

## Online Photos

One aspect of online life that can be particularly fun and particularly nerve-wracking for teens is the constant posting of photos. Am I attractive enough? Am I with the right people? Do I seem popular? Is somebody else going to post an awful photo of me?

Most (59%) teen social media users either strongly or somewhat agree that they “love” posting photos of themselves online — with girls a lot more likely than boys to feel that way (75% of girls, compared to 42% of boys).

At the same time, however, **although a majority of teens “love” posting photos, putting pictures of themselves online does take an emotional toll on some teens.** Forty-three percent of social media users strongly or somewhat agree that they sometimes feel left out or excluded after seeing pictures of other people together online; 35% say they worry about people tagging them in unattractive photos; 27% say they get stressed out about how they look when they post pictures; and 22% say they feel bad about themselves if nobody comments on or “likes” the photos they post.

Among social network users, 17% have edited photos to make themselves look better before posting them online. And while girls are more likely than boys to love posting photos, they are also more likely to stress about it as well.

**Table 20: Posting Photos Online**

Among the 75% of 13- to 17-year-olds who currently have a profile on a social networking site, percent who agree strongly or somewhat that they:

	All	Girls	Boys
Love posting photos of themselves online	59%	75% <sup>a</sup>	42% <sup>b</sup>
Sometimes feel left out after seeing photos of others	43%	57% <sup>a</sup>	28% <sup>b</sup>
Worry about people posting ugly photos of them	35%	45% <sup>a</sup>	24% <sup>b</sup>
Get stressed about how they look when posting photos	27%	35% <sup>a</sup>	19% <sup>b</sup>
Feel bad if they don't get a lot of “likes” for photos	22%	29% <sup>a</sup>	15% <sup>b</sup>
Have edited photos of themselves before posting <sup>+</sup>	17%	28% <sup>a</sup>	9% <sup>b</sup>
Feel pressured to post photos of themselves online	12%	10%	14%

<sup>+</sup> Among social network users, percent saying “yes.”  
 Note: Items with different superscripts differ significantly at the level of  $p < .05$ .