

# Brunei Darussalam - Lower Secondary Examination, Penilaian Menengah Bawah

**Ministry of Education - Government**

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# Overview

## Identification

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### Summary

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#### ABSTRACT

The Lower Secondary Examination (PMB) was administered annually between 1997 and 2009 by the Ministry of Education to grade 9 (ISCED 2) students in general education programmes in public and private schools. From 2010 onwards, the PMB was discontinued and replaced by the Student Progress Assessment (SPA). The SPA comprises two components: the School Based Assessment (SBA), which consists of continuous school-based assessment throughout grade 7 and grade 8; and the Student Progress Examination (SPE) that takes place at the end of Grade 8. See separate Catalogue entry for SPE.

The PMB is a high-stake and mandatory examination that certifies completion of lower secondary general education programmes. Obtaining specific minimum grades in some of the PMB subjects is a requirement for students wishing to pursue an upper secondary education (ISCED 3).

The PMB 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 PMB serves the following purposes:

- student certification for completion of lower secondary general education programmes
- 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

#### 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 and type of schools (public and private).

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

## Scope

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#### NOTES

The PMB comprises seven mandatory subjects administered in English, except for the Malay language test, and the Pengetahuan Ugama Islam test which is administered in Malay and Arabic. The subjects and the duration of each test are listed below:

- Mathematics, 225 minutes (two papers of 105 and 120 minutes)
- Malay language, 210 minutes (two papers of 90 and 120 minutes)

- English language, 180 minutes (two papers of 90 minutes each)
- Geography, 120 minutes
- History, 120 minutes
- Science, 12 minutes
- Pengetahuan Ugama Islam, 90 minutes

Description of test items: Test items consist of multiple choice questions with three or more response options, open-ended questions requiring short constructed responses and essay writing.

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

Reporting metrics: Student performance is reported separately by subject. The score obtained in each subject corresponds to one of the proficiency levels defined below:

- Scores 1 and 2: Distinction
- Scores 3 to 6: Credit
- Scores 7 and 8: Pass
- Score 9: Fail

To be promoted to the next grade, the minimum requirement is to obtain at least a score of 6 in the Malay Language test, at least score of 8 in the English and Mathematics tests, and at least a score of 6 in two other subjects.

## Coverage

### GEOGRAPHIC COVERAGE

National

### UNIVERSE

Students enrolled in grade 9 (ISCED 2) in general education programmes in public and private schools.

## Producers and Sponsors

### PRIMARY INVESTIGATOR(S)

Name	Affiliation
Ministry of Education	Government

### OTHER PRODUCER(S)

Name	Affiliation	Role
Ministry of Education	Government	Test development and administration; data processing and dissemination; programme development; financial support through ministerial budget
National non-governmental organization	N/A	Test administration
Private schools and non-national candidates	N/A	Financial contribution through examination fees

## Metadata Production

## METADATA PRODUCED BY

<b>Name</b>	<b>Abbreviation</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>	<b>Role</b>
Ministry of Education	MOE	Government	Data collection
UNESCO Institute for Statistics	UIS	United Nations	Questionnaire design, metadata collection, review and publication

DDI DOCUMENT ID

BRN-PMB-2009

## Data Collection

### Data Collection Dates

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<b>Start</b>	<b>End</b>	<b>Cycle</b>
2009	2009	Every year until 2009

### 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 at headquarters.

### **Other Processing**

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Data entry is performed manually. The data capture operations are performed at headquarters.

## Data Access

### Access Authority

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Ministry of Education (Government ), [www.moe.gov.bn](http://www.moe.gov.bn)

### Contact(s)

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Nadia Lee Siew Hoon Abdullah (Department of Planning, Development and Research/ Ministry of Education) ,  
[nadia.lee@moe.gov.bn](mailto:nadia.lee@moe.gov.bn)

Rohaida Ramli (Department of Planning, Development and Research/ Ministry of Education) , [rohaida.ramli@moe.gov.bn](mailto:rohaida.ramli@moe.gov.bn)

### Access Conditions

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To access the data please send a request to the Ministry of Education, Old Airport Road, Berakas, B.S.B. BB 3510, Brunei Darussalam.

Telephone number: +6732380776.