

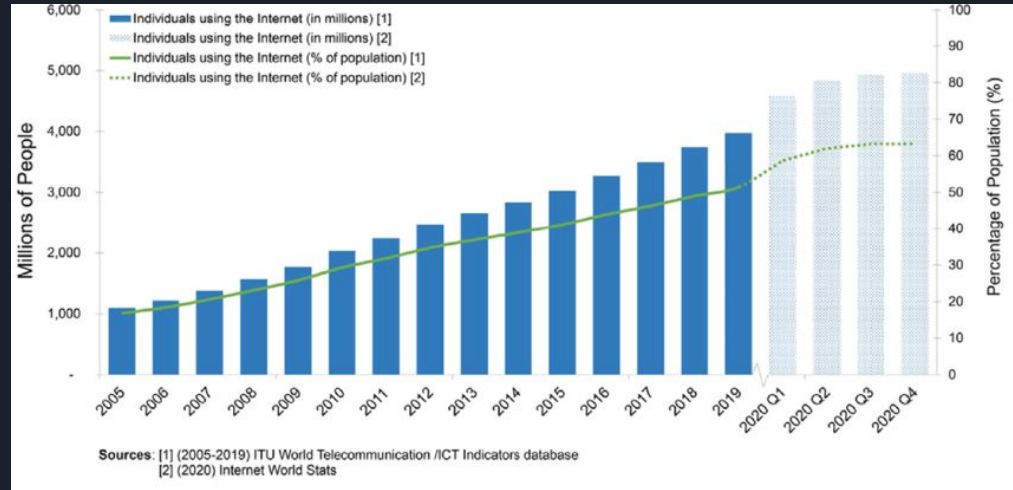


Does Technology Make Us More Or Less Disconnected?

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Introduction

- Whether the internet has beneficially or negatively impacted society has become a huge debate within the last decade



- With the rise of social media & databases online, people have begun to wonder whether it has done more harm than good

Thesis

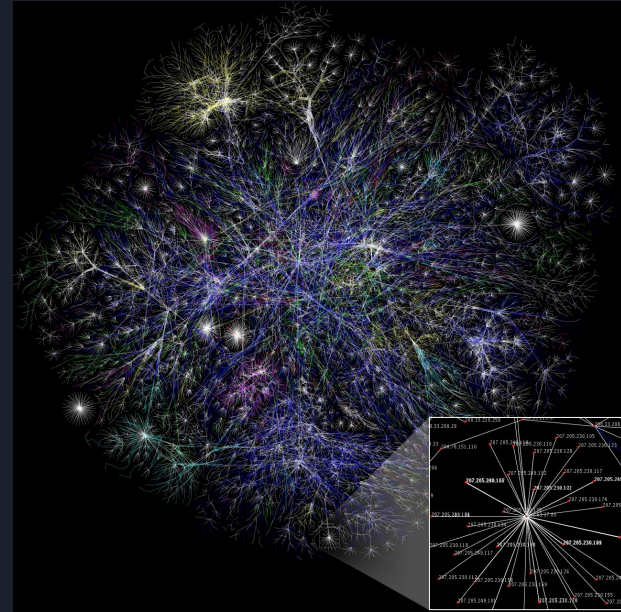
Although the internet causes some issues , the amount of information and resources available through it heavily outweighs the negatives associated

- This is due to the fact that most of the negatives stem from lack of self control and ignorance
- There is a plethora of information circulating the internet that greatly benefits society



Background- Importance

- The internet is a great tool for: learning, communication, entertainment
- People who write off the internet as something negative don't consider moderation
- Internet safety is taught in schools and should be enforced more



Intentions and Methodology

In this presentation what will be discussed is:

- The importance of the internet in today's world
- How the internet positively impacts learning, research, and communication
- Negatives of the internet and how to avoid them

Through the use of studies and articles



Research Source 1

The first source I found was on the BMCC library. While similar to a search engine in the way it was used, it was harder to find specific and usable information. However, I was able to find a study that was done to test how the internet impacted children. I used one search to find both the sources I used.

9,200 results appeared and I initially used the search term “how the internet benefits people”

The screenshot shows the BMCC library OneSearch interface. The search bar contains the query "how the internet benefits people". The results page displays 9,200 results. The first result is an article titled "Perceptions of the risks and benefits of Internet access and use by people with intellectual disabilities" by Chadwick, Damien D., Quinn, Sally, and Fullwood, Chris, published in the British Journal of Learning Disabilities in 2017. The second result is a book titled "People, processes, services, and things : using services innovation to enable the Internet of everything" by Davis, Hector, et al., published in 2015. The third result is an article titled "Internet addiction test: Croatian preliminary study" by Čerpa, Ivana; Vojmelka, Lucija; Rajter, Miroslav, published in BMC Psychiatry in 2019.

This is the source I found and ended up using:
“DO CHILDREN BENEFIT FROM INTERNET ACCESS? EXPERIMENTAL EVIDENCE FROM PERU”

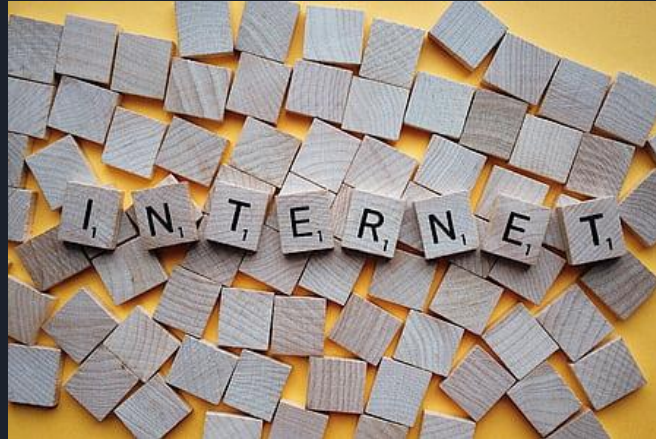
The screenshot shows the BMCC library OneSearch interface with the search query "DO CHILDREN BENEFIT FROM INTERNET ACCESS? EXPERIMENTAL EVIDENCE FROM PERU". The results page displays several articles. The first result is an article titled "Do children benefit from internet access? Experimental evidence from Peru" by Malamud, Ofer; Cueto, Santiago; Cristia, Julian; and Beuermann, Diether W., published in the Journal of Development Economics in 2019. The second result is a working paper titled "Do Children Benefit from Internet Access? Experimental Evidence from Peru" by Malamud, Ofer; Cueto, Santiago; Cristia, Julian; and Beuermann, Diether W., published in 2018.

Research Source 1 Analysis

This quote was taken from the conclusion of the study:

“These interventions were successful in increasing children’s exposure to technology at home and led to substantial improvements in digital skills. We find that children who were randomly chosen to receive laptops with internet access showed higher computer and internet proficiency relative to those who did not receive laptops. They also had higher internet proficiency compared to those who received laptops without internet. On the other hand, we did not observe any significant impacts on academic achievement and on a large battery of cognitive skills”

This quote describes the way that internet did not negatively impact children the way people feared it would. What was taken from the study was that children actually improved their digital skills while also maintaining the same grades as they would before the study.



Research Source 2

The second source I used was also from the BMCC library using one search. I typed in “internet benefits” to find my next source which was a study on how the internet could help in treatment for people with depression. I found 60,067 results. This study turned out to be helpful and easier to read than the first source.

The screenshot displays a library search results page with the following details:

- Filter my results:** Includes options for "Include items without full text", "Sort by Relevance", "Limit To" (Full Text Online, Peer-Reviewed Journals, Open Access, Currently on Shelf), "Resource Type" (Articles: 44,550; Book Chapters: 1,733; Books: 3,173; Newspapers search), "Location" (Reserve Desk: 1; Reserves, 3 hours: 3; Stacks: 100), "Topic/Subject" (Science & Technology: 24,756; Internet: 22,528; Technology: 16,288), and "Date" (From 1901 to 2024).
- Search Results:** Shows 11-20 of 60,067 results on Page 2. The results include:
 - Article 16:** "The independent impacts of perceived immediate and future benefits of internet gaming on internet gaming disorder among adolescent internet gamers in China: Mediation via internet gaming time" by Yu, Yanguo; Fong, Vivian Wai.; Li, Ji-bin.; Zhang, Jianxin.; Lau, Joseph T.F. (2023). Peer-reviewed, available online.
 - Article 17:** "Benefits of Individualized Feedback in Internet-Based Interventions for Depression: A Randomized Controlled Trial" by Zagorscak, Pavle.; Heinrich, Manuel.; Sommer, Daniel.; Wagner, Birgit.; Knaevelsrud, Christine (2018). Peer-reviewed, available online.
 - Book 18:** "Enabling the internet of things : fundamentals, design, and applications" by Iqbal, Muhammad Azhar, 1978- author.; Hussain, Sajjad, (Lecturer in Electronics and Electrical Engineering).; Huanlai, Xing.; Imran, Muhammad Ali. (2021). Available online.
 - Book 19:** "Aquinas on the Web? : doing theology in an Internet age" by Bennett, Jana Marguerite, author. (2012).

Research Source 2 Analysis

This quote was taken from the discussion part of the study:

Overall, 53.4% of completers showed clinically significant improvement in their initial depressive symptoms from pre- to post assessment. Significant treatment effects were further observed on all secondary outcome measures, yielding small (increases in perceived social support and emotional self-efficacy) to large (decreases in anxiety and perseverative thinking as well as increases in well-being) effect sizes.

This quote describes the way that using the internet as a tool to help people with depression showed improvement towards patients' conditions. Although some may argue that the internet causes mental issues, it can also help those who already have it. The internet gave these people access to more social support and decreased anxiety.



Preferred Research Source 3

The last source I found was through google and is an article called “14 ways the internet improves our lives”

A quote that stood out was:

“A Deloitte study found that a 10% increase in broadband access in 2014 would have resulted in more than 875,000 additional U.S. jobs and \$186 billion more in economic output in 2019.”

This quote shows the way the internet also positively impacts the economy by creating jobs. The internet also allows people to find jobs and get ahead in their career.



Summary

Overall, I have learned a lot about how the internet both positively and negatively impacts people. From this research I was able to formulate my own stance on the topic and say that the internet positively impacts people as long as they use it properly. Using the BMCC library proved to be more difficult than Google or any other search engine but the results tend to be more reliable since they are from actual studies.



Conclusion

In conclusion, although the internet causes some issues, the amount of information and resources available through it heavily outweighs the negatives associated. This is shown through the way it helps people become better with technology, can be used as a tool to aid those with mental issues, and can even better the economy. The negatives associated with the internet should be taught so people can avoid them while also making use of the near endless amount of benefits that can be taken away. Technology is the future and proper internet use will relate to the lives of everyone.

It is important to educate yourself and others about the internet so this amazing tool can be used properly.





Bibliography

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Malamud, Ofer, et al. "Do Children Benefit from Internet Access? Experimental Evidence from Peru." *NBER*, 3 Dec. 2018, www.nber.org/papers/w25312.

Zagorscak P;Heinrich M;Sommer D;Wagner B;Knaevelsrud C; "Benefits of Individualized Feedback in Internet-Based Interventions for Depression: A Randomized Controlled Trial." *Psychotherapy and Psychosomatics*, U.S. National Library of Medicine, pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/29306945/. Accessed 9 Dec. 2023.