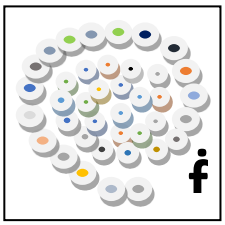

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Statistical analysis of academic performance among pupils in primary schools. a yardstick for an unbiased decision - making

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Abstract

This paper is an extract of the research findings that was carried out in Ofu local government area of Kogi state in 2021 which was used to resolve the conflict that broke out as a result of the proposal to establish Government model Science College by the Kogi state Government. The bone of contention then was either to establish model boys' college or model girls' college in the local government. This necessitated the research to find out if performance depends on sex or not. An analysis of variance for categorical data (CATANOVA) was used in carrying out the test. It was discovered that performance depends on sex, and that male pupils performed better than the female pupils. Hence, Government boys model college was recommended. All the findings were based on the performance of male and female pupils in primary six using common entrance examination results for 2019 since there was no common entrance examination for 2020 due to covid-19 pandemic.

Keywords: sex; Chi- square; catanova; performance.

1 Introduction

The growth of statistics over time and its role in problem solving cannot be over emphasized. This has made itself felt in almost every phase of human endeavor. Statistics provides models and theories that are needed to study situations involving uncertainties. One of such problems that these models and theories can be employed is that which confronted Ofu Local government area of Kogi state in 2021.

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The Kogi state government of Nigeria announced the proposal to establish a new single sex model college to be located in Ofu local government Area of the state. As usual both sexes began to give reasons why it should be boys model college or girls model college. All efforts to resolve this problem to no avail. This necessitated research to find out if performance is dependent on sex or not. This is because the sex that performed better will be able to feed the college with the desired quality and quantity of students needed by the new college.

There are three districts in Ofu Local Government. These include Ugwolawo, Igalaogba and Itobe districts. Data on performance was categorize into male and female.

This study is therefore aimed at finding out if performance between the males and females in the local government is the same or not. Hence, this study investigates the comparative academic performance between male and female pupils in primary six across the districts of Ofu local government area of Kogi state.

1.1 Aim and objectives of the study

- To ascertain if performance is dependent on sex
- To determine which of the sex should have the school
- To resolve the conflict already created by this agitation.

1.2 Nature and scope of study

There are 53 primary schools in Ofu Local Government Area of Kogi State out of which samples of 20 primary schools were taken. The primary schools in kogi state like their counterparts in other states are controlled by the state primary Education Board which is now called state universal basic Education Board (SUBEB) which in turn is controlled by the state ministry of education. It is this state ministry of education that provides an approved syllabus to be followed by the primary schools and at the end of the six-year programme, the pupils sit for common entrance examination which qualify them to go to secondary schools. The examination is made up of three papers. These are: Paper 1(English language), paper 2 (Mathematics) and Paper 3 (General paper). At the end of the examination, successful candidates are classified into five groups – Distinction(A), Good (B), Credit (C), Fair (D) and Pass (E). Similarly, unsuccessful candidates are awarded (F). All findings are based on the analysis of this examination results from the sampled schools from the various districts.

1.3 Sampling techniques

Out of the 53 primary schools in Ofu Local government Area, I sampled 20 primary schools according to the classification below.

Sampling distribution of the primary schools in Ofu local government area

Districts	Number of schools
Ugwolawo	9
Igalaogba	6
Itobe	5

The researcher used stratified random sampling techniques to represent the entire Ofu Local Government Area. The local Government has three districts so that communities were used as the

stratifying factor. Ofu Local Government Area comprises of eighteen communities, which is grouped into three districts forming the strata, from which simple random sampling was used. Ugwolawo district consists of Ugwolawo, Ogegume, Ojofa, Obagwu, Umomi, Akpagidigbo, Alome, Ikagbo, and Ugbogbo, while Igalaogba district is made up of Aloma, Igah, Ejule, Ogbonicha, Ogbulu and Ikeje. Finally, Itobe district comprises of Ojodu, Adumu, Aloji, Itobe and Ochadamu. Also, I used proportional allocation of sample size according to the weight (number of the communities that each group consists in terms of number of primary schools in each group).

2 Literature review

Even though many studies have been carried out to ascertain the dependence of performance on one factor or the other, majority of them if not all were carried out using the results from examinations such as first school leaving certificate (FSLCE), Senior school certificate examination (SSCE), University matriculation Examinations (UME) among others as their only source of data for the analysis which this study frown at due to gross examination malpractice usually associated with the conduct and marking of the scripts by the authorities concern.

In order to ascertain if boys are more brilliant than girls, [5] investigated into the performance of boys and girls in a sample of 32 primary schools Nsukka Educational Zone. From the report of his findings, he asserted that boys are more brilliant than girls all within primary school age.

Another research carried out by [1] on how the shift system affects the academic performance of primary school pupils in Enugu using qualitative data based on 1978 only, he came up with the following results: first, that the morning session pupils performed better than the afternoons. Secondly, that this disparity in performance was as a result of the fact that shift one had relatively more qualified and trained teachers than shift two. [12] carried out research on school location and academic performance of pupils in English language in primary schools. He reported that there is a significant difference in the academic performance of pupils in urban and rural primary schools in English language.

3 Methodological frameworks

The methodological framework for this study is a two-way analysis of variance for categorical data (CATANOVA).

A two-way Catanova with chi-square tests for interaction.

Consider a two-way experimental situation with a k-dimensional vector of responses { (n_{ijk}) K, i=1,2,…I, j=1,2,…,J} recorded in frequencies in the $(ij)^{th}$ plot. We assume a multinomial probability model, namely

$\Pr(\{n_{ijk}\}k/\{\pi_{ijk}\}\ k,n_{ij}) = nij\ !/\ \prod_k\{nijk!\}\qquad (\pi ijk)\prod_k(n^{ijk}$

$nijk = 0,1,\ldots,n_{ij}$

$0 \leq \pi_{ijk} \leq 1$

$Nij = \sum_k nijk$ is held fixed

Nijk, ni/ j/ k are independent ∀ i≠ i/

The hypothesis to be tested are:
HR: $\prod ijk == \prod jk$, there is no row effect
HC: : $\prod ijk == \prod ik$, there is no column effect
HRC: : $\prod ijk == \prod k$, there is no row x column interaction.

The expectation of the sample estimate of : $\prod ijk$ is given by the linear model
E ($\prod^{\wedge} ijk$) $\boldsymbol{\mu}$k + Tik + Bjk + $\boldsymbol{\lambda}$ijk,

where $\boldsymbol{\mu}$k, Bjk and $\boldsymbol{\lambda}$ijk assume their usual meaning of constant, row effect, column effect and interaction respectively.

The hypothesis, HR, HC, and HRC will be seen to be respectively equivalent to
Hi: Tik = 0 ∀i, HB: Bjk = 0 ∀j and $\boldsymbol{\lambda}$ijk = 0 ∀i,j.

The parameters: $\prod ijk$ may be considered fixed or random with probability density h($\prod ijk$), over {0,1} depending on whether I and J are random or not, [13,14] Specially,
g($\prod ijk$) if I and J are random, o≤ $\prod ijk$≤ 1
h($\prod ijk$) = g ($\prod jk$) if I is fixed and J random 0≤ $\prod jk$≤ 1
g($\prod ik$) if I is random and J fixed, 0≤ : $\prod ik$ ≤ 1.

We shall now consider the sum of squares (SS) for {nijk}k. This may be obtained, [6,7,8,9,10, 13] also [2,3], as the trace of the sample variance- covariance matrix. That is

SS(nijk) = Σ_k var (nijk)
Upon further simplification, we have that
TSS = n - $\sum_k$ n2..k/n , as the total sum of squares
BRSS = n - $\sum_{ik}$ n2i.k/ni , as the between row sum of squares
BCSS = n - $\sum_{jk}$ n2.jk/nj , as the between column sum of squares
WUSS = n - $\sum_{ijk}$ n2ijk/nij, as the within unit sum of squares,

where
N = $\sum_i$ ni = $\sum_j$ nj $\sum_{ij}$ nij
RSS = TSS – BRSS = $\sum_k$ n2i.k/ni - $\sum_k$ n2..k/n
CSS = TSS – BCSS = = n - $\sum_{jk}$ n2.jk/nj - $\sum_k$ n2..k/n
NSS = BRSS + BCSS – TSS – WUSS
= n - $\sum_{ijk}$ n2ijk/nij - $\sum_{ik}$ n2i.k/ni - $\sum_{jk}$ n2.jk/nj + $\sum_k$ n2..k/n.

We may reject HR, HC and HRC respectively at specified ά-level of error if
$\chi^2_R \geq \chi^2(\acute{\alpha})_{(I-1)(J-1)(K-1)}$

where
χ^2_R = (K-1)(n-1)RSS/ TSS
χ^2_C = (K-1)(n-1)css/TSS
χ^2_{NT} = (K-1)(n-1)NSS/TSS

3.1 Materials and methods

Below is the data layout for a two – way analysis of variance for categorical data (CATANOVA). This was given by Table 1 [4]

	Districts	Ugwolawo							Igalaogba							Itobe						
i	Responses	A	B	C	D	E	F	T	A	B	C	D	E	F	T	A	B	C	D	E	F	T
	Males	n_{111}	n_{112}	n_{113}	n_{114}	n_{115}	n_{116}	$n_{11.}$	n_{121}	n_{122}	n_{123}	n_{124}	n_{125}	n_{126}	$n_{12.}$	n_{131}	n_{132}	n_{133}	n_{134}	n_{135}	n_{136}	$n_{13.}$
	Females	n211	n212	n213	n214	n215	n216	n21.	n221	n222	n223	n224	n225	n226	n22.	n231	n232	n233	n234	n235	n236	n23.
	n.jk	n.11	n.12	n.13	n.14	n.15	n.16	n.1.	n.21	n.22	n.23	n.24	n.25	n.26	n.2.	n.31	n.32	n.33	n.34	n.35	n.36	n.3.

Table 1. Data layout for two-way Catanavo

DISTRICTS

	Ugwolawo							Igalaogba							Itobe													
sex	A	B	C	D	E	F	ni1.	A	B	C	D	E	F	ni2.	A	B	C	D	E	F	ni3.	ni.k						ni..
male	139	62	58	10	55	83	407	71	75	45	24	36	52	303	107	52	53	5	45	75	337	317	189	156	39	136	210	1047
female	80	51	48	11	50	85	325	39	48	29	37	39	51	243	43	20	26	6	30	64	189	162	119	103	54	119	200	757
Total	219	113	106	21	105	168	732	110	123	74	61	75	103	546	150	72	79	11	75	139	526	479	308	259	93	255	410	1804

Table 2: Two – way Catanova test on performance of male and female pupils of primary in Ofu local Government Area of Kogi State in common entrance examination for the year 2021

Total sum of squares (TSS) = n - $\sum_k n2..k/n$

= 1804 - $(479^2 + 308^2 + 259^2 + 93^2 + 255^2 + 410^2)/ 1804$

= 1804 – 633160/1804

= 1804 – 350.9756

TSS = 1453.0244.

Between sex sum of squares (BSSS) = n - $\sum_{ik} n2i.k/n\,i$

= $1804 – (317^2 + 189^2 + 156^2 + 39^2 + 136^2 + 210^2)/1047 + (162^2 + 119^2 + 103^2 + 54^2 + 119^2 + 200^2) / 757$

= 1804 - (214.5778 + 142.7886)

= 1804 - 357.3664

BRSS = 1446.6336.

Between districts sum of squares (BDSS) = n - $\sum_{jk} n2.jk/nj$

= $1804 - (219^2 + 113^2 + 106^2 + 21^2 + 105^2 + 168^2)/ 732 + (110^2 + 123^2 + 74^2 + 11^2 + 75^2 + 139^2)/526$

= 1804 - (152.5355 + 96.4469 + 112.1521)

= 1804 - 361.1345

BDSS = 1442.8655.

Row sum of squares (RSS) = TSS – BDSS

= 1453.0244 – 1446.6336

= 6.3908

RSS = 6.3908.

Column sum of squares (CSS) = TSS – BDSS
= 1453.0244 - 1442.8655
= 10.1588.

Source of variance	Degree of freedom	Sum of squares
Row or factor levels or sexes	1	6.3908
Districts	2	10.1588
Sex x districts	10	1.3334
Residual	1790	1435.1414
Total	1803	1453.0244

Table 3: Catanova table

Ho: Performance is independent of sex.
H1: Performance is dependent on sex.

The test statistic = χ^2_{cal} = k – 1(n-1)RSS/ TSS
= (6-1)1804 – 1) 6.3908/ 1453.0244
= 39.6504
$\chi^2_{tab} = \chi^{2\,(0.05)}_{(I-1)(K-1)} = \chi^{2\,(0.05)}_{(2-1)(6-1)} = 11.070$

Decision Rule: Reject Ho if χ^2_{cal} is greater than χ^2_{tab}

Conclusion:
Since $\chi^2_{cal = 39.6504} > \chi^2_{tab} = 11.070$, we reject Ho and conclude that performance depends on the sex.

To determine which sex perform better than the other, we obtain the proportions of students that passed and failed for each of the sex as follows:

Proportion of males that made grade A is:
$P_{MA} = n_{MA}/N_m = 317/1047 = 0.30$.

Proportion of females that made grade A is:
$PFA = n_{FA}/N_F = 162/757 = 0.21$.

Proportion of males that made grade B is:
$P_{MB} = n_{mb}/N_m = 189/1047 = 0.18$.

Proportion of females that made grade B is
$P_{FB} = n_{FB}/N_F = 119/757 = 0.16$.

Proportion of males that made grade C is

$P_{MC} = n_{MC}/N_M = 156/1047 = 0.15.$

Proportion of females that made grade C is
$P_{FC} = n_{FC}/N_F = 103/575 = 0.14.$

Proportion of males that made grade D is
$P_{MD} = n_{MD}/N_M = 39/1047 = 0.04.$

Proportion of females that made grade D is
$P_{FD} = n_{FD}/N_F = 54/757 = 0.07.$

Proportion of males that made grade E is
$P_{ME} = n_{ME}/N_M = 136/1047 = 0.16.$

Proportion of males that made grade F is
$P_{MF} = n_{MF}/N_M = 210/1047 = 0.20.$

Proportion of females that made grade F is
$P_{FF} = n_{FF}/N_F = 200/757 = 0.26.$

The proportion of males that made grades A, B, and C are more than the females that made grades A, B, and C. Likewise, the proportion of males that made grade D, E, and F are less than that of the females that made grades D, E and F. We conclude that male pupils in the Local Government perform better than their female counterpart.

4 Conclusion

From the foregoing, it shows that performance depends on sex. This means that performance of any chosen pupil depends on sex of the pupil. From the result obtained, pupils from male pupils performed better than the females. The researcher therefore recommended that boys model science college should be established since more qualified males will be available to go the school

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