

The Effect of Covid-19 Pandemic on the Education System and Institutions in Wakiso District. A Case Study of Gombe Sub County.

Barigye Brighton 1, Mr. Tukamuhebwa Deus 2, Dr Ariyo Gracious Kazaara 3, Kobusingye prudence 4, Kamugisha Nelson 5, Mutesi Catherine 6, Friday Christopher 7, Isabirye Benefansi 8

1Metropolitan International University, 2 Lecturer Metropolitan international University, University Secretary metropolitan international university 3, Metropolitan International University 4, Lecturer Metropolitan International University 5, Lecturer Metropolitan International University 6, Lecturer Metropolitan International University 7, Lecturer Metropolitan International University 8

Email: nelson.kamugisha@miu.ac.ug

Abstract: *The study focused on analyzing the effect of Covid-19 on the education system and institutions in Wakiso district. Specially, the study examined the effect of Covid-19 on students' enrollment, teachers' enrollment and schools' revenue in Wakiso district. The study employed qualitative research approaches. The study employed interview guides, questionnaires and focused group discussions to collect data in different schools in Wakiso district, Gombe sub-county. The study found that Covid-19 lockdown had a negative impact on the students' enrolment, which rose on school dropout rates, according to the results of the study on the effect of Covid-19 on the number of students. The study revealed that Covid-19 lockdown had a negative influence on schools' revenue, resulting in a reduction in the amount of revenues generated, whilst the study indicated that Covid-19 lockdown caused a decrease in the number of professors in schools. In order to motivate and inspire teachers to work, the government should raise their salaries, and schools should adopt cutting-edge training techniques.*

Keywords: Education system, covid 19, lock down

Background of the study

A infectious condition called coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) is brought on by the SARS-CoV-2 coronavirus (China-WHO Joint Mission, 2020). The coronavirus pandemic of 2019–2020 was caused by the disease, which was originally identified in Wuhan, the capital of Hubei, China, in 2019. (David S.Hui and Eskild Peterson, 2020). Fever, a dry cough, and breathing problems are some of the most obvious symptoms of Covid-19, whereas muscle soreness and a sore throat are less typical. Typically, respiratory droplets created during coughing are how the virus is passed from one person to another. Moreover, touching contaminated surfaces before touching one's face can spread it. The virus can survive for up to 72 hours on surfaces (National Institutes of Health, 2020). The period of exposure before the start of The recommended measures to prevent infection include frequent hand washing, social distancing and keeping hands away from the face ((Skinner, 2017)

In Uganda's vision 2040 provides paths to becoming a more prosperous nation, highlights education as a crucial mechanism for economic growth by providing human capital .However, the COVID-19 pandemic poses serious threats to the access of education in Uganda, and innovative solutions are needed to support this sector and ensure the continued education of populations.

According on students' economic status, Uganda's education system uses a structure of 7 years of primary education, 6 years of secondary education (split into 4 years of lower secondary and 2 years of upper secondary), and 3-5 years of post-secondary education. In contrast, there are significant variation in school enrolment between rural and urban areas. Roughly (91%) of children attend primary school in urban regions, compared to (85%) in rural areas, and students are more likely to complete primary school in urban areas than in rural ones. This disparity is more apparent in secondary education, where (38%) of supplementary children in urban regions and (14%) of those in rural areas attend school, respectively. Female literacy rates are much larger in urban areas as opposed to rural areas, and incomes are higher in urban areas as well. Finally, (80%) of Uganda's school-age children live in rural areas that are characterized by a lack of resources for basic living and underdeveloped infrastructure for education (Ms Tumwesige Josephine, 2020). As the pandemic continues, education in poorer rural areas will be hit the hardest due to underlying disparities.

Problem Statement.

The Covid-19 pandemic is creating significant issues since it has changed people's economic and social lifestyle. The crisis had a significant impact on the education system and institutions as courses were halted owing to the statewide lockdown. The research focused on the effects of COVID-19 on the schooling institutions and institutions because this is a severe issue that impacts not only the students but also their teachers, families, and neighborhoods as a whole. While education benefits society scientifically and monetarily, it also acts as a place for kids to grow physically, psychologically, and socially. Without education, kids are more vulnerable to a variety of environmental risks that could slow down their development. This is particularly true for kids who live in

rural areas, where the “digital divide” makes virtual education nearly impossible to access (UNESCO, 2021). Before COVID-19, the teaching profession was already considered fragile and had numerous challenges and Covid-19 worsened the situation. (UNESCO, 2015). For instance, the World Bank Education Global Practice study from 2020 found that more than 160 countries closed their schools, affecting roughly 1.6 billion young people and children who were not in school, at a time when the world was already beginning to experience a learning crisis as made evident by "high levels of learning poverty." The World Bank was apprehensive that the education crisis spurred on by COVID-19 might result in a long-term loss of human capital in addition to learning losses. (Global Education Practice of the World Bank, 2020) As a result, the study will contribute to a better understanding of both short- and long-term difficulties, as well as methods for dealing with them and managing their impact on professional learning.

Specific objectives of the study

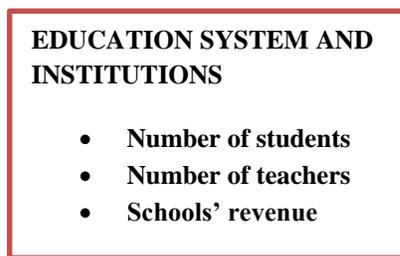
1. To analyze the effect of Covid-19 on the number of students
2. To examine the effect of covid-19 on the school’s Revenue
3. To analyze the effect of covid-19 on number of teachers

Research questions

1. What are the effects of Covid-19 pandemic on the number of students in Wakiso District-Gombe Sub-county?
2. What are the effects of covid-19 on the school’s revenue?
3. What are the effects of covid-19 on the number of teachers?

Conceptual framework

Independent variables



Dependent variable



METHODOLOGY

Research Design

Since this research was qualitative in nature, it called for a systematic flow of the activities that contributed to increasing the effectiveness of the results and reaching the goals (Mohajan, 2018). Positive and interpretive mindsets are both employed to construct the systematic method. The research has chosen interpretive research philosophy for current research pertaining to the analysis of the impact of COVID-19 on the schooling institutions and institutions. By taking into consideration this philosophy, the researchers collected and analyzed the varied responses from the respondents and identified the crucial steps to make the situation better. In addition, interpretive philosophy has helped to keeping doors open. By using the appropriate design, the research study's strategic approach was created. The researcher could use an exploratory, descriptive, or recreational design to get the desired result. The descriptive approach was beneficial in determining the impact of Covid-19 on the educational system for the current research, which is based on data gathered from a questionnaire. This try typing of design assisted in the analysis of the social, economic, and technical aspects of the COVID-19 on the institution and encouraged the creation of an in-depth comprehension of the issues and potential obstacles associated with the delivery of online learning as well as the conversion of the current classroom approach to stud.

Study Population and sample size

The study targeted on private secondary schools and it targets heads of departments, directors of studies and teachers under the education sector in Wakiso district. The target population is finite in size, exists within a given time frame, and is accessible.

Sample Size Determination and selection.

According to the objectives of the study a sample of 75 respondents was appropriate for the study since the study was a cross section one, all the secondary schools in Wakiso District could not be covered due to time constraints. The researcher used a scientific procedure in determining the sample size using the Slovin formula developed by Taro Yamani as below;

$$n = \frac{N}{1 + N(e)^2}$$

Where;

$$n = \frac{92}{1 + 92(0.05)^2}$$

$$n = 75$$

N=Target population

e = Margin of error

n = sample size.

Sampling techniques

Sampling was done using the non-probability method called purposive as the researcher has to choose the sample of students ,teachers and committee members of the schools from the entire population according to own connivance.

Methods of Data Collection and Instruments

Interview Guides

The researcher was to administer interviews. An interview is a dialogue between an interviewer and interviewee. It is an organized conversation aimed at gathering data about a particular topic.

This is a method where a researcher interviews respondents to obtain information on the issue of interest. In this case, the interviews during this research was structured and specifically administered to the heads of schools in Wakiso district.

Focus Group Discussions

This method was developed to survey employees their thoughts on how COVID-19 has impacted the number of students, teachers, and revenue at schools in the Wakiso District.

With this technique, a small group of class teachers, head teachers, and directors of studies were convened, and a few questions were put to them regarding different aspects, along with the number of students, teachers, and schools in the Wakiso District. The main reason the study chose this approach is because it gives participants a chance to communicate with one another about particular topics.

Questionnaire

A questionnaire was used for collecting data from all the categories of individuals

Data collection procedure

The researcher sought for an introductory letter from the faculty of arts and social sciences which introduced him to the authorities, seeking to carry out research in the area. With that permission, the researcher carried out the study, access documentary sources, carry out interviews and availed copies of questionnaire to respondents.

Data Analysis

The researcher analyzed the data by using the thematic analysis/content analysis method. According to this method, the researcher used the frequency distribution and analyzed the response of the respondents by developing the graphs and tables. The thematic analysis improved the reliability and eliminated the biasness in the study.

RESULTS

Demographic characteristics of Respondents.

Age of the respondents

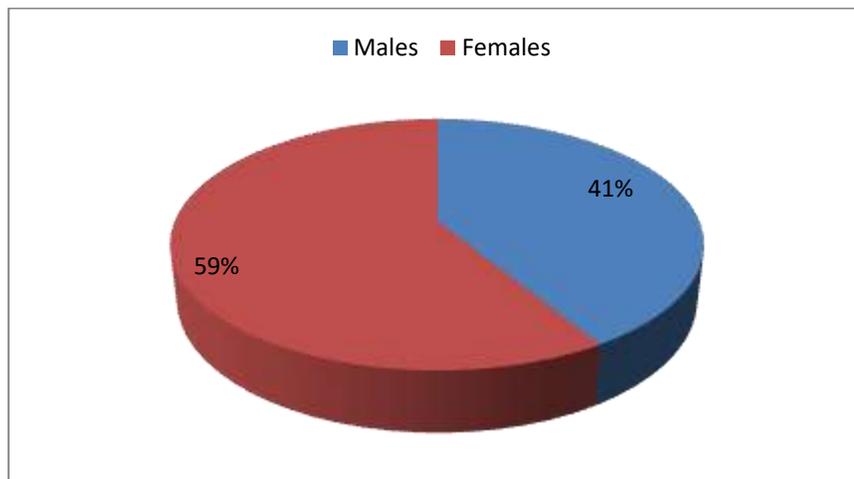
Table 1: Age of the respondents

Age group of respondents	Frequency	Percentage
18-30	20	26.7
31-40	29	38.7
41-50	13	17.3
Above 50	1	1.3
Total	75	100.0

The table 1 shows that most of the respondents (38.7%) were aged 13 to 40, (26.7%) of the respondents were aged 18 to 30, (13%) of respondents were aged 41 to 50 and (1.3 %) of the respondents were aged above 50. This means that most of the respondents that participated in the study were adults and could give reliable information.

Gender of the respondents.

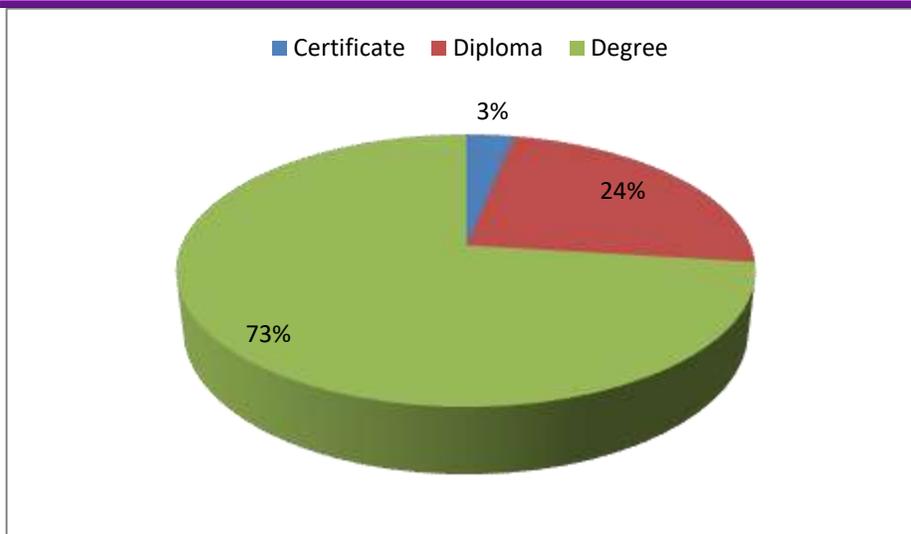
Figure 1: Gender of the respondents.



The figure 4.1.2 shows that (59%) of the respondents were females and the remaining (41%) of the respondents were males. The results further indicate that male respondents were slightly close to their female counterparts during the study.

Education level of the respondents.

Figure 2: Education level of the respondents.



From the above figure 3, (73%) of the respondents had a degree, (24%) of the respondents had a diploma and (3%) had a certificate. The results further indicate that majority of respondents had attained higher levels of education with a degree who gave the right and reliable information during the study.

Marital status of the respondents

Table 1: Marital status of the respondents

Marital status	Frequency	Percentage
Single	13	17
Married	39	52
Separated	11	15
Divorced	12	16
Total	75	100

Source: Primary data

From the table 4.1.4 above indicates that (52%) of the respondents were married, (17%) of the respondents were single, (15%) of the respondents were separated and (16%) of the respondents were divorced. This means that majority of the respondents who took part in the study were married because of their openness in revealing the facts that were important in the study.

Analysis of objectives

The effect of Covid-19 on number of Students

Table 3: The effect of Covid-19 on number of Students

Number of teachers	Frequency	Percentage
Decreased	66	88.0
Increased	5	6.7
Same as Before	4	5.3
Total	75	100.0

Source: Primary data

Using the aforementioned table, (88%) of respondents claim that there was a decrease in students were enrolled following the Covid-19 lockdown, (6.7%) claim that there was a gain in student enrollment, and (5.3%) claim that the number of students enrolled remained the same. The results also show that the Covid-19 lockdown has an adverse influence on student participation, which raises the rates of school dropout. As according Dawadi, Saraswati, Giri, Ram, and Padam (2020) in Nepal, the closing of Covid-19 is expected to lead to an increase in school dropout rates. **The effect of Covid-19 on schools' revenue**

Table 4: Responses on the effect of Covid-19 on schools' revenue

Schools' revenue	Frequency	Percentage
Decreased	67	89.3
Increased	5	6.7

Remained the same	3	4.0
Total	75	100.0

Source: Primary data

According to the above table, (89.3%) of respondents claim that after the Covid-19 lockdown, school revenue dropped, (6.7%) claim that school sales increased, and (4%), claim that school revenue remained the same. The data, however, also show that the Covid-19 lockdown has a negative effect on school revenue and, consequently, school revenue collections. Hilary Burns-USA May 17, 2021 revealed that half of the private schools and universities in the US reported revenue declines in 2020, which is consistent with this.

The effect of Covid-19 on the number of teachers

Table 5 Responses on the effect of Covid-19 on the number of teachers

Number of teachers	Frequency	Percentage
Decreased	58	77.3
Increased	12	16.0
Same as Before	5	6.7
Total	75	100.0

Source: Primary data

According to the above mentioned table, 77.3% of respondents claim that there was a decline in the number of teachers during the Covid-19 lockdown, 16.3% claim there was a gain in the number of professionals, and 6.3% believe the number of teachers enrolled remained the same. The bulk of the educators, according to the findings, did not enroll in schools after the lockdown, thereby decreased the number of teachers working in classes. This is in line with research from the Learning Policy Institute (2018), which shows that teacher shortages in many states are a result of high rates of burnout.

Conclusions

The study concluded that Covid-19 lockdown has a negative impact on the students’ enrollment which increased on school dropout rates. Children Enrolment reduced due to lose of morale for two consecutive years without going to class. Children lost home of going back to school again. So lock down did more harm one good.

The study concluded that Covid-19 lockdown has a negative impact on the schools’ revenue which reduced on the amount of revenue collections. The revenues collected from students helps in running of the school. Revenues reduced and this has made many schools close down

The study concluded that Covid-19 lockdown resulted into a decline in the number of teachers in schools. Many teachers left the profession and resorted to other businesses. During lock down private school s did not pay teachers hence leaving the profession.

Recommendations.

From the study findings, the following were the recommendations derived as follows;

The government should increase on the salary of teachers in order to encourage and motivate them to work.

The schools should adopt modern ways of learning for example e-learning and this would increase on students’ enrollment.

The government should provide relief funds to schools that were hit by the pandemic to ensure proper running of the school programs.

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