

9.0: CHEMISTRY (233)

Over the years, chemistry has been examined using three papers. Paper 1, a theory paper tests the entire syllabus. Each question in this paper is weighted to a maximum of 3 marks. Paper 2, another theory paper tests in depth some main topics within the syllabus. Each question in this paper has between 10 and 15 marks. Paper 3, a practical paper tests any part of the syllabus. The number of marks for each question in paper 3 depends on the area tested.

Overall performance in Chemistry has been quite low. The table below shows the performance of Chemistry for the last four years.

Table 9: Candidates' Overall Performance in Chemistry for the Past Four Years

Year	Paper	Candidature	Maximum Mark	Mean Score	Standard Deviation
2001	233/1		70		
	233/2		80	18.23	14.49
	233/3		40	13.06	4.66
	Overall	181,238	190	30.27	18.00
2002	233/1		70		
	233/2		80	22.25	16.44
	233/3		40	12.25	6.19
	Overall	187,261	190	34.27	21.29
2003	233/1		70		
	233/2		80	22.86	16.75
	233/3		40	14.55	7.02
	Overall	198,016	190	37.42	22.86
2004	233/1		70		
	233/2		80	25.40	16.19
	233/3		40	14.22	5.46
	Overall	214,520	190	39.62	20.00

The following observations can be made from the table above:-

- i) The candidature in Chemistry has increased by 16,504 candidates from 198,016 to 214,520. This increment would imply that Chemistry has become quite popular with students.
- ii) Performance in the theory papers 233/1 and 233/2 has been improving as shown by the means: 18.23, 22.25, 22.86 and 25.40 in the years 2001, 2002, 2003 and 2004 respectively.
- iii) Performance in the practical paper 233/3 appears to be stabilizing but there was a small drop from a mean of 14.55 in 2003 to 14.22 in 2004.