

COMPARATIVE OF STUDENTS PERFORMANCE IN MATHEMATICS IN PRIVATE AND PUBLIC SECONDARY SCHOOLS IN ILORIN WEST LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA OF KWARA STATE

BY

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Abstract

The study compares the performance of students in private and public secondary schools in WASSC Examinations in mathematics. Three (3) research hypotheses were formulated. Data collected were analyzed using the chi-square at 0.05 level of significance. Some of the public schools were not funding well and some of the public employ in adequate qualified teachers. Some of the recommendations given include; employment of adequately qualified teachers to complement the efforts of the existing teachers in the system, and provision of well equipped laboratories and libraries that will enhance better performance and success in examinations.

Keywords: *Students' performance, private, Public, Secondary schools and Mathematics*

Introduction

Education is the bedrock upon which a nation development is built. It is the best legacy to a child's future achievement. Education in Nigeria is no more a private enterprises but a huge government venture that has witnessed a dynamic intervention and active participation. For this reason among other reasons, the federal government gives priority to education as an instrument for excellence for effecting national development. Generally speaking, private education began after Nigeria's independence in 1960. Some private individuals and communities started to operate nursery, primary and secondary schools as a result of social and economic pressure from the society. Emily (2013) stated that parent choice is between a public school and private school. Public and private schools have always been in competition. Public are run by the government and must adhere to any students and regulations given while remaining within the budget. The circumstances surrounding every aspect of a public school depend on how much money the government provides in addition public schools are required to serve every students' for this reason public schools are usually very diverse.

In contrast, private schools run independent of the government, although they still must meet certain curriculum standard usually set by the state. The government gives no financial help to a private school, so tuition is require for attendance because of this the proprietor at a private school is usually less diverse (Nishimura and Yamano, 2013). The student-teacher ratio increased in publics, the parent reacts to transfer their children in private schools. High teacher-students ratio in public schools is the probability of the emergence of the private schools. Ejaz (2012) stated that four main reasons for emergence of private schooling were investigated. Income of the households. Education of parents, distance of public school students from the household and English as a medium of instruction in private schools boost up the tendering of private schooling. According to National assessment progress (NAEP) which is representative at National level for the assessment of students knowledge in various subject areas reported that private schools performed better than public schools (US Department of Education 2012).

Purpose of the Study

The purpose of the study is to compare the performance of students in mathematics in both private and public schools in Ilorin west local government. The study revealed out the causes of the differences (if any) in performance, and also to find out whether male students are doing better than female students and try to find possible solutions.

Research Questions

The following are the research questions formulated:

1. Do student's academic performances in mathematics in public schools differ from that of private schools in WASSCE in 2018 in Ilorin west local government area of Kwara State?
2. Do student's academic performances in mathematics in public schools differ from that of private schools in WASSCE in 2017 in Ilorin west local government area of Kwara State?
3. Do student's academic performances in mathematics in public schools differ from that of private schools in WASSCE from 2016 to 2018 in Ilorin west local government area of Kwara State?

Research Hypotheses

The following are the research hypotheses formulated:

1. There is no significant difference in the academic performance in mathematics in private and public schools in Ilorin west local government area of Kwara State in WASSCE results in 2018.
2. There is no significant difference in the academic performance in mathematics in private and public schools in Ilorin west local government area of Kwara State in WASSCE results in 2017.
3. There is no significant difference in the academic performance in mathematics in private and public schools in Ilorin west local government area of Kwara State in WASSCE results from 2016 to 2018.

Methodology

Shrna (2020) stated that research design is a framework for planning your research questions. Creating a research design means making decision about location and timescale of the research, the participant and sources, the variables and hypotheses and methods for collecting and analyzing data. The research design adopted for this study is the descriptive survey method. The study population comprises of all private and public schools in Ilorin west local government area of Kwara State. There are 58 secondary schools in Ilorin west local government area of Kwara state, out of which 26 are public secondary schools and 32 are private secondary schools. The sample for the study consists of ten (10) schools (5 private and 5 public schools). The sample schools were selected using random sampling technique which helps the researcher to choose sample schools by chance. The instrument used for the study was reformat of WASSCE results of the year 2016, 2017 and 2018 which were collected from the Principal of the 10 schools selected. There are 36 secondary schools in Ilorin west local government area of kwara state, out of which 16 were private schools and 20 were public schools. The student's grades were considered and assign numbers.

Validity of an instrument relate to the extent to which an instrument measure what it intends to measure. The reformat has gone through validation from the examination body, WASSCE before it released. The result therefore, is authentic and validated. Analyzing the students's academic performance in public and private schools followed and discussion of the findings of the hypothesis tested.

Table 1: Number of students that pass and fail WASSCE in all the selected private and public schools in Ilorin west local government area in the year 2016 to 2018

	2016		2017				2018					
	PRIVATE		PUBLIC		PRIVATE		PUBLIC		PRIVATE		PUBLIC	
	P	F	P	F	P	F	P	F	P	F	P	F
A	273	3	149	8	320	12	189	18	245	47	161	14
B	81	4	130	12	164	6	129	6	116	61	128	-
C	98	8	127	15	261	23	126	3	164	-	112	1
D	117	3	212	23	165	18	134	6	171	1	135	5
E	123	5	120	5	126	9	29	-	119	1	130	4
TOTAL	692	23	738	63	1036	68	607	33	815	110	666	24

Results

In order to test the hypotheses for this study, chi-square method was used.

H₀₁: There is no significant difference in the academic performance in mathematics in private and public schools in Ilorin local government area in kwara state in WASSCE result in 2018.

TABLE 2: The table below shows the number of the students that pass and fail in 2018

SCHOOLS	PASS	FAIL	TOTAL
PRIVATE	815	110	925
PUBLIC	666	24	690
TOTAL	1481	134	1615

TABLE 3: The table shows the chi-square

School	Pass	Fail	R Total	D/E	X ² CAL	X ² crit	Level of design	Decision
Private	815	110	925		32.49	3.84	0.05	
Public	666	24	690	1				Rejected
Total	1481	134	1615					

The calculated chi-square is 32.49 at the level degree 0.05 which is greater than the table value (3.84), therefore the hypothesis is hereby rejected. That means there is significant difference in the academic performance in mathematics in private and public schools in Ilorin west local government area of Kwara State in WASSCE result in 2018.

H₀₂: There is no significant difference in the academic performance in mathematics in private and public schools in Ilorin west local government area of Kwara State in WASSCE result in 2017.

TABLE 4: The table below shows the number of students that pass and fail in 2017

SCHOOLS	PASS	FAIL	TOTAL
PRIVATE	1036	68	1104
PUBLIC	609	33	642
TOTAL	1645	101	1746

TABLE 5: The table shows the chi-square

School	Pass	Fail	R Total	D/E	X ² CAL	X ² crit	Level of design	Decision
Private	1036	68	1104		0.58	3.84	0.05	
Public	609	33	642	1				Accepted
Total	1645	101	1746					

The calculated chi-square is 0.58 at the level degree 0.05 which is less than the table value (3.84), therefore the hypothesis is hereby accepted. That means that there is no significance different in the academic performance in mathematics in private and public schools in Ilorin west local government area of Kwara State in 2017.

H₀₃: There is no significant difference in the academic performance in mathematics in private and public schools in Ilorin local government area in Kwara State in WASSCE results between 2016 and 2018.

TABLE 6: Shows the number of students that pass and fail between 2016 and 2018

SCHOOLS	PASS	FAIL	TOTAL
PRIVATE	2543	201	2744
PUBLIC	2013	120	2133
TOTAL	4556	321	4877

TABLE 7: The table shows the chi-square

School	Pass	Fail	R Total	D/E	X ² CAL	X ² crit	Level of design	Decision
Private	2543	201	2744		5.63	3.84	0.05	
Public	2013	120	2133	1				Rejected
Total	4556	321	4877					

The calculated chi-square is 5.63 at the degree level 0.05 which is greater than the table value (3.84), therefore the hypothesis is hereby rejected. That means that there is significant difference in academic performance in mathematics in private and public schools between 2016 and 2018 in Ilorin West Local Government Area of Kwara State.

Discussion of findings

The study investigates comparison of academic achievement of students in Mathematics in public and private secondary schools in Ilorin west local government area of kwara state. The finding of the study revealed that there is significant difference between public and private school academic achievement in Mathematics.

The reason for this might be due to the nature of their learning environment, their willingness to work, teacher's competence and ability to utilize instructional material in each school. The reason for the insignificant opinion might due to the fact that, majority of children from public schools are either from low or average social economic family background, where less attention is paid by parents on their children Education and behaviour.

Therefore the computed result for the hypothesis showed that there is significant difference in the achievement of students in mathematics in public and private schools.

Conclusion

Furthermore, it shows from the analysis that there are significant differences in the comparative study of the performance between the private and public schools. Therefore the performance of students in private schools mathematics results cannot be used to predict the performance in public schools mathematics results. Principals of private schools have an advantage of more satisfaction as compare to public schools and public school teachers are more satisfy by their employment and salaries as compare to private school teachers.

Recommendations

To enhance academics performance in both private and public secondary schools in Ilorin West Local Government Area of Kwara State. The following recommendations are suggested:

1. Adequate funding of secondary schools education by the Government and proprietors is highly essential for school activities.
2. Employment of adequately qualified teachers is also very important to complement the efforts of the existing teachers in the system.
3. Provision of well equipped laboratories and libraries will enhance better performance and success in examination.
4. Efficiency in payment of salaries and allowances to teachers as at when due is also very important to enable them discharge their local responsibilities in their various family set ups.

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