



**MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
EXAMINATION AND ASSESSMENT DIVISION**

THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE BAHAMAS

**NATIONAL EXAMINATIONS
PRESS RELEASE
BJC & BGCSE**

2020

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N.B. Statistics are based upon information available at the time of publication of this report.

INTRODUCTION

The National Examinations are designed to recognize positive achievement, taking into account varying and different abilities, rather than relative levels of failure. These exams can also be used for matriculation and employment purposes and provide critical and important information for policy makers, educational leaders, school administrators and other interested parties.

The intent of this report is not to rate schools but to provide information that can give guidance for forward planning, remediation and improved utilization of human and physical resources.

It is realized that public examination results have a direct effect upon the education system of a country. The National Exams attempt to ensure that the assessment procedures reflect relevancy to the Bahamian situation and at the same time maintain creditable standards. These standards are no less exacting than those of overseas examinations, which have been respected and relied upon for over eighty years or more.

The Examination and Assessment Division is aware that the new challenges introduced by COVID-19 could have impacted the performance of candidates who opted to sit the national examinations. However, we are confident that the results are valid and reliable.

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
NATIONAL EXAMINATIONS REPORT
BAHAMAS JUNIOR CERTIFICATE (BJC)
BAHAMAS GENERAL CERTIFICATE OF SECONDARY EDUCATION (BGCSE)

GRADING SYSTEM

The national examinations are all graded on a seven (7) point scale, i.e., A – G. All grades indicate a measure of positive achievement. Grade 'A' denotes the highest level of performance while grade 'G' denotes the lowest level.

The national examinations assess candidates' grasp of key concepts, knowledge, skills and competencies required by the syllabus. Here is a general guide to what each of the seven grades indicates:

- A** Knowledge - specific, appropriate and comprehensive; evidence of exceptional comprehension skills, and outstanding high order skills – problem solving and critical thinking skills
- B** Knowledge - specific, appropriate and comprehensive; evidence of exceptional comprehension skills; very good high-order, problem-solving, critical thinking skills.
- C** Knowledge - specific and appropriate to the task –evidence of sound comprehension skills; good high – order, problem-solving skills.
- D** Knowledge - specific and appropriate to the task – comprehension evident, critical thinking / problem-solving skills satisfactory.
- E** General basic knowledge exhibited, also evidence of ability to comprehend this knowledge and limited problem solving skills.
- F** Basic knowledge still limited – goes beyond the recall, recognition level to show some understanding of this basic knowledge; very limited problem– solving skills evident.
- G** Limited basic knowledge about the tasks required and only at the recall or recognition level – with no comprehension and no problem-solving skills evident.

The 'U' grade indicates that the candidate has failed to show positive achievement in the subject.

The seven – point grading scheme ensures a sharper distinction between the qualities of performance at each grade.

The grades can be categorized as follows:

A, B and C **(Above Average)**

D **(Average)**

E, F and G **(Below Average)**



**BAHAMAS
JUNIOR
CERTIFICATE**

2020 BAHAMAS JUNIOR CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION REPORT

The year 2020 marks the twenty-seventh sitting of the Bahamas Junior Certificate examinations since its re-introduction in 1994.

Ten thousand, seven hundred fifty-three (**10,753**) candidates from one hundred sixteen (116) centers were registered to sit the examination. Fifty (50) were government schools while sixty-six (66) centers were independent/private. The number of candidates represents a decrease of 3.62% when compared to 2019, which had a total of eleven thousand, one hundred fifty-seven (11,157) candidates from a total of one hundred twenty-five (125) centers. The total number of subjects offered is thirteen.

The total number of grades awarded in 2020 was 31,878 when compared to 2019, which was 40,701. This represents a decrease of 21.68%.

Again this year, Mathematics and Language Arts were the two most heavily subscribed subjects.

The following list shows the comparison between the number of candidates offering to sit each subject in the 2019 and 2020 BJC examinations.

TOTAL NUMBER OF CANDIDATES	2019		2020		INCREASE %
	11157		10753		-3.62%
SUBJECT	TOTAL	% OF TOTAL	TOTAL	% OF TOTAL	
ENGLISH LANGUAGE	7562	67.78%	5592	52.00%	-26.05%
MATHEMATICS	7360	65.97%	6267	58.28%	-14.85%
GENERAL SCIENCE	3813	34.18%	3070	28.55%	-19.49%
ART	605	5.42%	484	4.50%	-20.00%
CRAFT STUDY	726	6.51%	585	5.44%	-19.42%
HEALTH SCIENCE	6022	53.98%	4547	42.29%	-24.49%
RELIGIOUS STUDIES	5277	47.30%	4063	37.78%	-23.01%
FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCE	671	6.01%	546	5.08%	-18.63%
SOCIAL STUDIES	4621	41.42%	3494	32.49%	-24.39%
TECHNICAL DRAWING	441	3.95%	325	3.02%	-26.30%
LITERATURE	1591	14.26%	1324	12.31%	-16.78%
SPANISH	1600	14.34%	1285	11.95%	-19.69%
FRENCH	412	3.69%	296	2.75%	-28.16%

Six subjects improved this year. They are English Language*, Mathematics*, Art*, Craft Study, Family & Consumer Science and Literature. General Science remains unchanged.

Grade Outcome Statistics

The following list shows the number and percentage of grades awarded in 2016 – 2020 examinations:

YR	GRADES	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	U	TOTAL
2016	NUMBER	3862	6638	8945	7533	5882	3969	2547	2581	41957
	PERCENTAGE	9.20%	15.82%	21.32%	17.95%	14.02%	9.46%	6.07%	6.15%	100.00%
	CUMULATIVE %	9.20%	25.03%	46.35%	64.30%	78.32%	87.78%	93.85%	100.00%	
2017	NUMBER	3834	7042	9408	8043	6045	4511	2954	2566	44403
	PERCENTAGE	8.63%	15.86%	21.19%	18.11%	13.61%	10.16%	6.65%	5.78%	100.00%
	CUMULATIVE %	8.63%	24.49%	45.68%	63.80%	77.41%	87.57%	94.22%	100.00%	
2018	NUMBER	4018	7304	9596	7651	5592	3725	2481	2428	42795
	PERCENTAGE	9.39%	17.07%	22.42%	17.88%	13.07%	8.70%	5.80%	5.67%	100.00%
	CUMULATIVE %	9.39%	26.46%	48.88%	66.76%	79.82%	88.53%	94.33%	100.00%	
2019	NUMBER	3975	6797	8589	7316	5358	3515	2243	2908	40701
	PERCENTAGE	9.77%	16.70%	21.10%	17.97%	13.16%	8.64%	5.51%	7.14%	100.00%
	CUMULATIVE %	9.77%	26.47%	47.57%	65.54%	78.71%	87.34%	92.86%	100.00%	
2020	NUMBER	2727	5068	6597	5463	4406	3207	2150	2260	31878
	PERCENTAGE	8.55%	15.90%	20.69%	17.14%	13.82%	10.06%	6.74%	7.09%	100.00%
	CUMULATIVE %	8.55%	24.45%	45.15%	62.28%	76.11%	86.17%	92.91%	100.00%	

BJC, like the BGCSE, is designed so that at least 80% of the candidates achieve grades A – G. Again this year, candidates have more than met this goal, with 86.17% achieving grades A – F.

BJC Grade Outcome Statistics by Gender

YR	GRADES	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	U	TOTAL
2016	FEMALES	2390	3892	4863	3900	2917	1885	1141	964	21952
	MALES	1472	2746	4082	3633	2965	2084	1406	1617	20005
	TOTAL	3862	6638	8945	7533	5882	3969	2547	2581	41957
2017	FEMALES	2455	4266	5200	4271	3063	2110	1285	899	23549
	MALES	1379	2776	4208	3772	2982	2401	1669	1667	20854
	TOTAL	3834	7042	9408	8043	6045	4511	2954	2566	44403
2018	FEMALES	2546	4381	5284	3991	2656	1772	1067	976	22673
	MALES	1472	2923	4312	3660	2936	1953	1414	1452	20122
	TOTAL	4018	7304	9596	7651	5592	3725	2481	2428	42795
2019	FEMALES	2612	4123	4842	3819	2615	1596	985	1174	21766
	MALES	1363	2674	3747	3497	2743	1919	1258	1734	18935
	TOTAL	3975	6797	8589	7316	5358	3515	2243	2908	40701
2020	FEMALES	1743	3046	3724	2948	2287	1626	1061	1056	17491
	MALES	984	2022	2873	2515	2119	1581	1089	1204	14387
	TOTAL	2727	5068	6597	5463	4406	3207	2150	2260	31878

There was a decrease in the overall candidature due to a global pandemic and start and stop of the administration of the national examinations. Consequently, it resulted in a decrease in the total number of grades awarded.

The following table compares the percentage performance between females and males. It analyzes 2019 and 2020.

		A	B	C	D	E	F	G	U
2019	Female	12.00%	18.94%	22.25%	17.55%	12.01%	7.33%	4.53%	5.39%
	Male	7.20%	14.12%	19.79%	18.47%	14.49%	10.13%	6.64%	9.16%
		A	B	C	D	E	F	G	U
2020	Female	9.97%	17.41%	21.29%	16.85%	13.08%	9.30%	6.07%	6.04%
	Male	6.84%	14.05%	19.97%	17.48%	14.73%	10.99%	7.57%	8.37%

Overall, females performed better, with higher percentages at grades A – C and lower percentages at grades E – U.

Similar to last year, males outnumbered females at D.

Negatively, females' performance when compared to last year declined. Percentages at A – D decreased and those at E – U increased.

The same argument can almost be said about males' performance, except they improved their performance by increasing their percentage at C and decreasing their percentage at U.

**CENTERS THAT HAVE IMPROVED IN GRADE POINT AVERAGE WHEN
COMPARED TO 2019**

ISLAND	CENTRE	ISLAND	CENTRE	
ACKLINS	Acklins High	GRAND BAHAMA	Dominion Technical School	
			Freeport Private	
			Lucaya International School	
ANDROS	Central Andros Private	NEW PROVIDENCE	Achiever's Christian Academy	
	Huntley Christie High School		Atlantic College	
	South Andros High		C. R. Walker Senior High	
			C. V. Bethel Senior High	
			Cyber Tech Career College	
BIMINI	Gateway Christian Academy		Discovery Learning	
			H. O. Nash Junior High	
			Home School	
ELEUTHERA	Deep Creek Middle School		Hope Academy	
	Eleuthera Private		New Providence Classical	
	North Eleuthera High		Noble Preparatory	
	Windermere High School		PACE	
			St. Andrew's High	
EXUMA	Staniel Cay All Age		St. Augustine's College	
			South Haven Christian School	
			The Leadership Academy	
LONG ISLAND	North Long Island High		SAN SALVADOR	San Salvador High School

*** Denotes a change of 0.03 or less**

THE NUMBER OF CANDIDATES RECEIVING A MINIMUM OF FIVE OR MORE BJC'S WITH GRADE C OR ABOVE

In 2020, a total of one thousand, eighty-three (**1083**) candidates received a grade of C or higher in five or more subjects. This represents 10.72% of the overall candidature. There were one thousand, five hundred one (**1501**) candidates in 2019; one thousand, six hundred (**1600**) candidates in 2018; one thousand, four hundred eighty-four (**1484**) candidates in 2017; and one thousand five hundred fourteen (**1514**) candidates in 2016.

THE NUMBER OF CANDIDATES RECEIVING A MINIMUM OF FIVE SUBJECTS OR MORE WITH GRADE 'D' OR ABOVE.

In 2020, a total of one thousand, six hundred four (**1604**) candidates achieved a minimum of grade D in at least five subjects. This represents 14.92% of the overall candidature. There were two thousand, one hundred seventy-six (**2176**) candidates in 2019; two thousand, three hundred nineteen (**2319**) candidates in 2018; two thousand, two hundred sixty-nine (**2269**) in 2017; and two thousand, two hundred forty (**2240**) candidates in 2016.

THE NUMBER OF CANDIDATES WHO RECEIVED THE COMBINATION OF AT LEAST GRADE 'C' IN MATHEMATICS, ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND SCIENCE

Please note, this combination of grades is not an indicator of the overall composition of candidates nor can any generalized statements be made about the candidates. Every year candidates sit the BJC examination over multiple settings. Because of this, a large number of candidates may not sit Mathematics, English Language and Science in the same year. This does not necessarily mean that they do not possess this combination of subjects.

In 2020, a total of nine hundred, forty-nine (**949**) candidates achieved at least a C in Mathematics, English and a Science subject. This represents 8.83% of the overall candidature. There were one thousand, two hundred sixty-seven (**1267**) candidates in 2019; one thousand, five hundred fifty-two (**1552**) candidates in 2018; one thousand, three hundred twenty-six (**1326**) in 2017; and one thousand, five hundred fifty-four (**1554**) candidates in 2016.

BAHAMAS
GENERAL CERTIFICATE
OF SECONDARY
EDUCATION

**BAHAMAS GENERAL CERTIFICATE OF SECONDARY EDUCATION
(BGCSE) EXAMINATION
2020 REPORT**

The year 2020 marks the twenty-eighth sitting of the BGCSE examination since its first administration in 1993. The examination is designed to show what students know, understand and can do after having completed a prescribed course of study, which normally lasts for three years. Subsequently, the grades awarded to students are indicators of their achievements and their potential, and not the sum total of their worth. It is to be noted that there are other factors that have an impact on how candidates perform on the examination. The factors, both internal and external to the system of schooling, mitigate against good performance, and ought to be given some consideration when results are being reviewed.

Six thousand, seventy-three (6073) candidates from one hundred eleven (101) centers were registered to sit the examination. Thirty-nine (39) were government schools, while sixty-two (62) centers were independent/private. The number of candidates represents a decrease of 5.90% when compared to 2019, which had a total of six thousand, four hundred fifty-four (6454) candidates from one hundred eleven (111) centers. The total number of subjects offered is twenty-seven (27).

The grades awarded show students' learning outcomes, which are measured in a variety of different ways, because of the different requirements in individual subjects. Because there was a significant decrease in candidature with many candidates opting not to sit all of their subjects, the number of awarded grades decreased significantly when compared to last year. There were **15017** grades awarded this year. This number represents a decrease of 36.93% when compared to 2019, which had a total of **23810** grades.

The following list shows the number of candidates offering to sit each subject in the 2020 examination compared to 2019.

TOTAL NUMBER OF CANDIDATES	2019		2020		INCREASE %
	6454		6073		-5.90%
SUBJECT	TOTAL	% OF TOTAL	TOTAL	% OF TOTAL	
LITERATURE	785	12.16%	328	5.40%	-58.22%
ENGLISH LANGUAGE	4534	70.25%	3190	52.53%	-29.64%
BOOKKEEPING/ACCOUNTS	512	7.93%	193	3.18%	-62.30%
ECONOMICS	274	4.25%	114	1.88%	-58.39%
OFFICE PROCEDURES	381	5.90%	139	2.29%	-63.52%
KEYBOARDING	900	13.94%	498	8.20%	-44.67%
COMMERCE	446	6.91%	225	3.70%	-49.55%
BIOLOGY	2885	44.70%	1542	25.39%	-46.55%
CHEMISTRY	723	11.20%	348	5.73%	-51.87%
COMBINED SCIENCE	472	7.31%	197	3.24%	-58.26%
PHYSICS	587	9.10%	282	4.64%	-51.96%
MATHEMATICS	4227	65.49%	3705	61.01%	-12.35%
CARPENTRY & JOINERY	202	3.13%	101	1.66%	-50.00%
GRAPHICAL COMMUNICATION	209	3.24%	130	2.14%	-37.80%
ELECTRICAL INSTALLATION	208	3.22%	93	1.53%	-55.29%
AUTO MECHANICS	58	0.90%	21	0.35%	-63.79%
CLOTHING CONSTRUCTION	101	1.56%	55	0.91%	-45.54%
FOOD AND NUTRITION	392	6.07%	204	3.36%	-47.96%
HISTORY	952	14.75%	467	7.69%	-50.95%
GEOGRAPHY	827	12.81%	435	7.16%	-47.40%
RELIGIOUS STUDIES	2068	32.04%	1314	21.64%	-36.46%
ART AND DESIGN	276	4.28%	239	3.94%	-13.41%
ART AND DESIGN B	377	5.84%	270	4.45%	-28.38%
ART AND DESIGN C	26	0.40%	40	0.66%	53.85%
MUSIC	269	4.17%	179	2.95%	-33.46%
SPANISH	888	13.76%	535	8.81%	-39.75%
FRENCH	231	3.58%	173	2.85%	-25.11%

***** Please note that Art and Design has three separate options: Art & Design Scheme A (Painting & Drawing), Art & Design Scheme B (Craft) and Art and Design Scheme C (Combination of Schemes A and B).*****

English Language, Biology, Mathematics and Religious Studies continue to remain the subjects of choice for the vast majority of candidates. Art & Design Scheme C, Auto Mechanics and Clothing Construction remain the least subscribed subjects.

This year, unlike any other, had a large percentage increase of absenteeism due to the novel coronavirus, Covid-19, pandemic and the delayed start, stop and restart of the National Examinations.

All subjects with the exception of Art & Design Scheme C experienced a large decrease in candidature.

Of the twenty-seven subjects tested, improved performance was noted in fifteen subjects. They are Auto Mechanics, Biology, Bookkeeping & Accounts, Chemistry, Clothing Construction, Combined Science, Commerce, Economics, Electrical Installation, Food & Nutrition, Graphical Communication, History, Music*, Office Procedures and Spanish.

English Language and Literature remain unchanged.

BGCSE Grade Outcome Statistics

The following table shows the number and percentage of grades awarded in the 2016 - 2020 examinations.

YR	GRADES	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	U	TOTAL
2016	NUMBER	2109	2853	7084	5443	3308	1887	1179	676	24539
	PERCENTAGE	8.59%	11.63%	28.87%	22.18%	13.48%	7.69%	4.80%	2.75%	100.00%
	CUMULATIVE %	8.59%	20.22%	49.09%	71.27%	84.75%	92.44%	97.25%	100.00%	
2017	NUMBER	2143	3004	7077	5579	3504	1938	1185	710	25140
	PERCENTAGE	8.52%	11.95%	28.15%	22.19%	13.94%	7.71%	4.71%	2.82%	100.00%
	CUMULATIVE %	8.52%	20.47%	48.62%	70.82%	84.75%	92.46%	97.18%	100.00%	
2018	NUMBER	2230	3022	6828	5507	3586	2117	1195	621	25106
	PERCENTAGE	8.88%	12.04%	27.20%	21.93%	14.28%	8.43%	4.76%	2.47%	100.00%
	CUMULATIVE %	8.88%	20.92%	48.12%	70.05%	84.33%	92.77%	97.53%	100.00%	
2019	NUMBER	2018	2999	6768	4926	3134	2037	1259	669	23810
	PERCENTAGE	8.48%	12.60%	28.43%	20.69%	13.16%	8.56%	5.29%	2.81%	100.00%
	CUMULATIVE %	8.48%	21.07%	49.50%	70.18%	83.35%	91.90%	97.19%	100.00%	
2020	NUMBER	1235	1692	4019	3309	2086	1376	880	420	15017
	PERCENTAGE	8.22%	11.27%	26.76%	22.04%	13.89%	9.16%	5.86%	2.80%	100.00%
	CUMULATIVE %	8.22%	19.49%	46.25%	68.29%	82.18%	91.34%	97.20%	100.00%	

The BGCSE examination is designed to cater to at least eighty (80%) percent of students in grade twelve. It is anticipated that at least eighty percent of the candidates sitting the examinations would achieve grades between A – G.

It is interesting to note that again this year, even with the large percentage of absenteeism, more than eighty (80%) percent of the grades awarded continue to range from A – E, which is now becoming a recurring accomplishment. This percentage is comparable to previous years.

Although there is a decrease in grades from A – C, the highest percentage of grades awarded continues to be at grade 'C'.

Grade Outcome By Gender

YR	GRADES	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	U	TOTAL
2016	FEMALES	1396	1879	4312	3129	1819	1074	650	384	14643
	MALES	713	974	2772	2314	1489	813	529	292	9896
	TOTAL	2109	2853	7084	5443	3308	1887	1179	676	24539
2017	FEMALES	1429	1933	4404	3317	1997	1100	676	398	15254
	MALES	714	1071	2673	2262	1507	838	509	312	9886
	TOTAL	2143	3004	7077	5579	3504	1938	1185	710	25140
2018	FEMALES	1552	1987	4220	3193	1989	1127	655	323	15046
	MALES	678	1035	2608	2314	1597	990	540	298	10060
	TOTAL	2230	3022	6828	5507	3586	2117	1195	621	25106
2019	FEMALES	1340	1874	4243	2991	1850	1167	726	348	14539
	MALES	678	1125	2525	1935	1284	870	533	321	9271
	TOTAL	2018	2999	6768	4926	3134	2037	1259	669	23810
2020	FEMALES	847	1109	2546	1955	1244	780	483	210	9174
	MALES	388	583	1473	1354	842	596	397	210	5843
	TOTAL	1235	1692	4019	3309	2086	1376	880	420	15017

		A	B	C	D	E	F	G	U
2019	Female	9.22%	12.89%	29.18%	20.57%	12.72%	8.03%	4.99%	2.39%
	Male	7.31%	12.13%	27.24%	20.87%	13.85%	9.38%	5.75%	3.46%
2020	Female	9.23%	12.09%	27.75%	21.31%	13.56%	8.50%	5.26%	2.29%
	Male	6.64%	9.98%	25.21%	23.17%	14.41%	10.20%	6.79%	3.59%

Similar to last year, females continue to outperform males, receiving higher percentages at A – C and lower percentages at E - U. Also like the past two years, males have outperformed females at D. In fact, they increased their percentage difference.

Females increased slightly at A by 0.01%. Unfortunately, they also decreased at B and C, and increased at E – G.

Males only positively increased at D. They impacted their overall performance negatively by decreasing at A – C and increasing at E – U.

**CENTERS THAT HAVE AN INCREASE IN OVERALL GRADE POINT AVERAGE WHEN
COMPARED TO 2019**

ISLAND	CENTRE	ISLAND	CENTRE
ANDROS	Central Andros Private	INAGUA	Inagua All Age
	Mangrove Cay High		
	R. N. Gomez All Age		
		NEW PROVIDENCE	Achievers Christian Academy
			Akhepran International School
BIMINI	Gateway Christian High		Aquinas College
			Anatol Rodgers High (0.01)
			Atlantic College
CAT ISLAND	Old Bight High School		Bahamas Academy
			Bahamas Global Academy
			Bahamas Home School Association
CROOKED ISLAND	Crooked Island Private		Cyber Tech Career College
			Freedom Baptist
			Galilee Academy
CROOKED ISLAND	Crooked Island Private		Home School
			Hope Academy
			Jordan Prince Williams Baptist
ELEUTHERA	Eleuthera Private		New Providence Classical
	Harbour Island All Age		PACE
	Preston Albury High		Queen's College
	Samuel Guy Pinder All Age	R. M. Bailey Senior High	
	Windermere High	South Haven Christian Academy	
		St. Anne's High	
		Westminster School	
EXUMA	L. N. Coakley High		
GRAND BAHAMA	Alpha Omega Christian Academy		
	Bishop Michael Eldon High		
	Mary Star of the Sea Catholic High		
	Pine Forest Christian Academy		
	Sunland Baptist Academy*	SAN SALVADOR	San Salvador High

*** Denotes a change of 0.03 or less**

THE NUMBER OF CANDIDATES RECEIVING A MINIMUM OF GRADE C IN AT LEAST FIVE SUBJECTS

In 2020, a total of three hundred sixty-five (**365**) candidates received at least grade 'C' in five or more subjects. This represents 6.01% of the overall candidature. There were seven hundred–sixty (**760**) candidates in 2019; eight hundred–six (**806**) in 2018; eight hundred–eighty (**880**) in 2017; and nine hundred–three (**903**) candidates in 2016.

THE NUMBER OF CANDIDATES RECEIVING A MINIMUM OF FIVE SUBJECTS OR MORE WITH GRADE 'D' OR ABOVE

In 2020, a total of five hundred ninety-eight (**598**) candidates obtained a minimum grade of D in at least 5 subjects. This represents 9.85% of the overall candidature. There were one thousand, two hundred thirteen (**1213**) candidates in 2019; one thousand, three hundred thirty-eight (**1338**) in 2018; one thousand, four hundred ninety-three (**1493**) candidates in 2017; and one thousand, four hundred fifty-nine (**1459**) candidates in 2016.

THE NUMBER OF CANDIDATES WHO HAVE RECEIVED THE COMBINATION OF AT LEAST A GRADE 'C' IN MATHEMATICS, ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND A SCIENCE

Please note, this combination of grades is not an indicator of the overall composition of candidates nor can any generalized statements be made about the candidates. Every year candidates sit the BGCSE examination over multiple settings. Because of this, a large number of candidates may not sit Mathematics, English Language and Science in the same year. This does not necessarily mean that they do not possess this combination of subjects.

In 2020, a total of two hundred fifty-five (**255**) candidates received at least a grade C or better in Mathematics, English Language and a Science subject. This represents 4.20% of the overall candidature. There were four hundred eighty-four (**484**) candidates in 2019; four hundred ninety (**490**) in 2018; five hundred twenty-one (**521**) in 2017; and five hundred seventy-four (**574**) candidates in 2016.

BGCSE SUBJECTS WITH CORE & EXTENDED COMPONENTS/OPTIONS

SUBJECT	CORE PAPERS	GRADES AVAILABLE	EXTENDED PAPERS	GRADES AVAILABLE
English Language	1, 2, & 3	C - G	4	A - B
Bookkeeping & Accounts	1	C - G	2	A - B
Economics	1 & 3	C - G	2	A - B
Office Procedures	1 & 3	C - G	2	A - B
Keyboarding Skills	1	C - G	2	A - B
Commerce	1 & 3	C - G	2	A - B
Biology	1, 2 & 4	C - G	3	A - B
Chemistry	1, 2 & 4	C - G	3	A - B
Combined Science	1, 2 & 4	C - G	3	A - B
Physics	1, 2 & 4	C - G	3	A - B
Mathematics	1 & 2	C - G	3	A - B
Spanish	1 - 4	C - G	5 - 8	A - B
French	1 - 4	C - G	5 - 8	A - B

SUBJECTS WITHOUT OPTIONS

(Candidates must complete ALL components for the award of GRADES 'A' – 'G')

LITERATURE

CARPENTRY & JOINERY

GRAPHICAL COMMUNICATION

AUTO MECHANICS

ELECTRICAL INSTALLATION

HISTORY

GEOGRAPHY

RELIGIOUS STUDIES

MUSIC

ART & DESIGN (SCHEMES A, B & C)

BGCSE FACTS

- In 1988 the Ministry of Education entered into consultancy agreement with the University of Cambridge Local Examinations Syndicate of Cambridge, England to oversee the development of the Bahamas General Certificate of Secondary Education (BGCSE) examinations.
- The first sitting of BGCSE examinations took place in June 1993.
- Twenty-seven subjects are tested.
Literature, English Language, Bookkeeping & Accounts, Economics, Office Procedures, Keyboarding Skills, Commerce, Biology, Chemistry, Combined Science, Physics, Mathematics, Carpentry & Joinery, Graphical Communication, Electrical Installation, Auto Mechanics, Clothing Construction, Food & Nutrition, History, Religious Studies, Geography, Art & Design Scheme A, Art & Design Scheme B & , Art & Design Scheme C, Music, Spanish, French.
- The BGCSE examinations are designed to assess the performance of at least 80% of all students in the twelfth grade. It is an exit examination.
- The BGCSE examinations replaced the London GCE 'O' Level examinations.
- The GCE 'O' Level examinations only assessed the performance of a select group of students – approximately a mere 15 – 20% of all twelfth graders preparing to enter college and the workforce.
- The BGCSE examinations are graded on a seven-point grading scale, i.e. A – G.
- The BGCSE seven-point grading scheme is equivalent to the seven-point scheme used for reporting the results to the International General Certificate of Secondary Education (IGCSE) and the General Certificate of Secondary Education (GCSE) examinations developed by the University of Cambridge Local Examinations Syndicate (UCLES).
- The seven-point grading scheme does not affect the standard of the examination but gives a truer picture of the achievement of each candidate.
- Since 1993 the University of Cambridge Local Examinations Syndicate has endorsed the BGCSE grades and has advised tertiary institutions overseas that the grades A – C satisfy the matriculation requirement for the four year programmes at colleges offering post secondary school programmes.
- The development, marking and awarding of grades are closely monitored by Cambridge International Examinations (formerly UCLES).
- Examinations are sat annually during May – June and results released to centres during the first week in August.



Cambridge Assessment International Education

ACCREDITATION OF THE

BAHAMAS GENERAL CERTIFICATE OF SECONDARY EDUCATION

(BGCSE)

Cambridge Assessment International Education has taken measures to ensure that the standards of achievement represented by grades A – G in the 2020 BGCSE examination in the subjects listed below are equivalent to those represented by the corresponding grades in the International General Certificate of Secondary Education (IGCSE) and the General Certificate of Education O Level (GCE O Level).

1215	Literature
1310	English Language
2009	Bookkeeping and Accounts
2030	Economics
2036	Office Procedures
2064	Keyboarding
2221	Commerce
3009	Biology
3051	Chemistry
3102	Combined Science
3117	Physics
3815	Mathematics
4011	Carpentry and Joinery
4015	Graphical Communication
4130	Electrical Installation
4136	Auto Mechanics
4255	Clothing Construction and Craft
4320	Food and Nutrition
5101	History
5109	Geography
5121	Religious Studies
6250	Art and Design
7309	Music
8020	Spanish
8031	French

Signed  Date ...22nd December 2020.....

Title – Mr Waleed Bagadi, Senior Education Contract Manager

for and on behalf of Cambridge Assessment International Education

