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1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 GENERAL INFORMATION ON THE KENYA NATIONAL EXAMINATIONS COUNCIL

The Kenya National Examinations Council (KNEC) also referred to as The Council, is a state corporation established in 1980 under an Act of Parliament, namely the Kenya National Examinations Council Act Chapter 225A of (1980). This Act was repealed in 2012 and replaced with the Kenya National Examinations Council Act No. 29 of 2012.

1.1.1 THE COUNCIL VISION: *Quality Education Assessment and Credible Certification for a Value Based Society.*

1.1.2 THE COUNCIL MISSION: *To assess abilities and certify learner achievements in conformity with global standards.*

1.2 THE FUNCTIONS OF THE COUNCIL

The 2012 KNEC Act provides that the functions of KNEC are to:

- 1.2.1 Develop examination policies, procedures and regulations;
- 1.2.2 Develop national examinations;
- 1.2.3 Register candidates for the KNEC examinations;
- 1.2.4 Conduct examinations and process the results;
- 1.2.5 Award certificates and diplomas to successful candidates;
- 1.2.6 Conduct research on educational assessment;
- 1.2.7 Carry out equation of certificates and diplomas issued by other credible examining boards;
- 1.2.8 Conduct examinations on behalf of foreign examination boards;
- 1.2.9 Advise the Government on matters pertaining to examinations and certification.

1.3 CORE VALUES

In its operations, the Council is guided by the following values:

- 1.3.1 Respect to rule of law as stipulated in the Constitution; the KNEC Act No. 29 of 2012; Basic Education Act No. 27 of 2012 and other laws of the land;
- 1.3.2 Responsiveness to national and sectoral policies;
- 1.3.3 Strict adherence to examination regulations in the conduct of examinations;
- 1.3.4 Maintenance of high level of efficiency, integrity and honesty by all Council employees and contracted professionals involved in the conduct of examinations;
- 1.3.5 Conducting examinations that are relevant, fair, valid and reliable;
- 1.3.6 Responsiveness to the needs of the country.

1.4 EXAMINATIONS OFFERED BY THE COUNCIL

The Council *develops, prints, distributes, administers, marks, processes examinations* and awards *certificates* to successful candidates in the following examinations:-

1.4.1 SCHOOL EXAMINATIONS

- 1.4.1.1 Kenya Certificate of Primary Education (KCPE);
- 1.4.1.2 Kenya Certificate of Secondary Education (KCSE).

1.4.2 TEACHER EDUCATION EXAMINATIONS

- 1.4.2.1 Diploma in Teacher Education (DTE);
- 1.4.2.2 Special Needs Education (SNE);
- 1.4.2.3 Primary Teachers Education (PTE);
- 1.4.2.4 Teacher Certificate in Adult Education (TCAE);
- 1.4.2.5 Early Childhood Development and Education (ECDE).

1.4.3 BUSINESS EXAMINATIONS

- 1.4.3.1 Business Education Single and Group Certificate (BES&GC);
- 1.4.3.2 Artisan, Certificate, Diploma and Higher Diploma in Business Technical Education Programmes (BTEP);
- 1.4.3.3 Certificate and Diploma in Business Technical and Vocational Education and Training (BTJET) programmes in areas such as Secretarial Studies; Sales and Marketing; Supply Chain Management; Business Management; Human Resource Management; Transport Management; Maritime Transport Operations and Logistics; Tourism and Tour Guiding Management; Information Studies and Information Communication Technology; Investment Management; Project Management and Petroleum Management.

1.4.4 TECHNICAL EXAMINATIONS

- 1.4.4.1 National Vocational Certificate in Education and Training (NVCET);
- 1.4.4.2 Artisan, Certificate, Diploma and Higher Diploma in Technical Education Programmes (TEP);
- 1.4.4.3 Certificate and Diploma in Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) programmes in areas such as Food and Beverage Management; Textile Technology; Surveying; Road Construction; Water Technology; Civil and Highway Engineering; Architecture; Mechanical, Electrical and Electronics Engineering; Marine Engineering; Aeronautical Engineering; Medical Engineering; Baking Technology; Pharmaceutical Technology; Medical Laboratory Technology; Chemical Engineering and Petroleum Geoscience.

2.0 INFORMATION ON THE YEAR 2020 KCSE EXAMINATION

During the year *2020 KCSE examination*, there were *747,161 candidates* who sat for the examination compared to *697,222 candidates* in the year *2019*. This represents an increase of *49,939 candidates*, or a *6.68% increase*.

A breakdown of the candidature and examination centres for the year *2020 KCSE examination* is shown in Tables 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 & 8 and Figure 1.

Table 1: KCSE Examination Candidature Trends for the Last 5 Years

Year	Total Candidature			Females			Males		
	No. Registered	Total No. Sat	Increase/Decrease (%)	No. Registered	No. Sat (%)	Increase/Decrease (%)	No. Registered	No. Sat (%)	Increase/Decrease (%)
2020	752,677	747,161	49,939 (6.68)	369,394 (49.08 %)	366,834 (49.10 %)	25,394 (6.92)	383,208 (50.92 %)	380,327 (50.90%)	24,545 (6.45)
2019	699,706	697,222	37,018 (5.61%)	342,633	341,440 (48.97 %)	19,864 (6.12%)	357,073	355,782 (51.03%)	17,154 (5.01%)
2018	664,479	660,204	48,252 (7.88%)	323,601	321,576 (48.71%)	25,254 (8.52%)	340,878	338,628 (51.29%)	22,998 (7.29%)
2017	615,591	611,952	37,827 (6.59%)	297,945	296,322 (48.42%)	23,192 (8.49%)	317,646	315,630 (51.58%)	14,635 (4.86%)
2016	577,249	574,125	51,255 (9.80%)	275,925	273,130 (47.57%)	29,549 (12.13%)	301,324	300,995 (52.43%)	21,706 (7.77%)

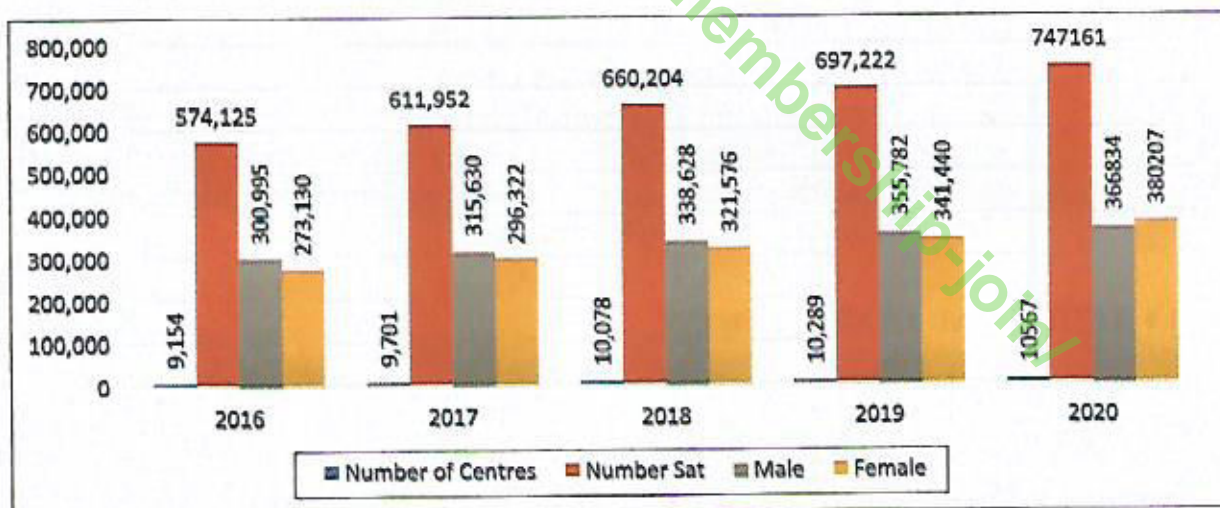


Figure 1: KCSE Examination Candidature Trends for the Last Five (5) Years

Observations:

- (i) A total of **747,161** candidates sat for the 2020 KCSE examination compared to **697,222** candidates in the year 2019. This represents an increase of **49,939 candidates (6.68%)**;
- (ii) Of the **747,161** candidates who sat for the 2020 KCSE examination, **380,327** were male, while **366,834** were female, representing **50.90%** and **49.10%** of the total candidature respectively;

- (iii) Over the five year period, there was a higher increase in female candidature compared to that of the male counterparts.
- (iv) The year 2019 recorded the lowest percentage increase in candidature in the last five years, an increase of **5.61%**, while the highest percentage increase in candidature was recorded in the year 2016 (**9.80%**) increase.

Table 2: 2020 and 2019 KCSE Examination Candidature Distribution per County by Gender

County Code & Name		2020			2019		
		Male (%)	Female (%)	Total (%)	Male (%)	Female (%)	Total (%)
1	01 Taita Taveta	2,645 (0.351 %)	2,771 (0.368 %)	5,416 (0.720 %)	2,377 (0.340 %)	2,685 (0.384 %)	5,062 (0.723 %)
2	02 Kwale	3,512 (0.467 %)	3,556 (0.472 %)	7,068 (0.939 %)	3,284 (0.469 %)	3,375 (0.482 %)	6,659 (0.952 %)
3	03 Mombasa	4,881 (0.649 %)	4,195 (0.557 %)	9,076 (1.206 %)	4,882 (0.698 %)	4,064 (0.581 %)	8,946 (1.279 %)
4	04 Kilifi	8,435 (1.121 %)	7,397 (0.983 %)	15,832 (2.104 %)	7,613 (1.088 %)	6,532 (0.934 %)	14,145 (2.022 %)
5	05 Tana River	1,025 (0.136 %)	727 (0.097 %)	1,752 (0.233 %)	1,035 (0.148 %)	692 (0.099 %)	1,727 (0.247 %)
6	06 Lamu	892 (0.119 %)	699 (0.093 %)	1,591 (0.211 %)	795 (0.114 %)	659 (0.094 %)	1,454 (0.208 %)
7	07 Nyandarua	7,326 (0.973 %)	8,022 (1.066 %)	15,348 (2.039 %)	6,923 (0.989 %)	7,648 (1.093 %)	14,571 (2.082 %)
8	08 Nyeri	9,191 (1.221 %)	9,299 (1.236 %)	18,490 (2.457 %)	8,662 (1.238 %)	8,659 (1.238 %)	17,321 (2.475 %)
9	09 Kirinyaga	5,950 (0.791 %)	6,389 (0.849 %)	12,339 (1.640 %)	5,558 (0.794 %)	5,820 (0.832 %)	11,378 (1.626 %)
10	10 Murang'a	13,605 (1.808 %)	13,997 (1.860 %)	27,602 (3.668 %)	12,781 (1.827 %)	13,196 (1.886 %)	25,977 (3.713 %)
11	11 Kiambu	16,037 (2.131 %)	16,952 (2.252 %)	32,989 (4.383 %)	14,903 (2.130 %)	15,997 (2.286 %)	30,900 (4.416 %)
12	12 Machakos	12,788 (1.699 %)	13,412 (1.782 %)	26,200 (3.481 %)	11,999 (1.715 %)	12,376 (1.769 %)	24,375 (3.484 %)
13	13 Kitui	10,112 (1.344 %)	10,854 (1.442 %)	20,966 (2.786 %)	9,677 (1.383 %)	10,039 (1.435 %)	19,716 (2.818 %)
14	14 Embu	6,266 (0.833 %)	6,265 (0.832 %)	12,531 (1.665 %)	6,023 (0.861 %)	5,680 (0.812 %)	11,703 (1.673 %)
15	15 Meru	11,623 (1.544 %)	13,128 (1.744 %)	24,751 (3.289 %)	10,822 (1.547 %)	12,345 (1.764 %)	23,167 (3.311 %)
16	16 Marsabit	1,131 (0.150 %)	902 (0.120 %)	2,033 (0.270 %)	1,083 (0.155 %)	878 (0.125 %)	1,961 (0.280 %)
17	17 Isiolo	799 (0.106 %)	665 (0.088 %)	1,464 (0.195 %)	777 (0.111 %)	717 (0.102 %)	1,494 (0.214 %)
18	18 Makueni	12,465 (1.656 %)	12,693 (1.687 %)	25,158 (3.343 %)	11,877 (1.697 %)	12,167 (1.739 %)	24,044 (3.436 %)
19	19 Tharaka Nithi	5,281 (0.702 %)	5,753 (0.764 %)	11,034 (1.466 %)	4,793 (0.685 %)	5,438 (0.777 %)	10,231 (1.462 %)

County Code & Name		2020			2019		
		Male (%)	Female (%)	Total (%)	Male (%)	Female (%)	Total (%)
20	20 Nairobi	14,859 (1.974 %)	14,560 (1.935 %)	29,419 (3.909 %)	14,312 (2.045 %)	14,078 (2.012 %)	28,390 (4.057 %)
21	21 Turkana	4,033 (0.536 %)	2,254 (0.299 %)	6,287 (0.835 %)	3,673 (0.525 %)	1,971 (0.282 %)	5,644 (0.807 %)
22	22 Samburu	1,462 (0.194 %)	896 (0.119 %)	2,358 (0.313 %)	1,476 (0.211 %)	829 (0.118 %)	2,305 (0.329 %)
23	23 Trans Nzoia	10,588 (1.407 %)	9,734 (1.293 %)	20,322 (2.700 %)	9,479 (1.355 %)	8,418 (1.203 %)	17,897 (2.558 %)
24	24 West Pokot	5,233 (0.695 %)	4,321 (0.574 %)	9,554 (1.269 %)	4,816 (0.688 %)	3,863 (0.552 %)	8,679 (1.240 %)
25	25 Bomet	10,516 (1.397 %)	9,552 (1.269 %)	20,068 (2.666 %)	9,849 (1.408 %)	8,811 (1.259 %)	18,660 (2.667 %)
26	26 Uasin Gishu	8,658 (1.150 %)	8,677 (1.153 %)	17,335 (2.303 %)	7,893 (1.128 %)	8,353 (1.194 %)	16,246 (2.322 %)
27	27 Nakuru	19,730 (2.622 %)	19,414 (2.580 %)	39,144 (5.201 %)	18,507 (2.645 %)	17,812 (2.546 %)	36,319 (5.191 %)
28	28 Kericho	10,211 (1.357 %)	9,889 (1.314 %)	20,100 (2.671 %)	9,002 (1.287 %)	8,513 (1.217 %)	17,515 (2.503 %)
29	29 Nandi	8,884 (1.180 %)	9,044 (1.202 %)	17,928 (2.382 %)	8,151 (1.165 %)	8,190 (1.170 %)	16,341 (2.335 %)
30	30 Laikipia	4,495 (0.597 %)	4,483 (0.596 %)	8,978 (1.193 %)	4,192 (0.599 %)	4,165 (0.595 %)	8,357 (1.194 %)
31	31 Kajiado	4,691 (0.623 %)	4,682 (0.622 %)	9,373 (1.245 %)	4,450 (0.636 %)	4,224 (0.604 %)	8,674 (1.240 %)
32	32 Narok	5,236 (0.696 %)	4,117 (0.547 %)	9,353 (1.243 %)	4,533 (0.648 %)	3,700 (0.529 %)	8,233 (1.177 %)
33	33 Baringo	5,573 (0.740 %)	5,505 (0.731 %)	11,078 (1.472 %)	5,198 (0.743 %)	5,120 (0.732 %)	10,318 (1.475 %)
34	34 Elgeyo Marakwet	4,715 (0.626 %)	5,333 (0.709 %)	10,048 (1.335 %)	4,505 (0.644 %)	5,237 (0.748 %)	9,742 (1.392 %)
35	35 Busia	7,171 (0.953 %)	6,899 (0.917 %)	14,070 (1.870 %)	6,722 (0.961 %)	6,260 (0.895 %)	12,982 (1.855 %)
36	36 Bungoma	17,962 (2.387 %)	17,346 (2.305 %)	35,308 (4.691 %)	16,629 (2.377 %)	15,489 (2.214 %)	32,118 (4.590 %)
37	37 Kakamega	18,237 (2.423 %)	18,620 (2.474 %)	36,857 (4.897 %)	16,683 (2.384 %)	16,846 (2.408 %)	33,529 (4.792 %)
38	38 Vihiga	7,123 (0.946 %)	8,522 (1.132 %)	15,645 (2.079 %)	6,893 (0.985 %)	8,368 (1.196 %)	15,261 (2.181 %)
39	39 Kisumu	10,224 (1.358 %)	10,395 (1.381 %)	20,619 (2.740 %)	9,479 (1.355 %)	10,103 (1.444 %)	19,582 (2.799 %)
40	40 Kisii	16,732 (2.223 %)	15,475 (2.056 %)	32,207 (4.279 %)	15,105 (2.159 %)	13,625 (1.947 %)	28,730 (4.106 %)
41	41 Homa Bay	13,032 (1.732 %)	10,610 (1.410 %)	23,642 (3.141 %)	11,814 (1.688 %)	9,698 (1.386 %)	21,512 (3.074 %)
42	42 Siaya	10,624 (1.412 %)	9,805 (1.303 %)	20,429 (2.714 %)	10,022 (1.432 %)	9,548 (1.365 %)	19,570 (2.797 %)
43	43 Nyamira	7,384 (0.981 %)	7,223 (0.960 %)	14,607 (1.941 %)	6,789 (0.970 %)	6,545 (0.935 %)	13,334 (1.906 %)

County Code & Name		2020			2019		
		Male (%)	Female (%)	Total (%)	Male (%)	Female (%)	Total (%)
44	44 Migori	11,294 (1.501 %)	9,329 (1.240 %)	20,623 (2.740 %)	10,596 (1.514 %)	8,744 (1.250 %)	19,340 (2.764 %)
45	45 Garissa	4,739 (0.630 %)	2,218 (0.295 %)	6,957 (0.924 %)	4,355 (0.622 %)	2,277 (0.325 %)	6,632 (0.948 %)
46	46 Wajir	3,057 (0.406 %)	1,485 (0.197 %)	4,542 (0.604 %)	3,220 (0.460 %)	1,544 (0.221 %)	4,764 (0.681 %)
47	47 Mandera	2,781 (0.370 %)	1,330 (0.177 %)	4,111 (0.546 %)	2,866 (0.410 %)	1,335 (0.191 %)	4,201 (0.600 %)
TOTAL		383,208 (50.92 %)	369,394 (49.08%)	752,602 (100 %)	357,073 (51.032 %)	342,633 (48.968 %)	699,706 (100 %)

Observations:

- (i) Nationally, the gender ratio for the 2020 KCSE examination was **Male 50.92: Female 49.08**, compared to the year 2019 KCSE examination gender ratio of **Male 51.03: Female 48.97**;
- (ii) **Fifteen (15)** counties had more female than male candidates in the year 2020 KCSE examination compared to **seventeen (17)** counties in 2019. The 15 counties were; **Taita Taveta, Kwale, Nyandarua, Nyeri, Kirinyaga, Murang'a, Kiambu, Machakos, Kitui, Meru, Nandi, Elgeyo Marakwet, Kakamega, Vihiga and Kisumu.**
- (iii) The counties with high gender disparity in favour of male candidates during the 2020 KCSE examination included **Mandera, Wajir, Garissa, Turkana and Homa Bay.**

Table 3: 2020 KCSE Examination Centres by County and Category of Schools

County Code & Name	National	Special	Extra County	County	Sub County	Private	All
01 Taita Taveta	2 (0.019 %)		15 (0.142 %)	5 (0.047 %)	61 (0.577 %)	11 (0.104 %)	94 0.890 %
02 Kwale	2 (0.019 %)	1 (0.009 %)	8 (0.076 %)	20 (0.189 %)	61 (0.577 %)	15 (0.142 %)	107 1.013 %
03 Mombasa	2 (0.019 %)	2 (0.019 %)		35 (0.331 %)	9 (0.085 %)	91 (0.861 %)	139 1.315 %
04 Kilifi	2 (0.019 %)	2 (0.019 %)	11 (0.104 %)	21 (0.199 %)	118 (1.117 %)	68 (0.644 %)	222 2.101 %
05 Tana River	2 (0.019 %)		6 (0.057 %)	2 (0.019 %)	19 (0.180 %)	4 (0.038 %)	33 0.312 %
06 Lamu	2 (0.019 %)		1 (0.009 %)	2 (0.019 %)	17 (0.161 %)	5 (0.047 %)	27 0.256 %
07 Nyandarua	2 (0.019 %)		11 (0.104 %)	9 (0.085 %)	147 (1.391 %)	49 (0.464 %)	218 2.063 %
08 Nyeri	2 (0.019 %)	1 (0.009 %)	25 (0.237 %)	28 (0.265 %)	165 (1.561 %)	29 (0.274 %)	250 2.366 %
09 Kirinyaga	2 (0.019 %)		17 (0.161 %)	16 (0.151 %)	116 (1.098 %)	16 (0.151 %)	167 1.580 %
10 Murang'a	2 (0.019 %)	1 (0.009 %)	29 (0.274 %)	30 (0.284 %)	250 (2.366 %)	33 (0.312 %)	345 3.265 %
11 Kiambu	6 (0.057 %)	3 (0.028 %)	18 (0.170 %)	52 (0.492 %)	213 (2.016 %)	111 (1.050 %)	403 3.814 %

County Code & Name	National	Special	Extra County	County	Sub County	Private	All
12 Machakos	2 (0.019 %)	1 (0.009 %)	21 (0.199 %)	59 (0.558 %)	289 (2.735 %)	94 (0.890 %)	466 4.410 %
13 Kitui	2 (0.019 %)	(0.000 %)	38 (0.360 %)	68 (0.644 %)	319 (3.019 %)	19 (0.180 %)	446 4.221 %
14 Embu	2 (0.019 %)	1 (0.009 %)	23 (0.218 %)	26 (0.246 %)	143 (1.353 %)	23 (0.218 %)	218 2.063 %
15 Meru	2 (0.019 %)	1 (0.009 %)	25 (0.237 %)	75 (0.710 %)	291 (2.754 %)	25 (0.237 %)	419 3.965 %
16 Marsabit	2 (0.019 %)	(0.000 %)	7 (0.066 %)	8 (0.076 %)	23 (0.218 %)	4 (0.038 %)	44 0.416 %
17 Isiolo	2 (0.019 %)	(0.000 %)	2 (0.019 %)	10 (0.095 %)	10 (0.095 %)	7 (0.066 %)	31 0.293 %
18 Makuemi	2 (0.019 %)	(0.000 %)	19 (0.180 %)	65 (0.615 %)	296 (2.801 %)	30 (0.284 %)	412 3.899 %
19 Tharaka Nithi	2 (0.019 %)	(0.000 %)	24 (0.227 %)	35 (0.331 %)	88 (0.833 %)	13 (0.123 %)	162 1.533 %
20 Nairobi	7 (0.066 %)	1 (0.009 %)	22 (0.208 %)	53 (0.502 %)	29 (0.274 %)	280 (2.650 %)	392 3.710 %
21 Turkana	2 (0.019 %)	(0.000 %)	6 (0.057 %)	28 (0.265 %)	19 (0.180 %)	10 (0.095 %)	65 0.615 %
22 Samburu	2 (0.019 %)	(0.000 %)	8 (0.076 %)	1 (0.009 %)	28 (0.265 %)	7 (0.066 %)	46 0.435 %
23 Trans Nzoia	2 (0.019 %)	(0.000 %)	17 (0.161 %)	28 (0.265 %)	190 (1.798 %)	25 (0.237 %)	262 2.479 %
24 West Pokot	2 (0.019 %)	1 (0.009 %)	11 (0.104 %)	32 (0.303 %)	92 (0.871 %)	5 (0.047 %)	143 1.353 %
25 Bomet	2 (0.019 %)	1 (0.009 %)	12 (0.114 %)	37 (0.350 %)	231 (2.186 %)	7 (0.066 %)	290 2.744 %
26 Uasin Gishu	1 (0.009 %)	(0.000 %)	22 (0.208 %)	11 (0.104 %)	156 (1.476 %)	55 (0.520 %)	245 2.319 %
27 Nakuru	4 (0.038 %)	1 (0.009 %)	22 (0.208 %)	12 (0.114 %)	317 (3.000 %)	172 (1.628 %)	528 4.997 %
28 Kericho	2 (0.019 %)	2 (0.019 %)	22 (0.208 %)	45 (0.426 %)	166 (1.571 %)	10 (0.095 %)	247 2.337 %
29 Nandi	2 (0.019 %)	1 (0.009 %)	25 (0.237 %)	32 (0.303 %)	179 (1.694 %)	12 (0.114 %)	251 2.375 %
30 Laikipia	2 (0.019 %)	(0.000 %)	12 (0.114 %)	14 (0.132 %)	90 (0.852 %)	20 (0.189 %)	138 1.306 %
31 Kajiado	2 (0.019 %)	(0.000 %)	9 (0.085 %)	26 (0.246 %)	52 (0.492 %)	89 (0.842 %)	178 1.684 %
32 Narok	2 (0.019 %)	(0.000 %)	8 (0.076 %)	49 (0.464 %)	94 (0.890 %)	15 (0.142 %)	168 1.590 %
33 Baringo	1 (0.009 %)	(0.000 %)	21 (0.199 %)	38 (0.360 %)	104 (0.984 %)	12 (0.114 %)	176 1.666 %
34 Elgeyo Marakwet	2 (0.019 %)	(0.000 %)	17 (0.161 %)	33 (0.312 %)	71 (0.672 %)	5 (0.047 %)	128 1.211 %
35 Busia	2 (0.019 %)	1 (0.009 %)	12 (0.114 %)	18 (0.170 %)	122 (1.155 %)	8 (0.076 %)	163 1.543 %
36 Bungoma	2 (0.019 %)	2 (0.019 %)	18 (0.170 %)	80 (0.757 %)	272 (2.574 %)	16 (0.151 %)	390 3.691 %
37 Kakamega	2 (0.019 %)	2 (0.019 %)	26 (0.246 %)	43 (0.407 %)	343 (3.246 %)	35 (0.331 %)	451 4.268 %
38 Vihiga	2 (0.019 %)	1 (0.009 %)	17 (0.161 %)	18 (0.170 %)	120 (1.136 %)	7 (0.066 %)	165 1.561 %

County Code & Name	National	Special	Extra County	County	Sub County	Private	All
39 Kisumu	2 (0.019 %)	3 (0.028 %)	19 (0.180 %)	21 (0.199 %)	182 (1.722 %)	32 (0.303 %)	259 2.451 %
40 Kisii	2 (0.019 %)	1 (0.009 %)	26 (0.246 %)	43 (0.407 %)	283 (2.678 %)	20 (0.189 %)	375 3.549 %
41 Homa Bay	2 (0.019 %)	(0.000 %)	23 (0.218 %)	43 (0.407 %)	254 (2.404 %)	28 (0.265 %)	350 3.312 %
42 Siaya	2 (0.019 %)	2 (0.019 %)	19 (0.180 %)	29 (0.274 %)	189 (1.789 %)	6 (0.057 %)	247 2.337 %
43 Nyamira	2 (0.019 %)	(0.000 %)	20 (0.189 %)	23 (0.218 %)	146 (1.382 %)	8 (0.076 %)	199 1.883 %
44 Migori	2 (0.019 %)	1 (0.009 %)	24 (0.227 %)	23 (0.218 %)	225 (2.129 %)	28 (0.265 %)	303 2.867 %
45 Garissa	2 (0.019 %)	(0.000 %)	4 (0.038 %)	13 (0.123 %)	17 (0.161 %)	52 (0.492 %)	88 0.833 %
46 Wajir	2 (0.019 %)	1 (0.009 %)	5 (0.047 %)	12 (0.114 %)	27 (0.256 %)	7 (0.066 %)	54 0.511 %
47 Mandera	2 (0.019 %)	(0.000 %)	4 (0.038 %)	22 (0.208 %)	21 (0.199 %)	14 (0.132 %)	63 0.596 %
Total	103 (0.975 %)	34 (0.322 %)	751 (7.107 %)	1,393 (13.183 %)	6,654 (62.970 %)	1,632 (15.444 %)	10,567 (100.0 %)

Observations:

- (i) The number of KCSE examination centres increased by 278 centres, from 10,289 in the year 2019 to 10,567 in the year 2020, representing a 2.70% increase;
- (ii) In the year 2020 KCSE examination, the category with the highest number of examination centres was the Sub-County (6,654), followed by Private schools (1,632).

Table 4: Overall Candidates' Performance by Gender in 2020 and 2019

SUBJECT CODE & NAME	2020						2019					
	ALL		FEMALE		MALE		ALL		FEMALE		MALE	
	No. SAT	MEAN %	No. SAT	MEAN %	No. SAT	MEAN %	No. SAT	MEAN %	No. SAT	MEAN %	No. SAT	MEAN %
101 English	743984	75.71 (37.85)	365150	77.17 (38.58)	378834	74.30 (37.15)	695,601	82.64 (41.32)	340,639	84.47 (42.24)	354,962	80.88 (40.44)
102 Kiswahili	743315	81.05 (40.52)	364871	84.05 (42.02)	378444	78.17 (39.08)	694,982	77.46 (38.73)	340,364	79.71 (39.86)	354,618	75.29 (37.65)
121 Mathematics Alternative A	742915	36.72 (18.36)	364714	33.24 (16.62)	378201	40.07 (20.04)	694,504	55.08 (27.54)	340,162	50.97 (25.24)	354,342	59.02 (29.51)
122 Mathematics Alternative B	1035	22.32 (11.16)	455	21.01 (10.51)	580	23.35 (11.67)	1,126	12.97 (6.49)	508	13.14 (6.57)	618	12.83 (6.42)
231 Biology	651237	53.03 (26.51)	337118	50.81 (25.41)	314119	55.42 (27.71)	618,730	53.87 (26.94)	318,586	51.71 (25.86)	300,144	56.16 (28.08)
232 Physics	217127	71.04 (35.52)	69796	69.73 (34.87)	147331	71.66 (35.83)	184,589	70.18 (35.09)	57,809	67.96 (33.98)	126,780	71.19 (35.60)
233 Chemistry	740831	45.01 (22.51)	364008	43.19 (21.60)	376823	46.77 (23.38)	691,802	52.17 (26.09)	339,275	49.95 (24.98)	352,527	54.31 (27.16)
236 Biology for the Blind	113	50.2 (25.1)	56	50.96 (25.48)	57	49.46 (24.73)	109	38.81 (19.41)	39	27.54 (13.77)	70	45.09 (22.55)

SUBJECT CODE & NAME	2020						2019					
	ALL		FEMALE		MALE		ALL		FEMALE		MALE	
	No. SAT	MEAN %	No. SAT	MEAN %	No. SAT	MEAN %	No. SAT	MEAN %	No. SAT	MEAN %	No. SAT	MEAN %
237 General Science	1031	18.85 (9.43)	454	18.70 (9.35)	577	18.97 (9.49)	1,121	21.11 (10.56)	505	20.88 (10.44)	616	21.31 (10.66)
311 History & Govt	508070	103.19 (51.60)	247645	96.54 (48.27)	260425	109.50 (54.75)	483,755	83.15 (41.58)	236,082	78.27 (39.14)	247,673	87.80 (43.90)
312 Geography	211940	105.97 (52.99)	94807	100.92 (50.46)	117133	110.06 (55.03)	179,849	94.23 (47.12)	80,113	89.32 (44.66)	99,736	98.17 (49.09)
313 CRE	579762	90.31 (45.16)	322195	92.86 (46.43)	257567	87.13 (43.56)	545,856	87.14 (43.57)	301,607	89.42 (44.71)	244,249	84.32 (42.16)
314 IRE	32686	80.18 (40.09)	12874	80.06 (40.03)	19812	80.27 (40.13)	32,685	65.79 (32.90)	12,784	65.56 (32.78)	19901	65.93 (32.97)
315 IIRE	1	98 (49.00)		0 (0.00)	1	98.00 (49.00)	-	-	-	-	-	-
441 Home Science	21355	93.98 (46.99)	18998	95.55 (47.77)	2357	81.39 (40.70)	19,154	96.17 (56.57)	17,122	97.37 (57.27)	2,032	86.06 (50.62)
442 Art and Design	1657	105.73 (52.87)	598	111.11 (55.55)	1059	102.70 (51.35)	1,524	116.07 (58.04)	513	120.04 (60.02)	1,011	114.05 (57.03)
443 Agriculture	300878	102.67 (51.34)	143647	98.15 (49.06)	157231	106.82 (53.41)	289,315	64.82 (32.41)	137,318	61.61 (30.81)	151,997	67.73 (33.87)
444 Woodwork	530	67.94 (67.94)	6	51.67 (51.67)	524	68.12 (68.12)	389	72.49 (72.49)	1	60.00 (60.00)	388	72.52 (72.52)
445 Metalwork	186	60.44 (60.44)	4	83.00 (83.00)	182	59.95 (59.95)	194	53.26 (53.26)	1	73.00 (73.00)	193	53.16 (53.16)
446 Building & Construction	610	69.72 (69.72)	34	64.29 (64.29)	576	70.04 (70.04)	431	66.51 (66.51)	7	63.00 (63.00)	424	66.57 (66.57)
447 Power Mechanics	276	63.12 (63.12)	4	47.00 (47.00)	272	63.35 (63.35)	254	56.12 (56.12)	4	9.50 (9.50)	250	56.87 (56.87)
448 Electricity	276	72.04 (72.08)	17	65.76 (65.76)	259	72.45 (72.45)	274	67.19 (67.19)	10	56.30 (56.30)	264	67.60 (67.60)
449 Drawing & Design	1037	67.45 (67.45)	8	34.75 (34.75)	1029	67.70 (67.70)	899	68.04 (68.04)	3	41.33 (41.33)	896	68.13 (68.13)
450 Aviation Technology	200	61.1 (61.10)	19	54.68 (54.68)	181	61.77 (61.77)	176	57.96 (57.96)	19	57.21 (57.21)	157	58.05 (58.05)
451 Computer Studies	25704	127.82 (63.91)	10809	123.94 (61.97)	14895	130.64 (65.32)	19,406	122.98 (61.49)	8137	119.56 (59.78)	11269	125.44 (62.72)
501 French	4225	56.66 (56.66)	2776	56.52 (56.52)	1449	56.95 (56.95)	3,901	50.49 (50.49)	2590	50.38 (50.38)	1311	50.70 (50.70)
502 German	992	59.73 (59.73)	620	59.04 (59.04)	372	60.88 (60.88)	830	59.27 (59.27)	471	59.62 (59.62)	359	58.82 (58.82)
503 Arabic	8136	53.75 (53.75)	3000	53.62 (53.62)	5136	53.83 (53.83)	7,859	43.77 (43.77)	2,948	43.52 (43.52)	4,911	43.92 (43.92)
504 KSL	625	52.85 (52.85)	300	51.63 (51.63)	325	53.98 (53.98)	629	45.86 (45.86)	318	46.86 (46.86)	311	44.84 (44.84)
511 Music	1901	107.09 (53.55)	1194	106.00 (53.00)	707	108.94 (54.47)	1,485	106.39 (53.20)	902	106.13 (53.07)	583	106.80 (53.40)
565 Business Studies	304423	78.27 (39.14)	155172	75.96 (37.98)	149251	80.68 (40.34)	284,137	76.00 (38.00)	143,826	72.70 (36.35)	140,311	79.39 (39.70)

Observations

(i) In the year 2020 KCSE examination, female candidates performed better than male candidates in seven (07) out of the thirty one (31) subjects offered as shown below: -

- *English (101)* mean for *female 38.58%: male 37.15%*;
- *Kiswahili (102)* mean for *female 42.02%: male 39.08%*;
- *Biology for the Blind (236)* mean for *female 25.48%: male 24.73%*;
- *CRE (313)* mean for *female 46.43%: male 43.56%*;
- *Home Science (441)* mean for *47.77%: male 40.70%*;
- *Art and Design (442)* mean for *female 55.55%: male 51.35%*;
- *Metalwork (445)* mean for *female 83.00% male 59.95%*;

(ii) The following subjects registered less than ten (10) female candidates for the examination: HRE, 315 (00); Woodwork, 444 (06); Metalwork, 445 (04); and Power Mechanics, 447 (04); Drawing & Design, 449 (08).

Table 5: Overall National Grade Summary for 2020

GENDER	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-	E
FEMALE	304	2371	5612	10275	16349	27075	42852	55326	58371	62801	70789	12821
MALE	589	4049	8815	14932	21845	30924	42606	54128	59527	59141	66572	15225
TOTAL	893	6420	14427	25207	38194	57999	85458	109454	117898	121942	137361	28046
%	0.12	0.85	1.92	3.35	5.08	7.71	11.36	14.55	15.67	16.21	18.26	3.73
CUM. TOTAL	893	7313	21740	46947	85141	143140	228598	338052	455950	577892	715253	743299
CUM.%	0.12	0.97	2.89	6.24	11.32	19.03	30.39	44.93	60.60	76.81	95.07	98.80

Table 6: Overall National Grade Summary for 2019

GENDER	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-	E
FEMALE	269	2,172	5,145	9,803	14,961	21,425	32,084	43,083	51,813	69,809	76,198	12,936
MALE	358	3,624	8,221	14,675	20,379	24,714	31,018	40,275	49,874	67,904	76,141	16,382
TOTAL	627	5,796	13,366	24,478	35,340	46,139	63,102	83,358	101,687	137,713	152,339	29,318
%	0.09	0.83	1.92	3.51	5.06	6.61	9.04	11.95	14.57	19.73	21.83	4.20
CUM. TOTAL	627	6,423	19,789	44,267	79,607	125,746	188,848	272,206	373,893	511,606	663,945	693,263
CUM.%	0.09	0.92	2.84	6.34	11.41	18.02	27.06	39.01	53.58	73.32	95.15	99.35

Observations:

- (i) There were **893 (0.12%)** candidates who obtained an overall grade A in the year 2020 KCSE examination compared to **627 (0.09%)** candidates in the year 2019;
- (ii) The number of candidates with minimum university entry qualification of grade C+ and above was **143,140 (19.03%)** in the year 2020 KCSE examination compared to **125,746 (18.02%)** in the year 2019.

- (iii) The number of candidates with a minimum TVET Diploma courses qualification of grade C- and above increased from 272,206 (39.01%) in 2019 to 338,052 (44.93%) in 2020.

Table 7: Candidates with special needs who sat for the Year 2020 And 2019 KCSE Examination

	Blind		Low Vision		Physically Impaired		Hearing Impaired		Total	
	2020	2019	2020	2019	2020	2019	2020	2019	2020	2019
Number of candidates	113	110	499	393	709	651	562	518	1,883	1,672

It can be observed from Table 7 that the highest number of candidates with special needs who sat for the year 2020 and 2019 KCSE examination were those who were **Physically Impaired** (709 and 651 respectively).

Table 8: Candidates who sat for the 2020 KCSE Examination in Hospital after Delivery by County

01 Taita Taveta	06
02 Kwale	04
03 Mombasa	03
04 Kilifi	03
06. Lamu	02
07 Nyandarua	12
08 Nyeri	05
09 Kirinyaga	03
10 Murang'a	20
11 Kiambu	15
12 Machakos	19
13 Kitui	11
14 Embu	10
15 Meru	38
18 Makeni	22
19 Tharaka Nithi	06
20 Nairobi	13
21 Turkana	05
22 Samburu	01
23 Trans Nzoia	19
24 West Pokot	22
25 Bomet	10
26 Uasin Gishu	09

27 Nakuru	36
28 Kericho	19
29 Nandi	31
30 Laikipia	09
31 Kajiado	14
32 Narok	17
33 Baringo	02
34 Elgeyo Marakwet	20
35 Busia	08
36 Bungoma	43
37 Kakamega	29
38 Vihiga	19
39 Kisumu	20
40 Kisii	36
41 Homa Bay	27
42 Siaya	15
43 Nyamira	22
44 Migori	23
45 Garissa	03
46 Wajir	01

Observation

In 2020, a total of **652** female candidates sat for KCSE examination in hospitals after delivery. The counties with the highest prevalence were **Bungoma (43), Meru (38), Nakuru (36), Kisii (36)** and **Nandi (31)**.

2.2 OVERVIEW OF THE YEAR 2020 KCSE EXAMINATION REPORT

- 2.2.1 This report covers two areas of the year 2020 examination. *Part I* consists of an analysis and discussion of examination questions which the majority of the candidates found difficult. *Part II* is a compilation of all the question papers and their sample marking schemes in the subjects.
- 2.2.2 It should be noted that the attached marking schemes are normally discussed in detail by the examiners and may be amended accordingly before they are used to score the candidates scripts.
- 2.2.3 The KCSE examination report analyses in detail candidates' performance in the KCSE examination. Its main aim is to provide a feedback on candidates' performance in KCSE examination subjects, with a focus on those questions which candidates found difficult. Such questions have been identified and discussed, possible causes of mistakes pointed out and expected responses in some cases have been given in order to show what kind of responses were expected.
- 2.2.4 The report indicates areas of the syllabus not adequately covered. This is indicated by the poor performance of candidates. The report also gives recommendations on how such areas could be handled and improve on curriculum delivery at the school level.

2.3 GENERAL COMMENTS ON THE EXAMINATION REPORT

- 2.3.1 It is hoped that schools, teachers and the general public will find the information given in this examination report useful. The Council will highly appreciate any informed comments and suggestions from teachers, students and the public that can be considered for inclusion in the next issue of this report to enrich it. We hope that this report will continue to create an avenue through which teachers can share their experiences especially in the handling of topics that students find difficult to understand.
- 2.3.2 Comments and suggestions from teachers, students and the public may be forwarded to the Council in writing or by completing the questionnaire at the back of this report. We thank all those who have in the past given us useful suggestions or comments of previous issues of this report.

2.3.3 The Council would like to remind schools and the general public that all the past and current issues of the KCSE examination reports can be purchased from The Kenya National Examinations Council, Mitihani bookshop situated on the Ground floor of the National Housing Corporation Building along Aga Khan Walk, opposite the Co-operative Building. The cost and postage charges of the KCSE examination reports will be given on request.

2.4 APPRECIATION

I wish therefore to commend the efforts of P. Ochich, E. Obade, K. Iman, S. Kasinga, L. Adhiambo, L. Ronoh, R. Njiru, G. Mwenja, Test Development, Information and Communication Technology, Research & Quality Assurance and the entire Senior Management of the Council for their contributions in one way or the other to the preparation and publication of this document.



Dr. David Njengere
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER