

# Mali - Diplôme d'Études Fondamentales

**Ministère de l'Education Nationale - Government**

Report generated on: Mar 27, 2015

Visit our data catalogue at:

<http://www.uis.unesco.org/nada/en/index.php/catalogue/central/about>

# Overview

## Identification

---

### Summary

---

#### ABSTRACT

The Diplôme d'Études Fondamentales (DEF) has been administered annually since 1969 by the Ministère de l'Éducation Nationale to grade 9 (ISCED 2) students in general education programmes in public and private schools.

The DEF is a high-stake and mandatory examination that certifies completion of lower secondary general education programmes. It is a requirement for students wishing to pursue an upper secondary education (ISCED 3).

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

The DEF 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 DEF 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
- supporting teachers (training, relevant materials, etc.)
- sub-national level monitoring of learning outcomes
- monitoring education quality levels
- planning education policy reforms

The DEF accommodates students with speech disorders as well as deaf-blindness. It also accommodates students with visual impairments by providing test materials in braille.

#### KIND OF DATA

Census (all students at the given grades or ages)

#### UNITS OF ANALYSIS

Results are available at student, school, sub-national and national levels. Data are disaggregated by sex.

Examination results are broadcasted on the radio, on television and published in the media.

## Scope

---

#### NOTES

The DEF comprises nine mandatory subjects administered in French, except for the English language test, and the Physical Education and Islamic education tests which are administered in Arabic. The subjects and duration of each test are listed below:

- Mathematics, 180 minutes, 16% of the total score
- Physics and Chemistry, 180 minutes, 16% of the total score

- Essay writing, 120 minutes, 16% of the total score
- Dictation and questions, 120 minutes, 11% of the total score
- English language or French language, 120 minutes, 11% of the total score
- History and Geography, 120 minutes, 11% of the total score
- Natural sciences, 120 minutes, 11% of the total score
- Civic and moral education or Islamic education, 120 minutes, 5% of the total score
- Physical Education, 120 minutes, 5% of the total score

Description of test items: Test items consist of open-ended questions requiring short responses and essay writing.

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

Reporting metrics: Student performance is reported by average score. The minimum requirement to meet the national standard is a score of 10 out of 20, or 50%.

## Coverage

### GEOGRAPHIC COVERAGE

National

### UNIVERSE

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

## Producers and Sponsors

### PRIMARY INVESTIGATOR(S)

Name	Affiliation
Ministère de l'Education Nationale	Government

### OTHER PRODUCER(S)

Name	Affiliation	Role
Ministère de l'Education Nationale	Government	Test development and administration; data processing and dissemination; programme development; financial support through ministerial budget
Teachers union	N/A	Test administration; data dissemination

## Metadata Production

### METADATA PRODUCED BY

Name	Abbreviation	Affiliation	Role
Ministère de l'Education Nationale	MEN	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

MLI-DEF-2013

## Data Collection

### Data Collection Dates

---

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

### Data Collection Mode

---

Face-to-face [f2f]

## 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 and by scanning score sheets. The data capture operations are performed at headquarters.

## Data Access

### Access Authority

---

Ministère de l'Education Nationale (Government)

### Contact(s)

---

Adama Traoré (Division Études, Prospective et Évaluation/Centre National des Examens et Concours de l'Éducation ) ,  
[asktraore@yahoo.fr](mailto:asktraore@yahoo.fr)

### Confidentiality

---

Statistical data are confidential until release is announced by the Ministère de l'Education Nationale.

### Access Conditions

---

To access the data, please send a request to the Ministère de l'Education Nationale/Centre National des Examens et Concours de l'Education (CNECE), Tel: (223) 20 22 25 50/ (223) 20 22 25 50, BP 71