



FACTSHEET ON SIERRA LEONE & EDUCATION



Population: 7,500,000 50% under 19 years	Average life expectancy: 57.39 years
Maternal deaths: 857/100,000 Infant deaths: 140/1000	53% of the population exists on less than 1\$ a day
Human Development Index rank: 184/189 states	GDP: 3.774 Billion \$ (Ireland: 333.7 billion \$)

Political/Social Context

Civil War (1991 -2002) Ebola (2014-2016) Freetown Mud Slides (2017) Political stability since War ended

EDUCATION Government's Vision

We have a vision of an appropriately educated, entrepreneurial and innovative citizenry tolerant, productive and internationally competitive

EDUCATION Government's Mission

To provide opportunities for children and adults to acquire knowledge and skills, as well as nurturing attitudes and values that help the nation grow and prosper.

Education System

Pre-primary: up to 3 years, Primary: 6 years, Junior Secondary: 3 years, Senior Secondary: 4 years, Tertiary: 2-4 years

Budget for education: 21% of total Number of schools: 8784 School enrolments: 1,981,273

Approximately 10% school-going age children not at school: disabilities, lack of money, needed at home, drop-outs, pregnancies.

Many late-starters, especially girls, and many repeat a year.

Qualified Teachers (2018): Primary: 60.92% Junior Secondary: 54.3% Senior Secondary: 42.05%

Class Sizes: 25% Primary classes 50 plus pupils, 20% of JSS classes 40 plus pupils, 15% of SSS classes 40 plus pupils

Completion (2018): Primary: 74% of enrolments, Junior : 40.6% of enrolments, Senior: 22.2% of enrolments

Examination Results

In 2017, 79% passed National Primary Examination (96,023)

In 2016, 75% passed (86,985)

In 2013, 75% passed (79,399)

West African Senior

2017: 29,222 sat and 5,728 passed

2015: 23,587 sat and 3,445 passed

Girls Education

Gender parity at Pre-Primary, Primary and Junior levels / At Senior level girls under-represented but parity expected within 5-6 years / At Tertiary (University, Teacher Education and Technical) level girls very under-represented 11,093 of 31,103.3.

Key Female Related Interventions

- Formalise the policy for re-entry of teenage mothers in the school system
- Ensure all schools are safe for girls through curbing sexual violence and exploitation in school
- Increased equitable access to senior secondary education

Sources 1. Education Sector Plan 2018-2020, (Published by Government of Sierra Leone). 2. UNESCO Country Reports – Sierra Leone. 3. World Bank reports