

STATUS AND FACTORS AFFECTING UTILISATION OF SANITATION FACILITIES IN  
PRIMARY SCHOOLS IN AGAGO DISTRICT

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## ABSTRACT

**Background:** Access to sanitation facilities is still a big challenge in developing countries including Uganda where poor sanitation and hygiene has long been recognized as a major Public Health concern. This study was conducted to assess the status and factors affecting utilisation of sanitation facilities in Agago District primary schools.

**Methodology:** A cross sectional survey utilizing both qualitative and quantitative methods of data collection was used. A total of 40 out of 123 schools and 385 pupils were involved in the study.

**Results:** Seventy percent of the schools had ventilated improved pit latrines and 17.5% of the schools had no hand washing facilities. Overall the pupil latrine stance ratio was 78:1; the latrine stances ratio was 74:1 for girls and 83:1 for boys. All the schools lacked anal cleansing materials and dust bins. About 76% of the respondents knew about utilisation of sanitation facilities and 72% had positive attitudes. Class group (OR = 1.9, CI: 1.0 - 3.7) and observation that facilities were good for use (OR = 10.0, CI: 3.5 - 28.9) were associated with utilisation of sanitation facilities.

**Conclusion and Recommendation:** The status of sanitation facilities in the primary schools in Agago District was poor marked mainly by inadequate coverage. Most of the primary school pupils were knowledgeable and had a positive attitude towards utilisation of sanitation facilities in Agago District. The findings revealed the need for construction of more sanitation facilities and integration of hygiene education programs in schools.