



Educational Policy Impacts on Secondary School Dropout Rates in Nigerian Villages: A Randomized Controlled Trial Analysis

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Abstract

Secondary school dropout rates remain high in Nigerian villages despite efforts to improve educational access and quality. A randomized controlled trial was conducted in 50 randomly selected villages across Nigeria. Participants were schools with similar baseline characteristics but varying levels of exposure to policy interventions. The analysis revealed that intervention schools had significantly lower dropout rates compared to control schools, specifically a 15% reduction in dropouts among students exposed to the new policies. Recent educational policies have demonstrated potential benefits for secondary school retention in Nigerian villages. Policy makers should consider scaling up successful interventions and conducting further evaluations to sustain positive outcomes.

Keywords: *African geography, dropout rates, educational policy, randomized controlled trial, secondary education, village studies, impact assessment*

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