

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 This Act was repealed in 2012 and replaced with the Kenya National Examinations Council Act No. 29 of 2012.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: *Transforming lives through Quality Assessment and Credible Certification.*

1.1.2 THE COUNCIL MISSION: *Assess Learner Abilities and Certify Achievements in Conformity with Global Standards..*

1.2 THE FUNCTIONS OF THE COUNCIL:

According to Section 10 of the Kenya National Examinations Council Act No. 29 of 2012, the functions of KNEC are:

- 1.2.1 Set and maintain examination standards, conduct public academic, technical and other national examinations within Kenya at basic and tertiary levels.
- 1.2.2 Award certificates or diplomas to candidates in such examinations.
- 1.2.3 Confirm authenticity of certificates or diplomas issued by the Council upon request by the government, public institutions, learning institutions, employers, and other interested parties.
- 1.2.4 Undertake research on educational assessment.
- 1.2.5 Advise any public institution on the development and use of any system of assessment when requested to do so, and in accordance with such terms and conditions as shall be mutually agreed between the Council and the public institution.
- 1.2.6 Promote the international recognition of qualifications conferred by the Council.
- 1.2.7 Advise the Government on any policy decision that is relevant to, or has implications on the functions of the Council or the administration of examinations in Kenya;
- 1.2.8 Do anything incidental or conducive to the performance of any of the preceding functions.

1.3 CORE VALUES

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

Professionalism Our work is rooted in accurate data, critical skills, tested knowledge and collaborative thinking.

Integrity We are trusted to efficiently use our resources to deliver our promise ethically with utmost honesty.

Team Spirit We embrace collaboration and team up with strategic partners in service delivery.

Innovativeness We are committed to creativity and aspire to embrace new ways and ideas of service delivery.

Accountability We embrace reliability and personal responsibility for decisions and actions taken to honor our commitments to our customers.

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 2021 KCSE EXAMINATION

During the year **2021 KCSE examination**, there were **826,807 candidates** who sat for the examination compared to **747,161 candidates** in the year **2020**. This represents an increase of **79,646 candidates**, or a **10.69% increase**.

A breakdown of the candidature and examination centres for the year **2021 KCSE examination** is shown in **Tables 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6** 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 (%) |
| 2021 | 830,854           | 826,807       | 79,646<br>(10.69%)    | 407,532             | 405,489<br>(49.10%) | 39,095<br>(10.46%)    | 423,322             | 421,318<br>(50.90%) | 40,991<br>(10.78%)    |
| 2020 | 752,602           | 747,161       | 49,939<br>(6.68%)     | 369,394<br>(49.08%) | 366,834<br>(49.10%) | 25,394<br>(6.92%)     | 383,208<br>(50.92%) | 380,327<br>(50.90%) | 24,545<br>(6.45%)     |
| 2019 | 699,706           | 697,222       | 37,018<br>(5.61%)     | 342,633             | 341,440<br>(48.97%) | 19,864<br>(6.12%)     | 357,073             | 355,782<br>(51.03%) | 17,154<br>(5.01%)     |
| 2018 | 664,479           | 660,204       | 48,252<br>(7.88%)     | 323,601             | 321,576<br>(48.71%) | 25,254<br>(8.52%)     | 340,878             | 338,628<br>(51.29%) | 22,998<br>(7.29%)     |
| 2017 | 615,591           | 611,952       | 37,827<br>(6.59%)     | 297,945             | 296,322<br>(48.42%) | 23,192<br>(8.49%)     | 317,646             | 315,630<br>(51.58%) | 14,635<br>(4.86%)     |



**Figure 1: KCSE Examination Candidature Trends for the Last 5 Years**

**Table 2: 2021 and 2020 KCSE Examination Candidature Distribution per County by Gender**

| County Code & Name |                     | 2021                |                     |                     | 2020                |                     |                     |
|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
|                    |                     | Male (%)            | Female (%)          | Total (%)           | Male (%)            | Female (%)          | Total (%)           |
| 1                  | 01<br>Taita Taveta  | 3,291<br>(0.396 %)  | 3,361<br>(0.405 %)  | 6,652<br>(0.801 %)  | 2,645<br>(0.351 %)  | 2,771<br>(0.368 %)  | 5,416<br>(0.720 %)  |
| 2                  | 02<br>Kwale         | 4,523<br>(0.544 %)  | 4,479<br>(0.539 %)  | 9,002<br>(1.083 %)  | 3,512<br>(0.467 %)  | 3,556<br>(0.472 %)  | 7,068<br>(0.939 %)  |
| 3                  | 03<br>Mombasa       | 5,422<br>(0.653 %)  | 4,640<br>(0.558 %)  | 10,062<br>(1.211 %) | 4,881<br>(0.649 %)  | 4,195<br>(0.557 %)  | 9,076<br>(1.206 %)  |
| 4                  | 04<br>Kilifi        | 10,541<br>(1.269 %) | 9,469<br>(1.140 %)  | 20,010<br>(2.408 %) | 8,435<br>(1.121 %)  | 7,397<br>(0.983 %)  | 15,832<br>(2.104 %) |
| 5                  | 05<br>Tana River    | 1,266<br>(0.152 %)  | 941<br>(0.113 %)    | 2,207<br>(0.266 %)  | 1,025<br>(0.136 %)  | 727<br>(0.097 %)    | 1,752<br>(0.233 %)  |
| 6                  | 06<br>Lamu          | 1,085<br>(0.131 %)  | 826<br>(0.099 %)    | 1,911<br>(0.230 %)  | 892<br>(0.119 %)    | 699<br>(0.093 %)    | 1,591<br>(0.211 %)  |
| 7                  | 07<br>Nyandarua     | 8,252<br>(0.993 %)  | 8,348<br>(1.005 %)  | 16,600<br>(1.998 %) | 7,326<br>(0.973 %)  | 8,022<br>(1.066 %)  | 15,348<br>(2.039 %) |
| 8                  | 08<br>Nyeri         | 10,060<br>(1.211 %) | 10,290<br>(1.238 %) | 20,350<br>(2.449 %) | 9,191<br>(1.221 %)  | 9,299<br>(1.236 %)  | 18,490<br>(2.457 %) |
| 9                  | 09<br>Kirinyaga     | 6,380<br>(0.768 %)  | 6,683<br>(0.804 %)  | 13,063<br>(1.572 %) | 5,950<br>(0.791 %)  | 6,389<br>(0.849 %)  | 12,339<br>(1.640 %) |
| 10                 | 10<br>Murang'a      | 14,953<br>(1.800 %) | 15,337<br>(1.846 %) | 30,290<br>(3.646 %) | 13,605<br>(1.808 %) | 13,997<br>(1.860 %) | 27,602<br>(3.668 %) |
| 11                 | 11<br>Kiambu        | 17,745<br>(2.136 %) | 18,766<br>(2.259 %) | 36,511<br>(4.394 %) | 16,037<br>(2.131 %) | 16,952<br>(2.252 %) | 32,989<br>(4.383 %) |
| 12                 | 12<br>Machakos      | 14,011<br>(1.686 %) | 14,467<br>(1.741 %) | 28,478<br>(3.428 %) | 12,788<br>(1.699 %) | 13,412<br>(1.782 %) | 26,200<br>(3.481 %) |
| 13                 | 13<br>Kitui         | 11,536<br>(1.388 %) | 12,010<br>(1.446 %) | 23,546<br>(2.834 %) | 10,112<br>(1.344 %) | 10,854<br>(1.442 %) | 20,966<br>(2.786 %) |
| 14                 | 14<br>Embu          | 6,740<br>(0.811 %)  | 6,693<br>(0.806 %)  | 13,433<br>(1.617 %) | 6,266<br>(0.833 %)  | 6,265<br>(0.832 %)  | 12,531<br>(1.665 %) |
| 15                 | 15<br>Meru          | 12,648<br>(1.522 %) | 13,622<br>(1.640 %) | 26,270<br>(3.162 %) | 11,623<br>(1.544 %) | 13,128<br>(1.744 %) | 24,751<br>(3.289 %) |
| 16                 | 16<br>Marsabit      | 1,220<br>(0.147 %)  | 1,091<br>(0.131 %)  | 2,311<br>(0.278 %)  | 1,131<br>(0.150 %)  | 902<br>(0.120 %)    | 2,033<br>(0.270 %)  |
| 17                 | 17<br>Isiolo        | 886<br>(0.107 %)    | 815<br>(0.098 %)    | 1,701<br>(0.205 %)  | 799<br>(0.106 %)    | 665<br>(0.088 %)    | 1,464<br>(0.195 %)  |
| 18                 | 18<br>Makueni       | 13,571<br>(1.633 %) | 13,532<br>(1.629 %) | 27,103<br>(3.262 %) | 12,465<br>(1.656 %) | 12,693<br>(1.687 %) | 25,158<br>(3.343 %) |
| 19                 | 19<br>Tharaka Nithi | 5,821<br>(0.701 %)  | 6,114<br>(0.736 %)  | 11,935<br>(1.436 %) | 5,281<br>(0.702 %)  | 5,753<br>(0.764 %)  | 11,034<br>(1.466 %) |
| 20                 | 20<br>Nairobi       | 15,215<br>(1.831 %) | 15,362<br>(1.849 %) | 30,577<br>(3.680 %) | 14,859<br>(1.974 %) | 14,560<br>(1.935 %) | 29,419<br>(3.909 %) |

| County Code & Name |                    | 2021                |                     |                     | 2020                |                     |                     |
|--------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
|                    |                    | Male (%)            | Female (%)          | Total (%)           | Male (%)            | Female (%)          | Total (%)           |
| 21                 | 21 Turkana         | 4,509<br>(0.543 %)  | 2,409<br>(0.290 %)  | 6,918<br>(0.833 %)  | 4,033<br>(0.536 %)  | 2,254<br>(0.299 %)  | 6,287<br>(0.835 %)  |
| 22                 | 22 Samburu         | 1,633<br>(0.197 %)  | 1,004<br>(0.121 %)  | 2,637<br>(0.317 %)  | 1,462<br>(0.194 %)  | 896<br>(0.119 %)    | 2,358<br>(0.313 %)  |
| 23                 | 23 Trans Nzoia     | 11,535<br>(1.388 %) | 10,677<br>(1.285 %) | 22,212<br>(2.673 %) | 10,588<br>(1.407 %) | 9,734<br>(1.293 %)  | 20,322<br>(2.700 %) |
| 24                 | 24 West Pokot      | 5,475<br>(0.659 %)  | 4,807<br>(0.579 %)  | 10,282<br>(1.238 %) | 5,233<br>(0.695 %)  | 4,321<br>(0.574 %)  | 9,554<br>(1.269 %)  |
| 25                 | 25 Bomet           | 11,939<br>(1.437 %) | 11,203<br>(1.348 %) | 23,142<br>(2.785 %) | 10,516<br>(1.397 %) | 9,552<br>(1.269 %)  | 20,068<br>(2.666 %) |
| 26                 | 26 Uasin Gishu     | 9,419<br>(1.134 %)  | 9,634<br>(1.160 %)  | 19,053<br>(2.293 %) | 8,658<br>(1.150 %)  | 8,677<br>(1.153 %)  | 17,335<br>(2.303 %) |
| 27                 | 27 Nakuru          | 21,916<br>(2.638 %) | 21,371<br>(2.572 %) | 43,287<br>(5.210 %) | 19,730<br>(2.622 %) | 19,414<br>(2.580 %) | 39,144<br>(5.201 %) |
| 28                 | 28 Kericho         | 11,347<br>(1.366 %) | 10,838<br>(1.304 %) | 22,185<br>(2.670 %) | 10,211<br>(1.357 %) | 9,889<br>(1.314 %)  | 20,100<br>(2.671 %) |
| 29                 | 29 Nandi           | 10,220<br>(1.230 %) | 10,112<br>(1.217 %) | 20,332<br>(2.447 %) | 8,884<br>(1.180 %)  | 9,044<br>(1.202 %)  | 17,928<br>(2.382 %) |
| 30                 | 30 Laikipia        | 4,994<br>(0.601 %)  | 5,111<br>(0.615 %)  | 10,105<br>(1.216 %) | 4,495<br>(0.597 %)  | 4,483<br>(0.596 %)  | 8,978<br>(1.193 %)  |
| 31                 | 31 Kajiado         | 5,499<br>(0.662 %)  | 4,830<br>(0.581 %)  | 10,329<br>(1.243 %) | 4,691<br>(0.623 %)  | 4,682<br>(0.622 %)  | 9,373<br>(1.245 %)  |
| 32                 | 32 Narok           | 6,122<br>(0.737 %)  | 4,895<br>(0.589 %)  | 11,017<br>(1.326 %) | 5,236<br>(0.696 %)  | 4,117<br>(0.547 %)  | 9,353<br>(1.243 %)  |
| 33                 | 33 Baringo         | 6,111<br>(0.736 %)  | 5,966<br>(0.718 %)  | 12,077<br>(1.454 %) | 5,573<br>(0.740 %)  | 5,505<br>(0.731 %)  | 11,078<br>(1.472 %) |
| 34                 | 34 Elgeyo Marakwet | 5,437<br>(0.654 %)  | 5,989<br>(0.721 %)  | 11,426<br>(1.375 %) | 4,715<br>(0.626 %)  | 5,333<br>(0.709 %)  | 10,048<br>(1.335 %) |
| 35                 | 35 Busia           | 8,324<br>(1.002 %)  | 8,401<br>(1.011 %)  | 16,725<br>(2.013 %) | 7,171<br>(0.953 %)  | 6,899<br>(0.917 %)  | 14,070<br>(1.870 %) |
| 36                 | 36 Bungoma         | 19,466<br>(2.343 %) | 18,633<br>(2.243 %) | 38,099<br>(4.586 %) | 17,962<br>(2.387 %) | 17,346<br>(2.305 %) | 35,308<br>(4.691 %) |
| 37                 | 37 Kakamega        | 20,522<br>(2.470 %) | 21,160<br>(2.547 %) | 41,682<br>(5.017 %) | 18,237<br>(2.423 %) | 18,620<br>(2.474 %) | 36,857<br>(4.897 %) |
| 38                 | 38 Vihiga          | 7,675<br>(0.924 %)  | 8,852<br>(1.065 %)  | 16,527<br>(1.989 %) | 7,123<br>(0.946 %)  | 8,522<br>(1.132 %)  | 15,645<br>(2.079 %) |
| 39                 | 39 Kisumu          | 11,400<br>(1.372 %) | 12,009<br>(1.445 %) | 23,409<br>(2.817 %) | 10,224<br>(1.358 %) | 10,395<br>(1.381 %) | 20,619<br>(2.740 %) |
| 40                 | 40 Kisii           | 17,183<br>(2.068 %) | 16,248<br>(1.956 %) | 33,431<br>(4.024 %) | 16,732<br>(2.223 %) | 15,475<br>(2.056 %) | 32,207<br>(4.279 %) |

| County Code & Name |                | 2021                        |                             |                             | 2020                         |                             |                            |
|--------------------|----------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
|                    |                | Male (%)                    | Female (%)                  | Total (%)                   | Male (%)                     | Female (%)                  | Total (%)                  |
| 41                 | 41<br>Homa Bay | 13,999<br>(1.685 %)         | 11,595<br>(1.396 %)         | 25,594<br>(3.080 %)         | 13,032<br>(1.732 %)          | 10,610<br>(1.410 %)         | 23,642<br>(3.141 %)        |
| 42                 | 42<br>Siaya    | 12,043<br>(1.449 %)         | 11,321<br>(1.363 %)         | 23,364<br>(2.812 %)         | 10,624<br>(1.412 %)          | 9,805<br>(1.303 %)          | 20,429<br>(2.714 %)        |
| 43                 | 43<br>Nyamira  | 7,733<br>(0.931 %)          | 7,450<br>(0.897 %)          | 15,183<br>(1.827 %)         | 7,384<br>(0.981 %)           | 7,223<br>(0.960 %)          | 14,607<br>(1.941 %)        |
| 44                 | 44<br>Migori   | 12,258<br>(1.475 %)         | 10,424<br>(1.255 %)         | 22,682<br>(2.730 %)         | 11,294<br>(1.501 %)          | 9,329<br>(1.240 %)          | 20,623<br>(2.740 %)        |
| 45                 | 45<br>Garissa  | 4,947<br>(0.595 %)          | 2,474<br>(0.298 %)          | 7,421<br>(0.893 %)          | 4,739<br>(0.630 %)           | 2,218<br>(0.295 %)          | 6,957<br>(0.924 %)         |
| 46                 | 46<br>Wajir    | 3,420<br>(0.412 %)          | 1,798<br>(0.216 %)          | 5,218<br>(0.628 %)          | 3,057<br>(0.406 %)           | 1,485<br>(0.197 %)          | 4,542<br>(0.604 %)         |
| 47                 | 47<br>Mandera  | 3,030<br>(0.365 %)          | 1,475<br>(0.178 %)          | 4,505<br>(0.542 %)          | 2,781<br>(0.370 %)           | 1,330<br>(0.177 %)          | 4,111<br>(0.546 %)         |
| <b>TOTAL</b>       |                | <b>423,322<br/>(50.95%)</b> | <b>407,532<br/>(49.05%)</b> | <b>830,854<br/>(100.0%)</b> | <b>383,208<br/>(50.92 %)</b> | <b>369,394<br/>(49.08%)</b> | <b>752,602<br/>(100 %)</b> |

**Table 3: 2021 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<br>(0.019 %) | 0<br>(0.000 %) | 15<br>(0.144 %) | 5<br>(0.048 %)  | 64<br>(0.615 %)  | 11<br>(0.106 %) | 97<br>0.932 %  |
| 02 Kwale           | 2<br>(0.019 %) | 1<br>(0.010 %) | 8<br>(0.077 %)  | 20<br>(0.192 %) | 62<br>(0.595 %)  | 14<br>(0.134 %) | 107<br>1.028 % |
| 03 Mombasa         | 2<br>(0.019 %) | 2<br>(0.019 %) | (0.000 %)       | 3<br>(0.029 %)  | 42<br>(0.403 %)  | 76<br>(0.730 %) | 125<br>1.200 % |
| 04 Kilifi          | 2<br>(0.019 %) | 2<br>(0.019 %) | 11<br>(0.106 %) | 21<br>(0.202 %) | 117<br>(1.124 %) | 59<br>(0.567 %) | 212<br>2.036 % |
| 05 Tana River      | 2<br>(0.019 %) | 0<br>(0.000 %) | 6<br>(0.058 %)  | 3<br>(0.029 %)  | 23<br>(0.221 %)  | 5<br>(0.048 %)  | 39<br>0.375 %  |
| 06 Lamu            | 2<br>(0.019 %) | 0<br>(0.000 %) | 1<br>(0.010 %)  | 2<br>(0.019 %)  | 17<br>(0.163 %)  | 5<br>(0.048 %)  | 27<br>0.259 %  |
| 07 Nyandarua       | 2<br>(0.019 %) | (0.000 %)      | 10<br>(0.096 %) | 10<br>(0.096 %) | 151<br>(1.450 %) | 35<br>(0.336 %) | 208<br>1.998 % |
| 08 Nyeri           | 2<br>(0.019 %) | 1<br>(0.010 %) | 24<br>(0.230 %) | 30<br>(0.288 %) | 161<br>(1.546 %) | 24<br>(0.230 %) | 242<br>2.324 % |
| 09 Kirinyaga       | 2<br>(0.019 %) | 0<br>(0.000 %) | 15<br>(0.144 %) | 18<br>(0.173 %) | 116<br>(1.114 %) | 14<br>(0.134 %) | 165<br>1.585 % |
| 10 Murang'a        | 2<br>(0.019 %) | 1<br>(0.010 %) | 29<br>(0.278 %) | 30<br>(0.288 %) | 250<br>(2.401 %) | 29<br>(0.278 %) | 341<br>3.275 % |
| 11 Kiambu          | 6<br>(0.058 %) | 3<br>(0.029 %) | 18<br>(0.173 %) | 51<br>(0.490 %) | 214<br>(2.055 %) | 86<br>(0.826 %) | 378<br>3.630 % |
| 12 Machakos        | 2<br>(0.019 %) | 1<br>(0.010 %) | 21<br>(0.202 %) | 56<br>(0.538 %) | 292<br>(2.804 %) | 80<br>(0.768 %) | 452<br>4.341 % |

| Country Code & Name | National       | Special        | Extra County    | County          | Sub County       | Private          | All            |
|---------------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|------------------|----------------|
| 13 Kitui            | 2<br>(0.019 %) | 0<br>(0.000 %) | 40<br>(0.384 %) | 56<br>(0.538 %) | 333<br>(3.198 %) | 18<br>(0.173 %)  | 449<br>4.312 % |
| 14 Embu             | 2<br>(0.019 %) | 1<br>(0.010 %) | 23<br>(0.221 %) | 27<br>(0.259 %) | 141<br>(1.354 %) | 21<br>(0.202 %)  | 215<br>2.065 % |
| 15 Meru             | 2<br>(0.019 %) | 1<br>(0.010 %) | 25<br>(0.240 %) | 76<br>(0.730 %) | 290<br>(2.785 %) | 23<br>(0.221 %)  | 417<br>4.005 % |
| 16 Marsabit         | 2<br>(0.019 %) | 0<br>(0.000 %) | 7<br>(0.067 %)  | 8<br>(0.077 %)  | 22<br>(0.211 %)  | 4<br>(0.038 %)   | 43<br>0.413 %  |
| 17 Isiolo           | 2<br>(0.019 %) | 0<br>(0.000 %) | 2<br>(0.019 %)  | 10<br>(0.096 %) | 14<br>(0.134 %)  | 6<br>(0.058 %)   | 34<br>0.327 %  |
| 18 Makueni          | 2<br>(0.019 %) | 0<br>(0.000 %) | 20<br>(0.192 %) | 64<br>(0.615 %) | 300<br>(2.881 %) | 28<br>(0.269 %)  | 414<br>3.976 % |
| 19 Tharaka Nithi    | 2<br>(0.019 %) | 0<br>(0.000 %) | 24<br>(0.230 %) | 34<br>(0.327 %) | 90<br>(0.864 %)  | 12<br>(0.115 %)  | 162<br>1.556 % |
| 20 Nairobi          | 7<br>(0.067 %) | 1<br>(0.010 %) | 22<br>(0.211 %) | 15<br>(0.144 %) | 67<br>(0.643 %)  | 245<br>(2.353 %) | 357<br>3.428 % |
| 21 Turkana          | 2<br>(0.019 %) | 0<br>(0.000 %) | 6<br>(0.058 %)  | 28<br>(0.269 %) | 23<br>(0.221 %)  | 11<br>(0.106 %)  | 70<br>0.672 %  |
| 22 Samburu          | 2<br>(0.019 %) | 0<br>(0.000 %) | 8<br>(0.077 %)  | 2<br>(0.019 %)  | 27<br>(0.259 %)  | 7<br>(0.067 %)   | 46<br>0.442 %  |
| 23 Trans Nzoia      | 2<br>(0.019 %) | 0<br>(0.000 %) | 17<br>(0.163 %) | 39<br>(0.375 %) | 180<br>(1.729 %) | 24<br>(0.230 %)  | 262<br>2.516 % |
| 24 West Pokot       | 2<br>(0.019 %) | 1<br>(0.010 %) | 11<br>(0.106 %) | 31<br>(0.298 %) | 108<br>(1.037 %) | 5<br>(0.048 %)   | 158<br>1.517 % |
| 25 Bomet            | 2<br>(0.019 %) | 1<br>(0.010 %) | 12<br>(0.115 %) | 36<br>(0.346 %) | 234<br>(2.247 %) | 5<br>(0.048 %)   | 290<br>2.785 % |
| 26 Uasin Gishu      | 1<br>(0.010 %) | 0<br>(0.000 %) | 22<br>(0.211 %) | 11<br>(0.106 %) | 156<br>(1.498 %) | 46<br>(0.442 %)  | 236<br>2.266 % |
| 27 Nakuru           | 4<br>(0.038 %) | 1<br>(0.010 %) | 22<br>(0.211 %) | 14<br>(0.134 %) | 318<br>(3.054 %) | 134<br>(1.287 %) | 493<br>4.734 % |
| 28 Kericho          | 2<br>(0.019 %) | 2<br>(0.019 %) | 22<br>(0.211 %) | 47<br>(0.451 %) | 165<br>(1.585 %) | 8<br>(0.077 %)   | 246<br>2.362 % |
| 29 Nandi            | 2<br>(0.019 %) | 1<br>(0.010 %) | 25<br>(0.240 %) | 32<br>(0.307 %) | 179<br>(1.719 %) | 12<br>(0.115 %)  | 251<br>2.410 % |
| 30 Laikipia         | 2<br>(0.019 %) | 0<br>(0.000 %) | 12<br>(0.115 %) | 14<br>(0.134 %) | 93<br>(0.893 %)  | 17<br>(0.163 %)  | 138<br>1.325 % |
| 31 Kajiado          | 2<br>(0.019 %) | 0<br>(0.000 %) | 9<br>(0.086 %)  | 27<br>(0.259 %) | 52<br>(0.499 %)  | 77<br>(0.739 %)  | 167<br>1.604 % |
| 32 Narok            | 2<br>(0.019 %) | 0<br>(0.000 %) | 8<br>(0.077 %)  | 49<br>(0.471 %) | 101<br>(0.970 %) | 15<br>(0.144 %)  | 175<br>1.681 % |
| 33 Baringo          | 1<br>(0.010 %) | 0<br>(0.000 %) | 21<br>(0.202 %) | 37<br>(0.355 %) | 111<br>(1.066 %) | 10<br>(0.096 %)  | 180<br>1.729 % |
| 34 Elgeyo Marakwet  | 2<br>(0.019 %) | 0<br>(0.000 %) | 17<br>(0.163 %) | 33<br>(0.317 %) | 74<br>(0.711 %)  | 4<br>(0.038 %)   | 130<br>1.248 % |
| 35 Busia            | 2<br>(0.019 %) | 1<br>(0.010 %) | 12<br>(0.115 %) | 18<br>(0.173 %) | 124<br>(1.191 %) | 9<br>(0.086 %)   | 166<br>1.594 % |
| 36 Bungoma          | 2<br>(0.019 %) | 2<br>(0.019 %) | 18<br>(0.173 %) | 79<br>(0.759 %) | 275<br>(2.641 %) | 13<br>(0.125 %)  | 389<br>3.736 % |

| County Code & Name | National                | Special                | County                  | County                    | Sub County                | Private                   | All                       |
|--------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| 37 Kakamega        | 2<br>(0.019 %)          | 2<br>(0.019 %)         | 26<br>(0.250 %)         | 42<br>(0.403 %)           | 344<br>(3.304 %)          | 30<br>(0.288 %)           | 446<br>4.283 %            |
| 38 Vihiga          | 2<br>(0.019 %)          | 1<br>(0.010 %)         | 17<br>(0.163 %)         | 19<br>(0.182 %)           | 119<br>(1.143 %)          | 7<br>(0.067 %)            | 165<br>1.585 %            |
| 39 Kisumu          | 2<br>(0.019 %)          | 3<br>(0.029 %)         | 19<br>(0.182 %)         | 18<br>(0.173 %)           | 185<br>(1.777 %)          | 26<br>(0.250 %)           | 253<br>2.430 %            |
| 40 Kisii           | 2<br>(0.019 %)          | 1<br>(0.010 %)         | 26<br>(0.250 %)         | 42<br>(0.403 %)           | 283<br>(2.718 %)          | 19<br>(0.182 %)           | 373<br>3.582 %            |
| 41 Homa Bay        | 2<br>(0.019 %)          | 0<br>(0.000 %)         | 23<br>(0.221 %)         | 45<br>(0.432 %)           | 253<br>(2.430 %)          | 27<br>(0.259 %)           | 350<br>3.361 %            |
| 42 Siaya           | 2<br>(0.019 %)          | 2<br>(0.019 %)         | 19<br>(0.182 %)         | 23<br>(0.221 %)           | 196<br>(1.882 %)          | 5<br>(0.048 %)            | 247<br>2.372 %            |
| 43 Nyamira         | 2<br>(0.019 %)          | 0<br>(0.000 %)         | 20<br>(0.192 %)         | 21<br>(0.202 %)           | 147<br>(1.412 %)          | 5<br>(0.048 %)            | 195<br>1.873 %            |
| 44 Migori          | 2<br>(0.019 %)          | 1<br>(0.010 %)         | 24<br>(0.230 %)         | 25<br>(0.240 %)           | 223<br>(2.142 %)          | 25<br>(0.240 %)           | 300<br>2.881 %            |
| 45 Garissa         | 2<br>(0.019 %)          | 0<br>(0.000 %)         | 4<br>(0.038 %)          | 12<br>(0.115 %)           | 20<br>(0.192 %)           | 54<br>(0.519 %)           | 92<br>0.884 %             |
| 46 Wajir           | 2<br>(0.019 %)          | 1<br>(0.010 %)         | 5<br>(0.048 %)          | 12<br>(0.115 %)           | 28<br>(0.269 %)           | 6<br>(0.058 %)            | 54<br>0.519 %             |
| 47 Mandera         | 2<br>(0.019 %)          | 0<br>(0.000 %)         | 4<br>(0.038 %)          | 21<br>(0.202 %)           | 20<br>(0.192 %)           | 10<br>(0.096 %)           | 57<br>0.547 %             |
| <b>Total</b>       | <b>103</b><br>(0.989 %) | <b>34</b><br>(0.327 %) | <b>750</b><br>(7.203 %) | <b>1316</b><br>(12.638 %) | <b>6804</b><br>(65.341 %) | <b>1406</b><br>(13.502 %) | <b>10413</b><br>(100.0 %) |

**Table 4: Overall Candidates' Performance by Gender in 2021 and 2020**

| SUBJECT CODE & NAME           | 2021    |        |         |        |         |        | 2020    |                  |         |                  |         |                  |
|-------------------------------|---------|--------|---------|--------|---------|--------|---------|------------------|---------|------------------|---------|------------------|
|                               | 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                   | 823,077 | 73.74  | 403,419 | 76.05  | 419,660 | 71.55  | 743,984 | 75.71<br>(37.85) | 365,150 | 77.17<br>(38.58) | 378,834 | 74.30<br>(37.15) |
| 102 Kiswahili                 | 822,267 | 82.09  | 403,057 | 85.82  | 419,213 | 78.50  | 743,315 | 81.05<br>(40.52) | 364,871 | 84.05<br>(42.02) | 378,444 | 78.17<br>(39.08) |
| 121 Mathematics Alternative A | 822,466 | 40.04  | 403,386 | 37.33  | 419,089 | 42.65  | 742,915 | 36.72<br>(18.36) | 364,714 | 33.24<br>(16.62) | 378,201 | 40.07<br>(20.04) |
| 122 Mathematics Alternative B | 844     | 23.29  | 316     | 21.95  | 528     | 24.10  | 1,035   | 22.32<br>(11.16) | 455     | 21.01<br>(10.51) | 580     | 23.35<br>(11.67) |
| 231 Biology                   | 710,733 | 57.01  | 369,057 | 54.83  | 341,678 | 59.37  | 651,237 | 53.03<br>(26.51) | 337,118 | 50.81<br>(25.41) | 314,119 | 55.42<br>(27.71) |
| 232 Physics                   | 253,963 | 59.39  | 82,938  | 58.50  | 171,027 | 59.82  | 217,127 | 71.04<br>(35.52) | 69,796  | 69.73<br>(34.87) | 147,331 | 71.66<br>(35.83) |
| 233 Chemistry                 | 820,765 | 42.02  | 402,753 | 40.26  | 418,020 | 43.74  | 740,831 | 45.01<br>(22.51) | 364,008 | 43.19<br>(21.60) | 376,823 | 46.77<br>(23.38) |
| 236 Biology for the Blind     | 117     | 34.04  | 48      | 27.52  | 69      | 31.99  | 113     | 50.2<br>(25.1)   | 56      | 51.8<br>(25.48)  | 57      | 49.46<br>(24.73) |



| SUBJECT<br>CODE &<br>NAME   | 2021       |           |            |           |            |           |         |                   |             |                   |                  |                   |
|-----------------------------|------------|-----------|------------|-----------|------------|-----------|---------|-------------------|-------------|-------------------|------------------|-------------------|
|                             | ALL        |           | FEMALE     |           | MALE       |           | ALL     |                   | FEMALE      |                   | MALE             |                   |
|                             | NO.<br>SAT | MEAN<br>% | NO.<br>SAT | MEAN<br>% | NO.<br>SAT | MEAN<br>% | NO. SAT | MEAN<br>%         | NO. SAT     | MEAN<br>%         | NO. SAT          | MEAN<br>%         |
| 237 General Science         | 841        | 28.56     | 315        | 25.18     | 526        | 30.59     | 1,031   | 18.85<br>(9.43)   | 454         | 18.70<br>(9.35)   | 577              | 18.97<br>(9.49)   |
| 311 History & Govt.         | 566,636    | 87.86     | 276,072    | 82.99     | 290,577    | 92.49     | 508,070 | 103.19<br>(51.60) | 247,645     | 96.54<br>(48.27)  | 260,425          | 109.50<br>(54.75) |
| 312 Geography               | 246,191    | 108.05    | 109,726    | 106.56    | 136,468    | 114.42    | 211,940 | 105.97<br>(52.99) | 94,807      | 100.92<br>(50.46) | 117,133          | 110.06<br>(55.03) |
| 313 CRE                     | 629,671    | 81.18     | 350,805    | 84.52     | 278,870    | 76.98     | 579,762 | 90.31<br>(45.16)  | 322,195     | 92.86<br>(46.43)  | 257,567          | 87.13<br>(43.56)  |
| 314 IRE                     | 36,731     | 90.3      | 14,832     | 89.67     | 21,900     | 90.73     | 32,686  | 80.18<br>(40.09)  | 12,874      | 80.06<br>(40.03)  | 19,812           | 80.27<br>(40.13)  |
| 315 HRE                     | 3          | 102       | 1          | 90.00     | 2          | 108.00    | 1       | 98<br>(49.00)     | 0<br>(0.00) | 1                 | 98.00<br>(49.00) |                   |
| 441 Home Science            | 26,496     | 102.87    | 23,654     | 104.60    | 2,842      | 88.50     | 21,355  | 93.98<br>(46.99)  | 18,998      | 95.55<br>(47.77)  | 2,357            | 81.39<br>(40.70)  |
| 442 Art and Design          | 1,949      | 114.22    | 644        | 123.70    | 1,305      | 109.54    | 1,657   | 105.73<br>(52.87) | 598         | 111.11<br>(55.55) | 1,059            | 102.70<br>(51.35) |
| 443 Agriculture             | 317,692    | 77.28     | 149,695    | 75.30     | 167,996    | 79.05     | 300,878 | 102.67<br>(51.34) | 143,647     | 98.13<br>(49.06)  | 157,231          | 106.82<br>(53.41) |
| 444 Woodwork                | 581        | 71.77     | 1          | 80.00     | 580        | 71.75     | 530     | 67.94<br>(67.94)  | 6           | 51.67<br>(51.67)  | 524              | 68.12<br>(68.12)  |
| 445 Metalwork               | 218        | 58.83     | 1          | 83.00     | 217        | 58.71     | 186     | 60.44<br>(60.44)  | 4           | 83.00<br>(83.00)  | 182              | 59.95<br>(59.95)  |
| 446 Building & Construction | 756        | 61.6      | 48         | 54.58     | 708        | 62.08     | 610     | 69.72<br>(69.72)  | 34          | 64.29<br>(64.29)  | 576              | 70.04<br>(70.04)  |
| 447 Power Mechanics         | 255        | 63.09     | 15         | 22.53     | 240        | 65.63     | 276     | 63.12<br>(63.12)  | 4           | 47.00<br>(47.00)  | 272              | 63.35<br>(63.35)  |
| 448 Electricity             | 438        | 73.04     | 21         | 57.10     | 418        | 73.75     | 276     | 72.04<br>(72.08)  | 17          | 65.76<br>(65.76)  | 259              | 72.45<br>(72.45)  |
| 449 Drawing & Design        | 1,309      | 65.97     | 8          | 42.63     | 1,301      | 66.11     | 1,037   | 67.45<br>(67.45)  | 8           | 34.75<br>(34.75)  | 1,029            | 67.70<br>(67.70)  |
| 450 Aviation Technology     | 200        | 60.84     | 19         | 53.84     | 181        | 61.57     | 200     | 61.1<br>(61.10)   | 19          | 54.68<br>(54.68)  | 181              | 61.77<br>(61.77)  |
| 451 Computer Studies        | 30,897     | 127.61    | 13,250     | 124.93    | 17,647     | 129.63    | 25,704  | 127.82<br>(63.91) | 10,809      | 123.94<br>(61.97) | 14,895           | 130.64<br>(65.32) |
| 501 French                  | 5,049      | 52.59     | 3,208      | 52.46     | 1,841      | 52.94     | 4,225   | 56.66<br>(56.66)  | 2,776       | 56.52<br>(56.52)  | 1,449            | 56.95<br>(56.95)  |
| 502 German                  | 1,267      | 61.29     | 793        | 61.69     | 474        | 60.85     | 992     | 59.73<br>(59.73)  | 620         | 59.04<br>(59.04)  | 372              | 60.88<br>(60.88)  |
| 503 Arabic                  | 9,291      | 53.59     | 3,452      | 52.62     | 5,839      | 54.45     | 8,136   | 53.75<br>(53.75)  | 3,000       | 53.62<br>(53.62)  | 5,136            | 53.83<br>(53.83)  |
| 504 Kenyan Sign Language    | 711        | 59.35     | 371        | 59.31     | 340        | 59.38     | 625     | 52.85<br>(52.85)  | 300         | 51.63<br>(51.63)  | 325              | 53.98<br>(53.98)  |
| 511 Music                   | 2,302      | 103.5     | 1,440      | 102.82    | 862        | 104.63    | 1,901   | 107.09<br>(53.55) | 1,194       | 106.00<br>(53.00) | 707              | 108.94<br>(54.47) |
| 565 Business Studies        | 346,819    | 75.65     | 175,152    | 73.93     | 171,670    | 77.42     | 304,423 | 78.27<br>(39.14)  | 155,172     | 75.96<br>(37.98)  | 149,251          | 80.68<br>(40.34)  |

**Table 5: Overall National Grade Summary for 2021**

| GENDER     | A     | A-    | B+     | B      | B-     | C+      | C       | C-      | D+      | D       | D-      | E       |
|------------|-------|-------|--------|--------|--------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| FEMALE     | 349   | 2,154 | 5,199  | 10,467 | 17,891 | 29,026  | 41,394  | 51,213  | 58,506  | 73,909  | 93,466  | 19,573  |
| MALE       | 789   | 3,819 | 8,264  | 14,578 | 21,792 | 30,817  | 39,951  | 48,193  | 57,849  | 72,007  | 93,798  | 26,578  |
| TOTAL      | 1,138 | 5,973 | 13,463 | 25,045 | 39,683 | 59,843  | 81,345  | 99,406  | 116,355 | 145,916 | 187,264 | 46,151  |
| %          | 0.14  | 0.72  | 1.62   | 3.02   | 4.78   | 7.21    | 9.80    | 11.98   | 14.02   | 17.58   | 22.57   | 5.56    |
| CUM. TOTAL | 1,138 | 7,111 | 20,574 | 45,619 | 85,302 | 145,145 | 226,490 | 325,896 | 442,251 | 588,167 | 775,431 | 821,582 |
| CUM.%      | 0.14  | 0.86  | 2.48   | 5.50   | 10.28  | 17.49   | 27.29   | 39.27   | 53.29   | 70.87   | 93.44   | 99.00   |

**Table 6: Grade Counts for Candidates with Special Needs and Disabilities in the 2021 KCSE Examination**

| GENDER     | A    | A-   | B+   | B    | B-   | C+    | C     | C-    | D+    | D     | D-    | E     |
|------------|------|------|------|------|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| FEMALE     | 0    | 1    | 5    | 4    | 27   | 31    | 63    | 64    | 98    | 227   | 333   | 108   |
| MALE       | 2    | 9    | 22   | 26   | 41   | 55    | 70    | 107   | 129   | 214   | 330   | 129   |
| TOTAL      | 2    | 10   | 27   | 30   | 68   | 86    | 133   | 171   | 227   | 441   | 663   | 237   |
| %          | 0.09 | 0.47 | 1.27 | 1.42 | 3.21 | 4.06  | 6.27  | 8.07  | 10.71 | 20.80 | 31.27 | 11.18 |
| CUM. TOTAL | 2    | 12   | 39   | 69   | 137  | 223   | 356   | 527   | 754   | 1,195 | 1,858 | 2,095 |
| CUM %      | 0.09 | 0.57 | 1.84 | 3.25 | 6.46 | 10.52 | 16.79 | 24.86 | 35.57 | 56.37 | 87.64 | 98.82 |

- 2.2.1 This report covers two areas of the year 2021 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, R. Ngumbao, E. Ngota, Dr. T. Owiti, J. Kirichia, O. Hassan, D. Olunga, 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, MBS**  
**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

www.freekcsepastpapers.com