullying online) (57%) are the most commonly identified challenges of online services. 67% have become more conscious of their privacy online in the last year.
71% have blocked someone at least once in the past year and 72% have increased their privacy settings.
64% of parents have rules in relation to how long their child can spend online. A considerably smaller percentage of parents are using more advanced digital controls such as GPS tracking or software that limits who a child can contact."