

Exploring microwork opportunities through cybercafés

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Cybercafés in Kenya

Will workers be interested in working in cybercafés?

06-06-11 06-16-11 06-26-11 07-06-11 07-16-11 07-26-11 08-05-11 08-15-11

Dates

• Returning users

• Non-returning users

This graph shows the frequency of returning users for a cybercafé in a residential area of Pune, India. Notice that approximately half the workers returned at a later date, indicating ongoing interest. Many returned multiple times, and in a written survey 99% of people indicated interest in this form of work.

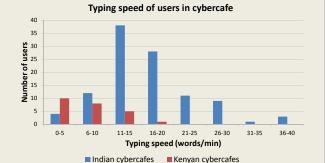
Demographics		
	Kenya	India
Occupation		
Students	2	67
Working professionals	17	38
Unknown	4	0
Education		
Below high school	4	7
High school	13	29
Above High school	3	69
Unknown	3	0
Monthly income		
Below 100 USD	6	0
100 USD - 200 USD	7	16
200 USD - 400 USD	2	6
400 USD - 600 USD	0	25
Above 600 USD	0	33
Unknown	8	25

Are the workers skilled enough to earn an acceptable pay rate?



- Cybercafe 1 India Cybercafe 2 India Cybercafe 3 India
- Cybercafe 1 Kenya Cybercafe 2 Kenya

This plot shows the actual earning of workers with respect to time spent. Workers in India were paid approximately US\$0.01 per 9 words, while in Kenya workers were paid approximately \$0.01 per 3 words. Notice that some workers worked for long periods.



Workers in India had a much faster typing speed than workers in Kibera. However the average education of workers was also much higher in the cybercafes we tested in India. In both cases the worker's typing speed was fast enough to provide a competitive pay rate.

What is the relative productivity of workers on mobile devices versus computers?

Comparitive analysis of transcription speed in



Potential workers in Kibera were tested on transcription speed. They were given three minutes on each device to transcribe as many words as possible. Workers used their own (basic) mobile phone, a Nokia N900 with a mini-keyboard, and a net book computer. Notice that on average the slower half of the users were approximately the same speed on all devices, while the fastest users were noticeably faster on a computer.



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