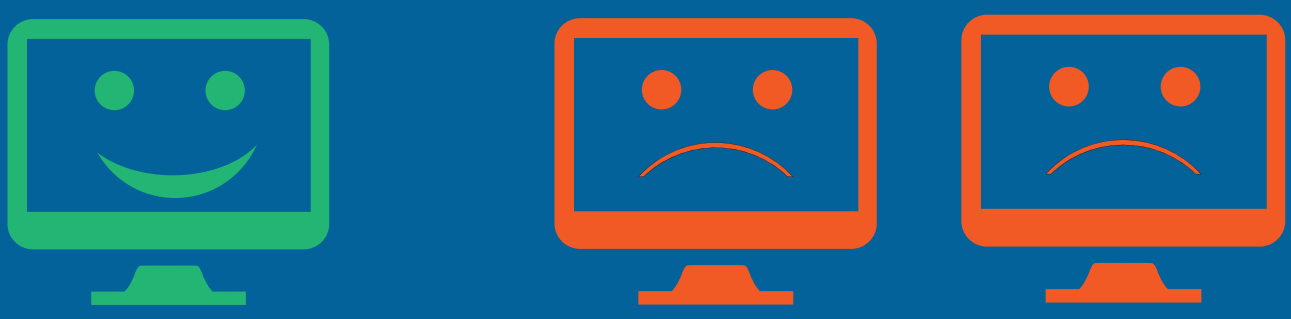
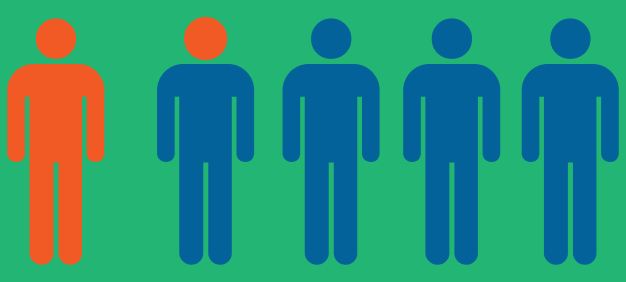
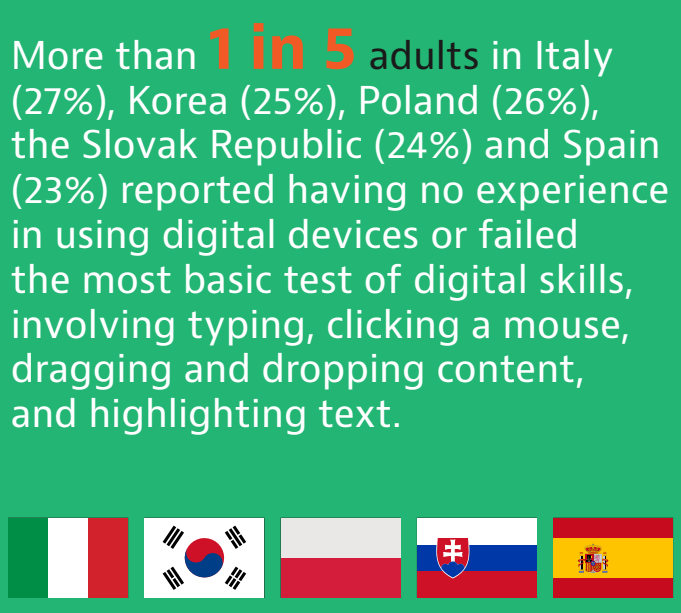
ADULTS, COMPUTERS AND PROBLEM SOLVING
WHAT'S THE PROBLEM?
Results from the Survey of Adult Skills

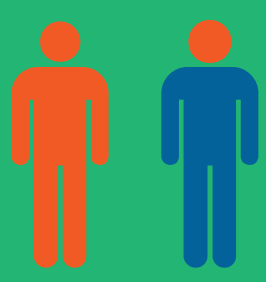


Only **1 in 3** adults demonstrated a high level of proficiency in solving problems using digital devices (Level 2 or 3) across participating OECD countries. At those levels, adults can transform information in an e-mail message into a spreadsheet and evaluate search-engine results against a set of criteria, among other complex tasks.

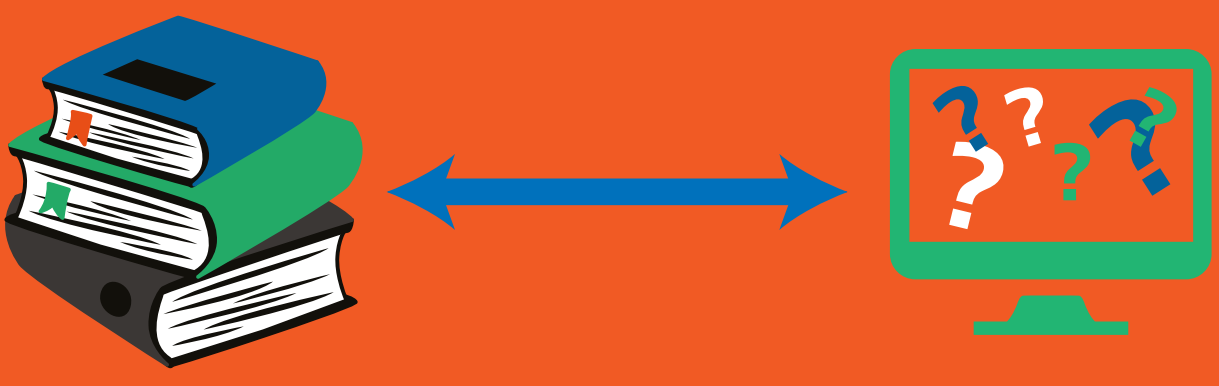


More than **1 in 5** adults in Italy (27%), Korea (25%), Poland (26%), the Slovak Republic (24%) and Spain (23%) reported having no experience in using digital devices or failed the most basic test of digital skills, involving typing, clicking a mouse, dragging and dropping content, and highlighting text.

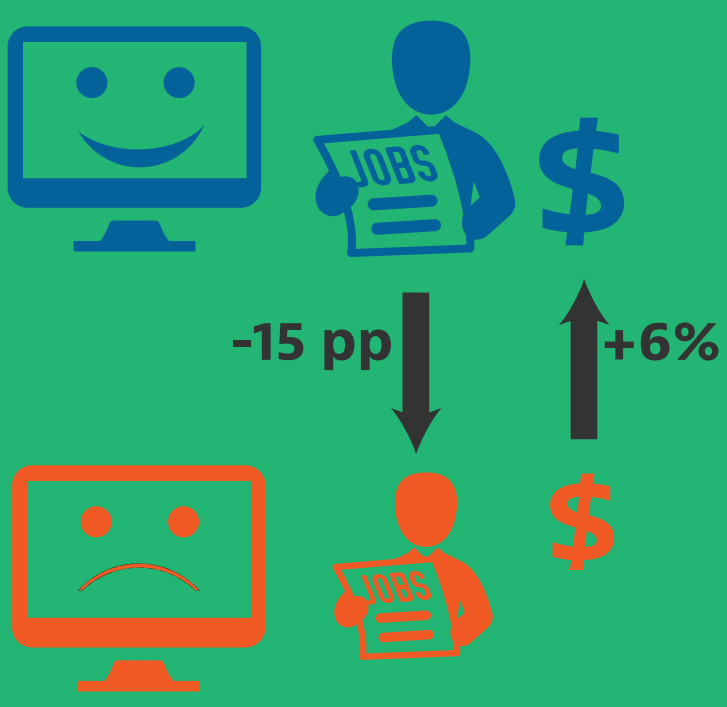




More than **1 in 2** 55-65 year-olds in Korea (64%), Poland (51%) and the Slovak Republic (53%) either reported having no experience in using digital devices or failed the most basic test of digital skills, involving typing, clicking a mouse, dragging and dropping content, and highlighting text.

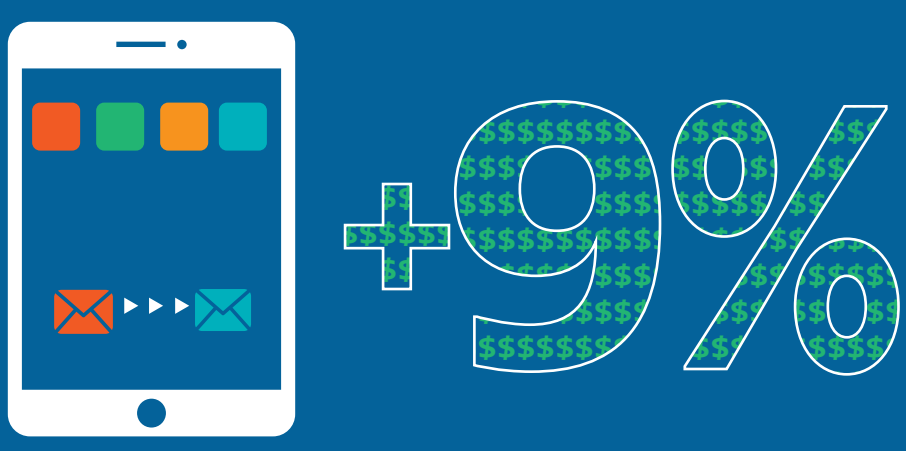


Having good **literacy** skills is strongly linked with high proficiency in solving problems using **digital devices.**



Labour force participation rates among adults who reported having no experience in using digital devices are **15 percentage points lower,** and their **wages are 6% lower,** compared to adults who had basic problem-solving skills using digital devices.

pp = percentage point



Workers who **use digital applications,** such as e-mail, **frequently** in their jobs **earn 9% more** per hour, on average, than workers who are equally proficient in literacy, numeracy and problem solving, have attained similar levels of education and work in similar jobs, but who rarely use them.

DIRECTORATE FOR EDUCATION AND SKILLS OECD