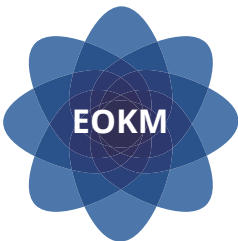




EOKM



**EXPERT CENTRE
ONLINE CHILD ABUSE**

ANNUAL REPORT 2021



Ministerie van Justitie en Veiligheid



Medegefinancierd door de financieringsfaciliteit voor Europese verbindingen



Den Haag



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TERMINOLOGY GUIDE RELATING TO THE SEXUAL ABUSE AND SEXUAL EXPLOITATION OF CHILDREN

At EOKM, we try to avoid the terms 'child porn' and 'child pornography' as much as possible. In our view, the connotations associated with these terms do not do justice to the severity of the sexual exploitation of children. Pornography is generally associated with photos and videos of adults engaging in sexual acts by mutual consent. In addition, viewing pornography is increasingly perceived as normal. Hence, if we continue to use the terms 'child porn' and 'child pornography', there is a risk that it may seem as if material of this kind is also legitimate. To prevent this and to underscore the seriousness of this specific crime, we prefer the phrase 'child sexual exploitation material'. In doing so, we follow the line of the European Parliament from 2015, which advised to use the term 'child sexual abuse material'. Because it is not just material of sexual abuse that is punishable under the law, but the same goes for sexual exploitation material - including, for example, so-called posing pictures -, this term can no longer suffice. More information about the correct terminology can be found in the Luxembourg Guidelines, or in the recently published Dutch translation of this terminology guide: <https://www.defenceforchildren.nl/actueel/publicaties/seksuele-uitbuiting/terminologiegids-seksueel-misbruik-en-seksuele-uitbuiting-van-kinderen/>.

“Your contribution is so very welcome and not just in financial terms: Thank you all for supporting us in our fight against online abuse!”

'2020 was an important year', we wrote more than 12 months ago. In 2021 we would finally be able to harvest what we had been sowing for years.

More than ever, there was a joint effort by politicians, the Ministry of Justice, sectoral organisations, the ICT sector and our own Hotline to combat the spreading of images of child sexual abuse on the Dutch internet. Have we succeeded? Yes! We see a large number of parties disappearing abroad. But that's not good news. Because they will likely continue distributing just as much or perhaps even more material from countries where there is no coherent approach to block such materials. This is why EOKM also makes an international effort to share our knowledge and tools in the fight against their dissemination. We don't do this alone. In the spring, in the presence of former Minister Grapperhaus, we had a meeting in which we thanked Cisco for their valuable and generous donation in the form of a powerful server, a high-speed network and the necessary security to make working with Artificial Intelligence at the Hotline possible. The number of reports to the Child Sexual Abuse Materials Hotline continued to rise and thanks to an alert and professional team, trends such as increasing reports from a cloud environment, clipped images and child pornography in chat groups did not go unnoticed.

Our Hashcheck server, the tool we offer to internet parties to check whether there is known illegal material on their networks, is the subject of a European investigation into how quickly illegal materials can be removed from the internet. Together with PwC, we conducted an extensive study into the technical options, as well as into the effects on privacy, categorisation and processing of this type of data.

Helpwanted has also had another turbulent and exciting year. Despite - or perhaps thanks to - Covid-19, young people and their parents, as well as schools and other care providers, increasingly knew where to find us. It must be said that after an

surge at the start of the pandemic, corona has no longer resulted in a significant increase in requests for help. To ensure that victims receive the help they need as quickly and adequately as possible, we have joined forces in a consortium with the Centre for Sexual Violence, the Victim Support Fund and Fier. For a large number of projects that had to be shelved due to lack of funding, we received support from the Adessium and Victim Support funds. This enables us to expand Helpwanted's support range to other target groups, both in terms of cultural background and other forms of diversity. With the support of Ketenaanpak Loverboys – Jeugdprostitutie NOG and Young055, a new and up-to-date information video about unwanted sexting was produced. Theatre group PlayBack, in collaboration with Helpwanted, has once again produced a fascinating performance about unwanted sexting for years 1, 2 and 3 in schools for secondary and special education and vocational training: Shame on you.

Stop it Now still had to contend with many missed phone calls in 2021, due to limited manpower and accessibility despite longer opening hours. We expect further improvement in this area in 2022, in part thanks to funding from Janivo. In addition, Porticus supported Stop it Now with, among other things, the funding for the implementation of a chat. Fortunately, we were still able to pick up for many people seeking help. The self-help module (for anyone viewing child sexual exploitation materials and having concerns about this) attracted no less than 31% more visitors in 2021 than the year before and the Stop child abuse campaign that ran on porn sites also paid off.

Our topic was more current than ever,

and fortunately it is now also high on the political agenda. This became clear when, at the end of the year, we were informed that we could finally count on the fixed structural financing that we had been hoping for for years.

None of this would have been possible without the work of a committed and enthusiastic team and the help of loyal sponsors that we can count on. Every year, we receive small amounts from anonymous donors that together make a big difference. Your contribution is so very welcome and not just in financial terms: Thank you all for supporting us in our fight against online abuse!

Arda Gerkens
Managing Director EOKM



Thanks to our SCART workflow tool, we've managed to clear three years of backlog.

SCART

Child Sexual Exploitation Materials Hotline
Both the general public and foreign network partners can report online images involving the sexual exploitation of minors to the Child Sexual Exploitation Materials (CSEM) Hotline. Our analysts evaluate the materials on the basis of the legal criteria: are the images legal or illegal? Are they hosted in or outside of the Netherlands? When we come across illegal images, we ask the hosting provider and/or the website to remove the images within 24 hours. The reports are also shared with Interpol, who use them to solve cases and track down victims. In this way, we all contribute to the identification of illegal material and work together on a safer internet, free from images of the sexual abuse of children.

HIGHLIGHTS

The approach of the Ministry of Justice, comprising the 'Child-safe Internet' programme, is beginning to yield results. This year in particular, we witnessed many shifts in the dissemination of sexual images of minors. The monitor – developed and operated by TUDelft – which keeps track of the performance of hosters in removing sexual images of minors, the Hash Check Server and the intensification of the efforts by the hosting sector have ensured that many parties have packed up and moved abroad. That is not necessarily good news, because they have in part moved to countries where there is no monitoring of such activities whatsoever. All-in all, the dissemination of these images has increased rather than decreased. This year, we saw a reduction in the number of international reports, because a large number of image hosters moved abroad. On the other hand, the number of national reports went up significantly. We also see that providers of sexual images involving minors use all kinds of tricks to circumvent legislation. We will not go into this here, but we will most certainly keep our finger on the pulse.

TERMINOLOGY

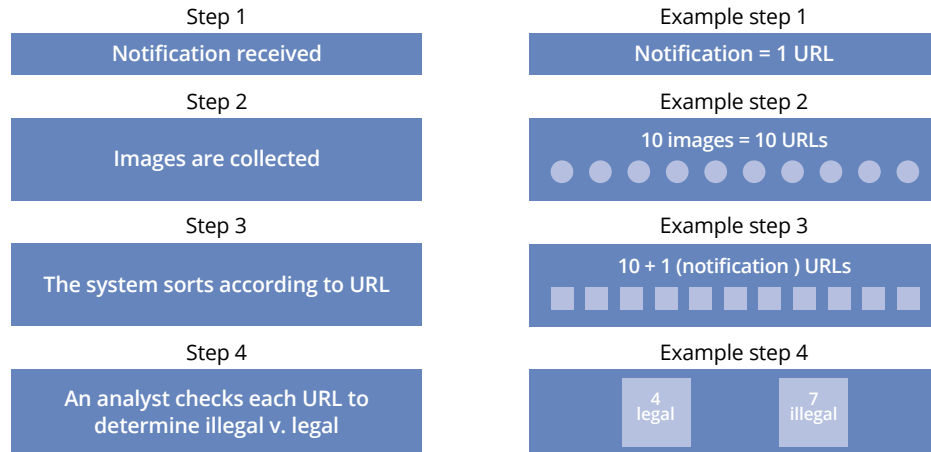
Report = a report is a notification from a private person or organisation indicating that they have found suspicious materials (CSEM) online. A report can relate to a website with one or more images.

URL = both a website itself as well as each uploaded image has its own individual URL.

Images = visual content of (sexual) exploitation of children

Hash = digital fingerprint. Every image has a 'hash'.

HOW DOES IT WORK?



NUMBER OF REPORTS AND URLS INVOLVING (POSSIBLE) MATERIALS THAT INCLUDE SEXUAL ABUSE OF MINORS PROCESSED

The Hotline receives both international and national reports. A report may concern one or more URLs of illegal images or videos.

NUMBER OF REPORTS AND URLS

Number of reports received	413,748 - 100%
Reports processed	413,262 - 99.88%
Unprocessed from 2021	486 - 0.12%

The 413,748 reports comprised 822,970 URLs containing one or more images.

Number of URLs received	822,970 - 100%
URLs processed	821,502 - 99.82%
Unprocessed from 2021	1468 - 0.18%

INCREASE IN URLS PROCESSED

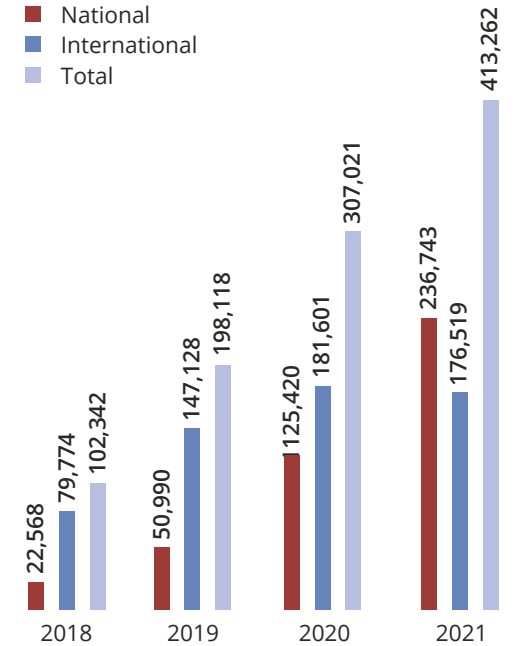
We have witnessed an increase in both the number of reports and the number of URLs processed. This does not necessarily mean that more material was disseminated. More web form reports, more advanced system functions and more automation have all contributed to an increase in 2021. New functionalities were added to our SCART (Sexual Child Abuse Reporting Tool) workflow tool, so that fewer actions are needed to process a report. In this way, our analysts can analyse and process reports more quickly and effectively. In total, our analysts processed 413,262 reports, comprising 821,502 URLs.

HOW MANY REPORTS DID WE RECEIVE AND WHERE DID THEY COME FROM?

■ National
■ International
■ Total

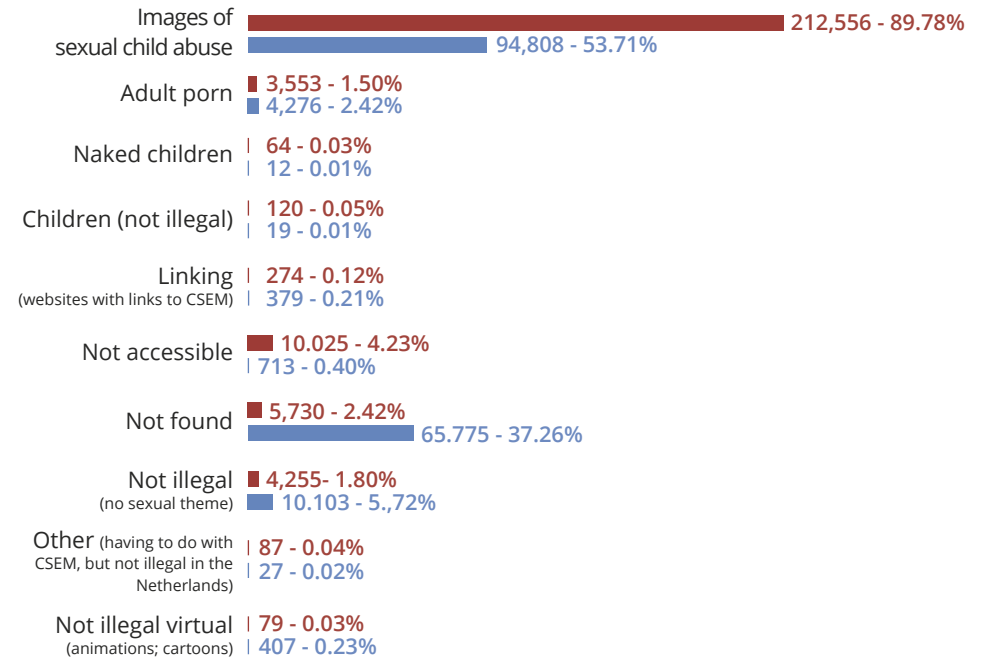
Increase in number of reports

The Hotline receives reports from various sources: the international Inhope network, anonymous reports using the web form, the police and through collaboration with external parties. More reports from within the Netherlands led to an increase in the number of national reports compared to 2020.



WHAT IS BEING REPORTED?

● National ● International

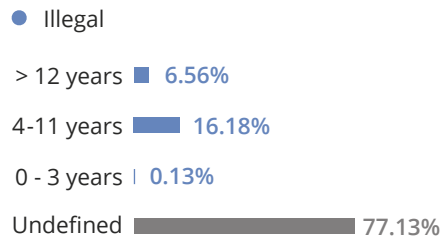


ILLEGAL VERSUS LEGAL

The national reports show that these largely concerned illegal materials. For the international reports, legal and illegal are roughly equal in number. There are two reasons for this outcome. What is illegal under the law in some countries may not be considered illegal under Dutch law. In addition, the high percentage of 'not found' can be explained by the backlog from 2019 and 2020 that was processed by our analysts. Fortunately, at the time of processing, these reports had already been taken offline. What stands out is that the reports by the Dutch general public proved illegal in close to 90% of cases. Generally, reports by the general public are not so accurate.

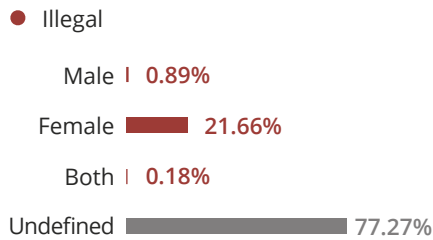
The CSEM Hotline expressly asks people not to go searching for these materials, because this is a criminal offence. Reporting the materials to the CSEM Hotline will not exempt you from being prosecuted.

AGE



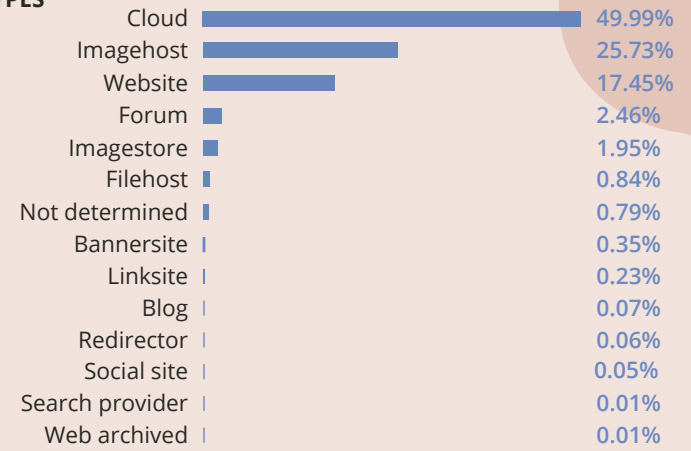
The category 'undefined' is high, both for age and for gender. The reason is that part of the reports is automatically classified as undefined when it concerns domains of which it is known that the reports concern illegal material in 99% of cases or when the reports come from an environment that is barred to us under the law because it concerns private territory (such as a Cloud environment). The advantage of such an automatic classification is that the analysts are more briefly subjected to the image and the reports are processed even more quickly and efficiently.

GENDER



In general, the largest category is white girls, 4-11 years of age. Percentually, we're seeing an increase in the material involving boys. This has everything to do with a newly developed tool: LIBRA. Using different scanning techniques, Web-IQ has developed a system that provides more insights in the field of detection of CSEM. In its test phase, the tool already led to the discovery of new 'hotspots' with thousands of images of boys.

WEBSITE TYPES



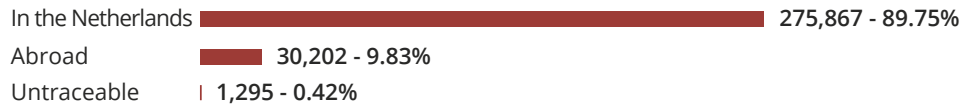
49.99% of reports concerns a cloud environment.

Cloud environments are the new trend

Almost half of reports (49.99%) pertain to a Cloud environment. The high number of Cloud reports shows that this concerns a growing trend. It is complicated for us to process these reports because Dutch law sees a Cloud environment as a private environment. So off limits, also for an analyst. This means that our analysts cannot assess these reports. Even though several indicators suggest that these reports in all probability do contain illegal material. We do report them as such to the Cloud hoster, who checks them and removes them when necessary.

REPORTS FROM OUR INTERNATIONAL NETWORK

● Illegal hosted



89.75% of the reports processed was hosted in the Netherlands. Hence, it may seem as if most of the materials also derive from the Netherlands. That is a one-sided perception, because the Hotline mainly receives reports pertaining to the Netherlands and much fewer reports concerning other countries. Furthermore, a large proportion of the reports was obtained by parties actively searching for illegal materials in known environments. By definition, these leave aside unknown environments. The LIBRA project is now making these environments visible. Also, a large number of platforms have moved abroad, so that by the end of the year the data were already showing that the reports hosted in the Netherlands were going down.

REPORTS FROM OUR INTERNATIONAL NETWORK

Our Hotline is connected to the international Inhope network. Inhope comprises 50 hotlines world-wide who all share the same objective: combatting CSEM. The vast majority of the international reports from 2021 continue to come from the United Kingdom. The Hotline also received a great many reports this year from Colombia, Austria, Australia and Germany.

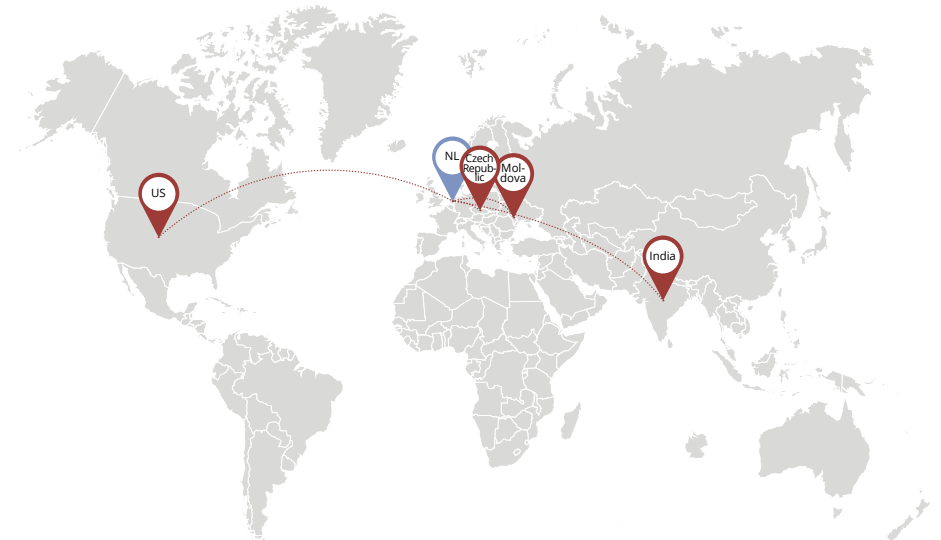
IMAGE HOSTERS ON THE MOVE

Image hosters offer a service whereby one can anonymously upload and save images on their server where they are accessible to all. In 2020, a large part of the reports came from image-hosting website in the Netherlands. Halfway through 2021, many of these websites moved abroad. The attention to this topic, the monitor keeping track of where in the Netherlands the materials are located, the hash-check server and a Dutch hoster taking stricter measures led to a number of image hosters taking off to foreign countries. This may seem a good thing, but it is not. When they set up in countries not monitored by Inhope, they disappear under the radar.

IMAGE HOSTERS ON THE MOVE

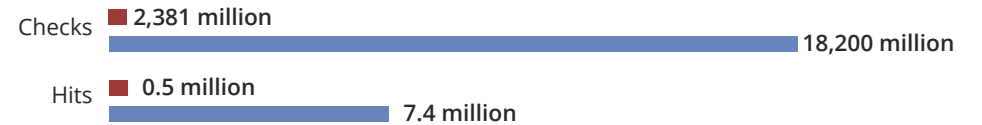
Start of monitoring image hosters:
the Netherlands 19x image hosters

Moved to:
6x Moldova
8x United States
1x Czech Republic
4x to India and back to the Netherlands



HASHCHECK SERVER CONTINUES TO KEEP THE NETWORK CLEAN

● 2020 ● 2021



These graphs show a large number of people joining the Hashcheck server in 2020. This meant a big clean-up. In 2021, the numbers are significantly lower, as the big sweep had already taken place earlier. This shows that the network was cleansed of material of sexual child abuse to a significant extent. The Hashcheck server has proven its worth.

IMAGES IN CHAT GROUPS

This year, 234 stickers, videos and images were reported in the context of our chat group project. This number includes duplicate reports about the same material. An explanation is that the same material is being circulated in different WhatsApp groups. The chat group project thus received several reports concerning the same material. 85.90% of the reports concern illegal material. The material was in large part the material concerned (white) girls (56.72%). Over half of the illegal material concerned minors between ages 4-11 (50.75%). In 59.20% of cases it involved a video. The reports mainly pertained to chat groups WhatsApp (45.77%) and Telegram (33.83%).

REPORTS FROM CANADA

In previous years, the Hotline received a relatively large number of reports from Canada. However, since 2020, Canada is no longer part of the Inhope network, so that EOKM lost much of its overview regarding Canadian reports hosted in the Netherlands. Since June 2021, Canada forwards its Notices of Takedown to our Hotline, so that the team remains aware of new hosters and emerging trends. Between June and December 2021, Canada sent 28,939 Notices of Takedown to Dutch hosters.

STRONGER NETWORK

In the spring of 2021, Cisco Netherlands donated infrastructure comprising a high-speed network and a server, plus the necessary security. Cisco's Hendrik Blokhuis: 'Compare it to a Formula 1 car trying to navigate Amsterdam city centre. Nothing doing. You need a suitable circuit. That's where we come into the picture.' The new infrastructure is suited to ML (Machine Learning) and AI (Artificial Intelligence). On-going development in these fields will ensure that in future, our analysts will only have to manually manage a small proportion of the reports received. Naturally, the infrastructure has plenty of space remaining and is well-protected.

NEW TREND: CUT-UP IMAGES

A visible new trend emerged in 2021. Illegal images on certain sites had been cut up into small pieces. In this way, on parts of the illegal image, no CSEM was found. In the Netherlands, it is possible to prosecute all images or parts of images, if it concerns a series. Unfortunately, this is not the case in every country, so that materials connected to sexual images of minors remain accessible.

EU TENDER

In 2021, EOKM, together with PricewaterhouseCoopers, launched a large research project financed by the European Commission. The project focuses on improving the collaboration between the various parties that are key in the detection and removal of CSEM from the Internet. These include, inter alia, non-profit organisations, the (inter)national police; and parties from the Internet industry (such as hosters, social media platforms and website owners). At the end of this year, we as good as completed phases 1 and 2 of the 4 phases that this research comprises. In phase 1 of the research we collected data about existing hash databases, the technological aspects of these databases, the laws and regulations pertaining to data-sharing and CSEM and mapped the various rating scales. In phase 2, we issued recommendations for the system that is to be developed. This system will combine various existing hash sets of known CSEM in a large, high-quality database which also considers data governance and who should manage this database and associated hash-check service. In addition, a widely applicable rating scale was developed to enable an EU-wide, uniform approach to the classification of CSEM.

THE LIBRA PROJECT

In collaboration with Web-IQ, the CSEM Hotline participated in the research for the LIBRA project. Using different scanning strategies, Web-IQ developed a system that provides more insights in the field of detection of CSEM. This new tool offers opportunities to help trace new hotspots and reduce CSEM as well as identify underage victims. Because Web-IQ itself is not permitted to analyse the data coming out of the LIBRA project – this is punishable under the law in the Netherlands – EOKM researched the results generated, with its CSEM Hotline analysing and processing more than 10,000 URLs. All illegal URLs were processed by our team of analysts according to the Notice & Takedown procedure. The report on the Libra project will shortly be published by Web-IQ.

Dutch IT channel
**TECHNOLOGY
SUPPORTS
FIGHT AGAINST
CHILD SEXUAL
EXPLOITATION
MATERIALS**

NRC
**ARMED AGAINST
CHILD SEXUAL
EXPLOITATION
MATERIALS**

NU.nl
**60 REPORTS ABOUT
TELEGRAM**



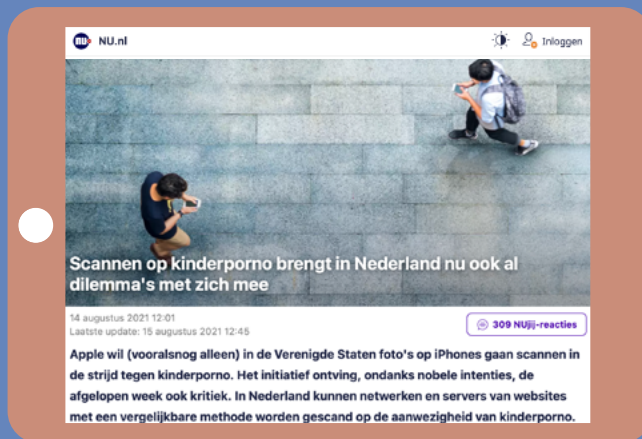
Netkwesties
**SHAMING
BAD HOSTERS**



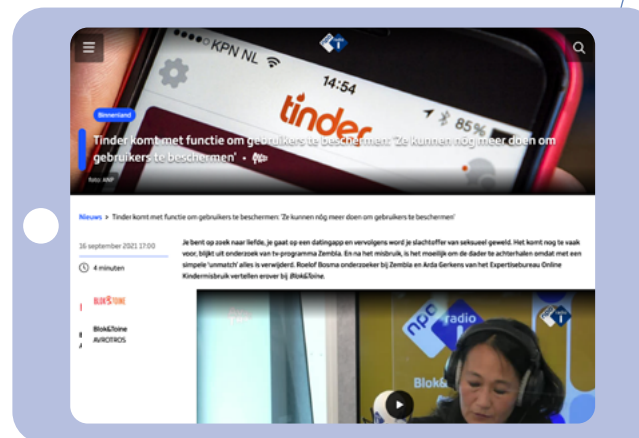
Trouw
**DUTCH TECHNOLOGY
TO TRACK DOWN CHILD
SEXUAL EXPLOITATION
MATERIALS**



RTL Nieuws
**IT WAS CHILD
SEXUAL
EXPLOITATION**



Tech.nl
**SCANNING FOR CHILD
SEXUAL EXPLOITATION
MATERIALS BRINGS
DILEMMAS**



NPO Radio1
**TINDER PROTECTS
USERS AGAINST
ABUSE**

The self-help module
It is Possible to Stop
 attracted 44% more
 visitors than last year.

44% more

Stop it Now's key objective is the prevention of sexual child abuse. Stop it Now runs a helpline to offer anonymous, confidential and free support to anyone worried about his or her sexual feelings and/or behaviour towards minors. For example, people viewing child pornography or images of sexual abuse (CSEM = Child Sexual Exploitation Material) or is at risk of or has committed sexual child abuse. People who harbour concerns about someone in their vicinity can also contact Stop it Now via the 0800-2666436 helpline or www.stopitnow.nl. The same goes for professionals. Stop it Now also shares its expertise in workshops and presentations.

HIGHLIGHTS

Stop it Now was approached for help and advice 712 times in 2021 – an increase of 15% compared to 2020. Despite the fact that we managed to talk to more people in 2021, a large number of phone calls had to remain unanswered. This underscores the urgent need to expand our hours. We are therefore very happy that, with improved funding, we can finally extend our opening hours so that we can also be reached in the evening and during the weekend. Of those seeking help, 44% contact Stop it Now more than once. That is a clear signal that people trust the support we offer and come back for more help or advice. Our self-help module for CSEM viewers *It is Possible to Stop* received 44% more visitors in 2021 compared to the year before. Our successful *Stop child abuse* campaign on porn websites played an important role in more people knowing how to reach Stop it Now and *It is Possible to Stop*.

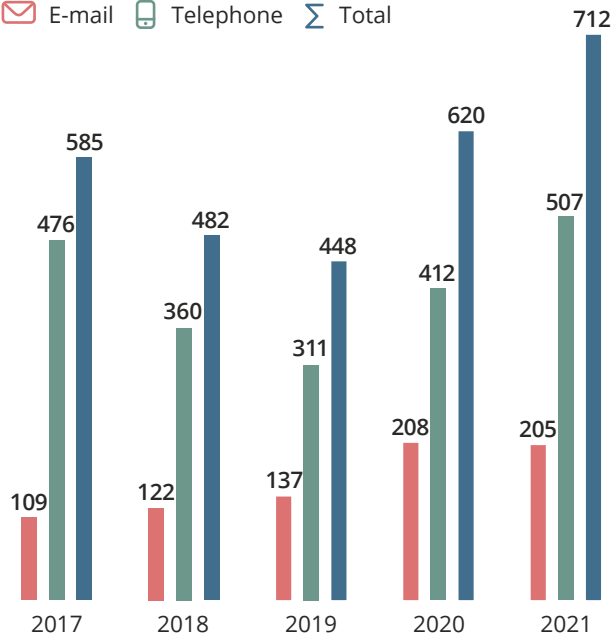
There's a vital need to
 extend our opening hours.

NUMBER OF TIMES STOP IT NOW WAS CONTACTED

✉ E-mail ☎ Telephone ∑ Total

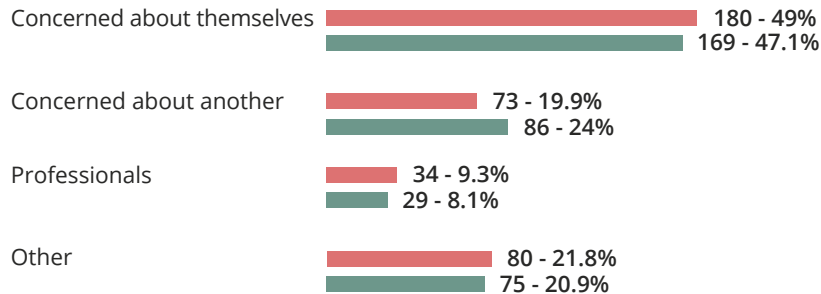
Stop it Now contacted more frequently

In 2021, Stop it Now was contacted 712 times. Most people get in touch over the phone (507), significantly more than by e-mail (205). This is an increase of 15% compared to 2020, which can be mostly attributed to an increase in the number of phone calls. Interestingly, the number of unique visitors did not go up – the growth must all be attributed to people phoning in multiple times.



NUMBER OF UNIQUE INDIVIDUALS

● 2020 ● 2021



Other = query for general information, hung up after contact, not serious.

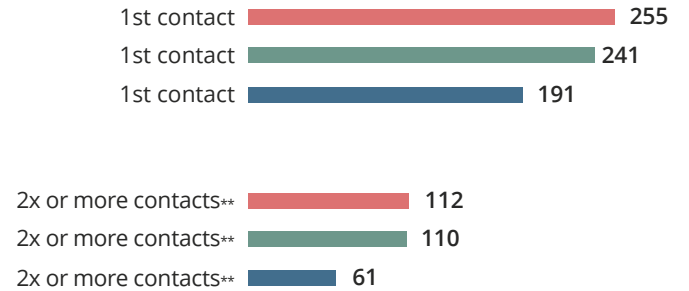
TOTAL UNIQUE INDIVIDUALS

In total, 367 unique individuals contacted Stop it Now in 2021. This is comparable to 2020 (when 359 people got in touch). Most people getting in touch with Stop it Now harboured concerns about their own feelings and/or behaviour (49%). This shows a great need for support among this group. There were relatively few professionals getting in touch with Stop it Now. In 2022, we'll be focusing on increasing our visibility so that this target group also knows where to find us.

MORE FREQUENT CONTACT **

● 2019 ● 2020 ● 2021

Target group contacts Stop it Now multiple times



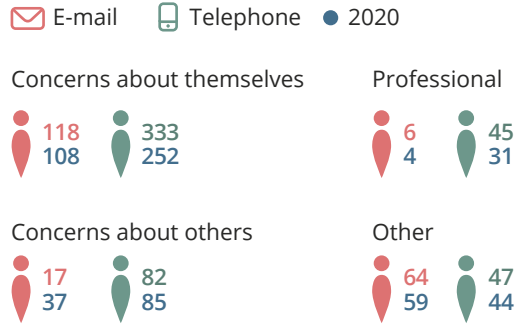
31% of callers and e-mailers contacted Stop it Now more than once. The fact that people get in touch repeatedly is a good sign. It shows that people trust us and benefit from our support.

** based on unique individuals

A third of callers contacts us more than once.



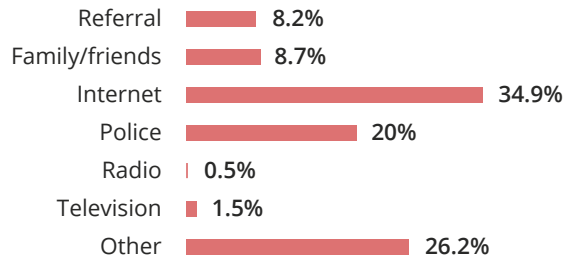
MEANS OF COMMUNICATION PER TARGET GROUP



More frequent telephone contact

All target groups (except 'other') prefer telephone contact over e-mail. Among the people concerned about their own feelings and/or behaviour the total number of telephone contact moments increased by 32% compared to 2020. However, e-mail remains a relatively important means of getting in touch (29% of total touchpoints). E-mail contact is possibly perceived as more anonymous and hence may be felt as a more accessible way to seek help. In 2022, our range of support tools is extended with a chat. Experience teaches that for many people, this lowers the threshold for seeking help even more.

HOW DO PEOPLE FIND US?



How do people find Stop it Now?

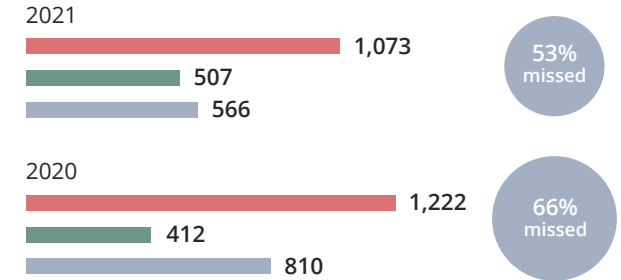
As in previous years, Stop it Now is most frequently found via the internet. The police and other professionals also frequently refer people to us.

'Other' also includes a large number of referrals (Helpwanted, 113, parole board, P.nl, etc.)

AVAILABILITY BY PHONE

● incoming ● answered ● missed

In 2021, we missed 53% of our calls. In 2020, we received 1,222 incoming calls, of which 412 were answered (66% missed).

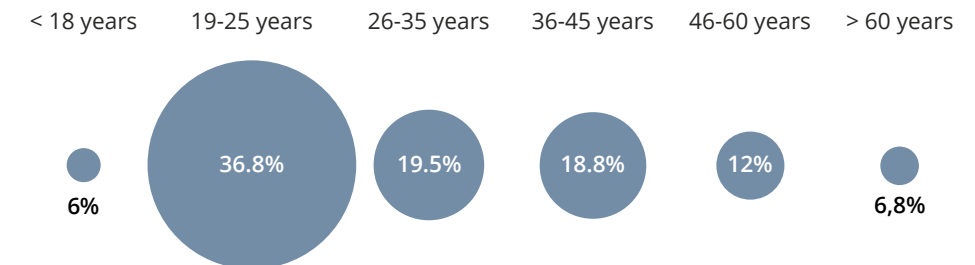


Missed calls

In total we received 1,073 calls in 2021, of which we managed to answer 507. That is more than in 2012, when we managed to talk to 412 callers. Unfortunately, this also means that we missed 53% of incoming calls, despite the extension of our opening hours. This is substantially less than in 2020, when we missed 66%, but it is still a significant number. Because our helpline is anonymous, we have no way of knowing whether this percentage is fully made up of unique individuals or whether it concerns people who tried to reach us multiple times. However, these figures do underscore that it is desirable and necessary to extend our opening hours even further. In 2022, the helpline will also be available in the evenings and on the weekend, so that callers can better reach us and receive the help they need.

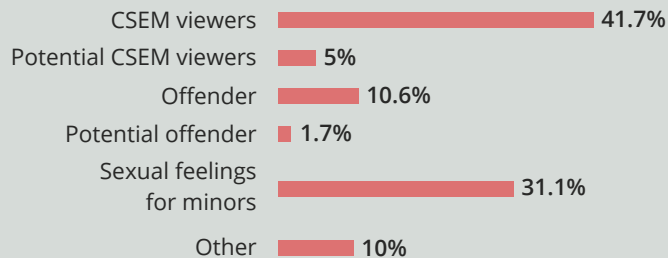
AGE OF PEOPLE SEEKING HELP

Most of the people who contact us fall into the age category 19-25 year-olds (36.8%), followed by the age groups 26-35 (19.5%) and 36-45 (18.8%). However, there is also a group – mainly child sexual exploitation material viewers – who are younger than 18 (6%). These figures are based on people's ages in as far as these are known to us. Because everyone who gets in touch with us remains fully anonymous, for many callers, we don't have any information about their age.



The largest group contacting Stop it Now are viewers of child sexual exploitation materials.

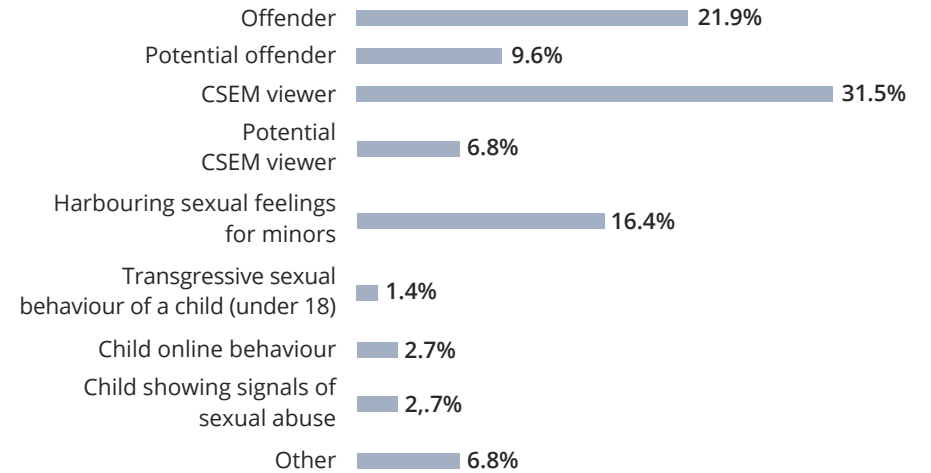
WHO CONTACT STOP IT NOW



Concerns about own feelings and/or behaviour

The largest group contacting Stop it Now are viewers of child sexual exploitation materials, followed by persons harbouring sexual feelings for minors. These figures are comparable to last year, except that the categories of potential CSEM viewers/offenders seem to have gotten smaller. These include people with a deviant sexual interest, other psychological problems (anxiety, compulsion, addiction), people who inadvertently came across CSEM or who are under threat from paedophile hunters.

WHAT ARE OTHERS CONCERNED ABOUT?



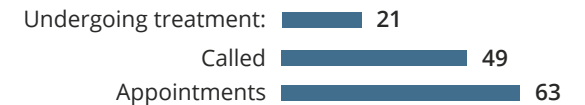
What are others concerned about?

Concerns about others are, in most cases, about viewers of child sexual exploitation materials, followed by perpetrators of sexual child abuse. These figures are comparable to the previous year, except that this year fewer people were concerned about potential offenders (9.6% v. 17.4%). Callers were most concerned about their (ex) partners, followed by their son/daughter.

Men concerned about own behaviour, women about behaviour of others

Those who are concerned about their own feelings and/or behaviour are predominantly men. Those concerned about the feelings and/or behaviour of others are more frequently women.

EXTERNAL PRACTITIONER DE WAAG



Telephone appointment with a practitioner of De Waag

In 2021, a total of 63 telephone appointments with a De Waag practitioner were planned in. 49 persons (78%) actually got in touch and 21 persons (33%) went into therapy. This percentage is lower than in 2020, when 57% of the persons with a scheduled telephone appointment started treatment. A possible explanation is that people received the information but started treatment elsewhere. We cannot be certain, because we do not collect these data.

SELF-HELP MODULE

Online self-help module *It is Possible to Stop*

The self-help module *It is Possible to Stop* was developed in 2018, in collaboration with Stop it Now Flanders. The self-help module is intended for people who are concerned about viewing child sexual exploitation material. There are 17 modules to provide the user with more insight into his/or her viewing behaviour, and a roadmap to stop viewing child sexual exploitation material. The website was renewed on 19 May, 2021. In 2021, the website was visited 11,274 times in total – an increase of 44% compared to 2020. This breaks down to 32 visits a day. 1,514 people were returning visitors. Module 10 *Recognising and dealing with feelings* and module 6 *Fantasies* were accessed most frequently. The increase in the number of visits to the website means that a growing number of people knows where to find the self-help module. In the months of January - May, the site received more visitors compared to the rest of the year, which may be connected to the Stop Child Abuse campaign being online in these months.

CAMPAIGN

Stop Child Abuse campaign

In 2021, between January and May, Stop it Now launched a campaign on porn websites. The objective of this campaign was to raise awareness among (potential) viewers of child sexual exploitation materials about their behaviour and to make clear to them that in doing so, they were contributing to the sexual abuse of minors. The campaign comprised banners on porn websites that led back to the campaign website stop-kindermisbruik.nl. This website offered information as well as support, such as contact with Stop it Now. From here, there were 56,618 click-throughs to the stop-kindermisbruik.nl website. During the campaign period, this website received 23,061 visits in total.

BEST VIEWED MODULES

It is Possible to Stop offers the first step on the road to help and change, anonymously, confidentially and free of charge. In 2021, the website developed together with Stop it Now! Flanders underwent a makeover. *It is Possible to Stop* is a programme that people can complete on their own. The modules featured on the website are intended for all those who are concerned about the viewing of images of online abuse of minors. They provide an opportunity to take action yourself. The modules give you the information and the tools to change your behaviour.

MODULE 6. FANTASIES

This module aims to help you with:

- Raising awareness about your current sexual and non-sexual fantasies
- Recognising the relationship between your fantasies and your behaviour and helping you to reflect on this
- Becoming more aware of the positive and negative aspects of fantasising
- Assessing whether your sexual fantasies play a role in your online viewing behaviour and if so, what this looks like.

MODULE 10. RECOGNISING AND DEALING WITH FEELINGS.

This module helps generate insight into the following elements:

- How your emotions influence on your thoughts and behaviour
- How to deal with complex emotions, such as anger
- How to become more assertive.



RENEWED ONLINE SELF-HELP MODULE 'IT IS POSSIBLE TO STOP'

In the spring, the renewed website of the self-help module '*It is Possible to Stop*' went online: (www.stoppen-is-mogelijk.eu). This online module is intended for people viewing images of sexual abuse of minors (also referred to as 'child pornography') or harbouring concerns that they might start doing so. The module provides information and tools that make clear what the impacts of viewing such material might be for one's self, one's social environment and the underage persons depicted. The objective is to help people understand their behaviour and offer them tools on how to stop viewing child sexual exploitation materials. The modules can be completed free of charge and anonymously. The site, which was developed in collaboration with Stop it Now Flanders, also provides information useful to professionals.

START OF NEW SUPPORT GROUPS

In collaboration with De Waag, three new support groups were initiated. These support groups are there for partners, parents, family and loved ones of persons struggling with sexual behaviour (or thoughts) directed towards minors. The support groups aim to offer support and information, help in recognising risk signs and the opportunity to exchange experiences. In five meetings, participants discuss issues such as: What is behind my partner downloading images of sexual abuse of minors? What does this mean for my family? For more information, check <https://stopitnow.nl/voor-naasten/lotgenotengroep/>

MORE ATTENTION FOR A YOUNG GROUP OF CSEM VIEWERS

The one-sided and therefore misguided image of 'the typical CSEM viewer' belongs to the past. Recent research from Finland tells us that there is a significant number of young CSEM viewers on the darkweb. 70% of the viewers surveyed indicates that they were under age when they first started viewing CSEM; 40% was younger than 13 years of age. Stop it Now is frequently contacted by minors. In part because of the guaranteed anonymity not all data are known, but of those for whom these data could be collected 40% is younger than 25. The calls are about the fact that they are concerned about their feelings and/or behaviour towards minors. They also more frequently view CSEM. We must note that this does not mean to say that these young people have a sexual predilection for minors or may develop one. Sometimes, they are simply looking for people their own age. Yet this still counts as criminal conduct and their searches do contribute to the creation of supply. Young people are often quite nervous about calling Stop it Now. The threshold to talk about their behaviour is high. They are very worried about being judged. However, help and support can make a significant difference. Viewing CSEM from a young age can have a big influence on a person's viewing behaviour at a later age. This is why it is so important to pay attention to this young target group. By also directing assistance towards adolescents we can hopefully lower the threshold and reach more minors. Interested in reading more? The research mentioned can be found here: <https://suojellaanlapsia.fi/2021/07/06/suojellaan-lapsia-ry-protect-childrens-research-in-the-dark-web-is-revealing-unprecedented-data-on-csam-users/>

10 YEARS OF STOP IT NOW: WHAT HAS CHANGED?

'Is there a difference when you look at the conversations of ten years ago?' 'What must change in the public debate to open the discussion about sexual child abuse and pornography involving children?' 'What kind of people get in touch? Do you get calls from family members?' These are just a few of the questions that come up in the podcast special in which Ellen Janssen and Herman Brouwer talk to each other about their work. Ellen Janssen is a forensic psychologist and programme manager at Stop it Now, a helpline which offers anonymous, free and unprejudiced support to anyone concerned about their feelings and/or behaviour towards minors. Herman Brouwer is a practitioner at De Waag, the Netherlands' largest centre for forensic outpatient mental health care. They offer specialised care for people combining transgressive or criminal behaviour with a mental disorder. The two have been working together intensively for many years. Their conversation in the podcast special by De Forensische ZorgSpecialisten (the Forensic Care Specialists; DFZS) was an initiative to commemorate Stop it Now's ten year anniversary in 2022. The podcast can be accessed via www.dewaagnederland.nl

SOZIO ARTICLE: SUPPORT FOR FRIENDS AND FAMILY OF SEX OFFENDERS:

When someone in your immediate social environment is suspected of sexual child abuse, this has a devastating impact. Not just on the person suspected or arrested, but also on their family and friends. Your whole life is turned upside down. You're confronted with facts you'd prefer not to know and you have questions that no one seems to be able to answer. Shame, guilt, loneliness – all kinds of intense emotions come to the surface. How do you deal with this? Until now, there is little support available for the family and friends of sex offenders. They are a forgotten group. Yet they are often desperately in need of support. Read more on this in article by Sozio: <https://www.sociaaldigitaal.nl/p/naasten-van-zedenplegers-een-vergeten-groep-slachtoffers/6777>

TALKING ABOUT SEXUAL CHILD ABUSE

Flemish instruction manual was composed in line with the guidance of Sensoa and rests on Sensoa's confidential *Onder 4 ogen* method. This manual equips professionals with a practical tool that offers a range of suggestions on how you might approach such a conversation. Among other things, the manual offers a roadmap on how to prepare for a conversation of this kind and how you might encourage a person seeking help to talk about their concerns. For more information, check <https://stopitnow.nl/professionals/hoe-ga-je-het-gesprek-aan/>



Trouw
A DOSSIER ON PAEDOPHILIA

Dagblad van het Noorden
MORE PEOPLE SEEK ANONYMOUS SUPPORT FROM STOP IT NOW TO STOP VIEWING CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION MATERIALS



RTL nieuws
RESEARCH BY WINEKE SMID, PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR AT VAN DER HOEVEN ARE FEMALE SEXUAL OFFENDERS UNIQUE?



Vakblad Sozio
HOW DO YOU AS A LOCAL CARE GIVER ENTER INTO A CONVERSATION WITH A (POTENTIAL) SEX OFFENDER?

Vakblad Sozio
SEXUAL OFFENDERS' FAMILY AND FRIENDS: A FORGOTTEN GROUP OF VICTIMS



Most reports come from 12-18 year-olds and concern extortion using nude images.

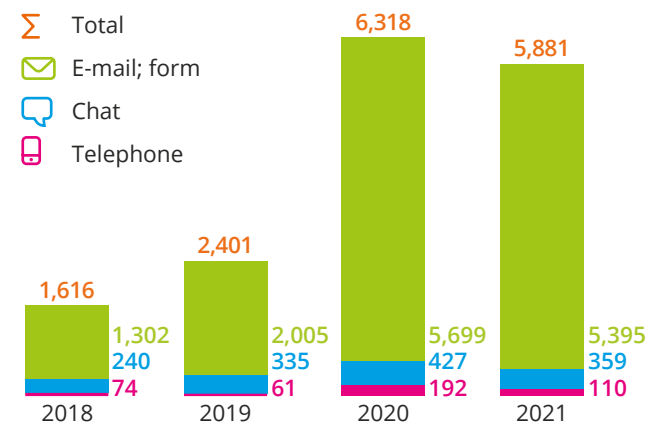
thousands of advices

Helpwanted is an (anonymous) helpline offering first aid and advice in relation to online sexual abuse to young people up to the age of 26. From 2022, the helpline will be open to all ages. You can chat, call or e-mail with a counsellor. Helpwanted.nl's website offers a range of information on Helpwanted's key themes, including unwanted sexting, grooming and sextortion. Teachers and other professionals can put in requests for guest lectures, information and educational materials.

HIGHLIGHTS

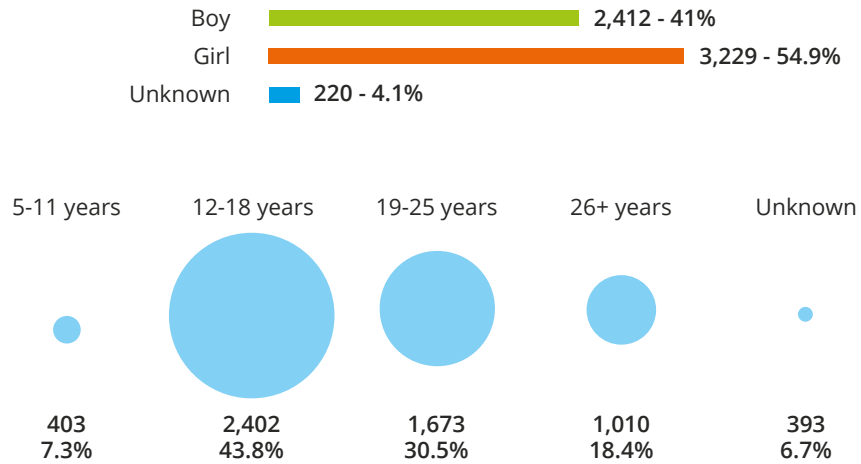
In 2021, once again, thousands of people contacted Helpwanted for advice. Yet for the first time, there was no increase in the number of reports compared to the year before. This likely has to do with the high, but temporary, rise in the number of reports during the first lockdown of 2020. The data for this year show that reports, both in terms of substance and characteristics of the caller, remain stable over the years. Most reports continue to concern blackmailing with the help of nude images. Young people between ages 12-18 are the ones most frequently getting in touch with us.

NUMBER OF REQUESTS FOR ADVICE PER YEAR

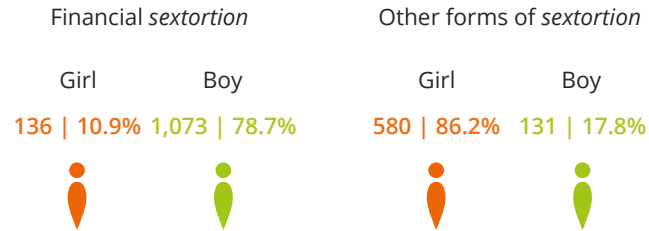


In 2021, Helpwanted was contacted 5,881 times, with the vast majority of visitors opting for the advice module that was launched in 2019. The module uses a questionnaire that guides visitors to the right advice based on their answers to a series of questions. They immediately receive tips tailored to their specific situation or problem. The total number of requests for advice was somewhat lower than in 2020. The difference can be explained by the high (temporary) increase in the number of reports during the first Covid lockdown in 2020.

WHO ASK FOR ADVICE?



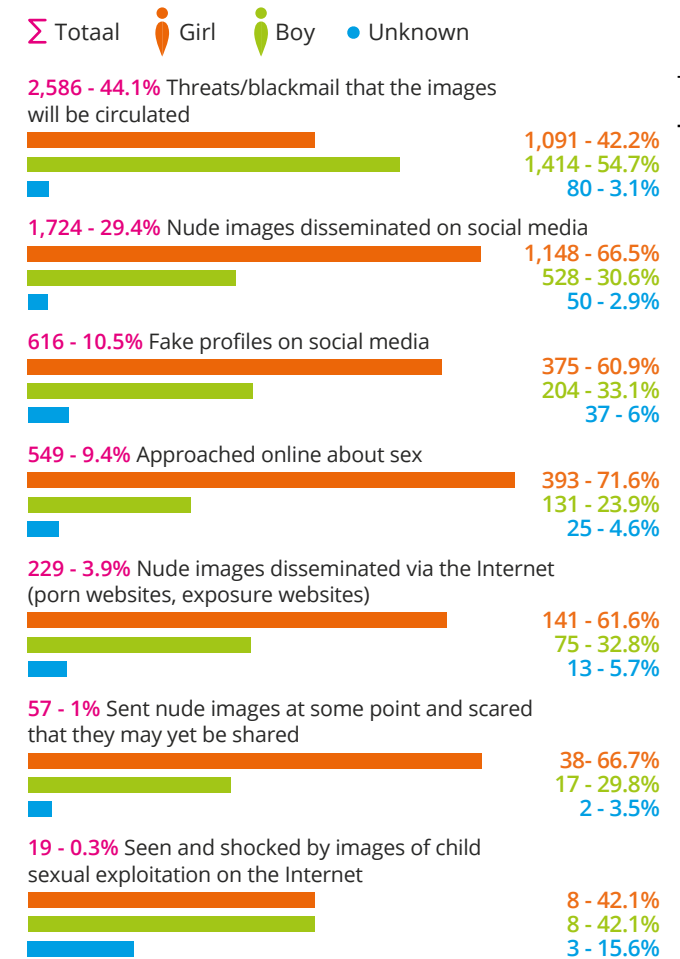
SEXTORTION



In 2021, a relatively larger number of boys turned to Helpwanted than in previous years. These boys sought advice regarding threats and financial extortion in particular. In the first quarter of 2021, we presented the outcomes of our research into financial sextortion among boys. This research has possibly helped more boys find the way to our counselling. Incidentally, more boys than girls were mostly found in the age groups 19-25 and 26+ (57.9% and 56.7%). A preliminary conclusion might be that the 'iceberg' is slowly coming into view. The younger age categories (5-11 and 12-18) had more girls (72.7% and 71.8% respectively).

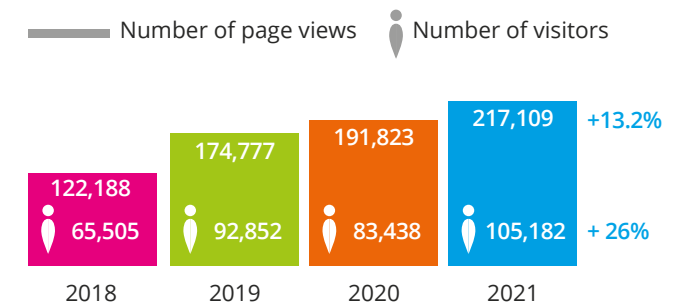
WHAT DO YOUNG PEOPLE SEEK ADVICE ABOUT?

Most of last year's requests for advice to Helpwanted concerned threats or blackmail with the use of nude images, followed by nude images being shared on social media without consent.



WEBSITE VISITS

The number of visits to the website is significantly up from last year. The number of visitors in particular has increased. This means that we are being found better.

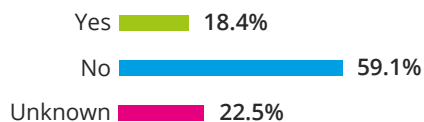


ON WHICH PLATFORMS DOES THE ABUSE TAKE PLACE?



Snapchat, Instagram and WhatsApp are the platforms most frequently mentioned. Incidentally, this does not mean that the abuse only takes place here. It is more that Snapchat, Instagram and WhatsApp are the most popular platforms among young people. And when someone intends to engage in online sexual abuse, they will logically opt for the platforms most frequently used.

CONTACTED THE POLICE BEFORE APPROACHING HELPWANTED?



The largest group getting in touch with Helpwanted has not had prior contact with the police. Often, it is initially too big a step to get in touch the police, possibly also because many young people tend to blame themselves. Most victims first look for help online and anonymously. When they reach Helpwanted, we, in most cases, advise to also report the incident to the police.

HELPWANTED AND OTHER SUPPORT ORGANISATIONS ENTER INTO A COLLABORATION TO COMBAT ONLINE ABUSE

Victims of online sexual abuse should receive faster and better help. That is the objective of the collaboration between the Sexual Assault Center, Fier, Fonds Slachtofferhulp (Victims Support Fund) and Helpwanted. All four organisations have extensive expertise in the area of (online) sexual violence. Carlo Contino of Fonds Slachtofferhulp: 'Every day, there are young people falling victim to online sexual abuse. They are entitled to the best possible support.' Johannes Dijkstra of Fier adds: 'Our objective is to organise our collaboration in such a way that young people reach the right counsel as quickly and with as few barriers as possible.' All too often, young people still think that the abuse is their own fault and that nothing can be done about it. While there is a world to win. Read our press release here: <https://www.eokm.nl/persbericht-organisaties-bundelen-krachten-in-strijd-tegen-online-misbruik/>.

HELPWANTED AND THE CITY OF AMSTERDAM JOIN FORCES

Helpwanted is closely involved in the 'Programme to Counter Sexual Intimidation and Sexual Violence' (Programma tegen Seksuele Intimidatie en Seksueel Geweld (SISG)) of the City of Amsterdam. This SISG is a strong, comprehensive approach to counter (online and offline) sexual intimidation and violence in the city. The measures include, among other things, a survey, a campaign, action against online sexual violence and a personalised programme. The survey and the campaign have been completed. Some 108,000 female residents were reached. Mayor Halsema invited Council members to a substantive session, in the slipstream of which the ChristenUnie (CU; Dutch Christian-democratic party) visited EOKM for a fact-finding mission.

SCHOOLS SPECIAL: AN INTERACTIVE THEATRE SHOW ON ONLINE SEXUAL ABUSE!

For teachers, talking about sex can be quite daunting. It becomes even more complicated when it comes to specific topics such as (unwanted) sexting or online sexual abuse in general. Luckily, theatre group PayBack, in collaboration with Helpwanted, has come up with a solution: the interactive performance 'Shame on you'. About Aya en Feico, a young couple, 14 and 16 years of age, who are having to deal with the painful impacts of sexting. The 60-minute theatre show, aimed at years 1,2,3 of schools for secondary and special education and vocational training, deals with tricky topics such as online sexual abuse in an accessible and humorous manner. Pupils are made more media-savvy in a playful way. They're handed a range of tools on how to act should they ever end up in a similar situation themselves. The show includes an extensive aftertalk with the actors and pupils.

HELPWANTED BECOMES MORE INCLUSIVE

We're dead proud. Alongside the Mediajungle and Vitamine Eef, we can call ourselves one of the winners of the All Inclusive Challenge 2021. The challenge was organised by the Dutch Media Literacy Network. Their mission: Make everyone media-literate. With this objective in mind, this year, the Dutch Media Literacy Network organised this special challenge. Network partners were challenged to jointly take some (first) steps towards increasing inclusion. The challenge was: Together with at least one other network partner, invent a media literacy initiative that addresses one of three themes: inclusive media, inclusive reach and inclusive design. Our initiative bundles two unique expertises: the Mediajungle and Helpwanted collaborate, connect and share knowledge on the themes of sexting and sextortion. With the aim to provide tips and advice for people with a mild intellectual disability (MID) on a safe online love life. The collaboration kicked off full force and concretely with an online knowledge event for and by people with a mild intellectual disability and their professional carers. As a follow-up to this session, we intend to develop new educational content together with this target group. The jury felt our project was so beneficial and valuable and the topic so current that they selected us as one of the six winners. This means that we get to share in the award pool of €50,000 in total.

HELPWANTED IS THERE FOR EVERYONE

From 2022, Helpwanted will be available for advice and assistance to anyone encountering online sexual violence. To highlight that – regardless of how old you are – Helpwanted is the go-to place for first aid, we launched a campaign on Facebook and Instagram which will continue into 2022. First results are promising.

GROUND-BREAKING RULING AGAINST VAGINA.NL

We received excellent news about the court case that we brought against vagina.nl together with the Stop Online Shaming (SOS) foundation: The Amsterdam district court has ruled that porn websites may only publish nude images with the express permission of those depicted. Only images that are clearly professionally made are excluded from this prohibition. This is a resounding victory for the rights of victims whose nude images have been published without their consent. This ruling is not just a major set-back for the porn site concerned: it has an impact on all websites that commercially exploit sexual images. A truly ground-breaking ruling!!

RTL nieuws
ARTICLE: LESS CYBER BULLYING AND SEXTING DURING COVID CRISIS



Trouw
**ACTION PLAN TO
 COMBAT SEXUAL
 VIOLENCE**

Op1
VICTIM BILAL WAHIB

NRC
BULLCHAT

NRC
HOW SAFE IS TIKTOK?

AVROTROS
**MORE SEXTORTION
 VICTIMS DURING COVID**

U-night Live
**CAMPAIGN WITH
 ARTIST DANIËL BUSSER**

Trouw
WHAT IS GROOMING?

Politie
**SEXTORTION IS ALSO
 PREVALENT AMONG
 BOYS**

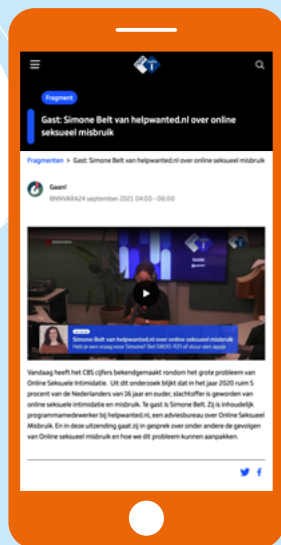
NU.NL
**DO NOT SHARE NUDE
 IMAGES**

De Stentor
SEXTING

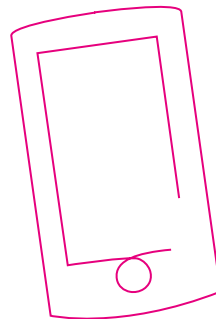
NPO radio1
**SEXY PICTURES TO
 LURE VIEWERS**



Pointer
ONLINE SHAMING



Radio Gaan!
**ONLINE SEXUAL
 INTIMIDATION**



RTL nieuws
**OMSTREDEN
 CHATDIENST OMEGLE
 BIJ KINDEREN
 POPULAIR**



Vice
**EXPOSE
 GROUPS ON
 TELEGRAM**



Kidsweek
**HOW TO RESPOND TO
 WEIRD QUESTIONS
 ONLINE**



EXPERT CENTRE ONLINE CHILD ABUSE

VISIT US

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www.meldpunt-kinderporno.nl

www.helpwanted.nl

www.stopitnow.nl

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SUPPORT US

www.eokm.nl/steun-ons

CALL US

Helpwanted.nl for parents and care-givers: 020 - 261 52 75

Press: 06 - 493 875 31

Stop it Now helpline: 0800 - 266 64 36

MORE INFO?

Sign up to our newsletter or via nieuwsbrieven@eokm.nl

© March 2022, EXPERTISE CENTRE FOR ONLINE CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE FOUNDATION

The Expertise Centre for Online Child Sexual Abuse (EOKM) is an independent foundation focused on combatting and preventing (online) sexual child abuse. EOKM runs the following programmes: Child Sexual Abuse Hotline, Helpwanted.nl and Stop it Now.

Graphic design: Studio Anouk Stoffels

