

**Inference Model for Computer Literacy and Usage Pattern
among Rural Population of Piravom Grama Panchayat,
Ernakulam District, Kerala, India**

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ABSTRACT A study was conducted among the rural population of Piravom Grama Panchayat to determine the computer literacy and usage in August 2009. This panchayat was chosen as it is one of the rural panchayats with backward economy and education. The objective of the study was to find out the percentage of houses with computers, percentage of houses with computers and internet connection, percentage of people using computers, percentage of people employed in IT and related sectors, percentage of people who have passed any computer course, to analyze the usage pattern based on gender, to analyze the usage pattern based on age and to investigate the factors behind the low usage of computers. Random sampling technique was used in the selection of the sample. The results revealed that majority of the houses are not having computers and people who have access to internet is low. Among the people using internet, most of them falls under the age group 15-30. The various reasons for not using computers were lack of computer education, money and occupational reasons. Even those who have access to computers are not exploring the features of Information Communication Technology to a great extent.