Table of Contents

1. Secondary Education School Survey (SESS) Methodology

1.1. Survey Objective:

The main objective of conducting a Secondary Education School Survey (SESS) is to understand the status of our secondary schools with an education justice lens especially at post-COVID era. The survey gathered comprehensive data on the current state of secondary education in Kenya. This includes understanding the quality of education, infrastructure, student performance, teacher qualifications, challenges faced by schools and the systemic barriers to educational transformation. With a nationally representative sample, Secondary Education School Survey provided deeper insights into the drivers of learning and academic performance in the diverse secondary school, with a clear focus on the underlying structure that sustains the enduring inequities.

1.2. Survey Design

The sample of schools that participated in the study were selected using stratified random sampling, to obtain a nationally representative sample of 376 secondary schools. Stratification was done at three levels: county, gender and category of schools. Six different categories of schools were sampled from national, extra-county, county, sub-county, private and special schools. Further stratification was made into boys, girls and mixed secondary schools.

1.3. Survey Questionnaires

Survey tools were developed, pretested and piloted ahead of the survey. A questionnaire was used in the 2021 secondary school survey. The primary respondents were principals of the selected schools. The questionnaire had different sections to collect information on;

- School Administrative details
- School Principal details
- School Details
- School attendance and enrolment details
- Teacher numbers, attendance and in-service training
- Information Communication and Technology school details;
- School Health
- Water, sanitation and hygiene
- Nutrition and meals
- Social issues
- Learning resources and subjects examined
- Learner transition and retention experiences

1.4. Training of Data Collectors

The data collectors were taken through a one-day training on the secondary school data collection tool. The 58 research assistants/surveyors were drawn from the counties as they were

familiar with the geography of the counties they worked in. They were trained alongside a select number of MoE field officers, who supported them in the data collection exercise.

1.5. Field logistics

Data collection for the 2021 Secondary School Survey was carried out by the team of research assistants. A Research Assistant was assigned schools based on the vastness of the county and the number of schools in the sample. A select team Ministry of Education and staff supported the monitoring of the survey.

1.6. Data Processing

Data was collected using a mobile application – Kobo Collect. The application is open-source Android-based smart phone or tablets. The configuration of the system and programming of questionnaires into the Kobo Collect application was done by a data specialist. Every school/RA assigned unique identifiers to ensure quality checks and the integrity of the data collected. Once data collection was completed in each school, it was uploaded unto a cloud server. The data as submitted was shared in real time to monitor progress and flag any errors, which were communicated back to the field teams for correction. Secondary editing was done by data specialist, who resolved any errors that were not corrected by field teams during data collection. Stata software was used for cleaning and tabulation during data analysis. The data analysis has involved the observations to make the findings reflect the true weight of the schools. For instance, sub-county schools constitute roughly 70% of the secondary schools and this was factored in the weighting of the sample during analysis.

1.7. Response Rate

The response rates for all the category of schools in the Secondary School Survey varied across different school categories. 339 schools were surveyed against the target of 376 representing 90.2% response rate. Sub-county schools had 100% response rate, while national schools had the least response rate at 77.7%.

School Category	Frequency	Percentage
National schools	73	21.5
Extra County Schools	86	25.4
County Schools	86	25.4
Sub-county Schools	94	27.7
Total	**339**	**100**