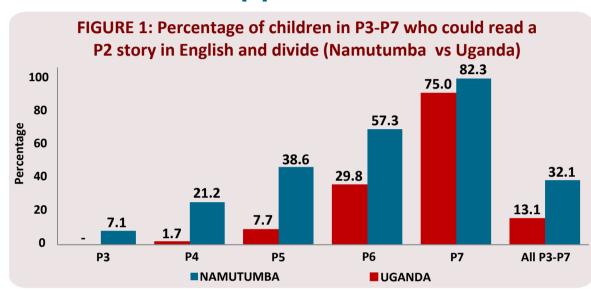
About the Namutumba Report Card

Amidst the Covid-19 pandemic that led to the closure of schools in Uganda for almost two years, Uwezo Uganda in partnership with selected district-based Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) conducted a national household-based learning assessment for children aged 4-16 years across 29 districts in the country. The assessment focusing on literacy and numeracy was pegged on primary 2 curriculum. In Namutumba district, a total of 618 children (301 boys and 317 girls) participated in the assessment. This report card presents selected key findings on learning in Namutumba district. In some instances, this report compares the learning situation in Namutumba district with the national situation.

1. How well can children read and count, by class in Namutumba district? [%]

The aim of education is to ensure that children learn. Thus, if effective learning occurred in primary education, assessments should provide evidence attesting that learners are able to meet the expected competencies. Once again Uwezo finds that children do not perform to standard, almost none of the children in Primary 3 was able to do Primary 2 work. And even by Primary 7, the end of the primary cycle, a significant number (25%) is unable to do Primary 2 reading and mathematics. Overall, learning levels in Namutumba were much lower than the national averages.



2. Are boys and girls in Namutumba district able to read words and do subtraction? [%]

It is desirable that learning outcomes are equally distributed amongst boys and girls. However, this is not always the case as classroom factors coupled with home factors could result in learning outcomes favouring one group of children compared to the other. In Namutumba district, there are slightly more girls than boys (aged 4-16) who can read words and subtract. However, not even a half of these children (regardless of gender) can read words and subtract.

FIGURE 2: Proportion of children aged 4-16 years who could read words and subtract in Namutumba district in relation to gender 40.0 33.6 35.0 31.5 28.9 30.0 24.0 25.0 20.0 15.0 10.0 5.0 **Subtraction Reading words** Boys Girls

3. How competent are children attending P3-P7 in Namutumba district in reading in the local language? [%]

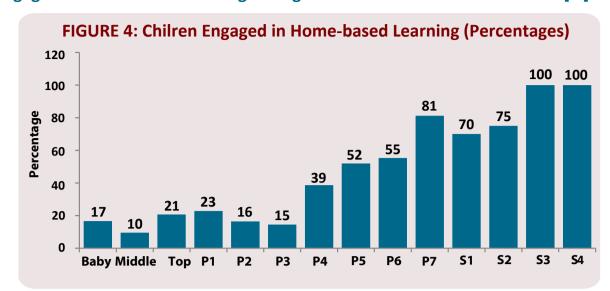
The language of education policy requires children in P1-P3 to be instructed in the language of the catchment area (local languages) where the prevailing language spoken in an area is just one (monolingual). Figure 3 shows the proportion of children in Namutumba who can read a text in the local language by class. Even for P3 who are supposed to be learning in the local language, the majority of the children are non-readers of the language. In P7, only a half of the children (50%) in Namutumba district can read and comprehend a text in the local language.

comprehend in local language in Namutumba district 1<u>.</u>9 100 4.9 90 11.5 13.5 20.8 80 6.3 33.9 50.0 27.1 51.9 14.5 83.6 40 30 5.8 29.2 43.8 45.2 20 26.9 10 16.7 Р3 Ρ4 **P5 P6 P7** ■Non-reader Syllable Word Paragraph Story only Read and Comprehension

FIGURE 3: Proportion of children attending P3-P7 who can read and

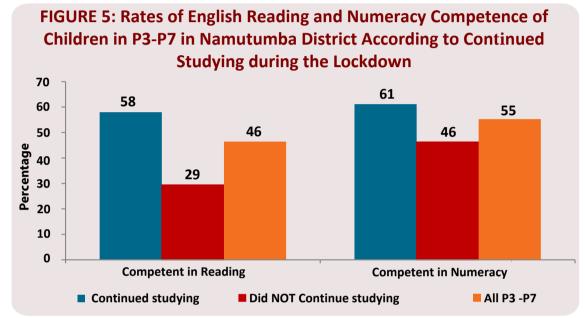
4. Were children in Namutumba district engaged in home-based learning during the Covid-19-induced lockdown? [%]

Some home-based learning took place during the Covid-19 lockdown to keep children engaged. These radio lessons, activities included printed materials from the television-learning government, lessons and printed materials from other sources apart from Children higher government. in classes were engaged in learning activities during the pandemic than children in lower classes.





A number of interventions happened when schools closed during lockdown. Figure shows reading and competencies with numeracy children reference whether to continued studying the during lockdown. Children who continued studying when schools closed realised better learning outcomes regardless of their grade.



Uwezo Assessment in Namutumba District

The Uwezo assessment in Namutumba district was conducted in August 2021. Three hundred (300) households were randomly sampled from 15 enumeration areas. A total of 618 children (301 boys and 317 girls) aged 4-16 participated in the assessment conducted by 30 citizen-volunteers.

The assessment was conducted by Uwezo Uganda in partnership with Nsinze Sub County HIV/AIDS Workers Association (NSHAWA), the Uwezo partner in Namutumba district.

This report card was produced by Uwezo Uganda April 2024

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