



Longitudinal Effects of Digital Literacy Programmes on Employment Opportunities for Urban Youth in South Africa: A Policy Perspective

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Abstract

Digital literacy programmes have emerged as a critical strategy for enhancing employability in South Africa's urban youth population. A mixed-methods approach, including qualitative interviews and quantitative surveys, was employed to gather data from a representative sample of urban youth in South Africa. The analysis revealed that participants who received digital literacy training were more likely to secure employment opportunities compared to those without such training, with a significant increase in job applications by 30% within six months post-programme completion. Digital literacy programmes play a pivotal role in enhancing the employability of urban youth, particularly in South Africa. The findings underscore the need for sustained and targeted interventions aimed at fostering digital skills among this demographic. Policymakers should prioritise the implementation of comprehensive digital literacy initiatives that are accessible to all urban youth, emphasising both technical proficiency and soft skills development.

Keywords: *African, Digital Divide, Empowerment, Methodology, Youth Employment, Access, Outcomes*

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