

A PRELIMINARY STUDY OF THE PERFORMANCE OF PUPILS IN SRI LANKA
AT THE G. C. E. , O.L. EXAMINATION AND ITS LINKS
WITH SELECTED SOCIO-ECONOMIC PARAMETERS

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The scores of pupils - school pupils at the first attempt - in selected subjects (First Language, Science & Mathematics) have been analysed using the total population of pupils for the years 1980, 1981, 1982, 1983 & 1984. The analysis considers Zonal (as defined by the Central Bank of Ceylon) and District Level disaggregated data; the variations in participation being reviewed, the coefficients of variation are worked out.

The mean scores at these levels are illustrated below for three selected subjects :

	<u>1980</u>		<u>1981</u>		<u>1982</u>		<u>1983</u>		<u>1984</u>	
	<u>S</u>	<u>T</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>T</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>T</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>T</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>T</u>
First Language										
Mean	40	38	32	33	40	40	43	38	41	44
S.D.	3	4	3	3	3	4	3	3	3	4
C.V.%	8	10	8	9	8	10	7	8	6	9
Mathematics										
Mean	14	18	8	12	19	21	19	21	19	20
S.D.	3	5	2	4	5	7	4	6	4	6
C.V.%	25	28	25	31	25	36	21	29	22	30
Science										
Mean	25	26	24	23	30	28	30	31	25	25
S.D.	2	3	1	2	3	4	3	3	2	3
C.V.%	9	12	5	9	9	15	9	11	9	12

Note: S-Sinhala Medium

T:- Tamil Medium

The variation is highest for Mathematics and the variation in Science is comparable with that in First Language.

The Zonal Score Means were plotted against the Expenditure per Spending unit per Month in the Zone, and the Index of Education attained in the Zone. In both cases, there are distinctly recognizable "bands".