

# Dispatches from the Digital Planet

August 2021

## RESEARCH SPOTLIGHT

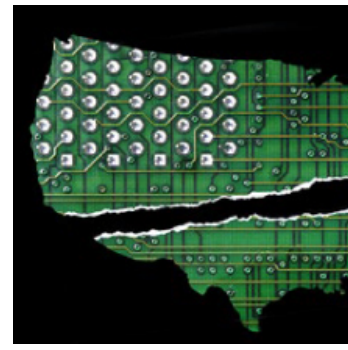


### Turning America's Digital Divide into Digital Dividends – Ideas for the Biden-Harris Administration

Our understanding of nationwide broadband access is muddled due to inaccurate and outdated data. While the FCC estimates that only 14.5 million Americans do not have access to adequately fast broadband, a more thorough investigation conducted by the research firm BroadbandNow put the number at 42 million. Explore interactive analyses and key policy recommendations on how the Biden-Harris administration can make broadband more inclusive in the U.S.

[EXPLORE THE INTERACTIVE](#)

## PERSPECTIVES

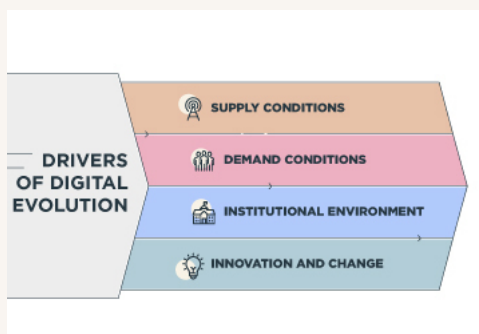


### How to Close the Digital Divide in the U.S.

Harvard Business Review

The U.S. government is negotiating a plan to address one of the most important— yet overlooked — problems facing the country: the digital divide. While this problem is often discussed as a simple problem of expanding broadband access, the roots of issue are deeper and more complex than mere infrastructure.

## ONGOING RESEARCH



### Digital Intelligence Index

Explore the interactive DII research tool to analyze how these 90 economies stack up against each other, along the broader measures of Digital Evolution and Digital Trust. Compare economies on various parameters, find patterns, draw conclusions on policy intervention, and study the potential for inclusive development through the lens of the digital economy.

[EXPLORE INTERACTIVE DASHBOARD](#)

## OFF THE CHARTS



### Unlocking Value through Virtualized Healthcare: Which Countries are Ready?

The state of digitization of healthcare delivery globally is quite uneven, spotted with patches of excellence and falling well short in others. Digitally-administered medicine is yet to reach corners of the world where its need is the greatest. Our study spanning 46 countries overlays measures of digitalization and healthcare capacity. Analysis reveals both sweet spots for virtualized healthcare and how countries lagging in critical health infrastructure can leapfrog by deploying digital mechanisms to provide quality healthcare to their citizens.

## ANALYST OF THE MONTH



**Chidera Moghalu**  
BA, Economics '23  
Undergraduate  
Research Analyst,  
Digital Planet

### I'VE BEEN WORKING ON

Analyzing global digital inclusion disparities and the different components that affect digital inclusion in each country such as gender, class, and rural divides.

### AN INSIGHT I DISCOVERED

As one of the leading nations in digital inclusion, I was surprised to discover how unprepared many parts of the United States were in the transition to work-from-home, E-learning, and digital health care. Lack of access to the internet had a profound effect on underserved communities creating additional hurdles for people amidst a global pandemic.

### I'M PASSIONATE ABOUT

Using digital innovation to propel us toward a sustainable circular economy and more equitable society.

## IN THE NEWS

**Biden's 'Antitrust Revolution' Overlooks AI—at Americans' Peril: Bhaskar Chakravorti** | Wired

**China, Fred Astaire And The Countries Dancing Towards The Digital Future** | Forbes

**VCs: Start-ups will suffer from antitrust bills targeting Big Tech** | CNBC

**Work-From-Anywhere Perks Give Silicon Valley a New Edge in Talent War** | The Wall Street Journal

## ABOUT DIGITAL PLANET

Digital Planet is an interdisciplinary research initiative of The Fletcher School's Institute for Business in the Global Context (IBGC) dedicated to understanding the impact of digital innovation on the world and providing actionable insights for policymakers, businesses, investors, and innovators.

Let's continue our discussion on 