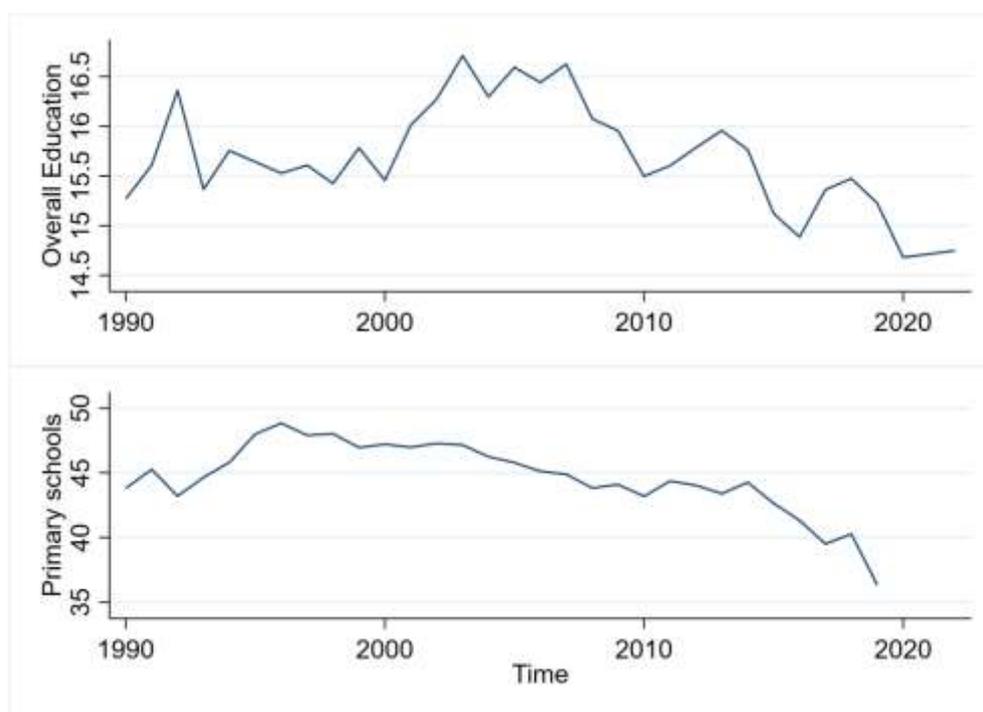


Appendix

Figure 1A shows the trend of public expenditures on education as a share of overall government spending (upper panel) and government expenditure on education at primary schools (lower panel) in our sample of low- and middle-income countries. Before 2008, government expenditure on education was mostly within the recommended range of between 15% to 20% of total public expenditure to education to support universal access (upper panel), with more than 40% going to primary education (lower panel). The post-2008 period has seen a continuous decrease in government expenditure on education, which also aligns with a sharp increase in the number of out-of-school children in these group of countries.

Figure 1A

Government Expenditure on Education



Note: LMICs follows the World Bank classification

(<https://datahelpdesk.worldbank.org/knowledgebase/articles/906519-world-bank-country-and-lending-groups>, accessed on October 11, 2023). Linear interpolation was used to fill in missing data.

Source: Estimated by authors using data from the World Development Indicator.