



BOTSWANA
EXAMINATIONS
COUNCIL

PRIMARY SCHOOL LEAVING EXAMINATION

2011 RESULTS SUMMARY

INTRODUCTION

The Primary School Leaving Examination (PSLE) assesses the achievement of learners who have completed the first seven years of the 10-year basic education programme. Candidates were examined on seven syllabuses: English, Mathematics, Science, Setswana, Social Studies, Agriculture and Religious & Moral Education (REME). English and Setswana consist of two components each: a multiple choice paper and an extended writing paper. Agriculture has one component consisting of open-ended questions. The rest of the subjects have one multiple choice paper each consisting of sixty items.

This report presents a summary of the 2011 PSLE results. It reports performance at national, district, and city/town council levels and by subject and gender. The report is structured as follows:

- ◆ Candidature
- ◆ Overall Performance
- ◆ Performance by District and Town/City Council
- ◆ Performance by Subject
- ◆ Performance by Gender
- ◆ Summary of Results

2011 PSLE RESULTS SUMMARY

1.0 CANDIDATURE

Table 1.0 PSLE CANDIDATURE IN 2009, 2010 AND 2011 BY SUBJECT			
SUBJECTS	2009	2010	2011
Setswana	41474	40751	41593
English	42217	41524	42422
Mathematics	42217	41524	42422
Science	42217	41524	42422
Social Studies	42217	41524	42422
Agriculture	42217	41524	42422
Religious and Moral Education	42165	41470	42374
Total Candidature	42217	41524	42422

- ◆ A total of 42422 candidates sat for the 2011 Primary School Leaving Examination. Of this number, 21492 were females and 20930 were males.
- ◆ The candidature increased by 898 (2.1%) from 41524 in 2010 to 42422 in 2011.

2011 PSLE RESULTS SUMMARY

2.0: OVERALL PERFORMANCE

TABLE 2.1: 2011 PRIMARY SCHOOL LEAVING EXAMINATION RESULTS

Grade	Candidature	Percentage
A	5469	12.9
B	6735	15.9
C	14936	35.2
D	13881	32.7
E	1373	3.2
Ungraded	28	

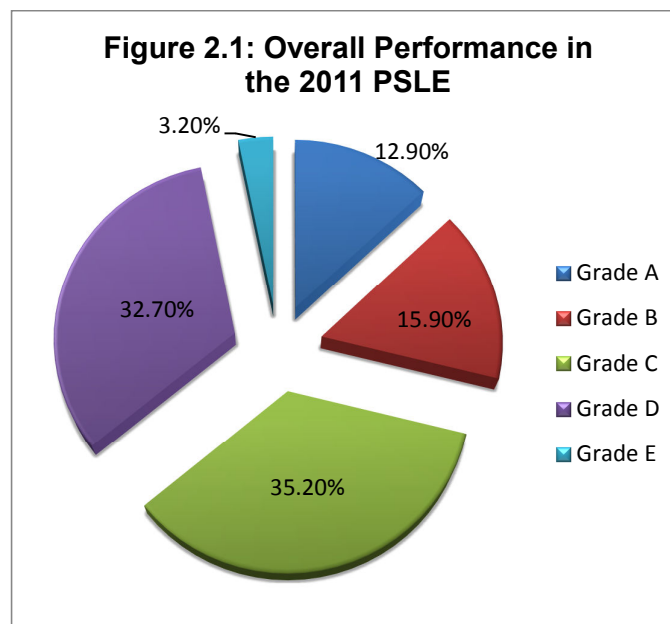
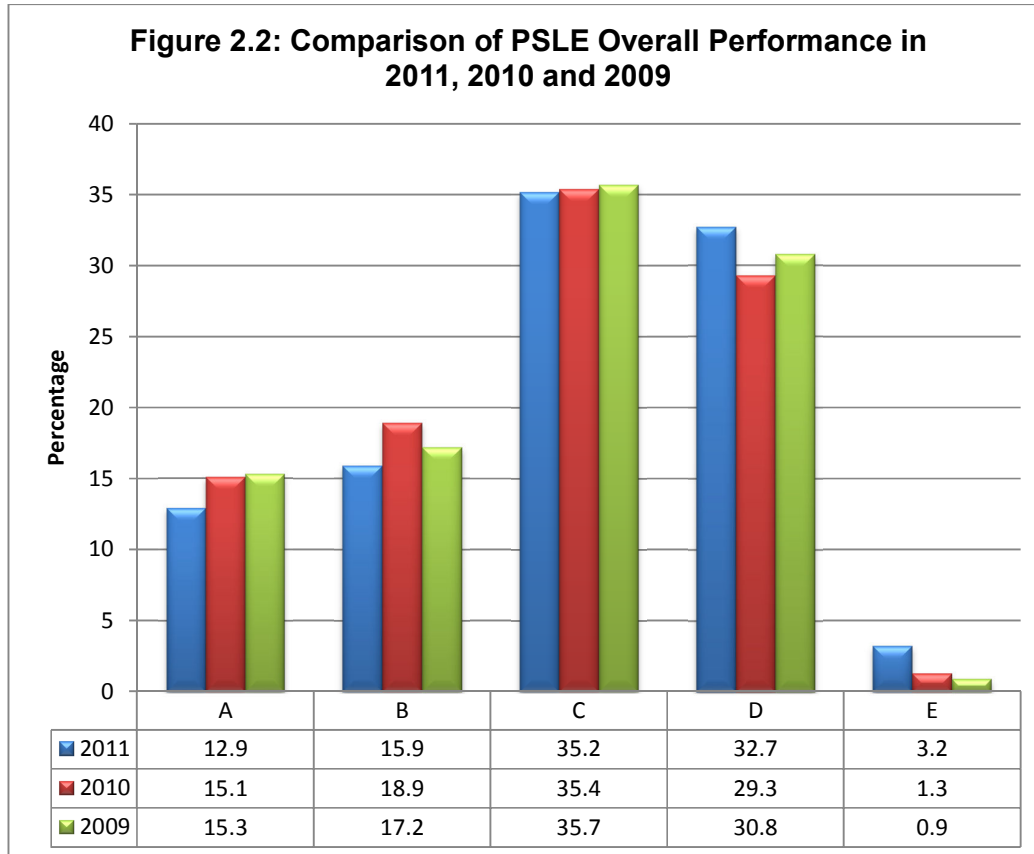
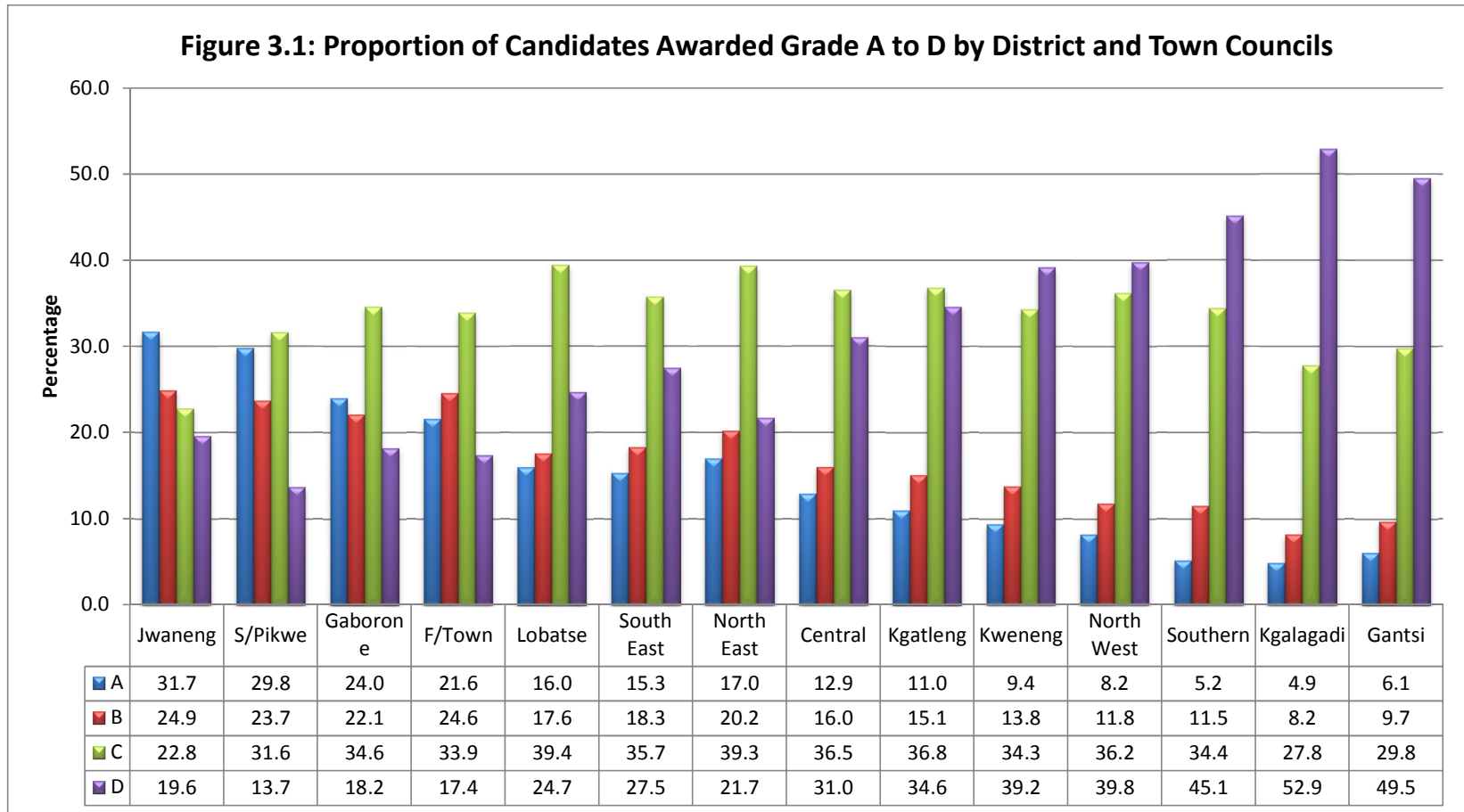


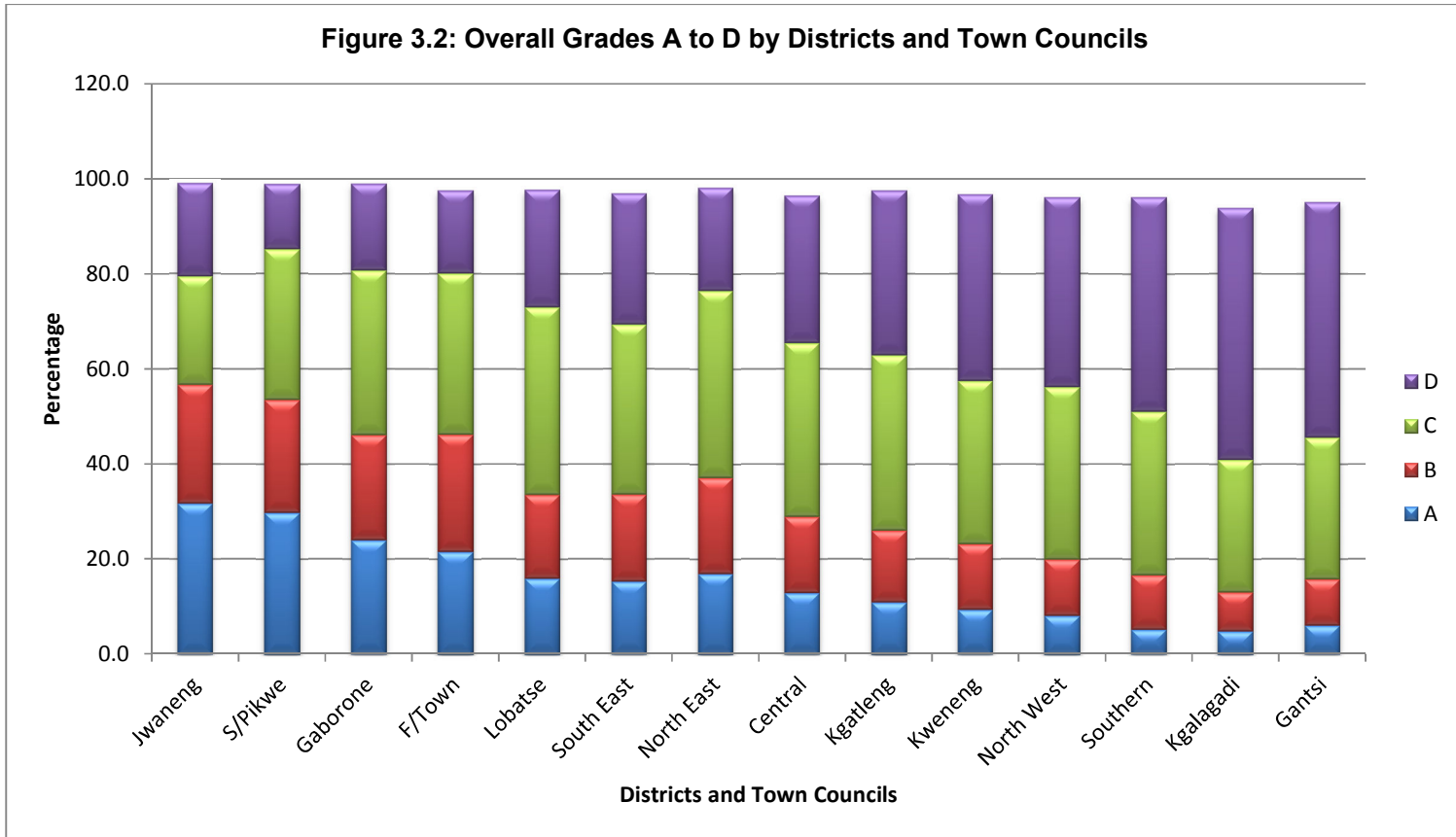
Figure 2.2: Comparison of PSLE Overall Performance in 2011, 2010 and 2009

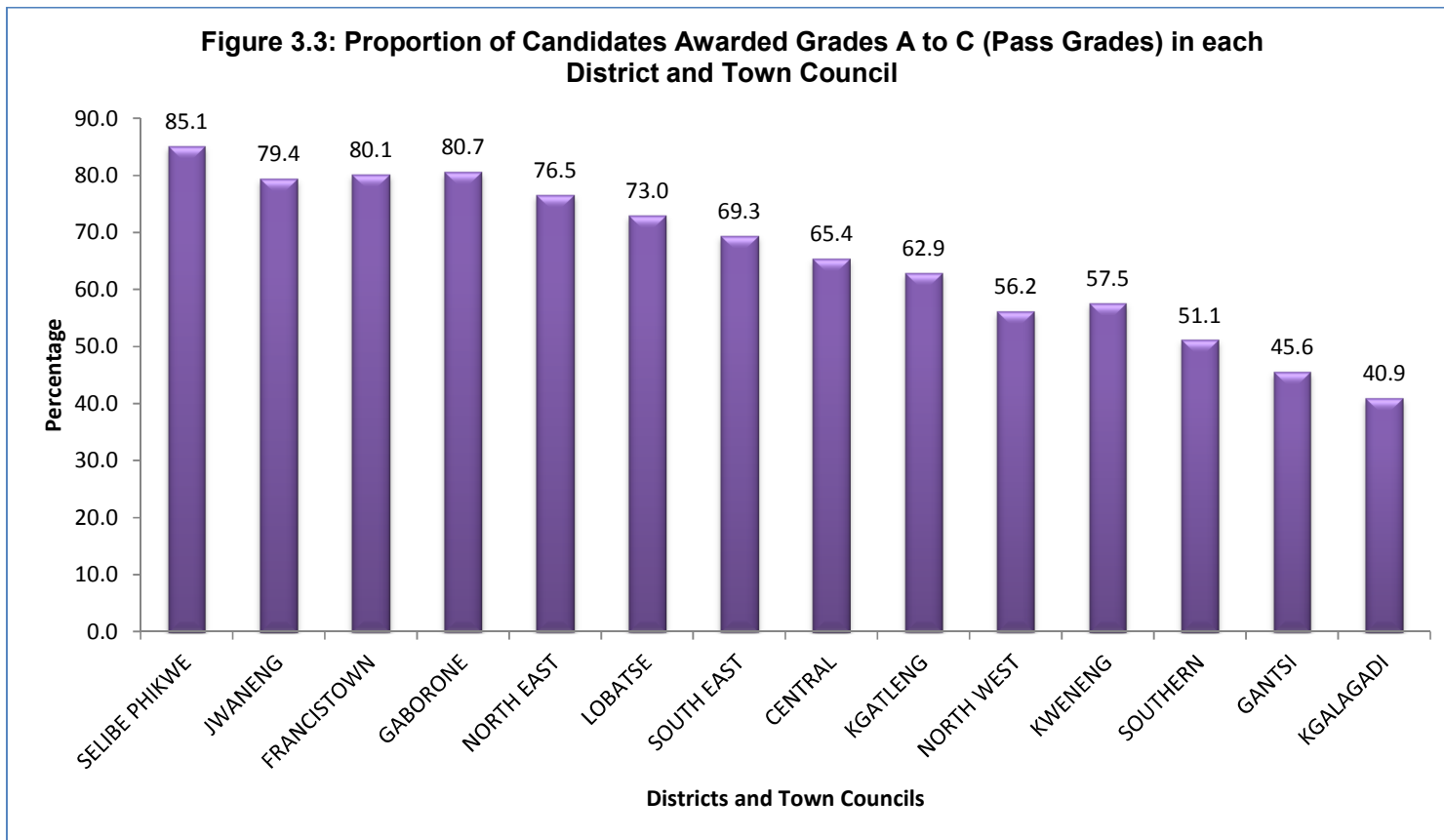


- ◆ Performance in the 2011 PSLE shows that 12.9% of the candidates were awarded Grade A compared to 15.1% in 2010. This shows a decline of 2.2%.
- ◆ Percentage of candidates obtaining grade B shows a decline of 1.3%.
- ◆ The change in the proportion of candidates at Grade C is insignificant (0.5 %).
- ◆ The proportion of candidates classified under D and E has increased by 1.9% and 2.3% respectively, showing a growing number of learners who perform below the minimum competency levels required for learning more demanding materials at the JCE level.

3.0 PERFORMANCE BY DISTRICT AND CITY/TOWN COUNCILS

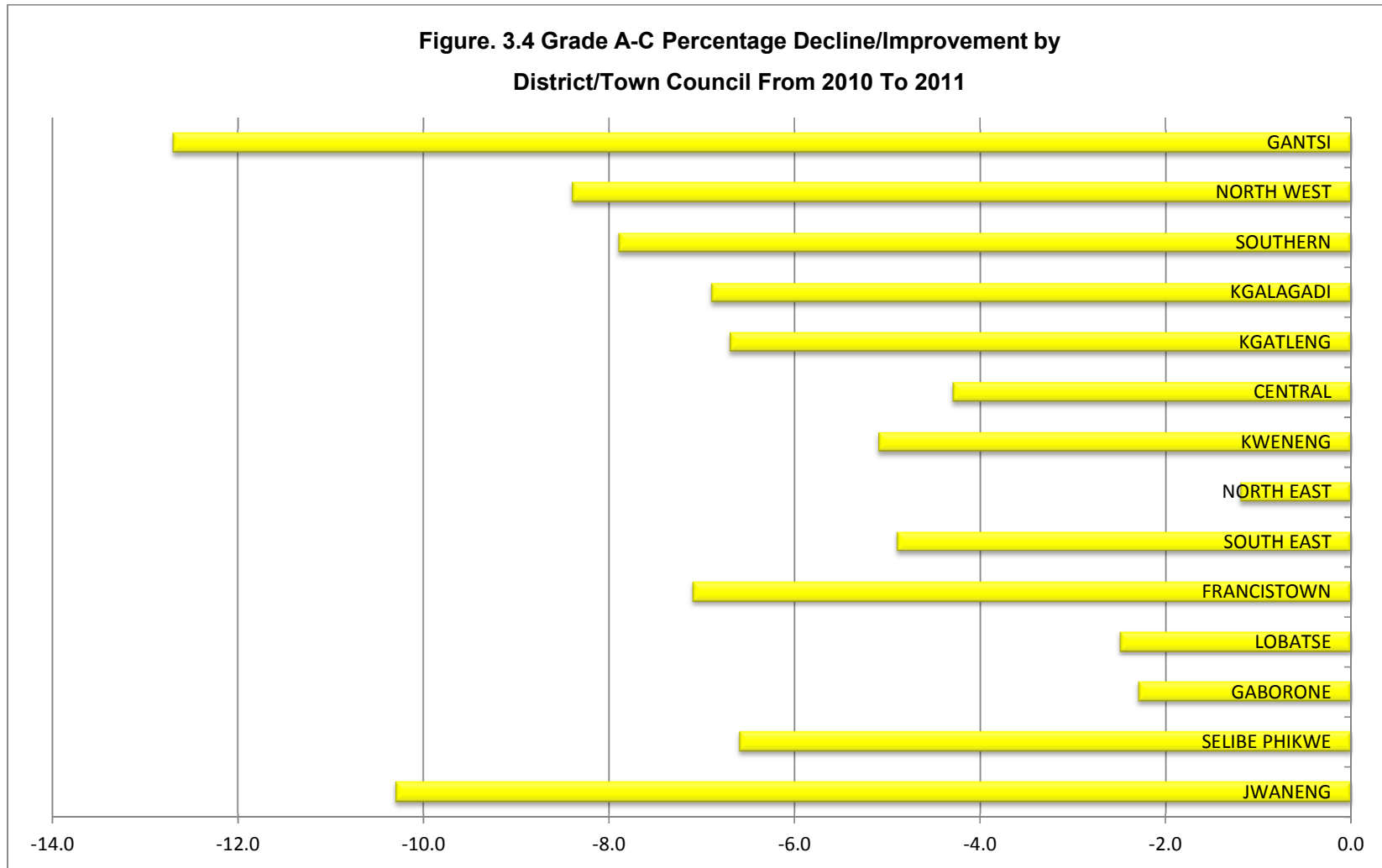




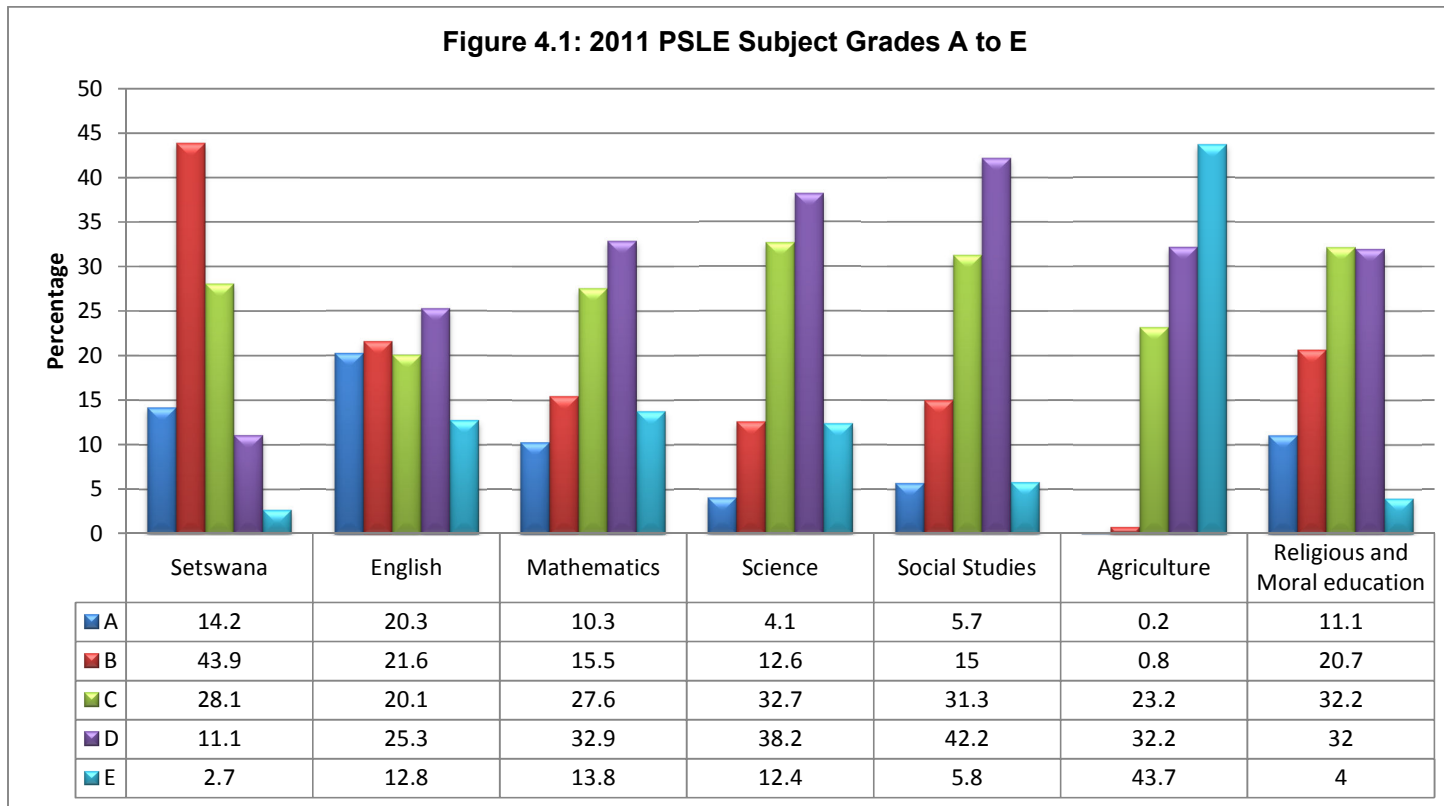


- ◆ Schools in City and Town Councils continue to perform better than those in the District Councils.
- ◆ Compared to last year, the proportion of candidates earning pass grades (grade A to C) has decreased in all the districts with Jwaneng and Gantsi showing the highest decline of 10.3% and 12.7% respectively.

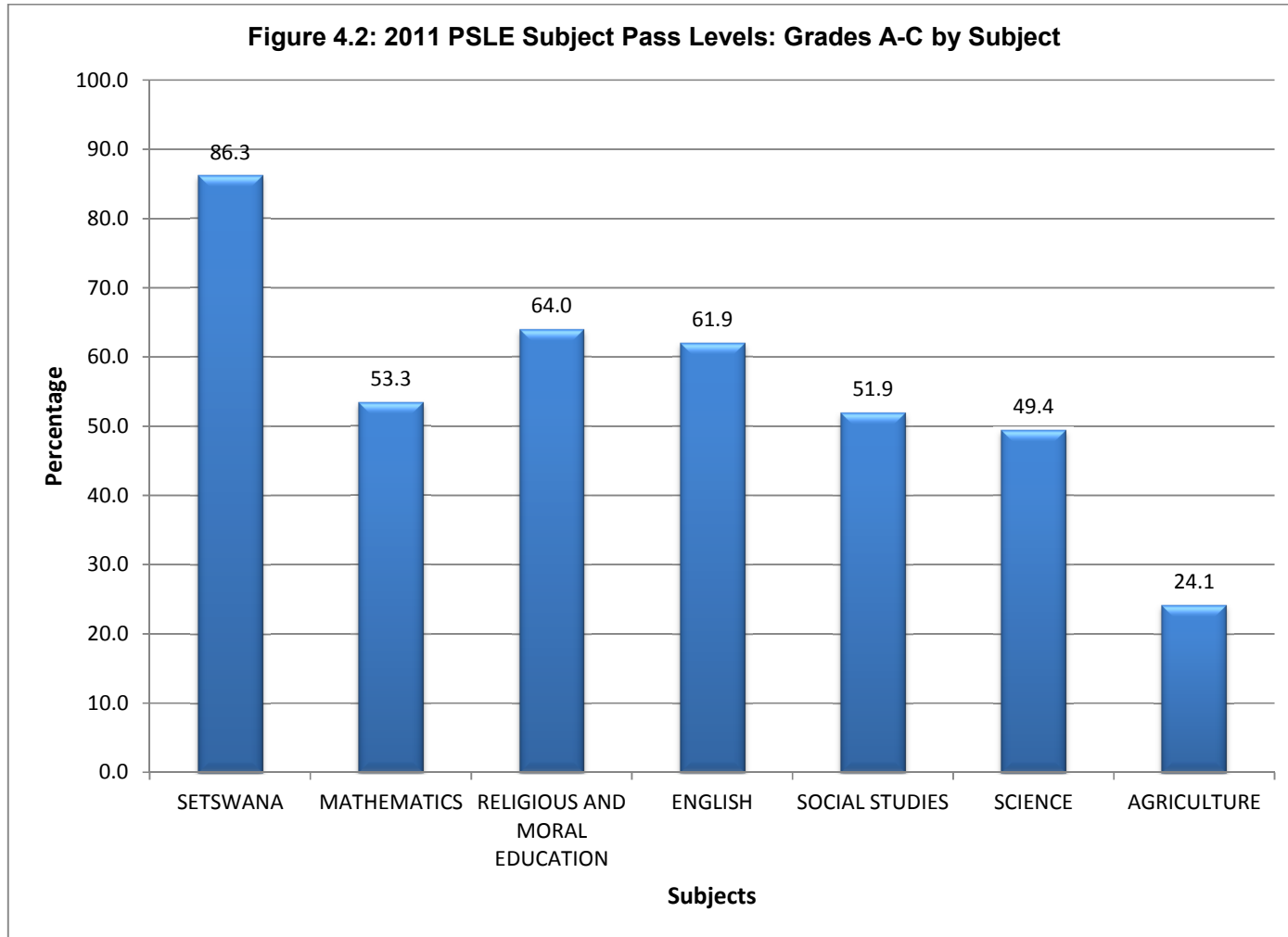
Figure. 3.4 Grade A-C Percentage Decline/Improvement by District/Town Council From 2010 To 2011



4.0. 2011 PERFORMANCE BY SUBJECT AREA



- ◆ The results show the highest proportion of candidates awarded grade A in English, at 20.3%.
- ◆ The lowest proportion of candidates awarded grade A is in Agriculture at 0.2%.
- ◆ Setswana has the highest proportion of candidates at grade B with 43.9%.
- ◆ Science has the highest proportion of candidates awarded C at 32.7%.



2011 PSLE RESULTS SUMMARY

Figure 4.3 Decline/Improvement in 2011 Subject Results Compared to 2010

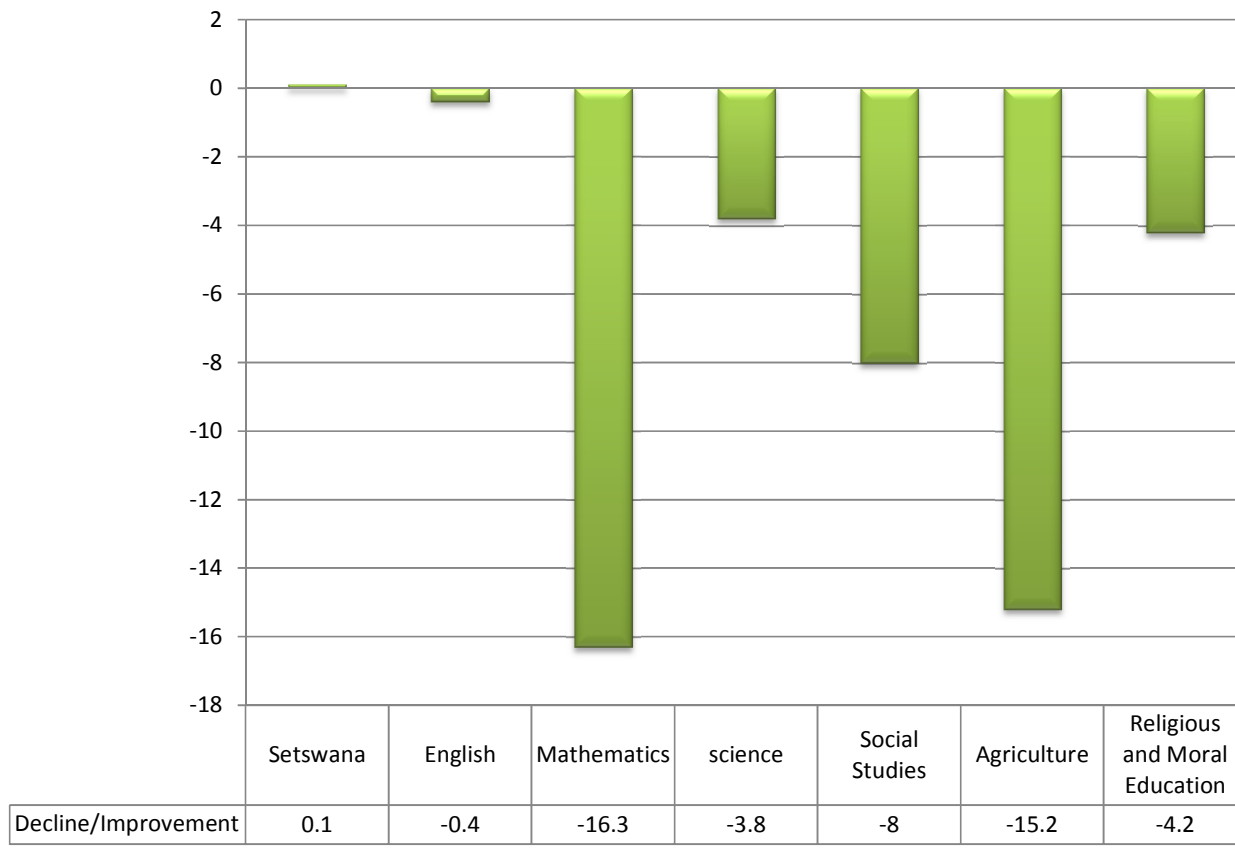
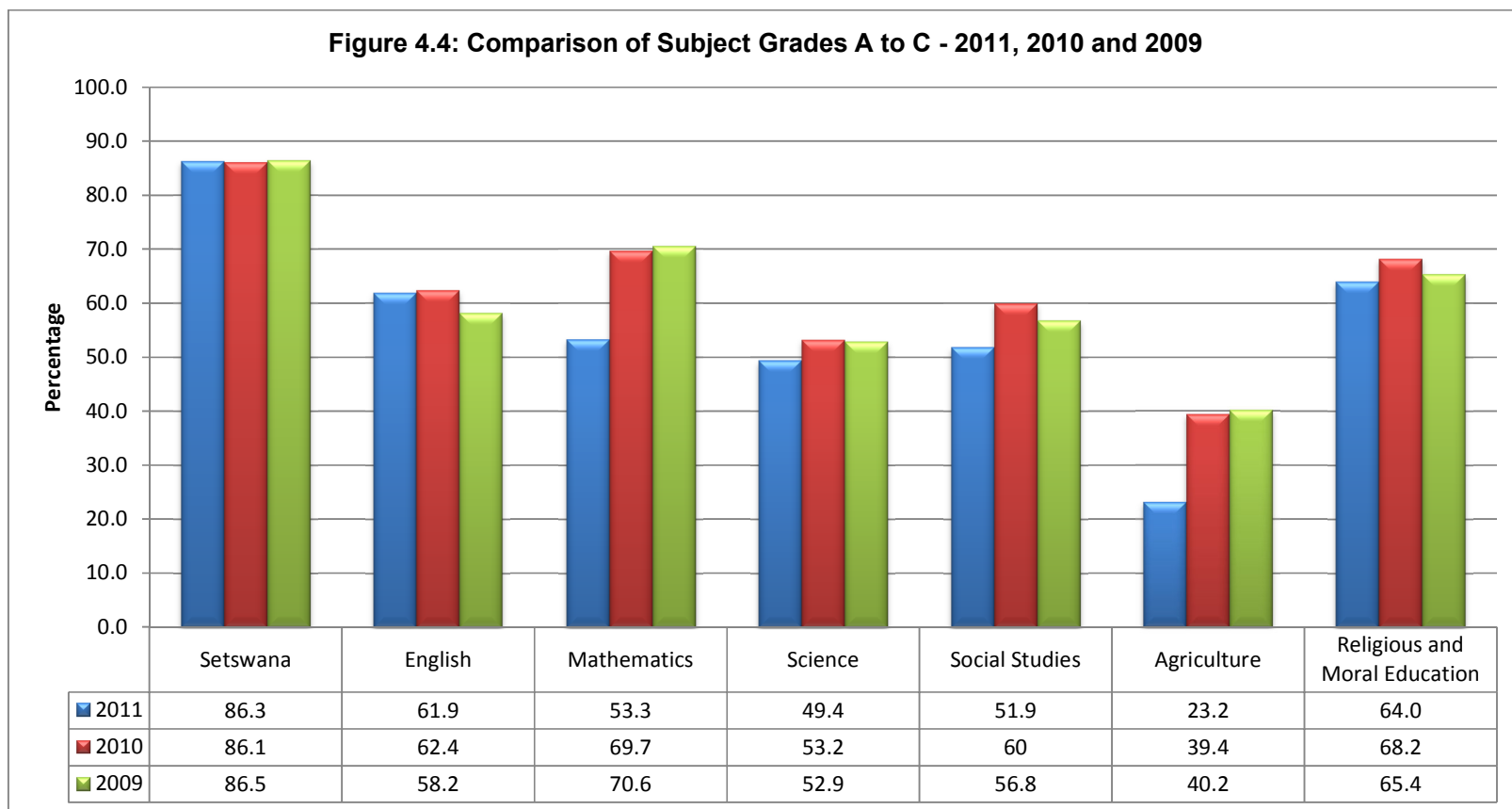
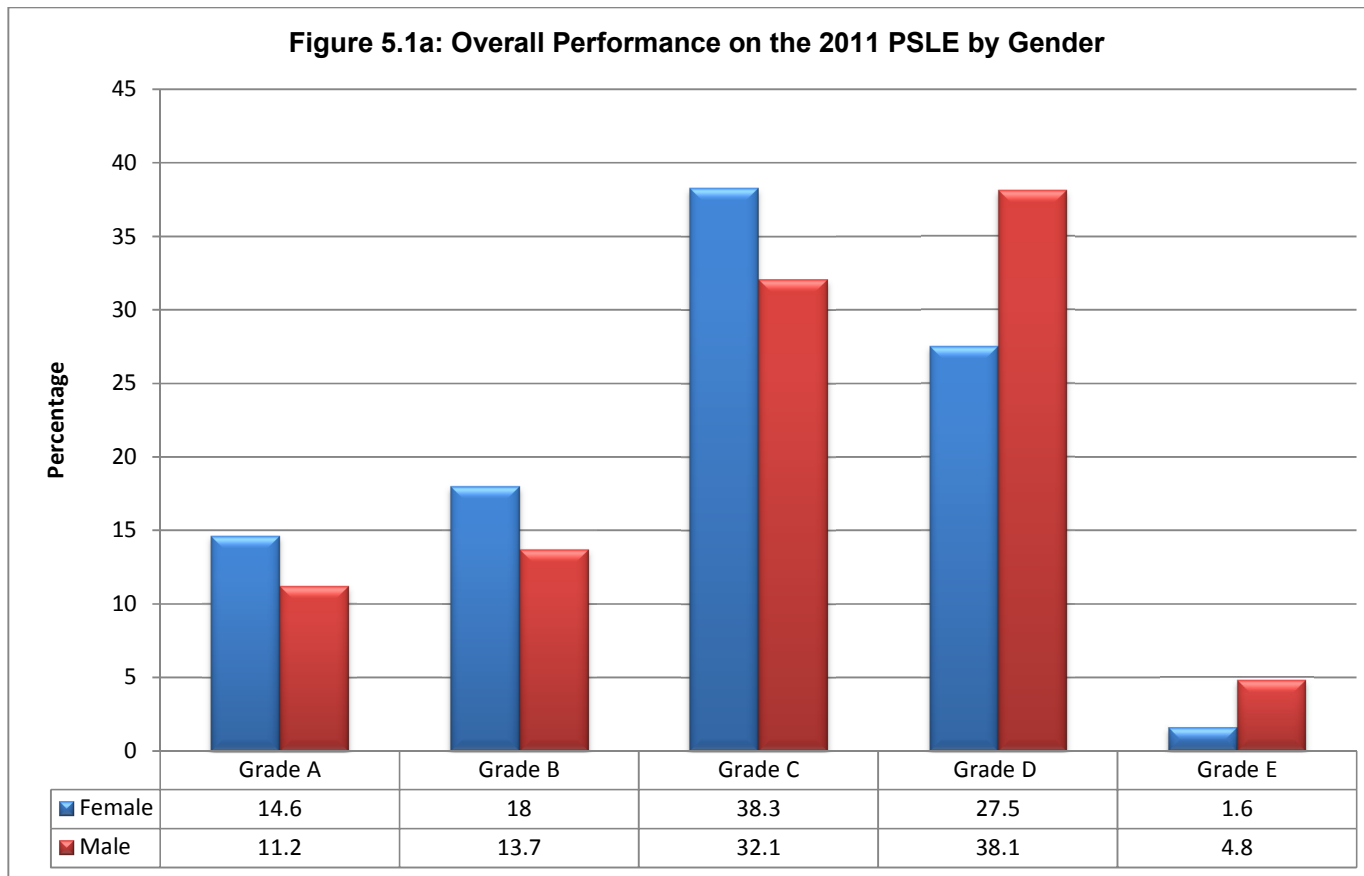


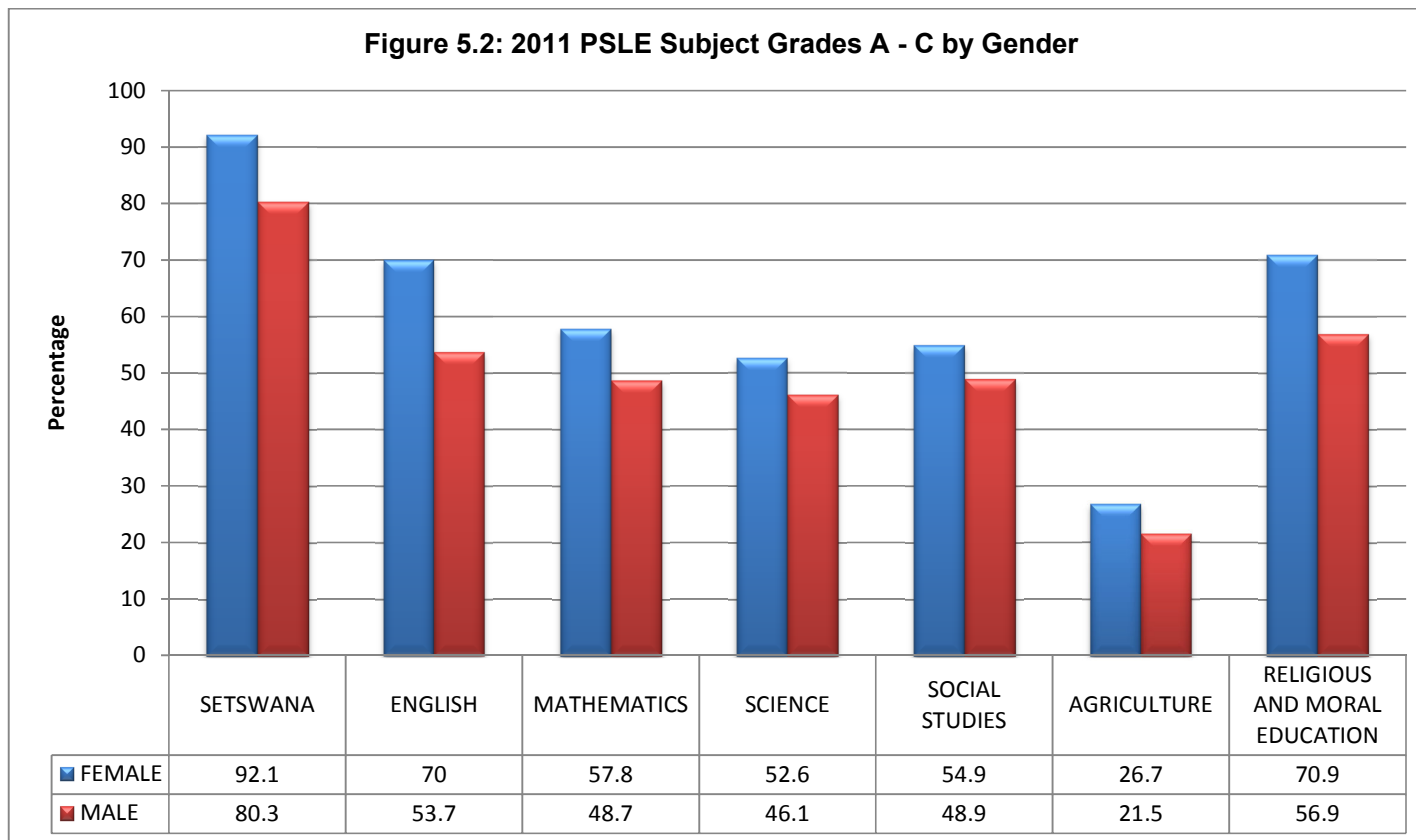
Figure 4.4: Comparison of Subject Grades A to C - 2011, 2010 and 2009



The 2011 results show a decline in subject grades A to C from 2010, except for Setswana where performance at all grades is almost the same.

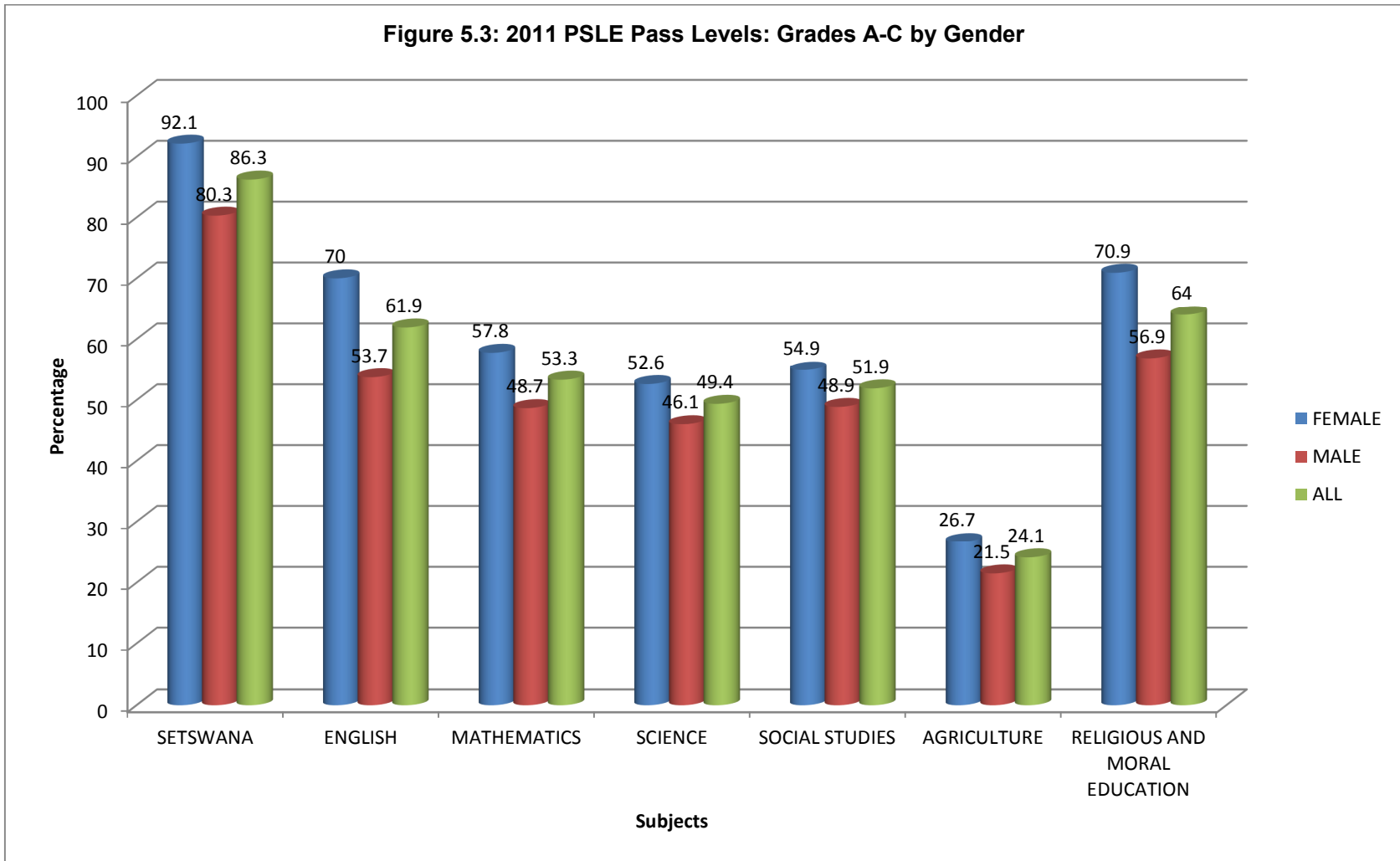
5.0 OVERALL PERFORMANCE BY GENDER





◆ The 2011 results show the girls performing better than the boys across all subjects. The pattern has been consistent over the years.

Figure 5.3: 2011 PSLE Pass Levels: Grades A-C by Gender



6.0 SUMMARY OF THE MESSAGE FROM THE 2011 PSLE RESULTS

- ◆ A total of 42422 candidates sat the 2011 PSLE compared to 41524 in 2010 and 42217 in 2009, representing an increase in the candidature of 2.1% between 2010 and 2011.
- ◆ Overall, there is a decline in the percentage of candidates awarded grades A to C, with 64% this year compared to 69.4% in 2010
- ◆ City and Town Councils perform better than District Councils
- ◆ Girls performed better than boys across all subjects.
- ◆ Under-performance in examinations for most of the candidates who take the PSLE has been a consistent feature of examination results over the last 5 years.

Detailed analysis of results at subject level and Principal Examiner's Reports will be presented to the Ministry through the Department of Primary Education. The purpose for the detailed reports is to facilitate identification of specific content areas and skills within a subject where there are deficiencies in the learners' achievement.

PERFORMANCE OF THE 2011 PSLE BY SUBJECT

01. SETSWANA

Statistical evidence shows a very similar overall performance (A to C grades) in Setswana that is, **86.1%** and **86.3%** for the years 2010 and 2011 respectively. However at grade A there is an improvement of **2.5%** from **11.7%** in 2010 to **14.2%** in 2011. Performance at grades C, D and E is almost the same as that of last year.

This is the fifth year running for this curriculum and its corresponding examination. Despite the improvement recorded at A grade, observations made in the previous report regarding candidates' inability to access tasks targeting communication skills (dimension 3) still persist. This could be attributed to low performance in the following areas: originality/creativity, where candidates are supposed to build a story around the given guidelines; descriptive vocabulary; figurative language, sentence structure, coherence and spelling.

02. ENGLISH

Generally, the performance for the upper grades A to C is quite stable from last year with very slight downwards movement of less than 1% shown at grades C and A, and an upward movement of the same magnitude at grade B.

Overall, **61.9%** of candidates attained A to C grades this year compared **62.4%** of last year which actually shows a stable picture at these grades.

03. MATHEMATICS

Performance in this subject shows a significant decline at all the upper grades and the most affected being the C grade where a decline of **12.7%** has been recorded. E grades have increased by **12.2%** from **1.2%** in 2010 to **13.8%** in 2011. The percentage of candidates getting C or better decreased by **16.4%**, in 2010 it was **69.7%** while this year it is **53.3%**.

04. SOCIAL STUDIES

Performance in the subject shows that the percentage of candidates obtaining A is constant from last year and it has significantly declined at grades B, C and D. The percentage of candidates obtaining C or better has dropped from **60.0%** last year to **52%** this year. Consequently, the proportion of candidates obtaining D and E has gone up significantly.

05. AGRICULTURE

Overall performance in the subject has dropped significantly with the percentage of candidates obtaining grades A to C dropping from **39.4%** in 2010 to **24.1%** in 2011, a decline of **15.3%**.

06. SCIENCE

Generally, performance at the upper grades of A and B is quite similar to that of last year. However, the C grade shows a decline of **4.6%**. The actual percentage of candidates obtaining **C or better** this year, moved from **53.2%** of in 2010 to **49.4%** in 2011, a decline of **3.8%**.

07. RELIGIOUS & MORAL EDUCATION

Performance in the subject shows a general decline with significant changes in the percentage of candidates obtaining grades B (**down movement of 8.2%**) and C (**down movement of 4.2%**). Cumulative percentage at A grade likewise, show a decline of **1.6%**. The percentage of candidates obtaining C or better this year has moved from **68.2%** to **64.0%** which is a decline of **4.2%**.

Overall Grades

The overall results for the 2011 Primary School Leaving Examination show a general decline at all grades. The percentage of candidates obtaining grade A for the 2011 PSLE rests at **12.9%** against **15.1%** of last year 2010, which represents a decline of **2.2%**. **28.8%** of the candidates obtained an overall grade B or better compared to **34%** of last year, representing a decline of **5.2%**. The proportion of candidates obtaining an overall grade C or better went down by **5.4%** from **69.4%** in 2010 to **64%** in 2011.