

# Uganda - Primary Leaving Examination

**Uganda National Examinations Board - Government**

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# Overview

## Identification

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### Summary

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#### ABSTRACT

The Primary Leaving Examination (PLE) has been administered annually since 1966 by the Uganda National Examinations Board to grade 7 (ISCED 1) students in public and private schools.

The PLE is a high-stake and mandatory examination that certifies completion of primary education. It is a requirement for students wishing to pursue lower secondary education (ISCED 2).

Passing the PLE allows reintegration of out-of-school children and youth into the school system at the next appropriate grade.

The PLE is a written examination, administered face-to-face and delivered through paper-pencil tests. All test-takers are presented with the same cognitive booklets or tests, which are aligned with the national curriculum.

The PLE serves the following purposes:

- student certification for completion of primary education
- student selection to higher education programmes or admission into specific courses or tracks
- school or educator accountability
- sub-national level monitoring of learning outcomes
- monitoring education quality levels
- planning education policy reforms

The PLE accommodates students with special needs, by providing the following arrangements:

- Hearing impairment: additional time, support staff, sign language interpreters
- Visual impairment: test materials with large font
- Language impairment: additional time and support staff
- Emotional disturbance: additional time and support staff

#### KIND OF DATA

Census (all students at the given grades or ages)

#### UNITS OF ANALYSIS

Results are reported at the student, school, sub-national and national levels. Data are disaggregated by sex, geographic location (urban and rural), major cities and type of school (public and private).

Results are published in reports, which are available in print and online. Results are broadcasted on the radio and the television, and published in the media.

## Scope

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#### NOTES

The Primary Leaving Examination comprises four mandatory subjects administered in English. The subjects and the duration of each test are listed below:

- Mathematics, 150 minutes
- English language, 135 minutes
- Science, 135 minutes
- Social studies, 135 minutes

Description of test items: Test items consist of open-ended questions requiring short constructed responses.

Description of stimuli: Test stimuli consist of continuous, non-continuous and mixed texts.

Reporting metrics: Student performance is reported by average score.

Division one, two, three and four are each assigned to range of passing scores; however, the corresponding ranges are not disclosed. The best achievement is division one, and the minimum requirement to meet the national standard is division four.

## Coverage

### GEOGRAPHIC COVERAGE

National

### UNIVERSE

Students enrolled in grade 7 (ISCED 1) in public and private schools.

## Producers and Sponsors

### PRIMARY INVESTIGATOR(S)

Name	Affiliation
Uganda National Examinations Board	Government

### OTHER PRODUCER(S)

Name	Affiliation	Role
Uganda National Examinations Board	Government	Test development and administration; data processing and dissemination; programme development
Ministry of Education and Sports	Government	Financial support through ministerial budget
Teachers Unions	N/A	Data dissemination
Parents Associations	N/A	Data dissemination
Households	N/A	Financial contribution through examination fees paid by candidates

## Metadata Production

### METADATA PRODUCED BY

Name	Abbreviation	Affiliation	Role
Uganda National Examinations Board	UNEB	Government	Data collection

<b>Name</b>	<b>Abbreviation</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>	<b>Role</b>
UNESCO Institute for Statistics	UIS	United Nations	Questionnaire design, metadata collection, review and publication

DATE OF METADATA PRODUCTION  
2014

DDI DOCUMENT ID  
UGA-PLE-2013

## Data Collection

### Data Collection Dates

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<b>Start</b>	<b>End</b>	<b>Cycle</b>
2013	2013	Every year

### Data Collection Mode

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Face-to-face [f2f]

## Data Processing

### **Data Editing**

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Test booklets are scored and verified manually. The data editing process is performed in local examination centres.

### **Other Processing**

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Data entry is performed manually and by scanning score sheets. The data capture operations are performed at headquarters.

## Data Access

### Access Authority

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Uganda National Examinations Board (Government), [uneb@uneb.ac.ug](mailto:uneb@uneb.ac.ug), [www.uneb.ac.ug](http://www.uneb.ac.ug)

### Contact(s)

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Matthew Bukenya (Uganda National Examinations Board) , [uneb@africaonline.co.ug](mailto:uneb@africaonline.co.ug)

Amos Opaman (Uganda National Examinations Board) , [uneb@uneb.ac.ug](mailto:uneb@uneb.ac.ug)

### Access Conditions

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Access to the data is offered with charge for private users.

To access the data, please send a request to the Uganda National Examinations Board.

Tel: +256 414 256 286635/6/7/8

Fax: +256 414 289397

### Citation Requirements

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Once access to the data has been granted, a private user is free to cite the data or use them in publications.