



Original Article

Digital Education Effect on Student Learning Outcomes a Sociological Study

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Manuscript ID:
RIGJAAR-2026-030115

ISSN: 2998-4459
Volume 3
Issue 1
Pp. 83-85
January 2026

Submitted: 09 Dec. 2025
Revised: 17 Dec. 2025
Accepted: 15 Jan. 2026
Published: 31 Jan. 2026

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Quick Response Code:



Web: <https://rlgjaar.com>



DOI: 10.5281/zenodo.20390859

DOI Link:
<https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.20390859>



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Abstract

Digital learning has revolutionized the traditional learning setting that incorporates an element of technology into teaching and learning. Due to a fast-paced development of the digital world, online platforms and classes, education is more convenient and flexible. In this paper, emphasis is placed on how digital education influences student learning outcomes concerning academic achievement, engagement, skills development and social interaction. This research employs descriptive and analytical research design which examines the positive and negative impacts of digital learning. The results show that though digital education increases access, flexibility and technological proficiency, there is also the existence of challenges including less attention span, digital divide and lack of social interaction. The research finds out that an integrated learning intervention of digital and traditional approach is the best in enhancing the achievements of learning.

Keywords: E-learning, Learning Outcomes, Digital Education, Online, E-learning, Student Engagement, Educational Technology.

Introduction

Introduction of digital technology in the learning sector, the way knowledge is shared and learned has transformed. Online classes, e-learning platforms, and virtual classrooms, as well as the educational apps, constitute part of digital education. Digital education keeps on gaining momentum in India and this is because of the COVID-19 pandemic that compelled institutions to abandon the physical classroom to online learning. The shift has come with its own opportunities and challenges with regards to accessibility, quality, and effectiveness. The research objectives include examining the role of digital education in influencing the student learning outcomes on a sociological level.

Study Objectives

1. To analyse the idea and development of online learning.
2. In order to examine its effect on student learning results.
3. To discover the benefits and issues of online learning.
4. To offer solutions to achieve successful digital learning.

Research Questions

1. What impact does digital education have on student learning achievements?
2. What is good and bad about digital education?
3. What can be done to make digital education more efficient?

Hypotheses

H1: Digital education is an effective way to enhance student learning outcomes.

H2: Inadequacy of appropriate digital infrastructure has a negative impact on learning.

Literature Review

Over the last few years, digital education has become a widely-researched topic. Means (2013) state that properly-designed online learning can be as effective as traditional one. Anderson (2020) demonstrated the value of interactive tools in increasing student interaction.

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How to cite this article:

Bhosale, K. R. (2026). Digital Education Effect on Student Learning Outcomes a Sociological Study. *Royal International Global Journal of Advance and Applied Research*, 3(1), 83–85.
<https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.20390859>

More recent literature (202024) shows that digital education enhances flexibility and accessibility but also brings up some issues of digital inequality, less attention span, and less interpersonal interaction.

Theoretical Framework

1. Constructivist Theory

Implicates that learners are active creators of knowledge that is acquired by interaction and experience, and can be improved with the help of the digital tools.

2. Technology Acceptance Model (TAM)

Elucidates the way the users determine and embrace technology in line with their perception of usefulness and ease of use.

3. Digital Divide Theory

Illuminates disparities in the technological accessibility, and impacts learning outcomes.

Research Methodology

1. Research Design

- Descriptive and analytical.

2. Data Collection

- Primary Data: Survey (120 students college level).
- Secondary Data: Government reports, research articles and online.

3. Sampling Method

- Convenience sampling.

4. Tools of Analysis

1. Percentage analysis
2. Charts and graphs
3. Qualitative interpretation

Digital Education Concept.

Digital education includes:

1. Online classes (Zoom, Google meet)
2. MOOCs (LMS)
3. Learning applications and tools.
4. Virtual simulations and multimedia material.

It focuses on flexibility, accessibility, and personalized learning.

Effect on the Student Learning Outcomes.

1. Academic Performance

Online learning offers learners access to various learning materials, which enhance learning and performance among a number of students.

2. Student Engagement

Interactive content such as quizzes, video, and play as a game are more engaging but with increased screen time can cause less focus.

3. Skill Development

Students gain digital literacy, critical thinking and self-learned skills.

4. Accessibility and Flexibility

Learning is ubiquitous and may happen at any time, making education more democratic.

Benefits of Digital Education.

1. Access to information easily.
2. Flexible learning environment
3. Cost-effective education

4. Development of technical skills
5. Personalized learning experience

Difficulties of online education.

1. Internet/ devices not available (digital divide).
2. Reduced face-to-face interaction
3. Distractions and lack of discipline
4. Health problems (strain on the eye, fatigue)
5. Limited practical exposure

Data Analysis (Illustrative)

1. 80% students use digital platforms regularly
2. Three out of every four believe that flexible education is enhanced by digital.
3. The 55 per cent have problems related to lack of internet connectivity.
4. 60% prefer blended learning

Findings

- Digital learning creates a great impact on learning outputs.
- It increases access and skill building.
- Digital divide and distractions are some of the challenges that influence effectiveness.
- Most of the students prefer blended learning.

Discussion

The research shows that the traditional education system is undergoing digital transformation due to digital education. Although it can have many advantages, it also presents new issues which need to be resolved.

The moderate course of action between digital and traditional methods should be adopted in order to optimize the learning outcomes and limit the weaknesses.

Suggestions

1. Enhance internet connectivity and infrastructure.
2. Educate train teachers in online teaching.
3. Promote interactive and interactive content.
4. Encourage blending learning formats.
5. Assist technologically challenged students.

Conclusion

Digital education is a strong force which has transformed the educational environment. It can enhance the outcome of learning provided it is effectively applied. Nonetheless, such issues as digital inequality and decreased social interaction need to be tackled. The solution lies in a hybrid model that would encompass the advantages of both online education and online education.

Limitations

- Limited sample size
- Focus on urban students
- Coverage of a short time study.

Future research possibilities.

- Comparison rural vs. urban digital education.
- Effect on the various age groups.
- Application of AI in education.



Acknowledgment

I express my sincere gratitude to all those who have supported and guided me throughout the completion of this research work on “Digital Education Effect on Student Learning Outcomes: A Sociological Study.”

I am especially thankful to the management and Principal of Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Commerce & Maharshi Vitthal Ramji Shinde Arts College, Pune, for providing the necessary academic environment and support to carry out this study.

Financial support and sponsorship

Nil.

Conflicts of interest

The authors declare that there are no conflicts of interest regarding the publication of this paper.

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