

Insights from Internet Matters tracker survey:

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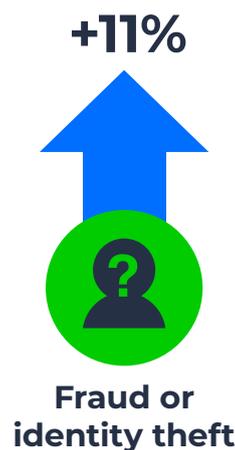
Online experiences of vulnerable children and their parents' concerns (Dec 2021)

About our tracker survey:

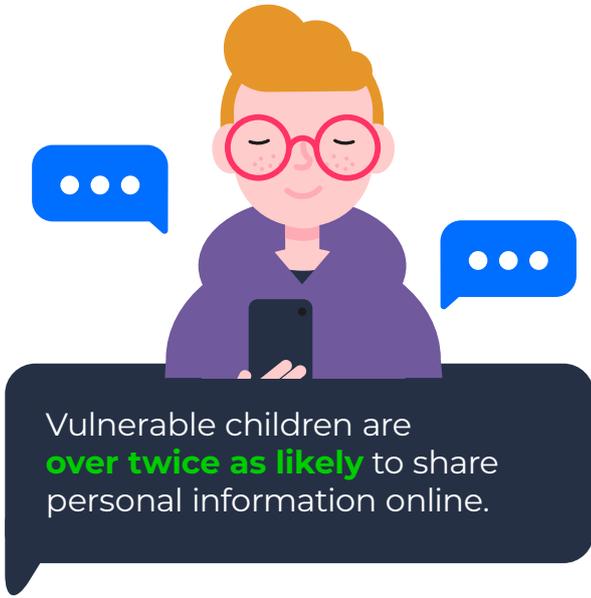
- Conducted **twice a year** with **2000 UK parents of children aged 4-16 years-old**, around **25% of which are parents of vulnerable children** (defined as those with special educational needs or past experiences of mental health problems).
- Give us a **unique insight** into trends in children's experiences and parents' attitudes and concerns.
- Enables us to compare responses from parents of vulnerable and non-vulnerable children.
- Latest wave from December 2021.

Key findings about vulnerable children:

- Between March 2021 and December 2021, parents of vulnerable children became **significantly more concerned about all of the online issues explored by our tracker**.
 - There was a particularly large increase in the proportion of parents worried about their vulnerable children **suffering fraud or identity theft (up by 11% to two-thirds of these parents)**, and viewing **violent content (up by 9% to nearly three-quarters of these parents)**.



- Increasing numbers of parents say that their vulnerable children are **giving away personal information online**



- **Nearly 1 in 5 parents** say that their vulnerable children are watching **online content which promotes dangerous eating habits**, compared to **just 1 in 20** non-vulnerable children.



Level of experience (%) for **non-vulnerable** and **vulnerable** children (reported by parents)



Q:B5. And which of these issues are you aware your child or children has had direct experience of online?
Parents of vulnerable (583) and non-vulnerable (1,427) children

This is just a snapshot of our survey findings. For further information and insight please contact **Simone Vibert, Head of Policy**: simone.vibert@internetmatters.org