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For Immediate Release

Qatar leads Middle East in leading youth to cyber careers: Survey

Awareness high as nearly all Qatari children introduced to computers by age 12

Doha, Qatar (Nov. 1, 2016) — Qatar ranks first in the Middle East in introducing youth to the internet and cybersecurity, according to a new survey commissioned by Raytheon Company (NYSE: RTN) and the U.S. National Cyber Security Alliance.

The Raytheon/NCSA survey of nearly 3,800 young adults between the ages of 18 and 26 worldwide, conducted by Zogby Analytics, is titled “*Securing Our Future: Closing the Cybersecurity Talent Gap.*” Survey respondents were from Qatar, Saudi Arabia, UAE, Jordan and eight other countries outside the Middle East region and Gulf Cooperation Council. Findings showed youth in the Middle East were noticeably more equipped and knowledgeable about the importance of digital security in today’s world of cyber threats.

The survey found that:

- 98 percent of young adults in Qatar were introduced to computers in school by age 12, compared to the 82 percent average found in the Middle East region and worldwide
- 76 percent of Qatari students were taught in schools about staying safe on the internet, compared to the 55 percent global average
- Most youth in the Middle East, including Qataris, are more likely now than a year ago to consider a career to make the internet safer, as compared to several other global regions. Qatar ranks the highest internationally at 78 percent, higher than the 58 percent average in the region and 37 percent global average

- 51 percent of Qatari youth reported their schools offered classes that prepared them to pursue a career in cybersecurity, compared to the 54 percent regional average and 37 percent global average
- 57 percent of young adults in Qatar listed their parents as the primary source of safe and secure internet habits, higher than the 41 percent average worldwide
- 59 percent of Qatari young adults said parents are the most influential figure for youth looking for career advice, compared to 40 percent globally

“Qatar’s investment in education and the STEM subjects have long been focus areas for its leadership, who have placed great emphasis on this area as a catalyst to build the nation’s knowledge economy,” said Yezen Munir, president of Raytheon International Inc. in Qatar. “The results of our survey reflect the nation’s efforts, which will help bridge the gap of the cyber talent shortage that we’re seeing in the region and around the world. Raytheon also is exploring ways to further expand cyber awareness and training opportunities for youth and young adults in Qatar.”

Survey results were released concurrent with the Milipol Qatar 2016 conference in Doha, held on October 31 to November 2. Raytheon showcased its cybersecurity technologies at the conference, including cyber security operation centres; proactive threat hunting; intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance services; and security support to law enforcement.

“Milipol Qatar was an ideal platform to release the survey results since skilled professionals make such a critical contribution toward building national cybersecurity capacity in Qatar, said Shahzad Zafar, director of cybersecurity at Raytheon International Inc. “Milipol brought together subject-matter experts to discuss a range of issues pertaining to global security, with information and communication systems being important themes this year.”

For more details and analysis of the survey findings, please visit: www.RaytheonCyber.com/TalentGap.

About Raytheon

Raytheon Company, with 2015 sales of \$23 billion and 61,000 employees, is a technology and innovation leader specializing in defense, civil government and cybersecurity solutions. With a history of innovation spanning 94 years, Raytheon provides state-of-the-art electronics, mission systems integration, C5I™ products and services, sensing, effects, and mission support for customers in more than 80 countries. Raytheon is headquartered in Waltham, Mass. Follow us on Twitter [@Raytheon](https://twitter.com/Raytheon).

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