Youth who use an app or device to limit screen time are just as likely as those who don’t to encounter racist or sexist content online.

Racialized, White say they have a household rule about sites they’re not supposed to visit and tell an adult when they see that kind of content.

Most said they were nine or older when they first looked for it.

DISCOMFORTING CONTENT:

They were most likely to respond by:
- Telling a parent or guardian (57%)
- Blocking the person who sent it (55%)
- Telling a friend (23%)
- Telling a teacher (20%)
- Reporting it to the app/website/platform (13%)

More youth say they try to avoid seeing pornography (42%) than have looked for it online (22%).

How did they see it?
- They saw it on search engines (24%)
- It popped up on websites they visit (60%)
- Friends shared it (31%)

RACIST AND SEXIST CONTENT

Only asked of Grade 7-11 participants

47% say they have received content online that made them feel uncomfortable.

Content that makes the viewer or receiver feel uncomfortable

They were most likely to respond by:
- Telling a parent or guardian (57%)
- Blocking the person who sent it (55%)
- Telling a friend (23%)
- Telling a teacher (20%)
- Reporting it to the app/website/platform (13%)

They were more likely to see it...

... and LGBTQ+ youth and youth with a disability are more likely to see it.

Heterosexual
LGBTQ+
806
252

Identified disability
No identified disability
806
252

Girls
Boys
Gender diverse
& questioning

ATTITUDES AND OPINIONS

88% of youth agree it’s important to speak up about racist and sexist content, but... 58% feel they don’t know what to say.

81% of youth agree that tech companies should do more to stop racist and sexist things from being posted or shared online.

ADULT INVOLVEMENT AND HOUSEHOLD RULES

Having household rules doesn’t mean youth won’t see harmful content, but it does impact how they respond.

Youth with a household rule about treating people with respect are more likely to agree it’s important to speak out when they see racist and sexist content online.

Youth 12 to 13 who are usually with an adult when they go online are more likely... and are less likely to see pornography unintentionally.

SAFETY AND WELL-BEING

While 57% of youth agree that the internet is a safe place for them... girls, LGBTQ+ youth and racialized youth are least likely to feel that the internet is a safe place.

TRUST AND SUPPORT

How to be safe online (36%)
How to report inappropriate behaviour or content (17%)

When it comes to addressing harmful content, youth say they want to learn more about:

- How to deal with hateful, racist or sexist online content (14%)

86% of youth feel that it is important to speak up when they see racist and sexist content online.

*Only the Grade 7-11 participants were asked about racist and sexist content.