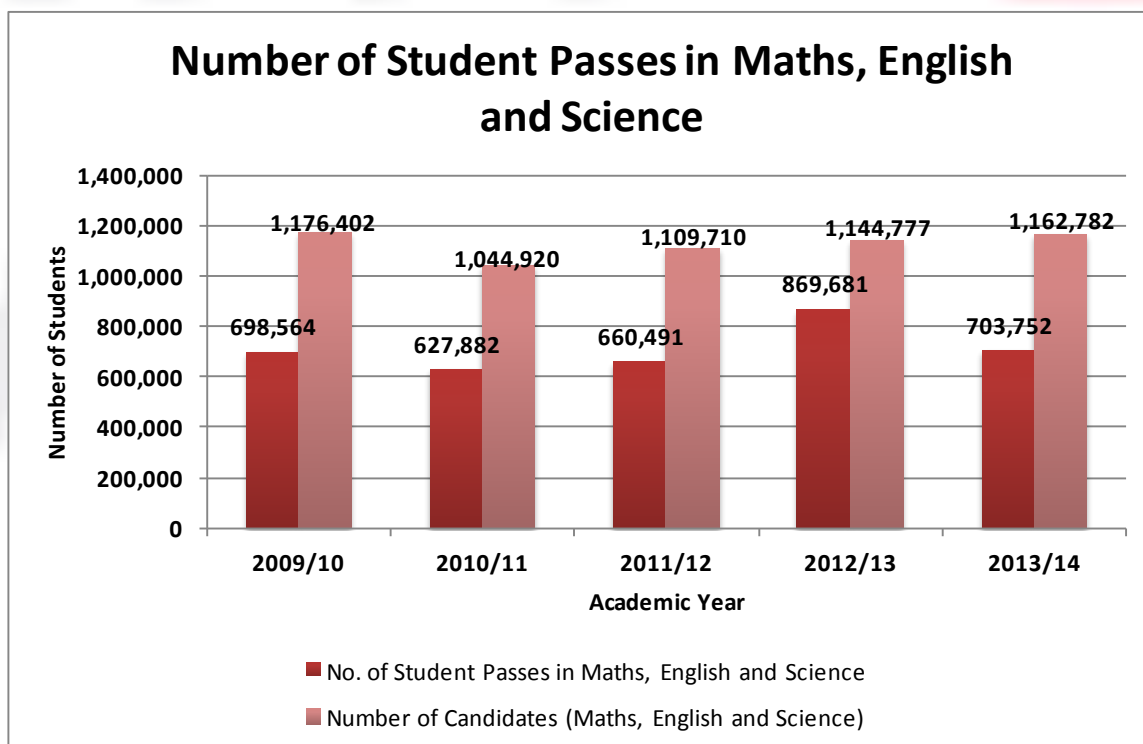


## Basic Education Certificate Examination in Ghana: Checked Trends in Pass Rates for Core Subjects

The Basic Education Certificate Examination (BECE) for the academic year 2014/15 commenced June 15 2015 and ends on June 19 2015. The BECE is the basis for progression into second cycle education in Ghana's education system. Whilst I AM AWARE wishes all candidates the very best in this year's examination, I AM AWARE takes a look at the pass rates in Core subjects since 2009.<sup>1</sup>

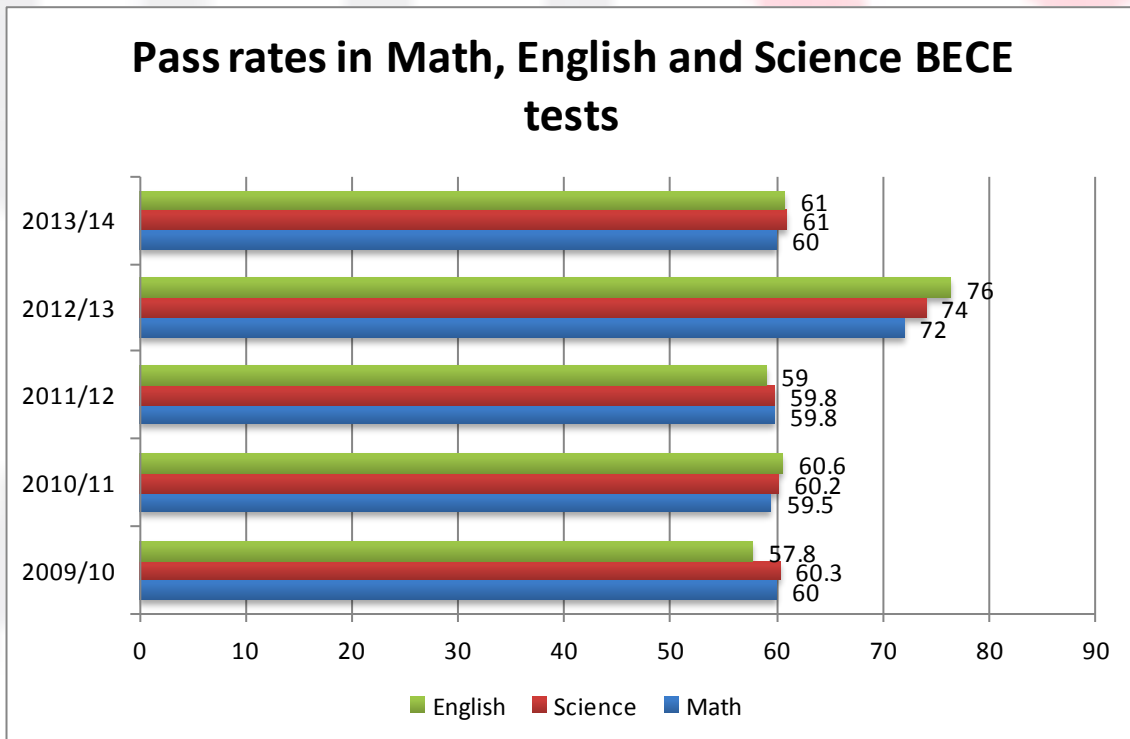
- Generally, pass rates in Core subjects, Mathematics, English and Science have been checkered, since 2009/10 academic year.



- In the 2009/10 academic year, only 59% passed the Core subjects - Mathematics, English and Science.
- For the 2010/2011 academic year, there was a 1% improvement in pass rates from the 2009/10 academic year. Out of the 1,044,920, students, 627,882 (60%) passed Mathematics, English and Science.
- In the 2011/2012 academic year, pass rates dropped again marginally. Out of 1,109,710 candidates who wrote the examinations, 660,491 (59.5%) passed all three Core subjects.

<sup>1</sup> Although EMIS has data on basic education from 2001, I AM AWARE considered data and analysis on education service delivery from 2009 in order to make the discussion relevant.

- The 2012/13 academic year saw an increase of 14% in pass rates. Out of the 1,144,777, an impressive 869,681 (74%) passed all three Core subjects.
- However, in the 2013/14 academic year, pass rates in Core subjects dropped by 14%. Again, only 60% of students who wrote the BECE passed in all three Core subjects.



Source: EMIS Data 2009-2014

I AM AWARE hopes to see an improvement in BECE pass rates in Core subjects in the 2014/15 academic year. The trend over the last five years has been above average, yet wavy. Aside the 2012/13 academic year, pass rates in Mathematics, English and Science have been at an average of 60%. However, while acknowledging that there have been improvements in basic education delivery in Ghana, such as the introduction of the Re-Sit policy at the basic level, there is room for improvement as far as quality in education service delivery is concerned.