**Overview of the DigIQ**

12-3-2025 – **DigCom2 Round 1**

The (latest version of the) DigIQ includes **11 dimensions**:

1. Strategic Information
2. Critical Information
3. Netiquette
4. Creative Digital Skills
5. Online Safety and Control
6. Online Health and Wellbeing
7. Green skills
8. Digital Problem Solving
9. Transactional (i.e. online banking, doing taxes online, applying for a healthcare provider online)
10. AI
11. genAI

These dimensions are reflected in skills, knowledge and performance items:

* Skills (DigIQ) – calculated per dimension
* Knowledge (DigIQ) – unidimensional sum score
* Performance (DigIQ) – calculated per dimension

The tables below show all the skills (Table 1), knowledge (Table 2) and performance (Table 3) items and their codes. For a full overview of all items including the answer options, see the Survey Overview on OSF: <https://osf.io/qd3c8>.

**Items**

**Table 1**. Skills Items

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Instruction:** Do you recognize yourself in the following statements?Think about the extent to which each sentence applies to you, if you would have to do this activity now and without help. Please be honest. It is very normal that you never do some things. We’d like to know this. If you don’t understand what the question means, please choose ‘I don’t understand the question.’  **Response Options:** *Completely untrue, slightly untrue, not true and not untrue, slightly true, completely true, I don’t understand the question, I’d rather not answer* | |
| **Strategic Information Skills (3)** | |
| I know how to choose good keywords for online searches (for example with Google). | SInfo1 |
| I know how I can find answers to my questions on the internet. | SInfo3 |
| I know how I can use search functions in search engines (for example with Google). | SInfo4 |
| **Critical Information Skills (3)** | |
| I know how I can check if the information I find on the internet is true. | SInfo5 |
| I know how I can check if a website is reliable. | SInfo6 |
| I can assess what the goal of online information is (e.g., to inform, influence, entertain or sell). | SInfo7 |
| **Netiquette Skills (4)** | |
| I know when I should ask for permission to share something online. | SCom1\_V2 |
| I know which communication tool best fits which situation (for example: call, send a WhatsApp-message, send an e-mail). | SCom2 |
| I know which things I should not share online. | SCom4\_V2 |
| I know when it is appropriate and when it is not appropriate to use emoticons (for example smileys ☺ or emoji's). | SCom5 |
| **Digital Content Creation Skills (4)** | |
| I can make a presentation on the computer (for example in Powerpoint), | SCrea2 |
| I can make something that combines different digital media (for example a movie with music). | SCrea3 |
| I can change existing digital images, music, and video. | SCrea4 |
| I can make a photo or video more attractive (for example with a filter or Photoshop). | SCrea5 |
| **Safety and Control of Information and Devices Skills (7)** | |
| I know how to protect a device against access (e.g. a PIN code or fingerprint). | SSafDev1 |
| I know how to protect devices against viruses. | SSafDev2 |
| I know how to adjust the privacy settings on a mobile phone or tablet. | SPriv1 |
| I know how to change the location settings on a mobile phone or tablet. | SPriv2 |
| I know how to identify suspicious e-mail messages that try to get my personal data. | SPriv3 |
| I know how to delete the history of websites that I have visited before. | SPriv5 |
| I know how to block messages from someone that I don’t want to hear from. | SCom3 |
| **Digital Health and Wellbeing Skills (3)** | |
| I know how to control how much time I spend on the internet. | SHealth1 |
| I know how to make sure my phone does not distract me. | SHealth2\_V2 |
| I know how I can stop using my phone and computer for a while, if I want to. | SHealth3\_V2 |
| **Sustainable/Green Digital Skills (3)** | |
| I know how to reduce the battery use of a phone or computer. | SEnv1 |
| I know how I can buy a phone or computer in a “green” or sustainable way. | SEnv2 |
| I know how to have a phone or computer recycled. | SEnv3 |
| **Digital Problem Solving Skills (2)** | |
| I know where or from whom I can get help to improve my digital skills. | SProbl1 |
| I know where or from whom I can get help if I’m unable to do something on the internet. | SProbl2 |
| **Transactional skills (5)** |  |
| I know how to handle things online for the tax authority (“belastingdienst”) (for example file my tax returns or apply for a wage tax for my (part-time) job.  *For 10-14:*  I know how to make an account on a website. | Strans1 |
| I know how to do digital payments on the computer or smartphone(for example online banking, online shopping, using iDeal). | Strans2 |
| I know how to arrange my healthcare online (for example take out a health insurance or make an online appointment with the general practitioner).  *For 10-14:*  I know how to handle things online for school (hand in assignments, check my schedule). | Strans3 |
| I know how to apply for a DigID and how to use it.  *For 10-14 year olds:* I know how to scan a QR-code | Strans4 |
| I know how to upload documents and images when needed to arrange things online (for example when requesting an OV chip card).  *10-14 year olds:*  I know how to upload files to a website or app | Strans5 |
| **AI Skills (6)** | |
| I recognize when a website or app uses AI to adjust the content to me. | SAI1 |
| I recognize when specific content is recommended to me by AI. | SAI2 |
| **genAI Skills ( 3)** | |
| I usually know when the content created for me by GenAI, such as ChatGPT, contains correct information. | SGAI1 |
| I know which questions (or “prompts”) I should ask GenAI, such as ChatGPT, to receive a useful result. | SGAI2 |
| I know how to check whether a text or picture is created by GenAI, such as ChatGPT, instead of a person | SGAI3 |

**Table 2**. Knowledge Items

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Instruction: Is it true or untrue?**  The following statements are about the internet. Please indicate if the sentence is true or untrue, according to you.  If you don’t know, please choose ‘I don’t know’. You don’t have to guess. If you don’t understand the question, please choose ‘I don’t understand the question.’ Nearly everyone will not know or understand questions. This is normal and something that we want to know.  **Response Options:** *True, Untrue, I don’t know, I don’t understand the question.* | | **Correct Response** |
| The first search result is always the best information source. | KInfo1 | **False** |
| Everyone gets the same information when they search for the same things online. | KInfo2 | **False** |
| Some people make money by spreading fake news on the internet. | KInfo3 | **True** |
| Before sharing a picture that clearly shows a friend, you should always ask them for permission first. | KCom1 | **True** |
| Negative comments hurt people less when you say them online than when you say them to their face. | KCom3 | **False** |
| If you use a hashtag (#), more people will see your message. | KCrea1 | **True** |
| Some people are paid to use products in the videos they make. | KCrea2 | **True** |
| You can change and share existing videos, as long as you do not make money by doing it. | KCrea3 | **False** |
| To keep your devices safer, you should always install updates immediately. | KSafDev2 | **True** |
| Logging into a computer or smartphone using a passkey (like a finger print) is safer compared to a using password | KSafDev\_new | **True** |
| It's best to have the same password for each account. | KPriv1 | **False** |
| What you do online is used by companies to advertise their products and services. | KPriv2 | **True** |
| If you use ‘incognito mode’ or ‘private browsing’(on your computer), your internet behavior will not be stored. | KPriv3\_V2 | **True** |
| You can keep your attention with two things at the same time (for example talking to someone or reading a text). | KHealth1 | **False** |
| Platforms like YouTube or Netflix are designed to keep people watching as long as possible. | KHealth2 | **True** |
| You sleep worse if you use a smartphone or computer just before you go to bed. | KHealth3 | **True** |
| Your laptop charger continues to use power if you leave it in the power outlet after charging. | KEnv1 | **True** |
| Phones contain materials that mineworkers extract from mines. | KEnv2 | **True** |
| The amount of data and WiFi you use does not affect CO2-emissions or the climate. | KEnv3 | **False** |
| With DigIDyou can log in to websites by both the government and health providers. | Ktrans1 | **True** |
| In case of a medical emergency, you make an online appointment with your healthcare provider. | Ktrans2 | **False** |
| A webshop is trustworthy when you can pay with iDeal | Ktrans3 | **False** |
| Some websites and apps for news and entertainment use artificial intelligence (AI). | KAI1 | **True** |
| Websites and apps for news and entertainment show the same content to everyone. | KAI2 | **False** |
| Some decisions about the content of websites and apps for news and entertainment are automatic, without a human doing something. | KAI3 | **True** |
| Your online behavior determines what is shown to you on websites and apps for news and entertainment. | KAI4 | **True** |
| Because GenAI, such as ChatGPT, searches through many websites on the internet, the information it gives is reliable. | KGAI1 | **False** |
| The usage of GenAI, such as ChatGPT, has almost no impact on the environment. | KGAI2 | **False** |
| Someone else can also get access to the information you give to GenAI, such as ChatGPT. | KGAI3 | **True** |
| People can use genAIto create images, videos or audio-fragments of events or people who do not really exist or that have not actually taken place (for example “deepfakes”). | KGAI4 | **True** |
| GenAI, such as ChatGPT, can produce different results when asked the same question multiple times. | KGAI5 | **True** |

**Table 3.** Performance items

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Instruction:** Next, we would like to ask you some questions about your digital behavior, and to answer some tests. We want to highlight that your personal performance will not be shared with others.  **Response Options Differ per Item.** | | |
| **Strategic Information Skills (2)** | |  |
| Femke Bol is a Dutch athlete. If you want to look up her birthplaceon Google, what search term(s) would you use? | PSIS1 | Open-ended question |
| How can you make sure that only Dutch sources are shown? Click on the spot in the image where you can indicate this. | PSIS2 | Correct/incorrect |
| **Critical Information Skills (3)** | |  |
| Look closely at this post on social media. What kind of post do you think this is? | PCIS1 | Correct/incorrect |
| Look closely at this post on social media. What kind of post do you think this is? | PCIS2 | Correct/incorrect |
| What do you need to look at to check whether a post on social media is fake news or not | PCIS3 | Correct/incorrect |
| **Netiquette Skills (1)** | |  |
| Imagine, you find this picture of your friend/acquaintance on social media. For which picture,or pictures,would you ask permission from this friend/acquaintance to share it with others online? (multiple answers are possible | PNS1 | Correct/incorrect |
| **Digital Content Creation Skills (1)** | |  |
| Which of the following icons refer to the function for cutting or removing parts of a picture(“cropping”) | PDCCS1 |  |
| **Safety and Control of Information and Devices Skills (2)** | |  |
| Read the following message closely. What type of message do you think this is? | PSCS1 |  |
| Which of the following safety precautions do you sometimes take for your digital/online media use? Select every answer that applies |  | Sum score |
| Keep passwords in a digital password safe | PSC3\_1 | Clicked/not clicked |
| Save passwords on paper (for example in a notebook) | PSC3\_2 | Clicked/not clicked (reverse coded) |
| Using passwords with at least 14 characters | PSC3\_3 | Clicked/not clicked |
| Using different passwords for different accounts | PSC3\_4 | Clicked/not clicked |
| A passkey (for example a finger print/faceID) | PSC3\_5 | Clicked/not clicked |
| Logging in with two-step verification using a text | PSC3\_6 | Clicked/not clicked |
| Carrying out software updates | PSC3\_7 | Clicked/not clicked |
| Using an adblocker | PSC3\_8 | Clicked/not clicked |
| Making back-ups | PSC3\_9 | Clicked/not clicked |
| **Digital Health and Wellbeing Skills (1)** | |  |
| Do you sometimes try to limit the time you spend using digital media in one of the following ways? Select every answer that applies. |  | Sum score |
| I create “digital detox” moments | PDHWS1\_1 | Clicked/not clicked |
| I have rules about limiting digital media | PDHWS1\_2 | Clicked/not clicked |
| I use an app or program to monitor and limit my screen time | PDHWS1\_3 | Clicked/not clicked |
| I temporarily switch off the Internet | PDHWS1\_4 | Clicked/not clicked |
| I delete apps and programs | PDHWS1\_5 | Clicked/not clicked |
| I turn off notifications | PDHWS1\_6 | Clicked/not clicked |
| I just reduce the time I spend on digital media without using any special approach | PDHWS1\_7 | Clicked/not clicked |
| **Sustainable/Green Digital Skills (3)** | |  |
| Which of the following activities do you sometimes do? |  | Sum score |
| I clean my mailbox | PSGDS1\_1 | Clicked/not clicked |
| I use sustainable search engines | PSGDS1\_2 | Clicked/not clicked |
| I don’t store files unnecessarily in the Cloud | PSGDS1\_3 | Clicked/not clicked |
| I turn down the brightness of my screens | PSGDS1\_4 | Clicked/not clicked |
| My devices go into sleep mode after a few minutes | PSGDS1\_5 | Clicked/not clicked |
| I close apps on my phone when I'm not using them | PSGDS1\_6 | Clicked/not clicked |
| I recycle devices | PSGDS1\_7 | Clicked/not clicked |
| I try to have my devices repaired before replacing them | PSGDS1\_8 | Clicked/not clicked |
| **Digital Problem Solving Skills (1)** | |  |
| Who do you ask for help if you aren’t able to do something with online media or digital technology?(you can choose multiple answers |  | Sum score |
| I don’t need any help | SourceHelp\_1 | Clicked/not clicked |
| I don’t know anyone who I can ask for help | SourceHelp\_2 | Clicked/not clicked |
| Family (such as partner, parent or (grand)children) | SourceHelp\_3 | Clicked/not clicked |
| Friends | SourceHelp\_4 | Clicked/not clicked |
| Colleagues or classmates | SourceHelp\_5 | Clicked/not clicked |
| Neighbors or acquaintances | SourceHelp\_6 | Clicked/not clicked |
| A help desk (such as DigiHulplijn of SeniorWeb) | SourceHelp\_7 | Clicked/not clicked |
| The library | SourceHelp\_8 | Clicked/not clicked |
| A telecom store or online/telephone helpdesk(e.g. KPN, Vodafone/Ziggo, or Odido) | SourceHelp\_9 | Clicked/not clicked |
| Other, namely: | SourceHelp\_10 | Open ended |
| **Transactional skills (1)** |  |  |
| Below you see 4 icons that can appear on a website. Which of the icons should you click on to know whether you can shop safely on an online webshop (for example with safe storage of personal data and a safe payment environment)? | PTS1 | Correct/incorrect |
| **AI Skills (1)** | |  |
| Select all apps or websites that use AI to personalize their content for you: |  | Sum score |
| Google | PAIS2\_1 | Clicked/not clicked |
| Netflix | PAIS2\_2 | Clicked/not clicked |
| Whatsapp | PAIS2\_3 | Clicked/not clicked |
| Facebook | PAIS2\_4 | Clicked/not clicked |
| Bol.com | PAIS2\_5 | Clicked/not clicked |
| DigID | PAIS2\_6 | Clicked/not clicked |
| NOS Nieuws | PAIS2\_7 | Clicked/not clicked |
| Albert Heijn | PAIS2\_8 | Clicked/not clicked |
| TikTok | PAIS2\_9 | Clicked/not clicked |
| **genAI Skills ( 3)** | |  |
| Look closely at the pictures below. Which picture is not made with artificial intelligence (AI)? | PAIS1 | Correct/incorrect |
| Let's say you want to cook for a friend, and you still have pasta and tomatoes at home. You want to ask ChatGPT to help you with a recipe. What question (or ‘prompt’) should you ask ChatGPT to get the best result? | PGAIS1 | Open-ended |
| For what purpose have you used GenAI (such as ChatGPT)? (Write this in the text box below. You can answer multiple things) | PGAIS2 | Open-ended |