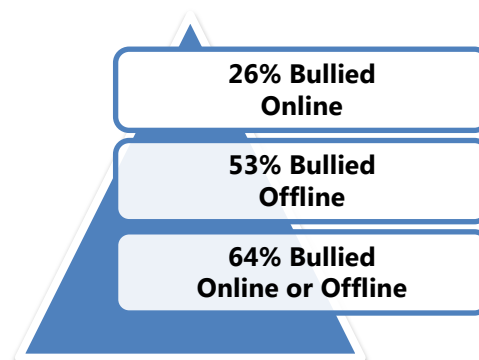


## Online Bullying Among Youth 8-17 Years Old – Pakistan

Microsoft recently commissioned a study to understand the global pervasiveness of online bullying. While defined formally by some as cyberbullying<sup>1</sup>, what is seen as cyberbullying can vary between different cultures, and even among different individuals. In addition, cyberbullying, as a term, is not recognized worldwide. To address this, the study explored the issue by asking children about negative experiences<sup>2</sup> they've had online—from their point of view (i.e., being called mean names, being teased, etc.). While such experiences may not be viewed as bullying by all who experience it, these behaviors may be considered by some as having potentially adverse effects.

**26%** (compared with a 25 country average of 37%) of children age 8-17 who responded to the survey say they have been subjected to a range of online activities that some may consider to be online bullying or to have adverse effects:

- ⇒ 7% - Mean or unfriendly treatment
- ⇒ 13% - Made fun of or teased
- 8% - Called mean names



### Knowledge & Concern

- Sixty-one percent say they know a lot or some about online bullying
- Twenty-one percent are very or somewhat worried about online bullying

### Bullying

- Sixty-four percent report being bullied online and/or offline although most bullying is *offline*
- Thirty-eight admit to bullying someone else online; 28% admit to bullying someone else offline
- Those surveyed were:
  - More likely (40% vs. 18%) to be bullied online if they spend more than 10 hours per week on the Internet

### Steps Parents Take To Help Protect Children Online

According to the youth surveyed:

- Twelve percent of parents talk about online risks with them
- Twenty-Three percent of parents monitor their use of the computer
- Twelve percent of parents teach them online manners

<sup>1</sup> Defined by the Cyberbullying Research Center in Jupiter, Florida as the “willful and repeated harm inflicted through the use of computers, cell phones, and other electronic devices.”

<sup>2</sup> Online Bullying Definition: Q4. Which of these has ever happened to you at school, outside of school grounds, or on the Internet? Other children have been unfriendly or mean toward you on the Internet; Other children have made fun of you or teased you on the Internet; Other children have called you mean names on the Internet.

- Two percent of parents ask them if they've been bullied online

### School Policy & Education

According to the youth surveyed:

- Three percent of schools they attend have formal policies that address online bullying
- Twenty-five percent of schools provide education (for teachers: 17%, for parents: 11%, for students: 6%)

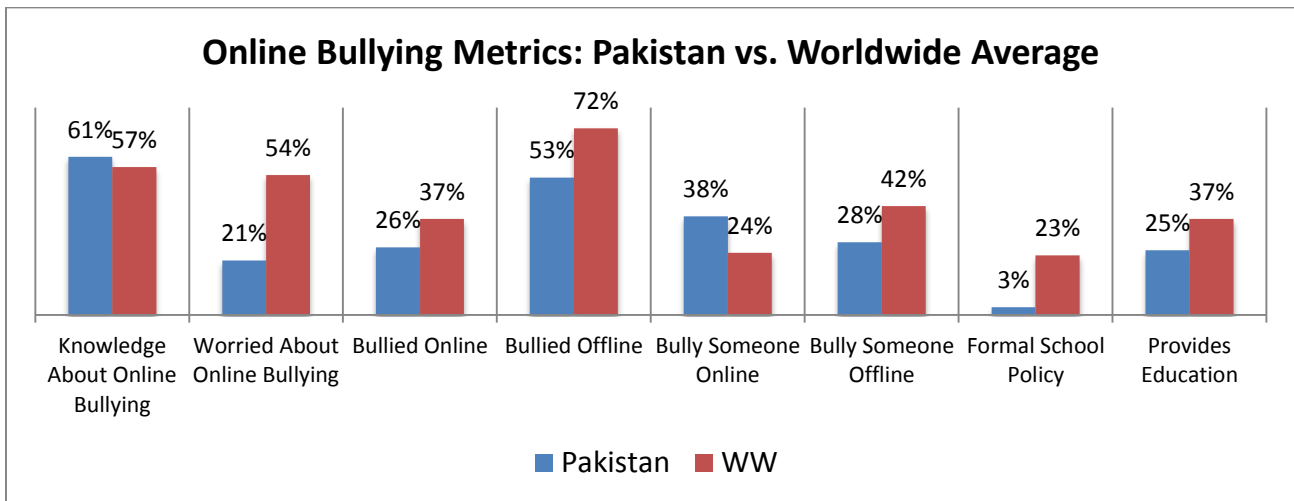
### Demographics

According to the youth surveyed:

- Girls and boys experience similar rates of online bullying (30% vs. 24%) although girls are more likely to be bullied offline (62% vs. 47%)
- Boys report knowing more (65% vs. 54%) about online bullying but have the same level of concern about it as girls (22% vs. 18%)
- Boys are more likely to bullied others offline (38% vs. 14%)
- Children 13-17 have more knowledge of (74% vs. 37%) and worry more about online bullying (24% vs. 15%)
- Youth surveyed say the type of help parents give doesn't differ by age or gender

### Pakistan Compared to Rest of World

Pakistan has the twenty-second highest rate of online bullying among the twenty-five countries surveyed. Six in ten children know a lot or something about online bullying. Online and offline bullying are below the worldwide averages with the exception of those that report bullying someone else online (38% vs. 24%). This may explain why only 21% are very or somewhat worried about online bullying which is far below the worldwide average. Parents are less likely to take steps to protect their children from online bullying (1.0 vs. 3.3). The presence of formal school policies and education is significantly below the worldwide average perhaps because online bullying is not seen as a pressing problem.



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