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Digital Skills: Poster (Basic Digital Safety)

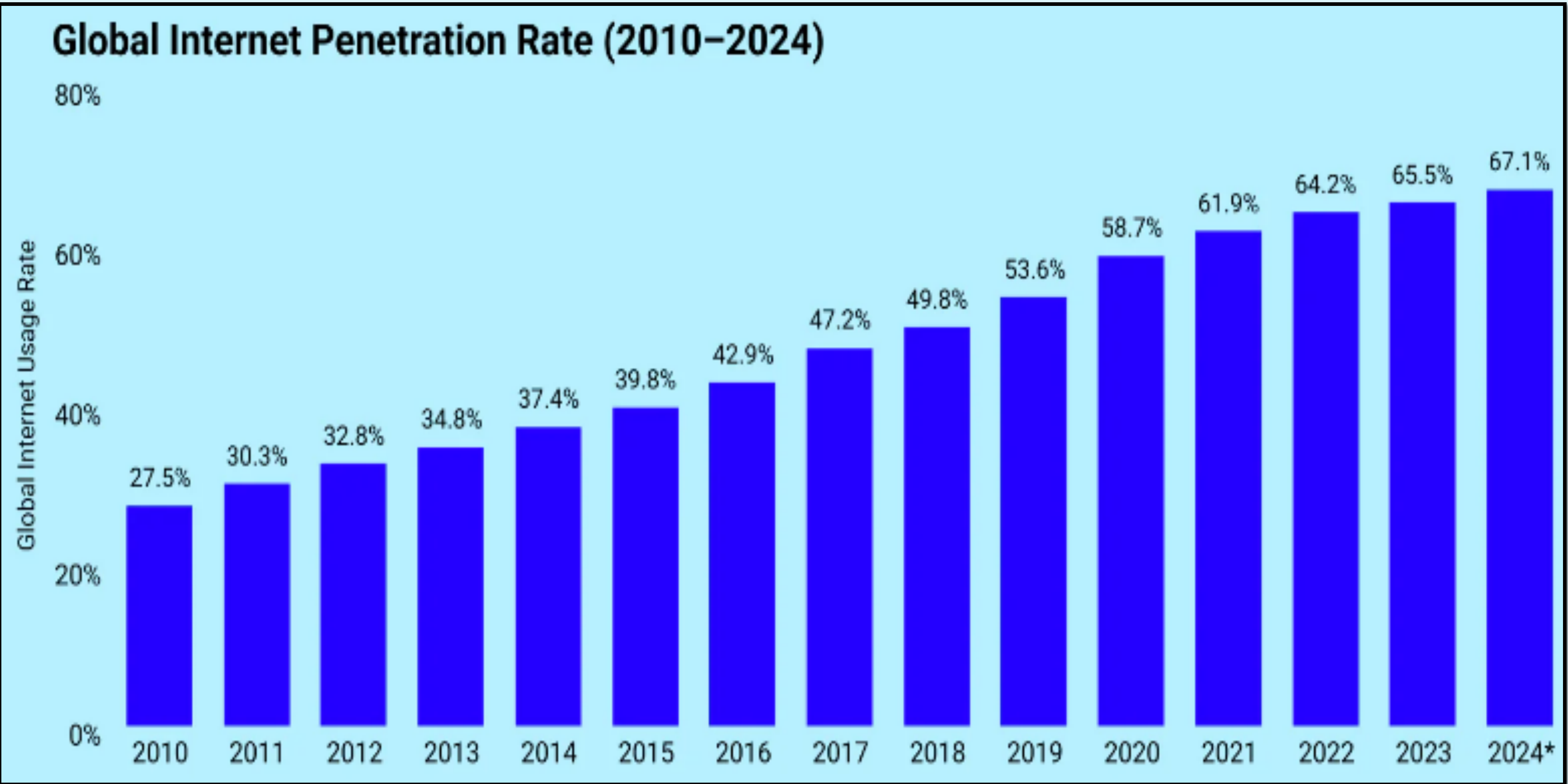
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Basic Digital Safety: An Essential Part of Modern Lifestyle

Basic Digital Safety

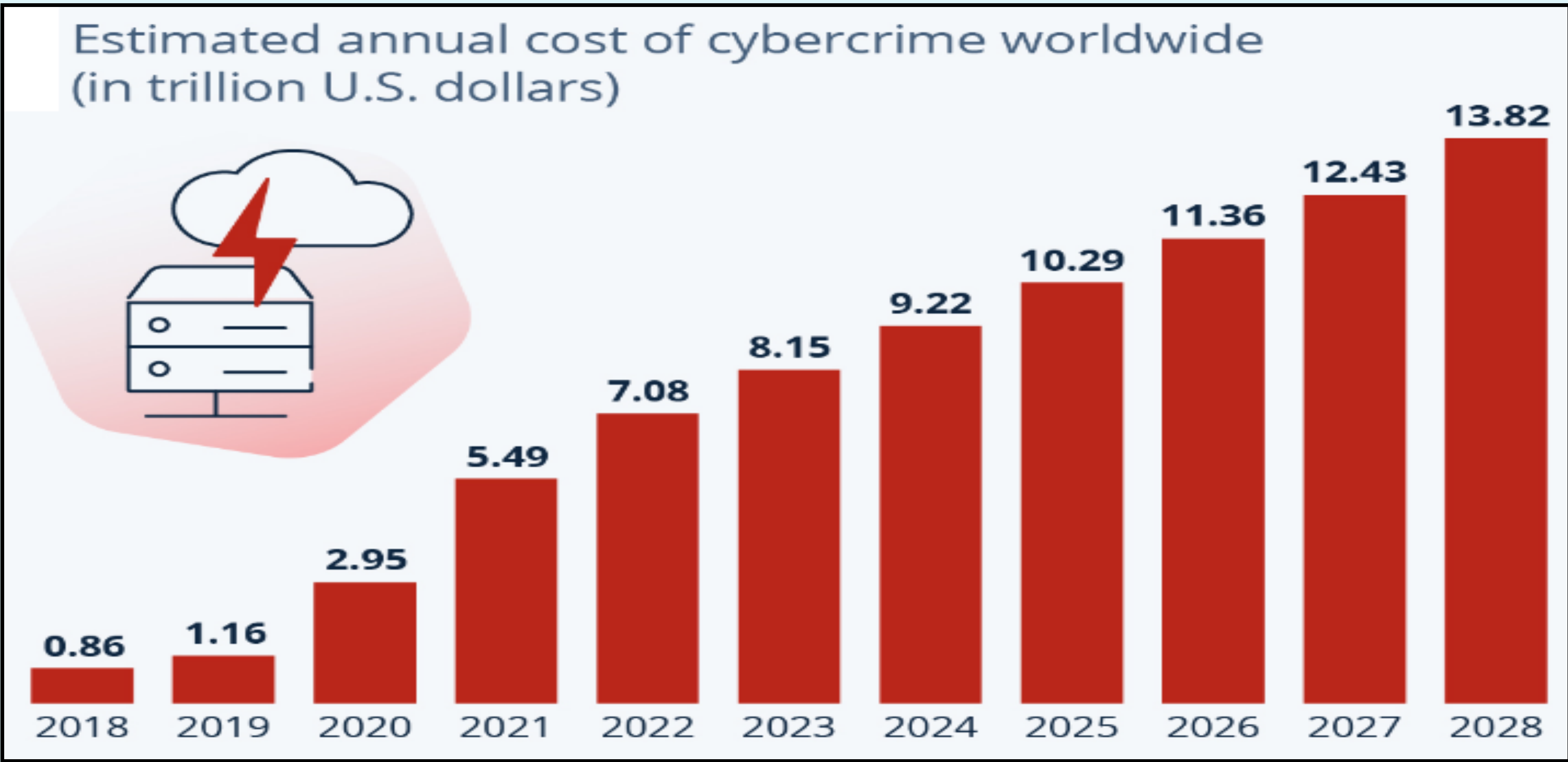
Basic digital safety can be simply referred to key actions to be taken for staying safe over internet hosted activities (Tomczyk, 2020). Over years, internet penetration rate across the globe has exponentially increased from just 27.5% in 2010 to 65.5% by the end of 2023. Worldwide population of active social media users has reached near to 5 billion in 2023 and online shopping is also becoming a growing trend (Bellini et al., 2023). Thus, basic digital safety awareness among people is necessary for staying safe while using internet hosted platforms for wide range of purposes and activities.



Source: Statista, 2024

Why Digital Safety is Important?

Alongside social media and online shopping, increasing use of online banking services among people across the globe makes digital safety awareness essential to minimise the risks of financial loss and fraud (Tomczyk, 2020). Even global reports claim that cost of cyber crime across the globe has exponentially increased over years and it can further increase in upcoming years as well (Bellini et al., 2023). Increasing utility of smartphone devices also puts privacy of people at risk due to possibility of digital data breaches. Thus, digital safety awareness is also essential among people to protect their privacy over the internet. Lack of digital safety awareness among employees of an organisation could lead to bigger issues for causing theft of confidential business data or privacy breach to customers or other stakeholders (Cruz, 2022). Hence, digital safety awareness among people is also necessary for complying with necessary data security measures in professional field as well.



Source: Statista, 2024

Necessary Initiatives to Ensure Digital Safety

In order to maintain basic digital safety in personal and professional life, an individual could follow some necessary principles. First of all, each mobile app, digital platform and digital profile of individuals must be protected with strong password formed with special and unique characters (Cruz, 2022). Login credentials to any digital profile must be kept confidential and profiles must be logged out in case of being accessed through third-party devices. Another significant principle to be followed for ensuring basic digital safety is making selection of secured networks. Accessing digital profiles, facilities and apps carrying personal information must be done using secured internet networks. Sharing or accessing digitally saved personal profile and information over public Wi-Fi networks must be avoided to ensure better security from malware attacks and data breaches (Bellini et al., 2023).



Source: (Bellini et al., 2023)

In order to secure personal or professional devices from data theft attempts, strong security measures must be followed. For instance, making use of two step authentication process for digital data or financial transactions, using biometric login credentials to digital devices and securing devices with updated anti-virus software suit could be useful initiatives to be followed in this regard (Tomczyk, 2020). In case of basic digital safety within organisational contexts, conducting frequent inspection of data security framework and having strong data security policies for all employees and internal stakeholders is essential (Cruz, 2022). Moreover, employees must be provided with essential data security training so that they could comply with necessary initiatives and policies while accessing company data and information (Bacak et al., 2022).



Source:(Cruz, 2022)

References

❑Bacak, J., Martin, F., Ahlgrim-Delzell, L., Polly, D., & Wang, W. (2022). Elementary educator perceptions of student digital safety based on technology use in the classroom. Computers in the Schools, 39(2), 186-202.

❑Bellini, R., Tseng, E., Warford, N., Daffalla, A., Matthews, T., Consolvo, S., & Ristenpart, T. (2023). Sok: Safer digital-safety research involving at-risk users. arXiv preprint arXiv:2309.00735.

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❑Tomczyk, Ł. (2020). Skills in the area of digital safety as a key component of digital literacy among teachers. Education and Information Technologies, 25(1), 471-486.