

# Transnational child sex offending by Dutch men

*'Lunch & Learn Kinderschutz', ECPAT Deutschland*

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# Background

- In Dutch political debates, **catching offenders** is considered the main solution to SECTT; at the same time, these same offenders have remained mostly **invisible** ([Koning, Ras & van der Leun, 2024](#)).
- Reports by governmental agencies showed that **Dutch nationals are committing SECTT**, but **little is known** about the characteristics of these offenders or the size of the problem.
- A German study ([Koops et al., 2017](#)) showed that **0,4% of adult German men** reported 'child sex tourism'. *But: note differences in definitions!*



# Research questions

- What is the **prevalence** of TCSA in the Dutch population?
- What are the **characteristics** of perpetrators of TCSA?
- What are the **differences** between TCSA offenders and offenders of other forms of child sexual abuse/exploitation?

# Data and methods

- **Online survey**
  - Market research panel
- **Questions** about sexual behavior (online/offline, illegal or not), characteristics, risk factors
- **Sample** 9.696 Dutch adult males (aged between 18-80 years)
  - 312 excluded as they indicated not having answered seriously
  - Final sample 9.384
- **Weight factor** based on age and educational level
  - Older ages and higher educational levels slightly overrepresented compared to Dutch adult male population

# Measuring transnational child sexual offending

- After age 21, have you ever had unpaid sex with a person younger than 16 years of age? (no/**yes**)
  - What was the age of the person/persons that you, after age 21, had unpaid sex with? (**between 12-15 years, younger than 12 years**)
  - Where did this happen? (in the Netherlands/**abroad**)
- Have you ever paid someone for performing sexual acts? (no/**yes**)
  - What was the age of the person/persons that performed these sexual acts? (18 years or older, **between 12-17 years, younger than 12 years**)
  - Where did this happen? (in the Netherlands/**abroad**)
- Have you ever participated in or watched a live stream via the internet which contained sexual acts? (no/**yes**)
  - What was the age of the person/persons in this live stream? (18 years or older, **between 12-17 years, younger than 12 years**)



# Prevalence

# Prevalence

## Prevalence (T)CSA in study sample (N=9,384)

	n	% sample	% weighted
Ever unpaid sex with a person under <16 yo	425	4,5	4,6
Ever unpaid sex with a person under <16 yo abroad	195	2,1	2,2
Ever paid sex with a person <18 yo	195	2,1	2,0
Ever paid sex with a person <18 yo abroad	118	1,3	1,2
TCSA perpetrator (contact)	214	2,3	2,3
Ever participated in live stream with person <18 yo	215	2,3	2,3
TCSA perpetrator (contact or online)	314	3,3	3,4

# Estimation of population prevalence

- Between **131 000 and 171 000** Dutch adult males have ever perpetrated TCSO (offline)
- **105 000** (about 2 in 3) did so **in the last 5 years**

**WODC: elk jaar maken 20 duizend Nederlandse mannen zich schuldig aan kinderseksstoerisme**

Schatting: 20.000 mannen plegen kindermisbruik in buitenland

Trouw.nl

01 jul 2025 17:13

**KINDEREN IN BUITENLAND DE DUPE**

**Geschat: 20.000 misbruikers**

# Destination countries

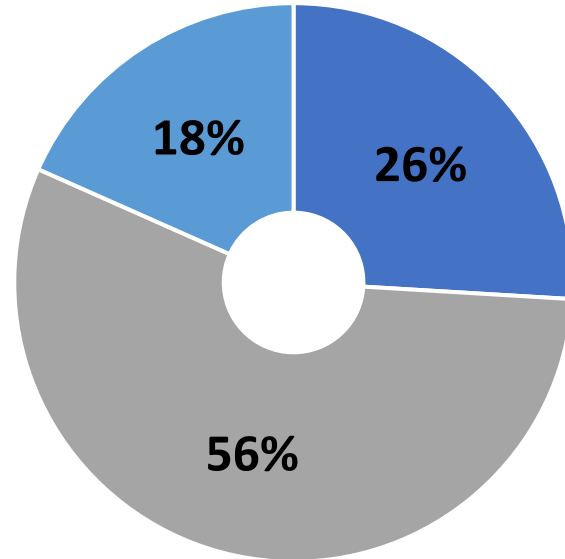
Over 55 countries were mentioned as destinations.

Some more frequently mentioned destinations include:

- Belgium
- Brazil
- Chile
- Dominican Republic
- Indonesia
- Jamaica
- Kenya
- Lithuania
- Mexico
- Morocco
- Sri Lanka
- Thailand
- Turkey

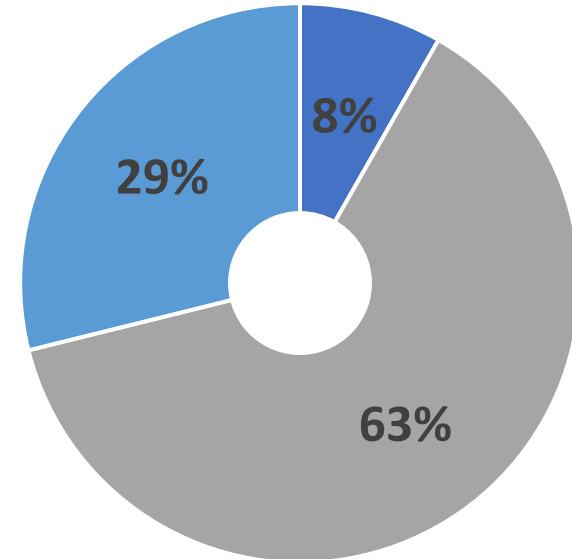
# Victim age

Unpaid sex with minor  
by victim age (only TCSA)



- < 12 yo
- between 12-17 yo
- <12 yo and between 12-17 yo

Paid sex with minor  
by victim age (only TCSA)



- < 12 yo
- between 12-17 yo
- <12 yo and between 12-17 yo



# Offender characteristics

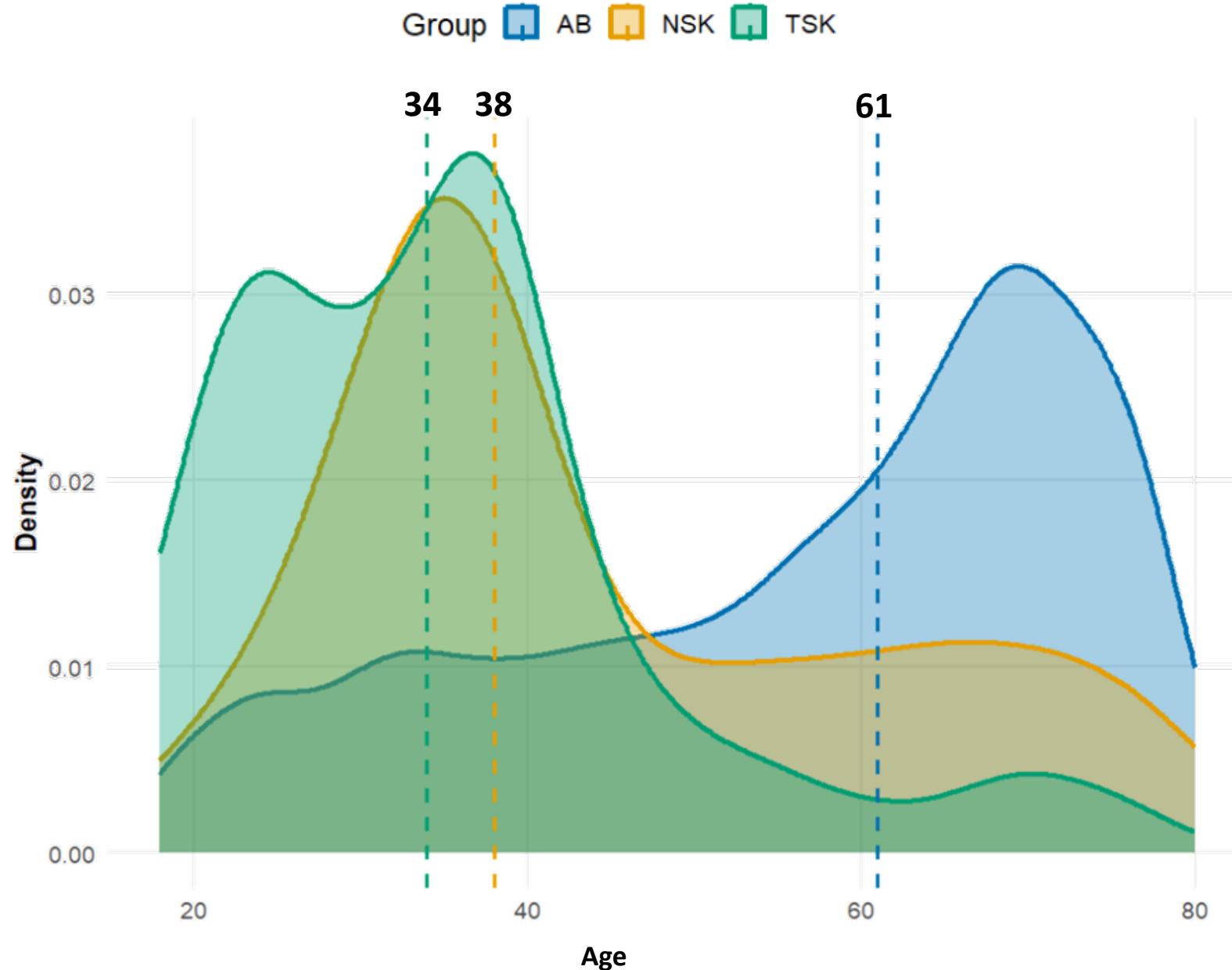
# TCSA versus CSA offenders

## Contact TCSA offenders:

- are on average 35 years old;
- 4/5 has access to children in their family or (volunteer) work;
- More frequently have a criminal history;
- 3/4 have considered seeking help for their sexual feelings or behaviors.

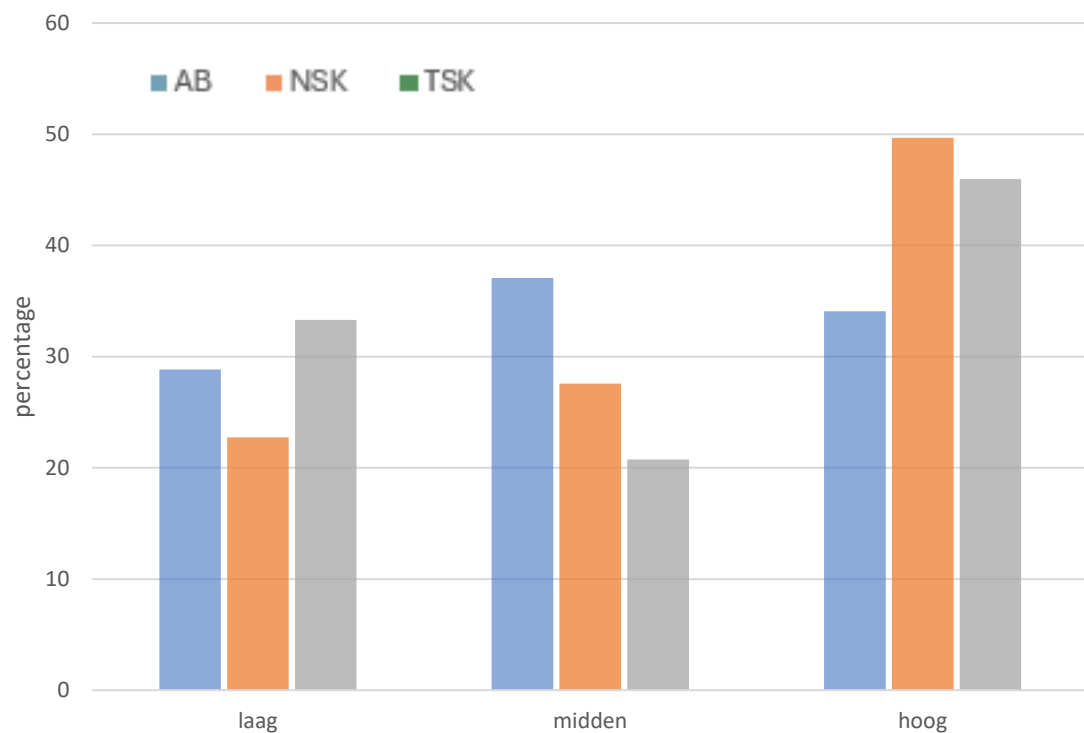
	TCSA (n = 214)		CSA (n = 248)		T/ $\lambda^2$	p	d/ $\phi$
	M/n	SD/%	M/n	SD/%			
<i>Demographics</i>							
Age	34,94	11,99	43,67	15,79	-6,74	***	-0,62
Educational level (high = 1)	126	58,88	142	57,26	0,12		0,02
Unemployed (past 4 years)	3	1,40	14	5,65	5,84		-0,11
Relationship status (Cohabiting = 1)	175	81,78	195	78,63	0,71		0,04
Access to victims	175	81,78	163	65,73	15,07	***	0,18
Alcohol/drug abuse	3,31	1,24	3,16	1,40	1,18		0,11
<i>Criminal history</i>							
Prior property offense	147	68,69	138	55,65	8,27	**	0,13
Prior violent offense	163	76,17	141	56,85	19,04	***	0,20
Prior sexual offense	157	73,36	126	50,81	24,63	***	0,23
Prior non-contact sexual offense	160	74,77	134	54,03	21,34	***	0,22
Offense versatility	3,68	1,83	2,75	2,21	4,93	***	0,45
Male victim (sexual violence)	154	71,96	111	44,76	34,76	***	0,27
<i>Social and psychological characteristics</i>							
Stale romantic relationship of a duration of at	193	90,19	222	89,52	0,06		0,01
Social support	3,48	1,11	3,84	0,79	-3,94	***	-0,38
Hostility toward women	3,60	1,14	3,47	1,19	1,20		0,11
Identification with children	3,58	1,07	3,27	1,25	2,90	***	0,27
Loneliness	3,37	1,19	3,37	1,19	0,01		0,00
Empathy	3,04	0,39	3,21	0,51	-4,05	***	-0,37
Impulsivity	3,46	1,08	3,54	1,00	-0,80		-0,08
Criminal thinking style	3,41	1,18	3,40	1,14	0,11		0,01
<i>Sexuality</i>							
Sexual preoccupation	3,40	1,20	3,46	1,10	-0,53		-0,05
Seks as coping	3,44	1,17	3,43	1,12	0,03		0,00
Sexual deviance	6,12	1,95	5,25	2,52	4,18	***	0,38
Sexual interest in children	53,80	33,55	43,70	37,72	3,05	***	0,28
<i>Willingness to change</i>							
Willingness to change	164	76,64	125,00	50,40	33,75	***	0,27

# Age

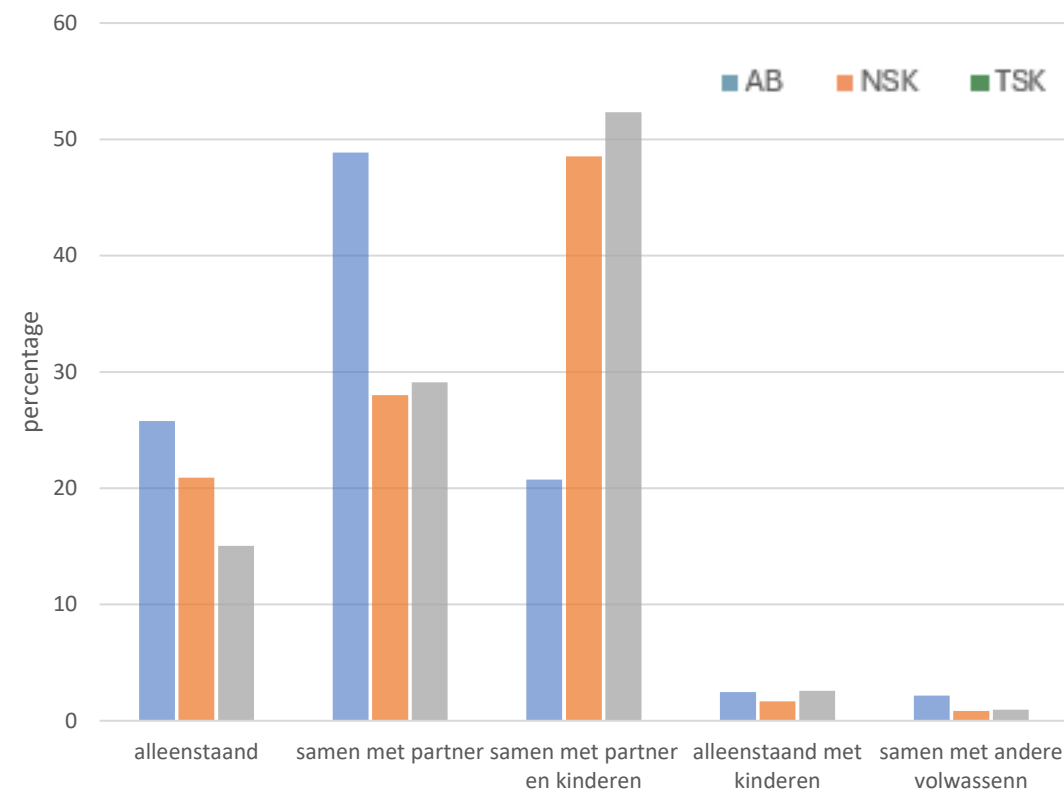


*AB = comparison group; NSK = child sexual abuse (domestic); TSK = TCSA*

# Education level



# Living situation



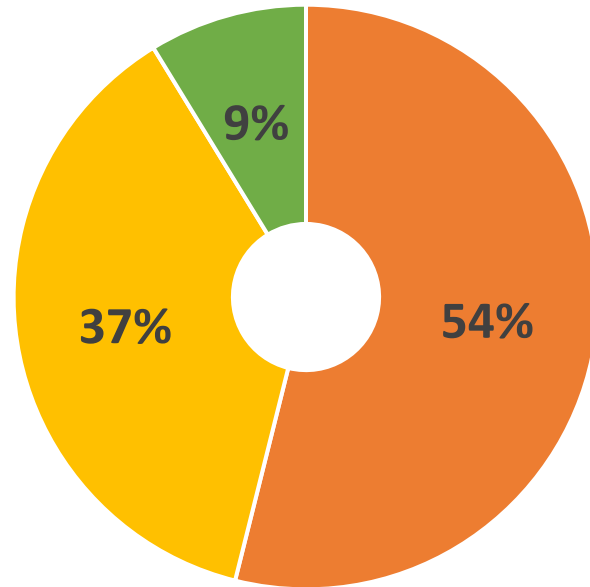
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Overlap between offences

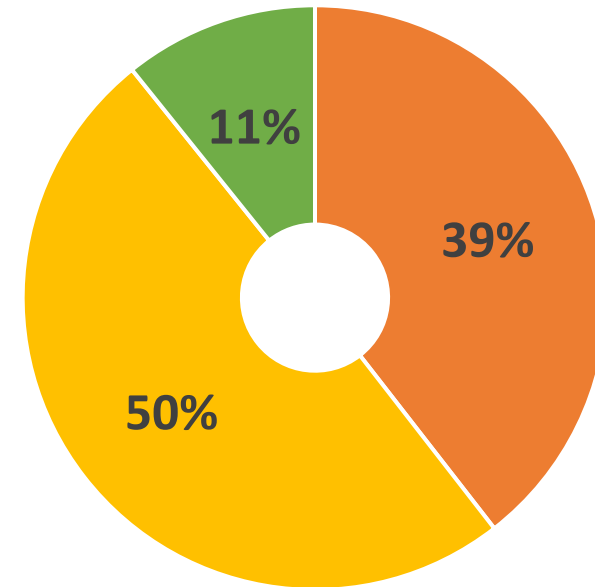
# Both at home and abroad?

Unpaid sex with minor  
by location



- The Netherlands
- Abroad
- The Netherlands and Abroad

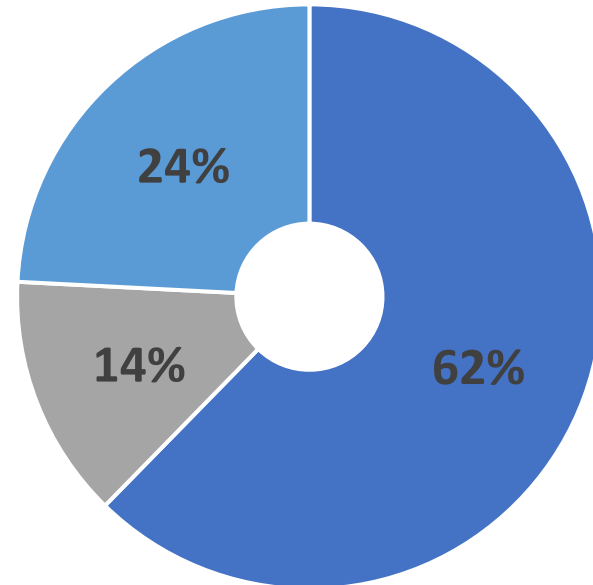
Paid sex with minor  
by location



- The Netherlands
- Abroad
- The Netherlands and Abroad

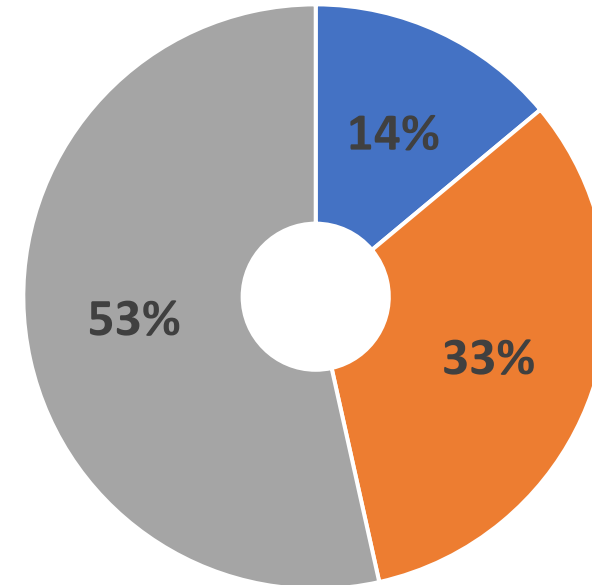
# Live streaming

Live stream involving minor  
by victim age



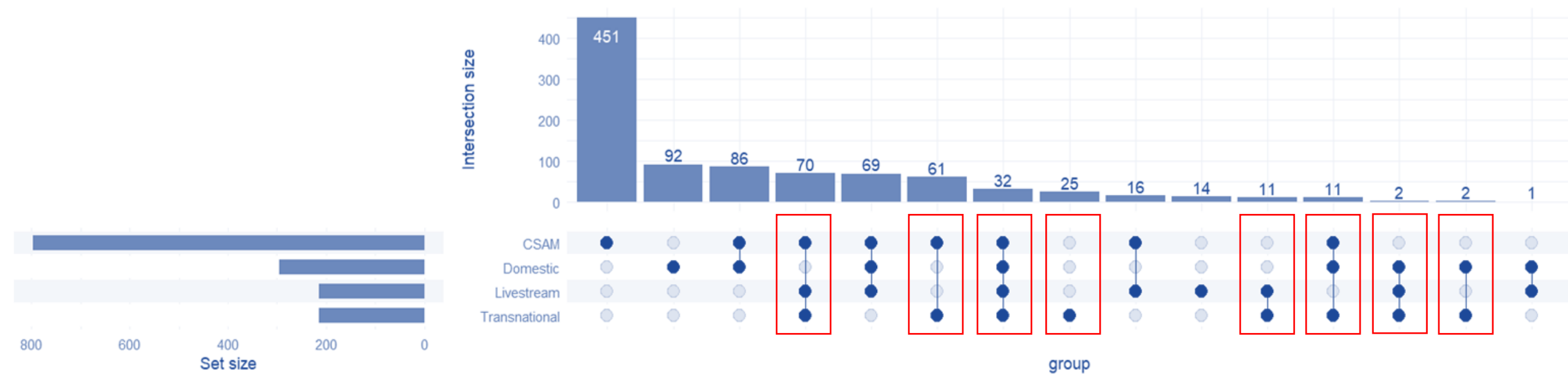
- < 12 yo
- between 12-17 yo
- <12 yo and between 12-17 yo

Live stream involving minors  
by contact (T)CSA



- only live stream
- live stream and CSA
- live stream and TCSA

# Combinations of offending behaviors



# In sum

- Between **131.000 and 171.000** Dutch adult males have **ever** traveled abroad and perpetrated TCSA
  - An estimate of **20.000 Dutch offenders per year**
- Substantial minority victimizes very young children (<12)
- TCSA perpetrators are a **diverse** group
- Dutch perpetrators of TCSA **resemble** perpetrators of other forms of CSA
  - Yet, there seems little overlap between these offender populations
- Many TCSA perpetrators also commit **online CSA offences**



[edu.nl/nmvgm](https://edu.nl/nmvgm)

nsCr

Risicotaxatie bij plegers van  
transnationaal seksueel  
kindermisbruik

Anneke Koning  
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Chantal van den Berg

Amsterdam, mei 2025

nsCr

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Nederlands Studiecentrum  
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# Implications & Discussion

- Public awareness & media attention
- Law enforcement & prosecution
- Prevention

