

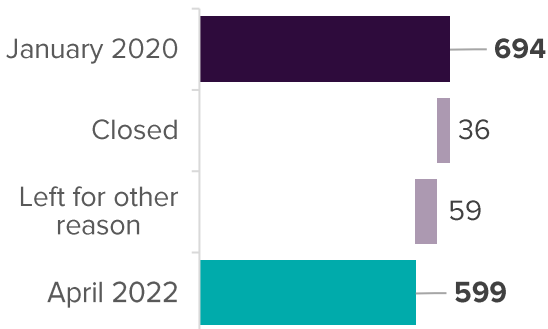
COVID-19: UGANDA SCHOOLS REOPEN FOR IN-PERSON LEARNING

KEY INSIGHT: 94.8% of Uganda partner schools reopened after 22-months of closures

Despite overwhelming challenges that Uganda non-state schools faced during 22-months of in-person learning closures mandated by the government, **94.8%** of the EduQuality partner schools have reopened to students in January 2022. In total, **86.3%** of partner schools have returned to the Uganda EduQuality program. Unfortunately, **36 schools** report they have permanently closed.

While it is too early to count the full cost of the shutdowns, it appears that schools have not had difficulties refilling teacher roles. The pupil-to-teacher ratio has declined, while enrolment is up 0.2% and school fees have increased only slightly compared to inflation.

EduQuality School Partners: Uganda



94.8%
Schools reopened

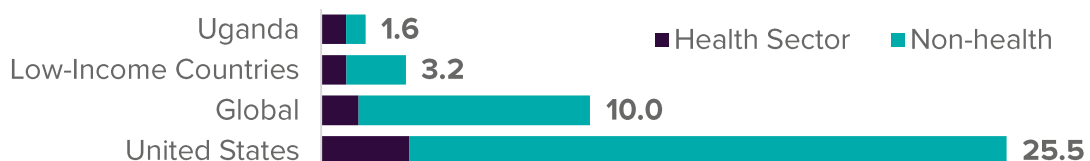


86.3%
Schools returned to EduQuality

CONTEXT. Uganda's Education System

Uganda's education system was one of the most affected by school closures throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. In response to the pandemic, schools were closed from **March 2020 to January 2022**, a total of **22 months**. IMF analysis suggests that Uganda ranks among the lowest in terms of fiscal measures taken by government to support the economy during the crisis. As a result, concerns around the resulting learning loss have been very high for Uganda and other low- and middle- income countries. The ability of the private education sector to endure the long shutdowns has been uncertain, given inability to generate revenue through school fees and government support.

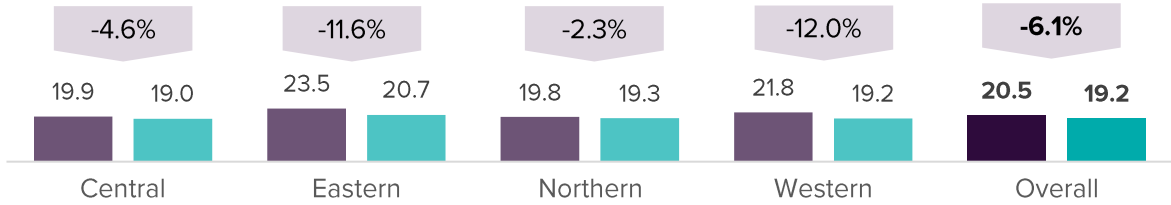
Government Fiscal Support, % of GDP



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■ January 2020 ■ April 2022

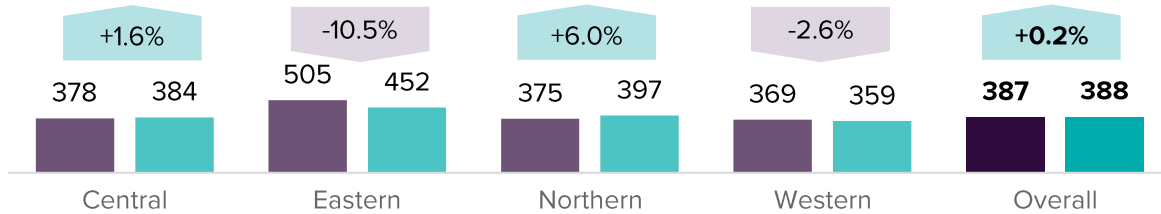
Pupil/Teacher Ratio



Key finding #1 - 6.1% reduction in the pupil-to-teacher ratio (PTR)

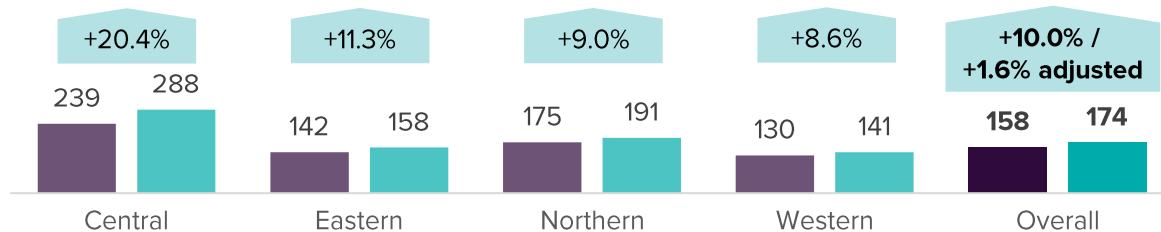
All regions of Uganda saw an average reduction in the PTR. The most significant reduction was seen in Eastern region schools with a 11.6% reduction in PTR. The change was driven by an increase in the number of teachers employed (6.7% on average), rather than a decline in student enrolment.

Number of Students Enrolled



Key Finding #2 - Average student enrollment in schools that reopened is up by 0.2%. Eastern and Western region-based schools saw enrolment decline (10.5% and 2.6% respectively), offset by an increase in Central region - which includes Kampala - and Northern region schools.

Median School Fees, UGX '000



Key Finding #3 - Median School fees per term increased by 1.6% when adjusted for inflation. For all regions, median school fees increased – *nominally* up 10% on average across the country. However, adjusting for Bank of Uganda reported core inflation through the past 28 months, **median school fees are up by only 1.6%.**

Of the 598 schools that returned to the program, EduFinance has pre- and post-COVID information for 340 schools. After filtering out schools whose data does not seem accurate, the remaining 329 have been used for analysis.