

**EDUCATION PERFORMANCE IN PUBLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL AS
COMPARED TO PRIVATE PRIMARY SCHOOLS. A CASE STUDY OF
GATUNDU NORTH DISTRICT, KIAMBU COUNTY**

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**A RESEARCH PROJECT SUBMITTED TO THE SCHOOL OF EDUCATION,
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ABSTRACT

The academic performance in public primary schools is very poor compared to private primary schools. The main purpose of this study is to find out why public primary schools perform poorer than private primary schools in Gatundu North District. Education is the key to a better future and thus there is a high demand for good academic performance. The researcher used survey design. Various respondents were used and included 42 classroom teachers, 21 head teachers and managers, 21 parents, 3 quality assurance and standards officers (QASO), and school children. The sample was selected using stratified and random sampling. The QASO were selected using purposive sampling. The data was collected using questionnaires with open and close ended questions to the sample respondents. Observation schedules by use of checklists was done on the physical facilities, teaching and learning materials and play things. Data analysis was done using the spss and the results presented in form of tables and frequencies and percentages. The findings showed that there are various reasons leading to poor performance in public primary schools, ranging from lack of adequate physical facilities, feeding programmes, inadequate concrete play materials and learning materials, poor parents participation and lack of adequate qualified teachers as well as huge work load to the teachers. However the perception of the participants gave some glimmer hope that all is not lost if the ministry of education and the government provides qualified teachers and enough resource materials as well as total participation of the parents in the teaching and learning process. All stakeholders in education should be sensitized on their role in enhancing quality education in public primary schools.