

## **Cybersecurity Awareness Among Students: Challenges and Preventive Measures**

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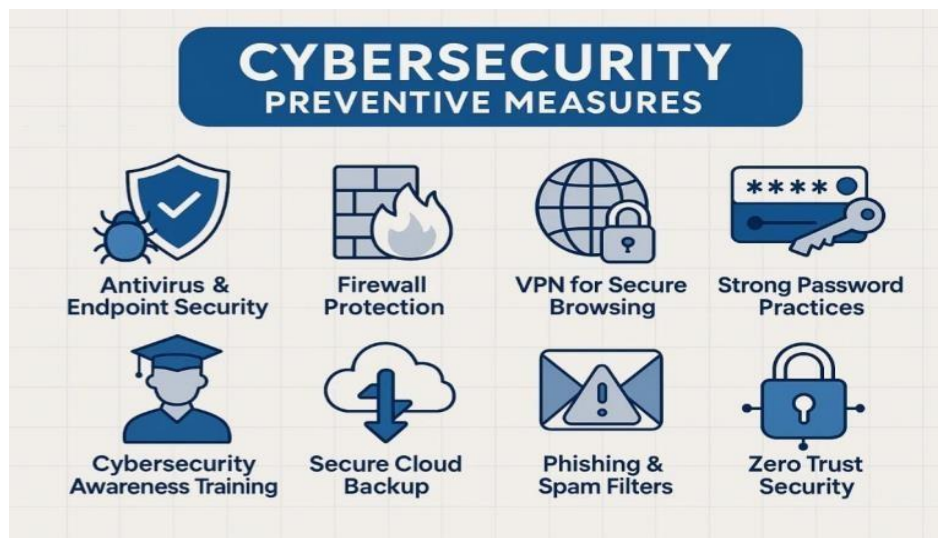
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### **Abstract**

Today, in the digital age, cybersecurity has become a major concern, especially for students who regularly use the internet for study and socialising. This paper explores the level of cybersecurity awareness among students, identifies the common challenges they face and proposes preventive measures to improve their online safety. The study shows that students are active users of the Internet but many of them are not well informed about cyber threats such as phishing, hacking and identity theft. The paper ends with recommendations to improve cybersecurity awareness through education and practical strategies.

### **Introduction**

The rapid growth of Internet use has made the issue of cyber security a major concern, particularly for students. Students rely heavily on digital platforms for education, communication and entertainment. But they're at risk of cybercrime because they don't know enough about cyber threats. The aim of this research is to understand the students' awareness levels and to find ways to improve their online safety.



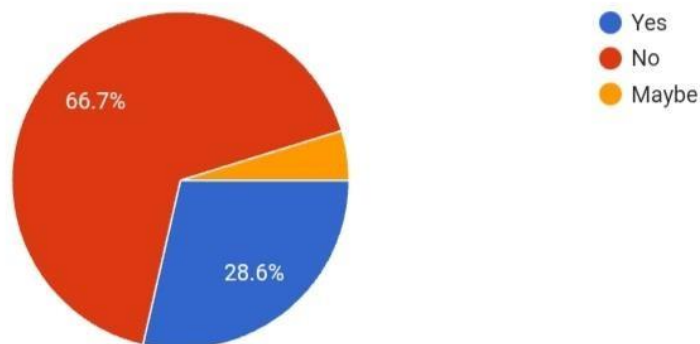
## Objective

- To measure the level of awareness of students about cybersecurity
- Identifying common cyber threats faced by students
- To examine the online behavior of students
- Recommendations for preventive measures to enhance cybersecurity awareness

## Data analysis

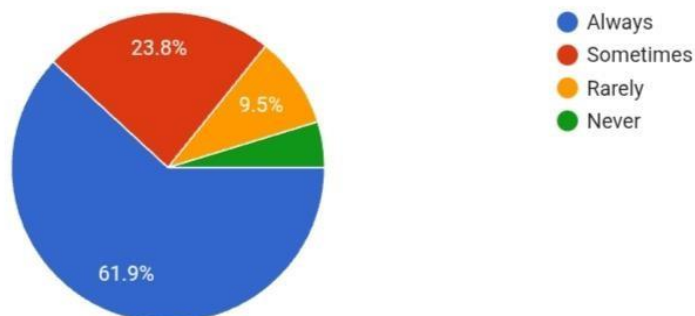
Have you ever attended a cybersecurity awareness program or workshop?

21 responses



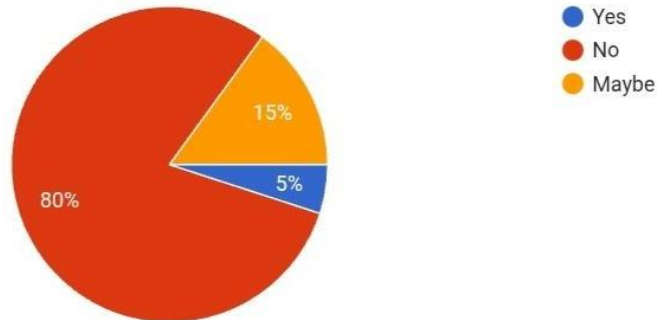
How often do you use strong passwords (mix of letters, numbers, symbols)?

21 responses



Have you ever experienced any form of cybercrime?

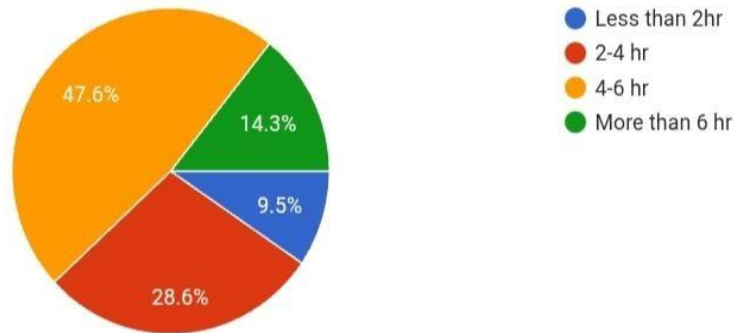
20 responses



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How many hours do you spend online daily?

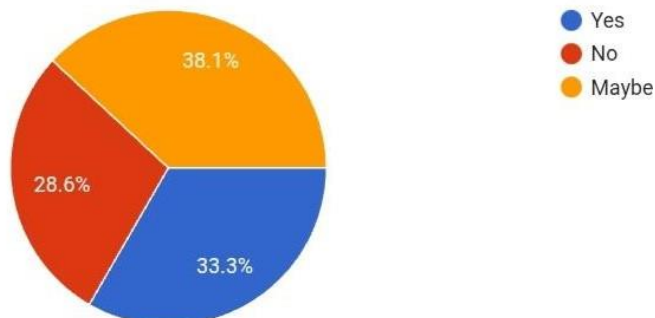
21 responses



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Do you use any antivirus or security software on your device?

21 responses



## Hypothesis

### 1) Have you Ever Attended a cybersecurity awareness program or workshop?

Sr. No.	Options	O <sub>i</sub>	E <sub>i</sub>	O <sub>i</sub> -E <sub>i</sub>	(O <sub>i</sub> -E <sub>i</sub> ) <sup>2</sup>	(O <sub>i</sub> -E <sub>i</sub> ) <sup>2</sup> /E <sub>i</sub>
1	Yes	28	33.33	-5.33	28.40	0.85
2	No	66	33.33	32.67	1067.32	32.02
3	Not Sure	6	33.33	27.33	746.62	22.40
<b>Total</b>		<b>100</b>				<b>55.27</b>

$$55.27 > 5.GG1$$

### 2) Do you use any antivirus or security software on your device?

Sr. No.	Options	O <sub>i</sub>	E <sub>i</sub>	O <sub>i</sub> -E <sub>i</sub>	(O <sub>i</sub> -E <sub>i</sub> ) <sup>2</sup>	(O <sub>i</sub> -E <sub>i</sub> ) <sup>2</sup> /E <sub>i</sub>
1	Yes	38	33.33	4.67	21.80	0.65
2	No	2G	33.33	-4.33	18.74	0.56
3	Not Sure	33	33.33	-0.33	0.108G	0.0032
<b>Total</b>		<b>100</b>				<b>1.2132</b>

$$1.2132 < 5.GG1$$

## Conclusion

From this study, it is clear that students are regular users of the internet but their awareness about cybersecurity is still limited. Many students have not attended any cybersecurity awareness programs, which shows a gap in formal education and training. The data also shows that while some students use antivirus or security software, a good number are either not using it or are unsure about it.

This means that students are at risk of cyber threats like phishing, hacking, and identity theft because of a lack of knowledge and safe practices. There is a strong need to improve awareness through workshops, awareness campaigns, and including cybersecurity topics in the academic syllabus. Simple habits like using strong passwords, avoiding suspicious links, and regularly updating software can make a big difference.

Overall, improving cybersecurity awareness among students will help them stay safe online and use digital platforms more responsibly.

## References

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