

SIERRA LEONE - KEY COUNTRY STATISTICS



FGM PREVALENCE RATE

The estimated prevalence of FGM in girls and women (15-49 years) is 91% (DHS 2008). This appears to have reduced by 3% from 2006 (MICS 2006).

The statistics from the MICS 2006 survey suggested the prevalence of FGM in girls and women within the 15-19 age group was 81.1%, which appeared to be 16.4% less than FGM prevalence in the 35-39 age group which was estimated at 97.5% (MICS 2006).

Figures from the DHS 2008 survey suggest a 10% difference in FGM prevalence between girls and women (15-49 years) who live in urban and rural areas, with estimated FGM prevalence at 85% and 95% respectively (DHS 2008).

The most prevalent type of FGM practised in Sierra Leone is Type II. (US Department of State, 2001). *The DHS does not collect data on type of FGM performed in Sierra Leone.*

The Sierra Leone government to date has not passed legislation that prohibits the practice of FGM (MICS 2006; UNFPA).

POPULATION

5,612,685 (July 2013 est.)

Median age: 19.1 Years

Growth rate: 2.277% (2012 est.) (World Factbook)

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT INDEX

Rank: 177 out of 186 in 2012 (UNDP)

HEALTH

Life expectancy at birth (years): 48.1 (UNDP) or 56.55 years (World Factbook)

Infant mortality rate (per 1,000 live births): 76.64 deaths

Maternal mortality rate 890 deaths/100,000 live births (2010); country comparison to the world: 3

Fertility rate, total (births per women): 4.87 (2013 est.)

HIV/AIDS – adult prevalence rate: 1.6% (2009 est.)

HIV AIDS – people living with HIV/AIDS: 49,000 (2009 est.); country comparison to the world: 58

HIV/AIDS – deaths: 2,800 (2009 est.) (World Factbook)

LITERACY (AGE 15 AND OVER THAT CAN READ AND WRITE)

Total population: 35.1%

Female: 24.4%; male: 46.9% (2003 est.) (World Factbook)

Total Youth Population: 59.4%

Female youth (15-24 years): 50.1%; male youth: 69.1% (2007) (World Bank)

GDP

GDP (official exchange rate): \$3.824 billion (2012 est.)

GDP per capita (PPP): \$1,400 (2012 est.)

GDP (real growth rate): 21.3% (2012 est.)

URBANISATION

Urban population: 38% of total population (2010)

Rate of urbanisation: 3.3% annual rate of change (2010-15 est.)

ETHNIC GROUPS

Temne 35%, Mende 31%, Limba 8%, Kono 5%, Kriole 2% (descendants of freed Jamaican slaves who were settled in the Freetown area in the late-18th century; also known as Krio), Mandingo 2%, Loko 2%, other 15% (includes refugees from Liberia's recent civil war, and small numbers of Europeans, Lebanese, Pakistanis, and Indians) (2008 census)

RELIGIONS

Muslim 60%, Christian 10%, indigenous beliefs 30%

LANGUAGES

English (official, regular use limited to literate minority), Mende (principal vernacular in the south), Temne (principal vernacular in the north), Krio (English-based Creole, spoken by the descendants of freed Jamaican



slaves who were settled in the Freetown area, a lingua franca and a first language for 10% of the population but understood by 95%)

Data compiled by 28 Too Many, May 2013

© 28 Too Many 2013