



## NATU APPLAUDS THE MATRIC CLASS OF 2022

The National Teachers' Union (NATU) is delightful and proud of the academic performance of the Matric Class of 2022.

More than 750 000 Grade 12 learners who wrote National Senior Certificate Examinations in November 2021, registered a pass rate of 80,1%. By so doing they set a new record becoming the second best achievers after 2019 class which achieved 81,3%. The 2022 pass rate represents a 3,7% improvement from the 2021 pass rate of 76,4%.

We noted with great appreciation a significant improvement in the pass rate for all provinces. All nine provinces scored the pass rate above 70%. Huge applause goes to Free State, Gauteng, KwaZulu-Natal and Western Cape Departments of Education for individually scoring pass percentage higher than 80%. As a matter of interest, we noted a significant jump in the number of bachelor passes from 149 684 in 2021 to 169 903 in 2022. This equates to 20 255 more learners qualifying for university admission than in 2021.

Statistics for progressed learners has decreased but the pass rate for this category of learners has improved. NATU is excited that six (6) progressed learners scored distinctions in Mathematics and five (5) scored distinctions in Physical Sciences. This is an interesting bounce-back!!!! Students from rural and township schools (Quintile 1-3) increased in number of bachelor passes from 61,8% in 2021 to 64,4% in 2022.

Matric Class of 2022 proved to be more resilient and defeated many odds and obstacles which threatened to bring them down.

- They suffered disruptions in their learning programme for two (2) consecutive academic years in 2021 and in 2022 due to Covid-19, which resulted in the trimming of the curriculum creating knowledge gaps.
- They were studying under difficult conditions of electricity cuts (load shedding) which disturbed their homework and evening studies and had to opt for candles and lamps for studying purposes.
- They were also disturbed by service delivery protests, communities burning tyres and closed roads in demand of services from government. This happened even during their examination in some areas.
- Some subjects were without teachers for months due to Department's failure to fill vacancies on time. Many schools, particularly in rural and township areas are without necessary resources such as laboratories, libraries, etc.
- Certain provinces were hit by natural disasters such as floods in KwaZulu-Natal and a significant number of schools had to close for weeks.

It is against this background that NATU salutes this cohort of learners for their resilience. As teachers, we pride ourselves for producing this pass rate given all the difficulties including under-resourced schools with no improvement in conditions of employment. This outcome represents love and passion that teachers have for pupils. They believed in these learners and went beyond the call of duty to assist them to mitigate the impact of Covid-19 disruptions.



"The National Teachers' Union congratulates learners, parents and most importantly the critical role- players in education, the teachers who were there for these learners throughout the year. They donated with their family time teaching these learners during weekends and holidays without expecting extra compensation.

We also wish to encourage parents to support their children who did not make it in the November 2022 Examinations. This is not the end of the road, the Department of Basic Education provides a Second Chance Programme to support learners who have not been able to meet the requirements of the National Senior Certificate," concluded NATU President, Mr S.V. Malinga.

**ISSUED BY NATIONAL TEACHERS' UNION  
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