



The XI International Academic Conference
FORESIGHT AND SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION POLICY

Elderly Population and the Digital Divide: Problems and Perspectives



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Internet access of households

(% of all households)

WORLD

1. Republic of Korea (100%)
2. Iceland (98%)
3. United Kingdom (97%)

...

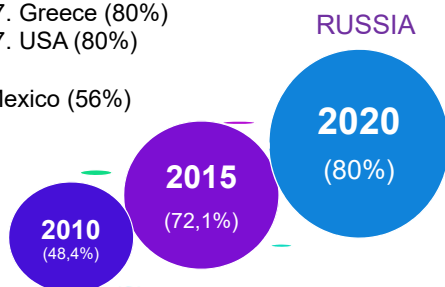
35-37. Russia (80%)

35-37. Greece (80%)

35-37. USA (80%)

...

40. Mexico (56%)



Internet users in Russia

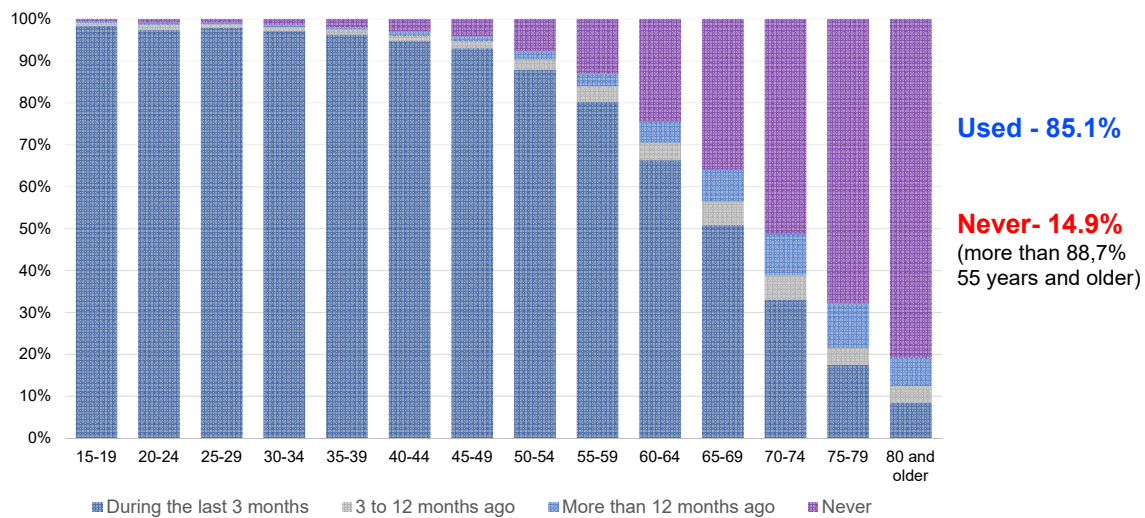
(% of the total population aged 15-74)



2010 - 49,3
2015 - 77,7
2020 - 89,6



Last time of using the Internet: 2020



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Ageing and digital intervention



Digital technologies are penetrating all spheres of our life

Age & Digital Divide (Digital Gap)
Grey Divide (Millward, 2003)

World's population (UN):

2050 - 9.7 billion; 2100 - nearly 11 billion

The world's population is ageing!

2050 - **one in 6** people in the world will be over age 65 (16%)

2019 - **one in 11** (9%)

In 2018, for the first time in history, **persons aged 65 or above** outnumbered **children under five** years of age globally (World Population Prospects 2019)



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Integration of the elderly population into the digital space

Reason	(% of population 55 years and older)	
	2019	2020
Don't need internet	36,6	32,9
Lack of skills	16,7	16,8
Access costs too high	5,4	5,5
Lack of technical capability	1,6	1,6
Other	3,3	3,5
Security reasons	1,4	1,24

Digital Skills Bubble
(Schreuerset, 2017)

Availability of the Internet

Lack of technical capability
Access costs

Digital skills

88,9% (75 and older) - don't have any digital skills

- ☐ sending email with attachments
- ☐ working with a text editor
- ☐ copy or move a file or folder
- ☐ using the copy and paste tool in a document
- ☐ file transfer between computer and peripheral devices



Source: www.pexels.com

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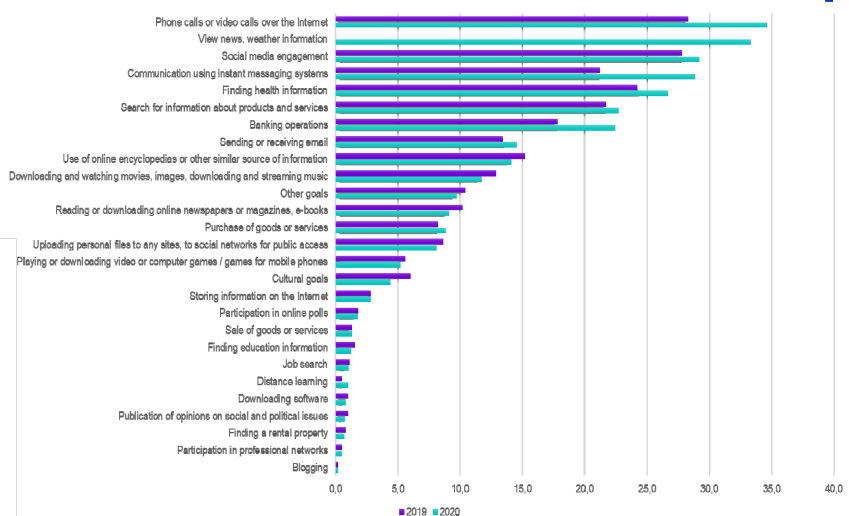
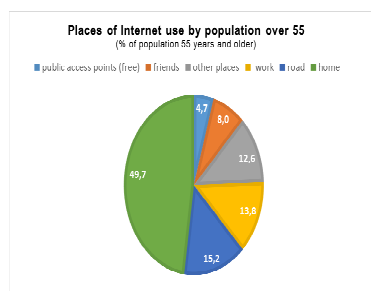
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Purposes (% of population 55 years and older)

64,22 % - don't use the Internet for shopping

Financial services
Purchase of clothes and shoes

By credit card - 55 %



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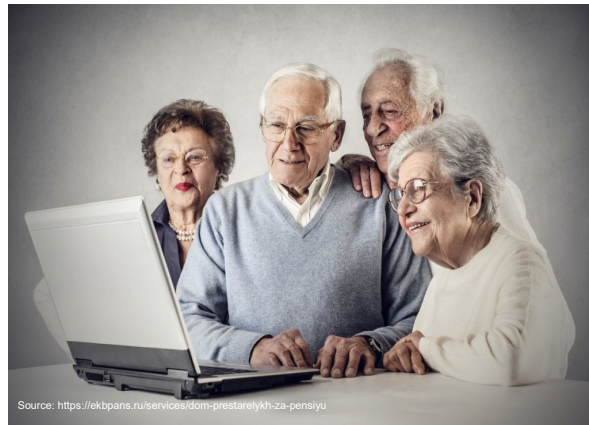
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Involvement in digital

Don't need internet – 32,9% !

Using the internet positively affects:

- cognitive functioning in late life (Kamin, 2020)
- reduces the probability of a depressive state by (Cotton, 2014)
- reduces social isolation and loneliness (Czaja et, 2018)



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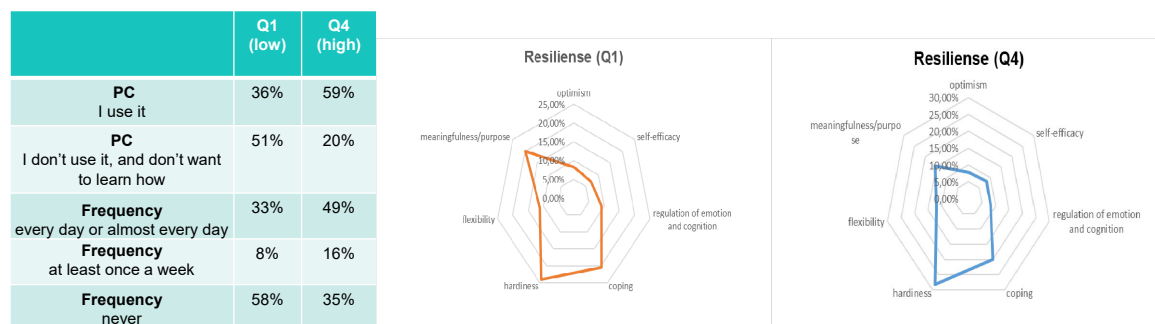
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Resilience & Digital technologies

Resilience in older age is the ability to stand up to adversity and to 'bounce back' or return to a state of equilibrium following adverse episodes (Center for Policy of Ageing, 2014)

Participants: 400 older adults aged 55+ living in the city of Tomsk and Tomsk region

Measurements: Connor-Davidson Resilience Scale (CD-RISC-25)



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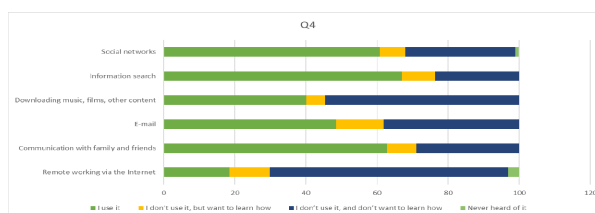
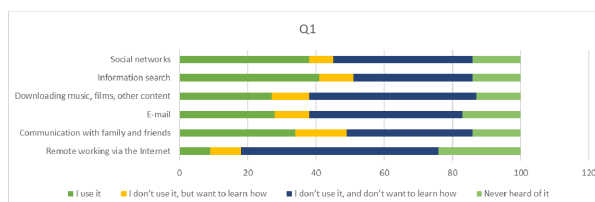
This study was supported by the Russian Science Foundation (project №19-18-00282)

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Resilience & Digital technologies



SKILLS (%)	I use it		I don't use it, but want to learn how		I don't use it, and don't want to learn how		Never heard of it	
	Q1	Q4	Q1	Q4	Q1	Q4	Q1	Q4
Remote working via the Internet	9	18,6	9	11,3	58	67	24	0
Communication with family and friends	34	62,9	15	8,2	37	28,9	14	0
E-mail	28	48,5	10	13,4	45	38,1	17	0
Downloading music, films, other content	27	40,2	11	5,2	49	54,6	13	0
Information search	41	67	10	9,3	35	23,7	14	0
Social networks	38	60	7	7,2	41	30,9	14	1

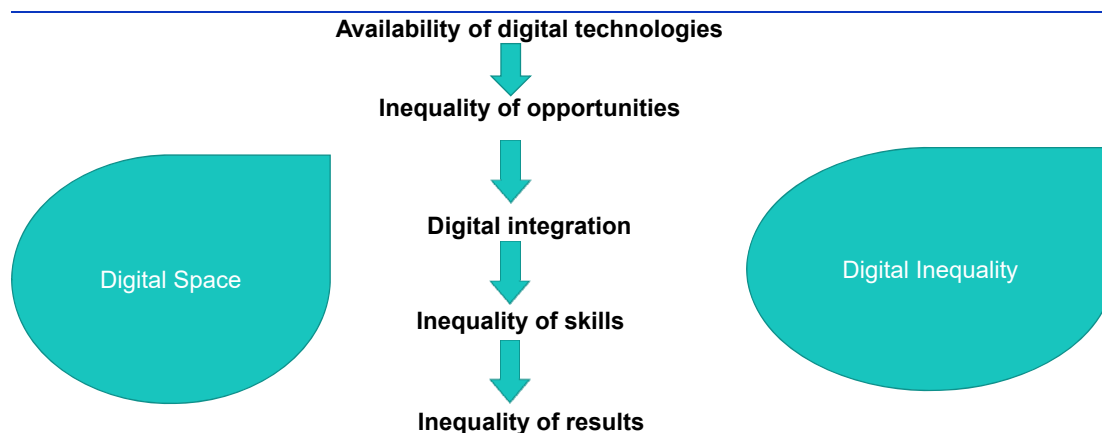


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Elderly Population and the Digital Divide



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References



Thank you for your attention!



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