[TURKEY AND RUSSIA TOP RISKY SURFING TABLE. SIERRA LEONE AND JAPAN LEAD THE SAFEST](#)

AVG study looks at the safest and most dangerous places to surf the Internet

Online PR News â€" 23-August-2010â€" Where in the World are Web surfers more likely to be hit by a malicious computer attack or virus?

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According to Internet Security company AVG, its the Caucasus region, with web surfers in Turkey, Russia, Armenia and Azerbaijan all being the most likely to face threats while online.

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At the other end of the scale, some of the worlds safest surfers can be found in Japan and Taiwan, while seven of the 10 safest countries in which to surf the Internet are in Africa. As a continent, South America was safest, and North America riskiest.

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Globally your chances of being attacked while online on any given day are 1 in 73.

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The data taken from 144 countries, involving over 100 million PCs, enabled AVG to look at the incidence of security threats that its software had to deal with in the last week of July. From these figures, AVG came out with an average for attacks per user per country.

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Key results for the last week of July 2010 are as follows:

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Turkey leads the league table for risky surfing, with AVGs software having to step in to protect on average, one in 10 users of the Internet. Web users in Russia (1 in 15 were hit), Armenia (1 in 24), and Azerbaijan (1 in 39) also suffer high rates of attacks.

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If you are taking your laptop with you ensure you have backed up your data and removed any sensitive information from your machine.

What about other major Western countries? The US is at number nine when it comes to the riskiest places to go online (1 in 48) , UK is ranked 30th (1 in 63), Australia 36th (attack ratio = 1 in 75) while German web surfers chances of being attacked is 1 in 83.

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Sierra Leone had the fewest attacks with on average one in 692 web surfers facing an attack. Niger too fared where just one in 442 surfers on average were attacked, however because of its high internet use and broadband penetration that Japan, where there is an average of just one in 404 facing an attack, is arguably the safest place to surf the net.

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Meanwhile Taiwan (1 in 248 attacked), Argentina (1 in 241 attacked), and France (1 in 224 attacked) all came in the top 20 safe list.

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Analyzing the data by continent, your chances of getting attacked while surfing the Web in North America are 1 in 51. In Europe it is 1 in 72, while in Asia (including Asia Pacific) 1 in 102. The safest continents are Africa (1 in 108), and by a long way South America (1 in 164).

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According to AVG spokesperson, Roger Thomson, Our research tells us a lot about the behaviour of web surfers worldwide. Internet users in Turkey, Russia, the Caucasus and South-east Asia for example show disproportionately higher rates of being attacked than the global average of 1 in 73.

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There are a number of reasons for this. Some of it may be down to a tendency to access semi-legal or illegal download sites, while some of it probably is down to being less cautious when it comes to sharing links and files online. Another factor is the popularity of Internet cafes and people generally sharing computers. However, it is safe to say that even in these countries, a minority of users account for a large proportion of attacks.

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"Our research should also serve as a wake-up call to people going abroad. If you are travelling without your computer and use a public machine or borrow a friend or colleagues, ensure that when accessing web -based services like email, that you log out and close the browser when you have finished your session.

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If you are taking your laptop with you ensure you have backed up your data and removed any sensitive information from your machine.

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Methodology
 This sample was taken in the last week of July. Rankings and order of countries will change over time and is not fixed.

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The research involved taking data from over 100 million AVG installations across 144 countries.

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Additional resources:

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For a downloadable Flickr Threats Map:
http://www.flickr.com/photos/officialavg/4919567503/in/set-72157624789352668/

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For Chief Research Officer Roger Thompson's blog post:

http://thompson.blog.avg.com/2010/08/the-safest-and-most-dangerous-places-in-the-world-to-use-the-internet.html

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Image Gallery

Under Attack!

WITH THE RISK OF WEB ATTACKS POSING A REAL THREAT AROUND THE GLOBE, WE DISCOVER THE RISKIEST AND SAFEST CONTINENTS TO GO SURFING

AVG

CHANCES OF BEING ATTACKED

BY CONTINENT

North America	1 in 51
Europe	1 in 72
Asia (inc. Asia Pacific)	1 in 102
Africa	1 in 108
South America	1 in 164

SAFEST COUNTRIES

1.	Sierra Leone	1 in 696
2.	Niger	1 in 442
3.	Japan	1 in 403
4.	Togo	1 in 359
5.	Namibia	1 in 353

RISKIEST COUNTRIES

1.	Turkey	1 in 10
2.	Russia	1 in 15
3.	Armenia	1 in 24
4.	Azerbaijan	1 in 39
5.	Bangladesh	1 in 41

SELECTED OTHERS

9.	America	1 in 48
30.	UK	1 in 63
36.	Australia	1 in 75

threatometer

high

medium
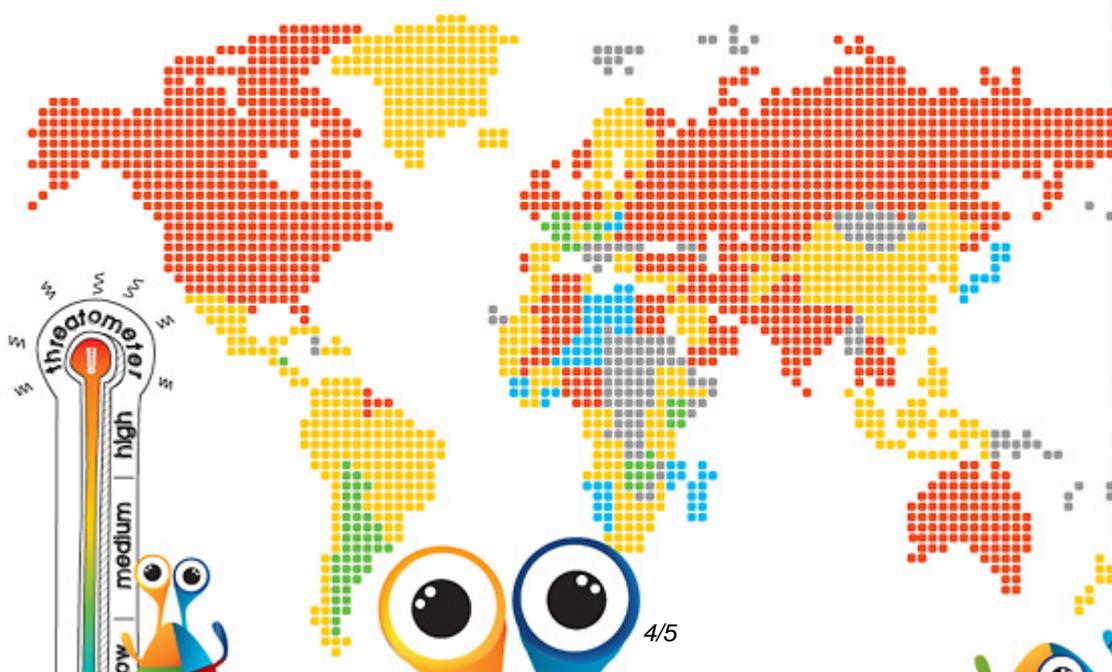
The safest and riskiest places to go online

threatsmap2.png

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http://thompson.blog.avg.com/2010/08/the-safest-and-most-dangerous-places-in-the-world-to-use-the-internet.html

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