

**BOTSWANA GENERAL CERTIFICATE
OF SECONDARY EDUCATION**



**2014
PROVISIONAL
SUMMARY
OF RESULTS**

14

Examination Administration

- **BGCSE examination was written from 6th October to 14th November 2014.**
- **Invigilation was carried out by practicing teachers.**
- **BEC employed 12 Regional Examination Administrators to monitor the conduct of examinations by carrying out spot checks and inspections during the examination period.**
- **Coursework moderation took place between August and December 2014.**
- **Marking of the examinations was done from the 1st to 24th December, 2014.**



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Candidature

	Government centre candidates	Private school candidates	Private centre candidates	Total number
2014	25 186	2 932	9 266	37 384
2013	24 494	2 421	7 154	34 069
2012	23 158	3 116	5 391	31 665



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Syllabi and Components

- A total of twenty-eight (28) Botswana General Certificate of Secondary Education (BGCSE) localised syllabi and three (3) syllabi borrowed from Cambridge International Examinations were examined.
- One (1) of the CIE syllabi (French) an International General Certificate of Secondary Education (IGCSE) syllabus.
- Two (2) of the CIE syllabi (Statistics and Additional Mathematics) were General Certificate of Education (GCE) O-Level syllabi.



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Syllabi and Components

- **BGCSE assessment is a combination of written examinations, practical examinations and coursework assessment totaling 78 papers.**
- **There were 49 written components, 8 multiple-choice papers, 13 coursework components and 8 practical examinations.**
- **All processing of the BGCSE syllabi was done locally with the Malepa application.**
- **The borrowed syllabi were marked, graded and results processed by CIE.**



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Special Needs Candidates

- For the 2014 BGCSE there were 250 Special Needs candidates as compared to 156 in 2013 and 112 in 2012. Access arrangements and special considerations were considered for them case by case.
- Increase in the numbers could be attribute to a higher level of awareness and ability to identify special needs by schools



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Grading

- **BGCSE examination is graded by subjects experts at BEC and Principal Examiners from schools and colleges.**
- **The grading is validated by a Grade Advisory Committee which is comprised of BEC experts, a representative from Cambridge International Examinations (CIE), a representative from Curriculum Development and Evaluation, a representative from the Department of Inspectorate and one member from Botswana College of Distance and Open Learning (BOCODOL).**
- **Performance by candidates at subject level is graded on an eight-point scale ranging from A* to G.**
- **Candidates who fail to reach the minimum standard required for grade G are awarded grade U, however the grade U is not reported in the certificate. It only appears in the statement of results.**
- **Candidates for 0569 Science Double Award are awarded two grades (for example A*A*, AA, BB etc.).**



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Outcome at Syllabus Level

- 2014 results generally show a decline compared to 2013 measured by proportion of candidates obtaining grade C or better due to weaknesses displayed by candidates across the various syllabi.
- Five syllabi, Science Double Award, Art & Design and Physical Education, French and Statistics show significant improvements.
- Fourteen syllabi show a decline; these include Setswana, Geography, Development Studies, Religious Education, Food & Nutrition, Home Management, Fashion & Fabrics and Business Studies.
- The remaining syllabi (10) recorded similar levels of performance in 2013 and 2014.
- The outcome is in line with the teachers' forecasts



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Comparison of Syllabi Performance in 2013 and 2014 (Includes borrowed syllabi and excludes Music and Moral Education)

	2013	2014
Improved	9	5
Declined	3	14
About the same	19	10



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Performance at Grade E or better and at Grade C or better (All Candidates)

SYLLABUS	GRADE E OR BETTER			GRADE C OR BETTER		
	2013	2014	Difference	2013	2014	Difference
English Lang	90.08	88.61	-1.47	18.24	17.07	-1.17
Setswana	92.28	91.87	-0.41	36.96	29.93	-7.03
Mathematics	50.44	45.22	-5.22	25.38	22.64	-2.74
Sci. S/Award	30.06	23.89	-6.17	3.80	2.16	-1.64
Sci. D/ Award	44.95	50.01	5.06	14.00	16.90	2.90
Chemistry	98.31	99.04	0.73	83.03	82.97	-0.06
Physics	95.94	96.47	0.53	71.27	72.63	0.36
Biology	98.40	96.36	-2.04	66.28	66.86	0.58
History	70.04	63.20	-6.84	32.96	32.12	-0.84
Geography	73.12	64.63	-8.49	30.46	26.53	-3.93
Soc. Studies	71.07	71.98	0.91	34.94	33.56	-1.38
DVS	80.25	74.03	-6.25	32.47	29.60	-2.87
Lit .in English	81.22	80.01	-1.21	44.33	43.57	-0.76



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Performance at Grade E or better and at Grade C or better (All Candidates)

SYLLABUS	GRADE E OR BETTER			GRADE C OR BETTER		
	2013	2014	Difference	2013	2014	Difference
D&T	84.11	83.12	-0.99	24.05	23.00	-1.05
Art & Design	91.17	92.96	1.79	45.28	50.00	4.72
Comp. Stud.	80.06	83.09	3.03	46.53	45.90	-0.63
Commerce	58.74	56.98	-1.76	18.26	15.60	-2.66
Agriculture	80.93	80.53	-0.40	36.98	35.77	-1.21
Food & Nutrition.	75.48	70.13	-5.35	35.60	32.12	-3.48
Fashion & Fabrics	85.67	84.10	-1.57	42.89	38.63	-4.26
Home Management	88.59	84.80	-3.79	37.01	33.83	-3.18
Accounting	67.46	62.27	-5.19	49.83	44.26	-5.57
Bus. Studies	62.80	52.57	-10.23	26.80	13.27	-13.53
Physical Ed.	96.67	96.55	-0.12	36.11	39.51	3.40
Religious Ed.	89.69	83.60	-6.09	42.55	29.23	-13.32
HSB	29.48	21.35	-8.13	9.21	4.03	-5.18 ¹¹



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Performance at Grade E or better and at Grade C or better (All Candidates)

SYLLABUS	GRADE E OR BETTER			GRADE C OR BETTER		
	2013	2014	Difference	2013	2014	Difference
French	86.42	88.61	2.19	50.62	56.33	5.71
Additional Mathematics	88.64	80.64	-8.00	67.14	60.44	-6.70
Statistics	77.69	81.70	4.01	49.45	54.77	5.32
Moral Education	Four centres compared to 13 wrote the exam; 2014 was last year of examining the syllabus				21.44	
Music	Four centres offering syllabus compared to 16 in 2013;				8.25	



SYLLABUS	GRADE E OR BETTER			GRADE C OR BETTER		
	2013	2014	Difference	2013	2014	Difference
Gov & Gov-Aided Centres						
English Language	90.35	89.30	-1.05	20.46	19.36	-1.1
Setswana	93.63	93.50	-0.13	39.03	32.47	-6.56
Mathematics	51.68	47.07	-4.61	27.94	25.74	-2.2
Science Single Award	30.45	24.79	-5.66	3.98	2.11	-1.87
Science Double Award	4.19	46.81	2.62	14.27	16.73	2.46
Chemistry	98.93	99.35	0.42	84.35	83.69	-0.66
Physics	97.14	97.24	0.1	72.50	74.00	1.5
Biology	98.16	98.01	-0.15	68.15	68.95	0.8
History	71.48	66.38	-5.1	34.39	34.81	0.42
Geography	77.75	70.51	-7.24	34.95	31.40	-3.55
Social Studies	72.62	73.22	0.6	36.34	35.05	-1.29
Development studies	81.53	74.86	-6.67	33.51	30.39	-3.12
Literature in English	72.39	70.67	-1.72	45.12	43.91	-1.21
Religious Education	90.37	83.88	-6.49	43.23	29.44	-13.79
Design & Technology	84.12	83.08	-1.04	24.05	22.88	-1.17
Art & Design	91.17	92.26	1.09	45.27	50.00	4.73
Computer Studies	80.84	83.56	2.72	47.68	46.15	-1.53
Commerce	60.50	59.44	-1.06	20.79	18.04	-2.75
Agriculture	81.50	80.96	-0.54	37.27	36.15	-1.12
Food & Nutrition	75.51	70.13	-5.38	35.62	32.12	-3.5
Fashion & Fabrics	85.68	84.10	-1.58	42.96	38.63	-4.33
Home Management	89.20	85.37	-3.83	37.30	34.19	-3.11
Accounting	77.76	79.93	2.17	59.83	59.22	-0.61
Business Studies	66.82	53.47	-13.35	29.15	13.79	-15.36
Physical Education	96.68	96.55	-0.13	36.12	39.51	3.39

Some Observed Weaknesses in Candidates' Performances

Setswana	Cohort have both content and skill deficiency
Math	Candidates displayed weaknesses in the application of Number, Algebra and Geometry
Sci. S/Award	Limited application of scientific skills
History	Limited understanding of historical concepts and distinguishing causes of events
Geography	Candidates weak in extraction and interpretation of information from maps; failed to use basic quantitative techniques
DVS	Candidates failed to apply knowledge of concepts to real life situations; not able to use basic techniques of recording data
Religious Ed.	Candidates weak in high order thinking skills and in displaying knowledge and understanding of religious concepts and facts
F&N	Candidates not able to carry out a variety of food preparation techniques, processes and methods
F&F	Some candidates submitted incomplete products which came in the form of separate pattern pieces
Home Mgt.	Candidates failed to show manipulative skills as evidenced by submitting incomplete products.
Bus. Studies	Limited knowledge and understanding of business concepts, conventions and techniques



Final Outcome (% of Candidates Awarded 5Cs or better by centre)

		2013		2014		Variance
		Number of candidates awarded 5 C's or better	% of candidates awarded 5 C's or better	Number of candidates awarded 5 C's or better	% of candidates awarded 5 C's or better	
BW800	Moeng College	108	18.18	95	14.35	-3.83
BW801	Swaneng Hill School	211	24.74	204	25.22	0.48
BW802	Gaborone Secondary School	238	30.99	307	37.21	6.22
BW803	St Joseph's College	310	41.06	304	38.34	-2.72
BW804	Moeding College	171	22.77	183	24.14	1.37
BW805	Mater Spei College	305	35.42	301	37.39	1.97
BW806	Shashe River School	223	26.61	138	16.59	-10.02
BW807	Molefi Senior Secondary School	195	23.67	192	22.67	-1
BW808	Seepapitso Secondary School	153	18.91	143	18.67	-0.24
BW810	Kgari Sechele Senior Secondary School	142	17.62	134	15.97	-1.65
BW811	Lobatse Secondary School	217	26.05	170	21.04	-5.01
BW812	Tutume Mcconnell Community College	177	21.64	180	22.64	1
BW813	Madiba Senior Secondary School	148	21.26	149	22.68	1.42
BW814	Maun Secondary School	176	20.61	184	22.20	1.59
BW815	Selibe Phikwe Senior Secondary School	254	32.73	253	32.07	-0.66
BW816	Lotsane Senior Secondary School	205	24.88	207	25.65	0.77



Final Outcome (5Cs or better by school)

		2013		2014		Variance
		Number of candidates awarded 5 C's or better	% of candidates awarded 5 C's or better	Number of candidates awarded 5 C's or better	% of candidates awarded 5 C's or better	
BW817	Ledumang Senior Secondary School	194	24.31	181	23.18	-1.13
BW818	Francistown Senior Secondary School	152	18.88	208	27.26	8.38
BW819	Kagiso Senior Secondary School	108	14.36	98	14.20	-0.16
BW820	Lethakane Senior Secondary School	189	24.20	203	24.61	0.41
BW821	Moshupa Secondary School	197	24.38	154	19.01	-5.37
BW822	Naledi Senior Secondary School	343	39.79	290	33.84	-5.95
BW823	Matsha Community College	91	14.63	72	12.06	-2.57
BW824	Matshekge Hill Senior Secondary School	203	25.31	150	19.06	-6.25
BW825	Shoshong Senior Secondary School	121	17.41	145	21.23	3.82
BW826	Masunga Senior Secondary School	174	24.03	211	28.28	4.25
BW827	Ghanzi Senior Secondary School	139	21.86	124	18.62	-3.24
BW950	Goodhope Senior Secondary School	254	23.85	186	17.53	-6.32
BW951	Mogoditshane Senior Secondary School	214	31.01	271	28.32	-2.69
BW952	Nata Senior Secondary School	115	21.10	189	26.47	5.37
BW953	Mmadinare Senior Secondary School	171	27.54	165	18.67	-8.87
BW954	Shakawe Senior Secondary School	48	7.69	52	6.99	-0.7
All Schools		5946	24.27	5843	23.20	-1.07



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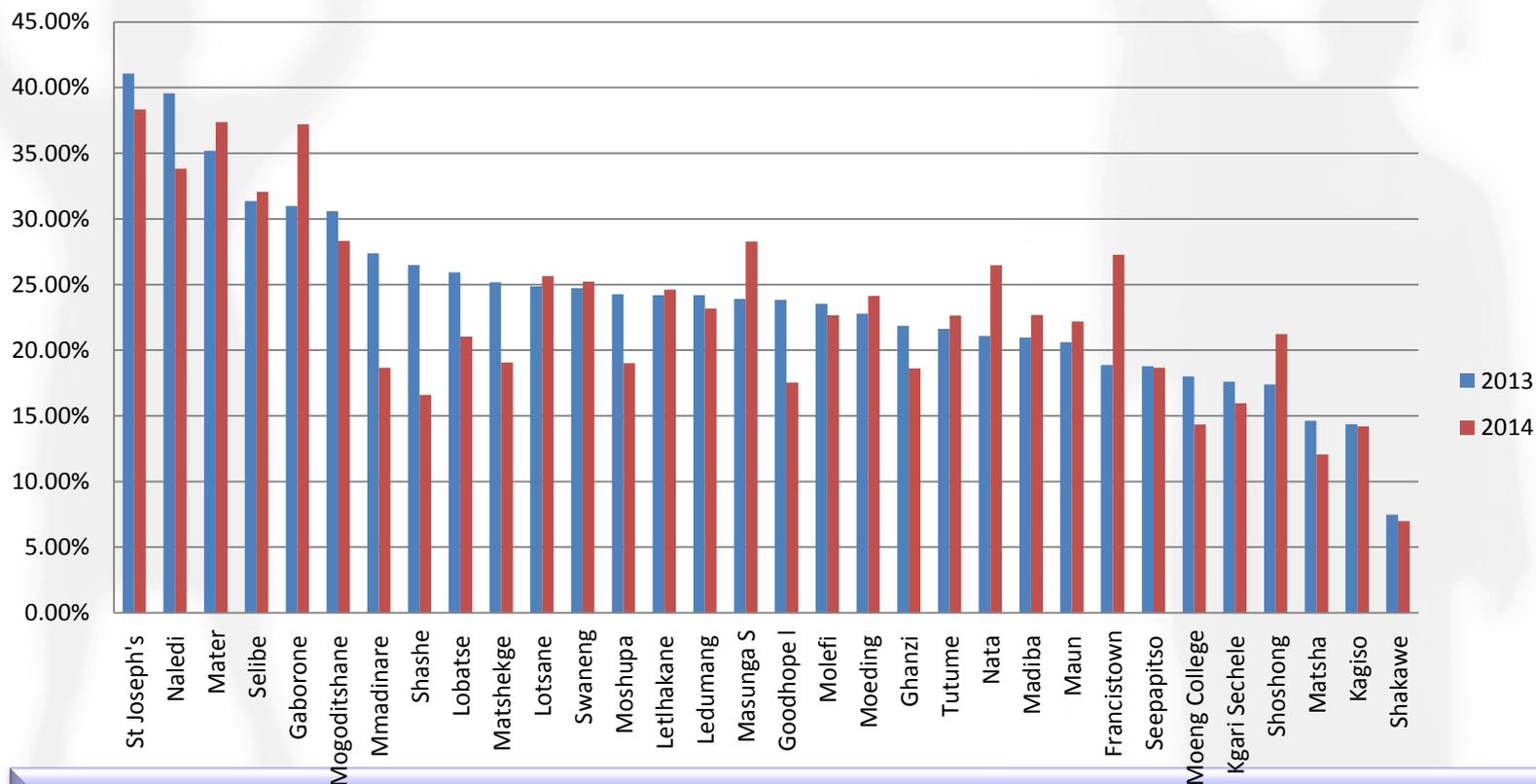
Final Outcome

Five schools significantly improved (>2%) in the proportion of candidates awarded 5Cs or better. The schools are Gaborone SSS, Francistown SSS, Shoshong SSS, Masunga SSS, and Nata SSS.

Eleven (11) schools showed significant decline (>2%) in the proportion of candidates who obtained 5Cs or better. The schools are Good Hope, Mogoditshane, Mmadinare, Ghanzi, Matshekge, Naledi, Moshupa, Lobatse, Shashe, St. Joseph's College, and Moeng College

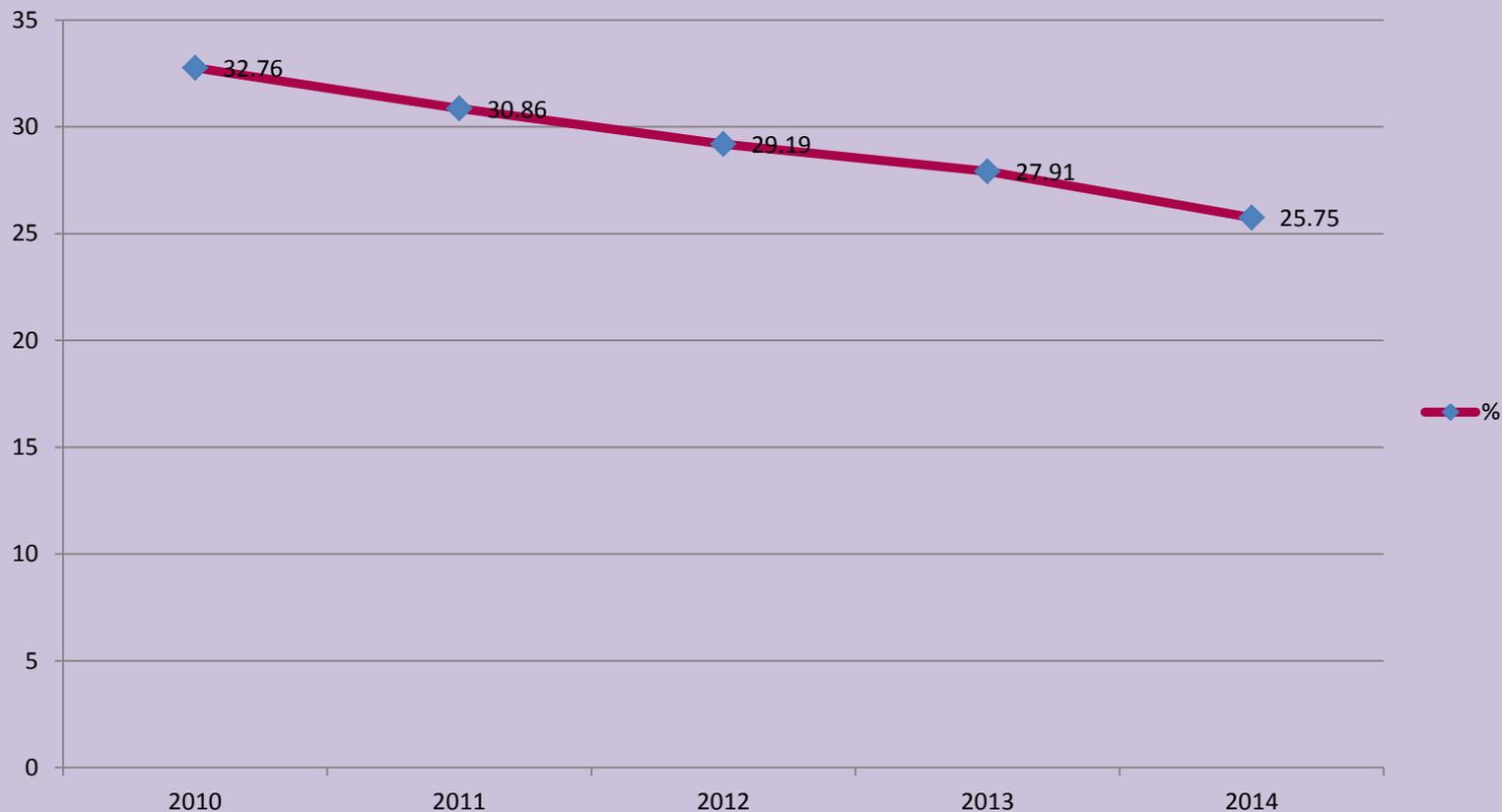


Proportion of Candidates awarded Grade 5C's or Better in Government and Government Aided Schools



All centres achieved below 40% in the number of candidates awarded 5Cs or better. St. Joseph's College remains the best performing school with 38.34%. The lowest performing school is Shakawe SSS with 6.99%. The following schools have significantly improved their performance from last year; Mater Spei College, Gaborone SSS, Masunga SSS, Nata SSS, and Francistown SSS.

Percentage of grades C or better Awarded in 2010 to 2014



Proportion of grades awarded C or better have been consistently dropping for the past five years.



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Percentage of candidates obtaining 5Cs or better in 2010 - 2014

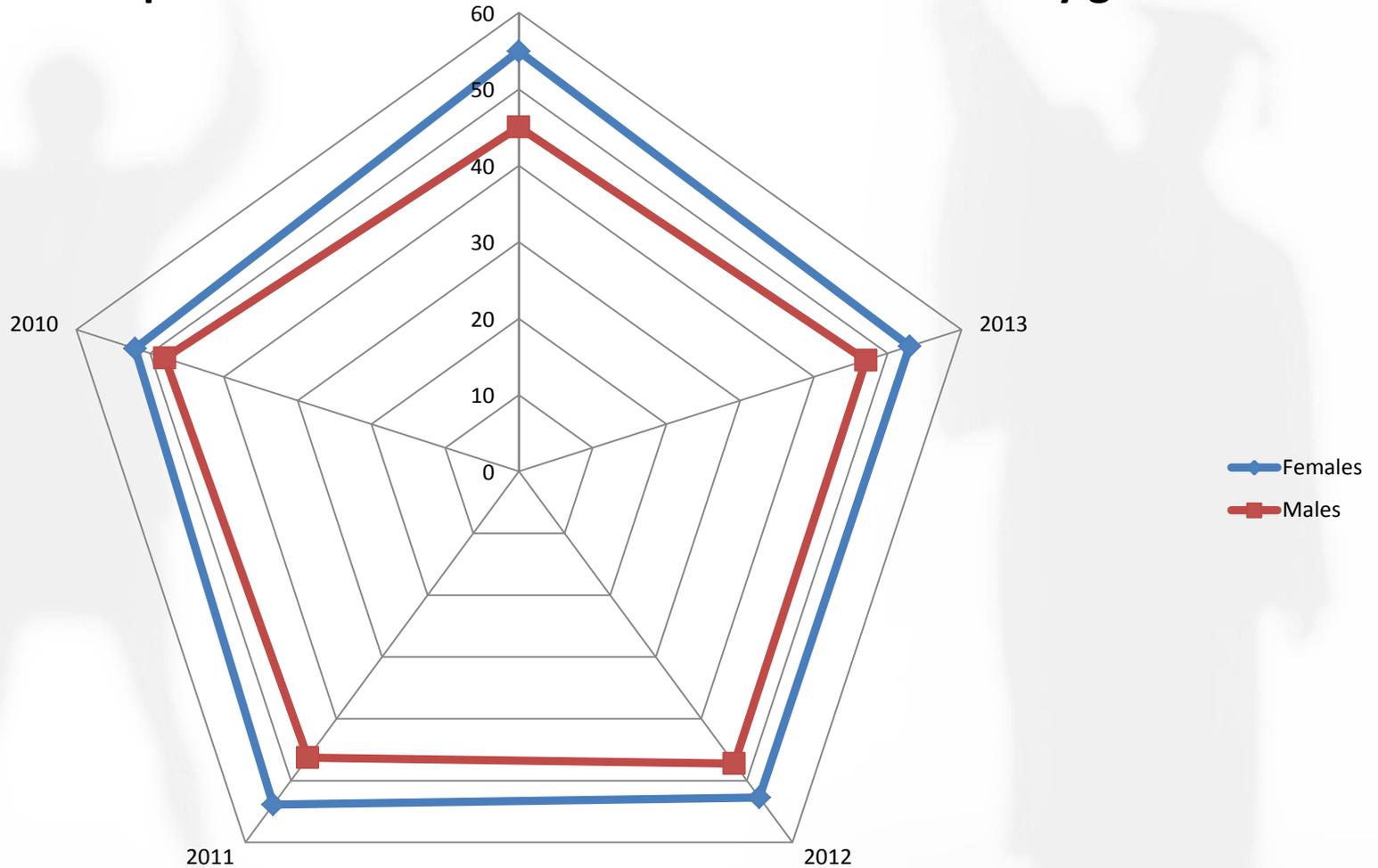


Proportion of candidates awarded 5Cs or better has also been declining consistently for the past five years.



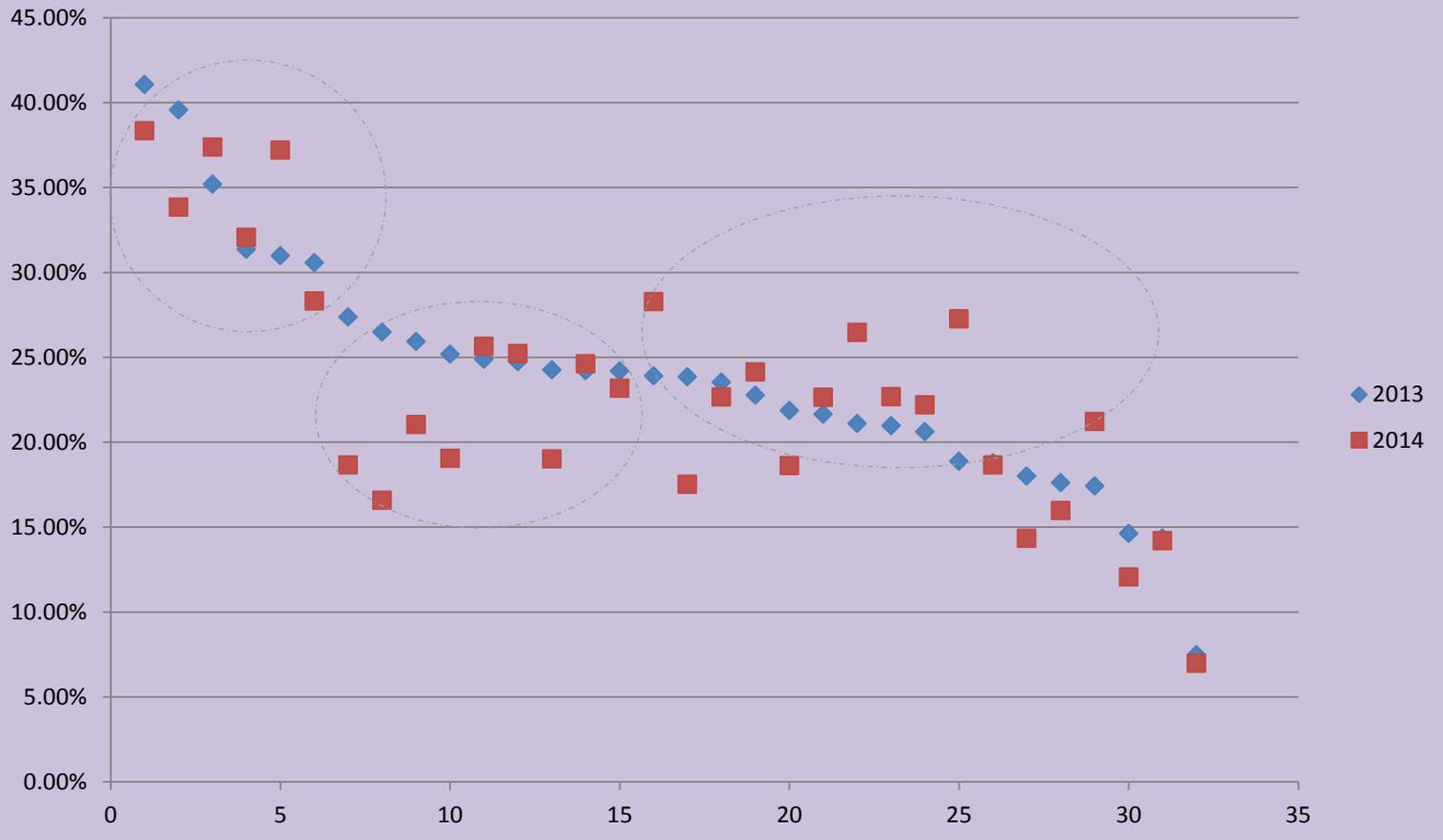
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Proportion of candidates awarded 5Cs or better by gender



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School performance further elaborated



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Grades awarded to Back to School Candidates in 2014

Grades Awarded	Grade A*		Grade A		Grade B		Grade C		Grade D		Grade E		Grade F		Grade G		Grade U	
	No.	Cum %	No.	Cum %	No.	Cum %	No.	Cum %	No.	Cum %	No.	Cum %	No.	Cum %	No.	Cum %	No.	Cum %
19631	2	0.01	24	0.13	87	0.58	1011	5.73	3512	23.62	4977	48.97	4127	69.99	3325	86.93	2568	100



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Fig. 6.0: Outstanding performance

Centre No.	School	Grades
BW822	Naledi S S S	7A*, 1A, 1B
BW805	Mater Spei College	6A*, 3A
BW803	St. Joseph's College	6A*, 2A, 1B, 1C
BW826	Masunga S S S	6A*, 2A, 1B
BW805	Lotsane S S S	6A*, 2A, 1B
BW817	Ledumang S S S	6A*, 2A, 1B

The list shows details of performance of the best candidates in the 2014 examinations based on candidates who obtained 6A* or better. This was done based on the best 8 subjects.

Summary

- The total number of candidates increased by 9.73% from 34 069 in 2013 to 37 384 in 2014. The increase is largely attributable to Back-to-School candidates which increased drastically.
- A decrease of 1.07% in the percentage of candidates who were awarded 5Cs or better was observed in 2014 compared to 2013.
- The following schools have significantly improved their performance from last year; Mater Spei College, Gaborone SSS, Masunga SSS, Nata SSS, and Francistown SSS.
- Shashe River School, and Mmadinare SSS experience the greatest decline in performance, other declined schools include, Lobatse SSS, Moshupa SSS, Naledi SSS, Matshekge Hill SSS, and Good Hope SSS.
- Shakawe SSS has once again recorded the lowest performance at 6.99%



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