

# INTERNET USAGE IN INDIA

---

**A Study on Online Safety, Digital Wellbeing &  
the Problem of Misinformation**



## **Report by :**

Institute for Governance, Policies & Politics (IGPP)  
in collaboration with  
Social Media Matters

## **Design by :**

Afreen

**Copyright © 2021 Institute for Governance, Policies & Politics**

All rights reserved.

No part of this publication may be reproduced or  
transmitted in any form or by any means without  
permission in writing from IGPP.

office@igpp.in | www.igpp.in

# Contents :

<b>Introduction</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>General description of the sample</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Pattern of Internet usage</b>	<b>4</b>
History of Internet Usage	4
Duration of Internet Usage	6
Major Activities in the Internet	7
Mostly Used Social Media Platforms	8
Second Most used Social Media Platforms	10
Place of Internet Use	11
Use of Devices	13
Online Streaming Video platforms	15
<b>Online Safety and Security</b>	<b>17</b>
Cyber Vulnerability	17
Awareness About Cyber Vulnerability	18
Perception About Platforms Regarding Redressal	19
Reasons Behind Not Complaining	20
Response from the Redressal Mechanism	21
Internet Safety	22
Workshop	23
<b>Digital well being</b>	<b>24</b>
Awareness About Privacy	24
Parental Trust	25
<b>Parents Monitoring Online Behaviour</b>	<b>26</b>
Parental Monitoring	26
<b>Hiding Online Activities from Parents</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>Fake News</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>Appendix 1: Questionnaire</b>	<b>33</b>

# List of Figures :

**Figure 1: Gender Composition of the Sample**

**Figure 2: Age Group Composition of the Sample**

**Figure 3: Age Group-wise Gender Decomposition of the Sample**

**Figure 4: Duration of Internet Usage**

**Figure 5: Gender Decomposition vis-a-vis Experience of Internet Using**

**Figure 6: Age Decomposition vis-a-vis Experience of Internet Using**

**Figure 7: Decomposition of Sample on the Basis of Per Day Internet Use**

**Figure 8: Age Group-wise Decomposition of Sample on the Basis of Per Day Internet Use**

**Figure 9: Gender-wise Decomposition of Sample on the Basis of Per Day Internet Use**

**Figure 10: Distribution of Different Activities on the Internet (unit, percentage)**

**Figure 11: Age-wise Decomposition of People Doing Different Activities on the Internet (scaled to percentage)**

**Figure 12: Usage of Social Media Platforms as First Choice**

**Figure 13: Age Group Decomposition of the Usage of Social Media Platforms as First Choice**

**Figure 14: Gender Decomposition of the Usage of Social Media Platforms As First Choice**

**Figure 15: Usage of Social Media Platforms as the Second Choice**

**Figure 16: Age Decomposition of the Usage of Social Media Platforms As Second Choice**

**Figure 17: Gender Decomposition of the Usage of Social Media Platforms As Second Choice**

**Figure 18: Spatial Distribution of Internet Time of the Users (First Choice)**

**Figure 19: Spatial Distribution of Internet Time of the Users as Second Choice (scaled in percentage)**

**Figure 20: Spatial Distribution of Internet Time of the Users as Third Choice (scaled in percentage)**

**Figure 21: Device Usage (First Choice)**

**Figure 22: Age Group Distribution of Device Usage**

**Figure 23: Device Usage (Second Choice)**

**Figure 24: Device Usage (Third Choice)**

**Figure 25: Video Streaming Apps Installed into The phone**  
**Figure 26: Time Allocation of YouTube Viewers**  
**Figure 27: Time Allocation of Netflix Viewers**  
**Figure 28: Time Allocation of Amazon Prime Viewers**  
**Figure 29: Cyber Intimidation**  
**Figure 30: Cyber Mishaps**  
**Figure 31: Aware of Mechanism to Resist Threats Mentioned in Figure 29 and Figure 30**  
**Figure 32: Used the Such Redressal Mechanisms**  
**Figure 33: Aware of Police Help**  
**Figure 34: Name of the Institution According to the Respondents**  
**Figure 35: Those Who Approached Police Station to Complaints**  
**Figure 36: Platform-wise Break Up of the Respondents Who Know About Presence of Grievance Redressal Mechanism**  
**Figure 37: Respondents Who Have Used the Grievance Redressal Mechanisms of Any Kind**  
**Figure 38: Respondents Who Used the Grievance Redressal Mechanism in Different Platforms**  
**Figure 39: Reason Behind Not Complaining**  
**Figure 40: Reason Behind Not Complaining (to those it was applicable in Figure 39)**  
**Figure 41: Received Response From Platforms After Complaining**  
**Figure 42: Received Response From Platforms After Complaining (for those it is applicable in Figure 40: Reason Behind Not Complaining (to those it was applicable in Figure 39))**  
**Figure 43: Respondents Reported to Have Read the Safety and Security Material of Different Platforms (only for the applicable users)**  
**Figure 44: Uses Specified Software for Internet Security**  
**Figure 45: Uses Specified Purchases Software for Internet Security (of those who said yes in Figure 44)**  
**Figure 46: Attended Any Workshop on Internet Safety**  
**Figure 47: Respondents Who Are Ready to Attend Workshops on Internet Security If They Get a Chance**  
**Figure 48: Disclosed Personalised Information on Internet/ Social Media (in %)**  
**Figure 49: Share of Respondents to Have Discussed Personal Matters Online**  
**Figure 50: Respondents Who Know Others to Have Watch X Rated/ Porn Contents on Net**  
**Figure 51: Respondents Who Accepted to Have Checked Online Pornographic Content**  
**Figure 52: Respondents Who Accepted to Have Paid for Porn Websites**

**Figure 53: Opinion of Respondents About Their Parents' Trust in Their Cyber Activity**

**Figure 54: Opinion on the Statement Whether or Not the Respondent Knows to Hide Their Online Activities from Their Parents**

**Figure 55: Respondents Who Do Not Tell Their Parents About Whereabouts in the Internet**

**Figure 56: Opinion on the Statement Whether or Not the Respondents Would Change Their Behaviour if They Come to Know That Their Online Behaviour is Watched By Their Parents**

**Figure 57: Respondents' Whose Parents Do Not Have Adequate Time to Look Into Their Activity**

**Figure 58: Respondents' According To Whom Their Parents Would Not Understand It**

**Figure 59: Age Break Up of Respondents Whose Parents Monitor Their Online Activity**

**Figure 60: Parents Made the Respondents Show Their Complete Profile**

**Figure 61: Parents Made the Respondents Show Their Complete Profile**

**Figure 62: Parents Use Software To Track Their Behaviour**

**Figure 63: Respondents Who Close or Minimise Their Browser When Their Parents Enter Their Room**

**Figure 64: Respondents Who Hid or Deleted Their Emails**

**Figure 65: Respondents Who Hid or Deleted Their Videos**

**Figure 66: Respondents Who Created Separate/ Secret Mail Id**

**Figure 67: Respondents Who Created Separate/ Secret Social Media Id**

**Figure 68: Respondents Who Cracked the Parental Lock**

**Figure 69: Respondents Who Have Nothing To Hide From Their Parents**

**Figure 70: Respondents Who Had Received News That Appeared True To Them At First, But Later Was Found To Be False**

**Figure 71: Aware About Fake News**

**Figure 72: Sources of Fake News**

**Figure 73: Social Media Platforms As Sources of Fake News**

**Figure 74: Source of Verifying Fake News**

**Figure 76: Aware About Fake News Bursting Platforms/ Websites**

**Figure 77: Aware of Complaining Mechanism/ Websites on About Fake News**

**Figure 78: Did The Case of Fake News Resolve After Complaining**

**Figure 79: In Case of Resolution Was the Complaint Respondent Was Intimated About the Resolution**

# Introduction

**Institute for Governance, Policies and Politics (IGPP) along with the active assistance from Social Media Matters (SMM), conceived, designed and executed this study. This study encompasses different aspects related to propensity, pattern, vulnerability and awareness related to internet usage. As we move forward we can see that this study is divided into different subsections based on different but, not completely independent themes. These are :**

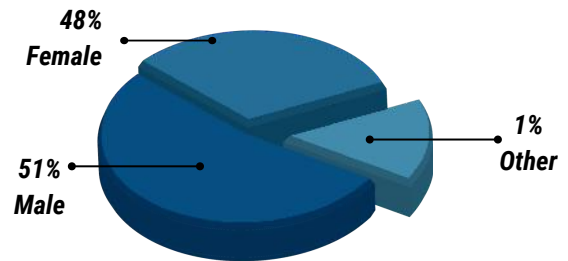
- **Online safety and security**
- **Digital well being**
- **Parental Monitoring**
- **Fake News**

**Based on these subsections, this report would address the major response pattern and would attempt to find the pattern behind these responses. The survey was conducted during June and July of 2020. It may be remembered, that this was also the phase when the entire lockdown was under COVID lock-down. Because of this handicap, the entire survey was conducted through a web platform. The survey links were circulated through different social media platforms. A total of 1154 valid responses were found suitable for the data analysis. Now, before discussing the topical subsections, we would look into the general composition of our sample cohort.**

# General Description of the Sample

The sample was more or less evenly distributed across the genders. We accept the fact, that the participation of the respondents beyond gender binary was not a true representation of their real-life share in population, but, given the societal and structural hindrances that persons from non-hetero-normative genders face, we understand the possible reasons behind the low participation of respondents from those genders. In this study, 48% of the respondents were female and 51% were males. Only 1% of respondents reported their gender to be other. (Figure 1)

Figure 1: Gender Composition of the Sample



Similarly, Figure 2 depicts the age group wise decomposition of the sample cohort. Almost 79% of the respondents fall under the age group of 18-25. This is not only the single largest category, it also outweighs all the percentage of respondents even if they are put together. Given the popularity and penetration of the internet among young adults, this distribution conforms with the secondary study evidences regarding age-related studies of internet users. The next biggest age group was 25-40. Almost 11% of respondents fell into that category. A slim segment of 2% of respondents was found to be from the age bracket of 40-55. Another 7% of respondents are yet to reach adulthood.

Figure 2: Age Group Composition of the Sample

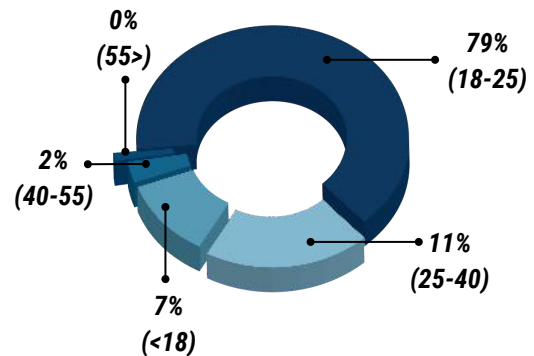


Figure 3 shows the gender versus age-group break-up of the respondents. For the age group of 18-25 and 25-40, the male respondents score more than half of the participants. For all other age groups, the percentage of female respondents is higher than that of the males. Here we have dropped the age category of 55 and above from this figure, as that has a very nominal respondent ratio. All the age groups have a reported presence of 'other' gender.

Figure 3: Age Group-wise Gender Decomposition of the Sample

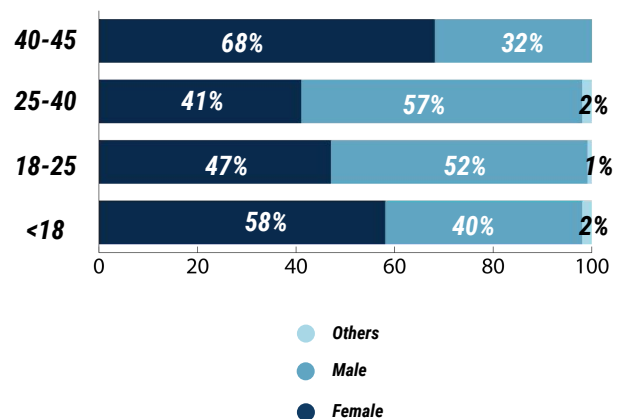




Table 1 represents the state-wise distribution of respondents. The maximum number of respondents, followed by Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan. Because of the thin participation from the North-Eastern states, they have been clubbed together under one category .

<b>State/UT</b>	<b>No. of Responses</b>	<b>% of Responses</b>
Andhra Pradesh	29	2.52
Bihar	64	5.56
Chhattisgarh	7	0.61
Delhi	283	24.59
Gujarat	21	1.82
Haryana	82	7.12
Himachal Pradesh	7	0.61
Jammu & Kashmir	9	0.78
Jharkhand	24	2.09
Karnataka	48	4.17
Kerala	37	3.21
Madhya Pradesh	34	2.95
Maharashtra	113	9.83
Odisha	40	3.48
Punjab	11	0.96
Rajasthan	82	7.12
Tamil Nadu	7	0.61
Telangana	48	4.17
Uttarakhand	8	0.7
Uttar Pradesh	92	7.99
West Bengal	39	3.39
NE States	49	4.26
Union Territories	17	1.48
<b>Total</b>	<b>1151</b>	<b>100</b>

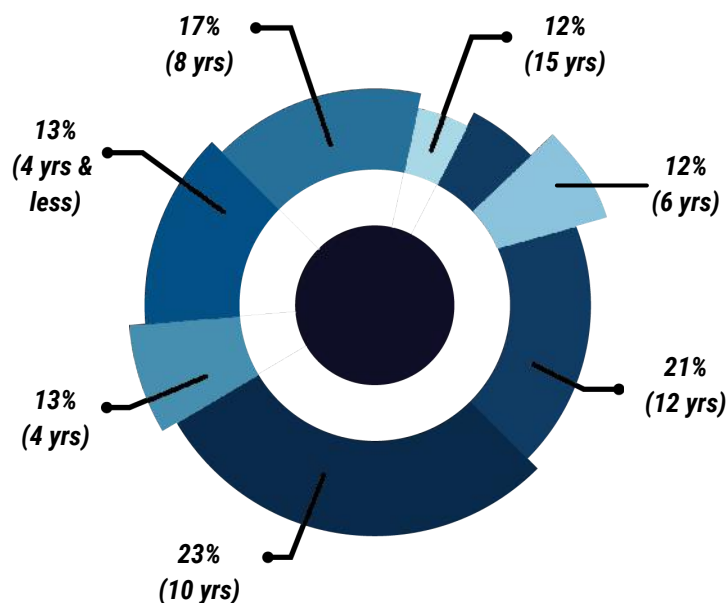
# Pattern of Internet Usage

In this section, we would analyse the different patterns regarding internet usage among different age groups and gender.

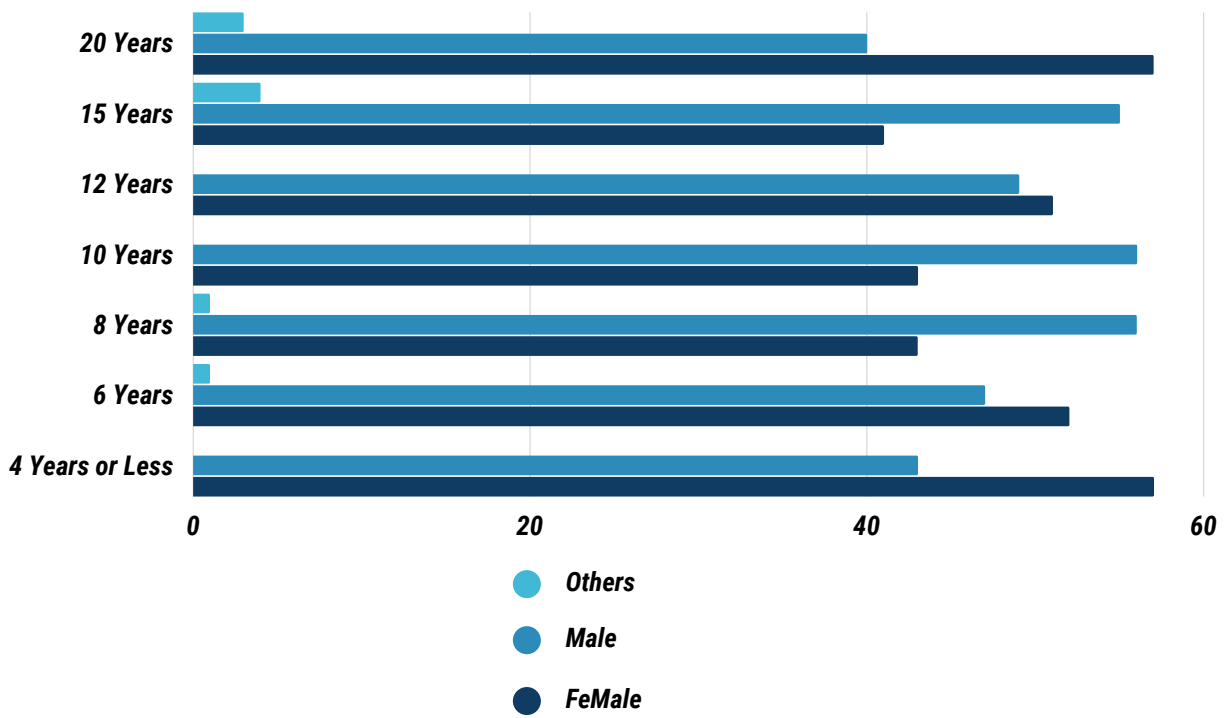
## History of Internet Usage

The questionnaire had questions where the respondents were asked to mention the period of time-span they had been using the internet in their lives. Their answers were then categorised into eight different size classes. Figure 4 shows the size class-wise distribution of respondents. The two subsequent figures (Figure 5 and Figure 6) shows the same response further disintegrated through the lens of gender and age group respectively. Figure 4 shows us the time span of 10 years is the modal class of our responses. Almost 23% of the respondents belong to this category. A partly 3% of respondents were found to have been using the internet for twenty years.

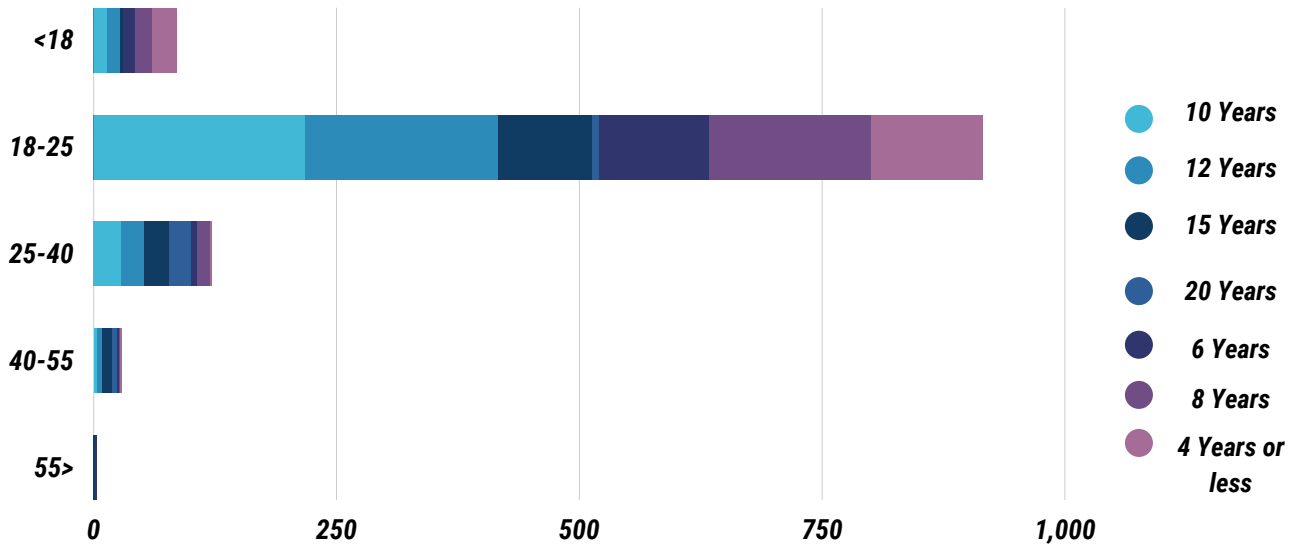
*Figure 4: Duration of Internet Usage*



**Figure 5: Gender Decomposition vis-a-vis Experience of Internet Using**



**Figure 6: Age Decomposition vis-a-vis Experience of Internet Using**

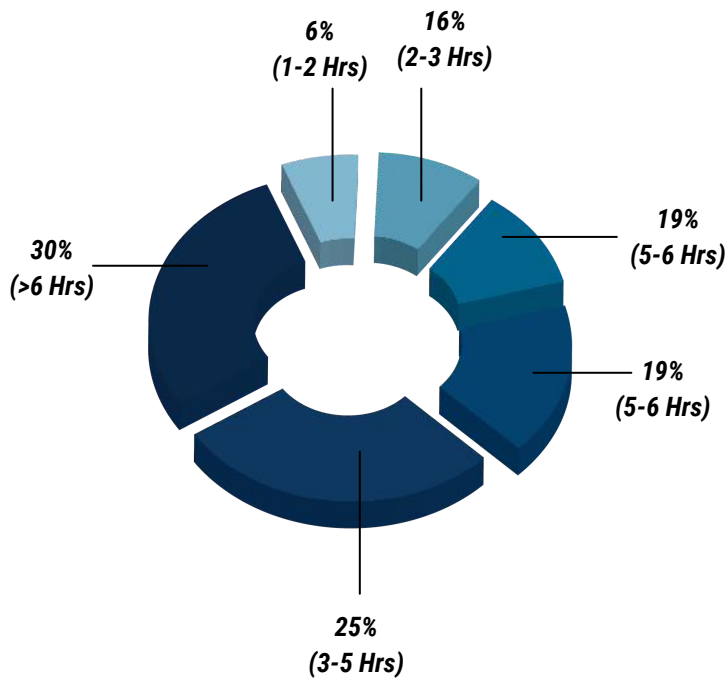


# Duration of Internet Usage

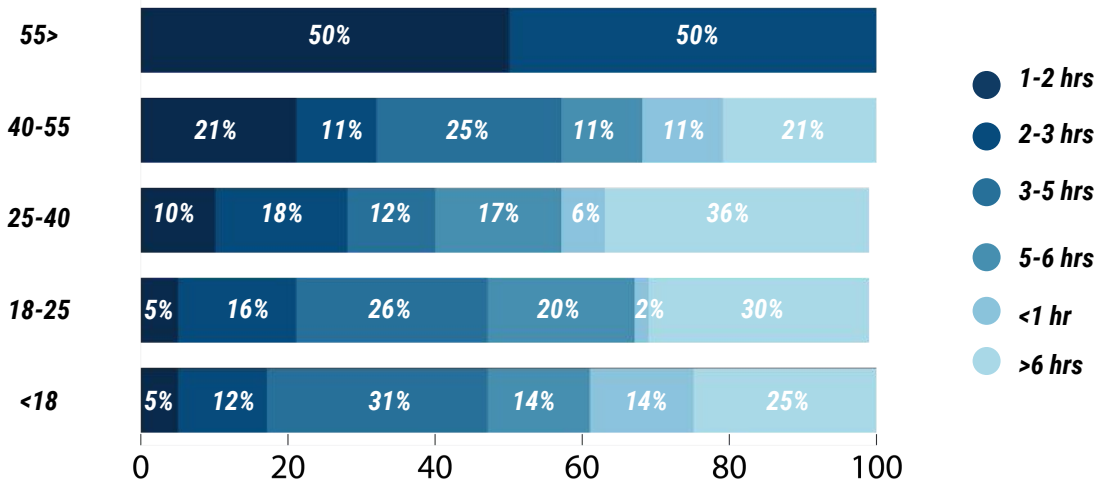
In this section, we have collated the responses based on average per diem hour usage of the internet. A whopping 30% have responded to have been using for more than 6 hours per day. Another 19% uses the internet for 5-6 years every day. Almost 25% of the respondents replied to be using the internet for 2-3 hours. Figure 8 and Figure 9 give us further detail of the response pattern through the lens of age group and gender respectively. Figure 8 shows that respondents of the age groups of 18-25 and 25-40, 30% and 36% have been using the internet for more than six hours daily. This shows the alarming trend of overuse of the internet among young people

Figure 9, shows that per diem hourage of internet use more or less distributed among the gender line.

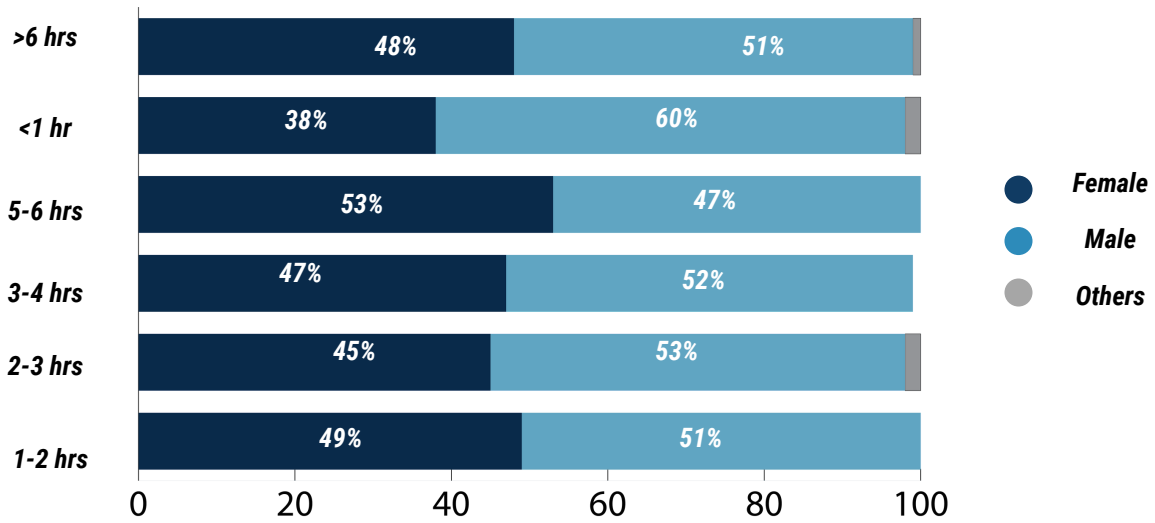
**Figure 7: Decomposition of Sample on the Basis of Per Day Internet Use**



**Figure 8: Age Group-wise Decomposition of Sample on the Basis of Per Day Internet Use**



**Figure 9: Gender-wise Decomposition of Sample on the Basis of Per Day Internet Use**

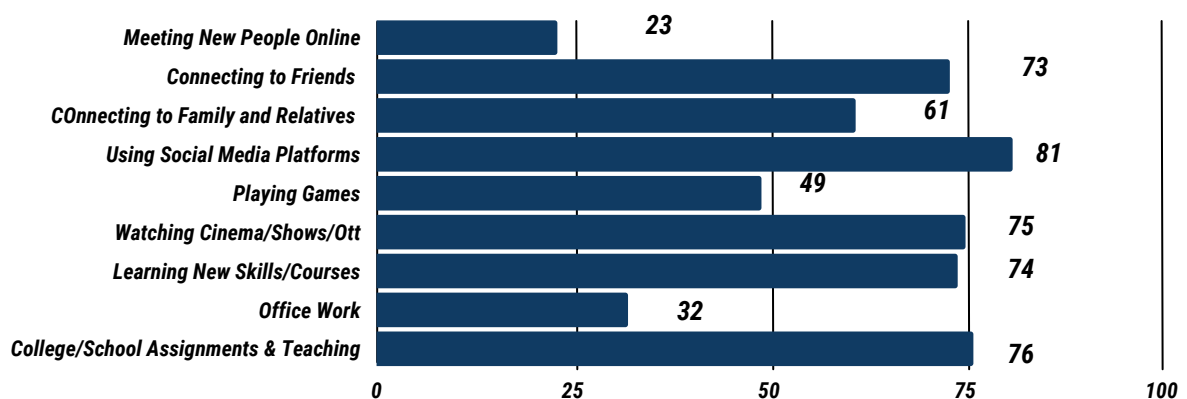


## Major Activities in the Internet

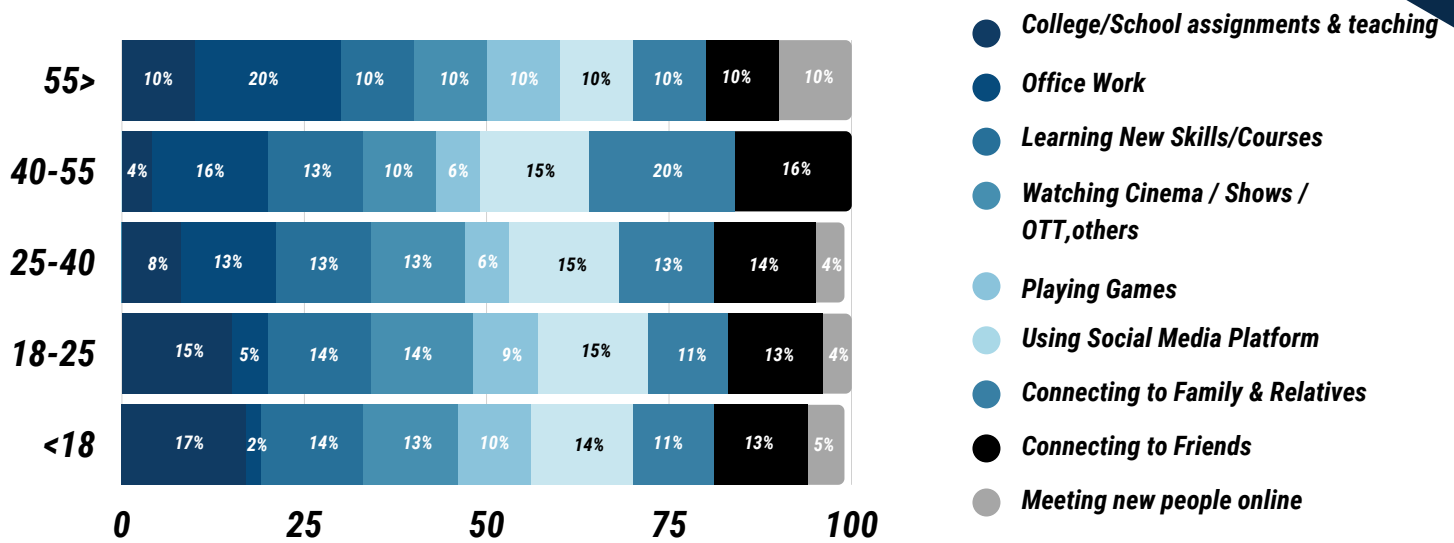
This sub-section displays the activity pattern on the internet. The respondents were asked about patterns of engagement in and around the internet. The question, a closed-ended one, offered an extensive spectrum of possible outcomes, of which the respondents were allowed to opt for more than one option if need be. As we can see in Figure 10, social media was cited by 81% of the respondents, while submitting academic assignments was replied by 76% of the respondents, followed by entertainment through video streaming and OTTs, which figured in the response of 75% of the respondents. E-learning was cited by 74% of the respondents.

Figure 11 provides further introspection into the same observation established in Figure 10. The same bar diagram has been converted to age group wise stacked bar diagrams. All the age groups have been converted to 100 per cent.

**Figure 10: Distribution of Different Activities on the Internet (unit, percentage)**



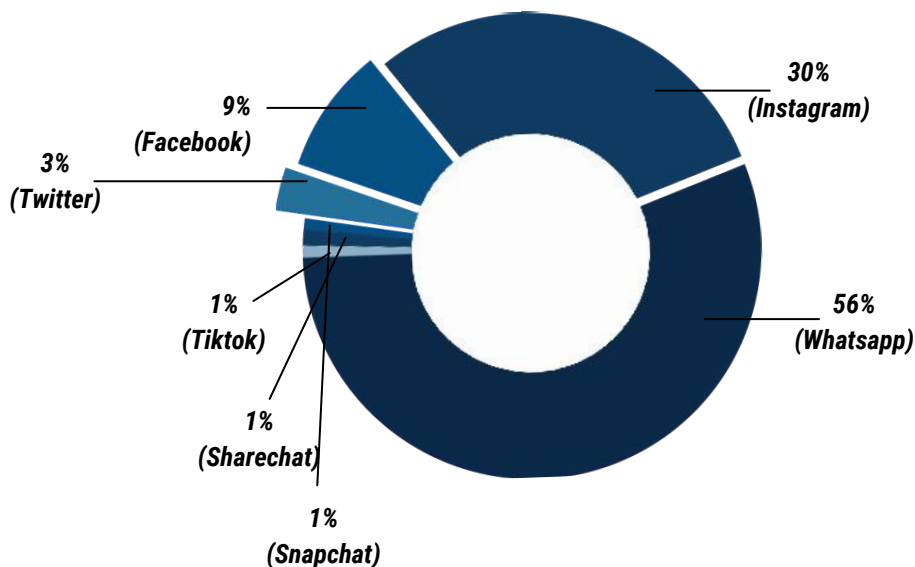
**Figure 11: Age-wise Decomposition of People Doing Different Activities on the Internet (scaled to percentage)**



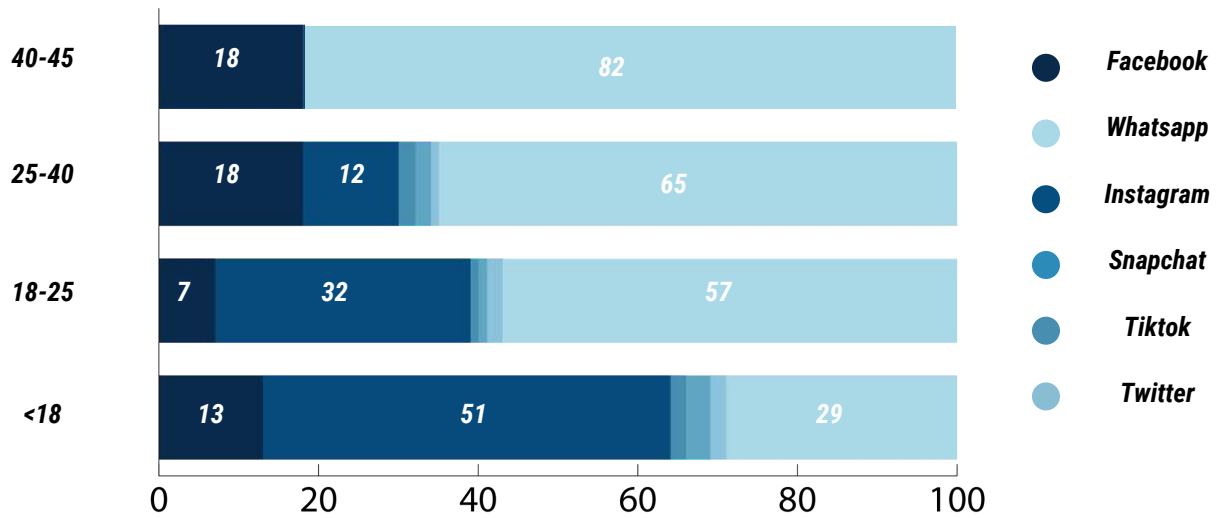
## Mostly used Social Media Platforms

This section deals with the major social media platforms used as first option by the netizens. WhatsApp is found to be the most widely used as first choice. Almost 56% opted for this as first option (Figure 12). Another 30% reported Instagram as their first choice. Only 9% and 2% of the users reported Facebook and Twitter as their first option respectively. Careful observation of Figure 13 shows the age group wise classification of the social media platform use as first choice. Instagram is found to be extremely popular among the youngsters. It's popularity has been consistently decreasing as we move to the higher age groups. Similarly, Figure 14 shows that both Instagram and Facebook are more popular among female users than they are in their male counterparts.

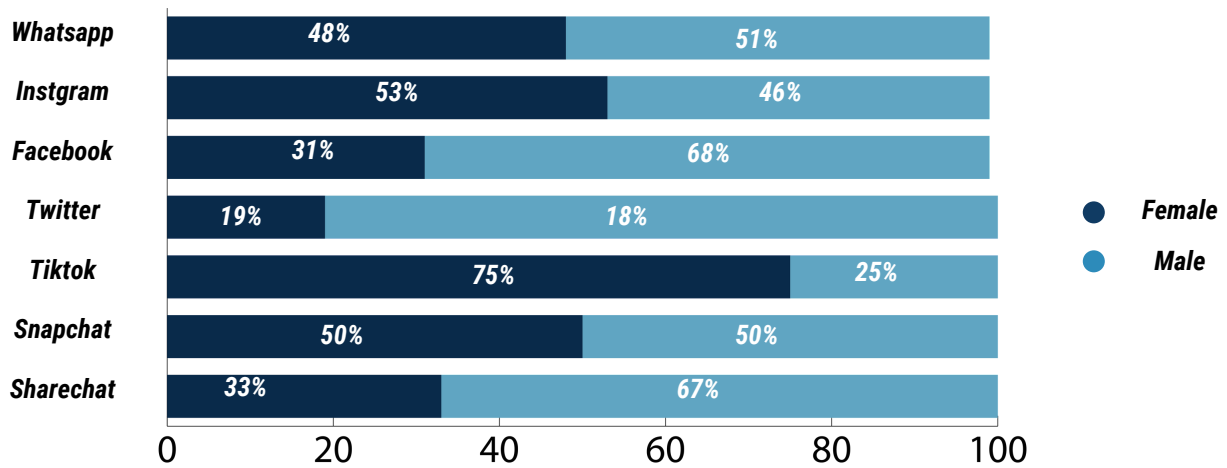
**Figure 12: Usage of Social Media Platforms as First Choice**



**Figure 13: Age Group Decomposition of the Usage of Social Media Platforms as First Choice**



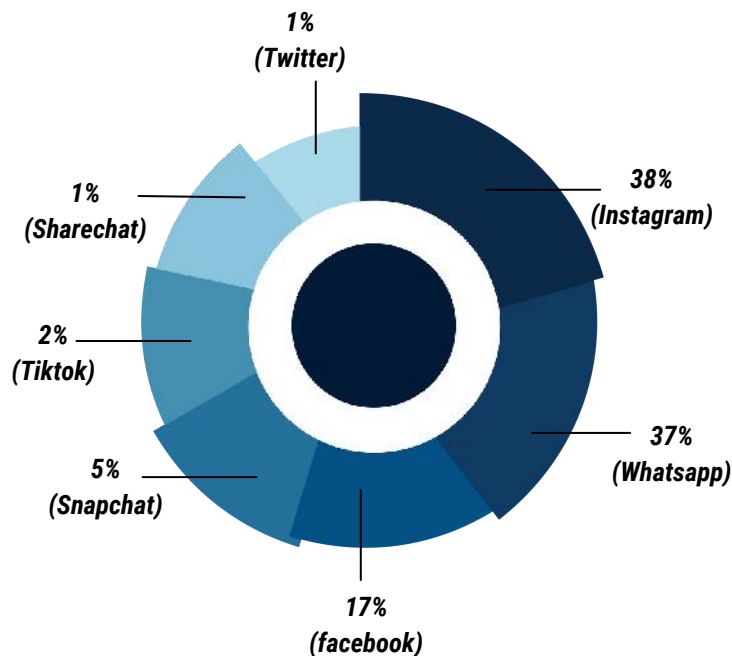
**Figure 14: Gender Decomposition of the Usage of Social Media Platforms As First Choice**



## Second Most used Social Media Platforms

In continuity with the previous section, this section deals with the second most widely used social media platform among the netizens. This query is important, since WhatsApp, though has been reported as the most widely used social media platform in the last section, it is primarily used as a private messaging platform. Figure 15 shows us that Instagram has been reported as the most widely used second choice as a social media platform, closely followed by WhatsApp. Figure 16 shows that Facebook is more popular among the older generation, while Instagram and Whatsapp are more popular among the younger generation as the second most frequently used options for social media.

**Figure 15: Usage of Social Media Platforms as the Second Choice**



**Figure 16: Age Decomposition of the Usage of Social Media Platforms As Second Choice**

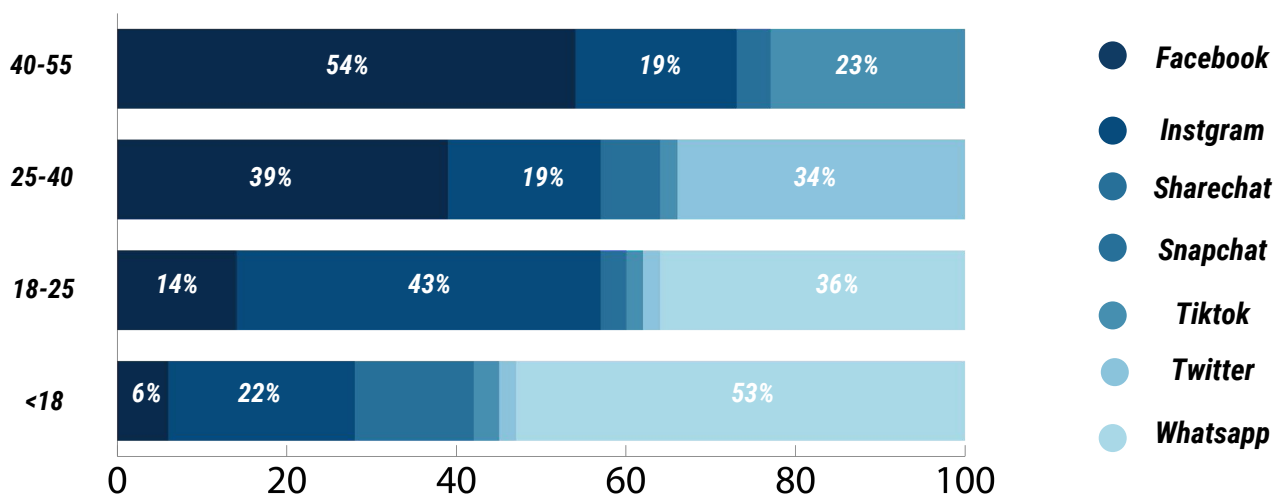
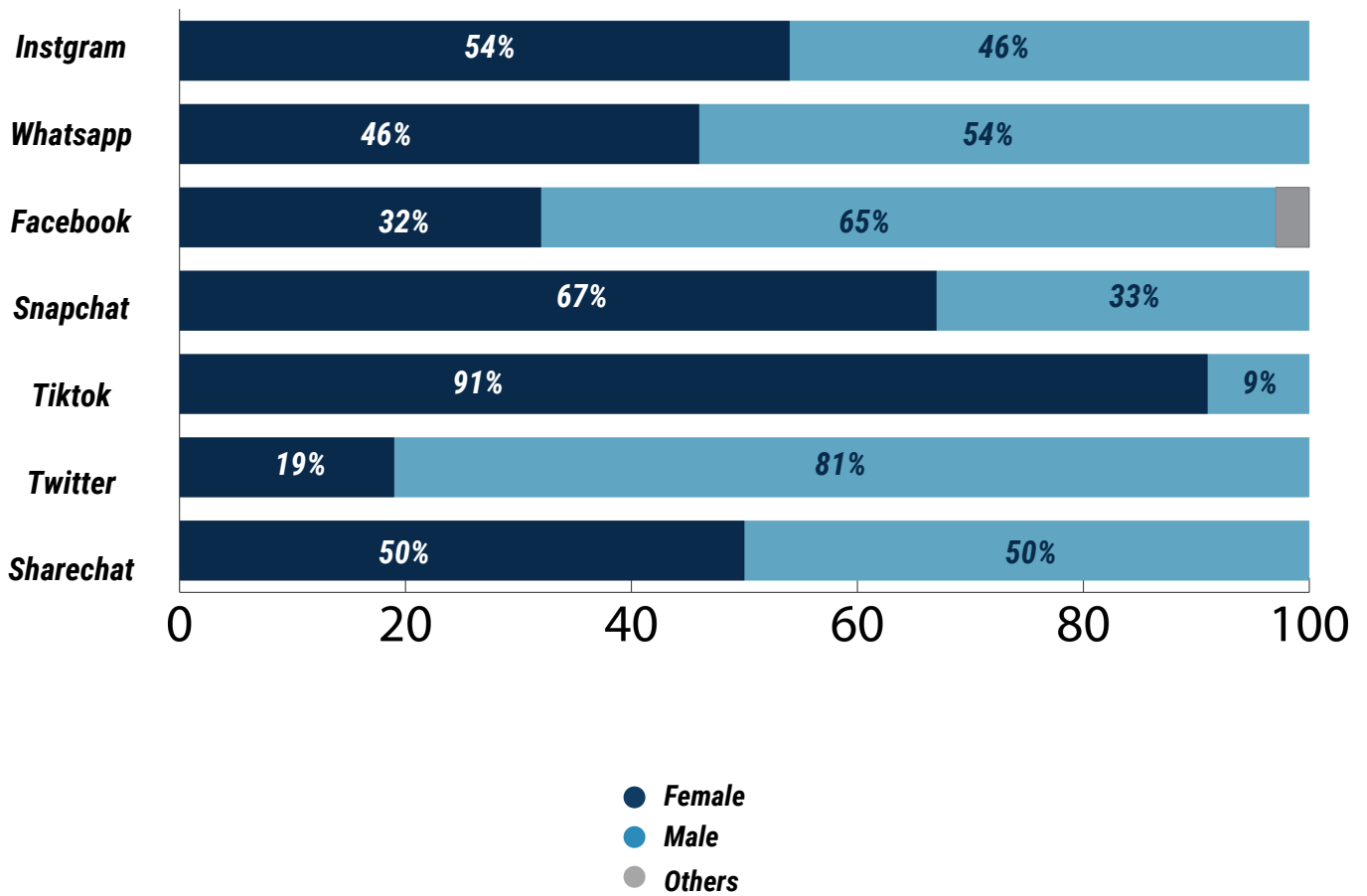




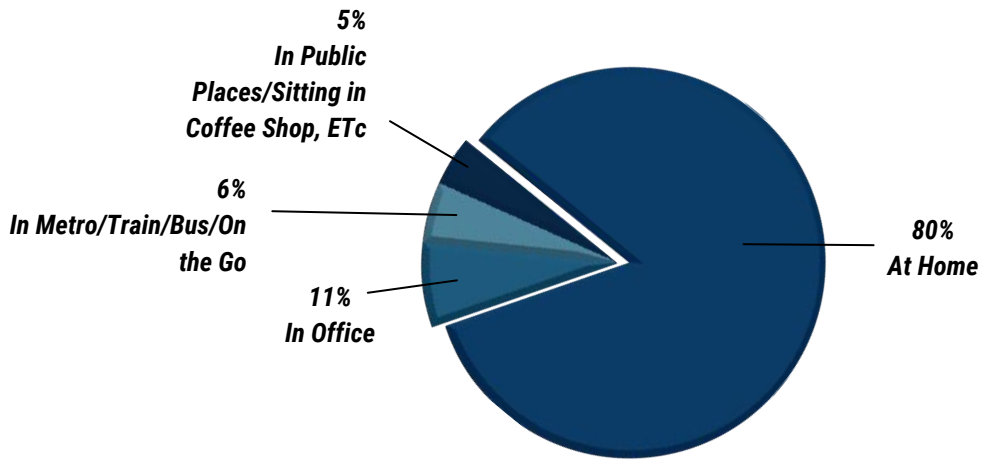
Figure 17: Gender Decomposition of the Usage of Social Media Platforms As Second Choice



## Place of Internet Use

This section shows the spatial distribution of internet users. Figure 18 and Figure 19 display the response pattern, of the queries related to the first and second choice of place for internet use. Home was found to be the first choice for 80% of the respondents, whereas Figure 19 shows that 30% of the respondents considered office to be their best second choice for internet use. According to Figure 20, Bus and metro and other modes of commutation were found to be the most popular third choice for internet use.

**Figure 18: Spatial Distribution of Internet Time of the Users (First Choice)**



**Figure 19: Spatial Distribution of Internet Time of the Users as Second Choice (scaled in percentage)**

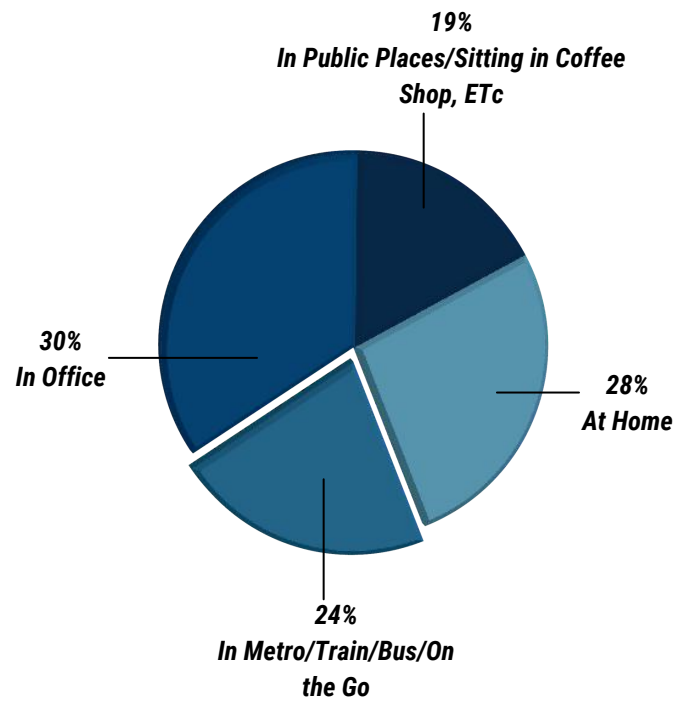
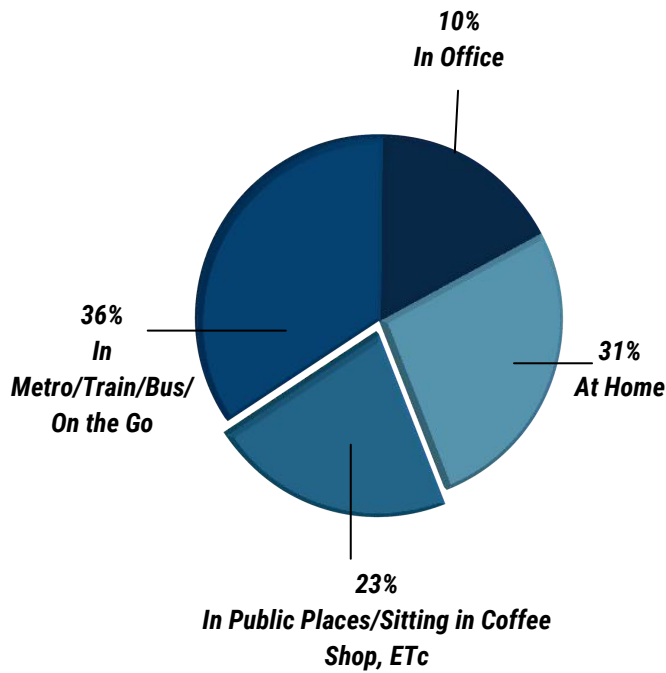


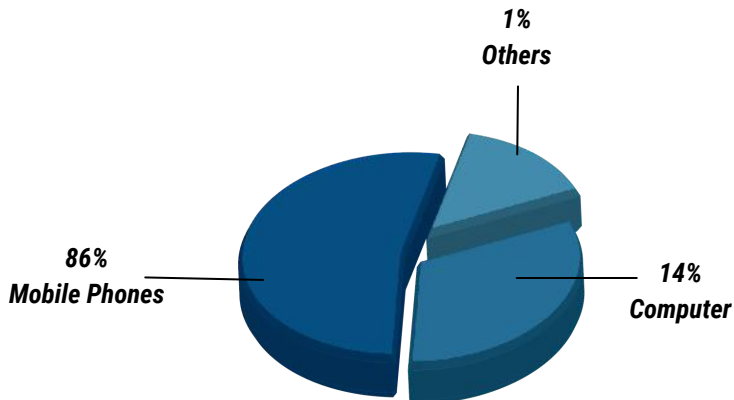
Figure 20: Spatial Distribution of Internet Time of the Users as Third Choice (scaled in percentage)



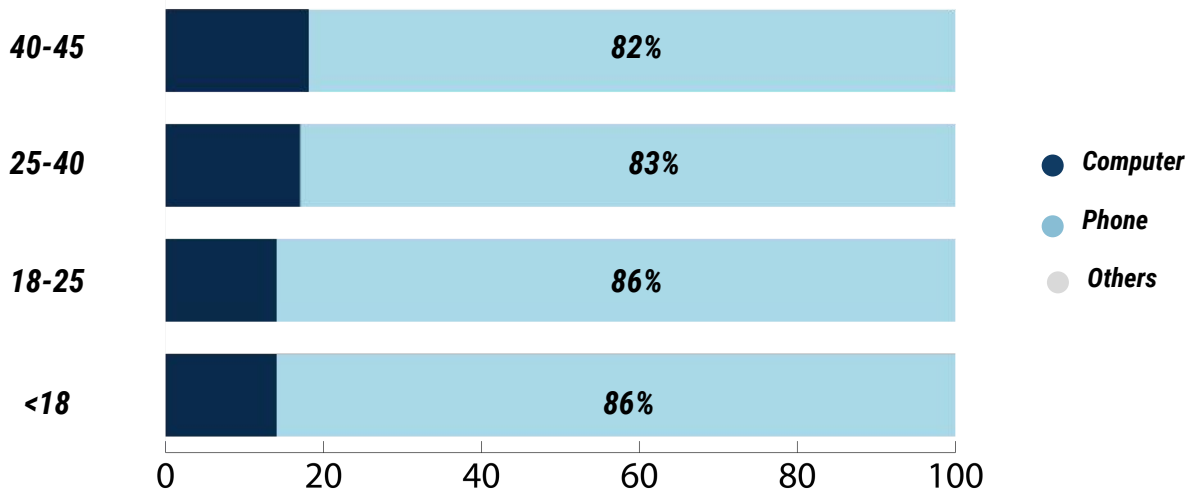
## Use of Device

In Figure 21, we can see that the mobile phone is overwhelmingly the most popular device as the first choice to browse the internet. And Figure 22 reaffirms that though, the popularity of mobile as the first option remains unflinching throughout the age ladder, it marginally decreases with the higher age groups. Figure 23 and Figure 24 show the distribution of popularity of devices as second and third devices. It was found, that computers and tablets are the most popular second and third choices for browsing.

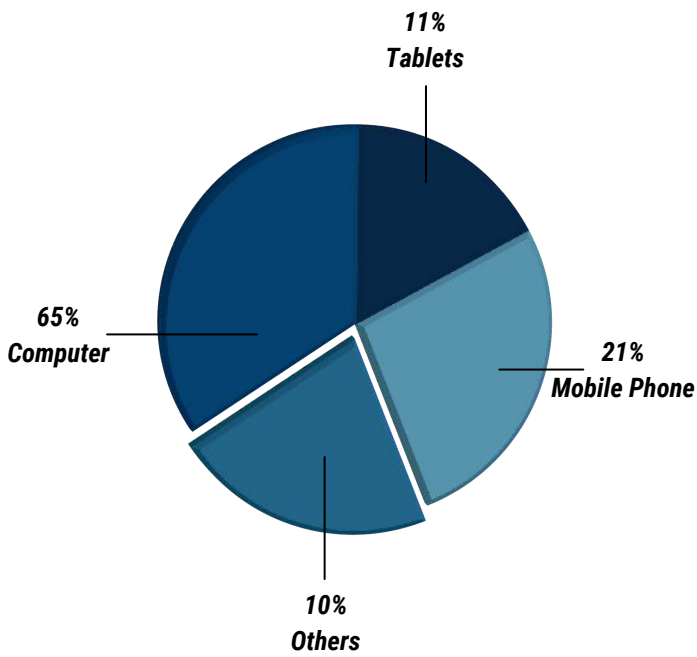
Figure 21: Device Usage (First Choice)



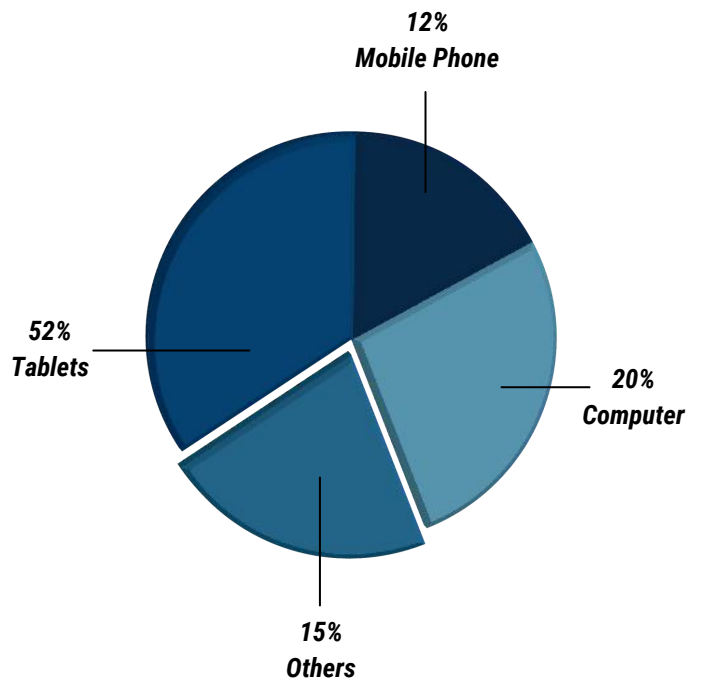
**Figure 22: Age Group Distribution of Device Usage**



**Figure 23: Device Usage (Second Choice)**



**Figure 24: Device Usage (Third Choice)**



## Online Streaming Video Platforms

The survey was conducted in the middle of the pandemic that caused lockdown throughout the globe. It was observed the web streaming video platform garnered exceptional traction during this period. In this section, we have tried to jot down the major pattern in this behaviour. Figure 25 shows the popularity chart of these platforms. More than 98% of the respondents had YouTube installed on their phones. Approximately, 69% and 65% of the respondents reportedly have Netflix and Amazon prime installed on their mobile phones. Hotstar/ Disney was installed on the phone of almost 50 % of the respondents. Other platforms like Voot, Zee5, Sony Liv was found mentioned in the replies. Their respective number of installations in the mobile phone can be seen in Figure 25.

**Figure 25: Video Streaming Apps Installed into The phone**

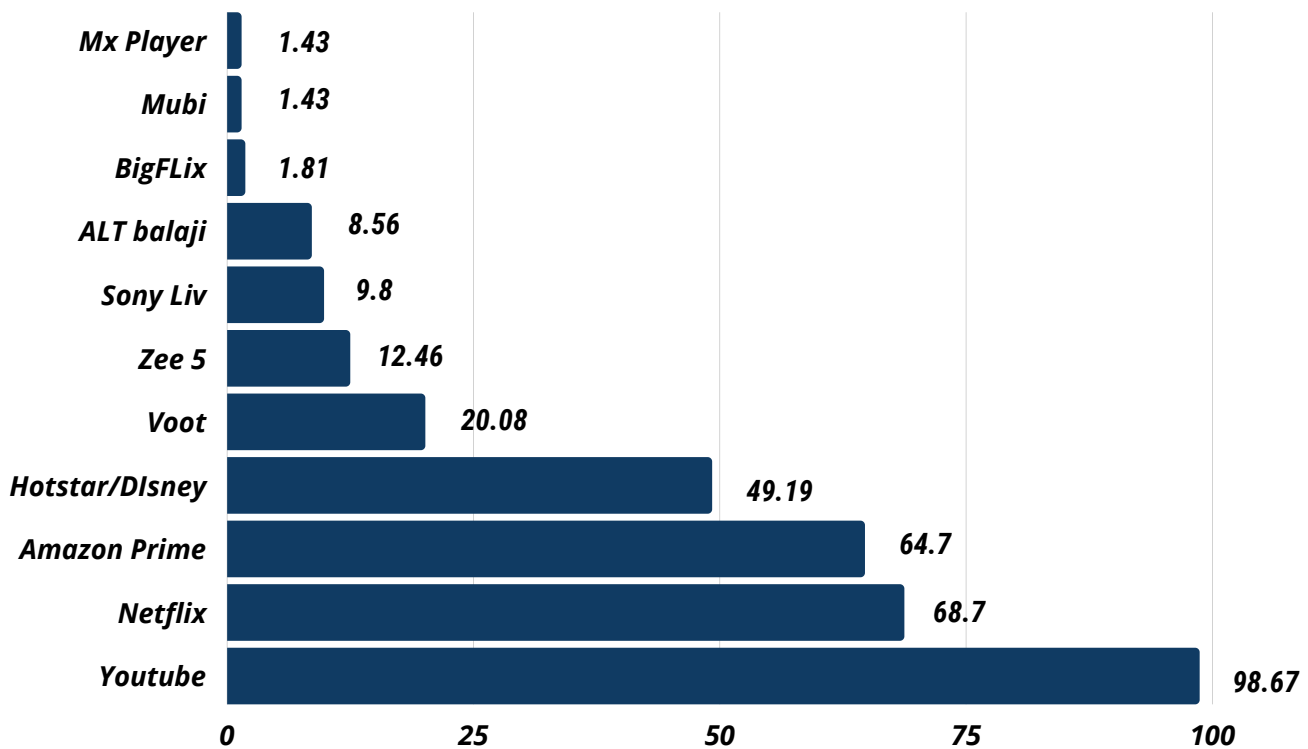
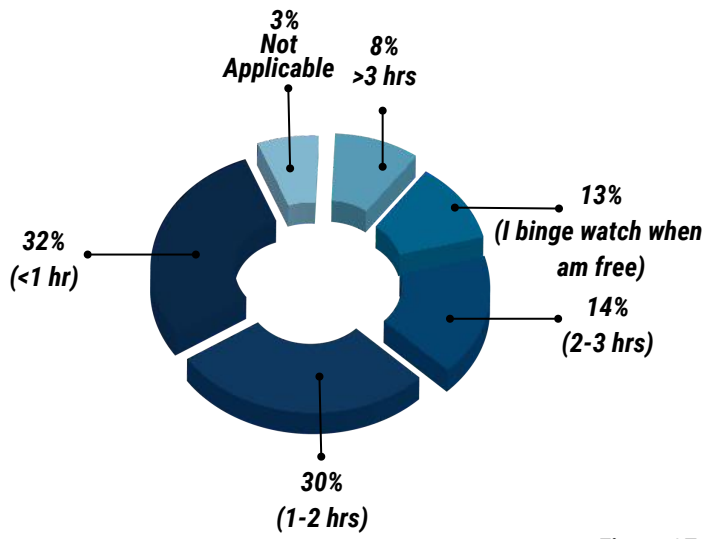
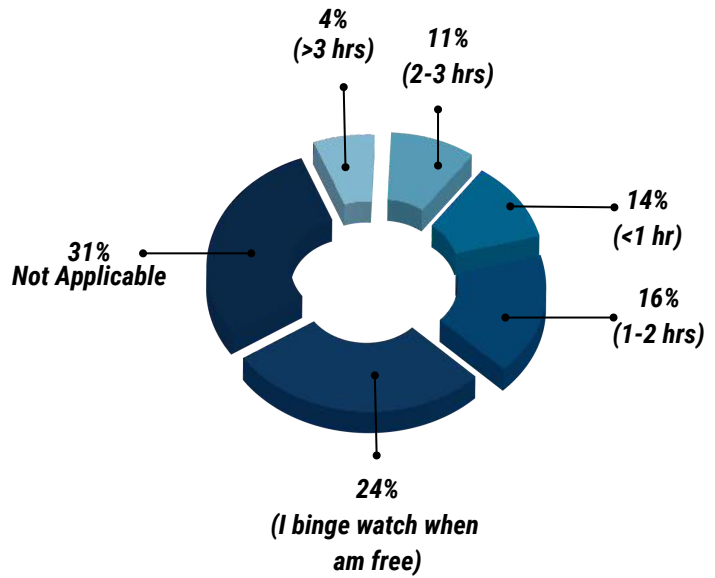


Figure 26, Figure 27 and Figure 28 show the daily time spending pattern of Youtube, Netflix and Amazon prime respectively. Though only 13% of the total respondents reported binge-watching for YouTube, 24% and 19% of the total respondents reported committing the same for Netflix and Amazon prime respectively. This is an interesting observation vis-a-vis the fact that YouTube has a much deeper installation rate of 98%, compared to a more or less equal rate of installation of 68.7% for Netflix and 64.7% for Amazon Prime (see Figure 25)

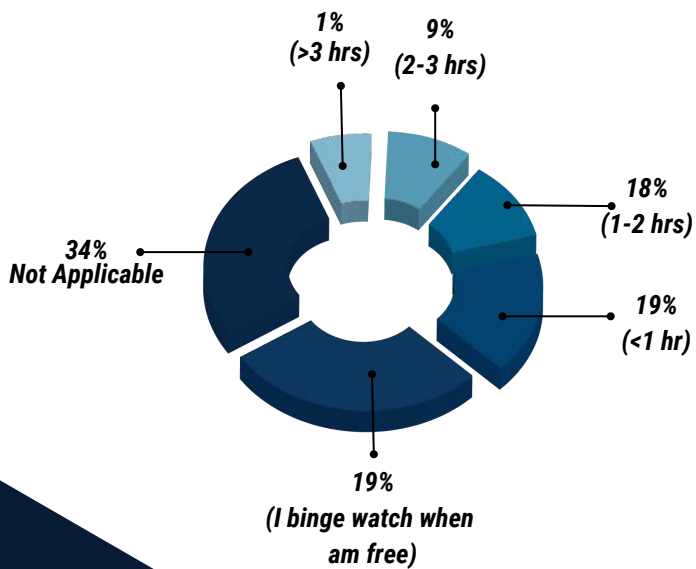
**Figure 26: Time Allocation of YouTube Viewers**



**Figure 27: Time Allocation of Netflix Viewers**



**Figure 28: Time Allocation of Amazon Prime Viewers**



# Online safety and security

## Cyber Vulnerability

Online safety and security have become a major cause of concern nowadays. From Figure 29 we can see that nearly 24% of the respondents have faced online abuses. Figure 30 shows 17% of the respondents have suffered from account hacking. Almost 12% have reported that they have faced hacking of their passwords, while 7% of the respondents have faced financial fraud.

Figure 29: Cyber Intimidation

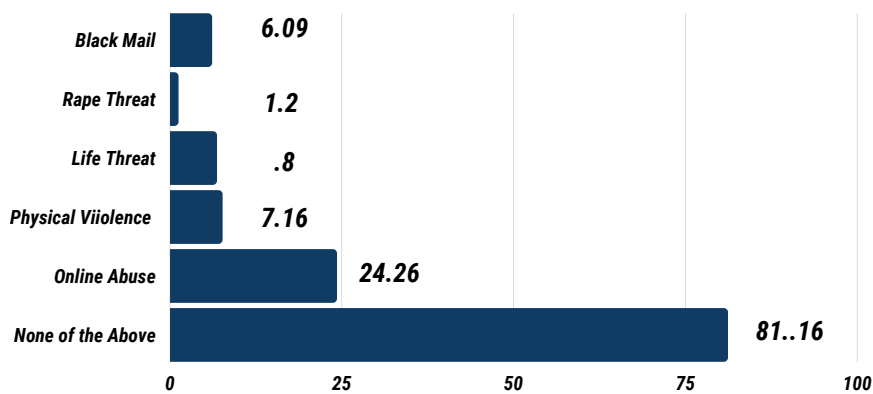
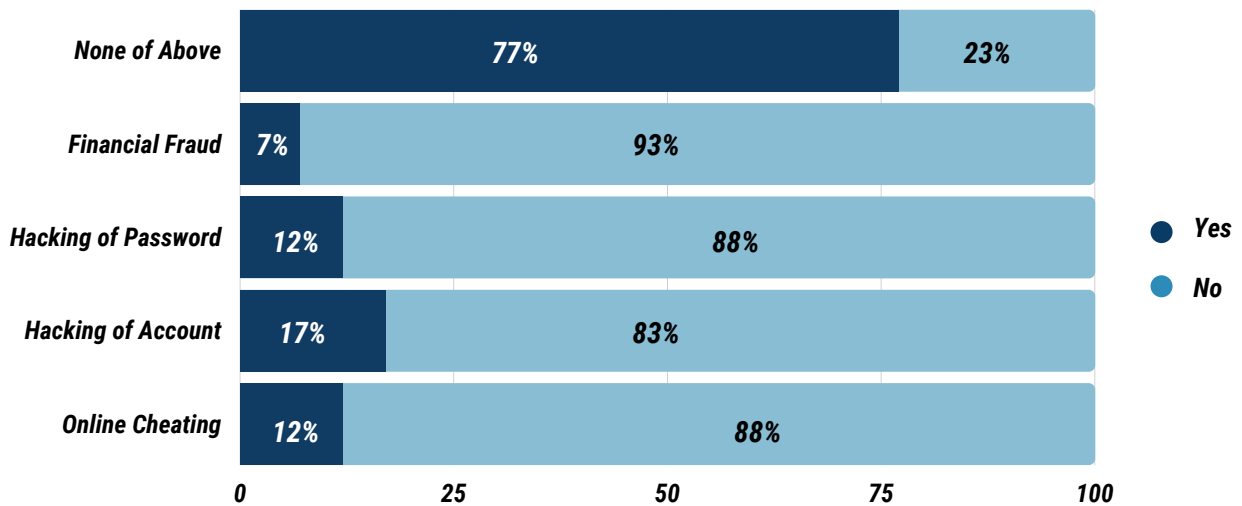


Figure 30: Cyber Mishaps

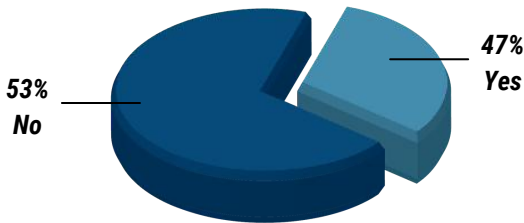


# Awareness About Cyber Vulnerability

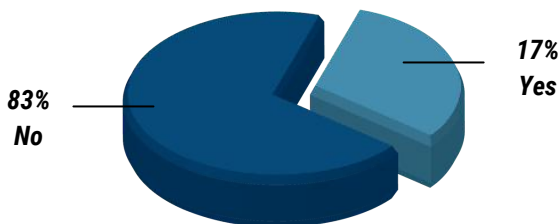
Figure 31 shows only 47% of the total cohort was aware of the existence of a mechanism that can safeguard individuals from the vulnerabilities of cyber intimidation, whereas only 17% of the total cohort have ever resorted to these mechanisms (Figure 32). Figure 33 shows that 85% of the respondents suggested that they would turn to the police in case they face any breach in their cyber safety and security.

Figure 34 shows that 9% of the respondents could not properly recollect the name of the cyber cell as a redressal mechanism against cybercrimes. However, only 15% of the respondents replied to have contacted police in case of facing cyber vulnerability. (Figure 35)

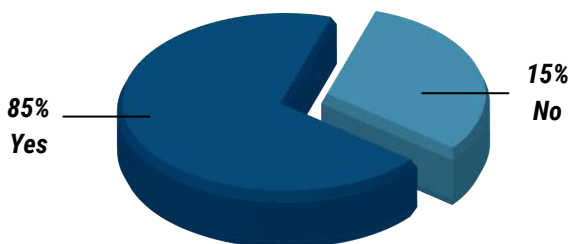
**Figure 31: Aware of Mechanism to Resist Threats Mentioned in Figure 29 and Figure 30**



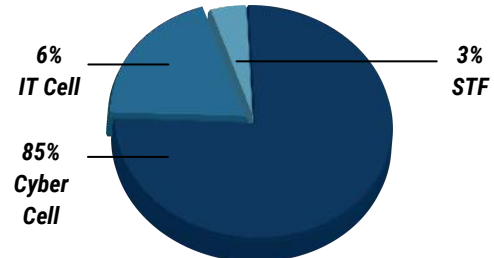
**Figure 32: Used the Such Redressal Mechanisms**



**Figure 33: Aware of Police Help**



**Figure 34: Name of the Institution According to the Respondents**



**Figure 35: Those Who Approached Police Station to Complaints**





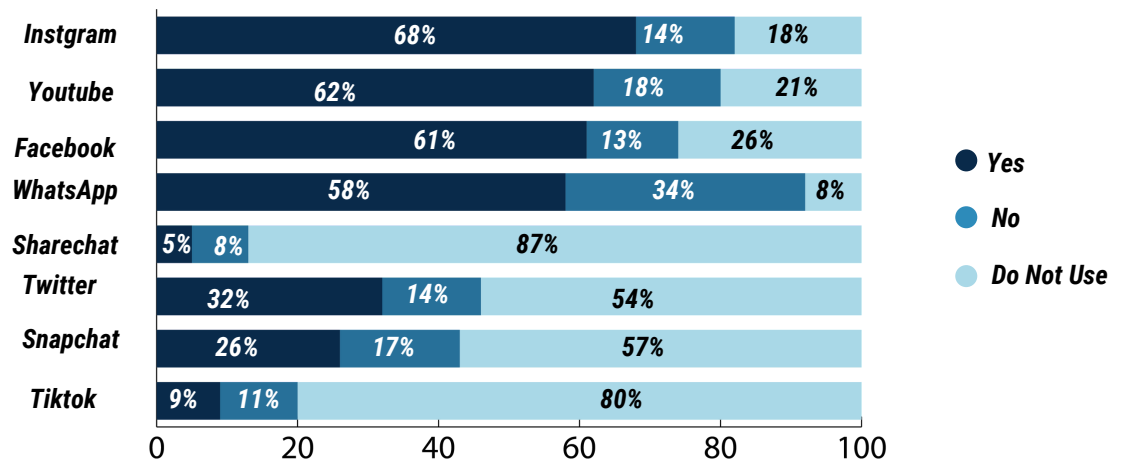
## Perception About Platforms Regarding Redressal

Figure 36 shows the platform wise pattern of popular awareness regarding the presence of the redressal mechanism. It is interesting to observe that, 34% of the respondents did not know that WhatsApp has a redressal mechanism. WhatsApp had recorded the highest number of users, and at the same time, the highest number of users were ignorant about the presence of the redressal mechanism. On the contrary, Instagram showed the best result vis-a-vis the share of aware and informed users. Almost 68% of the respondents acknowledged that they were aware of the presence of the redressal mechanism in Instagram. In this feature, Insta was closely followed by YouTube and Facebook.

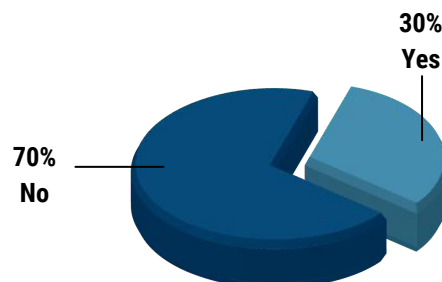
Figure 37, depicts however a different picture. It was found that only 30 % of the respondents had ever resorted to any of these platform-specific redressal mechanisms.

Figure 38 Shows the platform-specific patterns of respondents accessing the grievance redressal mechanisms. Here too, Instagram tops the chart with 26% affirmative replies, closely followed by Facebook (23%) respectively.

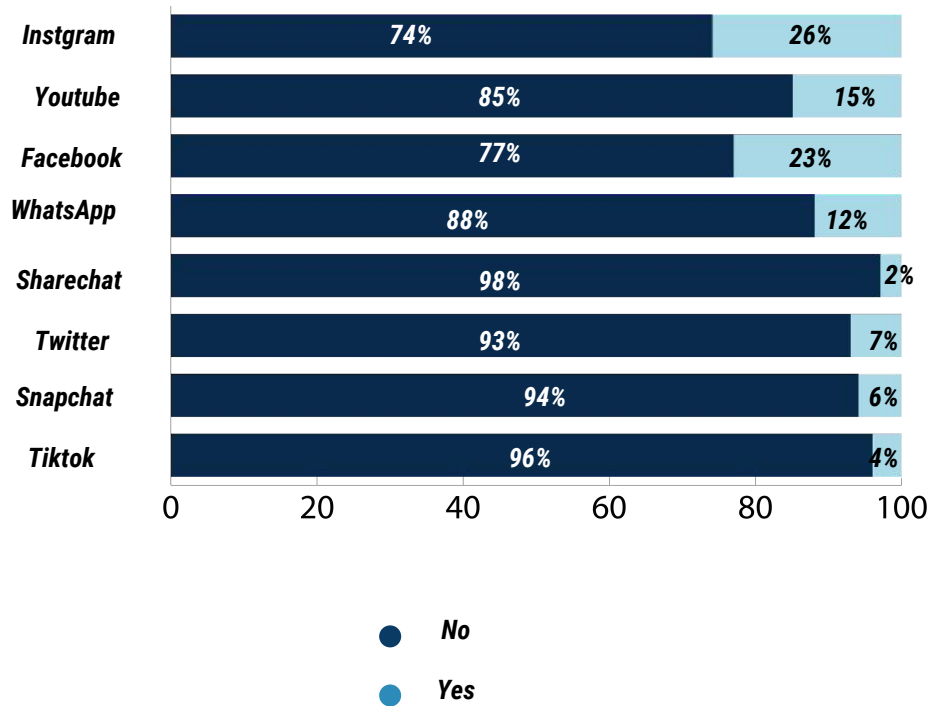
**Figure 36: Platform-wise Break Up of the Respondents Who Know About Presence of Grievance Redressal Mechanism**



**Figure 37: Respondents Who Have Used the Grievance Redressal Mechanisms of Any Kind**



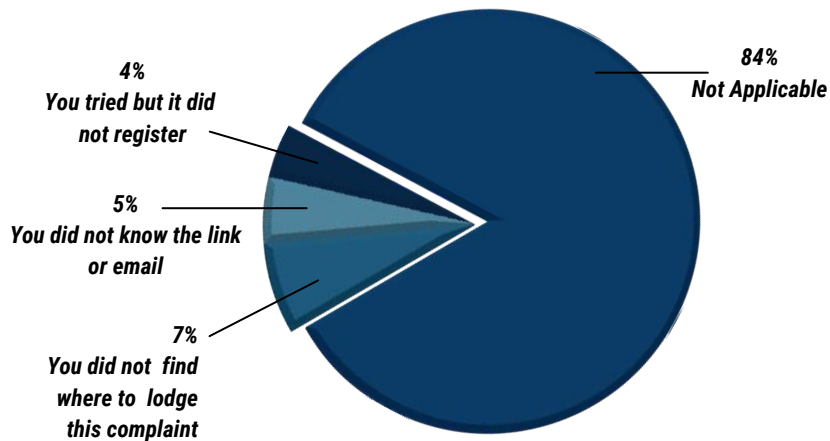
**Figure 38: Respondents Who Used the Grievance Redressal Mechanism in Different Platforms**



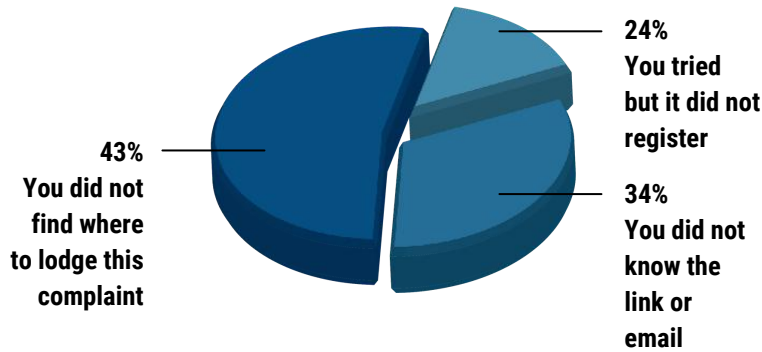
## Reasons Behind Not Complaining

Figure 39 and Figure 40: Reason behind not complaining (to those it was applicable in Figure 39) show the major reasons cited by respondents for not complaining, despite having faced intimidation or abuse on the internet. 43% of those who actually answered this question cited not being able to find the exact place for lodging the complaint, on the website. Another 34% replied that they could not find the 'link to lodge the complaint'.

**Figure 39: Reason Behind Not Complaining**



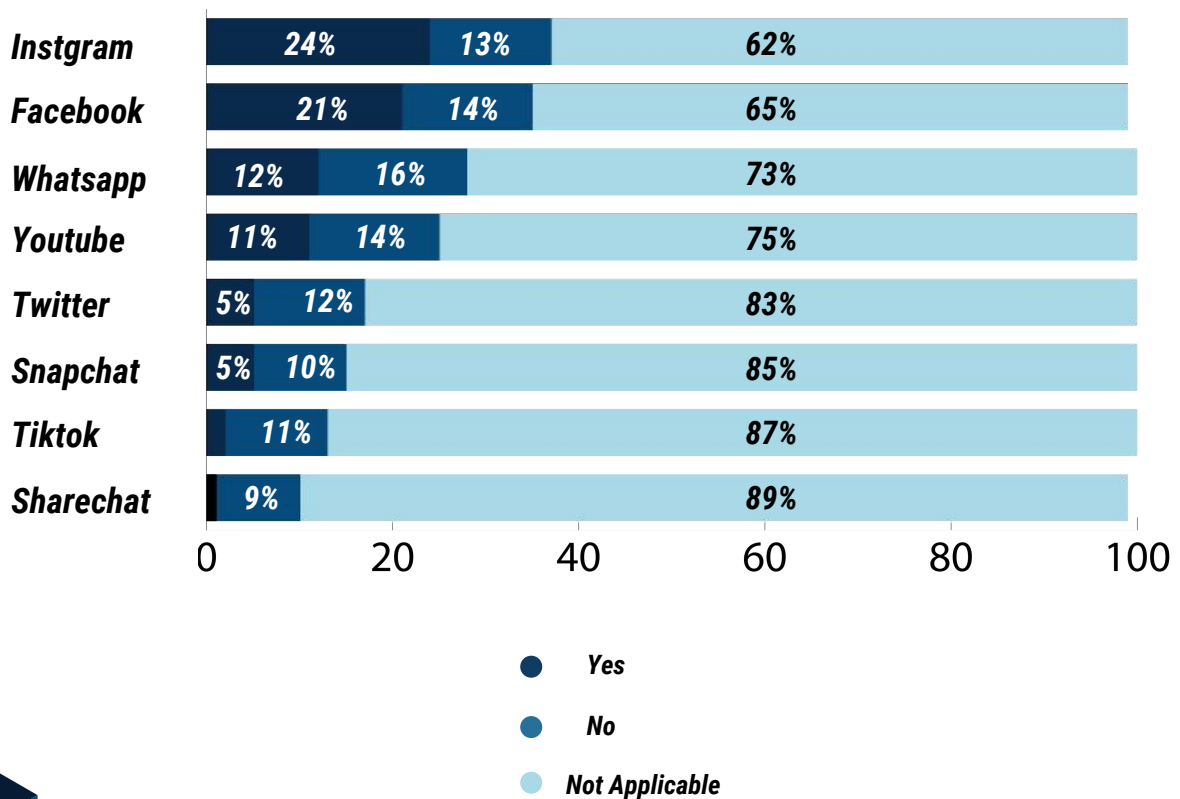
**Figure 40: Reason Behind Not Complaining (to those it was applicable in Figure 39)**



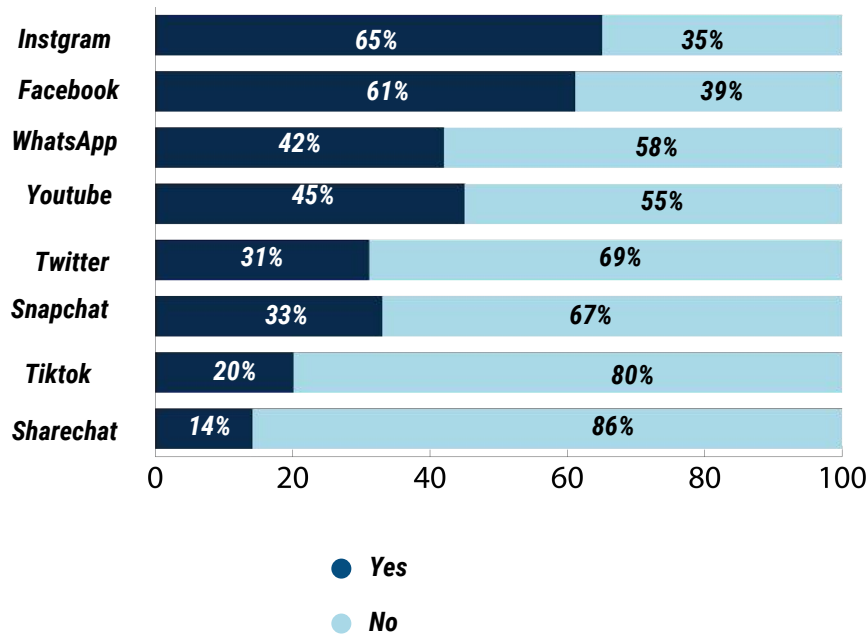
## Response From the Redressal Mechanism

Figure 40: Reason behind not complaining (to those it was applicable in Figure 39) shows the platform wise distribution of response rate of the redressal mechanisms. Only 24% of all the respondents received replies from Instagram, against their lodged complaint. For Facebook and WhatsApp, this ratio is 21% and 12% respectively. Figure 42 is a representation of Figure 40: Reason behind not complaining (to those it was applicable in Figure 39). Here, we have stripped the non-applicable section. Even then it is found that a considerable fraction of the applicable respondents did not meet redressal after having complained in the respective platforms.

**Figure 41: Received Response From Platforms After Complaining**



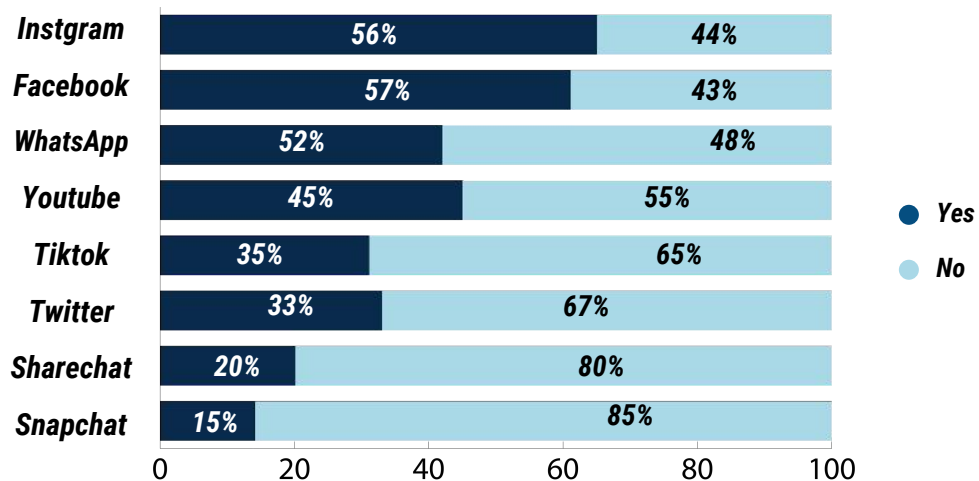
**Figure 42: Received Response From Platforms After Complaining (for those it is applicable in Figure 40: Reason Behind Not Complaining (to those it was applicable in Figure 39))**



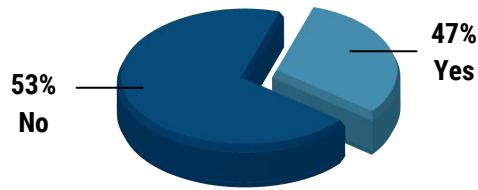
## Internet Safety

Very few respondents were found to be reading the platform related safety documents carefully. Figure 43 shows that only 57% of Facebook users read these documents. This shows a huge majority of the respondents do not read the safety and security documents. Figure 44 shows 53% of the respondents were not been using any mechanism to ensure internet security. Figure 45 shows only 61% of those who use any mechanism to ensure internet security, have ever purchased software to ensure their security.

**Figure 43: Respondents Reported to Have Read the Safety and Security Material of Different Platforms (only for the applicable users)**



**Figure 44: Uses Specified Software for Internet Security**



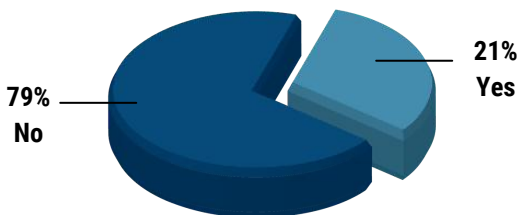
**Figure 45: Uses Specified Purchases Software for Internet Security (of those who said yes in Figure 44)**



## Workshop

Though only 21% of the (Figure 45) respondents ever attended any workshop related to internet safety and security, 59% (Figure 46) expressed their desire to attend such workshop.

**Figure 46: Attended Any Workshop on Internet Safety**



**Figure 47: Respondents Who Are Ready to Attend Workshops on Internet Security If They Get a Chance**



# DIGITAL WELL BEING

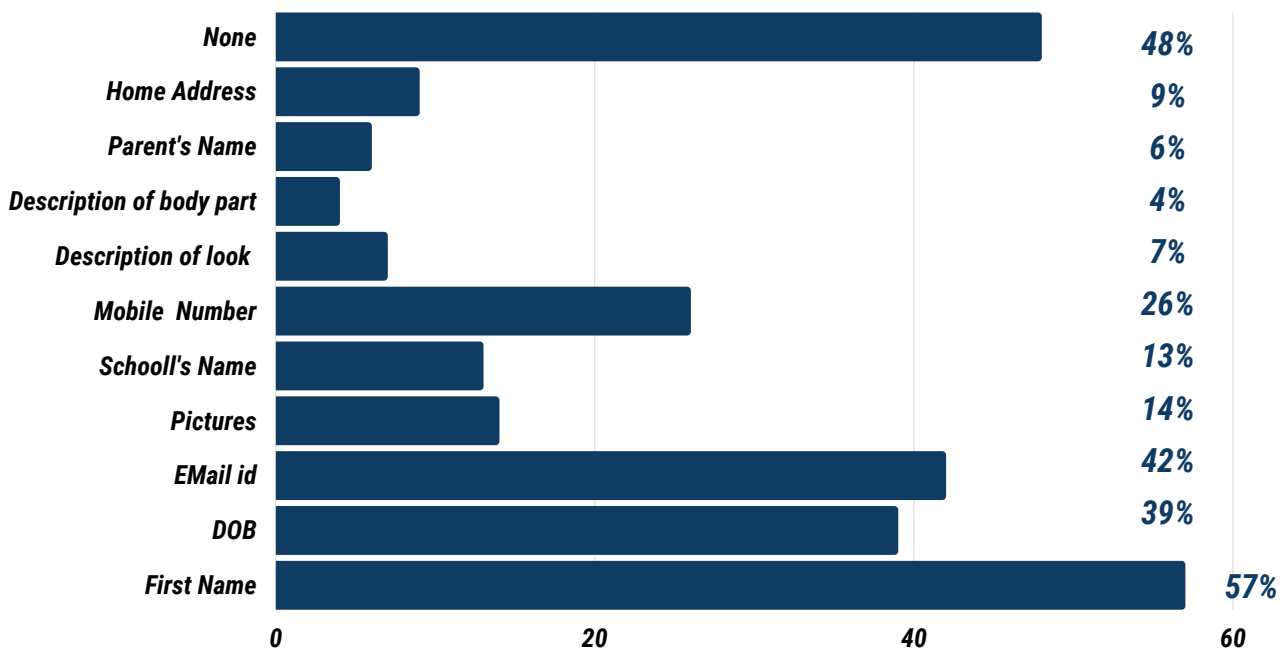
## Awareness About Privacy

Figure 48 shows 9% of the respondents have divulged sensitive information like their home address, 26% have divulged their phone number and 4% have described their body parts on the internet.

Figure 49 shows almost 30% of the respondents have personal matters on the internet. According to 61% of the respondents, at least one of their closely known persons have accessed pornographic content through the internet (Figure 50).

44% of the respondents accepted to have accessed online pornographic materials themselves (Figure 51). 5% of the respondents have accepted to have paid for accessing the pornographic materials online. (Figure 52)

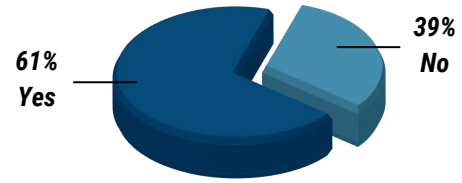
**Figure 48: Disclosed Personalised Information on Internet/ Social Media (in %)**



**Figure 49: Share of Respondents to Have Discussed Personal Matters Online**



**Figure 50: Respondents Who Know Others to Have Watch X Rated/ Porn Contents on Net**



**Figure 51: Respondents Who Accepted to Have Checked Online Pornographic Content**



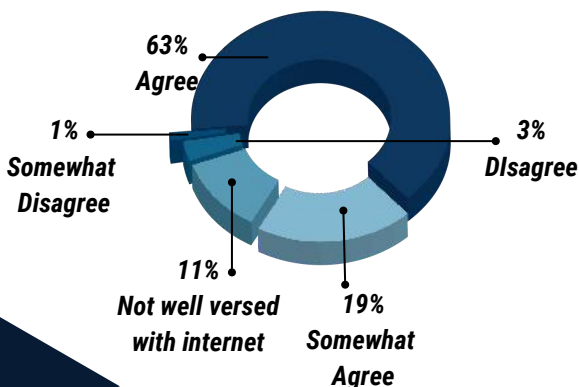
**Figure 52: Respondents Who Accepted to Have Paid for Porn Websites**



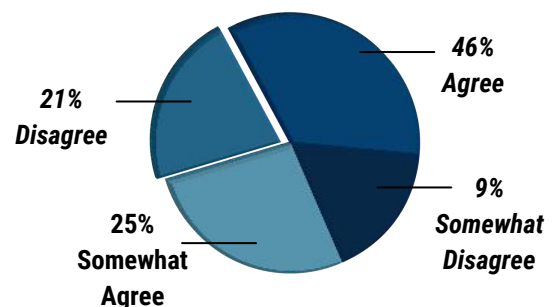
## Parental Trust

According to Figure 53, 63% of the respondents agreed to the statement “(My parents/guardians trust me to do what’s right when I am online)”. In Figure 54, we see as much as 46% of the respondents agreed that they know to hide their internet activities from their parents. In Figure 55, we can see that 29% of the respondents hide their activities from their parents. In figure 56, only 35% of the respondents distinctly accepted that they would change their behaviour on the internet if they come to know that their parents watch their activities. 27% of the respondents mildly and 29% of the respondents assertively agreed that their parents do not have adequate time to look into their internet activities (Figure 57).

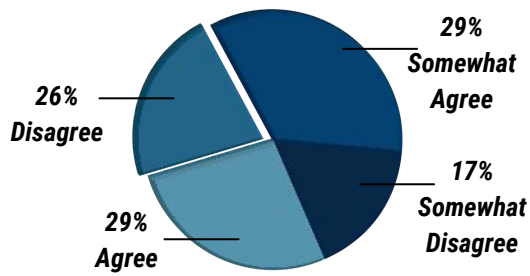
**Figure 53: Opinion of Respondents About Their Parents’ Trust in Their Cyber Activity**



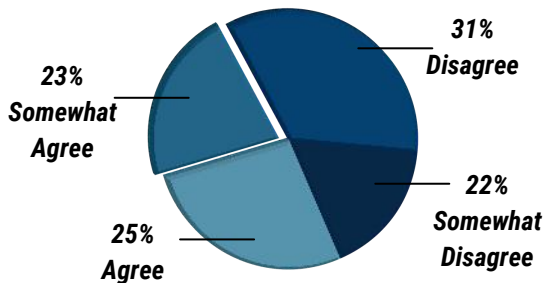
**Figure 54: Opinion on the Statement Whether or Not the Respondent Knows to Hide Their Online Activities from Their Parents**



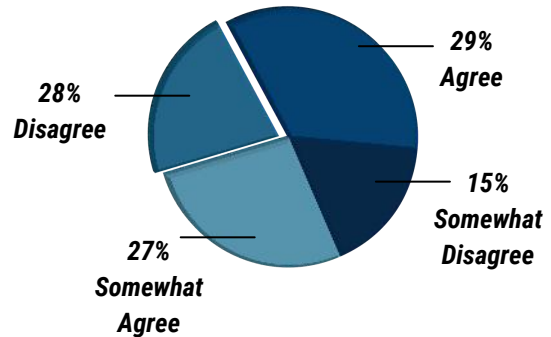
**Figure 55: Respondents Who Do Not Tell Their Parents About Whereabouts in the Internet**



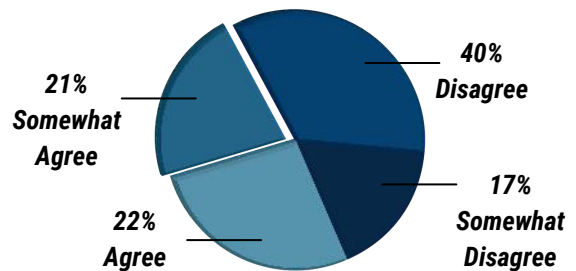
**Figure 56: Opinion on the Statement Whether or Not the Respondents Would Change Their Behaviour if They Come to Know That Their Online Behaviour is Watched By Their Parents**



**Figure 57: Respondents' Whose Parents Do Not Have Adequate Time to Look Into Their Activity**



**Figure 58: Respondents' According To Whom Their Parents Would Not Understand It**



## PARENTS MONITORING ONLINE BEHAVIOUR

### Parental Monitoring

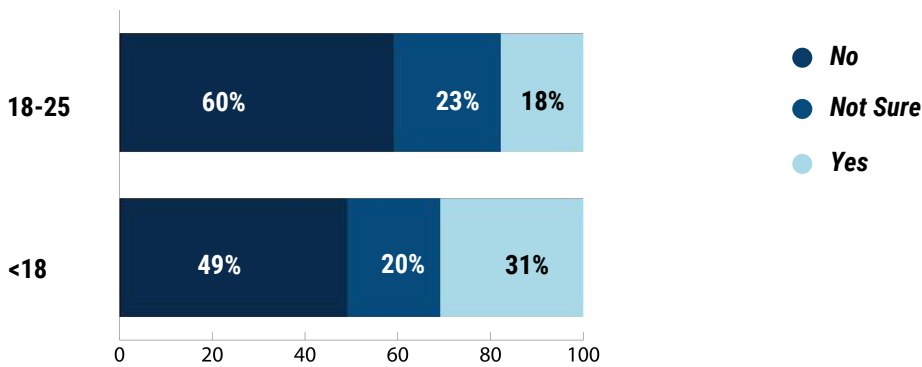
For this part, we will be considering respondents aged below eighteen and between eighteen to twenty-five. Figure 59 shows that only 31% of the non-adults and 24% of the young adults think that their internet activity is monitored by their parents.

Figure 60 shows 20% of the respondents from the age group below 18, held that their parents made them show their entire profile and 15% of the young adults (18-25) aired similar opinions. Whereas, Figure 61 shows while 19% of young adults and non-adults had to show their profile to their parents, only 13% of the males (from the same age group) had to do the same.

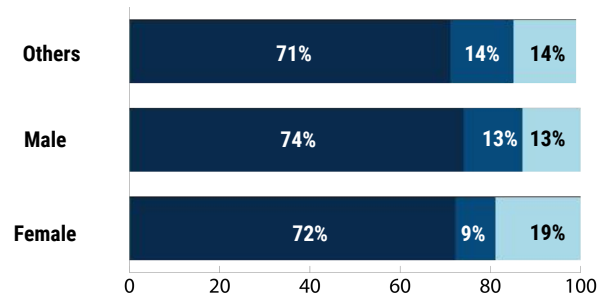
In figure 62, only 1 respondent from this age group (less than 0.1%) replied that her parents have installed specif software no monitor her online behaviour.



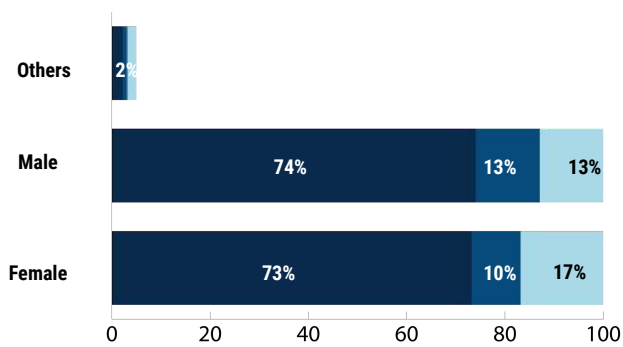
**Figure 59: Age Break Up of Respondents Whose Parents Monitor Their Online Activity**



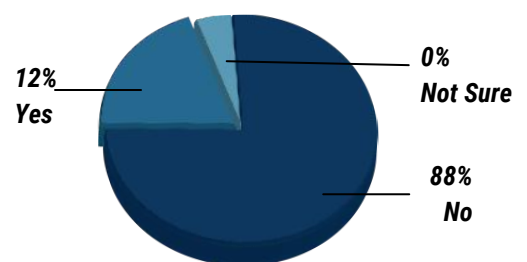
**Figure 61: Parents Made the Respondents Show Their Complete Profile**



**Figure 60: Parents Made the Respondents Show Their Complete Profile**



**Figure 62: Parents Use Software To Track Their Behaviour**



## Hiding Online Activities From Parents

In Figure 63, we observe that 36% of the respondents replied that they minimise their browsers in the presence of their parents.

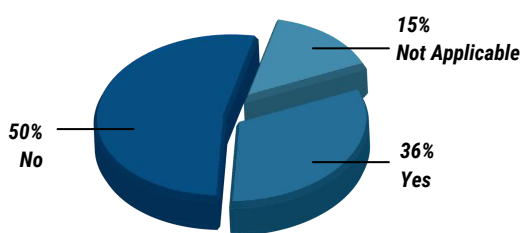
In Figure 64, we see that 21% of the respondents have reportedly deleted their emails in order to escape parental oversight. According to our survey, 35% of the respondents have deleted videos from their computer hard disc, in order to avoid parental monitoring(Figure 65).

According to Figure 66, 16% of the respondents have gone to the extent of creating a separate mail id to dodge their parental surveillance.

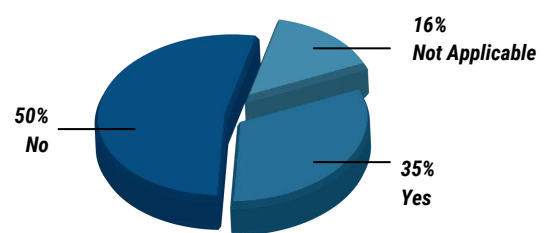
According to Figure 67 same proportion of respondents i.e. 16% had reportedly created a parallel social media profile to move to the blind spot of their parents. 8% of the respondents accepted that they had been successful in breaching the parental lock set up by their parents. (Figure 68)

Figure 69 shows that 42% of the respondents in the survey had opined that they had nothing to hide from their parents. (Figure 70)

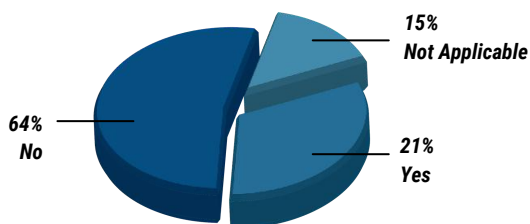
**Figure 63: Respondents Who Close or Minimise Their Browser When Their Parents Enter Their Room**



**Figure 65: Respondents Who Hid or Deleted Their Videos**



**Figure 64: Respondents Who Hid or Deleted Their Emails**



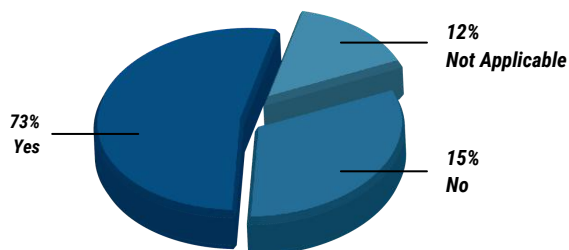
**Figure 66: Respondents Who Created Separate/ Secret Mail Id**



**Figure 67: Respondents Who Created Separate/ Secret Social Media Id**



**Figure 70: Respondents Who Had Received News That Appeared True To Them At First, But Later Was Found To Be False**



**Figure 68: Respondents Who Cracked the Parental Lock**



**Figure 69: Respondents Who Have Nothing To Hide From Their Parents**



## Fake News

It was found that a whopping 80% of the respondents replied to have received fake news. (Figure 71) As shown in Figure 72, according to the survey 77% of the respondents replied to have received fake news from social media, while 76% of respondents received fake news from WhatsApp. (multiple answers were allowed for this question)

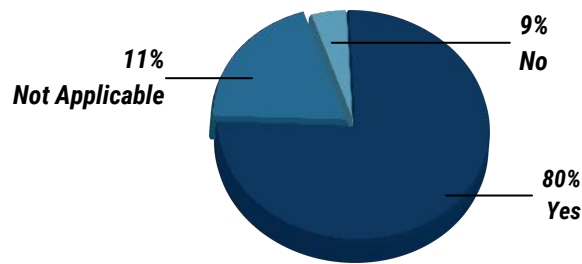
Figure 73, shows the social media platform-specific distribution pattern of replies as sources of fake news. According to 56% of the respondents, the source was Facebook, while 39% of them marked Instagram as a source of fake news from social media.

Figure 74 shows News networks to be the most trusted tool for bursting fake ones.

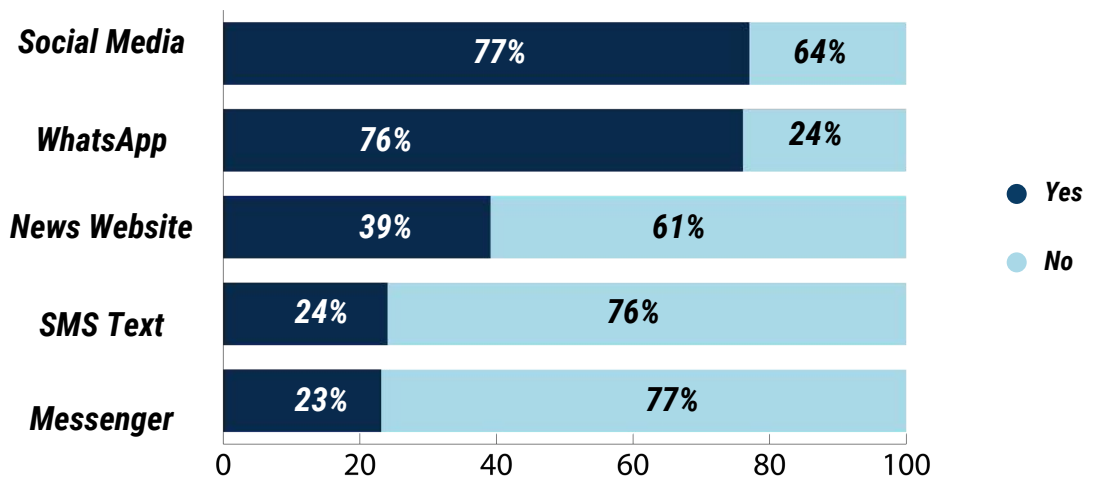
Around 89% of the respondents believe that political propaganda is the main ulterior motive behind spreading fake news. (Figure 75). Only 23% of the respondents, as shown in Figure 76 were aware of the existence of various fake news cross-checking mechanisms, while according to the survey, 79% of the respondents were aware of the existence of reporting mechanisms present to deal with the menace of fake news. (Figure 77)

Only in the 30% of the cases faced by our respondents, the issue of fake news was resolved after having reported to proper platforms (Figure 78). in nearly 60% of the cases where the complaints were lodged and actions were taken the complainants were not intimidated about the entire procedure of fact-checking and imparting action against the fake news (Figure 79).

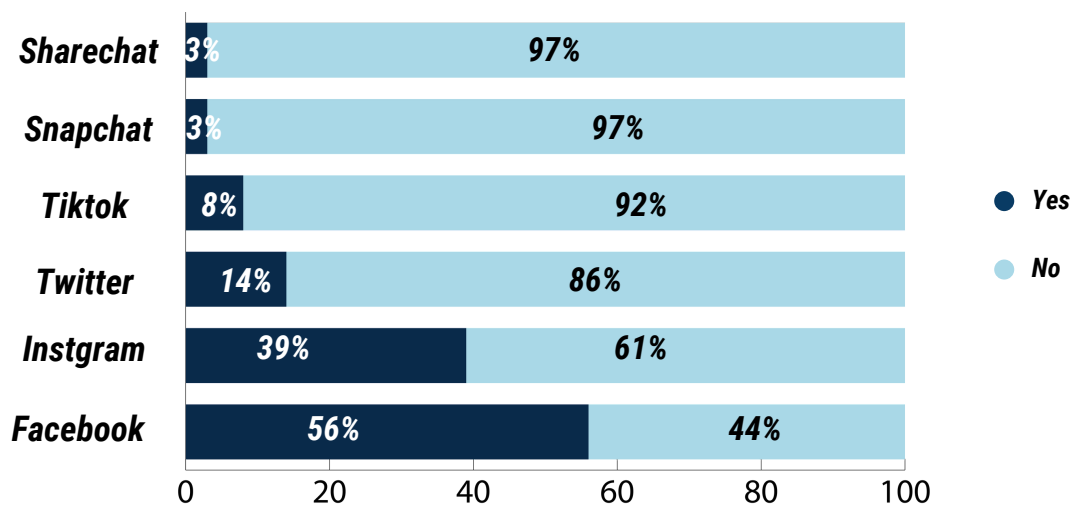
**Figure 71: Aware About Fake News**



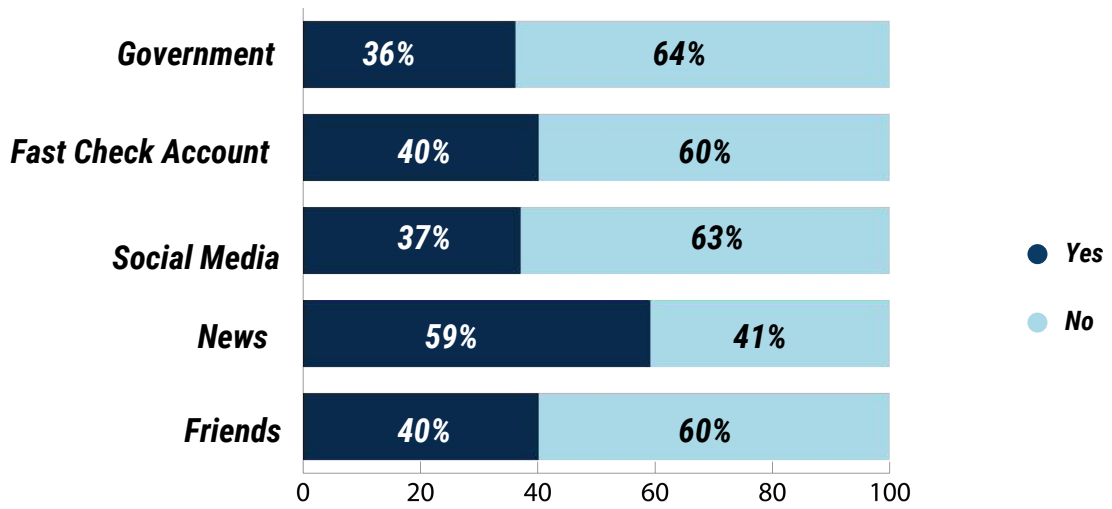
**Figure 72: Sources of Fake News**



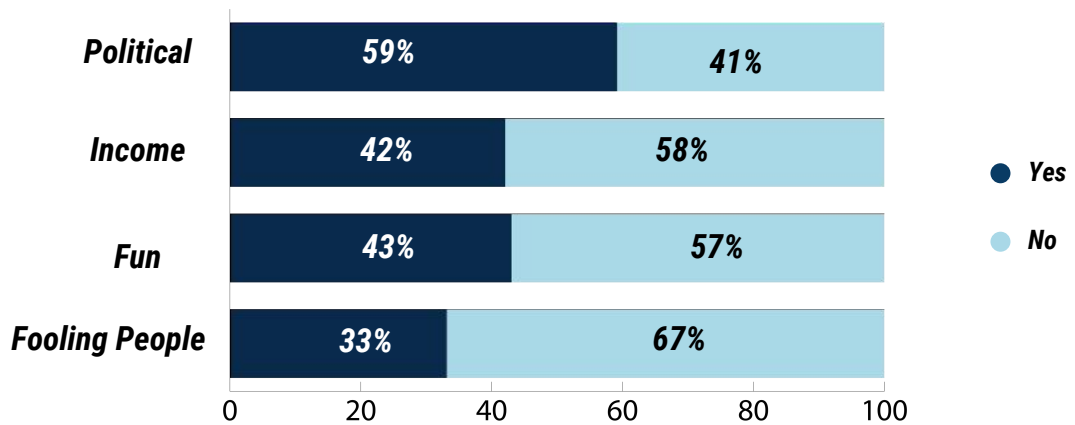
**Figure 73: Social Media Platforms As Sources of Fake News**



**Figure 74: Source of Verifying Fake News**



**Figure 75: Purpose Behind the Fake News**



**Figure 76: Aware About Fake News  
Bursting Platforms/ Websites**



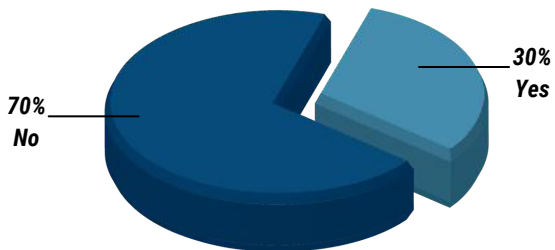
**Figure 77: Aware of Complaining Mechanism/  
Websites on About Fake News**



**Figure 79: In Case of Resolution Was the Complaint  
Respondent Was Intimated About the Resolution**



**Figure 78: Did The Case of Fake News  
Resolve After Complaining**



# APPENDIX 1: QUESTIONNAIRE

## GENERAL INFORMATION

(Names and contact information will be kept separate from responses and will be kept secured. This will not be shared in any case with anyone)

Name  
Age  
Gender  
State  
District  
Town/City  
Your email

## INTERNET USAGE

### 1 When did you first use the internet?

1. 20 years ago - Before 2000
2. 15 years ago - Between 2000 – 2005
3. 12 years ago - Between 2005-2008
4. 10 years ago - Between 2008-2010
5. 8 years ago – Between 2010-2012
6. 6 years ago – Between 2012-2014
7. 4 years ago – Between 2014 – 2016
8. Within last 4 years -Between 1016 - 2020

### 2 Average hours you spend on the internet in a day?

1. Less than 1 hr
2. 1-2 hrs
3. 2-3-hrs
4. 3-5 hrs
5. 5-6 hrs
6. More than 6 hrs

### 3 For what purpose do you use the internet?

1. College/School assignments and teaching Office work
2. Learning new skills/courses
3. Watching cinema/shows/OTT, others
4. Playing games
5. Using Social Media platforms
6. Connecting to Family and Relatives
7. Connecting to Friends
8. Meeting new people online

### 4 Which social media platforms you use most OR spend time most on (Give 1-5 numbers as per the time you spend)

1. Facebook
2. WhatsApp
3. Instagram
4. Twitter
5. Tiktok

6. Sharechat

7. Snapchat

- 5 In which place you spent most time on internet (Give 1-4 numbers as per the time you spend)
- At home
  - In office
  - In Metro/train/bus/on the go
  - In public places/sitting in parks, coffee shop, etc
- 6 Which devices you use the internet most (Give 1-5 numbers as per the time you spend)
- Which device, do you use the internet most on
  - Computer
  - Mobile phone
  - Tablet
  - Others
- 7 When do you first use the internet during the day
- Immediately after you get up
  - Minimum 1 hour after you get up
  - Minimum 2 hours after you get up
  - Once you reach your College/Work place
  - Minimum 4 hours after you get up
- 8 When do you use internet last time in the day
- Until you fell asleep on bed
  - Atleast 1 hour before going to bed
  - More than 2 hours before going to bed
- 9 How much time you spend on the following daily?
- Facebook (less than 1 hr / 1-2 hrs / 2-3 hours / more than 3 hrs)
  - WhatsApp (less than 1 hr / 1-2 hrs / 2-3 hours / more than 3 hrs)
  - Instagram (less than 1 hr / 1-2 hrs / 2-3 hours / more than 3 hrs)
  - Twitter (less than 1 hr / 1-2 hrs / 2-3 hours / more than 3 hrs)
  - Tiktok (less than 1 hr / 1-2 hrs / 2-3 hours / more than 3 hrs)
  - Sharechat (less than 1 hr / 1-2 hrs / 2-3 hours / more than 3 hrs)
  - Snapchat (less than 1 hr / 1-2 hrs / 2-3 hours / more than 3 hrs)
- 10 Do you watch any movie or serial on mobile phone?
- Yes
  - No
- 11 Which Apps/OTT/Video platforms you have on your phone?
- Netflix
  - YouTube
  - Amazon Prime
  - HotStar/Disney
  - BigFlix
  - Voot
  - ALT Balaji
  - Sony Liv
  - Zee 5



**12 How much time you spend on these platforms?**

- Netflix (less than 1 hr / 1-2 hrs / 2-3 hours / more than 3 hrs)
- YouTube (less than 1 hr / 1-2 hrs / 2-3 hours / more than 3 hrs)
- Amazon Prime (less than 1 hr / 1-2 hrs / 2-3 hours / more than 3 hrs)
- HotStar/Disney (less than 1 hr / 1-2 hrs / 2-3 hours / more than 3 hrs)
- BigFlix (less than 1 hr / 1-2 hrs / 2-3 hours / more than 3 hrs)
- Voot (less than 1 hr / 1-2 hrs / 2-3 hours / more than 3 hrs)
- ALT Balaji (less than 1 hr / 1-2 hrs / 2-3 hours / more than 3 hrs)
- Sony Liv (less than 1 hr / 1-2 hrs / 2-3 hours / more than 3 hrs)
- Zee 5 (less than 1 hr / 1-2 hrs / 2-3 hours / more than 3 hrs)

**ONLINE SAFETY AND SECURITY**

**1 Which of these has ever happened with you online?**

1. Online abuse
2. Threatened with consequence of physical violence
3. Threat of Life given online
4. Threat of rape given online
5. Threat of Blackmail

**2 Did any of this happened with you ever?**

1. Online cheating
2. Hacking your account
3. Hacking your password
4. Financial Fraud
5. Identity cheating

**3 Do you know, there are mechanism against online threats or frauds, etc. in the law?**

1. Yes
2. NO

**4 Did you ever use these options?**

1. Yes
2. No

**5 Do you know, you can go to the police for making complaint against any such behavior**

1. Yes
2. No

**6 If Yes, do you know what it is called?**

1. STF
2. Cyber Cell
3. IT cell
4. Internet Police

**7 Did you ever approached police station for a complaint related to such complaint?**

1. Yes
2. No

**8 Do you know if the following platforms have a grievance mechanism or complaint email or system?**

1. Facebook YES /NO
2. WhatsApp YES /NO
3. Instagram YES /NO
4. Twitter YES /NO
5. Tiktok YES /NO
6. Sharechat YES /NO
7. Snapchat YES /NO

**9 Have you ever used any such option of complaint or grievance?**

1. Yes
2. No

**10 If Yes, for which ones, did you ever use?**

1. Facebook YES /NO
2. WhatsApp YES /NO
3. Instagram YES /NO
4. Twitter YES /NO
5. Tiktok YES /NO
6. Sharechat YES /NO
7. Snapchat YES /NO

**11 If NO, Why?**

1. You did not find where to lodge this complaint
2. You did not know the link or email
3. You tried but it did not register

**12 Did you ever received any response from these platforms?**

1. Yes
2. No

**13 If Yes, which platforms ever replied your request?**

1. Facebook YES /NO
2. WhatsApp YES /NO
3. Instagram YES /NO
4. Twitter YES /NO
5. Tiktok YES /NO
6. Sharechat YES /NO
7. Snapchat YES /NO

**14 If No, which one ones were these?**

1. Facebook YES /NO
2. WhatsApp YES /NO
3. Instagram YES /NO
4. Twitter YES /NO
5. Tiktok YES /NO
6. Sharechat YES /NO
7. Snapchat YES /NO

**15 Have you ever read online security and safety measures listed on any platform?**

1. Yes
2. No

**16 If yes, which platform did you read it on?**

1. Facebook YES /NO
2. WhatsApp YES /NO
3. Instagram YES /NO
4. Twitter YES /NO
5. Tiktok YES /NO
6. Sharechat YES /NO
7. Snapchat YES /NO

**17 Did you ever use any software for internet safety?**

1. Yes.
2. No

**18 Do you have a subscription to any internet safety software?**

1. Yes
2. No

**19 Have you ever attended any internet safety workshop or course?**

1. Yes
2. No

**20 Would you like to ever sit for a workshop on internet safety?**

1. Yes
2. No

## **DIGITAL WELLBEING / PARENTING ISSUES**

**1 Have you ever posted any of the following information with a stranger or on a not-well known website?**

1. Your First name
2. Date of Birth / Age
3. Email Address
4. Your pictures
5. Your school's Name
6. Mobile Number

**2 Description of how you look like**

1. Description of how your body parts look like
2. Your parent's names
3. Your home address
4. None

**3 Do you have people in your friends list / contacts, who you have never met in person?**

1. Yes
2. No

**4 If yes, where did you meet them first online?**

1. Facebook YES /NO
2. WhatsApp YES /NO
3. Instagram YES /NO
4. Twitter YES /NO
5. Tiktok YES /NO
6. Sharechat YES /NO
7. Snapchat YES /NO

**5 Do you chat with one or some of them?**

1. Yes
2. No

**6 If Yes, how often?**

1. Once in a while
2. Many times a month
3. Many times a week
4. Daily

**7. Did you ever share any of your picture with any these friends, who you have never met personally?**

1. Yes
2. No

**8. If yes, did they ask for your photo?**

1. Yes
2. No

**9. Do you ever talk personal stuff like your problems, issues, etc with people online?**

1. Yes
2. No

**10. Are these people your old buddies or friends or relatives, etc?**

1. Yes
2. No

**11. Did you ever talk about sexual information with someone online?**

1. Yes
2. No

**12. With who did you talk this?**

1. Close friends from college/school
2. Your partner – boyfriend/girlfriend
3. People you have never met in your life
4. Strangers met online

**13. Do you know of any friends who visit x-rated sites or porn?**

1. Yes
2. No

**14. Do you know where you can get such stuff online?**

1. Yes
2. No

**15. Did you ever try to check those?**

1. Yes
2. No

**16. If Yes, did you ever register your credentials or email here?**

1. Yes
2. No

**17. Did you ever pay for such content or website**

1. Yes
2. No

### **Qs About Views Concerning Parents**

**18 My parents/guardians trust me to do what's right when I am online.**

**19 My parents/guardians know some of what I do online but not everything**

**20 I know how to hide what I do online from my parents/guardians.**

**21 I don't tell my parents/guardians about what I do online.**

**22 I would change my online behaviour if I knew my parents/guardians were watching.**

**23 My parents/guardians don't have the time to check up on what I do online.**

**24 My parents/guardians wouldn't understand what I do online, even if I told them.**

( From 17 – 23, please give choice of the following options as answer for each questions - Agree, Somewhat agree, Disagree, Somewhat disagree )

### **Qs About Parents Monitoring Online Behaviour**

**25 - Parents monitoring of online behaviour (YES/NO-multiple options)**

1. They regularly asked me what I do online
2. They kept the home computer with Internet access in a public area
3. They knew the password(s) to my account(s)
4. They only allowed me to visit certain websites
5. They checked the Internet browser's history of recently viewed websites after I am done using the Internet
6. They joined and "friended" me on a social networking site where I was a member
7. They have a verbal or written agreement with me about what is and is not allowed online
8. They made me show them my complete profile on social networking sites where I am a member
9. They shared accounts with me
10. They used a software program to track my online behaviour
11. They forbid me from using my laptop in my bedroom
12. None - My parents or guardians do not keep track of what I do online as far as I know.
13. Not sure

## Qs About Hiding Online Activities From Parents

### 26- Hiding online behaviour from parents (YES/NO-multiple options)

1. Closed or minimized the browser when they entered the room or approached the computer
2. Cleared the browser history when I was done using the computer
3. Hid or deleted text messages
4. Use the computer at friend's house or our
5. Hid or deleted emails
6. Hid or deleted videos
7. Created a private email address
8. Hid or deleted videos
9. Created a private social networking site profile
10. Unlocked the parental controls they had enabled
11. Disabled the filtering controls they had enabled
12. None - I have never done anything to hide what I do online from my parents or guardians.

## FAKE NEWS

1 Did you ever received any information which you first believed to be true but later it was found that it was not true?

1. Yes
2. No

2 Do you know such information is called Fake News?

1. Yes
2. No

3 Where did you first see such an information which is presented as news but was later found to be untrue?

1. News websites
2. Social media websites
3. Messenger app

4 Which of the following particular platform you found this?

1. Facebook YES /NO
2. WhatsApp YES /NO
3. Instagram YES /NO
4. Twitter YES /NO
5. Tiktok YES /NO
6. Sharechat YES /NO
7. Snapchat YES /NO

**5 How did you come to know that the information was not true?**

1. From friends
2. From a news item about it
3. From social media platforms
4. From a fact check network's site or social media account

**6 Do you know any names of organisations/websites, which are helpful for countering Fake News**

- Yes
- No

**7 If Yes, can you write two names from your memory? Do not use google search or ask some one?**

- .....
- .....

**8 What do you think is the purpose of spreading any fake news? Choose only two:**

- a. For fun
- b. For generating incomes
- c. For political motives
- d. For making fool of you?

**9 Do you know of any mechanism on platforms or on websites by which you can make a complaint about Fake News or mis-information?**

- a. Yes
- b. No

**10 If Yes, which platforms have you ever used this option of reporting or complaining**

**11 Did it get resolved or blocked?**

- a. Yes
- b. No

**12 If Yes, did you get any email or notification about it?**

- a. Yes
- b. No

**13 If No, did you ever try to recheck if your reporting is being listened to or not?**

- a. Yes
- b. No

**14. If NO, why?**

- a. It was too cumbersome
- b. I did not have time
- c. I know it will not help – only time a time waste
- d. I don't trust them

