Türkiye ve Avrupa’daki Çocukların İnternet Alışkanlıkları ve Güvenli İnternet Kullanımı

Engl. transl.: Internet Habits and Safe Internet Use of Children in Turkey and Europe

# Keywords

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* online risks
* EU Kids Online project

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## Topics

Online safety and policy regulation

## Sample

For the EU Kids Online Project research, a survey was conducted through face-to-face interviews at home with one Internet user and one parent from 23,420 households from 23 countries in Europe (except Turkey) between May and June 2010. In Europe, 50.9% of the children are boys (n=111915) and 49.1% are girls (n=11505). 22.5% of the parents were male (n=5275), and 77.5% were female (n=18144).
Turkey-wide data were collected in urban and rural areas by a professional international opinion research firm in May and June 2010. The same company from 23 other European countries collected study data with the same method. The regions where data is collected in Turkey are Istanbul, East Marmara, West Marmara, East Black Sea, West Black Sea, Aegean, Central Anatolia, West Anatolia, Northeast Anatolia, Middle East Anatolia, Southeastern Anatolia and the Mediterranean. The random stratification method is used to randomly select sub-samples proportionally taken from different samples in the population. According to TUIK data, a number of children were reached from the aforementioned regions to represent the population size, thus increasing the probability that the selected sample could represent the whole of Turkey. In the random election, the pollsters chose the 4th house after the house they interviewed and conveyed the request to apply a survey if there is a child between the ages of 9 and 16 using the Internet at home. The children and a parent were interviewed in the accepted home. In this way, 1018 children and parents were reached in Turkey. 53% of the children were boys (n=540) and 47% were girls (n=478). Of the parents, 79.7% were female (n=811) and 20.3% were male (n=207). Samples were selected from all regions in Turkey.

## Implications For Parents About

## Implications For Policy Makers About

Creating a safe environment for children online

# Abstract

In this study, Internet use and activities of children and parents, the risks they encountered, and parental awareness related children’s Internet activities were reported by examining the findings based on 23 European countries and Turkey data of EU Kids Online project. In the study, the data were obtained via interviewing of 23.000 of 23 European countries’ and 1018 Turkish Internet-user children who were ages between 9 and 16 and one of their parents. The results showed that the majority of children’s Internet skills were not adequate and they were exposed to many online risks. Besides, the fact that parents’ Internet use rates were very low and they did not have enough knowledge to save their children from the Internet risks. To raise awareness of children about potential online risks, some precautions that families, school, policy makers and the Internet service providers might take were suggested in the discussion part of the study.

# Outcome

5.42% of the children said that they were 10 years old when they first used the Internet. 36.2% of the children spent around one hour daily for online activities. Children stated that they use the Internet mostly for school work (92.6%). When activities related with communication (instant messaging, sending or receiving e-mail, visiting social network) are examined, 44% of children in Turkey use the Internet for this purpose whereas it is 60% for Europe.