

PRIMARY SCHOOL
LEAVING EXAMINATIONS



BOTSWANA
EXAMINATIONS
COUNCIL

2018 SUMMARY OF PROVISIONAL RESULTS

18

Primary School Leaving Examination (PSLE) is a diagnostic examination meant to provide feedback to the education system. The examination measures candidates' academic performance against curriculum standards. It is administered to all learners who have completed the Ministry of Basic Education (MoBE) 7-year primary school programme. PSLE candidates sit examinations in seven subjects, namely: Setswana, English, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, Agriculture and Religious and Moral Education. Performance at PSLE is reported on a five (5) point grade scale of A-E, showing levels of achievement. Grades A to C are credit pass grades while D to E are pass grades. The symbol U denotes failure to achieve minimum requirements at Grade E. This report presents a summary of the 2018 PSLE results. It reports performance at national and regional level. It also reports performance by subject and by gender. The report is structured as follows:

1.0 Candidature

2.0 Overall Performance

3.0 Performance by Region

4.0 Performance by Subject

5.0 Performance by Gender

6.0 Performance by Dimensions

7.0 Summary of Results

1.0 CANDIDATURE

Table 1.1: PSLE Candidature in 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017 And 2018 by Subject					
SUBJECTS	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Setswana	42160	41905	41 911	43808	45837
English	42797	42553	42 517	44427	46432
Mathematics	42797	42553	42 517	44427	46432
Science	42797	42553	42 517	44427	46432
Social Studies	42797	42553	42 517	44427	46432
Agriculture	42795	42553	42 517	44427	46431
Religious and Moral Education	42754	42508	42 470	44375	46387
Total Candidature	42797	42553	42 517	44427	46432

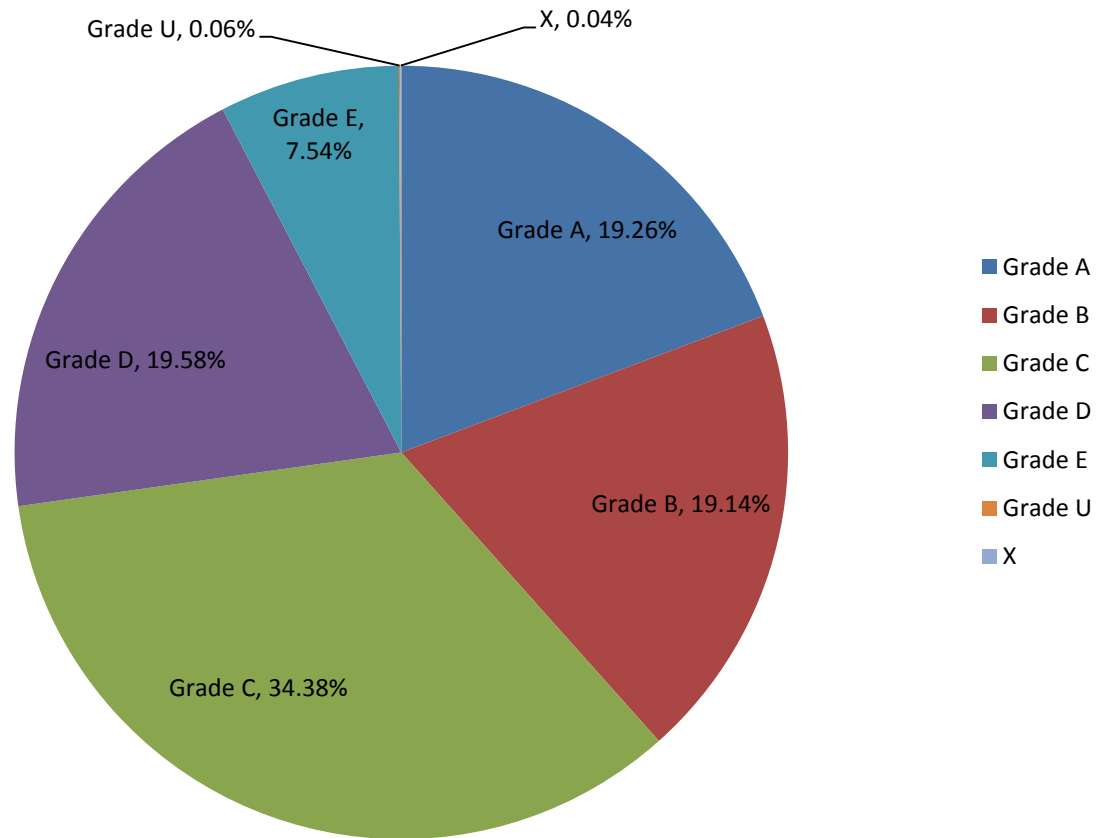
- A total of 46432 candidates sat for the 2018 Primary School Leaving Examination. The number comprises of 23425 (50.45%) females and 23007 (49.55%) males.
- Total candidature increased from 44427 in 2017 to 46432 in 2018, which represents an increase of 2005 candidates (4.51%).

2.0 OVERALL PERFORMANCE

Table 2.1: 2018 Primary School Leaving Examination Results

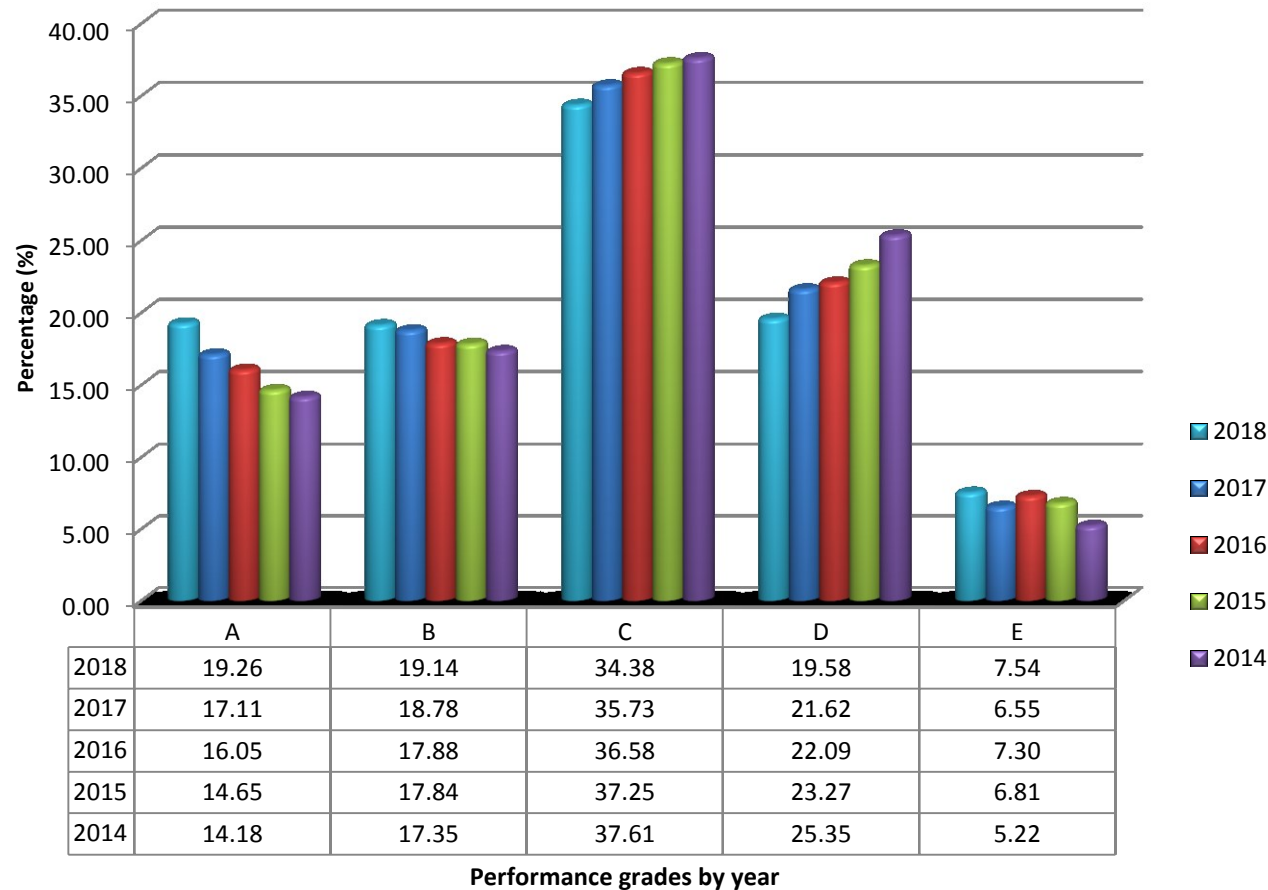
Grade	Candidature	Percentage	Cumulative
A	8941	19.26	19.26
B	8887	19.14	38.40
C	15963	34.38	72.78
D	9094	19.58	92.36
E	3501	7.54	99.90
U	29	0.06	99.96
X	17	0.04	100
Total	46432	100%	

Figure 2.1: 2018 Primary School Leaving Examination Results



The majority of students obtained a Grade C (34.38%) as shown in the pie chart, 19.58% obtained Grade D while 7.54% obtained Grade E.

Figure 2.2: Comparison of PSLE overall performance in 2018, 2017, 2016, 2015 and 2014



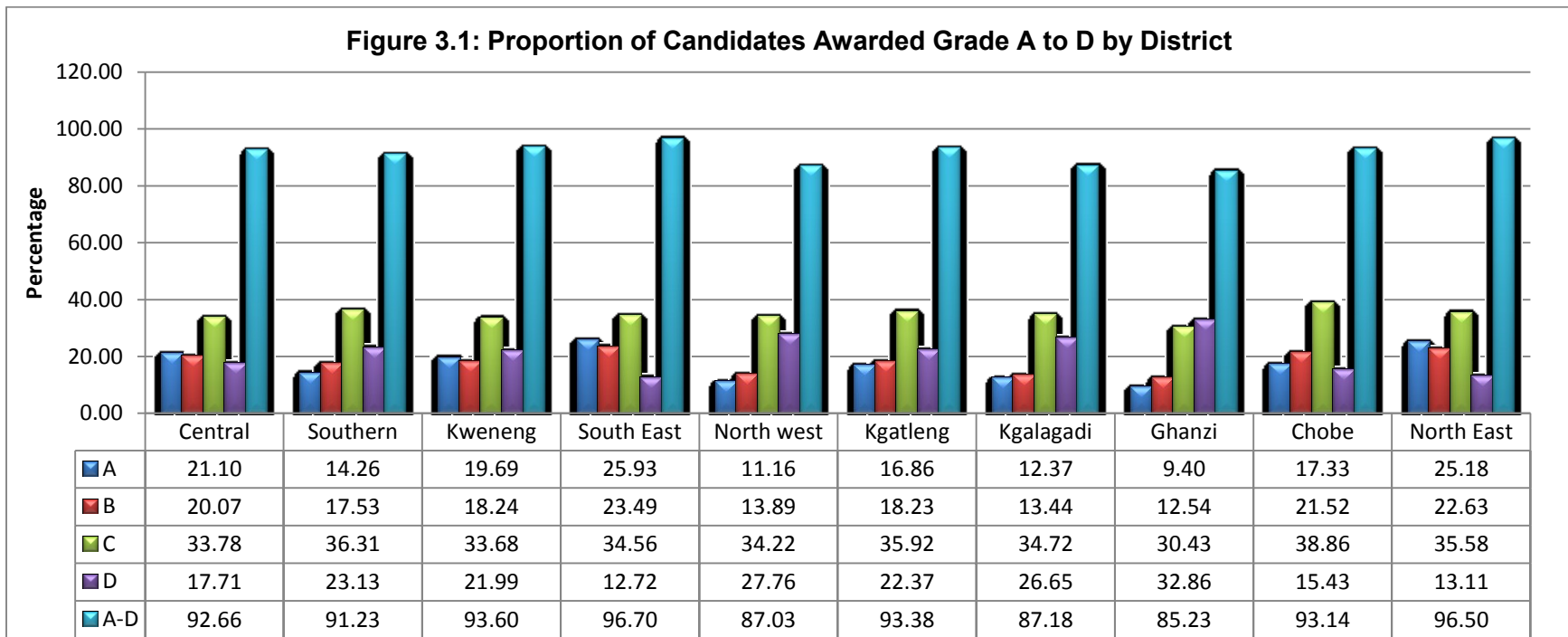
In 2018 performance at grade A increased by 2.15%, from 17.11% in 2017 to 19.26% in 2018.

Percentage of candidates obtaining grade B has also slightly improved by 0.36%, from 18.78 in 2017 to 19.14% in 2018. Candidates at Grade C declined by 1.35% from 35.73% in 2017 to 34.38% in 2018. Cumulatively, the percentage of credit pass grades (A-C) is 72.78% compared to 71.62% of 2017. This represents an increase of 1.16%.

The proportion of candidates at grade D has decreased by 2.04% from 21.62% in 2017 to 19.58% in 2018. Grade E however, had an increase of 0.99% from 6.55% in 2017 to 7.54% in 2018.

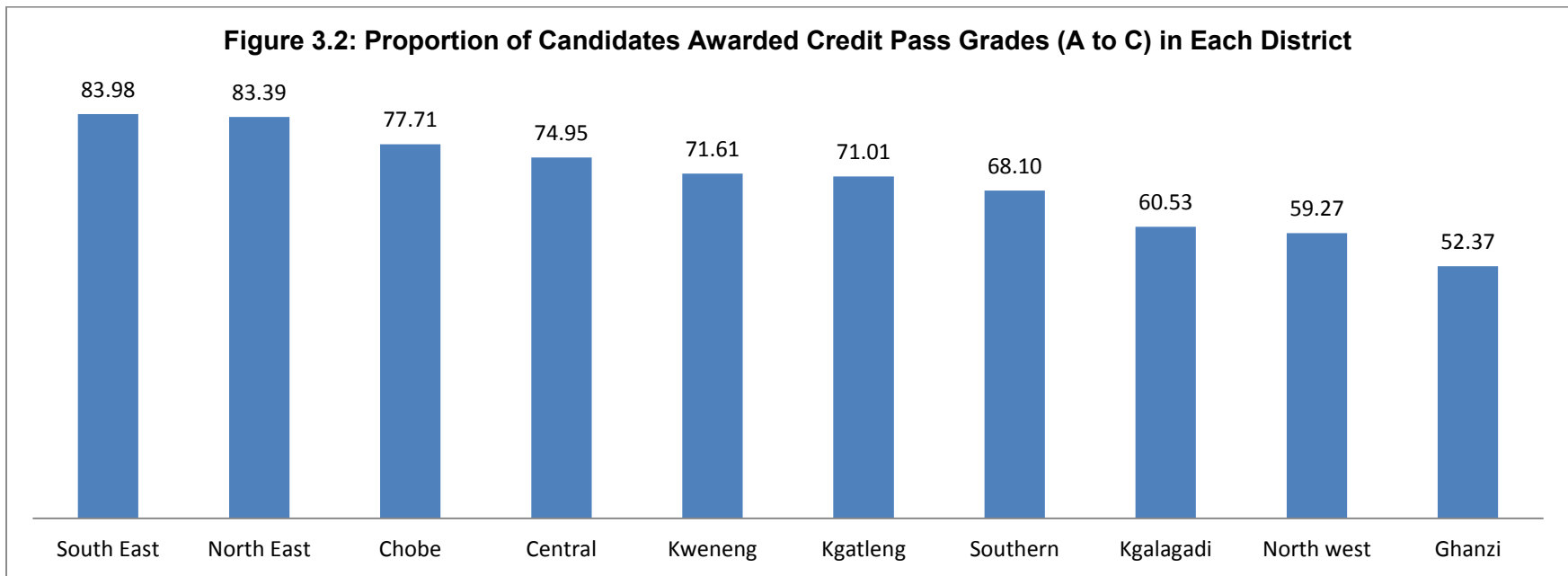
3.0 PERFORMANCE BY MORE REGIONS

Figure 3.1: Proportion of Candidates Awarded Grade A to D by District



South East has the highest proportion of Grade A (25.93%) while Ghanzi has the least proportion of Grade A (9.40%), even though it has improved from 6.52% in 2017. Ghanzi has the largest proportion of Grade D (32.86%).

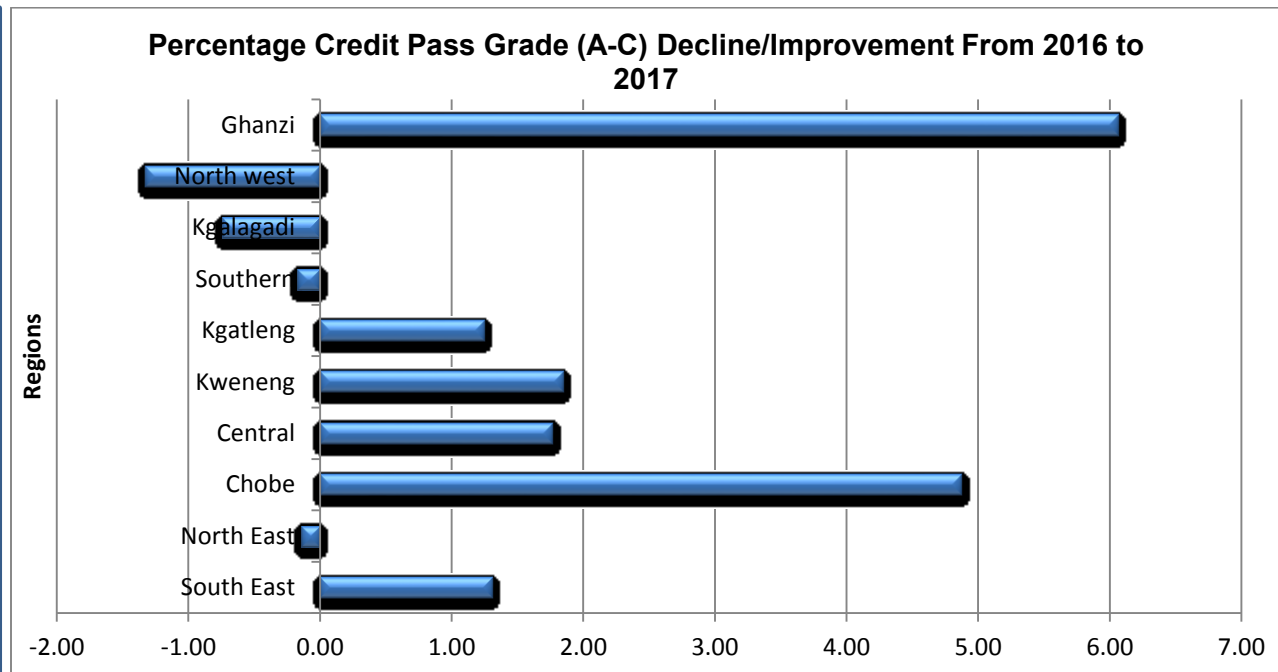
Figure 3.2: Proportion of Candidates Awarded Credit Pass Grades (A to C) in Each District



South East Region with 83.98% and North East Region with 83.39% performed significantly higher than other regions. The least performing region is Ghanzi at 52.37%, improving from 46.30% recorded in 2017.

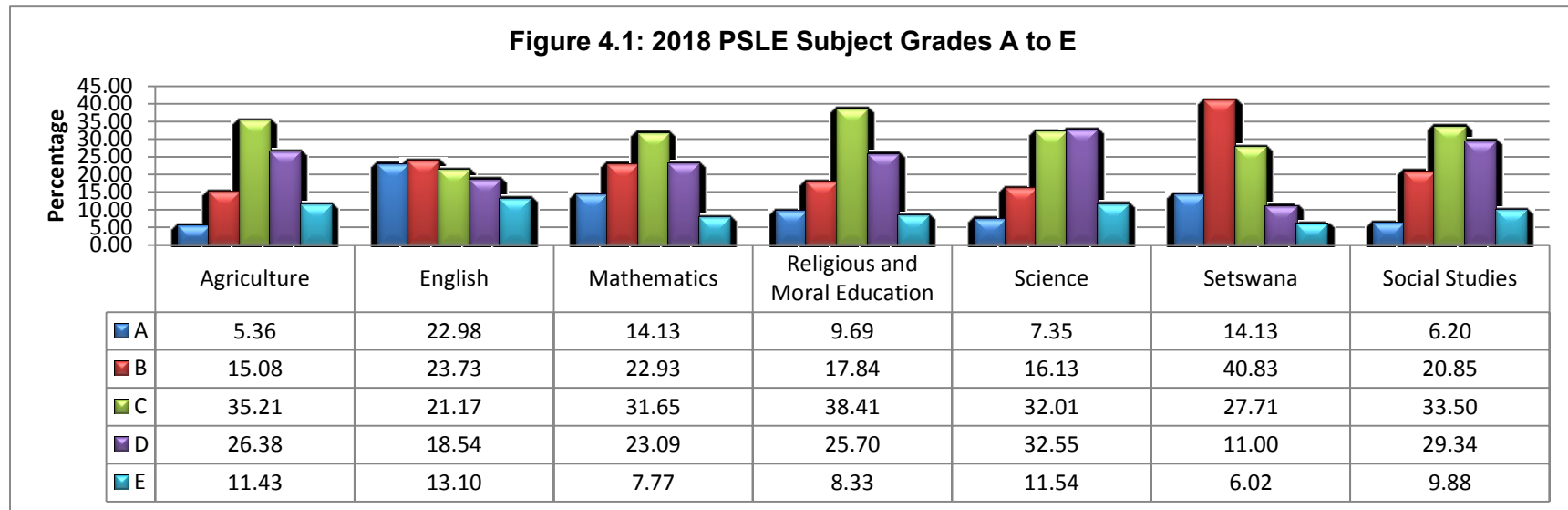
2018 PSLE RESULTS SUMMARY

Region	Decline/ Improvement
South East	1.31
North East	-0.14
Chobe	4.88
Central	1.77
Kweneng	1.85
Kgatleng	1.25
Southern	-0.17
Kgalagadi	-0.74
North west	-1.33
Ghanzi	6.07



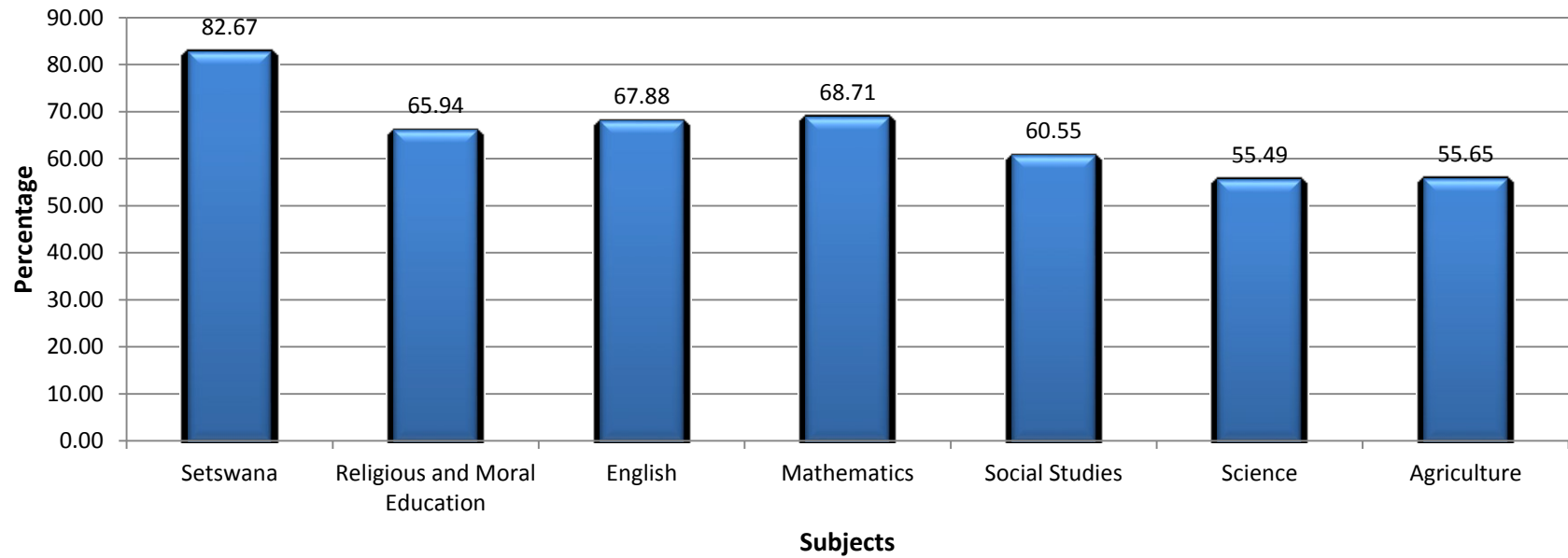
Compared to 2017, where the proportion of candidates earning credit pass grades (A to C) increased in all regions, 2018 has experienced some decline in a number of regions, notably North West and Kgalagadi with 1.33% and 0.74% decline respectively. Ghanzi has the greatest improvement of 6.07%, followed by Chobe at 4.88%.

4.0 PERFORMANCE BY SUBJECT



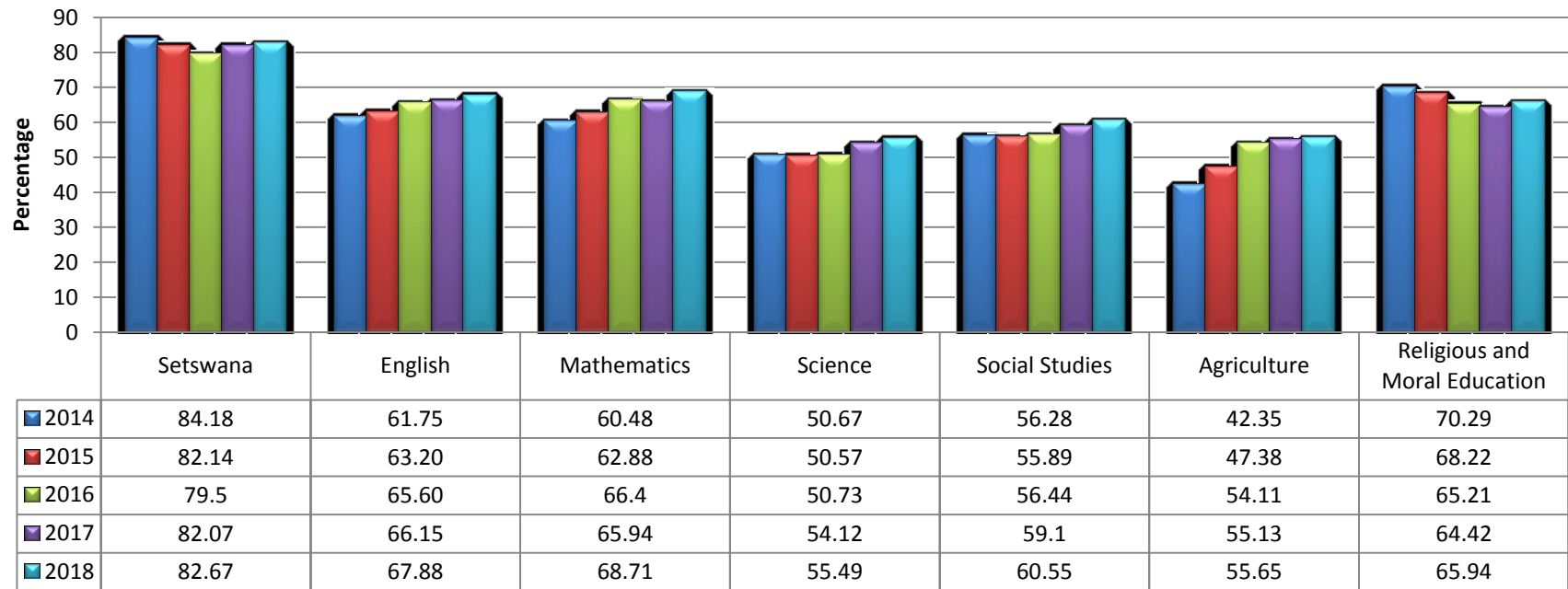
- The results show the highest proportion of candidates awarded grade A in English at 22.98%. For English and Setswana, grade B is the modal grade, at 23.73% and 40.83% respectively. Grade C is the modal grade for other syllabi.
- The lowest proportion of candidates awarded grade A is in Agriculture at 5.36%. On the other hand Science recorded the highest proportion of candidates at grade D, making it the modal grade for Science.
- Religious and Moral Education have the highest proportion of candidates awarded grade C at 38.41% compared to other subjects.
- English has the highest proportion of candidates awarded grade E with 13.10%.

Figure 4.2: 2018 PSLE Subject Pass Levels: Credit Pass Grades (A-C) by Subject



- Setswana registered the highest A to C grades at 82.67% followed by English at 67.88%.
- Science has the lowest A to C grades at 55.49%.

Figure 4.3: Comparison of Subject Credit Pass Grades (A-C) - 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017 and 2018



Mathematics obtained the largest significant improvement of 2.77% followed by English 1.73%. Generally all subjects experienced some slight improvement at grades A to C in 2018.

5.0 OVERALL PERFORMANCE BY GENDER

Figure 5.1a: Overall Performance on the 2018 PSLE by Gender

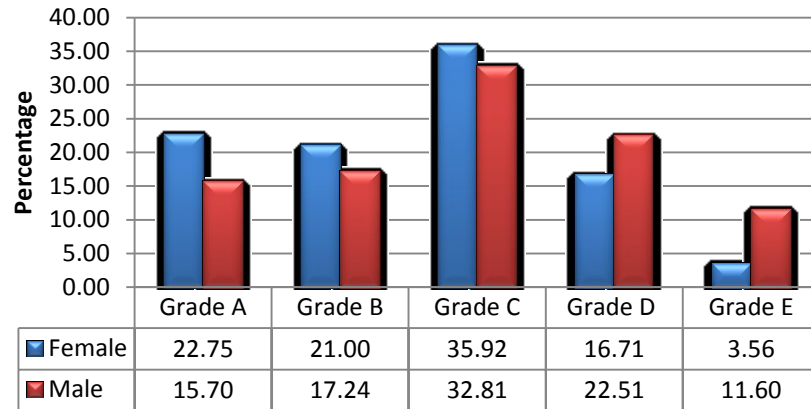


Figure 5.1b: Overall 2017 PSLE by Gender

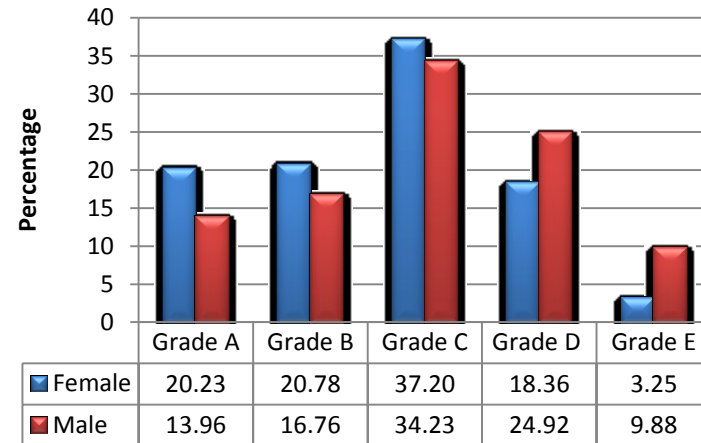


Figure 5.1c: Overall Performance on the 2016 PSLE by Gender

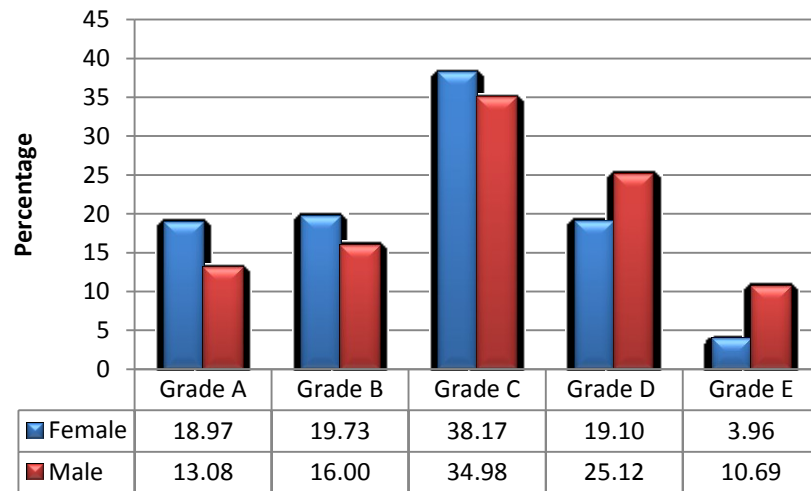


Figure 5.1d: Overall 2015 PSLE by Gender

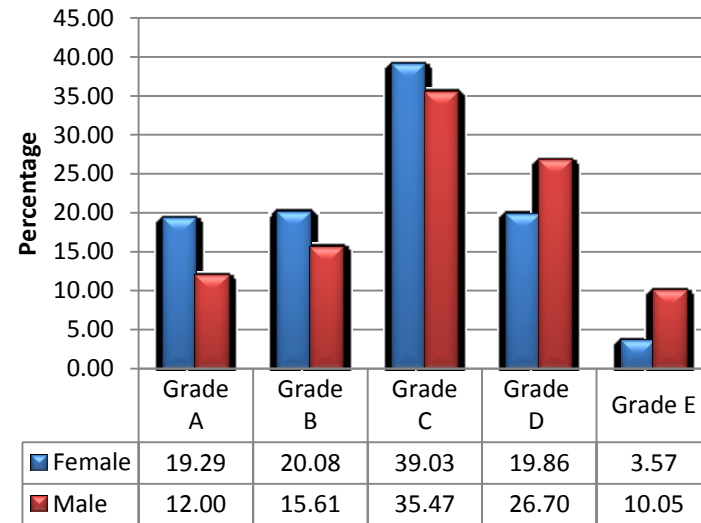
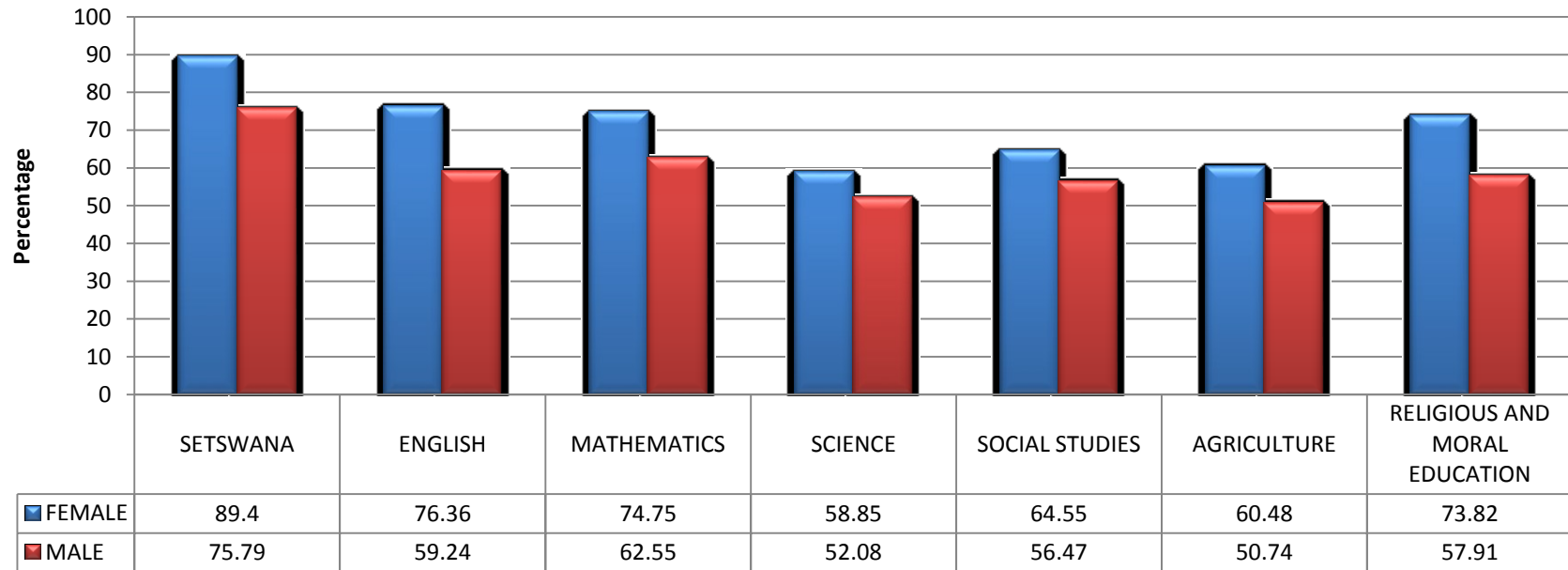


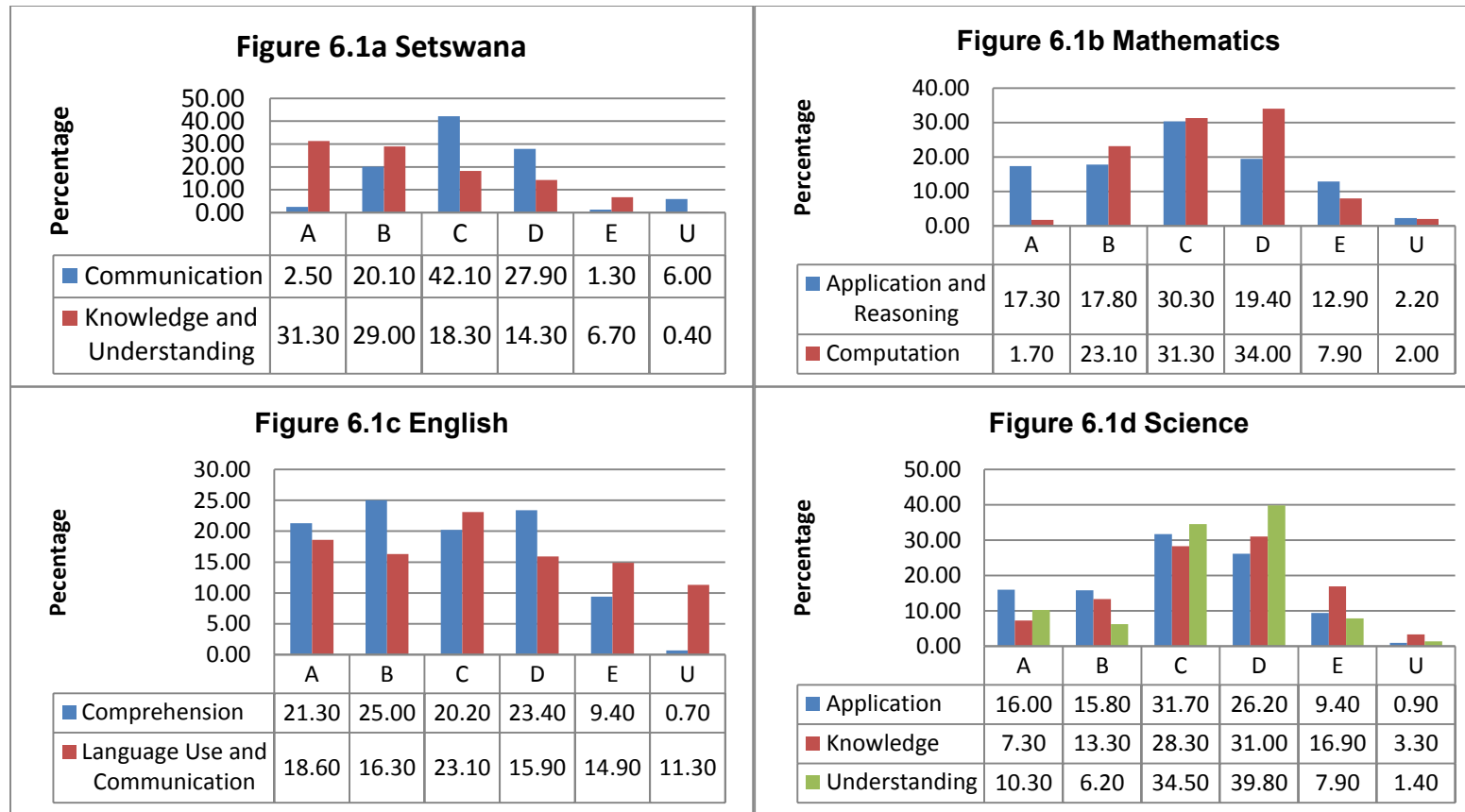
Figure 5.2: 2018 PSLE Subject Credit Pass Grades (A-C) by Gender



- Generally, females are performing better than the males across all the four (4) years; 2015, 2016, 2017 and 2018 results as shown in Figure 5.1.
- For the year 2018 at subject level, females outperformed their male counterparts in all subjects.

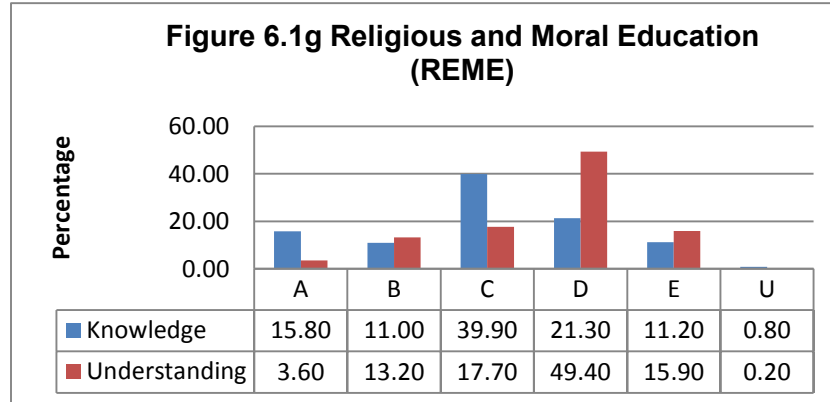
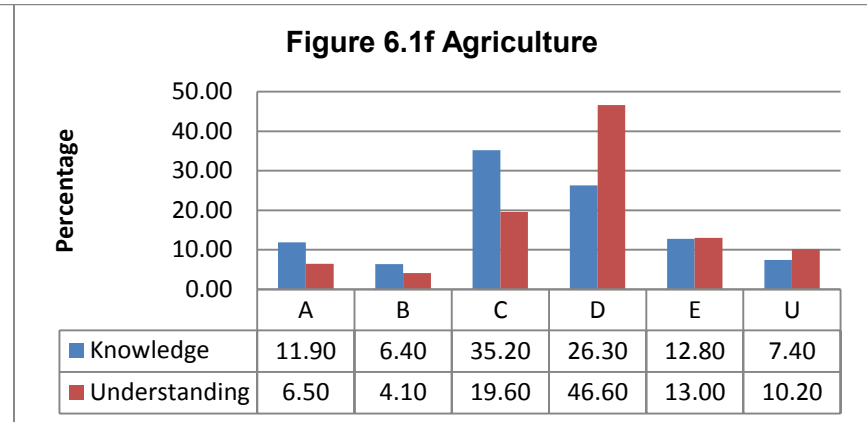
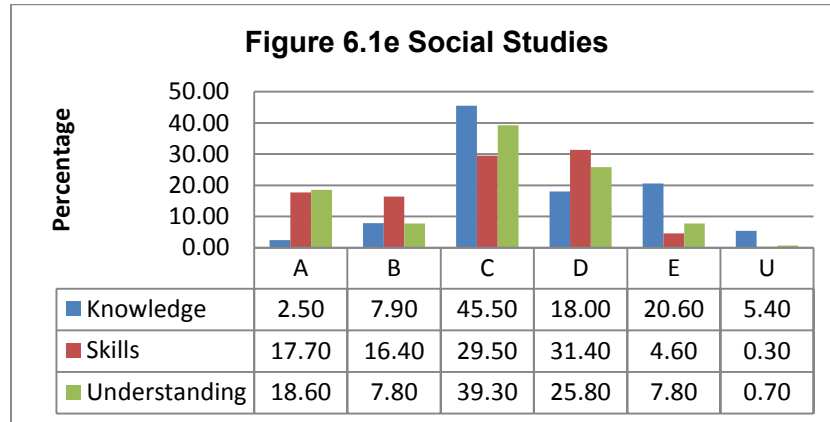
6.0 PERFORMANCE BY DIMENSION PSLE 2018

PSLE is a diagnostic assessment and each subject is divided into skills areas called dimensions. The purpose is to provide information for the next level on the strengths and weaknesses of the candidates. The following are subject performance according to dimensions.



A high proportion of candidates (79%) are performing better in the dimension of Knowledge and Understanding compared to 65% for Communication in Setswana as shown in Figure 6.1a. For Mathematics candidates are performing better on the Dimension of Application (65%) and Reasoning compared to (56%) in Computation. In English, candidates are performing at the same level for the

dimensions of Comprehension and Language Use and Communication for grades A to C. A high proportion of candidates were weak in the dimension of Language Use and Communication with 11% being ungraded (U). For Science, candidates are performing better in Application (65%) than in Knowledge and Understanding (49%) and (51%) respectively as shown in Figure 6.1d.



On the other hand, for Social Studies, candidates are performing better in the dimension of Skills at 65% than Knowledge and Understanding. For Agriculture candidates are performing better in the dimension of Knowledge at 54% than Understanding which stands at 30%, while REME shows (67%) of candidates are performing better in Knowledge than in Understanding (35%).

7.0 SUMMARY OF THE 2018 PSLE RESULTS

- A total of 46432 candidates sat the 2018 PSLE compared to 44427 in 2017 and 42517 in 2016, representing an increase of 4.51% in candidature between 2018 and 2017, whereas there was an increase of 4.49% in candidature between 2017 and 2016.
- Overall, there is a slight increase of 1.16% in the candidates awarded Credit Pass Grades A to C, in 2018 compared to 2017.
- Mathematics had the most significant improvement at 2.77%.
- Females performed better than males across all subjects.
- Regions which have shown significant improvement are Ghanzi (6.07%) and Chobe (4.88%)