

Timeline

May - January 2021

Study Type

Randomized Evaluation

Research Implemented by IPA

Yes

Secondary Education and Coping with a Pandemic: Experimental Evidence from Ghana

Researchers

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Abstract

This project aims to establish the causal impact of education on ability to cope with both the sanitary crisis and the economic crisis generated by a pandemic. We propose to leverage a randomized controlled trial initiated in Ghana in 2008, in which 682 adolescents from a sample of 2,064 received a scholarship for secondary school. The scholarship offer led to a large increase in secondary school enrollment. Since 2008, we have tracked this cohort, with an attrition rate as of 2019 of only 5 percent. We are uniquely positioned to exploit the random variation in educational attainment in our sample to estimate the causal impact of secondary education on resilience to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Project Outcomes of Interest

awareness about the health threat and of prevention methods; economic impact for respondents (using our 2019 survey data as baseline); and how they differ based on access to secondary education, and by gender

Impact Goals

- Build resilience and protect the financial health of families and individuals
- Reduce COVID-19 transmission rates

Project Data Collection Mode

- CATI (Computer-assisted telephone interviewing)

Results Status

No Results Yet