

Malawi - Monitoring Learning Achievement

Ministry of Education, Science and Technology - Government

Report generated on: Apr 24, 2015

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Overview

Identification

Summary

ABSTRACT

The Monitoring Learning Achievement (MLA) is administered by the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology to grade 2, grade 4 and grade 7 (ISCED 1) students in public schools. It was administered for the first time in 2012, and is planned to be run every three years.

The MLA is a low-stake assessment. It is a written assessment, administered face-to-face and delivered through paper-pencil tests. Test-takers are presented with booklets based on different learning objectives.

The MLA serves the following purposes:

- supporting teachers (training, relevant materials, etc.)
- 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 school, sub-national and national levels.

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

Scope

NOTES

The MLA comprises three mandatory subjects. The subjects and the duration of each test are listed below:

- Mathematics, 120 minutes
- Chichewa language, 90 minutes
- English language, 90 minutes

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

Description of stimuli: Test stimuli consist of mixed texts.

Reporting metrics: Student performance is reported by average score. The minimum requirement to meet the national standard is a score of 40%.

Coverage

GEOGRAPHIC COVERAGE

National

UNIVERSE

Students enrolled in grade 2, grade 4 and grade 7 (ISCED 1) in public schools.

Producers and Sponsors

PRIMARY INVESTIGATOR(S)

Name	Affiliation
Ministry of Education, Science and Technology	Government

OTHER PRODUCER(S)

Name	Affiliation	Role
Ministry of Education, Science and Technology	Government	Test development and administration; data processing and dissemination; programme development
Malawi National examinations Board	Government	Test development and administration; data processing
National non-governmental organization	N/A	Test administration
UNICEF	N/A	Financial support through grants and donations

Metadata Production

METADATA PRODUCED BY

Name	Abbreviation	Affiliation	Role
Malawi National Examinations Board	MANEB	Government	Data collection
UNESCO Institute for Statistics	UIS	United Nations	Questionnaire design, metadata collection, review and publication

DATE OF METADATA PRODUCTION

2014

DDI DOCUMENT ID

MWI-MLA-2012

Sampling

Sampling Procedure

Questionnaires

Overview

The MLA comprises two background questionnaires:

- a teacher questionnaire: collects information on teachers' profiles, and how they manage students
- school principal questionnaire: collects information on the profile of principals from each of the selected school, and how they manage the schools

Data Collection

Data Collection Dates

Start	End	Cycle
2012	2012	Every 3 years

Data Collection Mode

Face-to-face [f2f]

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Data Processing

Data Editing

Test booklets are scored and verified manually. The data editing process is performed at headquarters.

Other Processing

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

Data Access

Access Authority

Ministry of Education, Science and Technology (Government)

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Access Conditions

To access the data please send a request to the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, Department of Basic Education, Capital Hill Circle, Private Bag 328, Capital City, Lilongwe 3, Malawi.

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