

Every child is a National Asset

STATE OF THE SYSTEM READINESS FOR THE 2021 NATIONAL SENIOR CERTIFICATE (NSC) EXAMINATION

8 October 2021



basic education
Department:
Basic Education
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



Read to Lead
A Reading Nation is a Leading Nation

THE BIG COUNTDOWN

19 DAYS TO GO

Culmination of:

- *13 years of schooling*
- *an estimated 2500 days of teaching and learning*
- *estimated 16 800 hours learning engagement*

PURPOSE

To present the state of the examination system readiness for the 2021 NSC examinations

PRESENTATION OUTLINE

- a) Introduction and Background
- b) Size and Scope of the Examination
- c) Writing of the 2021 Examinations
- d) Marking
- e) Release of Result
- f) Conclusion

INTRODUCTION



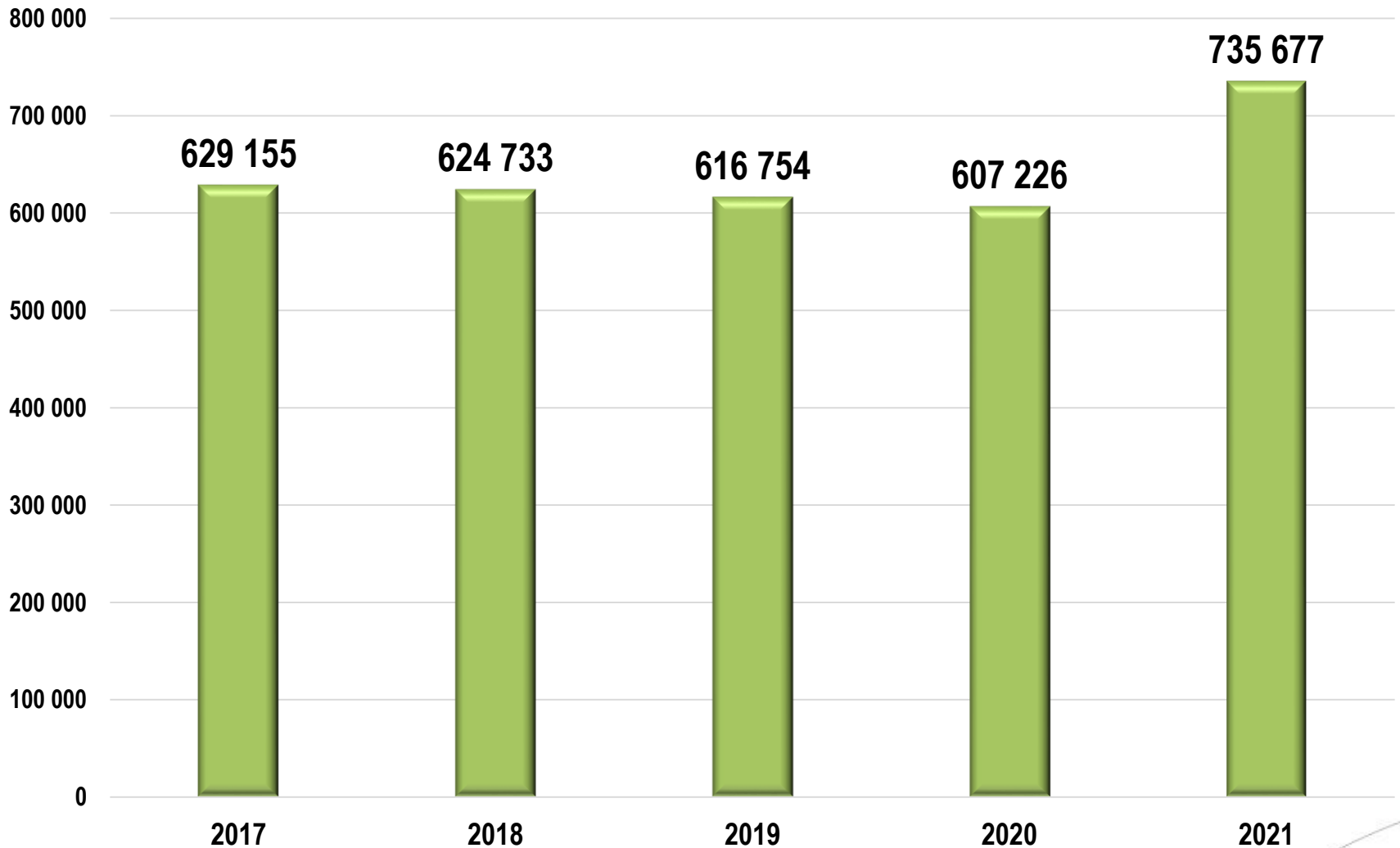
INTRODUCTION

- a) The Class of 2021 had to navigate a complex and hazardous terrain to arrive at the 2021 NSC examinations.
- b) The November 2021 National Senior Certificate (NSC) examination will commence officially on Wednesday, 27 October 2021 and conclude on Tuesday, 07 December 2021.
- c) The third examination sitting to be conducted under the Covid-19 environment after the Combined November 2020 and the May/June 2021 examinations.
- d) The DBE has consistently had to adapt and make changes to mitigate the limitations imposed by the Covid-19 pandemic.

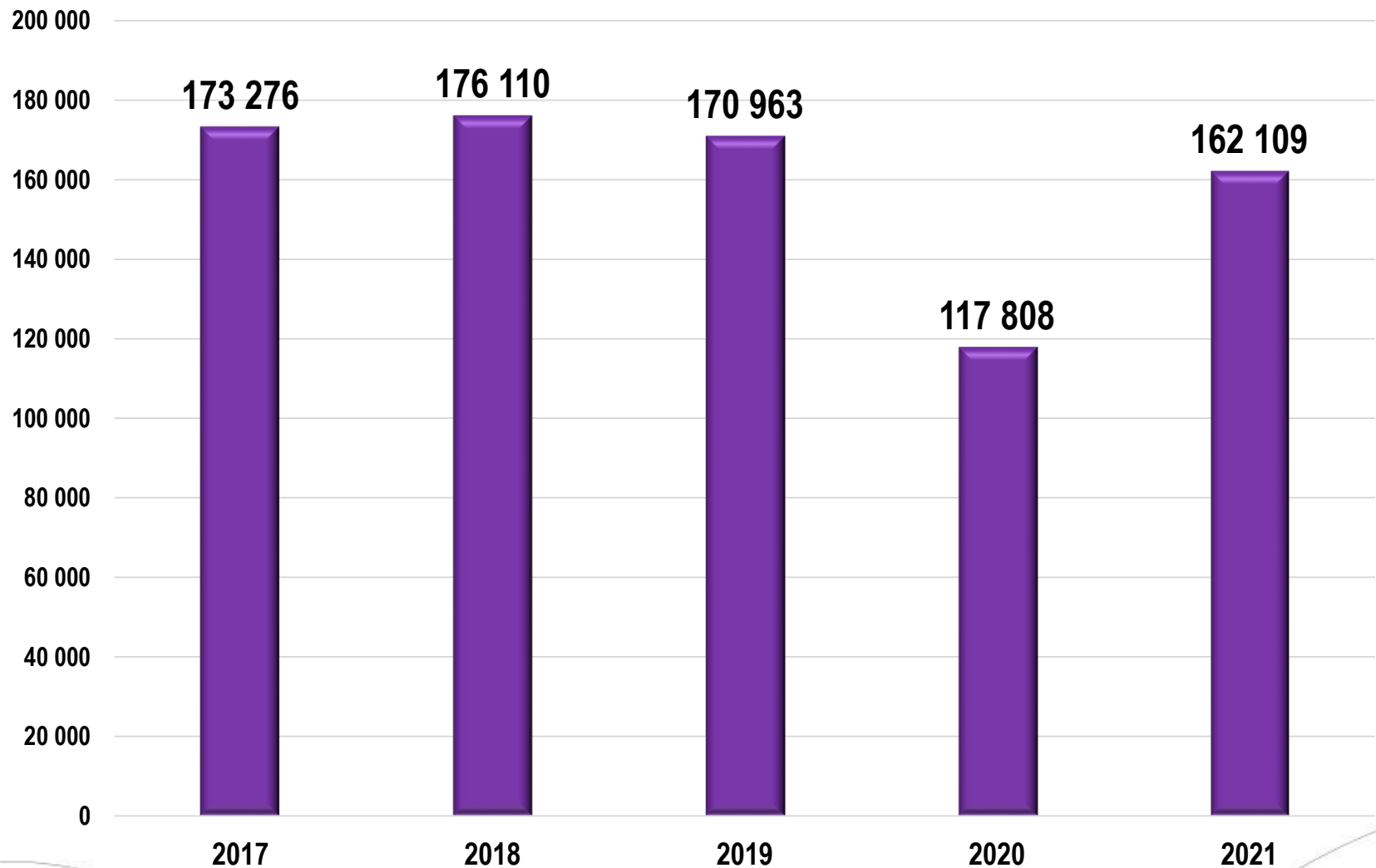
SIZE AND SCOPE



NSC Full Time Enrolments 2017 to 2021



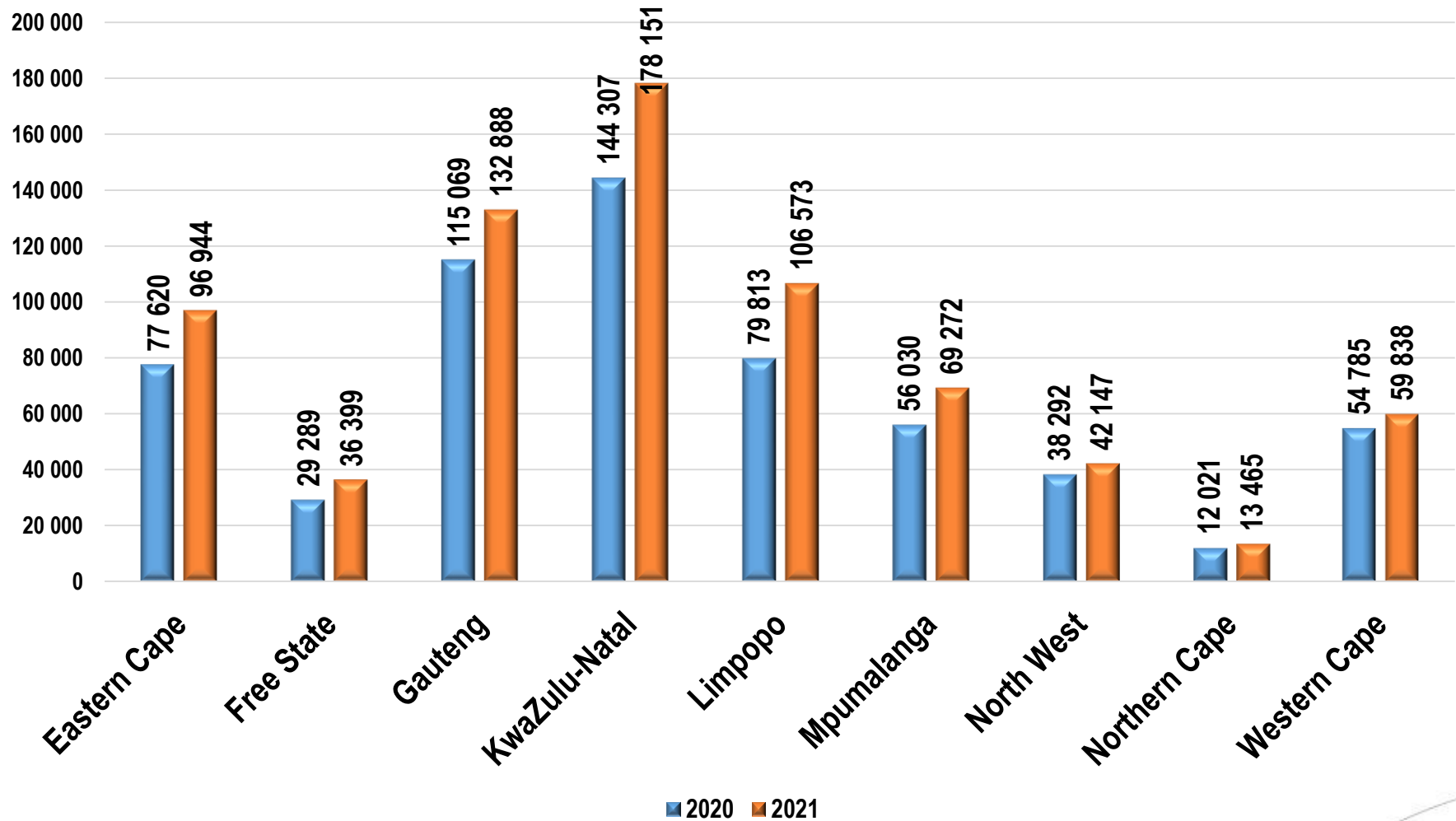
NSC Part Time Enrolments 2017 to 2021



Full-Time Enrolments (2020 and 2021)

Province	2020	2021	Difference
Eastern Cape	77 620	96 944	19 324
Free State	29 289	36 399	7 110
Gauteng	115 069	132 888	17 819
KwaZulu-Natal	144 307	178 151	33 844
Limpopo	79 813	106 573	26 760
Mpumalanga	56 030	69 272	13 242
North West	38 292	42 147	3 855
Northern Cape	12 021	13 465	1 444
Western Cape	54 785	59 838	5 053
National	607 226	735 677	128 451

Full-Time Enrolments (2020 and 2021)

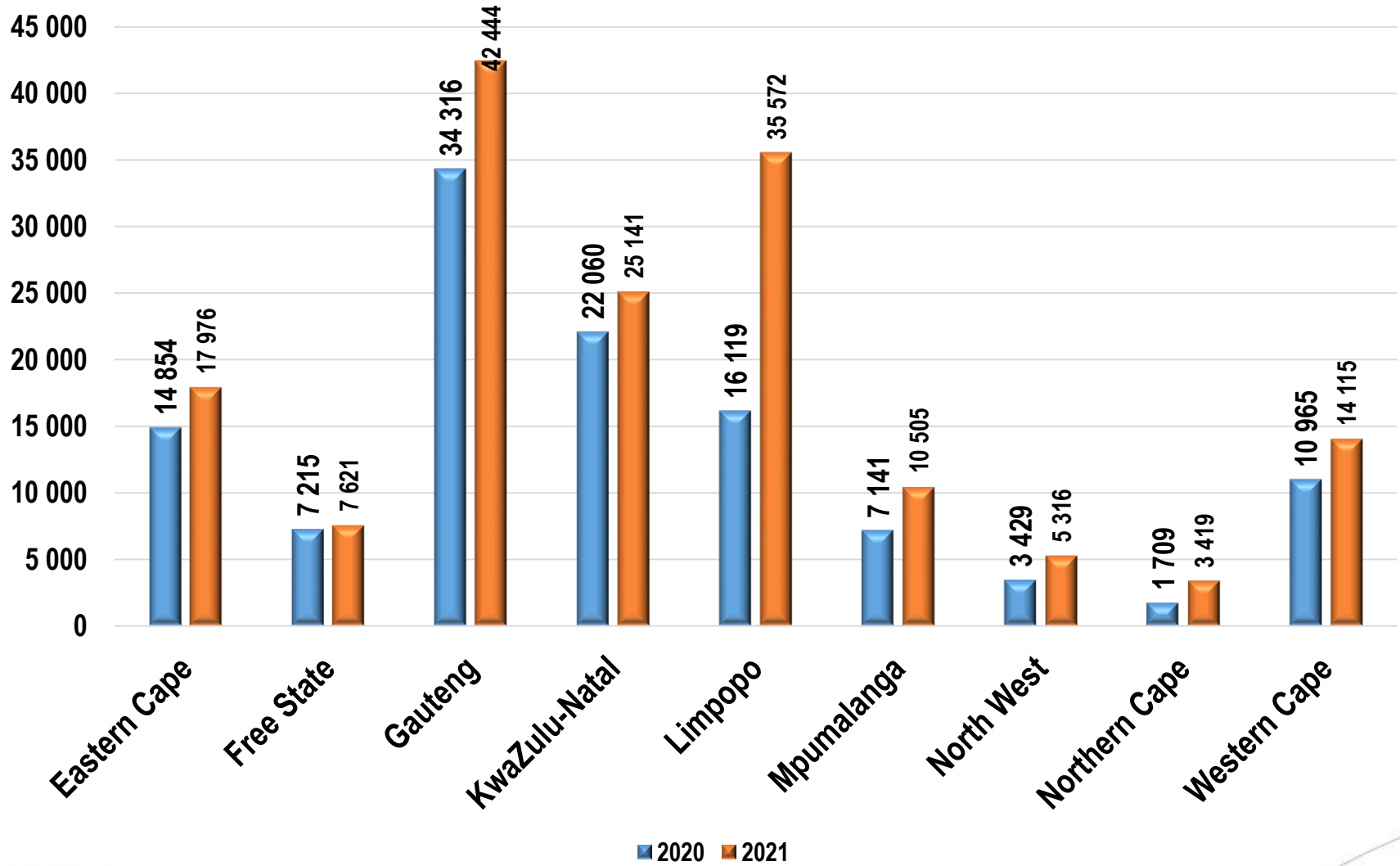


Part-Time Enrolment (2020 and 2021)

Province	2020	2021	Difference
Eastern Cape	14 854	17 976	3 122
Free State	7 215	7 621	406
Gauteng	34 316	42 444	8 128
KwaZulu-Natal	22 060	25 141	3 081
Limpopo	16 119	35 572	19 453
Mpumalanga	7 141	10 505	3 364
North West	3 429	5 316	1 887
Northern Cape	1 709	3 419	1 710
Western Cape	10 965	14 115	3 150
National	117 808	162 109	44 301



Part-Time Enrolment (2020 and 2021)



Subject Enrolments in the 11 Key Subjects (2020 and 2021)

Subject	2020	2021	Difference
Accounting	95 864	109 054	13 190
Agricultural Sciences	99 942	128 339	28 397
Business Studies	215 002	251 635	36 633
Economics	123 471	144 307	20 836
English First Add. Language	493 829	611 494	117 665
Geography	298 020	369 457	71 437
History	181 220	235 580	54 360
Life Sciences	330 293	395 902	65 609
Mathematical Literacy	354 966	454 630	99 664
Mathematics	241 013	267 130	26 117
Physical Sciences	179 415	202 753	23 338

NSC Progressed Candidates 2020/2021

Province	2020	2021	Difference
Eastern Cape	9 759	7 322	-2 437
Free State	5 258	3 603	-1 655
Gauteng	11 655	7 978	-3 677
KwaZulu-Natal	15 447	13 905	-1 542
Limpopo	12 050	15 515	3 465
Mpumalanga	6 564	6 893	329
North West	4 189	2 025	-2 164
Northern Cape	2 427	991	-1 436
Western Cape	3 216	2 172	-1 044
National	70 565	60 404	-10 161

Number of Examination Centres

Province	Public Schools	Independent Centres	Designated Centres	Part-Time Centres
Eastern Cape	890	51	0	144
Free State	320	18	5	275
Gauteng	667	226	5	374
Kwazulu-Natal	1 699	59	3	1 603
Limpopo	1 284	44	280	329
Mpumalanga	522	35	0	524
North West	418	20	5	343
Northern Cape	138	7	2	138
Western Cape	388	66	26	400
National	6 326	526	326	4 130



WRITING



Writing

- a) All candidates including those who tested positive for Covid-19 or display Covid-19 symptoms will be accommodated during the examination
- b) Isolation rooms at examination centres will be used for the writing by candidates who test positive for Covid-19 or display symptoms during writing.
- c) Some PEDs have also established designated centres for use by candidates who test positive for Covid-19 or display symptoms during writing.
- d) All candidates will sign the pledge at a public ceremony to confirm their non-participation in acts of dishonesty during the writing of the examination.
- e) Parents and learners will also sign a Commitment Agreement where they bind themselves to support the writing of an irregularity free examination.



AT ALL EXAM VENUES

- a) Strict Screening
- b) Social Distancing
- c) Hand sanitisation
- d) Wearing of masks

Accommodation

- (a) Learners with Special Educational Needs (LSEN) will be accommodated in the provision of question papers adapted (deaf), brailled , large print and audio-versioning (blind)
- (b) Various concessions have also been granted to LSEN to ensure they are not disadvantaged in the writing of the examination.
- (c) These concessions include extra time, scribes/readers, rest breaks, prompters, adaptive devices, etc.

Monitoring

- a) The DBE and PEDs will monitor both the writing and the marking of the November 2021 NSC Examination.
- b) PED monitors will include provincial , district and circuit officials
- c) Monitoring is aligned to the risk profiles of centres.
- d) Resident monitors will be deployed to all high risk centres, including takeover by head office/districts.
- e) Each PED to have a monitoring coverage of **not less than 70%**.
- f) On-line monitoring tools are also used in certain PEDs.
- f) In addition total of 95 DBE monitors will be deployed across the provinces to verify the monitoring conducted by PEDs.
- g) Reports are consolidated at the DBE on a daily basis.

MARKING



Markers

PED	TOTAL MARKERS
EC	5 912
FS	1 658
GP	9 956
KZN	7 053
LP	6 760
MP	4 263
NC	782
NW	2 682
WC	2 530
TOTAL	41 596



Marking Centres

PED	No. of Marking Centres required
EC	25
FS	23
GP	35
KZN	29
LP	28
MP	21
NC	3
NW	18
WC	11
DBE	01
TOTAL	194



Marking

- a) Marking scheduled to commence on 8 December and end 22 December 2021
- b) Increase number of marking centres to ensure better compliance to Covid-19 protocols
- c) All Marking Centres will implement stringent Covid-19 protocols
 - A compliance officer
 - Daily screening
 - Masks, sanitizing, social distancing
 - PEDs will arrange for back-up Marking Centres in case an outbreak occurs at a specific centre.
 - Markers are advised to vaccinate to reduce the risks.

RELEASE OF RESULTS



Release of Results

Activity	Date
a) Marks capture completed	27 Dec 2021
a) National Examinations Irregularities Committee (NEIC) meeting	2/3 Jan 2022
a) Pre-standardisation meeting (DBE)	4/5 Jan 2022
a) Umalusi Standardisation	6 Jan 2022
a) Umalusi Approval of Results	14 Jan 2022
a) Ministerial Announcement	20 Jan 2022
a) Provincial Release of Results	21 Jan 2022



CONCLUSION



Conclusion

- a) The DBE is appealing to the South African public to assist the Department in stamping out the evil of examination breaches.
- b) The DBE and the PEDs are leaving no stone unturned in strengthening their security measures across the value chain.
- c) We need the support of parents, teachers, principals and all members of the public to alert the Department of any irregular practice that may surface on the social media or on any other platform.
- d) The DBE is doing whatever is necessary to ensure that the Class of 2021 is allowed to write the 2021 examination under the most comfortable, convenient and least stressful circumstances.
- e) We need to join hands as the South African nation and assist the Class of 2021 to actualize their dreams.

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Thank you!

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