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Data Brief—Girls in the Digital Space

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Girls Deliver

PRE-CONFERENCE ON ADOLESCENT GIRLS
KIGALI, RWANDA • 16 JULY 2023

ROUNDTABLE SESSION DATA BRIEF

GIRLS IN THE DIGITAL SPACE

There is a digital gender gap; girls access and use technology differently than boys



75% of 15-24 year olds use the internet; but there is a gender divide¹



27% of girls

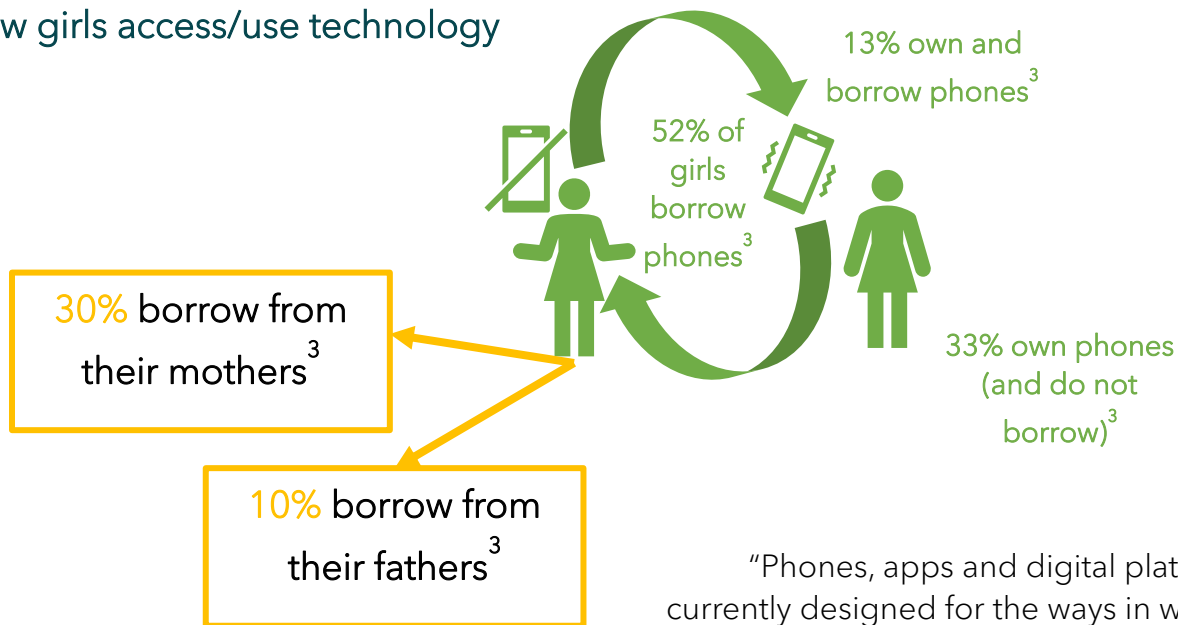


46% of boys

Use their phone for the internet²

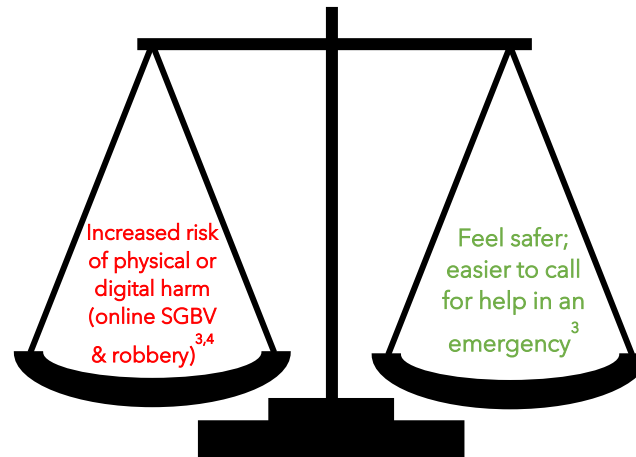
Boys are **1.5x** more likely to own a phone than girls globally³

How girls access/use technology



"Phones, apps and digital platforms are not currently designed for the ways in which girls use them (which includes shared use and borrowing) or might want to use them in future."³

Safety considerations



Involving girls in development of digital tools ensures that the girls' circumstances and needs are being met by the tool

"[...] actions promoting girls' digital empowerment should be guided by the principle of engaging girls and women as active, capable partners in our work, not merely passive recipients or targets. Rather than making assumptions about what girls want and need from technology, it is important to work together with girls to strengthen and develop their use and creation of digital tools."

(Digital Empowerment of Girls Briefing Paper, Plan International 2018)

"Putting end users front and center of the design process ensures that the digital solution is relevant for them, responds to what they want, and offers an enjoyable user experience. "

(UNICEF, Building digital solutions with a gender lens)

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This data brief was created by the Population Council's GIRL Center in collaboration with Girl Effect to inform the thematic roundtable discussion on Girls in the Digital Space at the Girls Deliver Pre-Conference on Adolescent Girls held in Kigali, Rwanda ahead of the Women Deliver 2023 Conference.

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