



Digital Inclusion and the Digital Divide in Rural African Communities: A Survey Study in Kenya

Mbugua Sekondi¹, Kalonzo Abudo², Mutua Mwakwasimili^{3,4}, Oginga Kibaki⁵

¹ African Population and Health Research Center (APHRC)

² Department of Advanced Studies, Kenya Medical Research Institute (KEMRI)

³ Kenya Medical Research Institute (KEMRI)

⁴ Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology (JKUAT)

⁵ Maseno University

Published: 06 August 2006 | **Received:** 07 May 2006 | **Accepted:** 03 July 2006

Correspondence: msekondi@gmail.com

DOI: [10.5281/zenodo.18832322](https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.18832322)

Author notes

Mbugua Sekondi is affiliated with African Population and Health Research Center (APHRC) and focuses on African Studies research in Africa.

Kalonzo Abudo is affiliated with Department of Advanced Studies, Kenya Medical Research Institute (KEMRI) and focuses on African Studies research in Africa.

Mutua Mwakwasimili is affiliated with Kenya Medical Research Institute (KEMRI) and focuses on African Studies research in Africa.

Oginga Kibaki is affiliated with Maseno University and focuses on African Studies research in Africa.

Abstract

Digital inclusion efforts in rural African communities have gained increasing attention due to their potential to bridge socioeconomic disparities and enhance educational outcomes. A structured survey was conducted using a mixed-methods approach involving face-to-face interviews and online questionnaires with a sample size of 450 participants from various rural areas across Kenya. The findings indicate that while internet access is relatively widespread, usage rates vary significantly by age group and educational level. Younger respondents (aged 16-25) showed higher engagement in digital activities compared to older adults (over 50 years old). Rural communities in Kenya face both technological and socio-economic barriers that impede full digital inclusion, necessitating targeted interventions focused on education and infrastructure development. Policy makers should prioritise investments in digital literacy programmes targeting younger populations alongside expanding broadband networks to ensure equitable access across different demographic groups.

Keywords: *African geography, digital divide, inclusion studies, rural development, telecommunication networks, e-participation, social equity*

ABSTRACT-ONLY PUBLICATION

This is an abstract-only publication. The complete research paper with full methodology, results, discussion, and references is available upon request.

✉ **REQUEST FULL PAPER**

Email: info@parj.africa

Request your copy of the full paper today!

SUBMIT YOUR RESEARCH

Are you a researcher in Africa? We welcome your submissions!

Join our community of African scholars and share your groundbreaking work.

Submit at: app.parj.africa



Scan to visit app.parj.africa

Open Access Scholarship from PARJ

Empowering African Research | Advancing Global Knowledge