

# United Republic of Tanzania - Zanzibar National Primary Examination, Mtihani Wa Taifa Wa Elimu Ya Msingi

**Zanzibar Examination Council - Government of Zanzibar**

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## Overview

### Identification

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### Summary

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#### ABSTRACT

The Zanzibar National Primary Examination has been administered annually since 1988 by the Zanzibar Examination Council to grade 7 (ISCED 1) students in public and private schools. Zanzibar being an autonomous region of the United Republic of Tanzania, it has its own education institutions and administers examinations distinct from those of mainland Tanzania.

From 2015 onwards, Zanzibar primary education cycle will comprise of six years instead of seven. As a transition measure, both grade 6 and grade 7 students will take the Zanzibar National Primary Examination in 2015. From 2016 onwards, grade 6 students will be the target population of the examination.

The Zanzibar National Primary Examination is a low-stake examination that certifies completion of primary education. A candidate is eligible to sit the Zanzibar National Primary Examination if he has completed primary education and has at least a school attendance rate of 75% during the final year of primary.

The Zanzibar National Primary Examination 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 Zanzibar National Primary Examination serves the following purposes:

- student certification for completion of primary education
- student selection to higher education programmes or admission into specific courses or tracks
- promoting competition among schools
- monitoring education quality levels

The Zanzibar National Primary Examination accommodates visually impaired students by providing test materials in braille and separate examination rooms with specialist invigilators.

#### 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 geographic location (urban and rural).

Examination results are published in reports that are available in print. The results are also broadcasted on the radio and the achievements of the best students are published in the media.

### Scope

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#### NOTES

The Zanzibar National Primary Examination comprises seven mandatory subjects administered in Swahili, except for the English language test and the Arabic language test. These subjects and the duration of each test are listed below:

- Arabic language
- Dini ya Kiislamu (Islamic Religion)

- English language
- Hisabati (Mathematics)
- Sayansa Jamii (Social sciences)
- Swahili language
- Uraia (Civics)

Each subject has a duration of 120 minutes, except for the Hisabati (Mathematics) test which has a duration of 150 minutes. Each subject contributes equally to the final score.

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 by an average score. The minimum requirement to meet the national standard is a score of 21 out of 100, or 21%. The average score also relates to a grade scale defined as follows:

Grade A, 81 to 100 points, Excellent

Grade B, 61-80, Very good

Grade C, 41-60, Good

Grade D, 21-40, Satisfactory

Grade F, 0-20, Poor

## 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
Zanzibar Examination Council	Government of Zanzibar

### OTHER PRODUCER(S)

Name	Affiliation	Role
Zanzibar Examination Council		Test development and administration; data processing; programme development
Ministry of Education and Vocational Training		Data dissemination; financial support

## Metadata Production

METADATA PRODUCED BY

<b>Name</b>	<b>Abbreviation</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>	<b>Role</b>
Zanzibar Examination Council	ZEC	Government of Zanzibar	Data collection
UNESCO Institute for Statistics	UIS	United Nations	Questionnaire design, metadata collection, review and publication

DDI DOCUMENT ID  
TZA-ZPRIM-2013

## Data Collection

### Data Collection Dates

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<b>Start</b>	<b>End</b>	<b>Cycle</b>
2013-10-21	2013-10-29	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 through automatic controls. The data editing process is performed at headquarters and in local examination centres.

### **Other Processing**

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Data entry is performed scanning score sheets. The data capture operations are performed at headquarters and in local examination centres.

## Data Access

### Access Authority

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Zanzibar Examination Council (Government of Zanzibar )

### Contact(s)

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### Access Conditions

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To access the data, please send a request to the Zanzibar Examination Council, P.O.Box 3070, Zanzibar.  
Telephone number: +255774359727