

For Immediate Release

Umalusi approves KZN results of the 2014 Senior Certificate exams

In a statement issued by Umalusi on 11 August 2014, approval was granted for the release of the 2014 Senior Certificate results in all provinces except Kwa-Zulu Natal (KZN). Umalusi took a decision to withhold results in KZN after a number of systemic irregularities were detected at 49 of the 95 centres that were part of the original sample of audited scripts.

Further to the withholding of results, the Department of Basic Education (DBE) was granted the opportunity to launch a full-scale investigation into the extent of irregularities by drawing a larger sample of scripts from all the remaining centres. In KZN, a total number of 46 322 candidates had registered for the examination in 365 centres across the province.

The Investigative Audit was managed by the KZN Provincial Department of Education under the supervision of the DBE, while Umalusi monitored the investigation to ensure that it was carried out in a fair and credible manner. A team of thirty nine (39) subject specialists were commissioned to conduct the investigation. Fourteen (14) subjects were selected for the audit based on the disproportionately high provincial performance in these subjects, compared to the national average, as confirmed by Umalusi.

After a month long investigation, the DBE submitted the final report to Umalusi on 09 September 2014. Based on the evidence presented, it is clear that the irregularities were widespread. However, on the basis of evidence before it, Umalusi has approved the release of results at 162 centres. Furthermore, Umalusi took a decision not to approve the release of results at the remaining 203 centres where either gross irregularities were found across subjects or where the investigation is not yet complete.

Umalusi is a Council for Quality Assurance in General and Further Education and Training.

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