Rural students face a double inequality: less access to technology and less teaching of digital skills.

- 47% of rural students do not feel they have the digital skills required for the workforce.
- 49% of rural teachers believe their students/children/they themselves are equipped with the digital skills necessary to be successful in today's workforce.

Digital skills are critical for students' futures, yet teachers underestimate the confidence of their students.

- 64% of rural students do not feel they have the digital skills required for the workforce.
- 49% of rural teachers believe their students/children/they themselves are equipped with the digital skills necessary to be successful in today's workforce.

Students feel competent with basic digital literacy but struggle with the skills required for the 21st-century workforce.

- 70% of students aged 16–18 years old believe they are ready for college and career.
- 75% of students aged 16–18 years old believe they are ready for college and career.

Generative AI is a key skill for future jobs and has the potential to disrupt education.

- 74% of teachers believe curriculum and assessments should be adapted to account for student use of AI-generated content.
- 83% of teachers believe the use of ChatGPT will be frequent in the next three years.

Recommendations: How secondary school students can be better prepared with digital skills.

- Governments and educators should consider the actions outlined below to further support secondary school students.
- Share and mobilize knowledge on how to better prepare students with digital skills;
- Mandate digital and media literacy as an educational requirement;
- Encourage corporations to be part of the learning ecosystem.