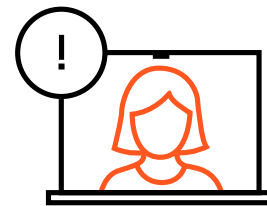


ONLINE CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION *STATISTICS*

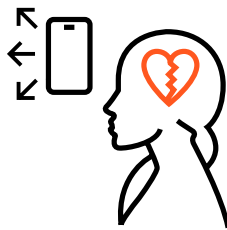
ONLINE CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION AND HUMAN TRAFFICKING ARE DEEPLY INTERCONNECTED, OFTEN OVERLAPPING IN WAYS THAT FUEL EACH OTHER.



1 in 3 Internet users worldwide is under 18 years of age.¹



78% of reports regarding online enticement for sexually explicit content were **directed towards girls**.²



67% of child sexual abuse material (CSAM) survivors said the distribution of their images impacts them differently than the hands-on abuse they suffered because the **distribution never ends** and the **images are permanent**.³



In 2004, there were 450,000 files of suspected child sexual abuse materials (CSAM) reported. By 2022, that number jumped to more than **87 million**.³

SOURCES:

1. UNICEF. (2021). *Investigating Risks and Opportunities for Children in a Digital World: A rapid review of the evidence on children's internet use and outcomes*. (p. 12) <https://www.unicef.org/innocenti/media/5621/file/UNICEF-Investigating-Risks-Opportunities-Children-Digital-World-2021.pdf>
2. Thorn. (2025). *Issue*. <https://www.thorn.org/issue/>
3. National Centre for Missing & Exploited Children (NCMEC). (2025). *Child Sexual Abuse Content*. <https://www.missingkids.org/theissues/csam>

POTENTIAL WARNING SIGNS THAT A CHILD IS BEING SEXUALLY EXPLOITED ONLINE



1

Experiencing a breakdown in relationships — isolation from peers or family, or withdrawing from usual social circles.

2

Changes in physical appearance, such as sudden weight loss or noticeable differences in makeup or clothing choices.

3

Showing up with gifts or possessions that can't be explained.

4

Becoming upset, withdrawn, or anxious after using the internet or texting.

5

Shifting temperament — becoming moody, aggressive, or withdrawn.

6

Accumulating numerous new phone numbers, texts, or email addresses.

7

They exhibit secretive behaviour, especially when asked about their activities

8

Receiving excessive texts or calls.

9

Spending excessive time on mobile phones, gaming consoles, or other electronic devices.

10

Leaving home without explanation or frequently returning home late.

11

Struggling with sleep or eating habits, showing signs of anxiety.

12

Skipping school or becoming disruptive in class.

LEARN. EQUIP. PROTECT.

Gain critical insight into online child sexual exploitation, receive practical tools, and be empowered to safeguard children around you — and future generations.

Watch the [Global Freedom Summit today.](#)

