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National Senior Certificate results: Steady improvement versus output quality

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Abstract content
 (Max 300 words)

A country's global competitiveness is to a large degree intrinsically linked to good quality National Senior Certificate (NSC) Mathematics and Physical Science results. However, the quality of the NSC results in South Africa has been a highly contentious issue over many years. This article unpacks the dilemma of the continued steady improvement of the NSC results amid concerns raised by various key stakeholders about the quality of the output. In essence, output quality concerns appear to be more pronounced in the case of Mathematics and Physical Science results. The impact of this problem was specifically analysed in terms of input characteristics of first year Electrical Engineering students (National Diploma Programme) as a function of their overall academic performance at the University of Johannesburg.

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