The Siyaphambili Website

An interactive platform to track South Africa's post-school qualification attainment

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What is the Siyaphambili website?

The Siyaphambili website tracks the proportion of South Africans aged 15 to 64 with a post-school qualification; against a target of 22 percent by 2030.
Why do we track post-school qualifications?

- The proportion of working age South Africans with a post-school qualification has doubled since 1994, reaching 13.8 percent in 2020.
- This is a remarkable feat.
- At the same time, the attainment rate is a stark reminder of just how few South Africans successfully reach, and complete, this education milestone.

Source: data.oecd.org
Why do we track post-school qualifications?

- South Africa has high returns to post-school education by world standards, and these have been increasing over time.
- A university graduate can earn close to three times the amount of someone with a grade 12 (complete high school) and up to five times the amount of someone with a grade 8 (the first grade of high school).
- The unemployment rate among post-secondary graduates is far lower than the national average.
- On the other hand, earnings returns for those with grade 9 to 11 have fallen.
- These changes in the relative returns to education are an important link in the cycle of sustained inequality in South Africa.
Why do we track post-school qualifications?

Social and economic inequalities in South Africa lead to different rates of school completion and varying opportunities to achieve a post-school qualification.

Reducing income inequality requires decreasing between group post-school qualification attainment.
Factoring in inequalities

Increasing overall levels of post-school qualification attainment requires decreasing between sub-group attainment gaps.

http://www.siyaphambili.uct.ac.za/
How do we define a post-school qualification?

The Siyaphambili interactive graphs focus on post-school qualifications. Qualifications at National Qualification Framework (NQF) levels 2 to 10, obtained outside of basic education.
Where does the data come from?

• We use the Post-Apartheid Labour Market Series (PALMS) data version 3.3, augmented with the Quarterly Labour Force Survey (QLFS) 2020:Q1.
• PALMS is compiled from publicly available Statistics South Africa (StatsSA) data and housed on the DataFirst repository.
• In addition, population estimates from the Thembisa model are used to calculate the number of people with qualifications.
• The surveys ask the question ‘What is the highest level of education that you have successfully completed?’ and respondents choose from a list of post-school qualifications such as degrees, diplomas, certificates or N-qualifications.
• The tables containing the values shown in the graphs can be downloaded in Excel format on the Siyaphambili website.
Goal 2030 - unifying South Africa’s NDP 2030 employment and Post-school Education and Training targets
http://www.siyaphambili.uct.ac.za/
Who is the Siyaphambili website designed for?

- The website is a public platform available to everyone to view and use; from policy makers to citizens.
- It provides quick access to accurate information about post-school education and training attainment in South Africa.
- The website will be updated with the latest available information each year.

- A holistic and collaborative effort will be necessary to enact the large-scale systematic change needed to reach Goal 2030.
- The website is a public and transparent platform to monitor progress, via Goal 2030, towards the NDP 2030 post-school education and employment goals.
Who is the Siyaphambili website designed for?

• Institutional providers, the Department of Basic Education and the Department of Higher Education and Training, along with public and private sector partnerships all contribute towards increasing post-school qualification attainment in South Africa.

• Stakeholders’ recognised the need to pay more attention to building a culture of collecting, sharing and using evidence for planning, policy and other forms of decision making.

• The Siyaphambili website can assist this process by presenting publicly available data in a convenient medium.

• This platform also holds the potential to co-ordinate future research output.
THANK YOU

Siyaphambili
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CHALLENGING INEQUALITIES THROUGH POLICY
RELEVANT ACADEMIC RESEARCH.