

Sri Lanka - Grade 5 Scholarship Examination

Department of Examinations - Government

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Overview

Identification

Version

PRODUCTION DATE

2014

Summary

ABSTRACT

The Grade 5 Scholarship Examination has been administered annually since 1944 by the Department of Examinations to grade 5 (ISCED 1) students in public and private schools.

The Grade 5 Scholarship Examination is a low stake assessment. It is a written assessment, administered face-to-face and delivered through paper-pencil tests. All test-takers are presented with the same cognitive booklets or tests.

The main purpose of the Grade 5 Scholarship Examination is to select highly achieving but disadvantaged students for scholarships and to select the best students for highly ranked schools. It also serves the following purposes:

- student certification for completion of primary education
- 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

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

- Autism: additional time
- Hearing impairment: additional time
- Visual impairment: test materials in braille
- Emotional disturbance: additional time
- Speech or language impairment: additional time

KIND OF DATA

Census (all students at the given grades or ages)

UNITS OF ANALYSIS

Results are available at the student, school, sub-national and national level. Data are disaggregated by sex, geographic location (urban and rural), and family income levels.

Results are published in reports, which are available in print and online. Results are published in the media.

Scope

NOTES

The Grade 5 Scholarship Examination comprises two papers: the first paper assesses generic skills and the second paper assesses contents aligned with the national curriculum.

The test duration is 45 minutes for paper 1, and 75 minutes for paper 2.

The main language of instruction is either Sinhala or Tamil. Students take the examination papers in their main language of instruction.

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 and non-continuous texts.

Coverage

GEOGRAPHIC COVERAGE

National

UNIVERSE

Students enrolled in grade 5 (ISCED 1) in public and private schools.

Producers and Sponsors

PRIMARY INVESTIGATOR(S)

Name	Affiliation
Department of Examinations	Government

OTHER PRODUCER(S)

Name	Affiliation	Role
Department of Examinations	Government	Test development and administration; data processing and dissemination; programme development
Ministry of Education	Government	Financial support through ministerial budget
Households	N/A	Financial contribution through examination fees paid by candidates

Metadata Production

METADATA PRODUCED BY

Name	Abbreviation	Affiliation	Role
Department of Examinations		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

LKA-Grade5-2014

Sampling

Sampling Procedure

Data Collection

Data Collection Dates

Start	End	Cycle
2014-08	2014-09	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. The data capture operations are performed at headquarters.

Data Access

Access Authority

Department of Examinations (Government), exams@doenets.lk, www.doenets.lk

Contact(s)

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Access Conditions

To access the data, please send a request to the Department of Examinations, exams@doenets.lk, www.doenets.lk Tel: +94 112785211, Fax: +94 112785220.