

France

There are a number of distinctive features about French children's use of the internet compared to children and young people in Europe overall:

- French children access the internet less often with a mobile or handheld device. Going online from their bedroom is also below the European average.
- Fewer children in France have a social networking profile compared to children in Europe overall. They are also less likely to a profile set to public access
- In terms of risks, fewer French children say they have been bothered or upset by something on the internet, though more parents in France believe they have. Children in France also report the least exposure to harmful user generated content (25th of 25 countries).
- On the other hand, French children are more likely to say they have received sexual messages or seen sexual or pornographic images. They are below the European average for reporting being bothered or upset about such messages or images.
- French parents are, like German parents, among the most restrictive parents and among the highest in Europe for the use of technical safety tools. As it happens, French children are more likely to complain about parental restrictive mediation and think that it limits their activities on the internet. But, they are also above the European average in saying they don't take into account parental recommendations for safe internet use.
- Teachers' mediation of internet use is low in France compared to other Northern Europe countries, as is peer mediation, either for helping when having a problem or for internet safety advice. Both of these areas require further support and are the subject of policy recommendations in the French context.