

MTOTO NEWZ INTERNATIONAL SOCIAL MEDIA REPORT

**COVID19 AND HIGH EDUCATION COST, BACK TO SCHOOL,
EARLY PREGNANCIES AMONG TEENS AND MODERN
TECHNOLOGY IN EDUCATION.**

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BY: Pheza A. Otieno



OVERVIEW



This is a Mtoto News Social media report on the latest trends on matters concerning children on social media. This social media report provides evidence on twitter trends on Covid19 and the high education cost, back to school; under which early pregnancies among teens is touched. It also includes modern technology in education where online learning is discussed as well as the views of twitter users in the aforementioned topics. The report draws its data and findings largely from secondary sources.

The major aim of this social media research is to have a knowledge and understanding of children and social media globally, issues affecting them and measures taken towards improving children's lives.

KEY INSIGHTS



Covid19 has greatly affected the number of students who reported back to school.

High costs of education are creating a barrier in accessing education

How can teen mothers be encouraged to resume their education after weaning?

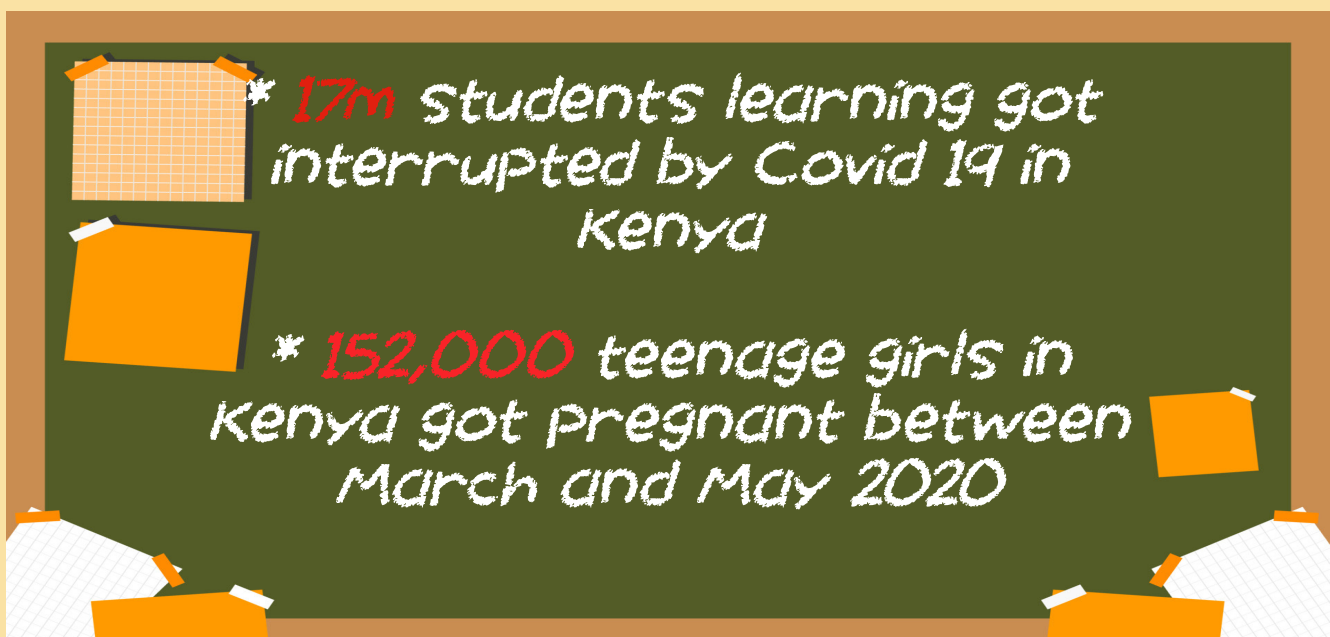
Modern technology makes students' and parents' work easy

1. Covid 19 and high education cost

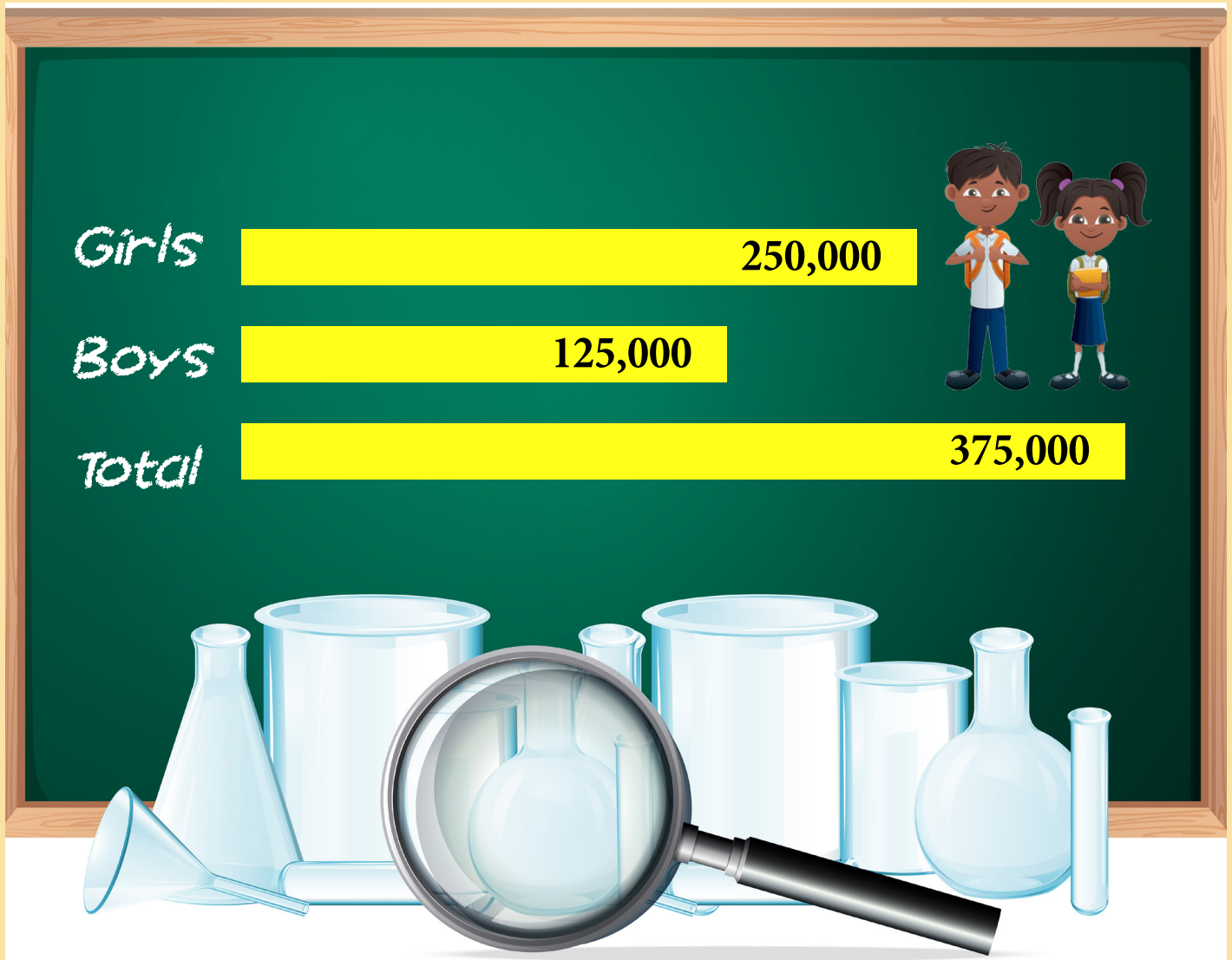
In late last year (2021) one of the twitter users expressed his concerns about the large number of school going children that will drop out due to high education costs in Kenya. According to him, the government seems less concerned despite the fact that thousands of children failed to report back to school after 9 months closure of schools due to Covid19.

How many children got back to school after Covid 19?

In 2020 Covid19 caused the closure of schools thus interrupting learning for 17 million students in Kenya. In a statistic for a county in Kenya, 289 girls between 10-14 years got pregnant between January and September 2020. More than 152,000 teenage girls in Kenya got pregnant between March and May the same year.



Covid19 drop outs by gender



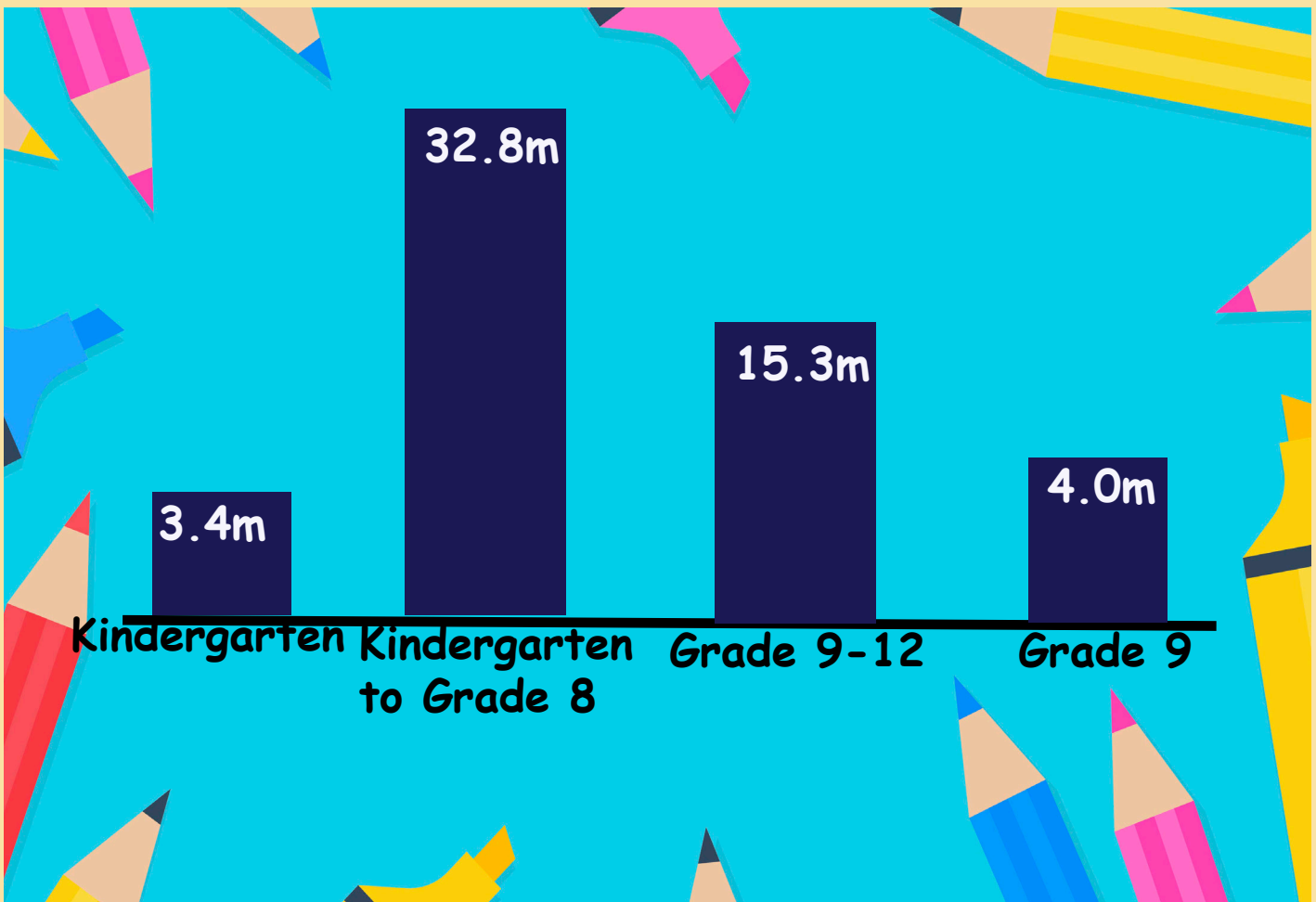
More girls were affected by Covid19 than boys, but generally both genders were affected. However, the 2021 national exam results brought so much hope to the education sector as 893 candidates scored grade A, an improvement from the previous 627 in 2019.

2. Back to School

Far from Covid19, children just reported back to school for their third term and it is of interest to ascertain the number of children that reported back, what hindered others from going back and what needs to be done to ensure 100% turn up in schools in the future.

Back to school in numbers

In 2020 about 48.1 million students in public schools across the different parts of Africa attended schools. Of the 48.1 million public school students:



In Kenya

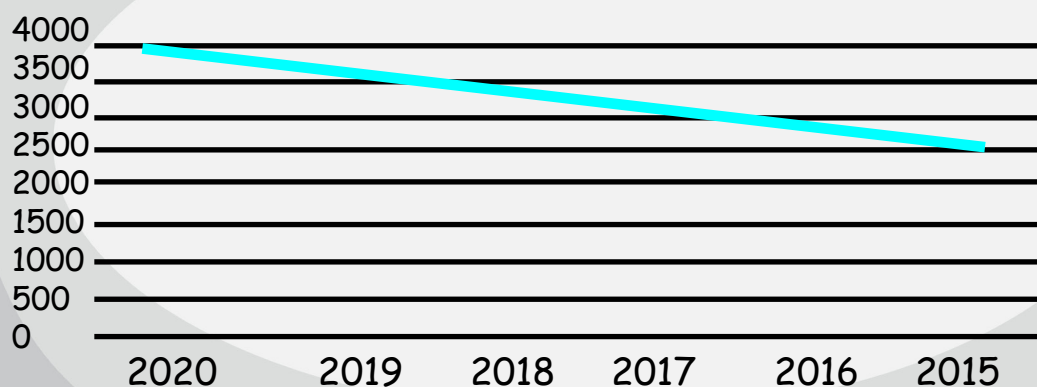
- **Secondary attendance**

A study in 2021 showed that nationally there was a 53.2% enrolment rate in secondary schools. However, in 2020 Kenya had approximately 3.5 million students in both public and private schools.

The secondary school enrolment between 2015- 2020 in thousands (1,000s) was as follows:

<i>Characteristics</i>	<i>Number of students in thousands</i>
2020	3,520.4
2019	3,260
2018	2,942.7
2017	2,830.8
2016	2,720.6
2015	2,559

Line graph showing the secondary school enrolment between 2015- 2020 in thousands



There has been a significant increase in the number of students who enroll for secondary school education between 2015 to 2020 in Kenya.

- **Primary attendance**

Almost 90% of primary school age have more female children attending schools than male children. Amongst these children 88% are between 6-13 years of age. In terms of gender, 87% of boys aged 6-13 attend schools compared to 89% of girls.



89%

Of girls aged 6-13 years attend primary school



87%

Of boys aged 6-13 years attend primary school

2022 status

According to the UNESCO Institute of Statistics report (2021), almost 1.8 million children between 6-17 years of age are currently out of school.

Causes of those who did not report back to school include:

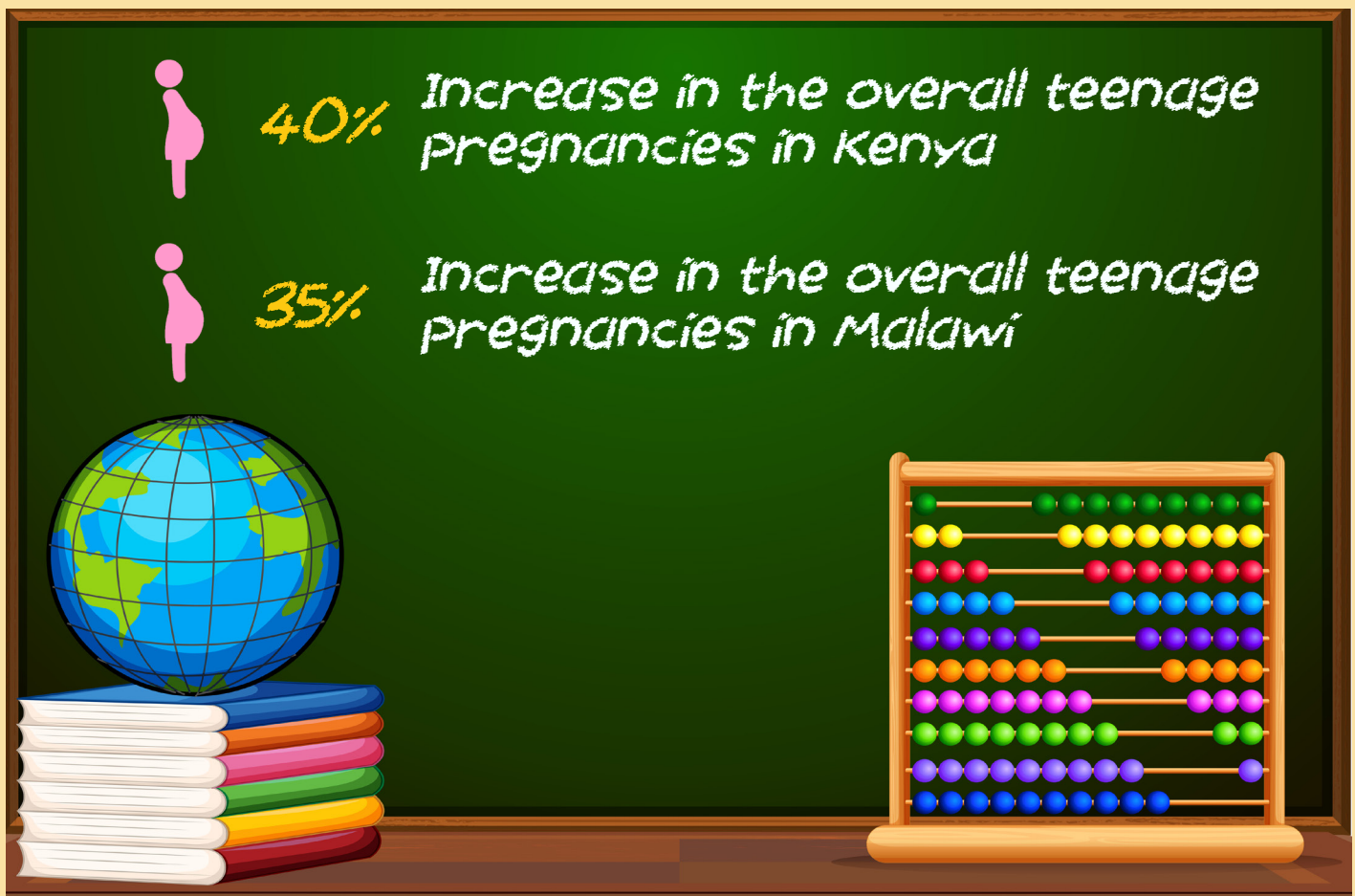
Early pregnancies

Using the #SupportingGirlChildEducation hashtags, a twitter campaign on helping girls get back to school was carried out to encourage impregnated girls to make sure they wean their children and later go back to school without fear.

How has early pregnancies affected education?

Kenya has had a 40% increase in the overall teenage pregnancies to this moment.

A recent research shows that Malawi also has a 35% increase in the teenage pregnancies especially among girls between 10-19 years of age.



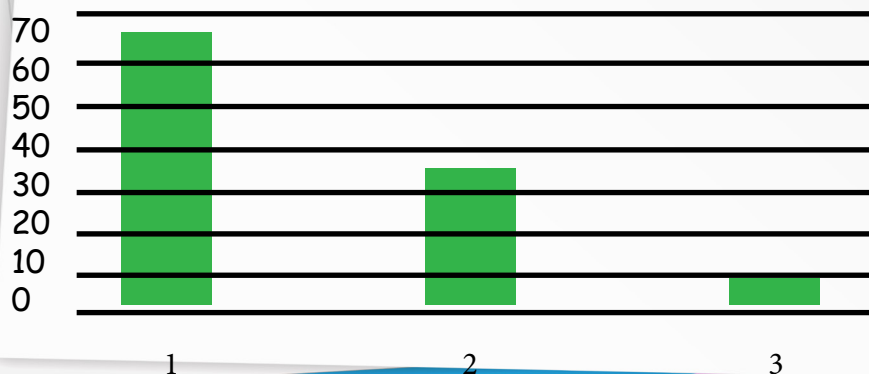
3. Modern technology

Parents on twitter have expressed their excitement after using different apps to purchase school items for their children as they went back to school early this year. One of the "twitter parents" said that going to different stores to purchase school uniforms and accessories for their sibling has been so tiresome in the past owing to the long queues, therefore shopping apps have been a life saver this year as it saved their time and fare.

In a research to find out how many people install and use shopping apps; the following were the findings:

Percentage of correspondents(%)	No. of shopping apps installed
66	Less than 3 shopping apps
33	3-5 shopping apps
2	More than 5 shopping apps

A graph showing distribution of people using shopping apps to the number of shopping apps installed



In the US

A large percentage of institutions in the US have embraced technology in their education. A reflection of the use of technology amongst teachers and students is as below.



85% students use mobile phones to study



90% teachers have computers in the classroom



49% students say technology helps save them time



70% universities have campus automation system



81% teachers believe tablets enrich classroom learning



56% educational institutes use mobile applications



78% students say adaptive technology has helped them improve their grades



65% students say technology helps them feel better prepared

Online learning

When covid19 struck in Mid- April 2020, 1.58(94%) billion children and youths of learners from pre- primary to higher learning worldwide got affected. By September 2021 around 117 million children were still at home due to the mandated lockdown.

This pandemic prompted most learning institutions to introduce online learning. Between 2020 to date, 65% of lower middle- income countries and less than 25% of low- income countries have been able to set up remote learning platforms. However, 465 million (almost 47%) students still do not have access to the internet at home therefore exposing a general failure in the education system.

