



SPEECH BY THE CABINET SECRETARY FOR  
EDUCATION, JULIUS MIGOS OGAMBA, EBS ON THE  
OCCASION OF THE RELEASE OF THE 2025 KENYA  
CERTIFICATE OF SECONDARY EDUCATION  
EXAMINATION RESULTS ON 9<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY, 2026, AT  
A.I.C. CHEBISAAS BOYS SECONDARY SCHOOL,  
ELDORET



- The Principal Secretary, State Department for Basic Education, Ministry of Education, Amb. Prof. Julius Bitok;
- The Chairperson of the Departmental Committee on Education, Hon. Julius Melly;
- The Chairperson of the Senate Standing Committee on Education, Sen. Betty Montet;
- The Chairperson of the Kenya National Examinations Council, Prof. Julius Nyabundi;
- The Chief Executive Officer of the Kenya National Examinations Council, Dr. David Njengere;



- The Acting Chief Executive Officer of the Teachers Service Commission, Dr. Evaleen Mitei;
- Distinguished Guests;
- Ladies and Gentlemen;

**Good morning!**

Examination and assessment have always stood at the heart of education. They serve not merely as a measure of learning but as a compass that guides the nation's future. As the Kenya Certificate of Secondary Education (KCSE) examination draws to a close with the phasing out of the



8-4-4 system, we recognize its historic role in shaping generations of learners. Yet, education must always evolve to meet the demands of a dynamic world.

The transition to Competency Based Assessment marks a decisive step forward — one that shifts our focus from rote memorization to the demonstration of skills, values, and knowledge that empower learners to thrive in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

It is in this spirit of transition that we gather today to mark the release of the results of the third-to-last cohort to undertake the KCSE examination, even as we celebrate the progression of the very first cohort under Competency



Based Education into Senior School. This moment stands as both a culmination of a long-standing tradition and the dawn of a new era, affirming our collective commitment to assessments that not only measure achievement but also nurture the competencies required for the future.

**Ladies and Gentlemen,**

I wish to extend my profound gratitude to all sector stakeholders who, year after year, have demonstrated unwavering dedication in preparing our KCSE candidates and ensuring the successful and seamless administration of the national examinations. Their commitment has



safeguarded the credibility of our examination system and upheld the high standards that define our education sector.

Let me take this opportunity to acknowledge the concerted efforts of colleagues across the Ministries of Education, Interior and National Administration, and Information, Communication and the Digital Economy, as well as the Teachers Service Commission, during the administration of the 2025 KCSE examination series. In the same vein, may I commend all centre managers, supervisors, and invigilators for their integrity and diligence that have made this examination cycle a success.



Today, as we release results for **993,226 candidates**, I wish to register my sincere appreciation to His Excellency the President, Dr. William Samoei Ruto, for his trust and steadfast support in enabling our team to implement critical reforms in the education sector. These reforms are geared towards transforming the delivery of learning and teaching, in order to nurture and build every learner's potential and to equip them with the skills and competencies necessary for life in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

**Ladies and Gentlemen,**

As we gather here today, the Government has employed a record **100,000** teachers since 2023, with **24,000** of



them recruited this year. A record total of **25,000** teachers have also been promoted. To better prepare our teachers for the roll out of Competency-Based Education, our teachers have been retooled and re-oriented to the new system. The primary objective is to strengthen teaching and learning in our schools, and consequently, improve our educational outcomes.

In order to enhance access, we are expanding infrastructure across our basic education institutions. In the Financial Year 2024/2025, we built a record **23,000** classrooms across the country to support the transition of the first Grade 9 cohort. This year, we will construct 1,600 laboratories in



various Senior Schools in order to support practical learning.

To anchor these reforms on a solid legal and policy foundation, we will soon be presenting a Sessional Paper and eleven bills to Parliament for consideration and enactment. Once passed, these will help entrench efficiency and effectiveness in our education system and affirm its competitiveness globally.

We also continue to support our learners with capitation, in fulfillment of the Government's obligation to provide free and compulsory basic education. For this school year, for example, we released the sum of **Ksh. 44.2 billion** as



capitation for learners in all public basic education institutions, ahead of the school opening. **This is the first time in over ten years that capitation has been disbursed before schools opening.** Heads of Institutions are expected to ensure prudent use of these public resources for the benefit of learners, and to desist from imposing any extra levies or fees.

The candidates whose results we release today are now expected to transit to tertiary education, either in universities or TVET institutions. At the tertiary level, we are implementing the Student-Centred Funding Model by which the Government supports students and trainees by way of scholarships and loans, depending on the level of



need. To enhance access and affordability, fees for academic programmes in our public universities have also been rationalized by 15% to 40%, so that the fees for university programmes range from **Ksh. 5,800** to **Ksh. 75,000** per semester.

I call upon all eligible candidates to apply for placement to programmes of their choice once the process starts.

## **GENERAL DEMOGRAPHICS OF THE 2025 KCSE EXAMINATION CANDIDATES**

I now wish to provide an overview of the performance of the 2025 KCSE examination cohort.



## OVERALL CANDIDATURE DETAILS

During the 2025 KCSE examination, **993,226** candidates sat the examination compared to **962,512** candidates in 2024. This represents an increase by **30,714** candidates (**3.19%**);

Of the **993,226** candidates who sat the 2025 KCSE examination, **492,012** were male, while **501,214** were female, representing **49.54%** and **50.46%** of the total candidature respectively. This is the second year in a row since inception of KCSE examination that female candidates are more than male candidates.



However, **ten (10)** counties had a significant entry of more male than female candidates. These were Garissa (66.24%:33.76%), Mandera (65.09%:34.91%), Wajir (60.10%: 39.90%), Turkana (57.67%: 42.33%), Narok (53.10%: 46.90%), Samburu (52.43%: 47.57%), Mombasa (52.08%: 47.92%), Homabay (52.00%: 48.00%), Nyamira (51.97%: 48.03%) and West Pokot (51.84%: 48.16%).

**Fourteen (14)** Counties had a significant entry of more female than male candidates. These were Vihiga (55.905%: 44.10%), Elgeyo Marakwet (55.06%: 44.94%), Kisumu (53.87%: 46.15%), Kiambu (53.23%: 46.77%), Kwale (53.19%: 46.81%), Nairobi (52.90%:



47.10%), Kakamega (52.47%: 47.53%), Meru (52.22%: 47.78%), Isiolo (52.21%: 47.79%), Uasin Gishu (52.14%: 47.86%), Machakos (51.87%: 48.13%), Kitui (51.74%: 48.26%), Busia (51.72%: 48.28%) and Tharaka Nithi (51.57%: 48.43%)

The following **twenty-three (23)** counties recorded near perfect gender parity: Lamu (49.11%:50.895), Marsabit (49.15%:50.85%), Embu (49.24%:50.76%), Tana River (49.25%: 50.75%), Laikipia (49.27%: 50.73%), Kisii (49.31%:50.69%), Baringo (49.34%:50.66%), Migori (49.48%:50.66%), Trans Nzoia (49.82%:50.18%), Nandi (49.89%:50.11%), Kajiado (49.99%:50.01%), Taita Taveta (50.27%:49.73%), Kericho (50.38%:49.62%),



Siaya (50.45%:40.55%), Kilifi (50.53%:49.47%), Bomet (50.59%:49.41%), Nyeri (50.71%:49.29%), Nyandarua (50.71%:49.29%), Muranga (50.92%:49.08%), Nakuru (50.95%:49.05%), Kirinyaga (50.98%:49.02%), Bungoma (51.24%:48.76%) and Makueni (51.48%:48.52%).

## CANDIDATES' AGE PROFILES

The number of candidates aged 16 years and below increased from **20,546 (2.13%)** in the year 2024 to **26,391 (2.65%)** in the year 2025.



The highest percentage of candidates registered for the 2025 KCSE examination were within the appropriate age bracket of between 17 to 19 years, constituting **716,048 (72.02%)** of the total candidature.

### **PERFORMANCE PER SUBJECT**

In the year 2025 KCSE examination, **seventeen (17)** subjects recorded a significant improvement in performance, similar to the number of subjects that recorded a significant improvement in 2024. **Eleven (11)** subjects recorded a significant decline in performance in the year 2025 compared to **ten (10)** in 2024.



## PERFORMANCE PER GENDER

Female candidates recorded better mean score performance than male candidates in the following six subjects: English, Kiswahili, Kenyan Sign Language, Home Science, CRE and Art & Design.

Male candidates recorded better mean score performance than female candidates in **11** subjects: Mathematics Alternatives A and B, Biology and Biology for the Blind, Chemistry, General Science, History & Government, Geography, IRE, Building & Construction and Business Studies.



The performance of male candidates was comparable to their female counterparts in the following **seven (7)** subjects: Physics, Agriculture, Computer Studies, French, German, Arabic and Music. The number of female candidates registered in the following **five (5)** subjects was too small to allow for a meaningful comparison of performance with male candidates: Metalwork, Power Mechanics, Electricity, Drawing & Design and Aviation Technology.

## OVERALL PERFORMANCE IN THE 2025 KCSE EXAMINATION



As has been the case since the 2023 KCSE examination, the 2025 KCSE examination results have been graded using the reviewed grading system in which the overall grade at KCSE examination considers Mathematics, the best-performed language among English/Kiswahili/Kenyan Sign Language, and the best performed five subjects.

There were **1,932 (0.19%)** candidates who obtained an overall mean grade A (plain) in the year 2025 KCSE examination. This is an improvement as compared to **1,693 (0.18%)** candidates in 2024.



The number of candidates with direct university entry qualification of mean grade C+ and above was **270,715 (27.18%)** in the year 2025 KCSE examination. This is an improvement compared to **246,391 (25.53%)** in the 2024.

The number of candidates with grade C- (minus) and above was **507,131 (50.92%)** in the year 2025 KCSE examination compared to **476,889 (49.41%)** in 2024.

The number of candidates attaining a pass grade (grade D+ and above) was **634,082 (63.67%)** in the year 2025 KCSE examination compared to **605,774 (62.76%)** in 2024.



National schools produced the highest number of candidates with an overall mean grade of **A (1,526)** followed by Extra County schools (**197**) and Private Schools (**185**).

Sub-County Schools produced more candidates in the category of **C+ and above** compared to County Schools, accounting for **72,699** and **36,600** respectively.

## **EXAMINATION IRREGULARITIES**

I wish to reiterate our stand on the integrity of examinations. In November last year, we indicated that



there were reported cases under investigation and that action would be taken upon conclusion of the investigation. At the conclusion of the KCSE examination, **1,180** candidates were found to have been involved in examination irregularities. Consequently, and in line with the applicable law and regulations, their examination results have been cancelled.

## **ACCESSING THE 2025 KCSE EXAMINATION RESULTS**

Individual candidates' examination results will be accessed online through a link on the KNEC website or directly through the URL: [results.knec.ac.ke](https://results.knec.ac.ke) . Candidates will be required to enter their **index number** and **any one of their**



name(s) as per the registration data for the 2025 KCSE examination. The results will be live and accessible immediately after the end of this function.

It is now my humble duty and privilege to declare the 2025 KCSE examination results officially released. I wish all candidates success in their future endeavours.

*Thank you and May God Bless you all.*