



BOTSWANA  
EXAMINATIONS  
COUNCIL

JUNIOR CERTIFICATE EXAMINATIONS

# 2013 RESULTS SUMMARY

A decorative graphic on the right side of the page, consisting of a stack of books with pages in various shades of yellow, gold, and blue. The books are arranged in a slightly curved, ascending manner.

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## 2013 JCE RESULTS SUMMARY

### INTRODUCTION

The Junior Certificate Examination (JCE) assesses achievement of learners who have completed three years of secondary education. The 2013 JCE assessed candidates on seventeen (17) syllabuses, one (1) of which was available to private candidates only. The assessment was carried through written examinations, practical examinations and coursework assessment. There was a total of forty-nine (49) papers; eleven (11) multiple choice papers, twenty seven (27) open-ended or free response papers, eight (8) coursework components and three (3) practical examinations. The 2013 examination is the second assessment on the revised curriculum that was introduced in 2010. The main thrust of the revised curriculum is to provide learners with pre-vocational preparation through knowledge and selected practical experiences as well as building a foundation that enables individuals to cultivate manipulative ability, positive work attitudes and ultimately making informed choices for future careers. In response to this, BEC developed new sets of assessments aimed at supporting the new curriculum by bringing out of the learners important skills which will position the candidates for the world of work and vocational preparedness as well as preparing them for long life learning. Thus, standard-based grading was continued for the 2013 JCE. All syllabuses were graded using the procedure below.

For the award of a JCE qualification, candidates were graded on 7 syllabuses as follows:

- Candidates taking Setswana were graded on seven syllabuses, which include English, Setswana, Mathematics, Science/General Science, the best syllabus from the optional group and the best two from the remaining syllabuses.
- Candidates exempted from Setswana were also graded on seven syllabuses, which include English, Mathematics, Science/General Science, the best syllabus from the optional group and the best three from the remaining syllabuses.
- Private candidates who sit between one and six syllabuses in any given year can be considered for the award of an overall grade after they have completed seven syllabuses in a maximum of 5 consecutive years.

## **2013 JCE RESULTS SUMMARY**

The 2013 JCE Summary Results Report is structured as follows: -

- ◆ Candidature
- ◆ Overall Performance
- ◆ Performance by Subject
- ◆ Performance by Gender
- ◆ Performance by Education Region
- ◆ Observations at Subject Level

# 2013 JCE RESULTS SUMMARY

## 1.0 CANDIDATURE

Table 1.1

**JCE CANDIDATURE IN 2012 and 2013 BY SUBJECT AND GENDER**

SUBJECTS	2013			2012		
	All	Male	Female	All	Male	Female
<b>Setswana</b>	<b>38 636</b>	<b>19 344</b>	<b>19 291</b>	38 252	19 223	19 029
<b>English</b>	<b>38 882</b>	<b>19 466</b>	<b>19 415</b>	38 497	19 358	19 139
<b>Mathematics</b>	<b>38 791</b>	<b>19 425</b>	<b>19 365</b>	38 492	19 357	19 135
<b>General Science</b>	<b>1 580</b>	<b>708</b>	<b>872</b>	917	432	485
<b>Science</b>	<b>37 085</b>	<b>18 674</b>	<b>18 411</b>	38 494	19 357	19 137
<b>Social Studies</b>	<b>38 678</b>	<b>19 389</b>	<b>19 288</b>	38 494	19 357	19 138
<b>Design &amp; Technology</b>	<b>11 027</b>	<b>8 800</b>	<b>2 227</b>	11 184	8 881	2 303
<b>Agriculture (Incl. Pvt. Agric.)</b>	<b>38 653</b>	<b>19 387</b>	<b>19 265</b>	38 496	19 359	19 137
<b>Home Economics</b>	<b>10 523</b>	<b>2 403</b>	<b>8 120</b>	10 141	2 309	7 832
<b>Commerce and Office Procedure</b>	<b>8 869</b>	<b>4 058</b>	<b>4 811</b>	6 449	2 576	3 871
<b>Commerce and Accounting</b>	<b>5 668</b>	<b>2 556</b>	<b>3 112</b>	4 642	1 866	2 776
<b>Religious Education</b>	<b>16 999</b>	<b>6 658</b>	<b>10 340</b>	17 936	7 217	10 746
<b>Art</b>	<b>9 472</b>	<b>3 056</b>	<b>6 415</b>	9 306	6 427	2 879
<b>Moral Education</b>	<b>38 699</b>	<b>19 394</b>	<b>19 304</b>	38 494	19 357	19 137
<b>French</b>	<b>1 745</b>	<b>795</b>	<b>950</b>	1 675	731	944
<b>Music</b>	<b>1 915</b>	<b>884</b>	<b>1 031</b>	1 687	816	870
<b>Physical Education</b>	<b>11 478</b>	<b>6 347</b>	<b>5 131</b>	11 462	6 412	5 050
<b>Total</b>	<b>38 944</b>	<b>19 490</b>	<b>19 454</b>	<b>38 497</b>	<b>19 358</b>	<b>19 139</b>

The total number of candidates who satisfied the requirements of the 2013 Junior Certificate Examination (JCE) is **38 944** which is an increase of **1.2%** of the 2012 candidature. There were **19 490** male candidates, **19 454** female candidates.

## 2013 JCE RESULTS SUMMARY

### 2.0 OVERALL PERFORMANCE

Table 2.1: National Summary – Overall Grades

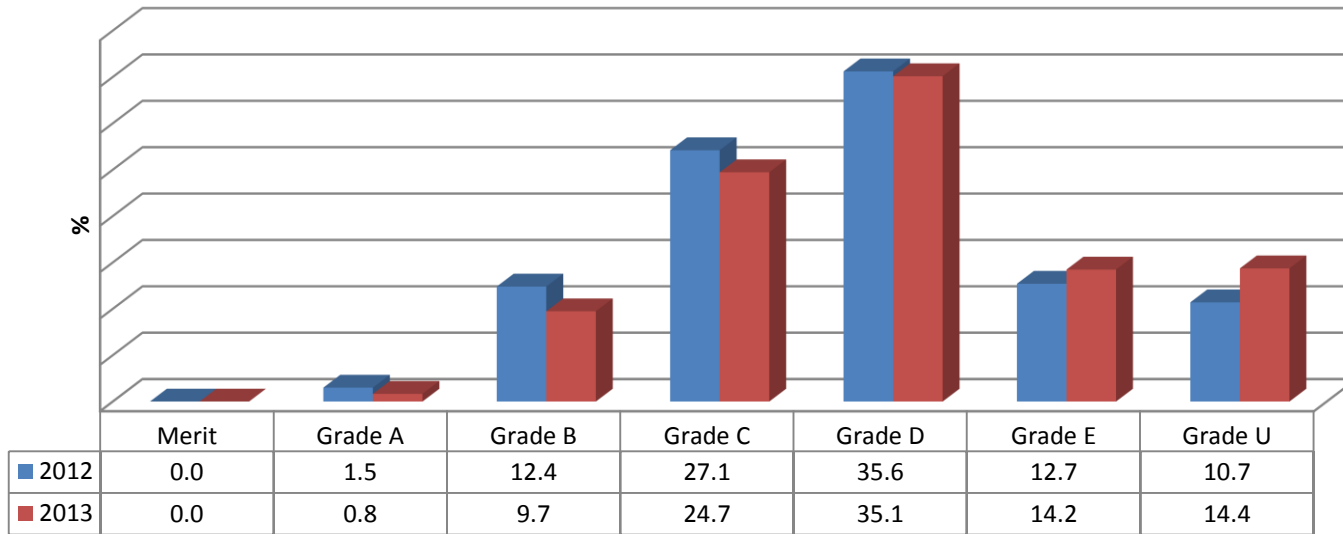
Grade	Frequency	%	Cum %
Merit	0	0.0	0.0
A	325	0.8	0.8
B	3788	9.7	10.5
C	9626	24.7	35.2
D	13662	35.1	70.3
E	5540	14.2	84.5
U	5592	14.4	98.9
X	412	1.1	100.0

**X** denotes failure to meet grading requirements for the award of a qualification.

**U** denotes failure to meet minimum requirements at grade E

## 2013 JCE RESULTS SUMMARY

**Fig. 2.1: Overall Candidate Performance in 2012 and 2013**



There is a decline in performance at A to C and a slight increase from D to U.

## 2013 JCE RESULTS SUMMARY

### 3.0: PERFORMANCE BY SUBJECT

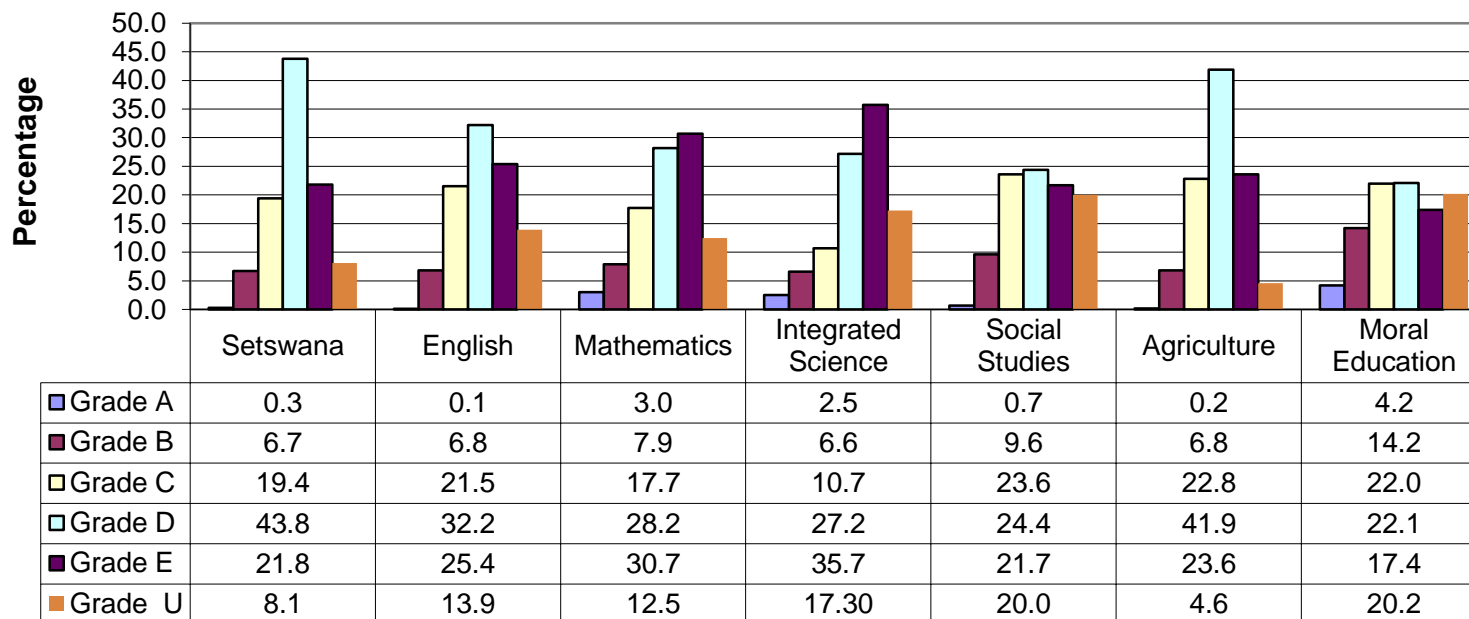
Table 3.1: Percentages of candidates awarded Grade C or better by subject in 2012 and 2013

	2012 (%)	2013 (%)	% Difference
<b>SETSWANA</b>	30.9	26.4	-4.5
<b>ENGLISH</b>	35.6	28.5	-7.1
<b>MATHEMATICS</b>	33.3	28.7	-4.6
<b>SCIENCE</b>	21.4	19.8	-1.6
<b>SOCIAL STUDIES</b>	33.9	33.9	0
<b>AGRICULTURE</b>	29.3	29.9	+0.6
<b>DESIGN &amp; TECHNOLOGY</b>	11.4	10.1	-1.3
<b>HOME ECONOMICS</b>	35.2	40.9	+5.7
<b>COMMERCE &amp; OFFICE PROCEDURES</b>	14.1	10.0	-4.1
<b>COMMERCE &amp; ACCOUNTING</b>	28.6	20.0	-8.6
<b>RELIGIOUS EDUCATION</b>	29.5	26.4	-3.1
<b>ART</b>	53.3	51.5	-1.8
<b>GENERAL SCIENCE</b>	10.2	2.9	-7.3
<b>MORAL EDUCATION</b>	45.6	40.3	-5.3
<b>FRENCH</b>	11.3	8.5	-2.8
<b>MUSIC</b>	18.7	24.8	+6.1
<b>PHYSICAL EDUCATION</b>	16.4	14.4	-2.0

For 2013, private candidates were not offered following subjects: Private Agriculture, Private Commerce and Office Procedures and Private Commerce and Accounting. They instead wrote the same papers as school candidates except paper 4 which was only available to private candidates. Art has recorded the highest proportion (51.5%) of candidates at grades A-C. Music (+6.1) and Home Economics (+5.7) are the only subjects that have recorded a significant improvement in performance. Commerce and Accounting (-8.6), General Science (-7.3), English (-7.1), Moral Education (-5.3), Mathematics (-4.6), Setswana (-4.5) and Commerce and Office Procedures (-4.1) have recorded a significant decline.

## 2013 JCE RESULTS SUMMARY

**Fig. 3.1 2013 Junior Certificate Examination: Percentage of Candidates at Each Grade in Core Subjects**

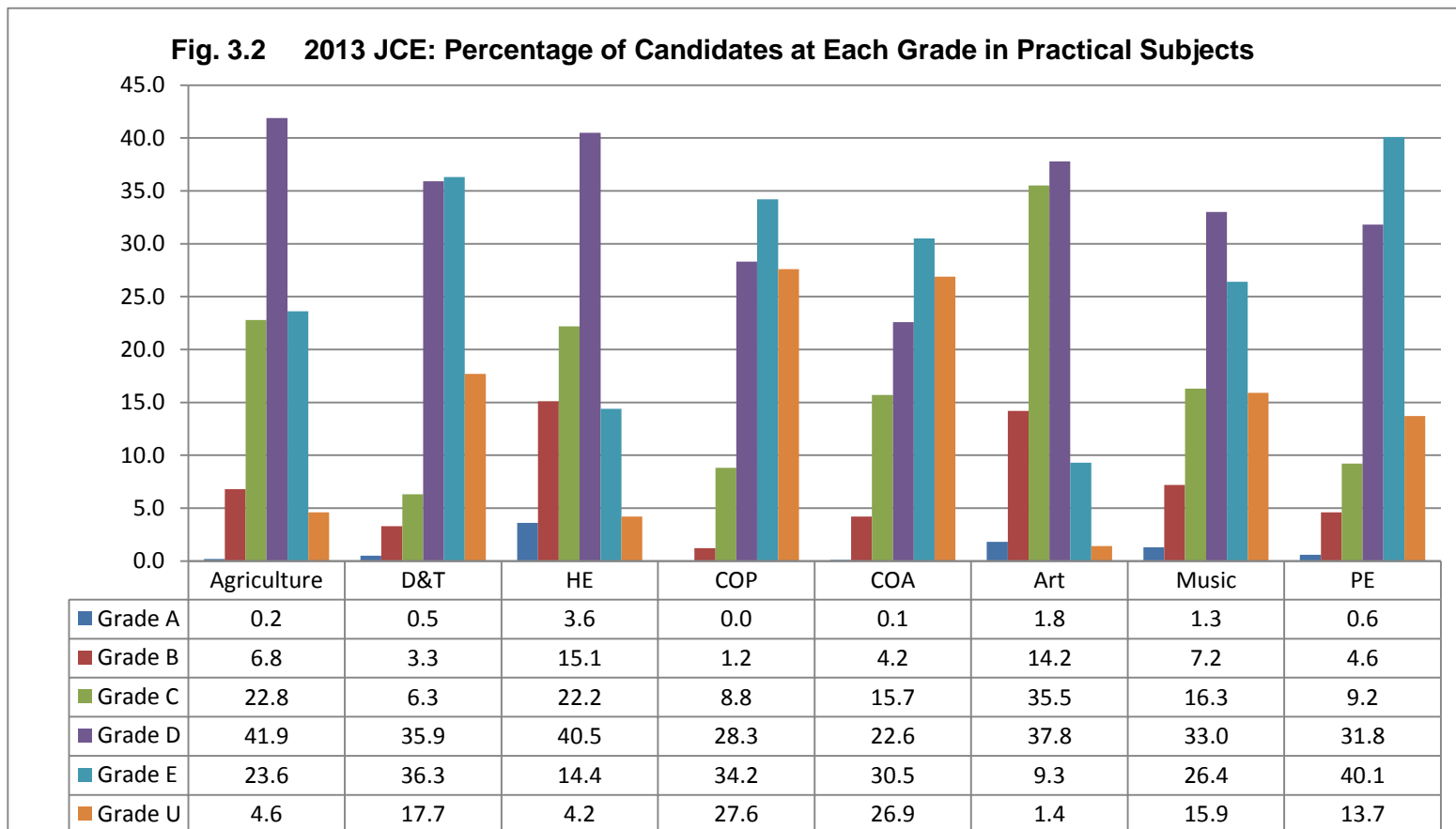


Moral Education has the highest proportion of candidates awarded Grade A at 4.2% followed by Mathematics with 3.0%. Moral Education and Social Studies have the highest proportion of candidates awarded grade U at 20.2% and 20.0% respectively.



## 2013 JCE RESULTS SUMMARY

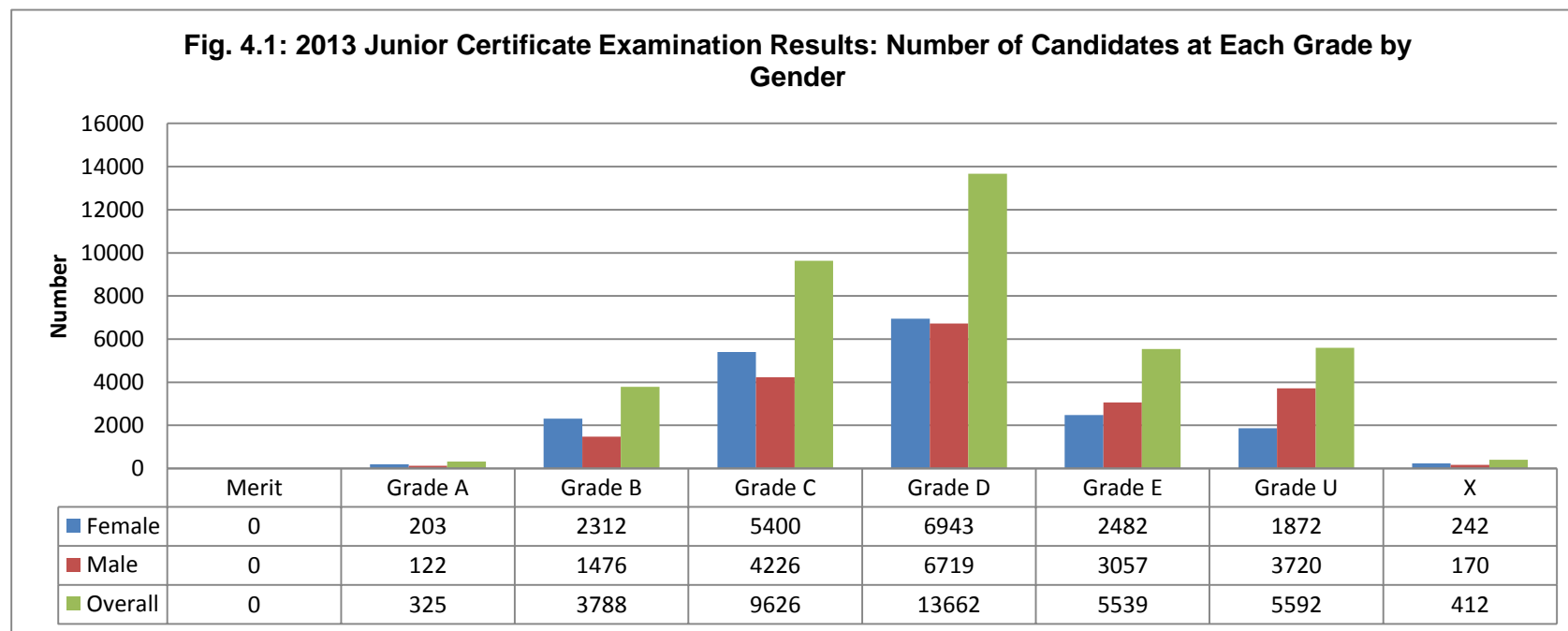
**Fig. 3.2 2013 JCE: Percentage of Candidates at Each Grade in Practical Subjects**



Home Economics has the highest proportion of grade A (3.6%) followed by Art at 1.8%. Business Subjects have the highest proportion of grade U at 27.6% for Commerce and Office Procedure (COP) and 26.9% for Commerce and Accounting (COA).

## 2013 JCE RESULTS SUMMARY

### 4.0: PERFORMANCE BY GENDER



There is no merit awarded in 2013 for both Males and Females. Girls perform better than boys at all grade levels.

## 2013 JCE RESULTS SUMMARY

**Table 4.1: Percentage of Female candidates at each grade by subject in 2012 and 2013**

	A		B		C		D		E		U
	2012	2013	2012	2013	2012	2013	2012	2013	2012	2013	2013
SETSWANA	0.5	0.5	11.9	9.7	29	24.8	47.2	44.7	11.3	16.0	4.3
ENGLISH	2.2	0.2	17.1	9.0	26.9	25.8	37.2	34.5	16.6	22.6	7.9
MATHEMATICS	4.0	3.2	10	8.8	22.9	19.9	37.7	29.4	25.5	29.2	9.6
SCIENCE	1.6	2.4	5.7	6.9	14.2	11.4	40.4	29.3	38.1	37.0	12.9
SOCIAL STUDIES	2.5	0.8	15.5	10.8	26.4	25.5	28.7	25.5	26.9	22.3	15.2
AGRICULTURE	0.6	0.2	10	6.6	21	23.6	47.9	45.0	20.4	21.1	3.4
DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY	1.2	0.1	2.2	4.8	6.9	4.8	25.2	37.2	64.4	40.7	16
HOME ECONOMICS	3.5	4.3	15	17.2	22.3	24.3	45.4	40.0	13.7	11.6	2.6
COMMERCE AND OFFICE PROCEDURES	0.1	0.0	2.5	1.6	15.9	11.3	44.1	31.2	37.3	34.1	21.8
COMMERCE AND ACCOUNTING	0.2	0.1	8.8	5.2	25.7	19.2	35.8	24.2	29.4	29.8	21.6
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION	0.1	0.3	7.7	6.8	29.2	24.4	38.3	31.1	24.7	29.1	8.3
ART	2	0.9	16.3	11.9	37.2	38.2	35.4	39.3	9.1	8.8	0.9
GENERAL SCIENCE	0.4	0.2	3.3	1.3	4.8	1.4	54.5	7.1	37	41.2	48.9
MORAL EDUCATION	10.8	5.9	26.9	18.2	21.6	24.4	25.3	22.5	15.4	15.7	13.3
FRENCH	1.7	0.6	5.8	3.3	12.9	8.1	29.2	22.4	50.4	40.9	24.6
MUSIC	0.4	1.4	6.6	9.0	18.4	21.0	51.2	35.4	23.4	23.4	9.9
PHYSICAL EDUCATION	1.3	0.7	5.9	4.9	10.9	9.1	42.9	33.0	39.1	41.0	13.1

At grade A, Moral Education has the highest decline in performance between 2012 and 2013 compared to other subjects. Only Science had a slight increase of 0.8% at grade A. At grade B all subject except Science, D&T and Music show a decline in performance between 2012 and 2013. The results for Grade C are comparable in all subjects; the decline in performance is not much compared to other grades. However, some subjects show some improvements at this grade e.g. Agriculture, Home Economics, Art, Moral Education and Music. Art has increased in the proportions of grade D's while other subjects have registered a decrease. Note that grade U was not recorded for 2012 and hence no comparison is made with 2013.

## 2013 JCE RESULTS SUMMARY

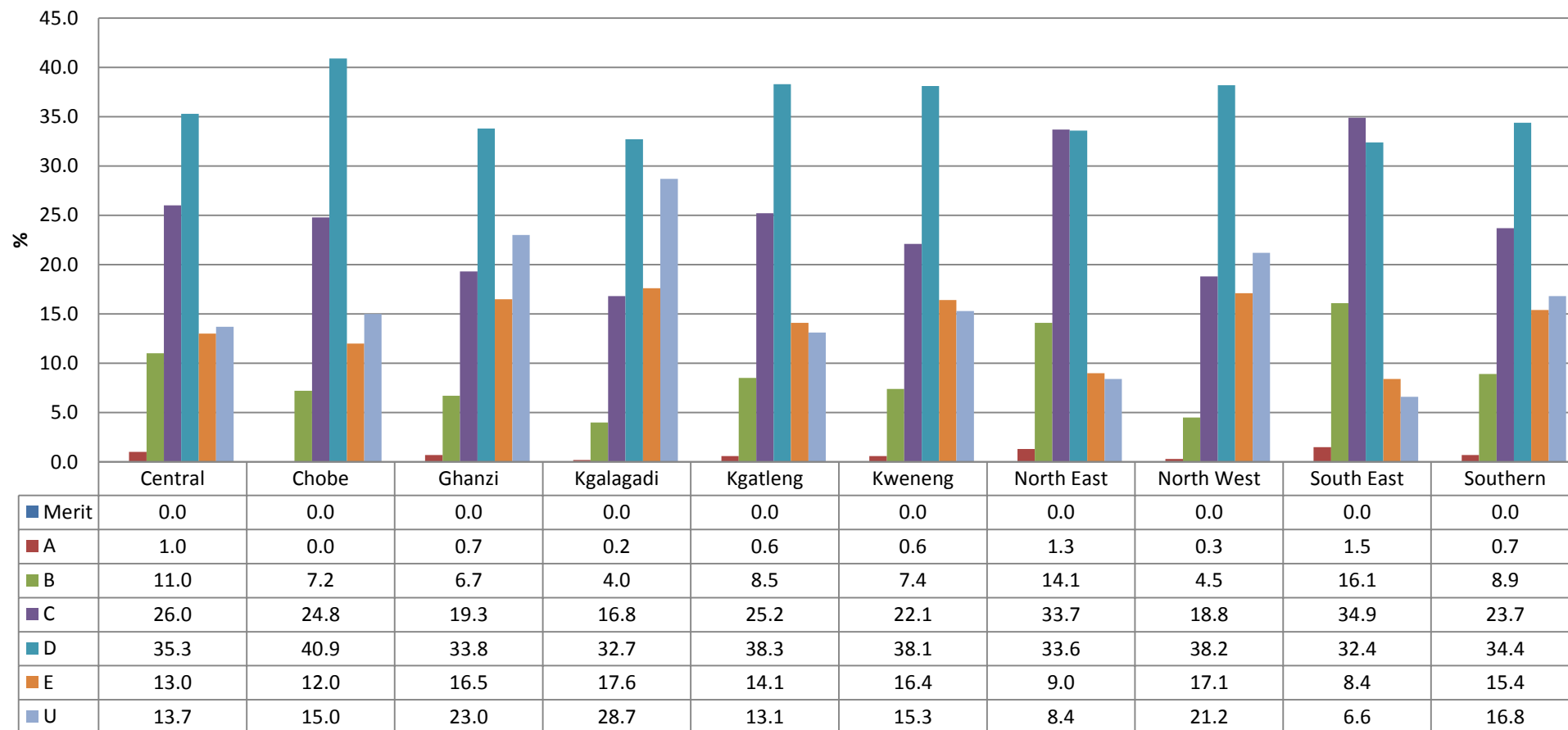
**Table 4.2: Percentage of Male candidates at each grade by subject in 2012 and 2013**

SUBJECT	A		B		C		D		E		U
	2012	2013	2012	2013	2012	2013	2012	2013	2012	2013	2013
SETSWANA	0.2	0.1	5.2	3.6	18.9	14.0	50.5	42.8	25.1	27.5	11.8
ENGLISH	1.6	0.1	14.2	4.6	24.9	17.2	38	29.9	21.3	28.3	19.9
MATHEMATICS	4.1	2.8	8.6	7.0	20.3	15.6	35.4	26.9	31.7	32.2	15.4
SCIENCE	2.3	2.6	6.6	6.3	15.2	9.9	33.2	25.2	42.4	34.3	21.7
SOCIAL STUDIES	2.4	0.6	15.9	8.4	26.2	21.8	27.3	23.3	28.3	21.1	24.8
AGRICULTURE	0.7	0.3	9.8	7.1	18.9	21.9	42.2	38.8	28.2	26.1	5.8
DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY	0.9	0.6	2.9	3.8	11.6	6.8	31.4	35.6	53.1	35.2	18.1
HOME ECONOMICS	1.3	1.2	6.7	8.1	14	15.0	45.9	42.2	32.2	23.8	9.7
COMMERCE AND OFFICE PROCEDURES	0.0	0.0	1.7	0.7	12	5.9	38.9	24.8	47.4	34.2	34.5
COMMERCE AND ACCOUNTING	0.3	0.0	7.8	3.1	21.7	11.4	34.4	20.6	35.7	31.4	33.5
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION	0.2	0.2	5.0	3.2	21.3	15.2	38.7	27.5	34.8	34.8	19
ART	3.4	2.3	17.1	15.3	33.3	34.2	34.7	37.1	11.5	9.5	1.6
GENERAL SCIENCE	0.5	0.4	1.6	1.1	10.2	1.4	60.4	9.6	27.4	43.4	44.1
MORAL EDUCATION	5.8	2.5	21.3	10.2	21.6	19.5	28.7	21.6	22.6	19.1	27.1
FRENCH	0.5	0.5	3.4	1.3	7.8	2.5	22.7	11.2	65.6	34.7	49.8
MUSIC	0.3	1.1	4.2	5.0	12.1	11.0	49.6	30.2	33.8	29.9	22.9
PHYSICAL EDUCATION	1.8	0.5	6.3	4.3	11.1	9.1	40.8	30.9	40.1	41.0	14.2

For males, most subjects except Science and Music show a decline in performance between 2012 and 2013 at grade A. Both Science and Music show a slight improvement at this grade. At grade B, Only D&T and Music registered an improvement in performance but all subjects' show a decline. At Grade C, only Art, Agriculture, and Home Economics have increased in performance between 2012 and 2013 compared to other subjects. Subjects which have increased in the proportions of grade D's are Art, D&T while other subjects have registered a decrease. The greatest decline at this grade was registered in General Science, with a difference of over -50% between 2012 and 2013. For Grade E, Setswana, English, General Science and Mathematics show many students obtaining this grade in 2013 than in 2012. Note that grade U was not recorded for 2012 and hence no comparison was made with 2013.

## 2013 JCE RESULTS SUMMARY

**Fig. 4.3: Overall Grade Percentages by National Regions**



The **South East** region has the highest proportion awarded grade C or better (52.5%) compared to other regions in the country. The **Ghanzi** (26.8%), **North West** (23.5%) and **Kgalagadi** (21.0%) regions registered significantly low proportions of grade A to C.

## 2013 JCE RESULTS SUMMARY

### 5.0 OBSERVATIONS AT SUBJECT LEVEL

The results of the 2013 JCE show a significant decline across subjects in exception of Home Economics, Agriculture and Music. Analysis of the results of subjects that showed a significant decline revealed that candidates were weak in a number of skill areas as follows:

- **Setswana:** Candidates showed very weak analytical, summary and translation skills. They had difficulty communicating or expressing their views. Candidates also had problems with language use skills.
- **English:** Candidates had problems with language use and they showed weak literary skills. They also showed weakness in summary skills.
- **Mathematics:** Candidates showed weak understanding of mathematical concepts and were unable to apply the knowledge acquired to novel situations as well to reason with given situations.
- **Commerce and Office Procedures:** The majority of candidates displayed inadequate knowledge and understanding of basic business concepts and principles as well as entrepreneurial skills.
- **Commerce and Accounting:** The majority of candidates displayed inadequate knowledge as they were unable to show familiarity with basic business concepts and principles as well as techniques used in Commerce & Accounting. This demonstrates that they lacked basic subject content. Even questions requiring simple accounting calculations were poorly answered by the majority of candidates compared to the 2012 cohort. It is also evident that among other skills, school candidates failed to demonstrate problem solving and investigative skills in the project work.
- **Moral Education:** Candidates demonstrated limited application, analysis and evaluation skills.