

Online Bullying Among Youth 8-17 Years Old – France

Microsoft recently commissioned a study to understand the global pervasiveness of online bullying. While defined formally by some as cyberbullying¹, 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 experiences² 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.

23% (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:

- ⇒ 10% - Mean or unfriendly treatment
- ⇒ 16% - Made fun of or teased
- ⇒ 6% - Called mean names

23% Bullied Online

65% Bullied Offline

72% Bullied Online or Offline

Knowledge & Concern

- Fifty-four percent say they know a lot or some about online bullying
- Forty-eight percent are very or somewhat worried about online bullying

Bullying

- Seventy-two percent report being bullied online and/or offline although most bullying is *offline*
- Twenty-four percent admit to bullying someone else online; 62% admit to bullying someone else offline
- Those surveyed were:
 - Twice as likely (44% vs. 23%) to be bullied online if they bully someone else online

Steps Parents Take To Help Protect Children Online

According to the youth surveyed:

- Sixty-nine percent of parents talk about online risks with them
- Fifty-one percent of parents monitor their use of the computer
- Fifty-three percent of parents teach them online manners

¹ 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.”

² 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.

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

School Policy & Education

According to the youth surveyed:

- Twenty-five percent of schools they attended have formal policies that address online bullying
- Sixty-five percent of schools provide education (for teachers: 24%, for parents: 2%, for students: 43%)

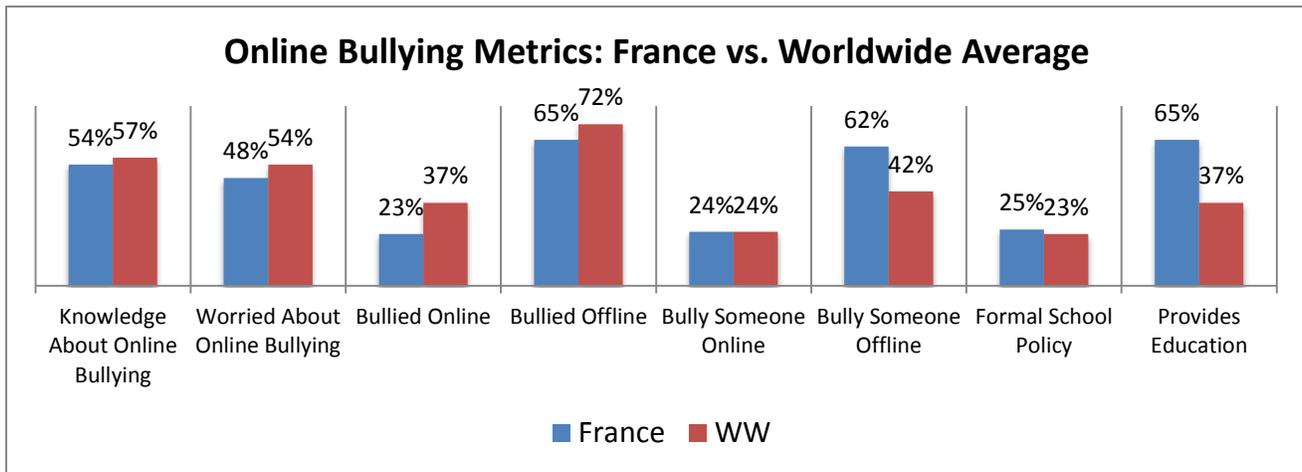
Demographics

According to the youth surveyed:

- Children 8-12 are more likely to be bullied offline (76% vs. 55%)
- Children 13-17 are more likely (32% vs. 16%) to bully others online
- Children 13-17 have more knowledge (65% vs. 43%) about online bullying
- Youth surveyed say the type of help parents give them differs by age and gender:
 - Children 8-12 are monitored more closely (67% vs. 41%) and have stricter limits placed on their time online (46% vs. 17%)
 - Girls are more likely than boys to be monitored (58% vs. 49%), or taught online manners (57% vs. 45%) by their parents

France Compared to Rest of World

France has the twenty-third highest reported incidence of online bullying among the twenty-five countries surveyed. Offline bullying rates are slightly below average but reported rates of offline bullying are significantly higher than the worldwide average (62% vs. 42%). Five in ten children know a lot or something about online bullying and 48% are worried about it. French parents take slightly more steps to protect their children from online bullying (4.0 vs. 3.3). France has the third highest incidence (behind Singapore: 70% and Australia:68%) of providing education to teachers, parents and students to address online bullying.



© 2012 Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved. Microsoft is a registered trademark of Microsoft Corporation in the U.S. and/or other countries. The information herein is for informational purposes only and represents the current view of Microsoft Corporation as of the date of this presentation. Because Microsoft must respond to changing market conditions, it should not be interpreted to be a commitment on the part of Microsoft, and Microsoft cannot guarantee the accuracy of any information provided after the date of this presentation.