

Cookies are text files inside the browser's memory remembering you, and your preferences when you access a website

Most commercial or media websites drop cookies, including The Guardian.

They do



Keep you signed in



Remember your settings on volume, language, shopping carts and streaming speeds



Determine which advertising you will see on your screen



Control the number of adverts you see

They don't



Personally identify you



Scan through or harm your computer with viruses



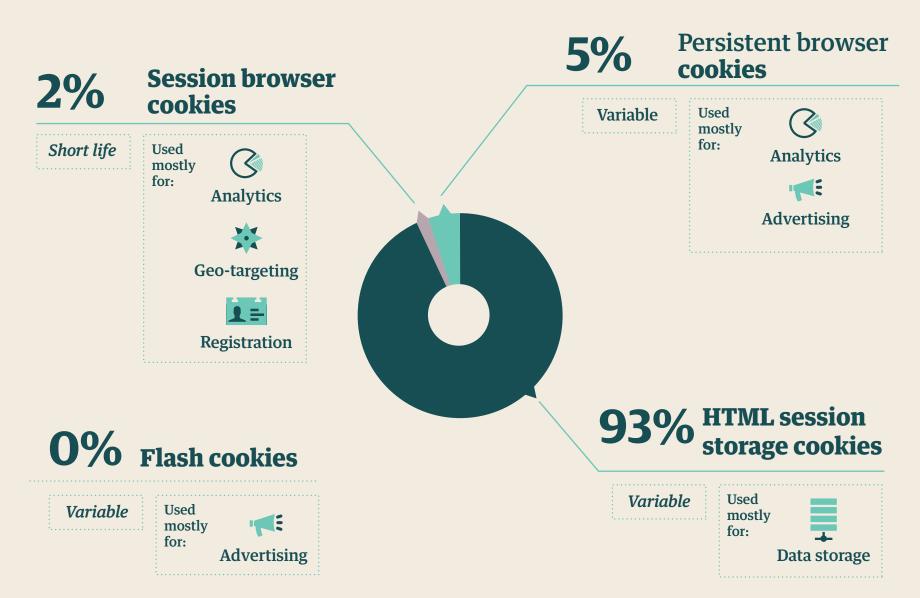
Send you spam



See what you are typing

First party cookies¹

The Guardian uses these to gain insights on how to best present content to our audience



Third party cookies 1

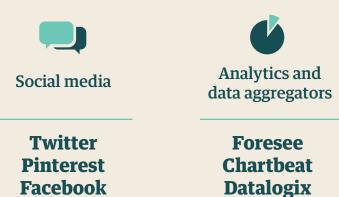
Cookies dropped by other companies on The Guardian website



They are an important revenue-generator for The Guardian

Types of companies that drop cookies on The Guardian website

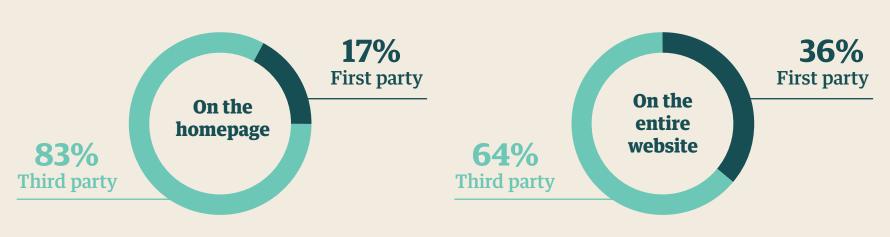
Nielsen



Advertising and marketing

Google Adwords Audience Science Mediamath

Distribution of cookies²



How to manage cookies



Adjust your **browser settings** to remove cookies



Online tools such as **Ghostery** will help you control your online privacy

Data collected for one week, 9-15 August 2015.
Companies create cookies with various capacity for data collection.