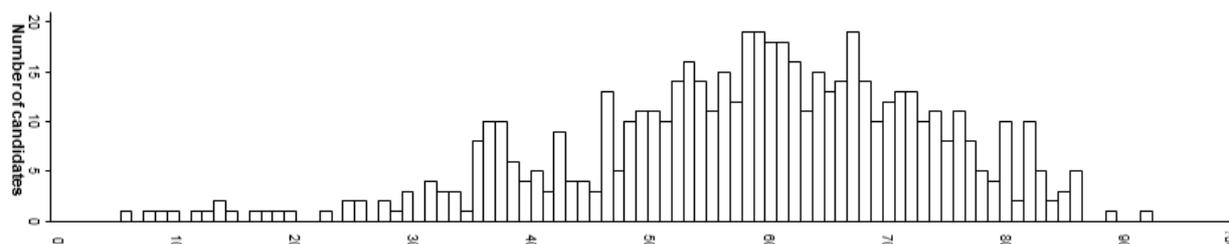




## Summary report for candidates on the 2014 WACE examination in Politics and Law Stage 3

Year	Number who sat	Number of absentees
2014	563	6
2013	887	13
2012	901	11

### Examination score distribution



### Summary

Candidates completed a written examination consisting of three separate sections. The overall mean of the paper was 58.87% with the total scores ranging from a minimum of 5.50% to a maximum of 93.0%. In Section One: Short response candidates were required to answer three out of four questions with two questions from Unit 3A and two questions from Unit 3B. The overall mean for this section was 59.84%. In Section Two: Source analysis candidates answered either the question from Unit 3A or the question from Unit 3B. The Source analysis mean was 64.07%. In Section Three: Extended response there were two questions from each of Unit 3A and 3B and candidates were required to respond to one from each unit. The Unit 3A mean was 58.08% and the Unit 3B mean was 56.07%. There was a high correlation between questions across all sections of the paper and the standard deviation of the paper was 15.87%.

### General comments

Candidates were well prepared for the examination and this is reflected in the much higher mean for the paper overall and individual questions, than in the previous years. More relevant knowledge was apparent in many responses but there are still issues of candidates not using the evidence to answer the question asked and making general assertions without supporting evidence. There are still too many pre-prepared responses, which was especially evident in Questions 7 and 8.

### Advice for candidates

- Read the question carefully and do not focus on a particular word or phrase.
- A shorter response that is directly related to the question will score more highly than a response that contains information about the overall topic.
- Revise for the examination using the dot points of the syllabus as all questions are related directly to the syllabus.
- Ensure that up to date examples are known and used where appropriate.
- Avoid generalisations, use specific examples and information.