

THE RELATIVE PERFORMANCE OF SENIOR SECONDARY SCHOOLS IN THE SENIOR SECONDARY SCHOOL CERTIFICATE EXAMINATIONS (SSSCE) IN GHANA

(RPA/3/2004)

ABSTRACT

The Ghana Education Service (GES) 'League Table' as published in the Daill' Gravhic Qf Janual:v 20. 2004 created a lot of debate and doubt on the reliability of the criteria used in ranking the performance' of the schools in the July/August 2003 SSSCE. This study investigated the appropriateness of the method used by the GES to.

Generate the school performance league table and also what other plausible methods could be used to determine a meaningful comparative performance level of the schools on the basis of the SSSCE results. The use of the mean, weighted mean, and the standardized score was explored. A test of variability using Spearman's rank correlation coefficient was undertaken to find out the correlation between the GES model and the alternative models.

A sample of the first 19 schools was then tested with all the methods to determine for homogeneity. The study revealed that the use of the standardized score (z-scores) was the most appropriate and an equally reliable method for such a ranking. A recommendation was made to this effect.