Net Children Go Mobile
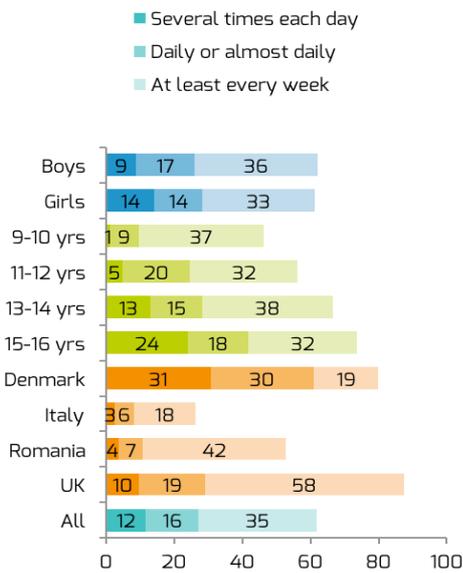
Internet access in school is uneven across Europe

More than half of European children access the internet in schools at least every week but just 1 out of 4 say they use the internet at school daily or several times a day.

While in all countries access to the internet in schools increases with age - with 3 out of 4 teenagers aged 15-16 using the internet in school at least once a week - substantial country differences persist, as shown in Fig. 1: while over 80% of UK and Danish children use the internet at school at least once a week, nearly half of Romanian children and 3 out of 4 Italian children report they use the internet at school less regularly.

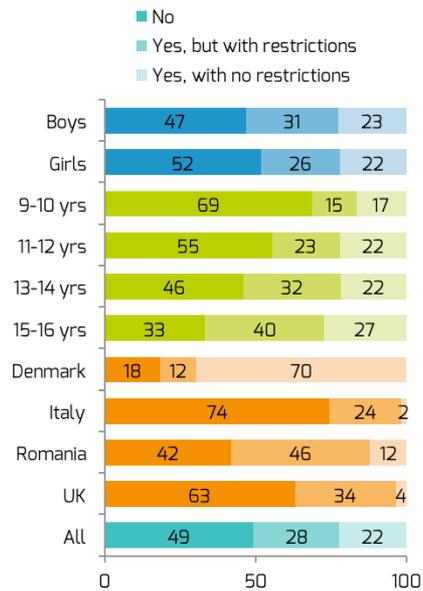## Fig. 1: Children aged 9-16 who access the internet in schools at least every week

Wifi access is also unevenly distributed: 43% of children say wifi is not available in their schools, or students are not allowed to access it, while 1 out of 4 children can access the school wifi with some restrictions and just 14% are not restricted in their use of the school wifi.
Smartphone use in schools tends to be regulated as well: nearly half of European students are not allowed to use their smartphone at school, and just 22% report they can use their phones with no restrictions. Age and country differences matter:

younger children and children living in Italy and the UK are least likely to be allowed to use their smartphones in schools, while the majority of Danish children are not banned from using them.

Fig. 2: Children's use of smartphones in school per gender, age and country

The Project

The Net Children Go Mobile is funded by the Safer Internet Programme to investigate through quantitative and qualitative methods how the changing conditions of internet access and use bring greater, lesser or newer risks to children's online safety. Participating countries include Denmark, Italy, Romania, the UK, and Ireland (which joined it on a self-funding basis).

For more information and contacts

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