



Consumers & Online Privacy: 2012





- Background and objectives
- General attitudes to the internet
- Attitudes to online data and privacy
- Attitudes to advertising
- Control and the role of the AdChoices icon
- Conclusions



#### Background and objectives



The IAB and ValueClick commissioned independent research agency, Kantar Media to conduct an authoritative study on attitudes of UK internet users to online privacy and data

#### **Objectives:**

- General attitudes towards online privacy and data
- How internet users feel about privacy and the actions they take to safeguard themselves
- Opinions towards online advertising and traditional forms of advertising
- Extent to which people understand that advertising allows them to enjoy free content







Sample: Kantar Media interviewed a total of **2,001 internet** 

users across the UK aged 16+

#### Methodology:

**Online: 1,361 interviews** 

via Kantar's LSR Online Panel



Face to face: 640 interviews

via Kantar's Omnibus



Survey: The same eight minute survey about online

privacy was answered by all participants

Weighting: The data was weighted by demographic as well

as weight of internet use to account for heavier

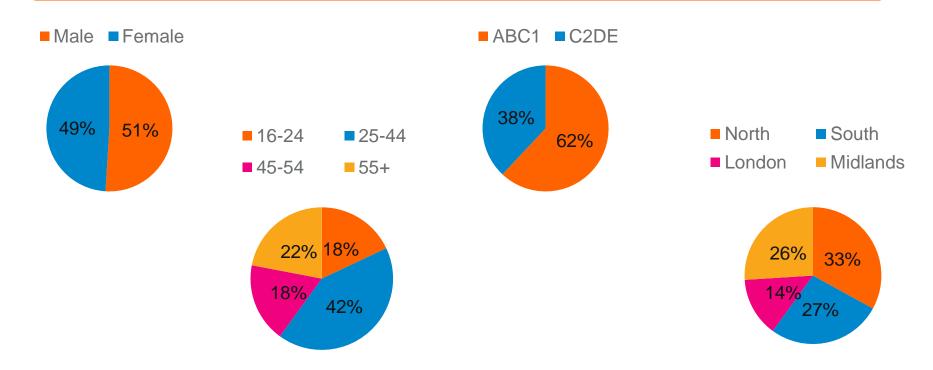
internet usage among online panellists



### Sample is representative of UK internet users



Total internet user population 38,588,000 among GB adults aged 16+



The sample for this research has been weighted to be representative of this profile





# 1: GENERAL ATTITUDES TOWARDS THE INTERNET

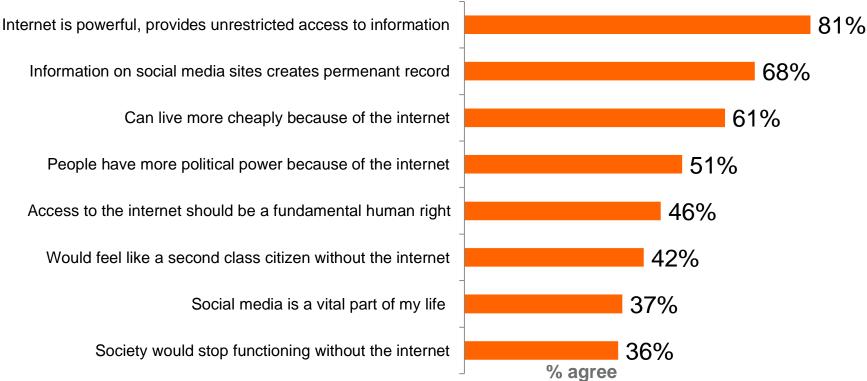


## People believe the internet is powerful



The majority of those surveyed said that the internet is powerful because it provides unrestricted access to information.

The economic impact of the internet was also clear as people said that the internet allows them to live more cost effectively

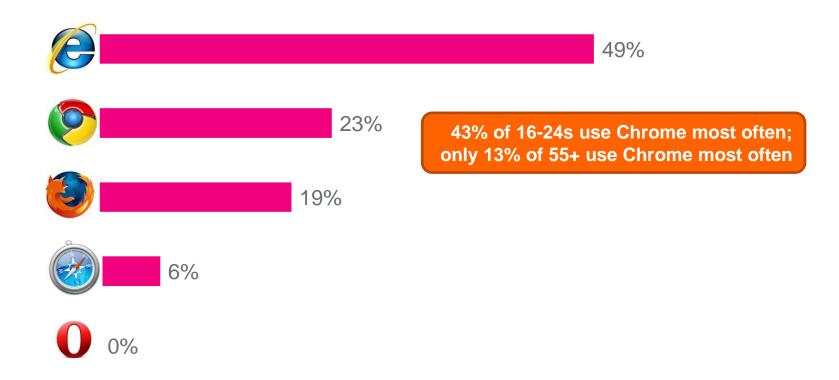


To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements? Base: All Adult Internet Users in the last month (2001)



## Internet Explorer the most popular browser





A web browser is the main way you access the internet. Which of the following web browsers do you use most often when you go online?

Base: All Adult Internet Users in the last month (2001)





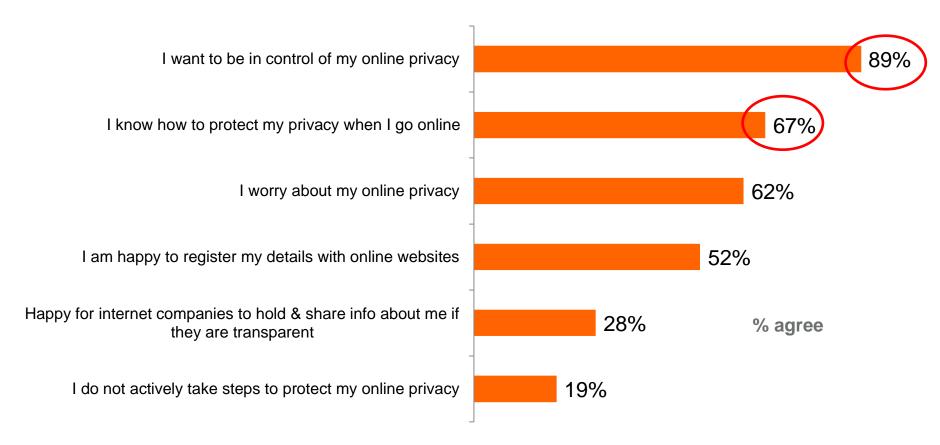
# 2: ATTITUDES TO ONLINE DATA AND PRIVACY



## Consumers take online privacy *seriously*



89% agree they want to be in control of their online privacy; 67% already feel they know how to





## Attitudes to privacy differ by age group



The **over 55's** are **more worried** about online privacy and are **more likely** to actively **protect** it

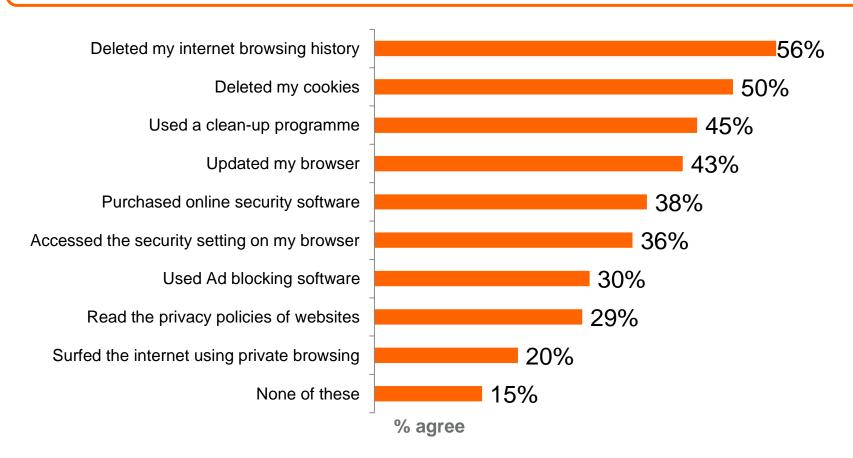
	16-24 yrs	55+ yrs	
I want to be in control of my online privacy	84%	93%	<ul> <li>Over 55's want more control</li> <li>16-24's less worried</li> <li>Over 55's also more likely to actively protect privacy</li> </ul>
I worry about my online privacy	58%	63%	
I do not actively take steps to protect my online privacy	27%	17%	



## People are *taking steps to control online privacy*



Over half of internet users have deleted their browsing history and one in two users have deleted their cookies in the last six months

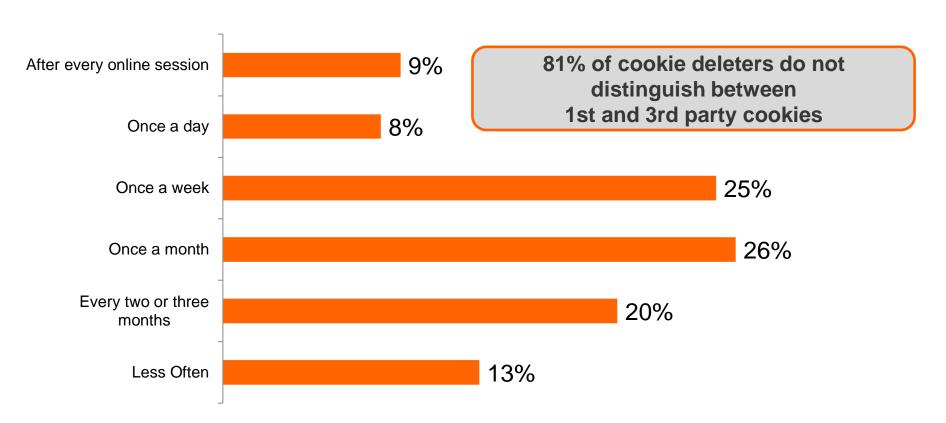




## One in ten of "deleters" delete every session



Of those who delete cookies, 42% delete them at least once a week

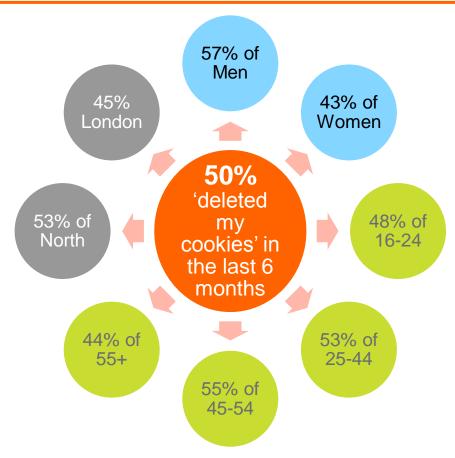




## There is *variation* in the *profile* of "*cookie deleters*"



Men and 25-54's are more likely to have deleted cookies



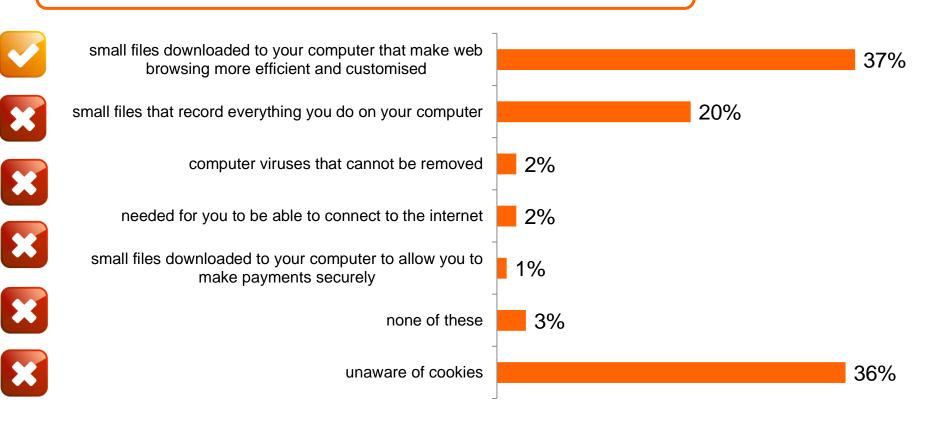
Still thinking about online privacy, which of the following activities have you done within the last six months? Base: All Adult Internet Users in the last month (2001)



### Over a third of people *identified* what a cookie is...



#### 36% of the sample were unaware of cookies

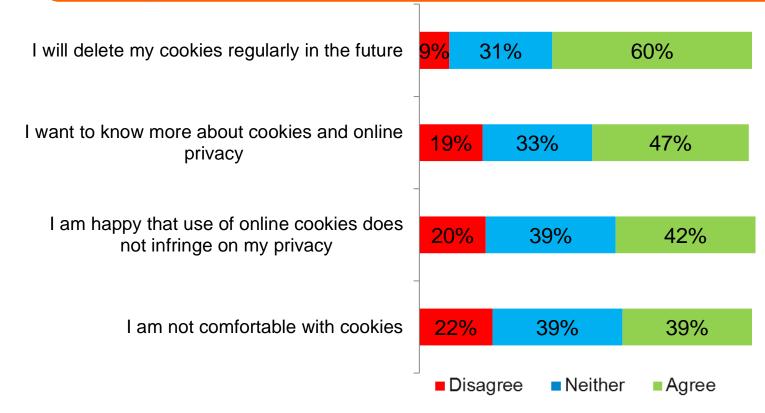




### Most people want to know more about cookies



A cookie is a small file of letters and numbers downloaded on to your computer when you access certain websites. Cookies allow a website to recognise a user's computer and can make using the internet more efficient and allow sites to offer customised content and advertising.



Having had the role of cookies explained, how strongly do you agree or disagree with the following statements? Base: All Adult Internet Users in the last month (2001)



### People want to be in control online



- Nearly two thirds worry about their online privacy
- Internet users want to be in control of their online privacy
- Majority are already taking steps to control security
- Only about a third of internet users actually understand what a cookie is...
- ...though half claim to delete their cookies
- Half want to know more about cookies & online privacy





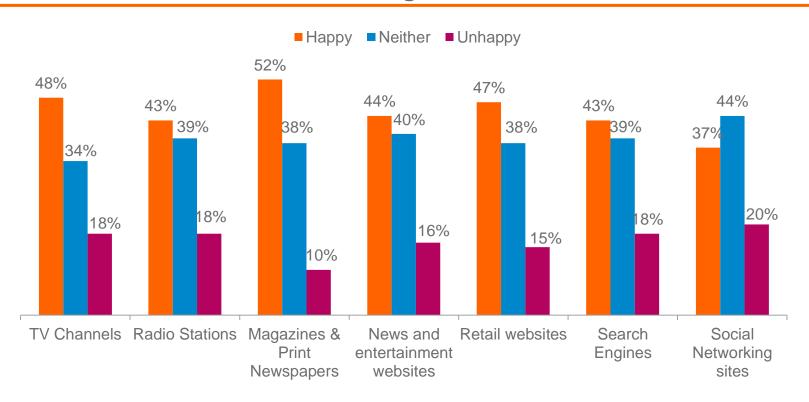
# 3: ATTITUDES TO ADVERTISING



## Users *understand the need* for advertising...



How happy, or unhappy, are people to see different forms of advertising on different media?



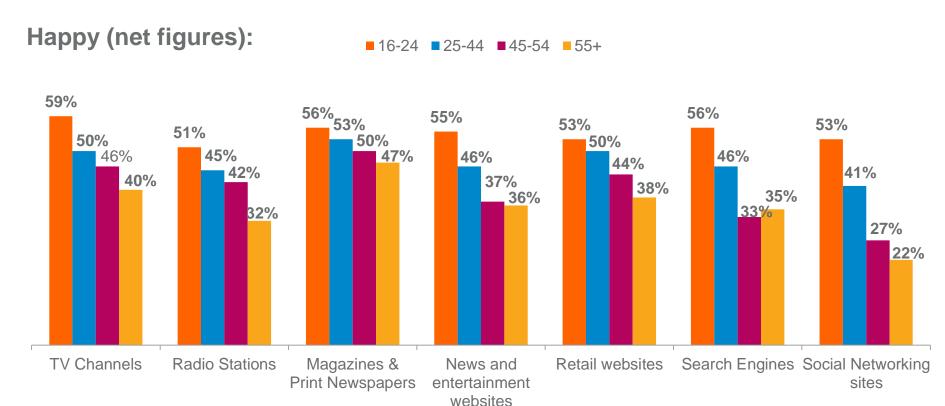
Apart from BBC services (which are paid for by the licence fee), lots of media use advertising to enable them to provide you with TV programmes, newspaper articles and websites. To what extent are you happy or unhappy to see advertising on these media, given the services it helps provide?

Base: All Adult Internet Users in the last month (2001)



## Younger users have greater traction with advertising





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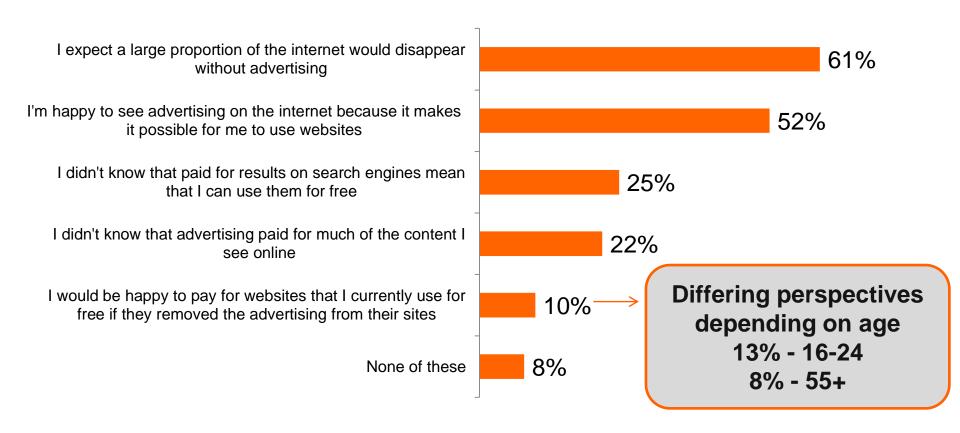
Base: All Adult Internet Users in the last month (2001)



## Only one in ten internet users would pay for ad free content



61% expect of people think that a large proportion of the internet would disappear without advertising

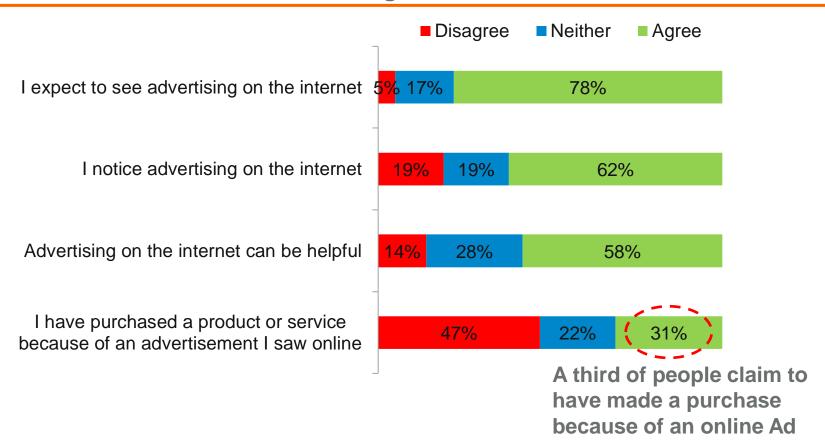




#### Users *expect advertising* online and majority find it *helpful*



Over three quarters of internet users agree that they expect to see advertising on the internet



Still thinking about advertising, to what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?. Base: All adult internet users in the last month (2001)



#### Ads that give special offers are *most* useful







#### 42% liked

"Ads that give me special offers"





#### 20% liked

"Ads that offer me the chance to click through and find more info"





"Ads that remind me of products or services that I'm interested in"



#### 14% liked

"Ads that remind me of advertisements that I've seen in other media – for example TV ads"





#### 23% liked

"Ads that are entertaining and well designed"

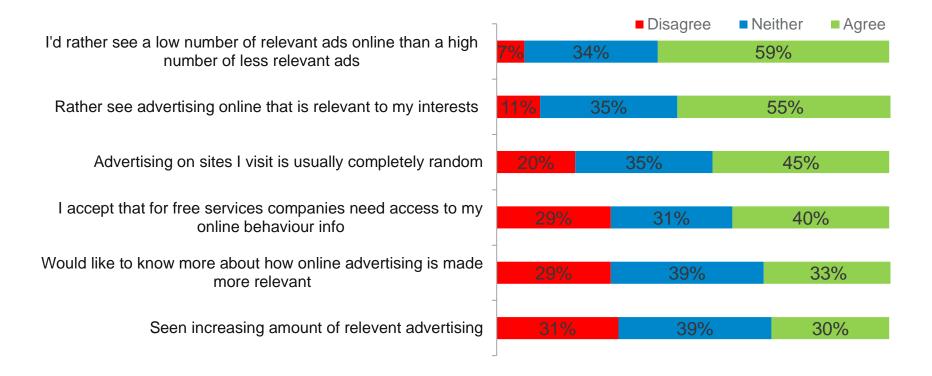
Which types of online advertising, if any, do you find useful? Base: All adult internet users in the last month (2001)



#### Over half prefer to see ads that are *relevant* to their interests



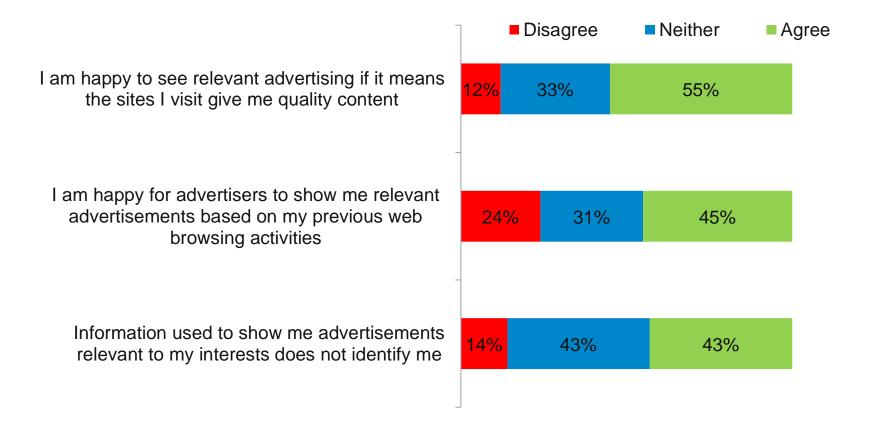
Most internet users would rather see a **low number of relevant ads online** than a high number of less relevant ones





#### People are happy to see *relevant* ads in exchange for *quality content*





Showing advertising that is relevant to you can be done by using web browsing information. The information used does not identify you as an individual; it just matches categories of online activities (e.g. visiting car websites) with possible advertisements (e.g. for new cars) To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?.

Base: All adult internet users in the last month (2001)



### Attitudes to advertising differ by age group



	16-24 yrs	55+ yrs
Happy to see relevant ads if I get quality content	61%	51%
Happy to see relevant ads based on browsing	58%	38%

- 16 24's happy to see relevant ads in exchange for quality content
- Over 55's less accepting of relevant ads based on browsing history



#### Users *understand* the need for *advertising online*



 Internet users are generally happy to see advertising across all media

- Internet users expect to see advertising online and understand the need for advertising to provide the content they want
- The majority think that online advertising can be helpful and prefer to see relevant advertising
- Younger age groups are more positive about advertising and more likely to be happy for their browsing activities to be used



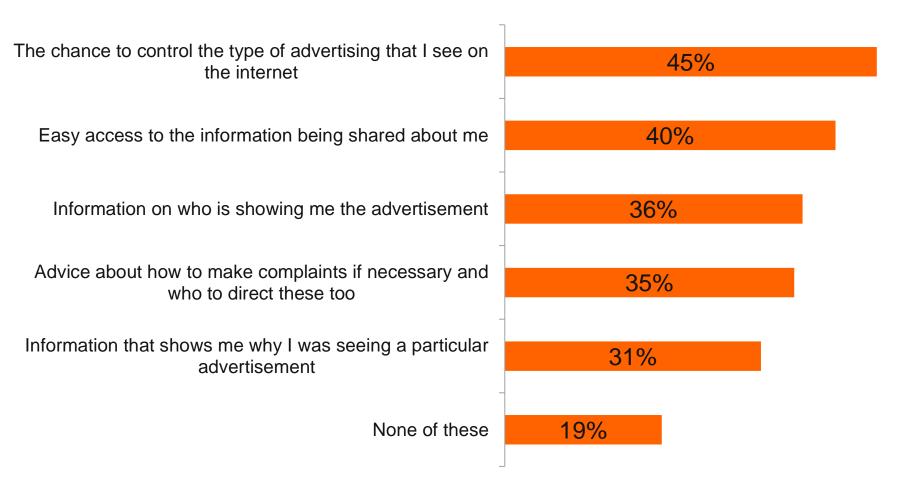


# 4: CONTROL AND THE ROLE OF THE ICON



#### 81% thought at least one control would be useful ...





Which of these, if any, would you find useful when controlling the online advertising that you see?. Base: All adult internet users in the last month (2001)



### Looking at the **Adchoices Icon**...



We explained what the Icon is and how it works to anyone who was not aware of it:

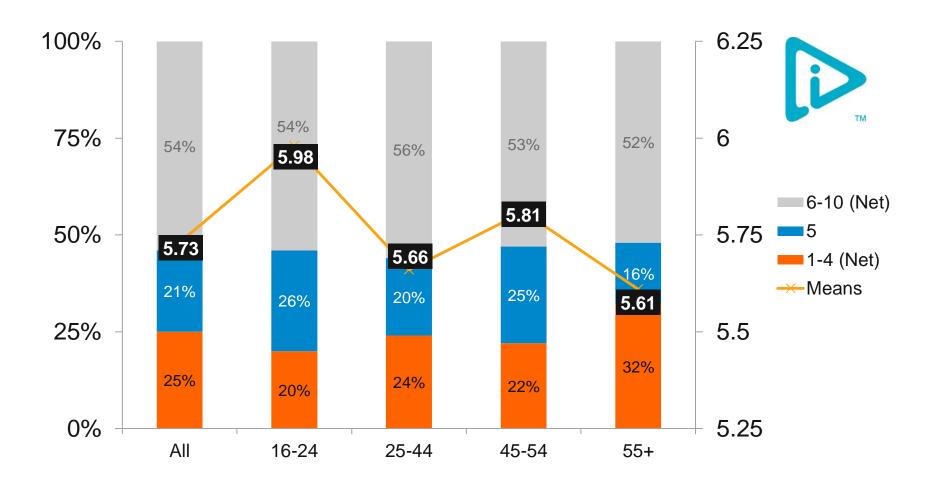


"When you see it on a website it signifies that customised advertisements based on web browsing activity can be served to you. By clicking on the icon you can visit a website that enables you to control this type of advertising."



### Over half of internet users said they would be *reassured*





On a scale of 1 to 10 (where 1 is not all reassured and 10 is very reassuring) how reassured would you be that you can control your online privacy when you see the Advertising icon? Base: All Adult Internet Users in the last month (1361)





#### 5: CONCLUSIONS





- Consensus is that the internet is important in modern life
- The majority of internet users are worried about online privacy
- 9 out of 10 want to be in control of their online privacy
- Two thirds already know how to protect their privacy online
- There are key differences in age groups
- Half of internet users claim to have deleted cookies in last six months
- One third could correctly identify what a cookie is





- About half of internet users are happy to see advertising on all media
- Happiness with advertising also varies by age group
- Internet users understand that content is dependent on advertising
- Majority of internet users think that online advertising can be helpful
- Just under half of internet users are happy to see relevant advertising based on their browsing behaviour
- Four out of five would like to use one of the tools to control their privacy online





Thanks to

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