



EDUCATION FACT SHEET - SWAZILAND

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| <p>In Brief</p> | <p>SUMMARY</p> <p>Swaziland Population: 1.4 million Swaziland Size: 17,360 sq km/6,702 sq mi</p> <p>National Curriculum: Yes</p> <p>Literacy: 87.5% Youth Literacy: 93.5% Female Youth Literacy: 94.7%</p> <p>Years of Public School: 12 Primary: 7 Secondary: 5 (3 + 2)</p> <p>Language of Instruction: SiSwati through grade 4, then English</p> <p>High School Leaving Exams: Yes Date of Exams: June</p> |
| <p>Education Overview</p> | <p>Statistics Junior and senior secondary schools: 217 Students: 83,096 Teachers: 4,358</p> <p>Best Secondary Schools Waterford Kamhlaba (UWC), St Joseph's School, Sifundzani School, St Mark's School</p> |
| <p>School System</p> | <p>Structure</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Primary education (7 years) • Junior Secondary (3 years): 26% of population in age range are enrolled; 74% not enrolled 7 subjects required (Mathematics, English, SiSwati, Science + 4 others from a list of options) Culminates in Junior Certificate, which needs to be passed to advance to senior secondary • Senior Secondary (2 years): |

| | <p>12% of population in age range are enrolled; 88% not enrolled. Six subjects required Culminates in SGCSE. SGCSE is a “localized” version of the International General Certificate for Secondary Education (IGCSE) curriculum, which is accredited by the Cambridge International Examination (CIE). IGCSE is no longer widely offered.</p> <p>Advanced Studies Program Ministry of Education Website: “A few schools offer the Advanced Studies (AS) programme in their curriculum.” However, the University of Swaziland, which we take to be representative of higher education in the country, does not require A-Levels for entry. The University states that “the normal minimum requirement for entrance to degree programmes shall be six passes in IGCSE /SGCSE/GCE O’ Level, which must include passes at C grade or better in English Language and at least four other relevant subjects.” Given they are not as "necessary" as in other countries, many students opt not to incur the cost.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Grading System for SGCSE</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 25%;"></th> <th style="width: 25%;"></th> <th style="width: 25%; text-align: center;"><i>Grade as a Percent</i></th> <th style="width: 25%; text-align: center;"><i>Frequency in 2016</i></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>A* (1 Point)</td> <td>Excellent</td> <td style="text-align: center;">90-100%</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><0.1%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>A (2 Points)</td> <td>Very Good</td> <td style="text-align: center;">80-90%</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><1%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>B (3 Points)</td> <td>Good</td> <td style="text-align: center;">70-80%</td> <td style="text-align: center;">10%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>C (4 Points)</td> <td>Credit</td> <td style="text-align: center;">60-70%</td> <td style="text-align: center;">20%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>D (5 Points)</td> <td>Pass</td> <td style="text-align: center;">50-60%</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>E (6 Points)</td> <td>Pass</td> <td style="text-align: center;">40-50%</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>F (7 Points)</td> <td>Fail</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>G</td> <td>Fail</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>U</td> <td>Ungraded</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>A student’s aggregate score is the sum of the best six subjects. Based on the point allocations above, the lower the aggregate point total, the more impressive the results.</p> <p><u>2016 results</u> – for any given subject only 30% of candidates will receive a grade C or above.</p> | | | <i>Grade as a Percent</i> | <i>Frequency in 2016</i> | A* (1 Point) | Excellent | 90-100% | <0.1% | A (2 Points) | Very Good | 80-90% | <1% | B (3 Points) | Good | 70-80% | 10% | C (4 Points) | Credit | 60-70% | 20% | D (5 Points) | Pass | 50-60% | | E (6 Points) | Pass | 40-50% | | F (7 Points) | Fail | | | G | Fail | | | U | Ungraded | | |
|---------------------------------|---|---------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|--------------|-----------|---------|-------|--------------|-----------|--------|-----|--------------|------|--------|-----|--------------|--------|--------|-----|--------------|------|--------|--|--------------|------|--------|--|--------------|------|--|--|---|------|--|--|---|----------|--|--|
| | | <i>Grade as a Percent</i> | <i>Frequency in 2016</i> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| F (7 Points) | Fail | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| G | Fail | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| U | Ungraded | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <p>Academic Calendar</p> | <p>August to June. SGCSE exam in June; results released in August.</p> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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Sources:

- http://www.gov.sz/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=208&Itemid=113
- https://www.uniswa.sz/sites/default/files/administration/registrar/uniswa_calendar.pdf