



Data Fellows

Impact Report

Four Years of Turning Data Into Clarity, Across 33 Countries

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What's Inside

- 
- 01** — Founder's Desk
 - 02** — About Data Fellows
 - 03** — Vision & Mission
 - 04** — Impact at a Glance
 - 05** — Community & Social Reach
 - 06** — Our Programs
 - 07** — Incend: Our Flagship Product
 - 08** — The Data Fellows x DataCamp Scholarship
 - 09** — The Data Fellows Community Hub, Powered by Propel
 - 10** — Learners in Their Own Words
 - 11** — Building AI Fluency
 - 12** — What Our Community Told Us
 - 13** — Our Partners
 - 14** — What's Ahead
 - 15** — Thank You

Founder's Desk: A Note on Turning Four



Tobi Oladimeji

Founder, Data Fellows

I never thought Data Fellows would become a company.

When I started it on August 27, 2022, it was simply a community. A group of people learning data, sharing opportunities, helping each other and trying to get better.

Four years later, we are still that community at heart, but now we are building products, working with businesses and watching ideas that once lived in conversations become real things people can use.

There have been different versions of the vision along the way. Some things worked. Some didn't. But every year made the direction clearer.

And now there is something real to point to.

I am especially grateful for the OGs who were there at the beginning and remain part of the backbone of this vision: Oyindamola Victor, Blessing Oludele, Tijani Ogbuade, James Ogunsanya, Joshua Agada, Nerat Dazam and Wuraola Akeeb.

You believed in Data Fellows when there was much less to see than there is today. You gave your time, energy and support to something that was still finding its shape. I don't take that lightly.

And to everyone who has joined along the way, our Fellows, volunteers, partners, mentors, speakers, builders and businesses that trusted us, thank you.

From a community to building products like Inscend, I can finally see more clearly what Data Fellows is becoming.

Four years in. Still building. Still learning. Mostly, just grateful.

About Data Fellows

Data Fellows is a community-driven organization built to close the gap between talent and opportunity in the global data and AI ecosystem. We bring together aspiring and practicing data professionals, analysts, scientists, engineers, and AI builders, and give them structured learning, mentorship, and a network that keeps them accountable and moving forward.

We are not only a network. We are a community of thinkers and doers who learn, test ideas, and build tools that make life and business better. Members join from 33 countries, and every Fellow brings a different perspective that, together, turns insight into action.

33

Countries where our Fellows are

Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Cameroon, Canada, Egypt, Ethiopia, Germany, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Iran, Israel, Japan, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Morocco, Nigeria, Pakistan, Palestine, Peru, Poland, Rwanda, South Africa, South Sudan, Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United States, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.

"Beyond skills, Data Fellows has given me hope, clarity, and confidence in my data journey. And for that, I'm certain success is only a matter of time."

— Jeremiah Colman, Data Fellow

"Family through and through. The connections, insights, and knowledge shared here have shaped the way I approach my career and goals."

— Hephzibah Otuene, Data Fellow

I stayed because Data Fellows continues to be a place where I learn new things, connect with others, and discover opportunities for growth. I'm grateful to have been part of the community's journey and to witness how much it has grown over the years.

— Temitope Joy, Data Fellow

One thing that really stood out for me being a part of this community was the Spotlights. They were so encouraging! Every time I read about other people's journeys, it gave me a real boost of inspiration and motivation to keep pushing forward.

— Salome Gabriel, Data Fellow

Every Fellow brings a different perspective — together, we turn insight into action.

Vision & Mission

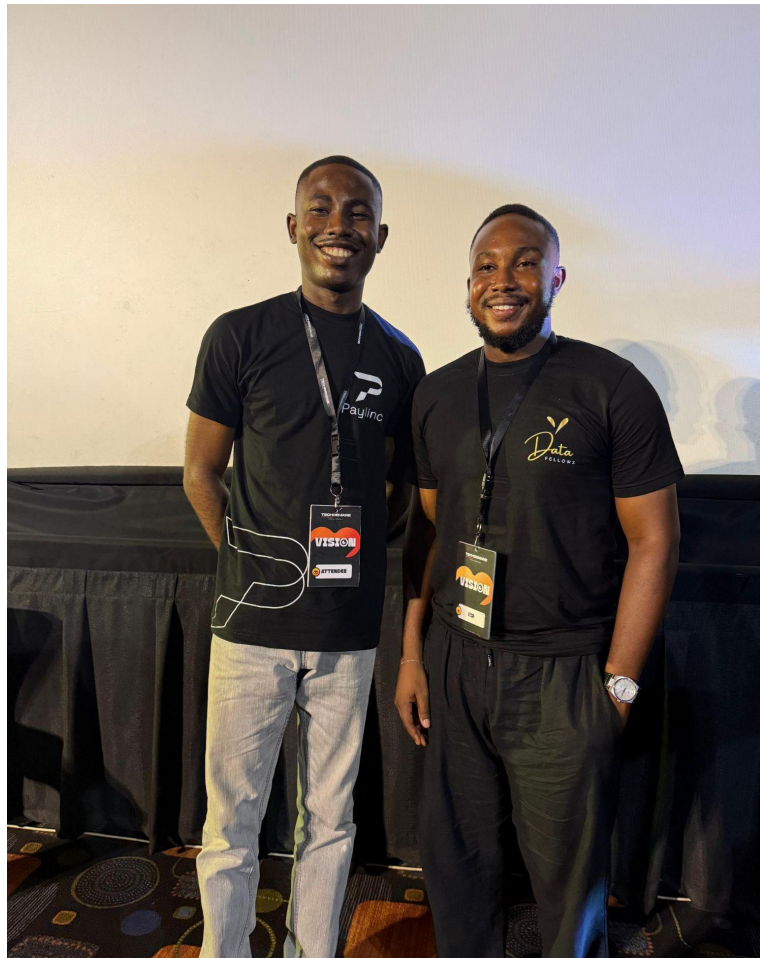
Our Mission

We connect curious people with mentors, collaborative projects, and product teams that ship real solutions. We exist to make data and AI literacy accessible globally by providing structured, affordable learning pathways, fostering a community of consistent practice and peer support, and connecting members directly to the industry leaders, tools, and opportunities that accelerate their careers.

Our Vision

A world where anyone can use data with confidence and purpose.

Fellows experiment, gather feedback from partners, and scale what works.



Impact at a Glance

A snapshot of the community, reach, and programs we've built since 2022.

Community
Members

1,600+

Countries
Represented

33

Pilot Projects
Launched

30+

Continents
Reached by
Inscend

3

LinkedIn
Followers

2,839

WhatsApp
Community

923

Discord Members

629

Newsletter
Subscribers

2,068

X (Twitter)
Followers

442

Instagram
Followers

660

TikTok Followers

200+

Industry Leaders
Spotlighted

60+

Since 2025, our partnership with DataCamp has awarded 1,500 scholarships to learners: 900 in 2025 and 600 so far in 2026.

Community & Social Reach

Data Fellows lives across the platforms where our members already are: from the group chats where daily accountability happens, to the social feeds where we spotlight the people redefining what's possible in data and AI.

Social Media Following

L	LinkedIn	2,839
X	X (Twitter)	442
I	Instagram	660
T	TikTok	200
Y	YouTube	145

Community Spaces

W	WhatsApp Community	923
D	Discord Server	629
N	Newsletter, every two weeks	2,068

Our Programs

1

Sunday Catchup

Every two weeks

Our recurring community call, running strong for 52+ sessions and counting: a consistent space for members to check in, share progress, ask for help, and stay connected to the wider community between bigger events.

2

Fireside Sessions

Once a month

Longer-form, in-depth conversations, 5+ and growing, that go beyond a quick chat to explore a topic, a career path, or a body of work in real depth with the people who live it.

3

Spotlight Series

Weekly

Over 60 top industry leaders in data and AI have been featured through our spotlight series, giving members direct visibility into real career paths, real work, and real people to learn from.

4

Journey So Far

Monthly

Stories from members, shared monthly, unpacking the people, prompts, and pivots behind each win.

5

Physical & Partnership Events

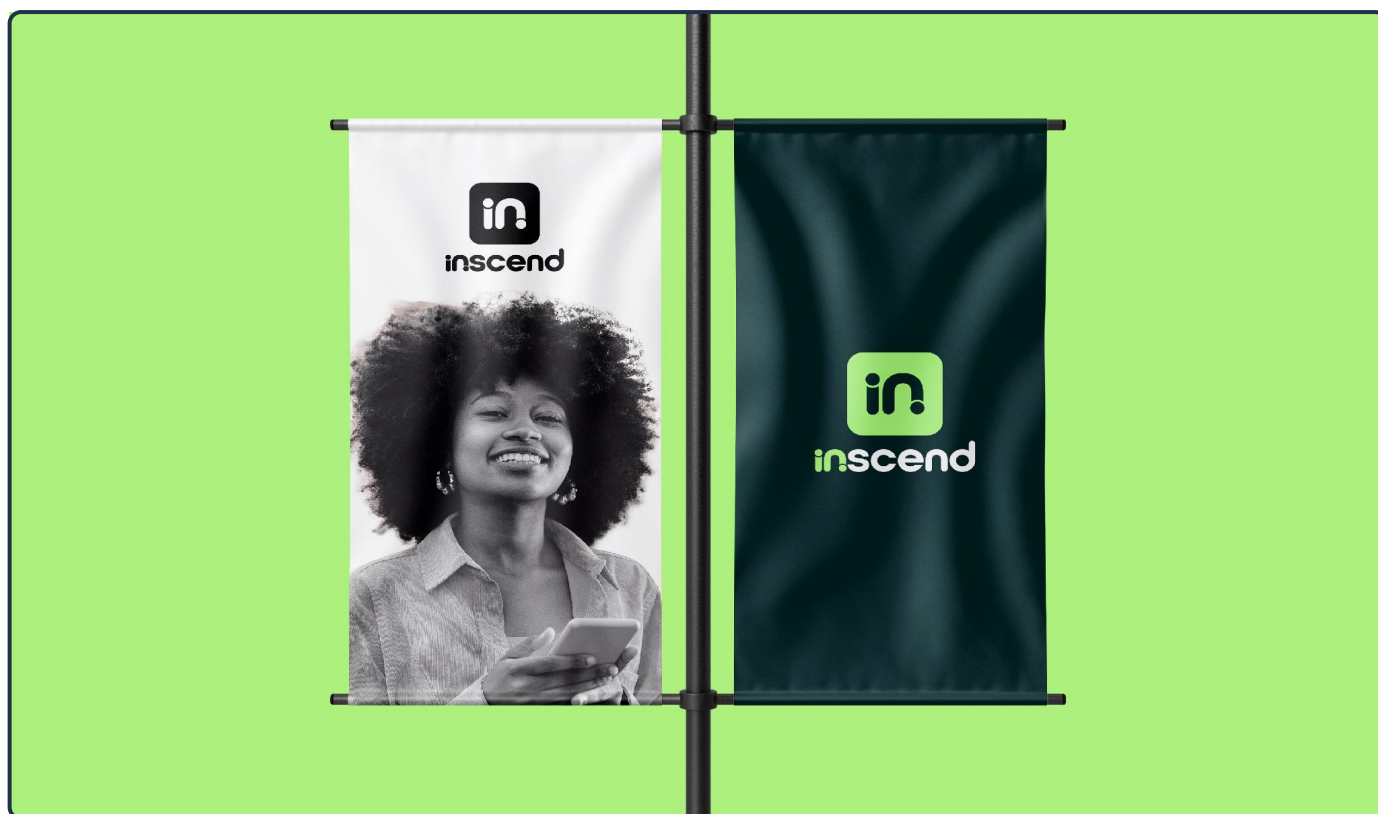
Ongoing

We hosted our first in-person Data Fellows event in Abuja, alongside 5+ additional events run in partnership with other organizations across the ecosystem, proof that this community shows up beyond the screen too.

Inscend: Our Flagship Product

We don't just learn, we build. Inscend is a co-pilot for small businesses that turns messy data into confident action. It was designed with Fellows, iterated with partners, and launched with real pilots: built and refined with 20 pilot projects across 3 continents.

Inscend helps small shop owners understand their business and act on it without needing an analyst. Every feature is inspired by questions that surfaced inside the community.



Inscend Action Board

Daily prompts and guided workflows that turn raw numbers into the next right move, helping shop owners analyse sales, expenses, and inventory without needing an analyst.

Impact Dashboard

See the outcome of every action you take, from restocks to campaign tweaks, so you know what is actually moving revenue.

Built with Fellows

Inscend was prototyped and stress-tested with the businesses in our ecosystem, ensuring it solves practical challenges.

Explore Inscend at inscend.io

The Data Fellows x DataCamp Scholarship

Data Fellows partners with DataCamp, alongside training partners Zummit Africa and Vatebra Academy, to remove the single biggest barrier standing between our members and world-class data education: cost. Scholars get free, structured access to DataCamp's courses and career tracks in Data Analytics, Data Science, Data Engineering, Python, SQL, Power BI, and more, backed by the accountability and support of the wider Data Fellows community.

Scholarships Awarded Since 2025

1,500

Scholarships Awarded in 2025

900

Scholarships Awarded in 2026

600

Applicants come from every corner of the data and AI journey: recent graduates and career-changers, engineers and analysts, healthcare and finance professionals, united by one thing: a commitment to learn, be active in the community, and share their journey with others.

Tracks in highest demand

Data Analytics

Data Science

Data Engineering

Python

SQL

Power BI

AI & Machine Learning

Backed by training partners Zummit Africa and Vatebra Academy, the scholarship pairs free DataCamp access with the accountability and support of the wider Data Fellows community — turning access into completed courses, not just enrolled ones.

How Fellows Are Using DataCamp

The figures on this page reflect DataCamp platform activity for 2026 only, as pulled from the DataCamp Groups console on August 21, 2026. They do not cover 2025 or the full four-year window of this report.

Engagement, Last 30 Days

Metric	Value
Hours on platform	556.4 hrs (546.9 DataCamp + 9.5 AI Tutor)
Total XP earned	454,345 XP
Active members	107
Courses completed	76

Cumulative Totals for 2026

Metric	Value
Total hours on platform	2,356 hrs
Members who earned XP	287
Total units completed	4,532 (Learn 1,311, Practice 3,151, Assess 15, Apply 55)
Unique assessment completions	12

License Adoption

DataCamp scores Data Fellows' license adoption at 86%, placing us in its "Excellent" band.



Stage	Count	% of licenses
Licenses allocated	659	100%
Invites accepted	618	93.8%
Members who started learning	567	86.0%

Courses, Tracks & Projects (2026, Cumulative)

Content Type	Starts / Enrollments	Completions
Courses	751	335
Tracks	314	31
Projects	90	55

What Fellows Are Learning

Most-Started Courses

Course	Starts	Compl.
Communicating Data Insights	123	35
Introduction to SQL	51	14
Intermediate SQL	31	12
Introduction to Python	29	11
Joining Data in SQL	27	None yet

Most-Enrolled Tracks

Track	Enroll.	Compl.
Python Data Fundamentals	68	7
SQL Fundamentals	43	3
Associate Data Scientist	18	None yet
Data Analyst (Power BI)	14	1
Associate Data Analyst (SQL)	12	None yet

Most-Started Projects

Project	Starts	Compl.
Analyzing Students' Mental Health	14	9
Investigating Netflix Movies	13	6
Introduction to Notebook Projects	12	7
Analyzing Crime in Los Angeles	5	None yet
Predictive Modeling for Agriculture	4	4

Top Course Topics, by Starts

Topic	Starts
Data Manipulation	184
Data Literacy	160
Programming	113
Artificial Intelligence	92
Data Visualization	45

By cumulative XP earned, the same pattern holds: Data Manipulation, Programming and Data Literacy lead the topics (Data Literacy alone accounts for 158,480 XP), and Python, course "Theory" content, and SQL lead the technologies.

Top Performers, 2026 XP Leaderboard

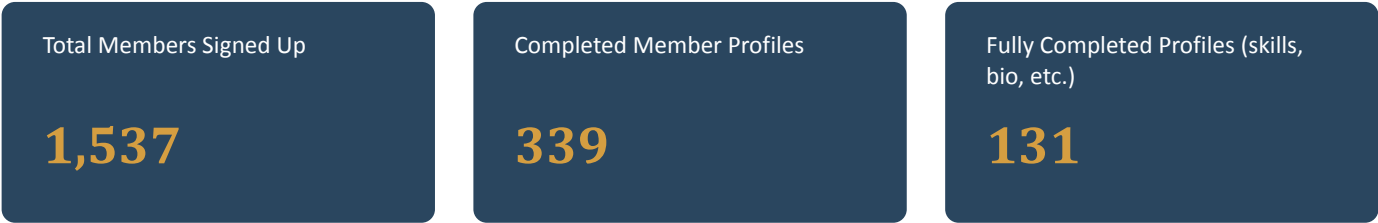
Rank	Fellow	XP Earned	Courses	Chapters
1	Daniel Omagwu	34,508	5	22
2	Khashane Malatji	22,165	2	13
3	Jolayemi Momoh	20,650	5	22
4	Mateusz Heldt	18,160	5	15
5	researchtomiwa	17,940	4	16

The full leaderboard runs 300+ ranked Fellows.

The Data Fellows Community Hub, Powered by Propel

Beyond WhatsApp and Discord, Data Fellows runs its member community hub on Propel (datafellows.propel.community), where members build profiles, showcase skills, and connect with jobs and each other. The hub has grown steadily since 2021, building a strong base of 1,537 signups on the platform to date.

As of August 21, 2026



Where Members Are — Top Countries

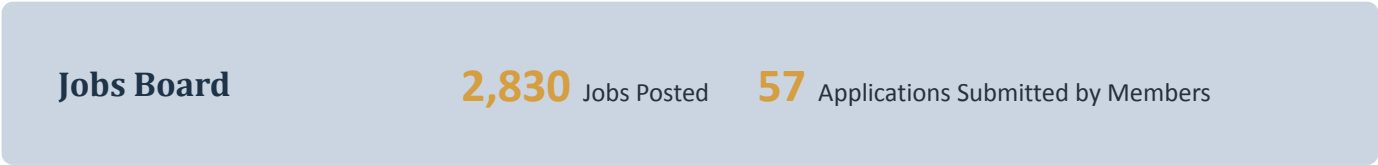
Country	Completed Signups
Nigeria	288
Ghana	11
Kenya	9

Top Skills on Propel Profiles

Skill	Members
SQL	74
Excel	65
Python	64
Data Analysis	59
Power BI	58

Members have logged 2,216 skills across their Propel profiles in total.

Gender split (self-reported, ~486 respondents): 58% male (281), 42% female (203), <1% preferred not to say (2).



Why Our Scholars Apply

Every scholarship application tells a story of curiosity, of career transitions, and of a determination to learn despite real financial barriers. A few recurring themes from thousands of applications:

"I want to bridge the gap between raw information and meaningful change in my community."

— Scholarship Applicant

"Access to structured, high-quality learning resources is the one thing standing between me and a career in data."

— Scholarship Applicant

"I plan to give back: mentoring others who are just starting out, the way this scholarship gave me a start."

— Scholarship Applicant

"Beyond my own growth, I want to help build a stronger data culture where I work and in my community."

— Scholarship Applicant

That last theme, paying it forward, shows up again and again. Many of our scholars go on to mentor others, turning a single opportunity into a chain of them.

Building AI Fluency

As AI tools became part of everyday data work, Data Fellows launched the Claude 101 Challenge, a one-week AI fluency sprint built with Anthropic's Claude, helping members move beyond using AI as a simple chatbot to using it as a genuine thinking partner: setting context, delegating the right tasks, and critically reviewing every output.

More than 50 data professionals joined the challenge, working through prompting fundamentals, Projects and Artifacts, connectors and research tools, and real use cases across roles, from sales and marketing to data analysis in Excel. Daily check-ins were shared on a live community wall, and finishers earned a completion certificate.



Data professionals joined the challenge

50+

Days completed

7/7

It's an early signal of where the community is headed next: not just data skills, but the broader AI fluency needed to apply them faster and more effectively.

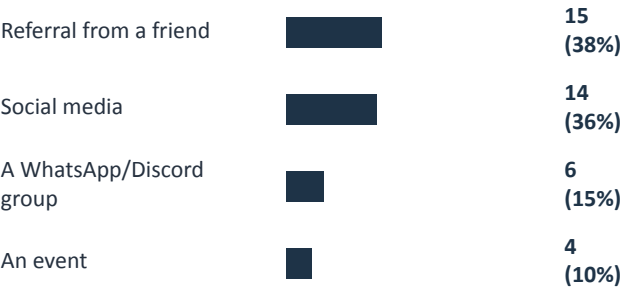
What Our Community Told Us

We recently surveyed the community to understand who our members are and what would make Data Fellows more valuable. Here is what 39 respondents told us.

Where Members Are in Their Journey



How Members Found Us



Why They Joined



said the DataCamp Scholarship was the benefit of membership they valued most (29 of 39 respondents)

74%

would be interested (Yes or Maybe) in volunteering to help grow the community

82%

What Members Are Asking For

- More job boards and opportunity alerts, alongside the DataCamp Scholarship
- More peer study groups, live events, and real-talk career conversations
- A more active Data Science and Data Engineering group, not just Data Analytics
- More physical meetups and community-built projects
- Greater consistency and follow-up with past scholarship cohorts

We're already using this feedback to shape our next four years.

Our Partners

Our partners help us train people, connect communities, and build products faster. Their trust keeps Data Fellows grounded in real impact.

Training Partners

DataCamp Classroom

Zummit Africa

Vatebra Academy

Ecosystem Partners

AWS Startups

Microsoft for Startups

Communitech

Accelerator Centre

TBDC

Bhive

Innovation Factory

Vector Institute AI (Fastlane)

LVLUP Ventures

Community Partners

Everything Analytics

Propel

DaElites

Data Rango

League of Innovators

See page 13 for a closer look at our community hub, powered by Propel.

What's Ahead

1

Deepen the DataCamp partnership and grow scholarship capacity for the 2027 cohort.

2

Onboard new partners that help add to the value community members benefit from (job opportunities, perks, placements, etc.).

3

Expand physical and partnership events beyond Abuja to more cities and countries.

4

Grow the Fireside Session and Spotlight series with more voices from across the industry.

5

Scale Inscend beyond its first pilots into more markets across our 3 continents.

6

Build on the Claude 101 Challenge with deeper, ongoing AI-skills programming for members.

7

Open more volunteer pathways for the 8 in 10 members ready to help grow the community.

8

Keep the Sunday Catchup rhythm going: the small, consistent habit that has held this community together for four years.

Thank You

To every member who showed up to Sunday Catchup, finished a course, asked a question in the WhatsApp group, shared an opportunity or told a friend about Data Fellows: this community exists because you kept choosing to be part of it.

To DataCamp, our fireside guests, spotlighted leaders, and every partner who has lent their time, resources, and platform: thank you for believing that talent is everywhere and building access with us.

Here's to the next four years.



DATA FELLOWS

www.datafellowsai.com