

# PRE-ENTRY TEST AS AN ADMISSION CRITERIA: ADVANCED MIDWIFERY PROGRAMME



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# .....IS IT HELPFUL IN PREDICTING STUDENTS' ABILITY TO COPE WITH THE DEMANDS OF THE ADVANCED MIDWIFERY?



## INTRODUCTION

- Various Universities offer programmes designed to prepare students for specific fields of **specialization** in nursing .
- In South Africa, upon completion of the requirements as stipulated South African Nursing Council (SANC), the student will be registered as an Advanced Midwife.

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# INTRODUCTION CONT...

- The assumption is that the Advanced Midwife will participate in providing collaborative family centred midwifery and neonatal healthcare, **based on best available evidence**, within an **ethical-legal framework** and make a meaningful contribution to policy-making in promotion of mother and child care at local, regional and international levels.

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# BACKGROUND



- The School of Nursing at the University of the Free State - criteria for admission into the Advanced Midwifery Programme.
- Criteria - have worked at maternity units for a period of time
- Possess the necessary basic competencies in midwifery and neonatology.
- The prospective students are then subjected to a pre-entry test.

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# BASIS FOR SELECTION CRITERIA



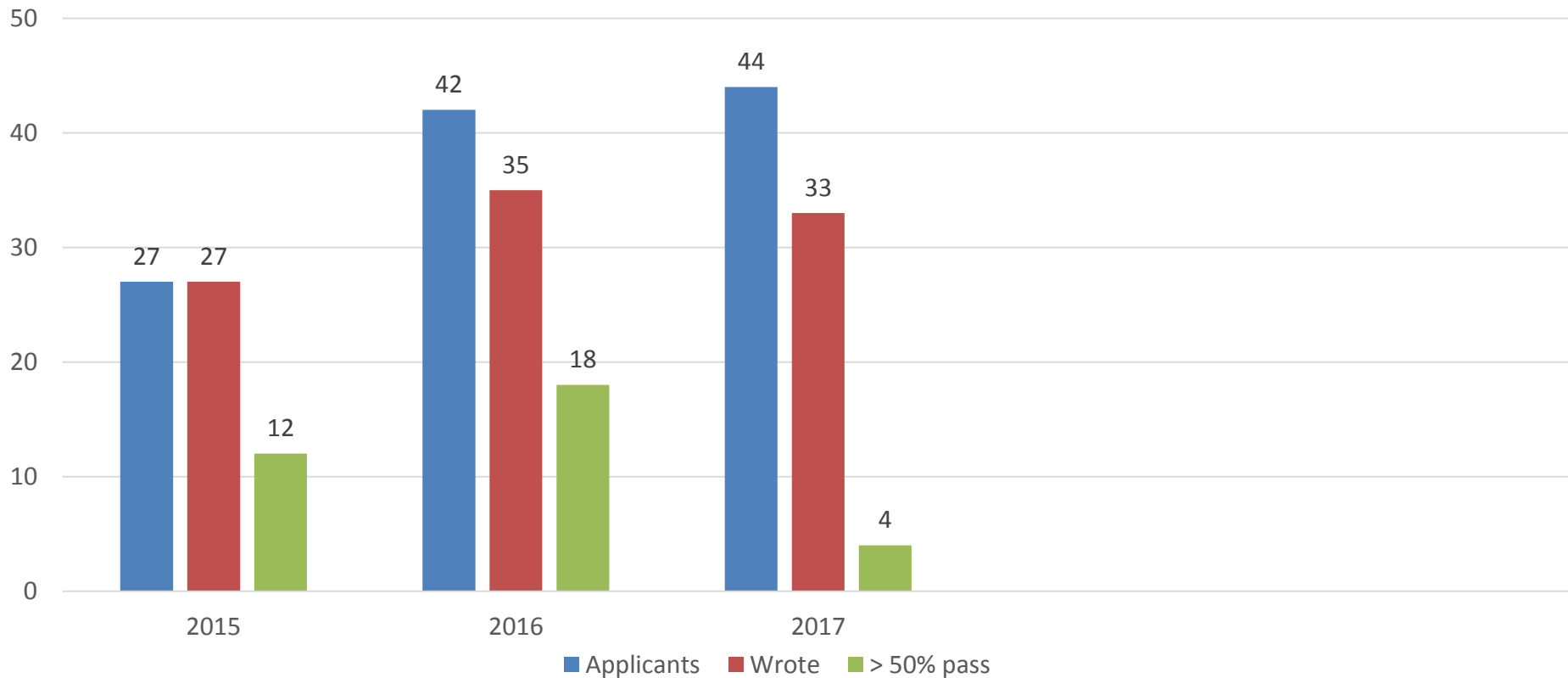
- The high demands of the programme
- UFS SoN can accommodate maximum of 25 students.
- Limited clinical training facilities for work integrated learning.
- Assess whether students are physically and psychologically equipped to meet the demands of the programme, before admission or during training.
- Pass mark = 50%
- The final selection is done according to the written test marks obtained and available numbers.

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# PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS



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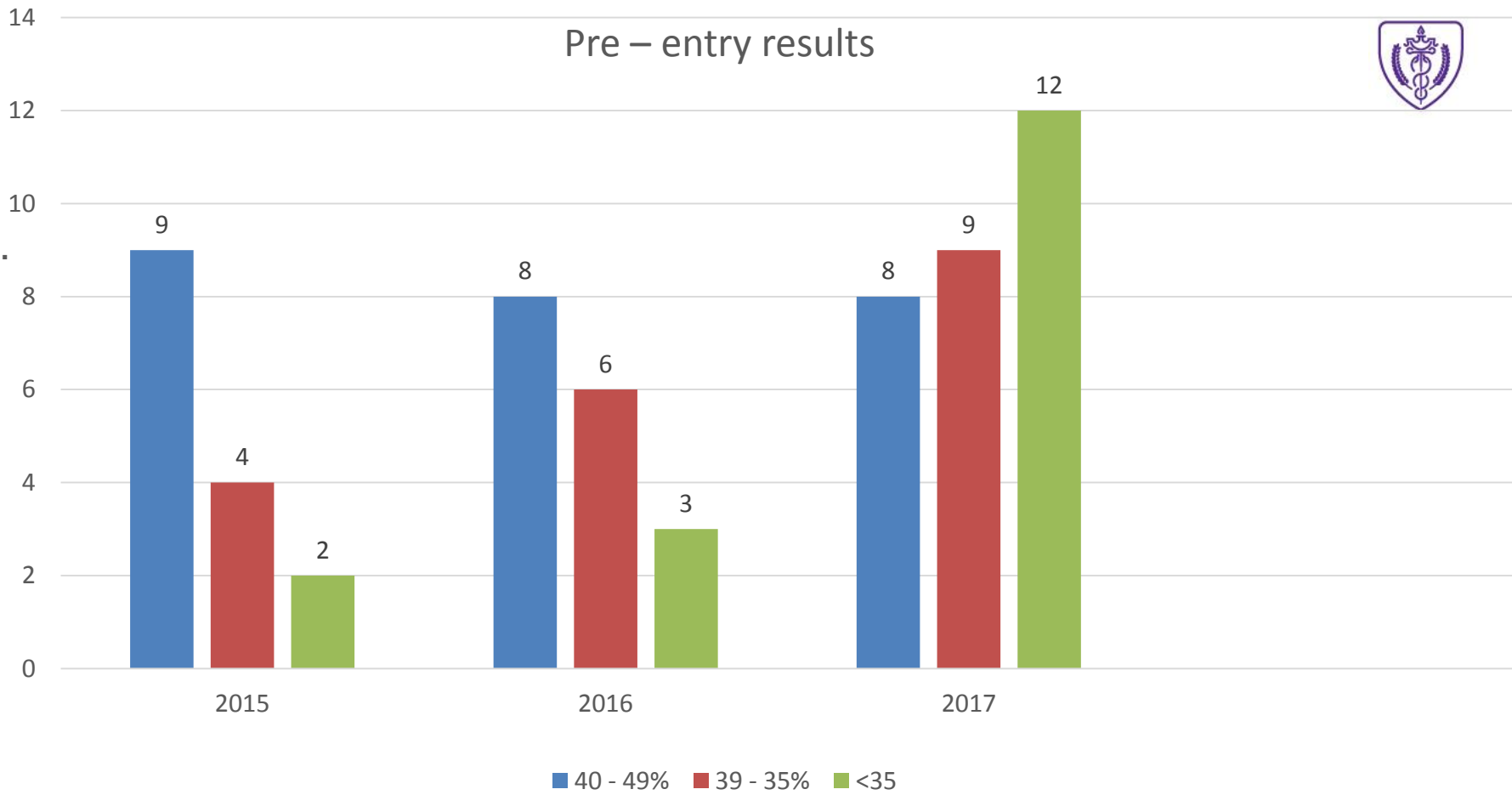
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# Pre – entry results



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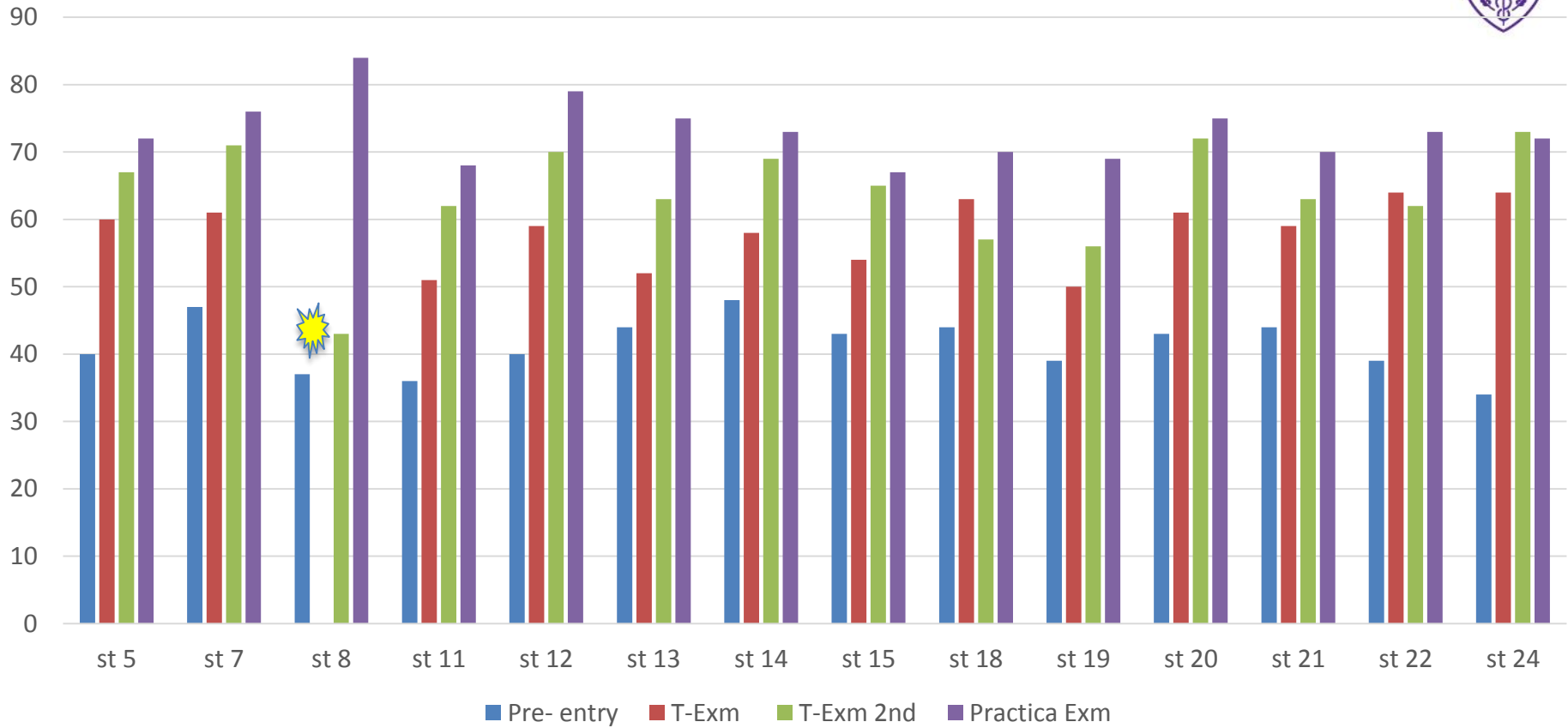
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# Comparison of results 2015



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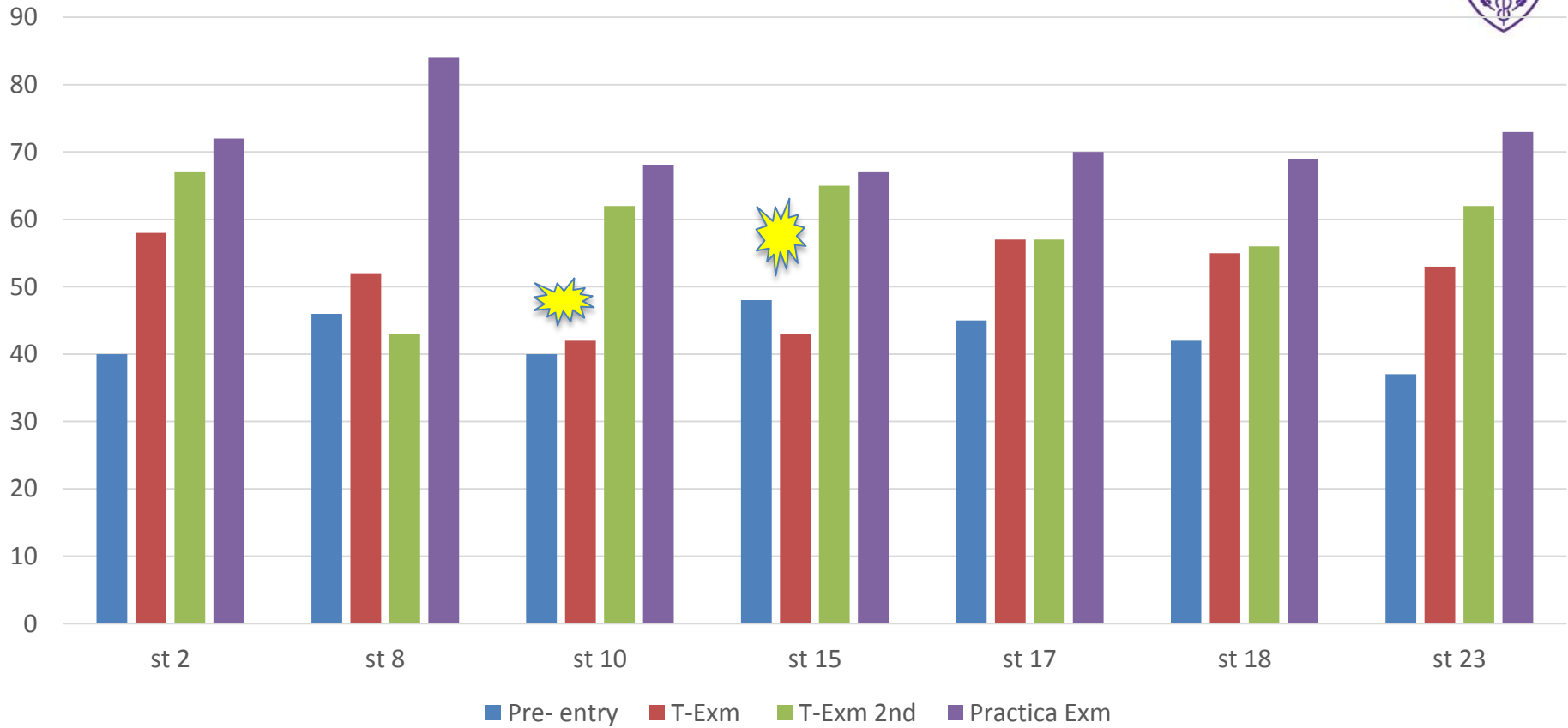
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# Comparison of results 2016



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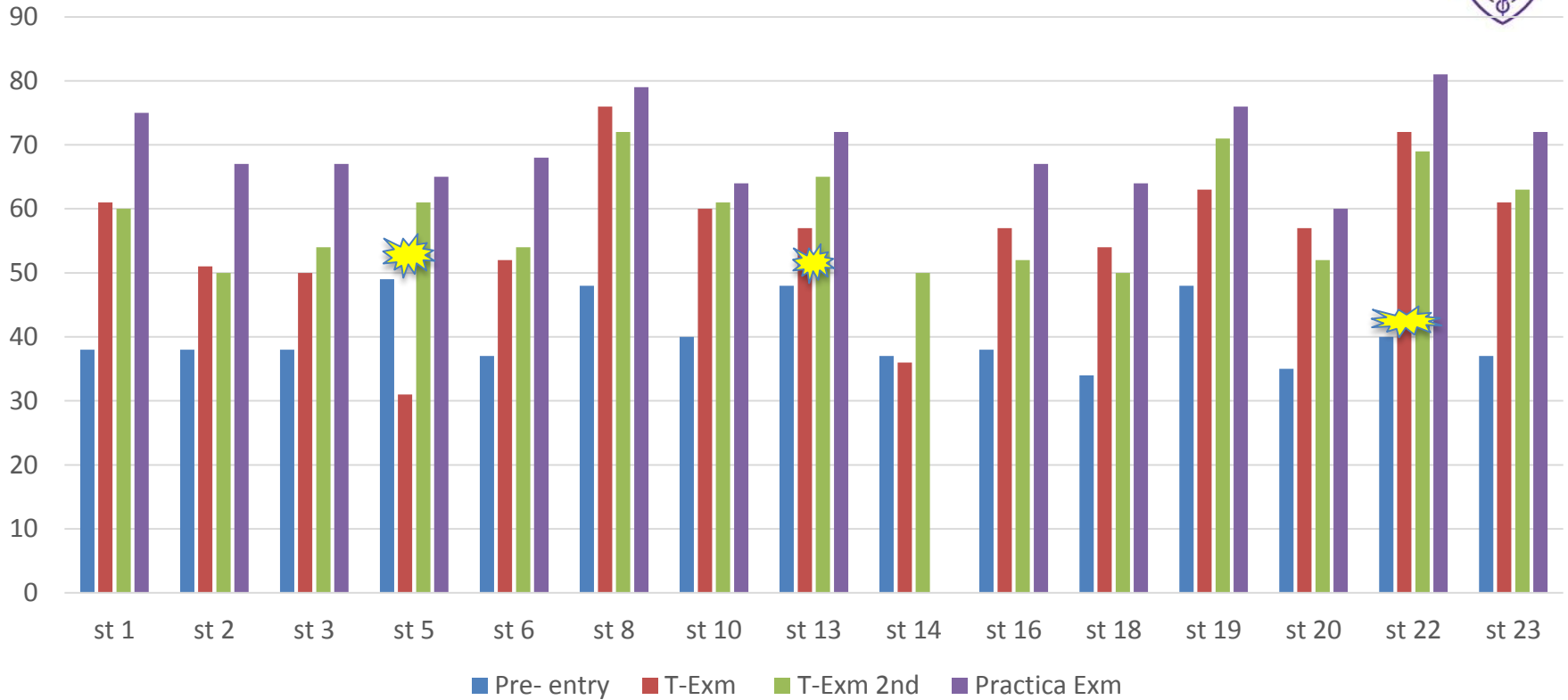
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# Comparison of results 2017



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# DISCUSSION



- Overall impression is that students perform better during the academic programme, in comparison to the (< 50%) pre – entry scores obtained.
- Students' performance improved during the second semester in comparison to the results of the first semester.
- Philosophies and Models of Care, Strategic National Priority Initiatives and issues related to Governance are dealt with in the first semester versus clinical issues during the second semester. – Probably leading to poor performance as seen in the first semester (Non –Clinical).
- Relative good scores obtained for practica when compared to the results for theory. Factors that could be influencing the pass rate? (different assessors, various methods used to assess).
- Coverage of the entire midwifery continuum of care – v/s placement of the prospective student – Comprehensive Midwifery Care.

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# CONCLUSION

- Need to look at the data far back? More wider picture of the trends over a longer period of study.
- Follow up of those that did not pass the pre-entry test.
- Strategies to update those that are in practice (CPD for Midwives).

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# ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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- **COLLEAGUES – MIDWIFERY LECTURES, UFS**
- **DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH – PLACEMENT FACILITIES**
- **ADVANCED MIDWIVES AND THE ST-ADMS**

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Thank You  
Dankie

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