

Technology and human rights

Stats & Facts

Access to technology is essential to modern living. While technology brings many advantages, it can also create serious problems for many people from marginalised and vulnerable groups.

The 'digital divide' between people who can and can't access technology makes existing inequalities even worse. Technology must be developed and used with human rights at its core to avoid increasing inequality in our society.

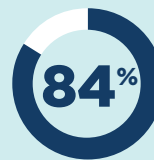


Almost 3 in 4

Australians say the **spread of misinformation** is an **issue that needs to be addressed** in Australia.¹

Less than 1 in 3

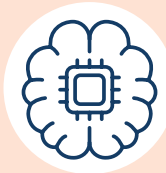
Australians feel in **control of their data privacy**



want **more control and choice** over the collection and use of their **personal information**.²

Generative AI applications

such as ChatGPT use AI and machine learning to create content.



of users of Generative AI were **concerned the information** that they get from it **could be wrong**.³



3 in 4

Australians have

experienced negative behaviour online.

The most common experiences were:

Being sent **unwanted inappropriate content**, such as sexually explicit or violent content

Being called **offensive names**

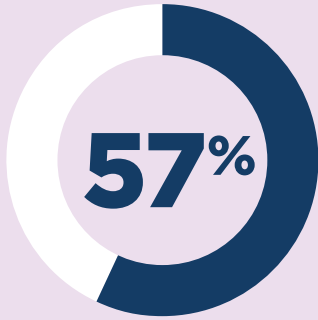
Having **personal information used without consent**⁵



More than 3 in 4

parents are **concerned about protecting their child's personal information.**

Only 1 in 2 feel they are **in control** of their child's data privacy.⁴



of women who recently experienced **sexual harassment** experienced it **electronically.**⁶

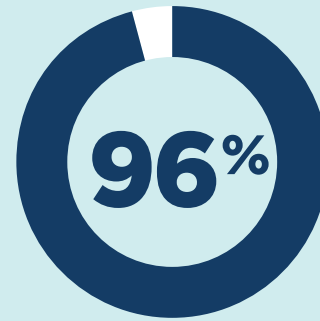


People identifying as **LGBTQI** or as **Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander** experience **online hate speech** at more than **2X** the **national average.**⁷



Almost 1 in 4 Australians are **digitally excluded** meaning they have difficulty using technology **due to access issues, affordability or digital ability.**

Nearly half of those excluded are **over 75 years of age.**⁸



of websites have **accessibility errors** meaning that people who **use assistive technology** are **unable to fully engage** with these websites.⁹

1. Chambers, S., Dezuanni, M., Notley, T., & Park, S. (2021). [Adult Media Literacy in Australia: Attitudes, Experiences and Needs](#). Western Sydney University, Queensland University of Technology, and University of Canberra, p. 14.
3 in 4 = 74%

2. Office of the Australian Information Commissioner. (2023). [Australian Community Attitudes to Privacy Survey 2023](#), p. 8.
1 in 3 = 32%

3. Cisco. (2023). [Generation Privacy: Young Consumers Leading the Way](#), p. 14.

4. Office of the Australian Information Commissioner. (2023). [Australian Community Attitudes to Privacy Survey 2023](#), p. 11.
3 in 4 = 79%
1 in 2 = 50%

5. eSafety Commissioner. (2023, February 6). [Australians' Negative Online Experiences 2022](#). Australian Government, eSafety Commissioner.
3 in 4 = 75%

6. Australian Bureau of Statistics. (2023, August 23). [Sexual Harassment 2021-22 - Key statistics](#).

Electronically = such as online or on a phone

7. eSafety Commissioner. (2020). [Online hate speech](#), p. 6.

8. Thomas, J., McCosker, A., Parkinson, S., Hegarty, K., Featherstone, D., Kennedy, J., Holcombe-James, I., Ormond-Parker, L., & Ganley, L. (2023). [Measuring Australia's Digital Divide: Australian Digital Inclusion Index: 2023](#). Melbourne: ARC Centre of Excellence for Automated Decision-Making and Society, RMIT University, Swinburne University of Technology, & Telstra, p. 10.
1 in 4 = 24%
Nearly half = 42%

9. WebAIM. (2024, March 28). [The WebAIM Million: The 2024 report on the accessibility of the top 1,000,000 home pages](#).