



# Children and young people's access, skills and use of the internet in high and low income homes

“Communications Regulation and Low Income Consumers – Research and Policy”

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# Project aims

## *Two areas of risk:*

- Access, inequalities and the digital divide
- Undesirable forms of content and contact

## *Two areas of opportunity:*

- Education, informal learning and literacy
- Communication, identity and participation

# Research design and methods

## Phase 1: Qualitative

*Summer/ Autumn 2003*

Focus groups with children

Family visits/ in-home  
observation

Children's online advisory panel

## Phase 2: Survey

*Jan-March 2004*

In-home face-to-face survey of  
1,511 9-19 year olds

Written survey of 906 parents  
of the 9-17 year olds

## Phase 3: Qualitative

*Summer/ Autumn 2004*

Focus groups with children

Family visits/ in-home  
observation

Children's online advisory panel

# Low income households

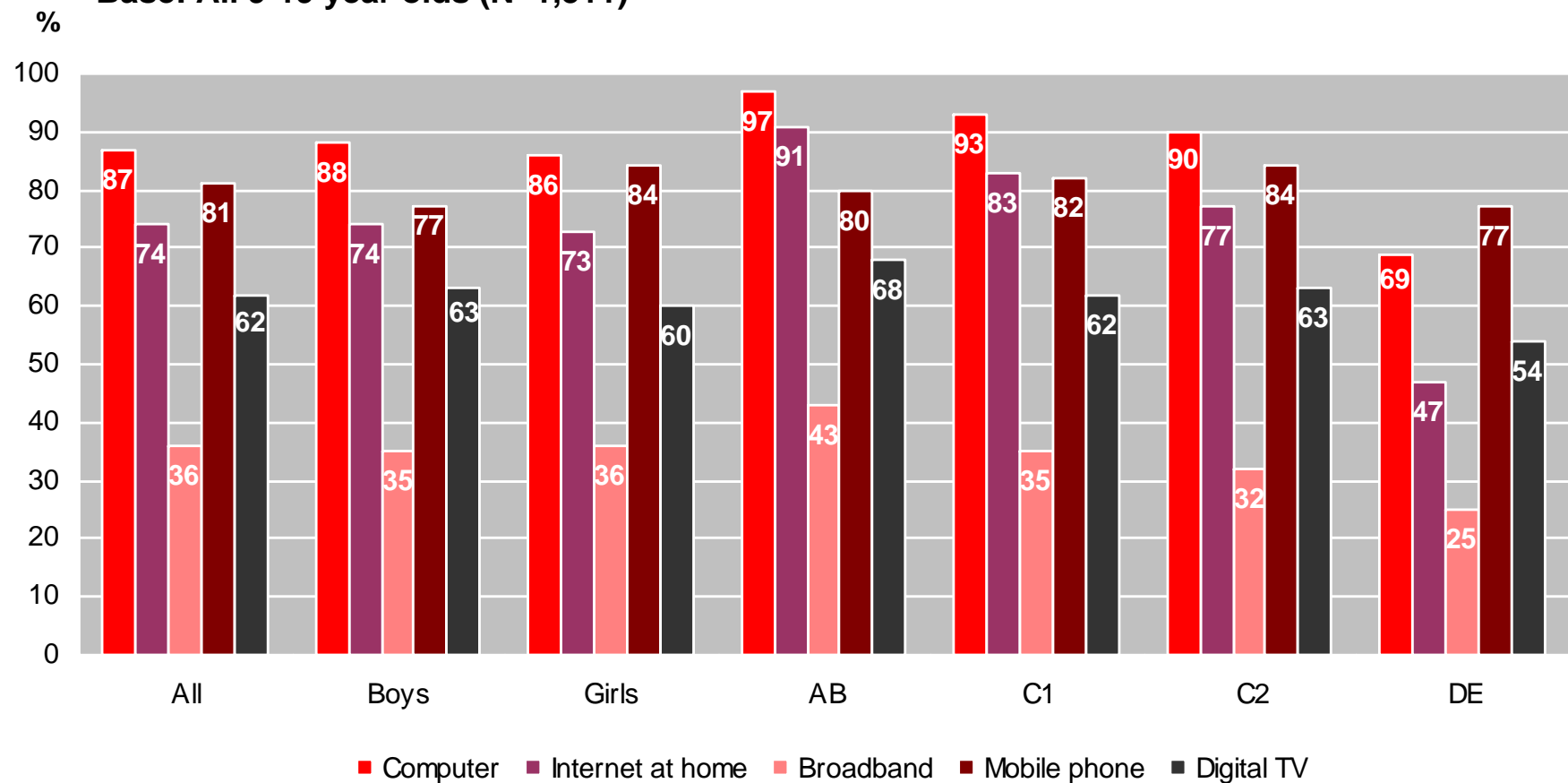
## What do we know about internet use?

- **Internet Access**
- **Frequency of use**
- **Internet skills/ literacy**
- **Opportunities and risks online**
- **Low and non-users**

# Access to the internet

## Access to technologies by demographics

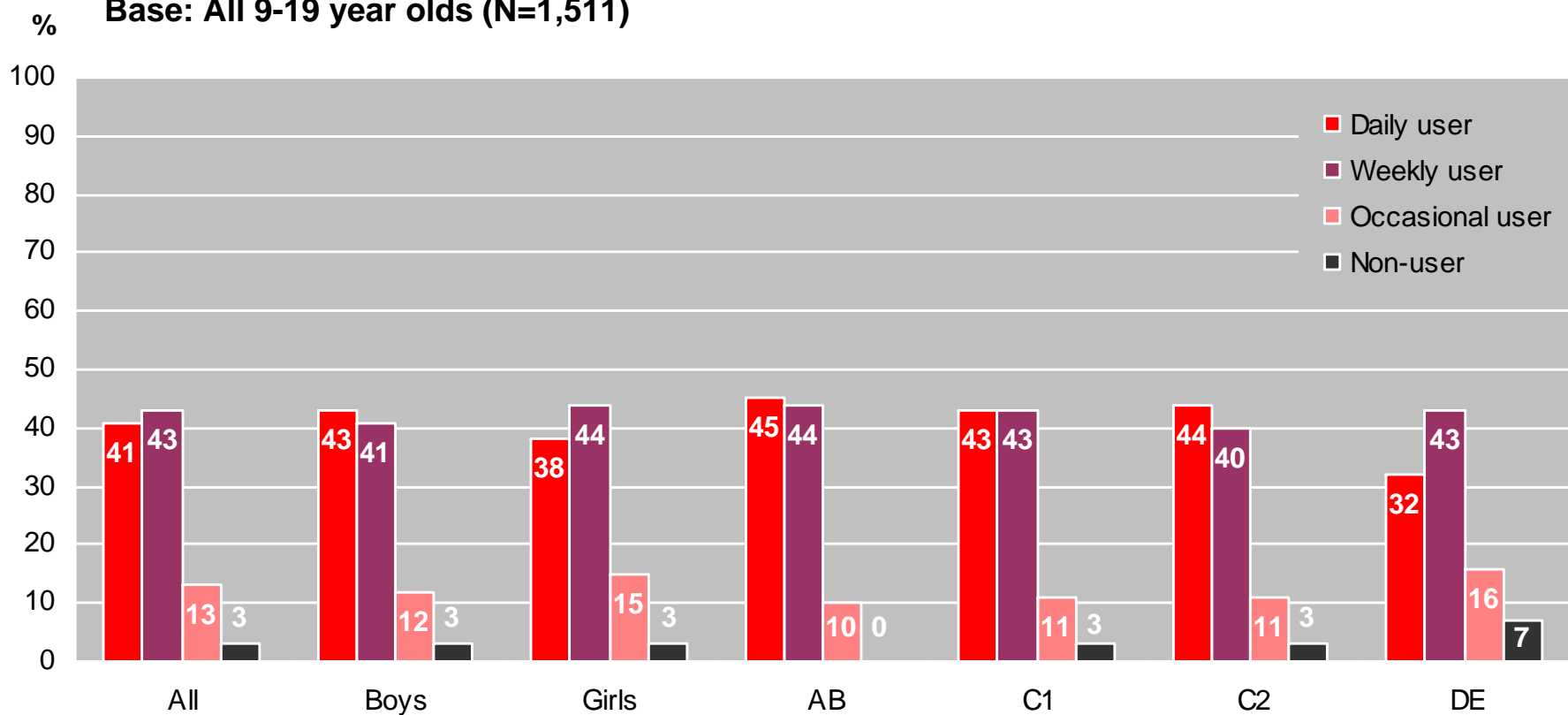
Base: All 9-19 year olds (N=1,511)



# Frequency of use - Children

## Frequency of internet use by demographics

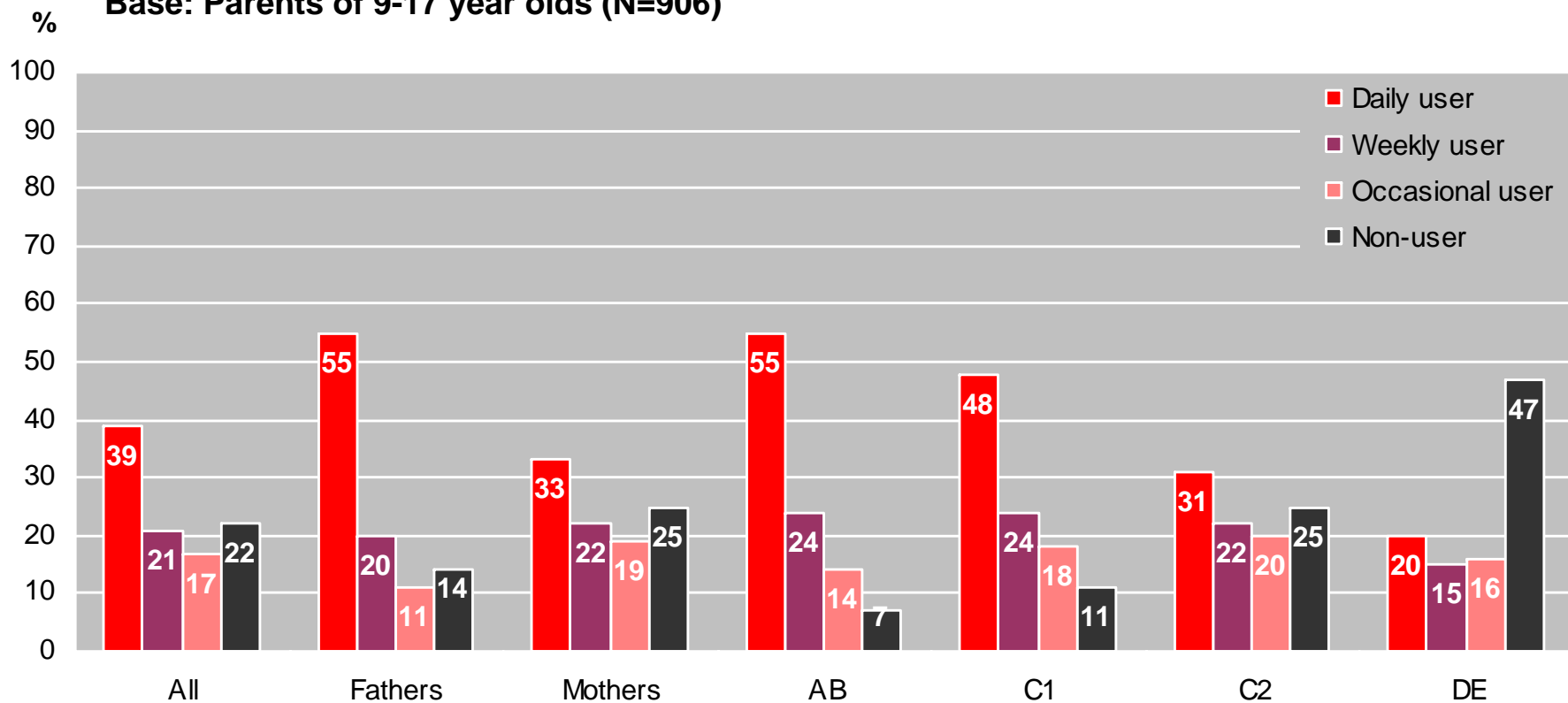
Base: All 9-19 year olds (N=1,511)



# Frequency of use - Parents

## Frequency of internet use by demographics

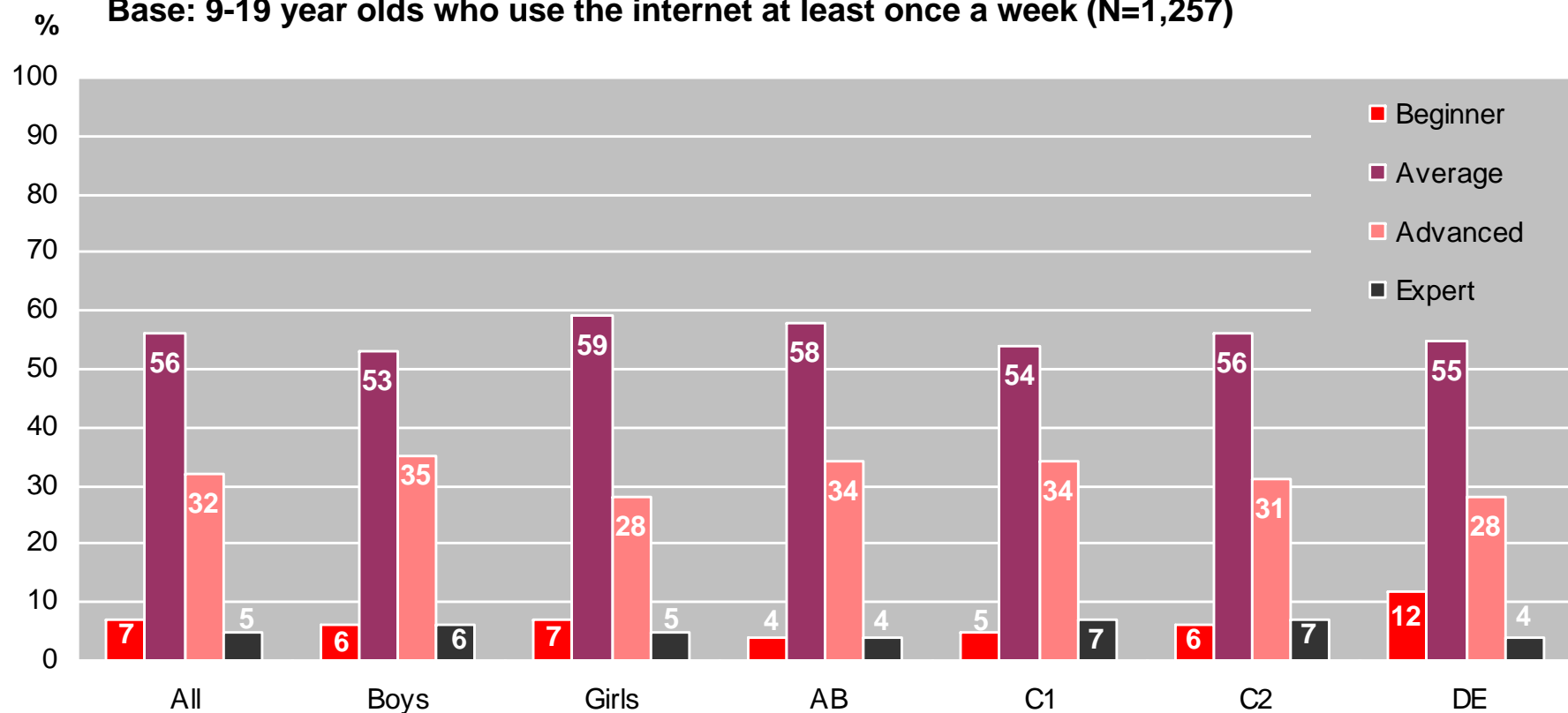
Base: Parents of 9-17 year olds (N=906)



# Online skills - Children

## How good are you at using the internet? By demographics

Base: 9-19 year olds who use the internet at least once a week (N=1,257)

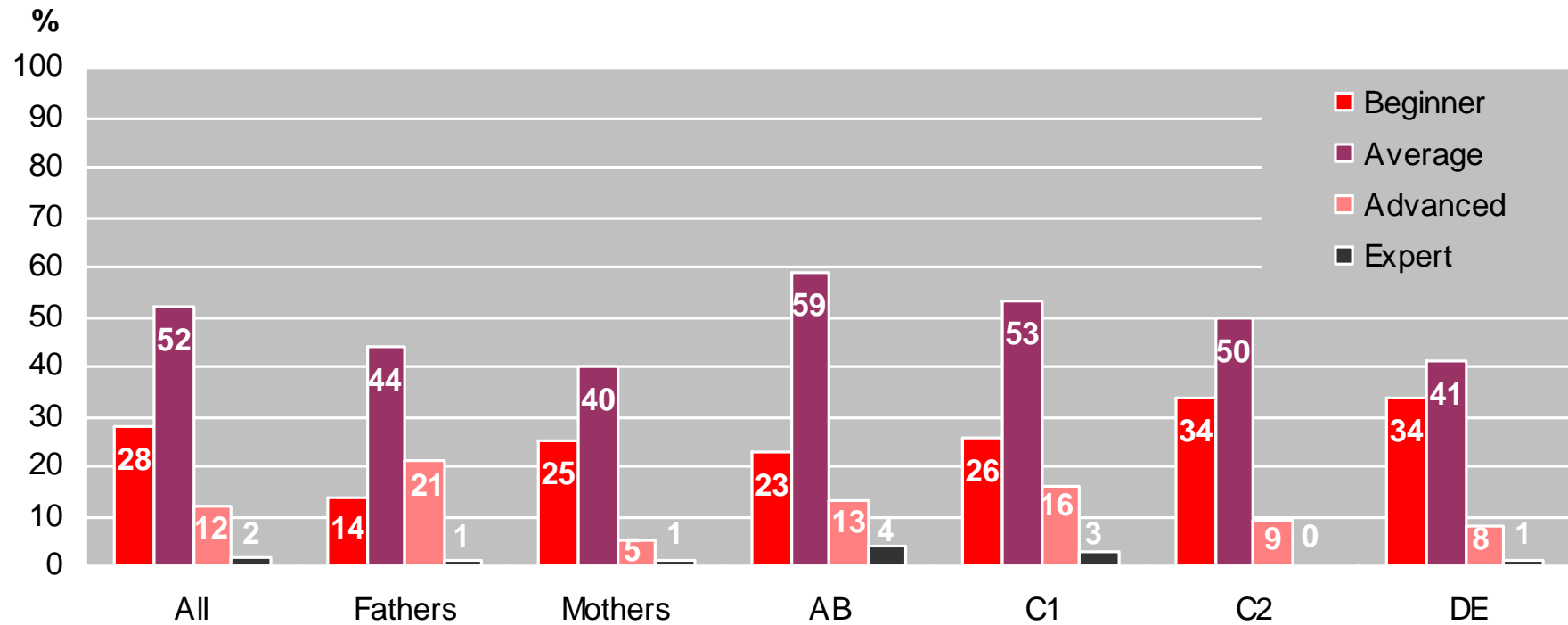




# Online skills - Parents

How good are you at using the internet? By demographics

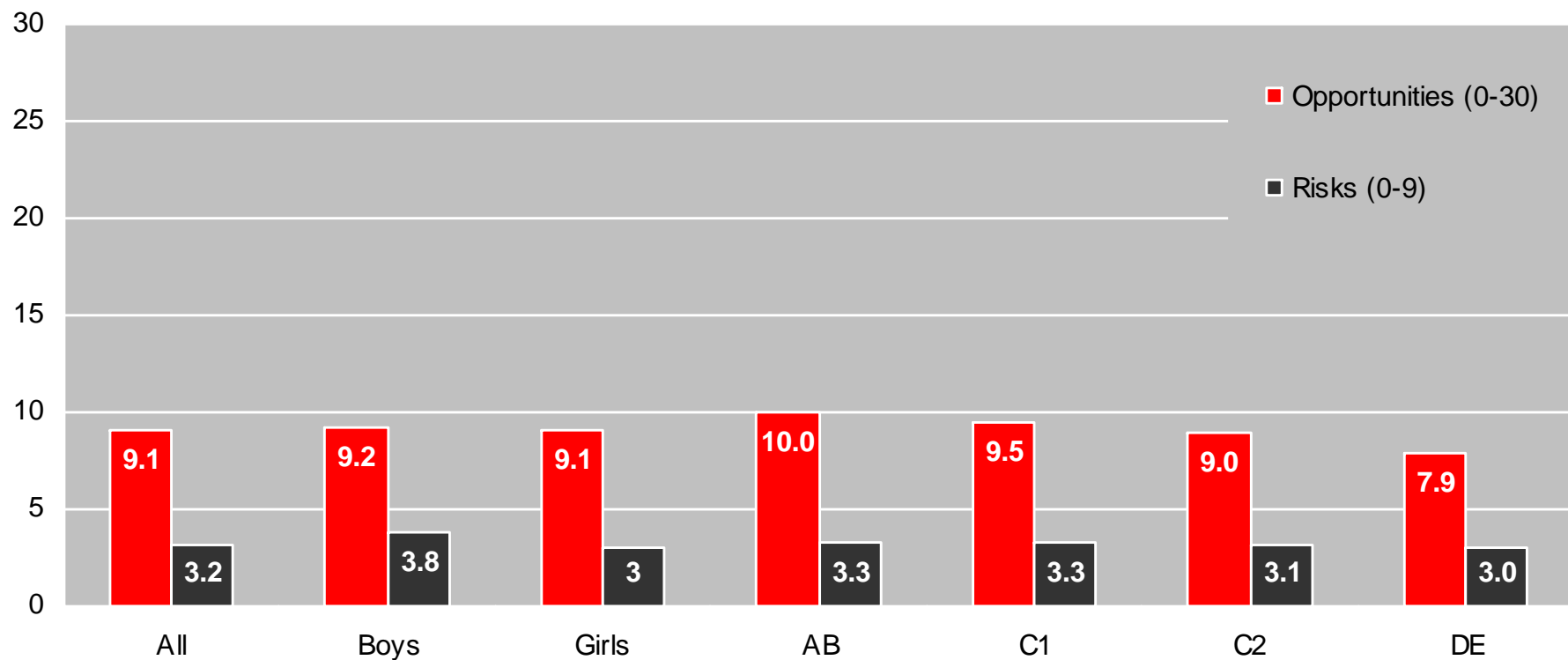
Base: Parents who have ever used the internet (N=629)



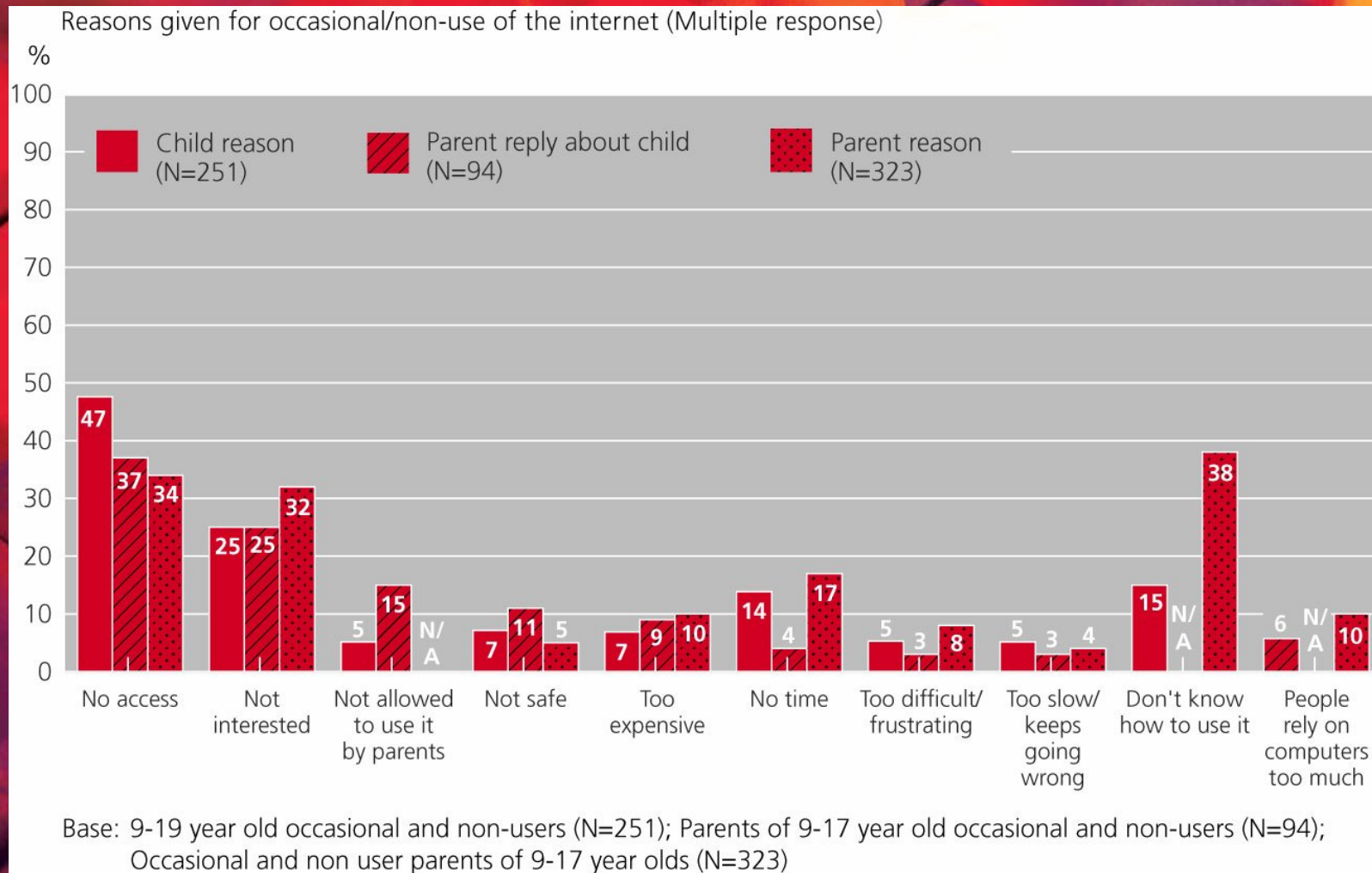
# Opportunities and risks

## Average number of opportunities and risks online by demographics

Base: 9-19 year olds who use the internet at least once a week (N=1,257)



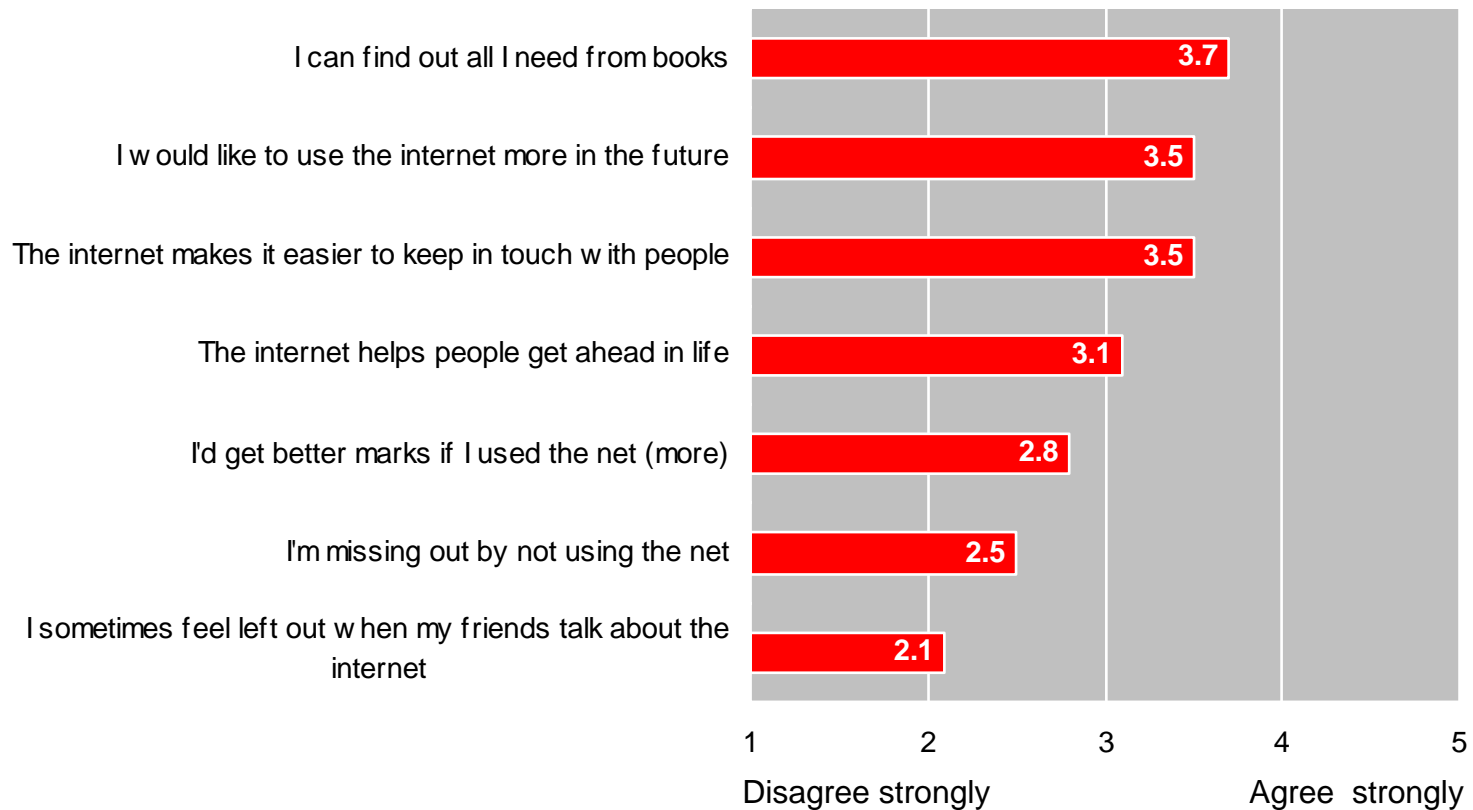
# Low and non-users



# Missing out?

## Agreement with internet-related attitudes

Base: 9-19 year old low and non-users (N=254)



Thank you

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