



Ministry of Basic and Senior Secondary Education

Basic Education Certificate Examination (BECE) 2020

On Thursday, 24 December 2020, the Ministry of Basic and Senior Secondary Education (MBSSE) received the full 2020 Basic Education Certificate Examination (BECE) results for 133,438 candidates (66,692 male and 66,746 female) from 1,209 schools. This report is based on the complete final set of results for the 2020 BECE conducted by the West African Examination Council (WAEC)- an update from earlier reports derived from the part/provisional results.

The 2020 entry total exceeds the 2019 entries of 110,495 from 892 schools by 22,943 candidates and 317 schools, respectively.

Out of 133,438 candidates; 133,203 (66,603 males and 66,600 females) sat 1 or more subjects. 235 candidates (89 males and 146 females) were absent for all subjects. 239 candidates (99 males and 134 females) sat an insufficient number of subjects to be awarded an aggregate score but sat some papers.

52 (28 females and 24 males) candidates were reported by their schools as having some form of disability.

The analyses below of the results have been carried out by our internal team at MBSSE. We would like to also inform the general public that for the first time, MBSSE is establishing a Learning Assessment Unit which will have a mandate to work with the Curriculum and Research Department and other units across government. The Assessment Unit will explore ways of interpreting and analysing the performance of schools and candidates to improve our target learning and education outcomes.

Performance of Candidates

Eleven (11) candidates obtained aggregate scores of 7. Twelve candidates obtained 7 Unit 1 (Distinction) i.e. only in one of the eight subjects did the candidates obtain something worse than a Unit 1 – This is excellent performance.

92,016 candidates, 44,937 of whom were females and 47,079 males, have passed and qualified for entry to the senior secondary school WASSCE programme i.e. they have obtained a minimum of Unit/Grade 6 in five or more subjects including Language Arts or Mathematics. This corresponds to an SSS WASSCE programme pass rate of 69.2% with the pass rate for female candidates being 67.6% and that for male candidates – 70.8%.

1,990 candidates (953 females, 1,037 males) passed Language Arts or Mathematics but only a total of four subjects whilst 13,949 candidates (7,048 females, 6,901 males) had 5 and above passes but failed both Language Arts and Mathematics. Whilst the candidates with 4 passes including Language Arts or Mathematics could enter for the National Vocational Qualification (NVQ), both sets of candidates qualify for entry to some programmes in TVET Centres.

If we add together those that qualify for the WASSCE programme offered by senior secondary schools and those that qualify for entry to vocational programmes, the number passing the 2020 BECE is 92,016 + 15,939 i.e. 107,955 (81.2%).

Comparatively speaking, overall candidate performance in the 2020 BECE is much better than in the 2019 BECE in which just 50,985 candidates (24,405 females) met the requirements for entry to the WASSCE programme in senior secondary schools, 7,233 met the minimum requirements for entry to the NVQ programme and 4,661 met the requirement for entry to some programmes in TVET Centres. This makes the total 'passing' the 2019 BECE as 62,879. This is 45,076 less than in 2020 and underscores how well candidates have performed in the 2020 BECE.

The top 2020 BECE candidates all had aggregate scores of 7 but varied in average grades as shown below. It is worth noting that 9 of the 11 top BECE 2020 candidates were female.

TOP NATIONAL CANDIDATES

SchOfEntry	CandNo	CandName	Sex	SchOfChoice	S1	G1	S2	G2	S3	G3	S4	G4	S5	G5	S6	G6	S7	G7	S8	G8	Agg	Ave Grade
LEBANESE SEC, KENEMA	3431005	SALMAN MALAK M.	F	KAMBOI LEBANESE INTERNATIONAL, KENEMA	Isc	1	LArts	1	Maths	2	SStds	1	Agric	1	PHE	1	HEc	1	Arab	1	7	1.13
INTERNATIONAL SEC, F/TOWN	3304042	KAMARA MARIAMA ABIBATU	F	ANNIE WALSH MEMORIAL SCH, KISSY ROAD	Isc	1	LArts	1	Maths	2	SStds	1	RME	1	Krio	1	BStds	1	PerA	1	7	1.13
MADRASATUL HAKEEM ISL. SEC., CALABA	3251003	BAH HABIBATU SERAY	F	MADRASATUL HAKEEM ISL. SEC., CALABA T/WN	Isc	1	LArts	2	Maths	1	SStds	1	Agric	2	RME	1	HEc	1	Arab	1	7	1.25
PROVIDENCE INTERNATIONAL HIGH, F/T	3598071	SANKOH STACEY C. J.	F	PROVIDENCE INTERNATIONAL HIGH, F/TOWN	Isc	1	LArts	2	Maths	1	SStds	1	PHE	1	RME	1	BStds	1	HEc	2	7	1.25
PROVIDENCE INTERNATIONAL HIGH, F/T	3598072	SESAY ALHAJI ALIE MAMOUD	M	PROVIDENCE INTERNATIONAL HIGH, F/TOWN	Isc	1	LArts	2	Maths	1	SStds	1	PHE	1	RME	1	BStds	1	HEc	2	7	1.25
PROVIDENCE INTERNATIONAL HIGH, F/T	3598057	MAMMAH RAYMONDA E. A.	F	PROVIDENCE INTERNATIONAL HIGH, F/TOWN	Isc	1	LArts	2	Maths	1	SStds	1	PHE	1	RME	1	BStds	1	HEc	2	7	1.25
MODERN HIGH, JOMO KENYATTA RD	3395044	SESAY M'MAMA AMINA SAIDU	F	MODERN HIGH, JOMO KENYATTA RD	Isc	1	LArts	2	Maths	1	SStds	1	Agric	1	RME	2	BStds	1	HEc	1	7	1.25
MADRASATUL HAKEEM ISL. SEC., CALABA	3251047	KAMARA ISATU ABDULAI	F	MADRASATUL HAKEEM ISL. SEC., CALABA T/WN	Isc	1	LArts	2	Maths	1	SStds	1	Agric	2	RME	1	HEc	2	Arab	1	7	1.38
PROVIDENCE INTERNATIONAL HIGH, F/T	3598074	SESAY ELIZABETH AUGUSTA J	F	PROVIDENCE INTERNATIONAL HIGH, F/TOWN	Isc	1	LArts	2	Maths	1	SStds	1	PHE	1	RME	1	BasE	3	HEc	1	7	1.38
SIERRA LEONE GRAMMAR SCH, F/TOWN	3111033	CONTEH MOHAMED LAMIN	M	SIERRA LEONE GRAMMAR SCH, F/TOWN	Isc	1	LArts	1	Maths	2	SStds	1	Agric	2	RME	1	BStds	2	PerA	1	7	1.38
INTERNATIONAL SEC, F/TOWN	3304062	NOLDRED JEMIMAH ANTONIA J	F	ANNIE WALSH MEMORIAL SCH, KISSY ROAD	Isc	1	LArts	1	Maths	2	SStds	1	RME	2	Krio	1	BStds	2	ITec	1	7	1.38

Top 2 Candidates from the Regions (Note that the second position is tied in the Eastern, Southern and Western Regions, whilst 4 candidates are tied for top spot in the Northern Region – All of these are highlighted in yellow. Note also that in the 'sex' column in the tables that follow, 1=Male; 2=Female and that 'SchoolName' = School of Entry, whilst 'SSS_Name' = School of Choice)

East

SchoolName	CandNo	CandName	Sex	SSS_Name	S1	G1	S2	G2	S3	G3	S4	G4	S5	G5	S6	G6	S7	G7	S8	G8	Agg	Ave Grade
Lebanese Secondary, Kenema	3431005	Salman Malak M.	2	Kamboi Lebanese Int., Kenema	Isc	1	LArts	1	Maths	2	SStds	1	Agric	1	PHE	1	HEc	1	Arab	1	7	1.125
Lebanese Secondary, Kenema	3431004	Saad Amir	1	Kamboi Lebanese Int., Kenema	Isc	1	LArts	1	Maths	3	SStds	1	Agric	1	PHE	1	HEc	1	Arab	1	8	1.25
Lebanese Secondary, Kenema	3431002	Krecht Mahdi M.	1	Kamboi Lebanese Int., Kenema	Isc	1	LArts	1	Maths	3	SStds	1	Agric	1	PHE	1	BStds	1	HEc	1	8	1.25
Lebanese Secondary, Kenema	3431001	Badawi Zahraa A.	2	Kamboi Lebanese Int., Kenema	Isc	1	LArts	1	Maths	3	SStds	1	Agric	1	PHE	1	HEc	1	Arab	1	8	1.25

North

SchoolName	CandNo	CandName	Sex	SSS_Name	S1	G1	S2	G2	S3	G3	S4	G4	S5	G5	S6	G6	S7	G7	S8	G8	Agg	Ave Grade
CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH J.S.S., KABALA	3640002	BANGURA GIBRILLA H	1	KABALA SECONDARY SCHOOL, KABALA	Isc	1	LArts	3	Maths	2	SStds	1	Agric	1	RME	1	BStds	1	HEc	1	9	1.375
CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH J.S.S., KABALA	3640001	BANGURA ABU BAKARR ABEDI	1	KABALA SECONDARY SCHOOL, KABALA	Isc	1	LArts	2	Maths	3	SStds	1	Agric	1	RME	1	BStds	1	HEc	1	9	1.375
CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH J.S.S., KABALA	3640005	JALLOH BATULIE	2	KABALA SECONDARY SCHOOL, KABALA	Isc	1	LArts	3	Maths	2	SStds	1	Agric	1	RME	1	BStds	1	HEc	1	9	1.375
CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH J.S.S., KABALA	3640017	MARAH TAMBA	1	KABALA SECONDARY SCHOOL, KABALA	Isc	1	LArts	3	Maths	2	SStds	1	Agric	1	RME	1	BStds	1	HEc	1	9	1.375

North-West

SchoolName	CandNo	CandName	Sex	SSS_Name	S1	G1	S2	G2	S3	G3	S4	G4	S5	G5	S6	G6	S7	G7	S8	G8	Agg	Ave Grade
AHMADIYYA SEC. SCHOOL., ROKUPR	3604050	CONTEH ADAMA LEONARD	2	AHMADIYYA SEC. SCHOOL, ROKUPR	Isc	1	LArts	2	Maths	2	SStds	1	Agric	1	RME	1	BStds	1	HEc	2	8	1.375
MUNOMAKARR INT. ISL. SEC. SCHOOL, MAHERA RO	3993026	FILLIE SAHR EDWARD	1	ST. JOSEPH'S SENIOR SECONDARY SCHOOL, MASC	Isc	1	LArts	2	Maths	3	SStds	1	Agric	1	RME	1	BStds	2	HEc	1	9	1.5

South																							
SchoolName	CandNo	CandName	Sex	SSS_Name	S1	G1	S2	G2	S3	G3	S4	G4	S5	G5	S6	G6	S7	G7	S8	G8	Agg	Ave Grade	
EVERY NATION ACADEMY, BO	3489024	LANSANA IBRAHIM S	1	CHRIST THE KING COLLEGE, BO	Isc	1	LArts	3	Maths	3	SStds	1	PHE	1	RME	3	BasE	1	HEc	1	10	1.75	
CHRIST THE KING COLLEGE, BO	3152219	SESAY HASSAN A.	1	CHRIST THE KING COLLEGE, BO	Isc	1	LArts	3	Maths	3	SStds	1	Agric	2	RME	1	BStds	1	BasE	3	10	1.875	
EVERY NATION ACADEMY, BO	3489009	JABBA FRANCIS P.S	1	CHRIST THE KING COLLEGE, BO	Isc	1	LArts	3	Maths	3	SStds	1	PHE	1	RME	3	BasE	1	HEc	2	10	1.875	

West																							
SchoolName	CandNo	CandName	Sex	SSS_Name	S1	G1	S2	G2	S3	G3	S4	G4	S5	G5	S6	G6	S7	G7	S8	G8	Agg	Ave Grade	
THE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL LTD.,(SECC	3304042	KAMARA MARIAMA ABIBATU	2	ANNIE WALSH MEMORIAL SCHOOL, KISSY ROAD	Isc	1	LArts	1	Maths	2	SStds	1	RME	1	Krio	1	BStds	1	PerA	1	7	1.125	
MADRASATUL HAKEEM ISL. SEC. SCH., CA	3251003	BAH HABIBATU SERAY	2	MADRASSATU HAKEEN JUNIOR SECONDARY SCHO	Isc	1	LArts	2	Maths	1	SStds	1	Agric	2	RME	1	HEc	1	Arab	1	7	1.25	
PROVIDENCE INTERNATIONAL SENIOR H	3598071	SANKOH STACEY C. J.	2	PROVIDENCE INTERNATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL, FRE	Isc	1	LArts	2	Maths	1	SStds	1	PHE	1	RME	1	BStds	1	HEc	2	7	1.25	
PROVIDENCE INTERNATIONAL SENIOR H	3598072	SESAY ALHAJI ALIE MAMOUD	1	PROVIDENCE INTERNATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL, FRE	Isc	1	LArts	2	Maths	1	SStds	1	PHE	1	RME	1	BStds	1	HEc	2	7	1.25	
PROVIDENCE INTERNATIONAL SENIOR H	3598057	MAMMAH RAYMONDA E. A.	2	PROVIDENCE INTERNATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL, FRE	Isc	1	LArts	2	Maths	1	SStds	1	PHE	1	RME	1	BStds	1	HEc	2	7	1.25	
MODERN HIGH SCHOOL,JOMO KENYATTI	3395044	SESAY M'MAMA AMINA SAIDU	2	MODERN HIGH SENIOR SECONDARY SCHOOL, FRE	Isc	1	LArts	2	Maths	1	SStds	1	Agric	1	RME	2	BStds	1	HEc	1	7	1.25	

Performance of Schools

The performance of schools in the 2020 BECE is generally better than in 2019. For example, 51 schools had 100% pass rates for the WASSCE programmes in senior secondary schools in the 2019 BECE but in the 2020 BECE, 116 schools had 100% pass rates for entry to the WASSCE programme in senior secondary schools.

Whilst many schools have performed very well, others continue to under-perform. For example, 22 schools had 0% pass rates for entry to the WASSCE programme in senior secondary schools. This under-performance is of concern especially as interventions are being made that should help under-performing schools. Even so, performance is still better than in 2019 when 29 schools recorded 0% pass rates for entry to the WASSCE programme in senior secondary schools.

National Performance

The top 10 schools nationally in the 2019 BECE, in terms of pass rate for the WASSCE programme in senior secondary schools and average grade are:

SchoolName	Sat	Avg ISc Grade	Avg LArts Grade	Avg Maths Grade	Avg SStds Grade	AvgAgg	AvgGrade	SS_Pass Rate
Lebanese Sec, Kenema	5	1.00	1.00	2.80	1.00	7.80	1.25	100.0%
CRC J.S.S., Kabala	21	1.00	2.95	2.67	1.10	9.81	1.56	100.0%
Jesus Cross Acad., Lungi	5	1.00	3.00	3.20	1.00	10.40	1.6750	100.0%
Al Huda Int. Jr. Sec., Calaba Town	34	1.00	2.79	2.88	1.03	9.71	1.6765	100.0%
Providence Int. High, F/town	82	1.00	2.89	2.12	1.34	9.68	1.72	100.0%
Dele Peddle Int. High, Allen Town	27	1.00	3.11	2.96	2.19	11.26	1.74	100.0%
Pathway Academy, Benguema	50	1.00	3.86	2.40	1.12	10.60	1.82	100.0%
Gracebell Modern High, Rokel	12	1.00	3.17	3.50	1.92	11.67	1.90	100.0%
Hammond International Prep, F/twn	19	1.11	3.00	3.05	1.11	11.05	1.92	100.0%
Johanna Kuyvenhoven Model, Port Loko	5	1.00	2.40	4.80	2.40	13.20	2.03	100.0%

The performance of schools which had more than a hundred candidates sitting the exam, such as the Sierra Leone Grammar School (177), Government Secondary School for Girls, Mathora (109), Annie Walsh Memorial School (341), Gallinas Perri Junior Sec School, Pujehun (215) and Kelly's Vocational School, Hastings (216), but got pass rates for entry to the WASSCE programme in senior secondary schools that were between 99% and 100%, are worth noting.

Regional Performance

The top 3 schools regionally are as follows:

East

SchoolName	Sat	Avg ISc Grade	Avg LArts Grade	Avg Maths Grade	Avg SStd Grade	Avg Agg	Avg. Grade	SS_Pass Rate
Lebanese Sec., Kenema	5	1.00	1.00	2.80	1.00	7.80	1.25	100.0%
Lumbebu Inter., Kenema	13	2.23	3.54	5.00	2.77	16.15	2.59	100.0%
Josmariam J.S.S., Kenema	17	1.06	6.12	3.29	1.88	16.65	3.15	100.0%

North

SchoolName	Sat	Avg ISc Grade	Avg LArts Grade	Avg Maths Grade	Avg SStd Grade	Avg Agg	Avg. Grade	SS_Pass Rate
CRC J.S.S., Kabala	21	1.00	2.95	2.67	1.10	9.81	1.56	100.0%
Allison Int. Acad., Makeni	33	1.03	3.42	3.61	1.06	14.65	2.16	100.0%
Finoh Int. JSS., Makeni	26	1.50	4.04	3.65	2.08	14.54	2.39	100.0%

North-West

SchoolName	Sat	Avg ISc Grade	Avg LArts Grade	Avg Maths Grade	Avg SStd Grade	Avg Agg	Avg. Grade	SS_Pass Rate
Jesus Cross Acad., Tagrin, Lungi	5	1.00	3.00	3.20	1.00	10.40	1.68	100.0%
Johanna Kuyvenhoven JSS, Port Loko	5	1.00	2.40	4.80	2.40	13.20	2.03	100.0%
Munomakarr Int. Isl. Sec., Lungi	146	1.05	4.77	4.49	2.01	15.82	2.69	100.0%

South

SchoolName	Sat	Avg ISc Grade	Avg LArts Grade	Avg Maths Grade	Avg SStd Grade	Avg Agg	Avg. Grade	SS_Pass Rate
Oaks JSS, Bo	46	1.02	3.57	4.04	1.52	13.76	2.39	100.0%
Saint Ambrose Acad., Allen Town	73	1.01	4.03	4.68	3.07	16.15	2.76	100.0%
Serabu Girls Vocational, Serabu	46	2.07	5.89	4.61	2.13	17.70	3.17	100.0%

West

SchoolName	Sat	Avg ISc Grade	Avg LArts Grade	Avg Maths Grade	Avg SStd Grade	Avg Agg	Avg. Grade	SS_Pass Rate
Al Huda Int. JSS, Calaba Town	34	1.00	2.79	2.88	1.03	9.71	1.68	100.0%
Providence Int. High, Freetown	82	1.00	2.89	2.12	1.34	9.68	1.72	100.0%
Dele Peddle Int. High, Allen Town	27	1.00	3.11	2.96	2.19	11.26	1.74	100.0%

Subject Performance

Performance in all the core subjects i.e. Integrated Science, Mathematics and Social Studies are significantly better in 2020 than in 2019. 2020 passes and pass rates for the 4 core subjects are as follows: Integrated Science – 114,922 (86.40% pass rate); Language Arts – 71,145 (53.46% pass rate); Mathematics – 79,091 (59.45% pass rate); Social Studies – 110,544 (83.08% pass rate). In 2019 the pass rates were as follows: Integrated Science – 46,527 (42.12% pass rate); Language Arts – 54,414 (49.26% pass

rate); Mathematics – 34,595 (31.32% pass rate); Social Studies – 74,755 (67.68% pass rate).

It is worth noting that core subject performance in 2019 was exceptionally poor, when compared not only to performance in 2020 but also performance in 2018 as the following core subject pass rates for 2018 show: Integrated Science – 78.65%; Language Arts – 60.48%; Mathematics – 86.04%; Social Studies – 77.52%.

Conclusion

Overall, performance by candidates and schools in the 2020 BECE is far superior to performance in 2019. It is my hope that this is the start of an upward trend that will be sustained. This means that next year, our target SSS WASSCE programme pass rate is not 69% but rather something in excess of 70%.

We continue to be cognisant of the fact that individuals that are totally lacking in integrity are resorting to different forms of cheating in an attempt to gain or give undeserved success. All members of the public should note that currently prosecution of some individuals believed to be involved in examination malpractices is ongoing and that the MBSSE, through the TSC, has embarked on disciplinary measures against teachers and heads of schools found to be involved in activities that negatively impact WAEC examinations and the processing of the results.

To candidates: You may not have performed as well in the 2020 BECE as you had hoped. This should not be a cause for despair – I’m sure that greater effort on your part will result in improved performance. We at the MBSSE will continue to do our best to improve the quality of teaching and learning in schools so that, as long as you attend school regularly and work hard, your chances of ‘passing’ will be good.