

**AN INVESTIGATION INTO THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC FACTORS ON  
COMPLETION RATE IN DAY SECONDARY SCHOOLS.A CASE STUDY OF  
KIRINYAGA SOUTH DISTRICT, KIRINYAGA COUNTY,**

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**A RESEARCH PROJECT SUBMITTED TO SCHOOL OF  
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## ABSTRACT

The purpose of the study aimed at gaining in-depth understanding of socio-economic factors on completion rate of students in Day secondary education in the rice-growing region of Kirinyaga South District, Kirinyaga County, Kenya. Factors leading to this limited success had hitherto not been adequately investigated. The purpose of the study therefore will be identifying those socio-economic influences on the completion rate in day secondary schools in Kirinyaga south district. The objectives of the study was to determine the completion rate of students in day secondary schools, students school attendance trends and drop-out rates in the district day secondary schools, finding out how the rice-growing sub-sector in the district may be used to prop up student education and identifying the non-school based factors that cause completion rate. The theory of agrarian transformation and socio-cultural change formed the basis of the study. The study used an exploratory approach using a descriptive survey design, and the locale was Kirinyaga South District. The district has about 4000 form two and three students, 40 form 2 and 3 class teachers, 20 Heads of Departments (HoDs), and 20 principals from which 8 secondary schools will be selected using purposive sampling technique. All the principals and the HODs of the selected schools were sampled, while simple random sampling to pick 2 class teachers, one each from form two and three classes was used. The total sample size was 224. Questionnaires will be used to collect data from students, class teachers and HODs while interview guides will be used for the school principals. Piloting of the instruments will be carried out in two schools outside the sample to ascertain reliability. Validity of the instruments was ascertained through expert judgment. The questionnaires and interview guides were filled by the individual respondents. The data so collected were presented using figures, tables and diagrams. The data generated were qualitative hence was appropriately processed and analyzed using thematic analysis through cut and paste method. The respondents will be assigned identification codes which were entered in the computer code sheets. The data was analyzed using SPSS program. Finally, a further research was recommended on a related subject in districts with similar agricultural activities is suggested.