

REPORT ON THE LESOTHO 26 MAY 2012 NATIONAL ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS



2012

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS REPORT 2012

Independent Electoral Commission

Lesotho



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Table of Contents

1. Foreword.....	2
2. Introduction.....	3
Table 1: List of Political Parties which Participated on 2012 Elections	3
Chart 1: Political Parties Representatives at the Constituencies.....	4
3. Legal Framework.....	6
4. Delimitation of Constituency Boundaries.....	8
5. Dissolution of Parliament.....	9
6. Election Timetable	10
7. Registration.....	12
8. Nomination of Candidates	16
9. Civic and Voter Education.....	17
10. Infrastructure and Logistics	22
11. Voters Transfers and Demarcation Statistics.....	23
12. Election Observation and Monitoring.....	26
13. Advance Voting and Voting Day.....	27
14. Constituency Results.....	29
14.1 Performance of All Parties in Regard to Number of Votes	29

1. Foreword

On 26th May 2012, the people of Lesotho were asked to vote for the establishment of the 8th Parliament of Lesotho. This report is an account of how the National Assembly Elections were run and challenges encountered. It also gives an outline of the electoral process from demarcation of electoral boundaries, registration of voters and political parties, nomination of candidates and voting.


Elections provide a foundation for a stable democracy that Lesotho has started to experience. 2012 National Assembly Elections has been the fourth in a series of elections run by the Independent Electoral Commission (IEC). Each election has its own challenges but the 2012 election more than any other elections run by IEC in the past was different in that it demonstrated a level of trust on the electoral administration process that resulted in the acceptance of the election results; which then has allowed an orderly transition of power.

Observers both international and local have highlighted that the 26 May 2012 general election process was transparent, peaceful, free, fair and participatory. Furthermore the observer missions have acclaimed and congratulated the people of the Kingdom of Lesotho, political parties and candidates for their political maturity and for demonstrating faith in the principles of democracy. All this makes everyone involved in this election to take pride.

There have been new amendments in the National Assembly Electoral Act, 2011 which were aimed to improve the administration of the election processes but it has been noted that more refinements still have to be done on the Act. The Commission look forward to working with all of those who have a responsibility for ensuring the successful delivery of these elections.

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Chairman
Independent Electoral Commission

Adv. 'Mamosebi Pholo
Commissioner
Independent Electoral Commission



Mr. Mphasa Mokhochane
Director of Elections
Independent Electoral Commission

2. Introduction

The Independent Electoral Commission (IEC) is a constitutional Election Management Body (EMB) that is established by the 2nd Amendment of the Constitution of Lesotho. The powers and duties of the Commission are prescribed in Section 135 of the National Assembly Electoral Act. This is a body which is bestowed with, among others as stated in the Constitution, the holding of parliamentary, local government elections and referenda. In accordance with its mandate, the Independent Electoral Commission held the 4th National Assembly Elections on 26th May 2012, which this report is all about.

Preparations leading to the holding of these elections started well in advance, and followed the Local Government Elections that was held only in October 2011. As it is inevitable some activities which were geared towards the holding of the Local Government Elections had a direct bearing on the National Assembly Elections. These would include the registration of voters, their transfers, removal of the deceased and other activities that contributed to clean and reliable voters' register.

The purpose of this report is to present an account of how the general elections were run and challenges encountered. It also gives the legal outline within which the elections were held, a broad outline of the electoral process from demarcation of electoral boundaries, registration of voters and political parties, nomination of candidates and voting. Finally it gives an overview of the conduct of the 2012 National Assembly Elections as a learning curve for the future holding of elections. About 18 political parties registered for and contested the aforesaid elections and these were:

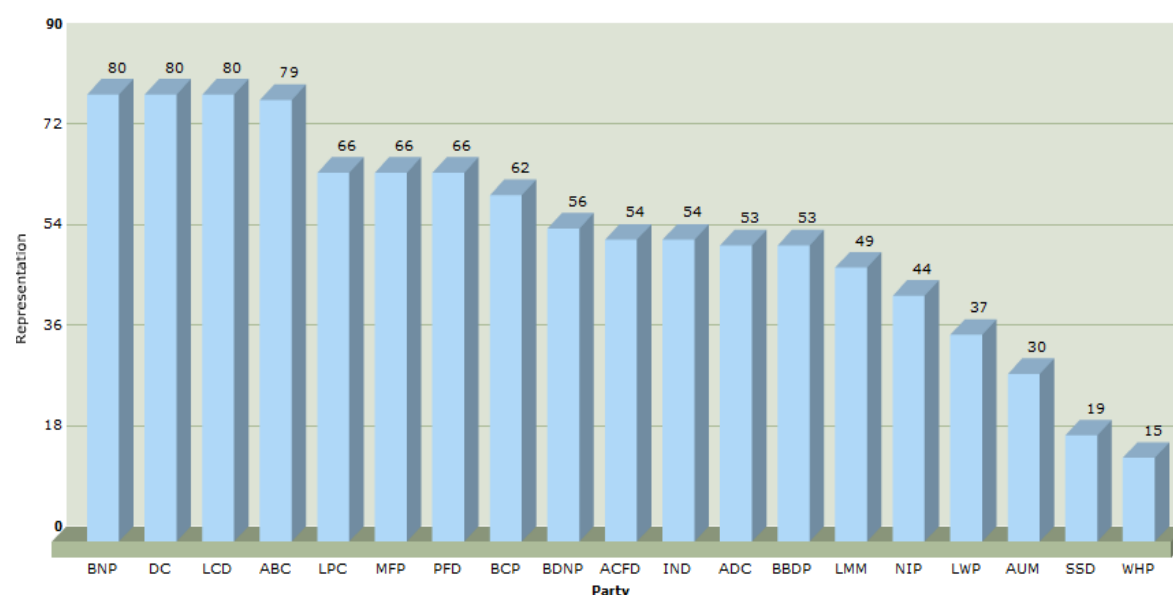
Table 1: List of Political Parties which Participated on 2012 Elections

PARTY ABBREVIATION	FULL NAME
ABC	ALL BASOTHO CONVENTION
ACFD	AREKA COVANENT FRONT FOR DEVELOPMENT
ADC	ALL DEMOCRATIC CORPORATION
AUM	AFRICAN UNITY MOVEMENT
BBDP	BASOTHO BATHO DEMOCRATIC PARTY
BCP	BASOTHO CONGRESS PARTY
BDNP	BASOTHO DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL PARTY
BNP	BASOTHO NATIONAL PARTY
DC	DEMOCRATIC CONGRESS

LCD	LESOTHO CONGRESS FOR DEMOCRACY
LMM	LEKHOTLA LA MEKHOA LE MEETLO
LPC	LESOTHO PEOPLES CONGRESS
LWP	LESOTHO WORKERS PARTY
MFP	MAREMATLOU FREEDOM PARTY
NIP	NATIONAL INDEPENDENT PARTY
PFD	POPULAR FRONT FOR DEMOCRACY
SSD	LEKHOTLA LA SENKATANA
WHP	WHITEHORSE PARTY

On the other hand Chart 1 here below shows how the parties have posted their candidates/representatives throughout the country.

Chart 1: Political Parties Representatives at the Constituencies



The election s were run by the 4th Commission which was composed of Mrs Limakatso Mokhothu who was the chairperson of the commission, Commissioners Dr. Fako Likoti and Mr Malefetsane Nkhahle, who, regrettable passed away a few months before the elections. **MAY HIS SOUL REST IN PEACE.** The electoral process and supervision of electoral staff was garnered by the ably supervision of Acting Director of Elections, Mr Mphasa Mokhochane.

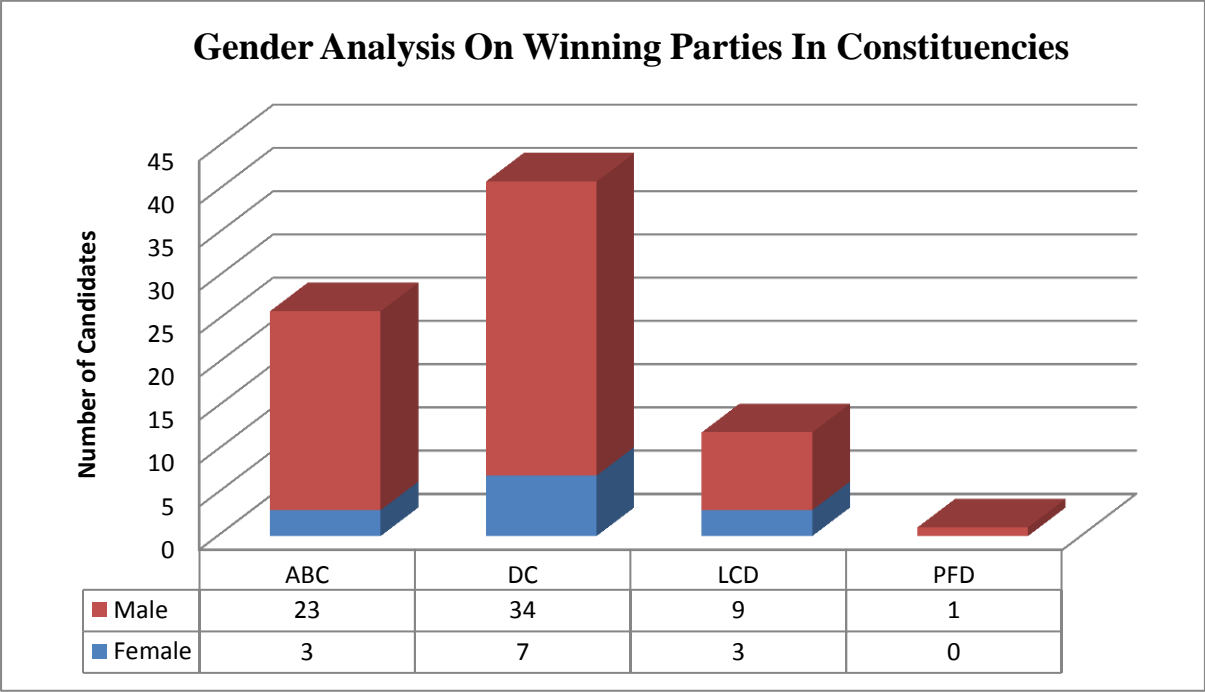
1.1 Gender Representation

Even though Lesotho is said to be amongst the top 10 countries in the world that have made significance progress in gender equality and empowerment of women,¹ this does not seem to be the case when it comes to politics. In 2012 national elections there were

¹ <http://www.undp.org.ls> Millennium Development goals Report – Lesotho – 2011.

very few women candidates contesting constituency seats.² Chart 2 here-below shows the number of women who won the 2012 national elections as compared to that of men.

Chart 2



In order to address this worrying state of affairs, the Commission, in 2011 when reviewing the National Assembly Electoral Act 1992, came up with a provision that mandated political parties to prepare their proportional representation (PR) list in a manner that the list shall not only include equal number of women and men but shall also ensure that if the first candidate is a male he shall immediately be followed by a female candidate and vis-versa (Zebra model). This provisions made a significance difference in the 8th Parliament as the number of women has increased than ever before.

² SADC Parliamentary Forum – Election Observation Mission report, for the 2012 Lesotho National assembly elections, August, 2012.

3. Legal Framework

The electoral process in Lesotho is governed principally by the Constitution of the Kingdom and the National Assembly Electoral Act of 2011³. These elections were no different from this norm safe to say that the National Assembly Electoral Act (NAEA) of 2011 was fairly new and had not been tested. The after effects of this state of affairs will be appreciated latter in this report.

2.1 The Constitution

Chapter 2 of the Constitution of the Kingdom of Lesotho provides for the protection of citizens' freedoms of movement, expression, assembly and association, among others. Section 20 specifically provides for citizens' right to vote and/or to stand for election at periodic elections under the Constitution through a system of universal and equal suffrage and secret ballot. Section 56 and Section 57 of the Constitution make provision for, among other issues, elections for Members of the National Assembly and the electoral system.

Section 66 of the Constitution of the Kingdom of Lesotho establishes the IEC as an autonomous body with the sole mandate of registering voters, supervising the preparation, publication and maintenance of a general register of electors, registration of political parties, demarcation of constituency boundaries and conducting elections in terms of the Constitution and the National Assembly Electoral Act (2011). Section 66 (2) of the Constitution mandates that for one to qualify as a member of the IEC, one should be of a high moral character, proven integrity and should either qualify to hold a high judicial office or should possess considerable experience and demonstrated competence in the administration of public affairs. The powers, functions and duties of the Commission are further articulated in Chapter 10 of the National Assembly Electoral Act (2011).

2.2 National Assembly Electoral Act (2011)

Before the 2012 general elections, elections in Lesotho were governed by National assembly Election Act, 1992. After the 2007 elections it was agreed that the Act should be reviewed and revised as it did not cover a lot of important things to take care of the present day democratic dispensation including taking politicians as main stakeholders. IEC worked on this legislation for quite some time and it was only promulgated in August, 2011, thus repealing the National Assembly Act of 1992.

The National Assembly Electoral Act, 2011 is a comprehensive piece of legislation which legally provides for all matters relating to the conduct of elections in the Kingdom of Lesotho including voter registration, delimitation of constituencies, functions operational framework and powers of the independent Electoral Commission (IEC), dissolution of Parliament, commencement of the elections period, the various electoral processes and events, expected behaviour for political parties, candidates and their supporters as well as a relevant

³ SADC PR ON Lesotho Electoral Report, 2012.

enforcement mechanism with explicit fines and prison sentences for various election related offences⁴. The Act also has an Electoral Code of Conduct embedded in it with the purpose of regulating the conduct of political parties, candidates and general membership. The Mission further noted that the Code, which has a legal enforcement mechanism including fines and penalties, gives power to the IEC to reprimand and/or punish political parties and candidates violating the Code of Conduct.

This legislation has a number of important outstanding features amongst which one can mention:

2.2.1 Introduction of Mixed Member Proportion (MMP) Electoral Model

Mixed Member Proportion (MMP) electoral model is a mix of eighty members of National Assembly from constituencies (First Past the Post (FPTP) electoral model and provision for other forty members to be elected in accordance with the system of proportional representation.

2.2.2 Electoral Offences

The Act also articulates explicitly a number of electoral offences alongside the respective fines and penalties applicable in the event of the offences being committed. The Constitution and NAEA enabled IEC to carry out the 2012 elections in a free and fair manner and this was the first time that Lesotho never experienced serious post elections conflicts.

2.2.3 Political Party Campaign Funding

The current law stipulates that for its campaign process a political party would be funded from the Consolidated Fund in proportion to its performance in the past election; or for new political parties the registration threshold of which 500 paid up membership would be considered. Recognised alliances would be funded pertaining to each individual party within such an alliance.

2.2.4 Party Funding

The new electoral Act enables political parties that have competed in the elections and have a seat in the National Assembly to qualify for funding on an annual basis and depending on the number of seats they hold in parliament.

2.2.5 Conversion Of Votes

the Mixed Member Proportional system (MMP) is commonly known with the use of two ballot papers one for the party vote and the other for the constituency vote. The current electoral Act has moved away from that practise by introducing a single ballot paper, where during general elections, constituency votes are counted both for the candidate and be converted into party votes.

⁴ Ibid

4. Delimitation of Constituency Boundaries

The Constitution of the Kingdom of Lesotho states that the IEC shall review the constituency boundaries into which the country is divided; and may alter the boundaries to such an extent, as it considers desirable in the light of the review, more especially after conducting a population census. The last population census was conducted in 2006 while delimitation of constituencies was carried out in 2010 in preparation for 2012 elections. This means that the actual national population for 2012 elections was not so much reliable as delimitation was carried out four years after census and two years before elections. Notwithstanding this time discrepancies the main reason for the demarcation exercise was to determine the number of voters belonging to each constituency, since it is prescribed by the electoral law that a constituency should have a population between 12,000 and 15,000 and yet it had been realised that some constituencies have far more than the maximum provided by the law. within set minimum and maximum limits. The 2010 demarcation exercise focused mainly on the following activities:

- 3 The re-grouping and re-naming of villages in the constituencies.
- 4 Additions and removals of some villages within constituencies.
- 5 Removals of some constituencies from administrative districts into new ones.
- 6 The ultimate creation of new centres on the ground.

Apart from the 2006 census, the last constituency delimitation was in 1997 for preparation of 1998 National Assembly Elections using the 1996 Population Census. Following these long periods between delimitation of constituencies, IEC had to review constituency boundaries in preparation for the 2012 National Assembly Elections. The results of this delimitation were that some constituencies had to be merged while new ones had to be introduced. The following list of constituencies came about as a result of the aforesaid delimitation:

- i. Mohobollo - renamed Leribe
- ii. Nokong – renamed 'Makhoroana
- iii. Pulane – renamed Tšoana-Makhulo
- iv. Seqonoka - renamed Berea
- v. Berea – Renamed Khubetsoana
- vi. Mabote – Moved from Maseru district to Berea district
- vii. Thetsane - New Constituency created in Maseru district
- viii. Thaba-Ts'oeu – renamed Matelile

5. Dissolution of Parliament

The seventh Parliament was dissolved on the 9th of March, 2012 followed immediately thereafter by the issuance of the Proclamation fixing the date of an election. His Majesty the King proclaimed the 26th May 2012 as the date on which the Commission was to conduct general elections to return members of the National Assembly for all eighty constituencies of the Kingdom of Lesotho. The Proclamation was gazetted as Legal Notice N0. 40 dated 12th March, 2012. The dissolution of Parliament marks the end of the life of the previous Parliament and His Majesty officially opened the 8th Parliament of Lesotho on 3rd August 2012.

6. Election Timetable

The election timetable was prepared in accordance with section 38 (4) of the National Assembly Electoral Act, 2011. It was showing all the statutory activities that had to be taken and completed before the date of the elections. The timetable depicted the start and the end date for each activity, citing the relevant section of the Act that empowers or permits the undertaking of such an activity, main components being the beginning of the election period, nomination period, voting day and publication of election results.

Beginning of the election period was on Thursday, 15 March 2012 which marks the period when, the King acting on the advice of the Council of State did proclaimed 26 May, 2012 as the day in which general elections of members of the National Assembly was to be held. At the end of registration period 1,127,263 voters had been registered country wide. Table 2 here below shows this registration by age, sex and grant total.

Table 2

AGE GROUP	Female	Male	Grand Total
18 – 29	213,458	186,224	399,682
30 – 39	156,660	132,082	288,742
40 – 49	88,916	66,798	155,714
50 – 59	69,822	48,072	117,894
60 – 69	46,164	33,343	79,507
70 – 79	37,283	20,445	57,728
80 – 89	14,106	5,605	19,711
90 – 99	3,754	1,120	4,874
99+	511	335	846
Unknown	1,373	1,192	2,565
Grand Total	632,047	495,216	1,127,263

5.1 The Nomination Period

The nomination period started on Monday, 16 April 2012 and ended on Thursday, the 26 April 2012. Publication of the final party lists of candidates was on Monday, 30 April 2012.

5.2 Dispute Resolution

The Independent Electoral Commission is empowered, among other things, to establish committees to assist or advise it in the performance of its functions, and to appoint persons to conciliate a complaint concerning a contravention of the Electoral Code of Conduct in terms of section 122 (4) of the National Assembly Electoral Act 2011. A number of committees

were, therefore, established in pursuit of this section, and for the purposes of this report, reference will be made only to those committees that were established specifically to deal with complaints arising from the election irregularities and the violation of the Electoral Code of Conduct.

It is imperative to mention here that the IEC realised a need to establish alternative dispute resolution mechanisms in order to deal with complaints arising from the interpretation or application of the Electoral Act. Fourteen (14) conciliators, two in Maseru and Mafeteng respectively and one in other districts were appointed and trained accordingly. The Chairpersons of the District Dispute Resolution Committees were identified through the assistance of Lesotho Council of NGOs and they included members of NGOs and some IEC staff.

One week training for conciliators was conducted by the consultant, with the assistance of a representative of the Electoral Institute of Southern Africa (EISA). The training was specifically focused on the procedures for conflict management and dispute resolution. Just so that the District Electoral Officers are on board regarding the procedures on dispute resolution, the consultant arranged to brief them on what the conciliators have been trained on. This was done in order to avoid any possible clash between conciliators and the DEOs who are in charge of the district election operations and from whom the conciliators would receive cases to deal with.

There was also a team of specialised conflict resolution panel which would deal with all matters referred to it by the IEC in terms of section 123 of the Act. The role of this panel was to resolve all disputes referred to it and to advise the Commission on possible pre-emptive interventions that may be considered appropriate to achieve the overall objective of peaceful, free and fair elections. This team composed of four panellists and was in office for a period of four months. Another body that was established was IEC Tribunal whose main task is to handle disputes that may arise between parties during elections and/or by-elections. This team remains on standby until the next elections.

During 2012 general elections there were no major disputes and most of them were settled by the committee. No appeals were lodged before the Commission.

7. Registration

Concerning registration of voters IEC had setup the stand alone Mobile Registration Units across the entire country in various registration centres. On top of that, the registration centres were also setup in the neighbouring Republic of South-Africa in order to enable Lesotho citizens staying in that country to easily access the registration centres. There was no real-time connection between MRUs and their respective district servers. Thus during the registration the data was temporarily stored in the MRUs, later-on after the registration was done, the MRUs data physically loaded into the district servers. Moreover each district server was connected to the central database at the IEC-HQ through virtual private network (VPN), where by all data consolidation is done. In addition, the voters' data from MRUs were loaded on into central database on a monthly basis.

The voters' physical applications forms were also shipped from registration centres to the IEC HQ. Reconciliation was undertaken at the HQ to verify whether it exists in the central database (voters' verification and validation).

Political parties were not satisfied with registration prior to Local Government Elections held on 01st Oct 2011; this was caused by the technology that IEC used to register voters as it had so many pitfalls as follows:

- unreliable power management system,
- unit too heavy to be moved from one place to another,
- card issue delayed
- poor support from vendors hence registration process was distorted
- poor quality of photographs and finger prints.

Prior to holding of the National Assembly Election IEC advertised a tender for a new registration system that would address problems of the previous system and improve registration process. Lithotech won the tender and supplied IEC with 600 (six hundred) registration units which in turn forced IEC to recruit 600 temporary officers to operate the units. The process of recruitment and training of officers went well and the intensified Voter Registration commenced from the 23rd January 2012 to the 22nd March 2012. Voters were impressed with the quality of photos and instant card issuance. This became a challenge as numbers of electors increased because of the good quality of voter cards which encouraged those who had registered to reapply for the new voters' cards. A total of about 172, 000 new registration forms were received and verified after uploading voters' biometric and

biographic data from the MRUs into the National Voters Central Database. In the run to the May 2012 General Elections the total registered voters was 1, 128, 782.

Table 3 - Total Registered Voters for 2012 General Elections

District Code	District Name	Registered Voters	Turn out Voters	Percentage Turnout
1	Butha-Buthe	68,236	34,575	50.67%
2	Leribe	181,769	97,969	53.90%
3	Berea	145,856	74,792	51.28%
4	Maseru	292,755	139,032	47.49%
5	Mafeteng	114,238	54,267	47.50%
6	Mohales Hoek	98,011	48,076	49.05%
7	Quthing	60,973	29,717	48.74%
8	Qachas Nek	40,437	20,965	51.85%
9	Thaba-Tseka	72,229	36,846	51.01%
10	Mokhotlong	53,476	28,212	52.76%
GRAND TOTALS	10	1,127,980	564,451	50.04%

6.1 Maintenance of the Voters Lists

In the process of eliminating the multiple registrants the data units managed to identify a total of about 23, 965 individuals. The law provides that in such cases, IEC removed the first instance of registration for each of these voters. Then different techniques were implemented in order to eliminate duplicate electors from the voter's database, these techniques complement each other so as to ensure correctness and a clean, consistent voters roll. The electors' data from various registration centres throughout the country is loaded and consolidated into one central database at the IEC head quarters. After the successful consolidation the duplicates detection exercise then came into play to ensure the data integrity.

6.2 AFIS System

The AFIS system searches the records in the central databases that have the same biometric properties (fingerprints).NOTE: During voter registration, the fingerprints capturing is part of registration process. Once the system has flagged individuals who possess more than one

record with similar fingerprints, the records are marked as duplicates. The system then leaves one record and removes the rest.

The integrity of the register has always been questioned even after the commission has adopted for a continuous voter registration using biometric technology in order to have a voter's register which will have the following qualities: integrity, inclusiveness, accuracy, accessibility, transparency, and credible.

6.3 Electors Having The Names With Similar Sound Index

Sound Index: Means the names or surnames are pronounced or spelled almost the same. Sound index takes into account that some names may have been written wrongly resulting from the human error. For an instance: *Thabang* may have been written as *Ahabang* or *Thibang*, etc as the human error during registration process. This technique complements the other techniques illustrated above. Although in some instance the names with similar Sound index were found to be twins.

There are some cases whereby the duplicate registrations were discovered by different stakeholders listed below:

- Voters themselves;
- Political Party Representatives;
- Media houses;
- IEC Constituency Officers
- Village Chiefs
- LCN (Lesotho Council of Non-Governmental Organisations)

There were 23, 404 deceased from constituencies which were removed. The deceased data received included data received from the Ministry of Home Affairs. The challenge with the names from the Ministry of Home Affairs was that the names were not provided with the Voters registration numbers then that brought a challenge where there were more than one name on the list. The net result was that in some instances wrong people were removed from the voters list.

6.4 Relocation and Transfers

In the system Transfers and Relocation are treated as an identical entity, hence they are both flagged as transfers. The total number of transfers' forms processed was 27, 438 and relocation of voters was 5, 442.

6.5 Production of Electors Rolls

The first printing of the Voters List started on the 31st March 2012 and checked by all the CEA's before distributed for display to various display centres and the Political Parties. The second display of Voters List was made and the copies were made available for all political parties. The main purpose of voters' roll display was to give electors an opportunity to confirm that their names appear on the voters list before elections day as well as confirming their voting stations. Other ways of checking the voters' registration status was through:

- IEC website: <http://www.iec.org.ls>
- SMS: 31010
- Visiting or Calling IEC offices

Printing of the final voters list for polling started on 17th May 2012 and completed on the 22nd May 2012. The voters list was delivered to offices of all participating political parties and independent candidates on the 23rd May 2012.

6.6 Registration of Political Parties

The Electoral Act defines a political party as an association that is registered under the Societies Act 1966 whose primary purpose is to contest elections for election of members of the National Assembly but for the purpose of proportional representation elections includes an independent candidate. A political party which was qualified to register with the Commission has to follow the following steps:

- Registered under the Societies Act as an association
- Submit a list of 500 registered paid-up membership and
- Pay a registration fee of M300.00.

Table 1 above shows the number of political parties that contested the 2012 national elections.

8. Nomination of Candidates

Each political party intending to nominate candidates under proportional representation must pay a nomination fee of Eight Thousand Maloti (M8000.00) while a candidate nominated under constituency elections paid Two Hundred Maloti (M200.00). The PR list shall include at least 40 candidates but not more than 120 who are arranged in order of preference from top to bottom, with a female or a male candidate immediately followed by a candidate of the opposite sex. A total of 56 Independent Candidates contested the elections. The Independent Candidates were compelled to submit a PR list like political parties and one candidate sought recourse from the High Court and succeeded.

The Commission therefore revised its decision concerning Proportional Representation nomination concerning independent candidates and gave those who had submitted PR lists an opportunity to withdraw. The decision was communicated by telephone to all the respective candidates. Out of 20 independent 11 withdrew their PR candidature and were refunded their PR nomination deposits, whereas 9 did not withdraw and they were treated like political parties when allocating PR seats.

The total number of nominated candidates was 1038 of which 781 male and 257 female.

9. Civic and Voter Education

The civic and voter education programme was carried out in all the ten (10) districts of the country by the commission through the voter educators in partnership with five (5) civil society organisations. The electoral education programme was aimed at encouraging participation in the electoral process and enhancing understanding of the electoral process. Its main objectives included among others to educate all the electorate on the election administration and respond to perceptions of the electorate about the Lesotho election process. The programme activities included training of civil society groups across the country. The civil society trained included organised groups inside and outside political parties so as to enhance understanding on the electoral process particularly the National Assembly Electoral Act of 2011. It also included providing education concerning electoral matters to the general population of elector's, country wide through Non-Governmental Organisations. It further embraced production of electoral education materials as tools for enhancement of understanding on the electoral process.

8.1 Training Political Parties as Educators/Trainers

The session started with training of political parties educators in the southern and northern regions of Lesotho: Leribe and Mole's Hoek respectively. Participants of these two workshops were 53. They were from 10 political parties; NIP, PFD, ABC, BNDP, LPC, LWP, LCD, BNP, BCP, and MFP. This training was sponsored by UNDP/IRISH AID Project-CDGG. It was held in October and November 2011.

8.2 Civic Groups Training

The groups trained included political parties executive committees, women and youth leagues, chiefs, women and youth outside political parties. They also included Lesotho Mounted Police Services, National Security Services, and Lesotho Correctional Services, business associations, and people with disabilities, school principals, media practitioners, senior citizens, church leaders and political party representatives in all districts. They further included herd boys, street vendors and shop stewards for the textile industry. Participants on these trainings ranged to a total of 7109.

The content for this training was basically the electoral process as per the National Assembly Electoral Act of 2011. The trainers were political parties' educators trained by IEC on the electoral process and the legal frame work guiding execution of the respective process. The trainers were from the following political parties: ABC, BCP, BNP, BNDP, LCD, LPC, LWP, MFP, NIP, PFD and SSD. Each workshop was allotted 2-3 facilitators depending on the number of participants and the type of target audience in terms of educational background and level of understanding on the process. The trainers were paid M500.00 per day for only the days that they were training. The trainers included Voter Education Assistants from 10 districts of Lesotho.

8.3 Feedback from The Participants

The participants submitted their contributions as a way to improve on the future trainings and their contributions were as follows:

- The functions, roles and duties of the Electoral Commission seemed interesting and were discussed at length. They also showed interest on Gender and Human Rights, free, fair and democratic elections.
- Seemingly, the topic of gender is a very sensitive issue and also highly debatable. Men blamed women that they orchestrated their own situation in politics, and also lack of confidence. They were all aware that a deliberate decision to ensure an enabling environment for women to play their centre stage in elections but the issues of gender still need to be given time as men still seem not to understand them. Participation of women in the political affairs of the country needs to be encouraged because women seemed to feel inferior in the process.
- Though the majority of participants had previously been members of parliament, there was still a level of ignorance on the allocation of PR seats, the nature of FPTP and PR seats in the procedures and processes of parliament,
- Training was highly appreciated and applauded by majority of participants though they showed dissatisfaction on the training venue, duration of training and its timing. The venue was cold, food not satisfactory and the late invitations by the commission. In their view they could have been taken to Hotels instead of school halls for it was cold in those halls.
- Attendance was low due to late invitations and the timing of training. It was at the peak of campaigning when some of the candidates had to weigh the benefits of training and of campaigning. They therefore opted for campaigning because in their opinion it could have come earlier than that. It was also noted that some of the candidates sent their representatives to attend on their behalf.
- Few knew about the IEC structure and functions but were not aware of consultative committees. They were surprised that they were actually represented in all those important consultative committees. It became clear that there was no internal dissemination of information within the political parties to the rest of the membership especially the candidates who were likely to be parliamentarians.
- Majority of candidates easily grasped what was being discussed; they were also clear about the rights of the electors and rights of nominated candidates. They indicated that they did not know these rights before then.

Recommendations from the participants were as follows:

- Voter education should be continuous in order to enable the society to be familiar with National Assembly Electoral Act. This would enable the society at large to be analytic and assess issues around election administration constructively.
- IEC to conduct trainings of civic groups at least 3 months before elections to ensure that the participants are given adequate time to internalise the subject.

8.4 Training of Nominated Candidates

The nominated candidates were another group which was trained with a purpose to ensure that they understood the electoral process and also to know their responsibilities as nominated candidates. The content for training included the composition of the structure of IEC, functions, roles, and duties of the commission, consultative committees working with IEC, the Electoral Model used in Lesotho, and allocation of proportional representation seats. It also included rights, roles and responsibilities of candidates and the electorate respectively, gender and human rights, free & fair as well as democratic elections. It further included stable and prosperous nation-building through suitable inclusive democracy, voters' rights campaigning and the purpose of campaigning, code of conduct, rights and responsibilities of voters towards political parties' campaigns, advance elections, electoral offences, and complaints, objections during and after Election Day.

8.5 Feedback from Nominated Candidates

- Nominated candidates considered this training as valuable. They felt that they could have been educators to their followers and their communities, if they acquired electoral knowledge earlier. Had it come in advance, they could have avoided most of the mistakes they have done. They confessed that they stepped on each other's toes. This training has helped them to iron some of the grievance and grudges which they had against each other due to their conduct in the previous campaigning sessions.
- Independent candidates expressed their dissatisfaction of the way the commission had handled nomination of candidates concerning independent candidates. The act of rejecting nominations of independent candidates, who did not submit proportional representations list, denied the candidates their rights and bound them to contest elections as parties. They also blamed the commission of denying them their right to information.
- Participants considered the act of training candidates as the most pivotal role in creating conducive environment surrounding elections. The commission was highly commended on informing both candidates and voters and facilitating understanding of the National Assembly Electoral Act of 2011.
- In most of these trainings participants committed themselves to work together even after the elections for the betterment of their places, and their people. They further indicated that, trainings of this nature could promote peace and tolerance among candidates as well as to assist them to avoid conflicts.

“If trainings of this kind could have been done, what happened in 1998 could have never happened”.

In their opinion, the training was specific and relevant to their present political problems. It addressed their needs concerning elections. Participants further indicated that their ignorance of the Electoral Act has put them in a situation where political leaders manipulated them and misled them. This emanated from the idea that IEC works with consultative committees which are composed of representatives from all the political parties that are registered with IEC in almost all activities concerning election administration.

Another benefit which participants pointed was of allocation of proportional representation seats. On this subject matter, participants indicated that knowledge and skills on seats allocation would liberate them and the rest of the public from being exploited and manipulated by their party leaders who usually score their personal agendas through them. They further indicated that the training acted as an agent to enhance peace and communication between rival candidates belonging to rival political parties.

8.6 Electoral Education by Non-Governmental Organisations

IEC engaged 5 Non-Governmental Organisations to provide the general population of voters with education on the electoral process. IEC through the procurement office made call for expression of interest to attract relevant NGOs with knowledge and experience in provision of non-formal mode of education, human rights and democracy. The interested NGOs made proposals to provide electoral education for National Assembly Elections. Before NGOs could submit their proposals, all interested NGOs were invited to a meeting where they were briefed on the general aim of the expression of interest and how it would be handled. This meeting was the entry point for NGOs, for, those which did not attend such meeting would not be allowed to submit their proposals.

The proposals were submitted, evaluated and recommended for awarding according to the tendering process. The following organisations were found relevant and capable according to the set criteria. They are; Campaign for Education Forum (CEF), Transformation Resource Centre (TRC), Economic Justice Network (CJN), Federation of Women Lawyers (FIDA) and Lesotho Council of Non-Governmental Organisations (LCN). These organisations signed a contract with IEC.

The engaged organisations identified professional facilitators to train the electoral educators within their respective organisations and introduced them to IEC. They were given two day training on the manual developed by IEC. The manual bore the following contents: democracy, human rights, and perceptions of voters on the voting process, registration of electors, display of voters' register, nomination of candidates, voting process, counting of votes, and announcement of election results and allocation of seats. The content also included conditions, under which democratic elections are held, electoral code of conduct and practices as well as offences in the electoral process. The training for facilitators was also done by Voter Education Assistants for Independent Electoral Commission. The provision of electoral education began on the 6th April 2012. It took 40 days.

The organisations prepared budgets and submitted to IEC and they were given funds in advance to ensure that education for the electorate would become a success. It was agreed with organisations that they would give IEC work plans, weekly reports and final reports; narrative and financial reports. Some of these organisations did give IEC work plans, deployment plans and weekly reports as agreed except TRC which only managed to hand in a deployment plan and a final report. The Economic Justice Network (EJN) was an exception for; it was directly sponsored by UNDP.

Economic Justice Network mainly used door to door and public meetings in its provision of electoral education and it was able to reach many voters. 75 309 voters were reached which was made up of female: - 21 485, male: - 16 959, youth: - 24 154 and people with disabilities: - 91. A total of 36 658 were reached and given electoral education in the four districts by

Federation of Women Lawyers (FIDA). The total number of electorates reached by Development for Peace Education (DPE) in the district of Mohale's Hoek was 48 609 whereas in Quthing they were 29 094. TRC covered the districts of Mokhotlong, Leribe and Maseru where a total of 194 610 electors were reached. Campaign for Education Forum had planned to cover institutions of higher learning with a focus on youth, a total of 30 054 voters were covered.

In total there were 414, 334 voters who received voter information through the assistance of the NGO's.

10. Infrastructure and Logistics

In the past elections the reports from the observers had indicated that the delivery of election materials had not been to the required standard. The reports further illustrated that there were shortage of election materials in some stations, late delivery of materials to the voting stations and poor lighting in the voting stations during counting of votes. The commission decided to address these problems by engaging the services of a logistics consultant. UNDP was approached to assist in identifying a consultant by the name of Mr. Emmanuel Igohe. In the past elections UNDP had been assisting IEC with logistics consultants but Mr. Igohe's work has been so remarkable that for the first time the reports of observers were positive on the delivery of election materials. The strategy that was used by this consultant was to adopt a centralised packaging of election materials. This strategy has worked for the IEC although there were some reservations to fully deploy the strategy.

10.1 Centralised packaging and delivery of materials

After all the desired materials had been procured and delivered to the central warehouse, the temporary warehouse staff packaged the materials according to the voting centres. The Constituency Electoral Assistants (CEAs) were called on to partake in the verification of the voting kits before they were destined to their respective constituencies. The packaging was done in abidance with the conventional voting station checklist. Political party representatives were also called on to come and observe the packaging at the central warehouse. When the voting kits for a district were completed hired trucks were used to deliver the voting kits to different districts accompanied by political party representatives from the logistics committee.

The IEC has a very stable and reliable partnership with the Lesotho Defence Force (LDF) Air-wing during elections time. The LDF Air-wing has always upheld elections as a matter of utmost national concern; and has never wavered in supporting the IEC with airlifting electoral materials to voting stations inaccessible by motor vehicles. Therefore in the same spirit consultations between the IEC and the AIRWING were entered into whereby methods of collection and distribution were clearly devised, subsequently the airlifts went on well as scheduled and without any unsolicited hitch except on the roll-back when some results came in late because of adverse weather in some of the mountainous constituencies.

11. Voters Transfers and Demarcation Statistics

Voters Transfers and Demarcation of electoral divisions have been a course for concern to many Basotho in the elections under consideration. The Commission found it important to state in this report, the transfers effected and the status of data regarding demarcation of electoral divisions so as to determine whether these could have any effect on the outcome of the 2012 general elections.

Table 4 - Voters Transfers and Demarcation Statistics

CONSTITUENCY	TRANSFERS WITHIN	TRANSFERS GOING OUT	TRANSFERS COMING IN	RELOCATI ON INTO	RELOCATIO N _OUT_OF
01 - MECHACHANE	154	82	27	0	0
02 – HOLOLO	116	133	80	0	0
03 – MOTETE	350	97	47	0	0
04 – QALO	136	98	53	0	0
05 - BUTHA-BUTHE	76	587	187	0	0
06 - MALIBA- MATSO	32	101	30	0	0
07 – MPHOSONG	61	87	74	0	0
08 - THABA- PHATS'OA	20	179	121	0	0
09 – MAHOBONG	66	174	136	0	0
10 - PELA-TS'OEU	22	118	38	0	0
11 - MATLAKENG	100	117	98	0	0
12 – LERIBE	17	131	63	0	0
13 – HLOTSE	379	831	390	0	0
14 – TSIKOANE	32	162	139	0	0
15 – MAPUTSOE	2,543	210	209	0	0
16 - LIKHETLANE	27	101	154	0	0
17 – PEKA	27	93	60	0	0
18 - KOLONYAMA	11	98	54	0	0
19 - MOSALEMANE	30	85	23	0	0
20 - 'MAKHOROANA	24	107	72	0	0
21 - BELA-BELA	135	96	89	0	0
22 – MALIMONG	82	126	96	0	0
23 – KHAFUNG	58	105	58	0	0
24 - TEYA- TEYANENG	43	538	120	0	0
25 - TSOANA- MAKHULO	153	129	102	0	0
26 - THUPA-KUBU	52	141	48	0	0
27 – BEREA	35	177	218	296	0
28 - KHUBETSOANA	85	466	666	0	296
29 – MABOTE	69	467	434	0	0

30 – MOTIMPOSO	137	386	514	506	0
31 - STADIUM AREA	32	880	274	0	0
32 – MASERU	33	2,900	320	0	0
33 – THETSANE	154	455	491	0	0
34 – QOALING	61	355	481	0	0
35 – LITHOTENG	35	331	329	0	0
36 - LITHABANENG	103	719	360	0	2425
37 – ABIA	199	320	537	162	0
38 - THABA-BOSIU	273	187	366	1757	0
39 – MACHACHE	166	143	126	0	0
40 - THABA-PUTSOA	100	161	65	0	0
41 – MAAMA	32	491	129	0	0
42 - KORO-KORO	56	227	317	0	0
43 – QEME	128	167	176	0	0
44 – ROTHE	29	87	40	0	0
45 – MATSIENG	75	158	169	0	0
46 - MAKHALENG	95	196	65	0	0
47 - MALETSUNYANE	37	141	23	0	0
48 - THABA- PHECHELA	40	93	64	0	0
49 – KOLO	22	108	56	0	0
50 – MATELILE	76	295	81	0	0
51 - MALIEPETSANE	128	146	88	0	0
52 - THABANA- MORENA	53	123	59	0	0
53 – LIKHOELE	52	256	81	0	0
54 – QALABANE	178	102	250	0	0
55 – MAFETENG	235	609	435	0	0
56 – TAUNG	26	101	54	0	0
57 – QHALASI	73	105	175	0	0
58 - MOHALE'S HOEK	68	722	346	0	0
59 – MEKALING	48	86	37	0	0
60 – QAQATU	12	86	31	0	0
61 – MPHARANE	51	248	41	0	0
62 – KETANE	73	146	36	0	0
63 - HLOAHLOENG	211	55	31	0	0
64 – TELE	52	61	61	0	0
65 – MOYENI	52	549	62	0	0
66 – SEBAPALA	66	99	56	0	0
67 - MT.MOOROSI	52	139	100	0	0
68 – QHOALI	150	85	65	0	0
69 - QACHA'S NEK	170	298	167	0	0
70 – LEBAKENG	66	92	42	0	0
71 – TSOELIKE	35	83	64	0	0
72 - MANTS'ONYANE	91	108	70	0	0
73 - THABA-MOEA	272	81	56	0	0
74 - THABA - TSEKA	91	244	97	0	0
75 – SEMENA	30	99	16	0	0

76 – MASHAI	68	81	65	0	0
77 - MALINGOANENG	57	240	69	0	0
78 – SENQU	28	123	32	0	0
79 - MOKHOTLONG	59	257	112	0	0
80 – BOBATSI	47	159	44	0	0
81 - DIPLOMATIC MISSION	107	30	128	0	0
82 – PRISONS	810	54	4,884	0	0
83 - ADVANCE VOTING	212	20	3,600	0	0

12. Election Observation and Monitoring

12.1 Election Observation

The Chairperson of the Independent Electoral Commission Mrs. Limakatso Mokhothu on 20th March 2012 invited national and international organisations to participate in the general elections of Lesotho. An observer coordination unit was established which was lead by a Consultant from South Africa. Observers play a critical role in ensuring the credibility, freeness and fairness of an election. In Lesotho, observers both national and international are accredited in terms of section 117 of the National Assembly Electoral Act, 2011. Observers are required to observe the code of conduct while exercising their role with impartiality, independence and not to interfere with the normal course of management of the elections. A total of 7 national and 12 international observer organisations were accredited. The total number of observers deployed was 906 while the media personnel had a component of 191 representatives.

All the observer groups had unanimously indicated that IEC was ready and prepared to conduct the elections and the May 26, 2012 elections were peaceful, free, fair and transparent and had also been conducted in accordance with the Constitution and the laws of Lesotho. Furthermore the conduct of elections had also adhered to regional and international standards stipulated under PEMMO.

12.2 Elections Monitoring

The political party leaders nominated a representative from each political party registered with the Commission to establish a body which was intended to monitor IEC's activities and made regular reporting to the Party Leaders' Forum. The first meeting of the Elections Monitoring Committee was held on 30th April 2012. Some of the issues which were handled by the Elections Monitoring Committee were as follows:

- Recommended that the Electronic Voter Validation Units be used in the coming elections;
- The committee was also part of the verification, printing and delivery of the ballot papers to the districts;
- Attended the rallies of political parties;
- Formed part of the Data Committee which investigated the registration of under age students;
- Recommended that voting day to be declared a public holiday;
- Recommended that political party leaders to adhere to the Electoral Code of Conduct with regard to the public statement the make;

Recommended that in future Elections Monitoring Committee to be in place as early as possible to cover the election period activities.

13. Advance Voting and Voting Day

13.1 Advance Voting

The electoral Act stipulates that an elector may apply to vote as an advance elector if the elector will not be able to vote on elections day at the voting station allocated to that elector. The category of people entitled to vote as advance electors do not include the following: the sick people, people working or studying in South Africa and the old age, these are the groups that need to be included as an enhancement to the electoral Act. Application period to be an advance elector was opened from March 23 to 2 April 2012. A week prior issuance of application a briefing meeting was held with the entitled advance electors to familiarise them with the filling of the application forms. Around 3, 000 application forms were received but 2, 973 qualified as advance electors, those rejected application forms had incorrect or missing information.

There were ninety (90) appropriate voting stations countrywide which included 80 constituencies and 10 district offices. The other voting stations were fourteen (14) Lesotho's diplomatic missions abroad where voting was held on 16th May 2012. Elector's lists were prepared for each station and the elector's name was appearing only in one voting station. It had been identified that in future for improving the advance voting the application form should include the birth date and contact details for the applicant, this will assist in the event where the applicant does not know his/her elector's registration number or there are multiple names.

In most stations advance voting on the 19th May 2012 went well except in Kolonyama constituency where one ballot paper was reported missing after the voter had voted and those voters who had cast their votes were requested to repeat the process before voting day. This incident was discussed between the candidates and the commission.

13.2 Voting Day

The voting centres were mostly in schools, churches and public buildings, most voting stations opened and closed on time at 07H00 till 17H00. The Election Day proceeded in a peaceful and calm manner and there were no incidents of intimidation reported. Saturday, 26 May 2012 was declared as a public holiday which then attracted large numbers of women and youth who participated in the electoral process as voters and as well as voting staff and party agents.

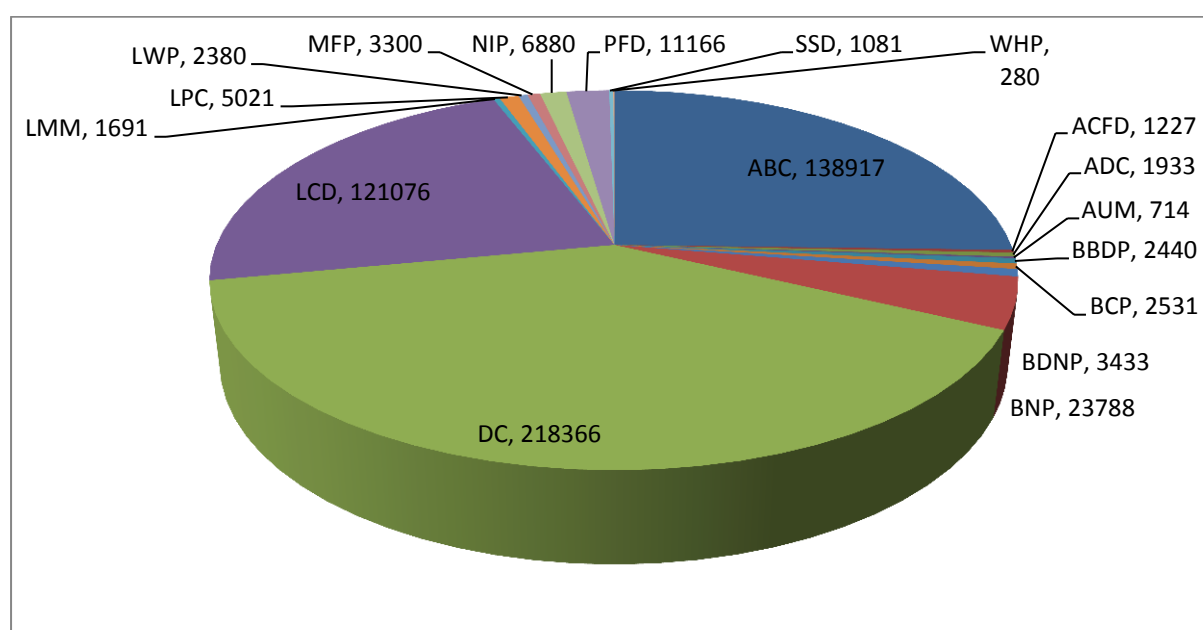
There were some voters who did not cast their votes on Election Day because their names did not appear on the elector's register they had attended although they had electors card for that voting station. There are a number of reasons which resulted in electors not appearing on the station elector's list. Some had applied for transfers, but the transfer had not been effected; some had simply forgotten their voting station and then they attended the wrong voting station; some were in the correct voting centre but were looking for their names in the wrong voting station; lastly some might have been erroneously removed from the elector's register in an effort to clean the Register as deceased or multiple registrant as the case may be.

The voting process proceeded in accordance with the laid down procedure as indicated in the voting station manuals. The process starts with the identification and verification of the voters' names, issuance of the ballot paper, marking of the ballot paper and marking with the indelible ink. The counting and tallying of the results was done transparently in the presence of party agents and observers. Some observers have commented that the counting process was too slow and it needs some improvement to speed it up. Some observers have indicated that the second counterfoil of the ballot paper should be removed before the voter is given the ballot paper or it should totally not to be part of the ballot paper because it compromises the secrecy of the vote.

14. Constituency Results

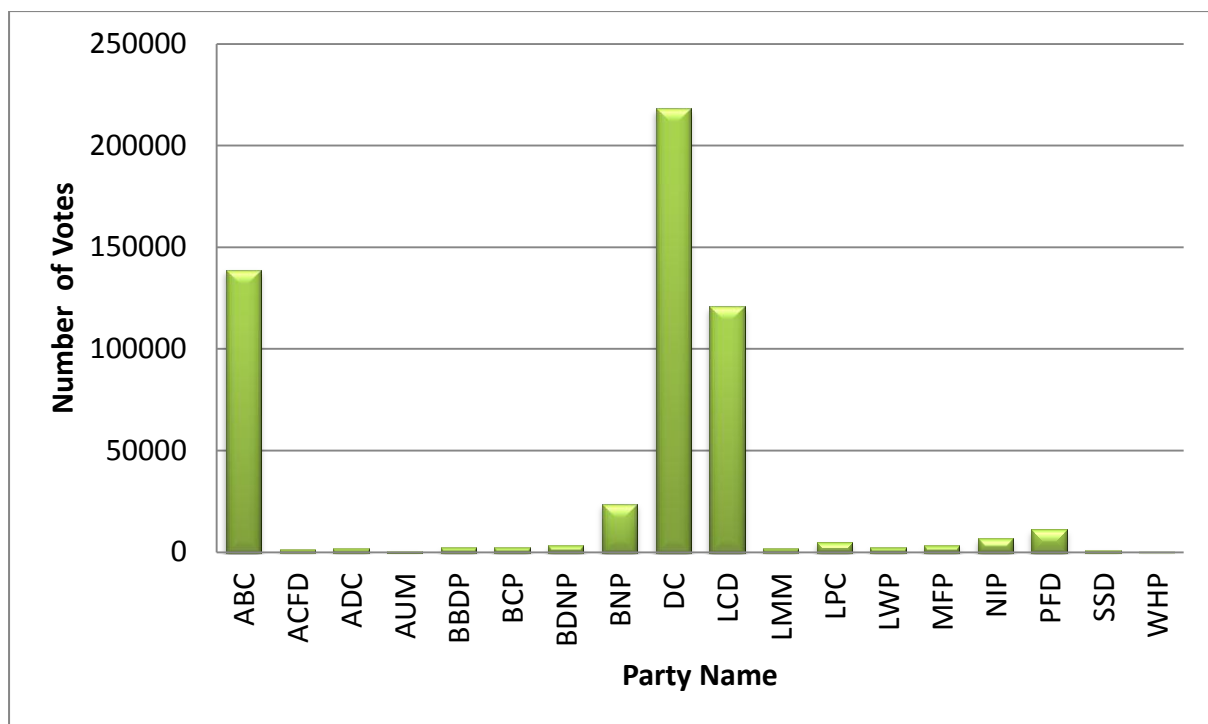
The elections announcement commenced on Sunday, 27th May 2012 and ended on Wednesday, 30th May 2012. The results centre (Manthabiseng Convention Centre) was connected with a real-time wireless technology to IEC HQ where the web-based National Election Results System was hosted. IEC had made provision to media and the public to readily access and to print hard copies of election results as they were announced. The pie-chart here below shows how each party performed relative to others:

14.1 Performance of All Parties in Regard to Number of Votes



The chart given above shows that Democratic Congress (DC) had performed better than all other competitors as it got 218, 366 votes throughout the country. On the other hand White Horse Party (WHP) got the least of all competitors by getting 280 votes throughout the country.

Table 4 - Overall Party Performance Relative to Others (Confirming Pie Chart 1)



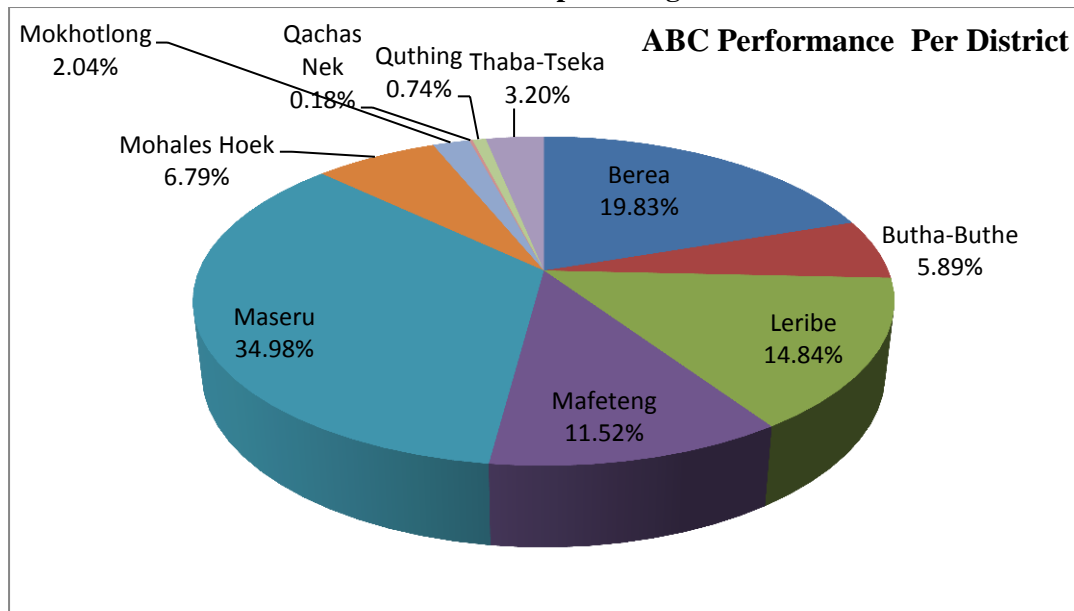
14.2 Performance of Parties Per Districts

14.2.1 All Basotho Convention (ABC)

In Numbers

District	Votes
Berea	27547
Butha-Buthe	8178
Leribe	20616
Mafeteng	16010
Maseru	48589
Mohales Hoek	9431
Mokhotlong	2829
Qachas Nek	251
Quthing	1024
Thaba-Tseka	4442
Total Votes	138917

In percentage

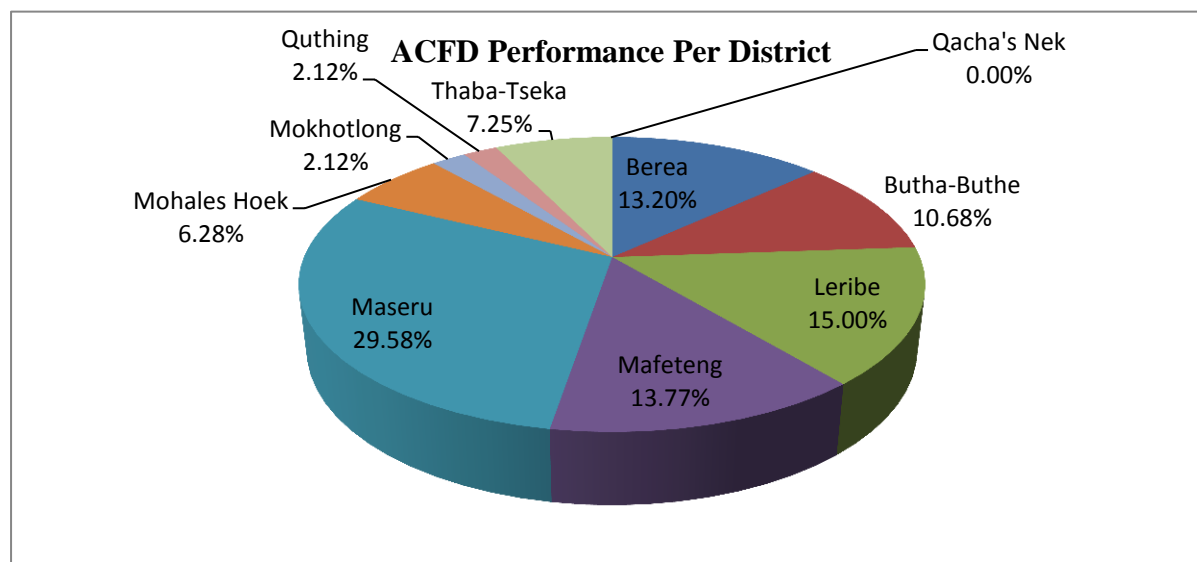


14.2.2 AREKA COVANENT FRONT FOR DEVELOPMENT (ACFD)

In Numbers

District	Votes
Berea	162
Butha-Buthe	131
Leribe	184
Mafeteng	169
Maseru	363
Mohales Hoek	77
Mokhotlong	26
Quthing	26
Thaba-Tseka	89
Qacha's Nek	0
Total Votes	1227

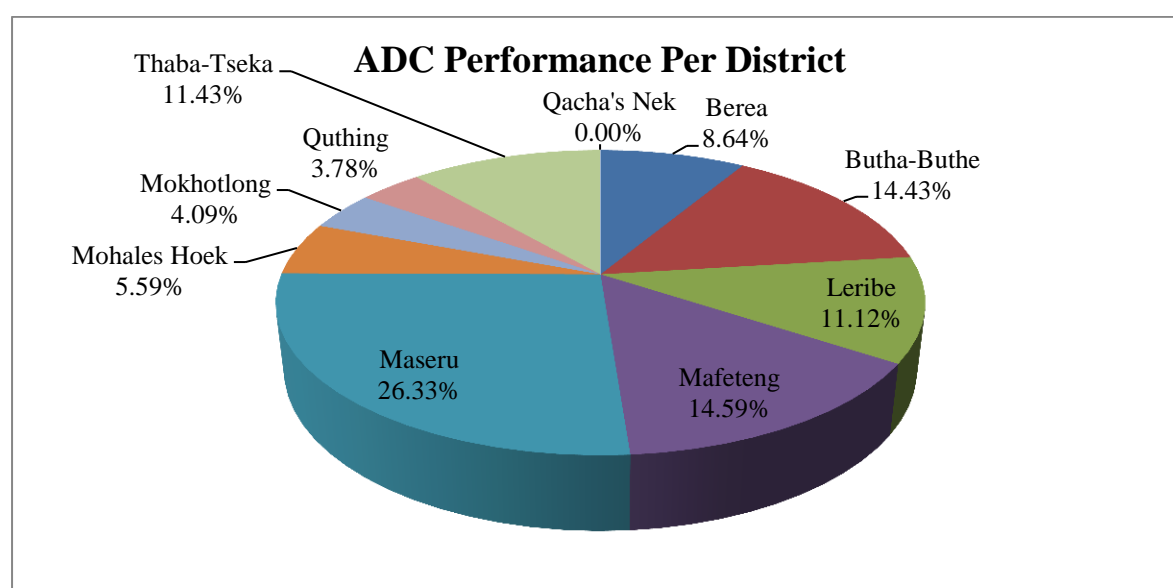
In Percentage



14.2.3 ALL DEMOCRATIC CORPORATION (ADC)

In Numbers

District	Votes
Berea	167
Butha-Buthe	279
Leribe	215
Mafeteng	282
Maseru	509
Mohales Hoek	108
Mokhotlong	79
Quthing	73
Thaba-Tseka	221
Qacha's Nek	0
Total Votes	1933

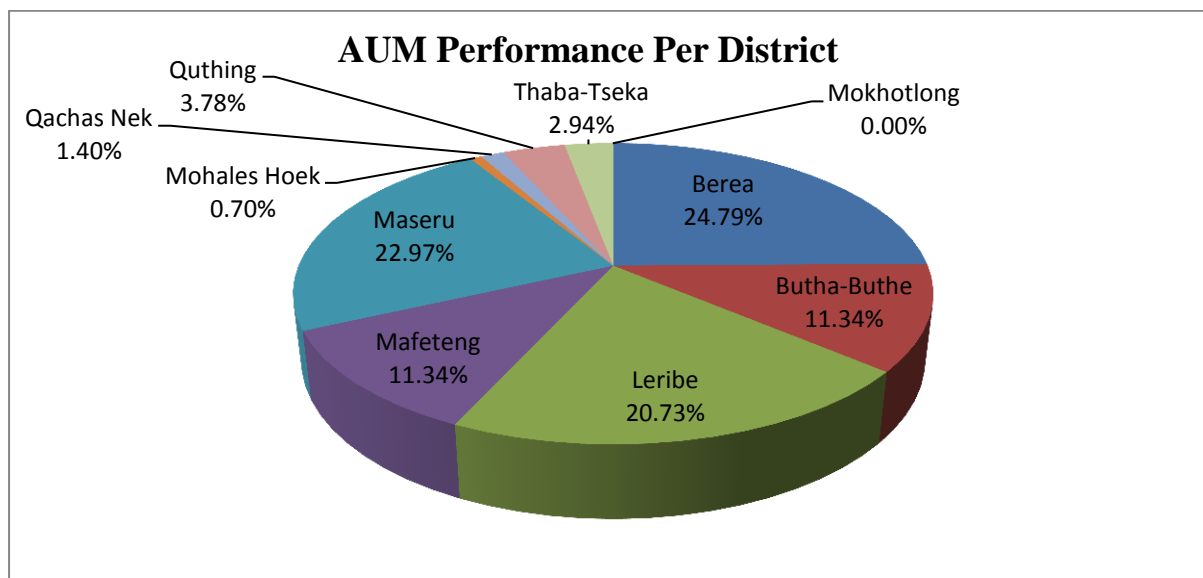


14.2.4 AFRICAN UNITY MOVEMENT (AUM)

In Numbers

District	Votes
Berea	177
Butha-Buthe	81
Leribe	148
Mafeteng	81
Maseru	164
Mohales Hoek	5
Qachas Nek	10
Quthing	27
Thaba-Tseka	21
Mokhotlong	0
Qachas Nek	0
Total Votes	714

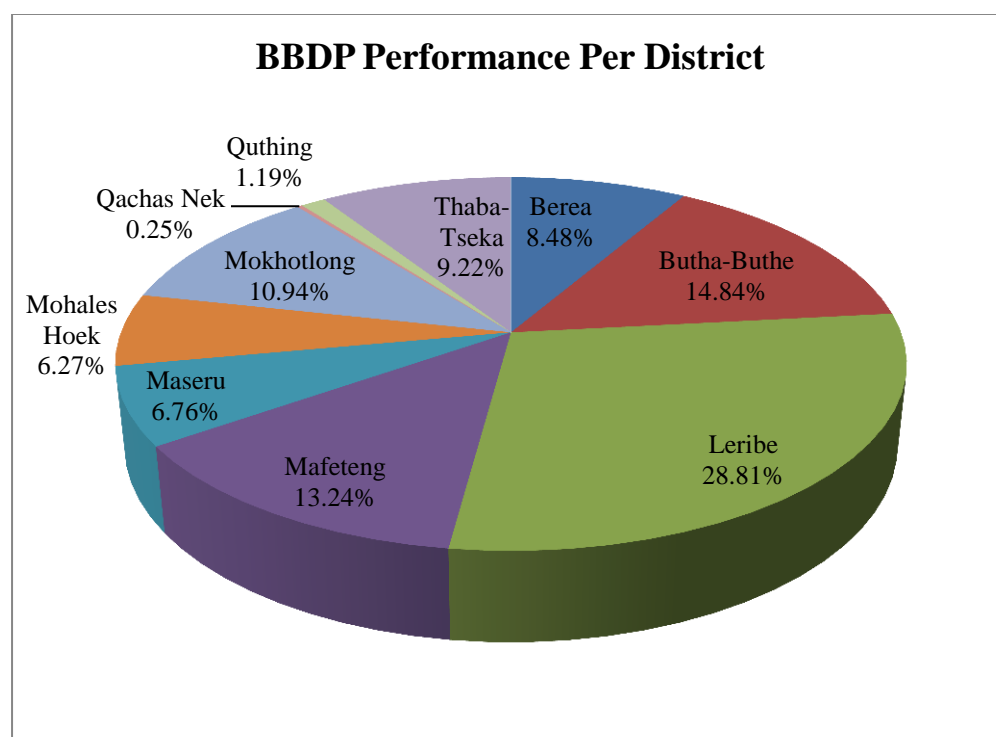
In Percentage



14.2.5 BASOTHO BATHO DEMOCRATIC PARTY (BBDP)

In Numbers

District	Votes
Berea	207
Butha-Buthe	362
Leribe	703
Mafeteng	323
Maseru	165
Mohales Hoek	153
Mokhotlong	267
Qachas Nek	6
Quthing	29
Thaba-Tseka	225
Total Votes	2440

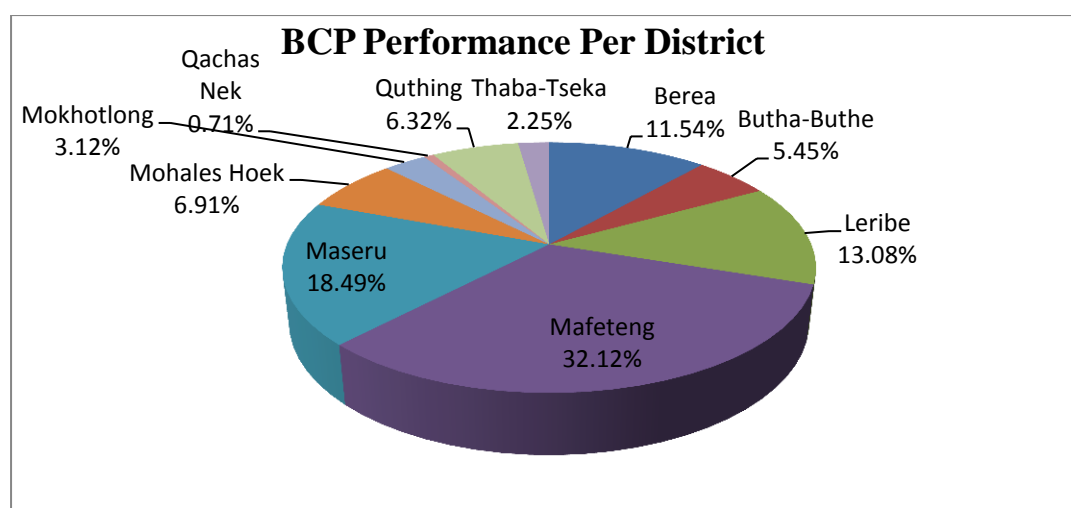


14.2.6 BASOTHO CONGRESS PARTY (BCP)

In Numbers

District	Votes
Berea	292
Butha-Buthe	138
Leribe	331
Mafeteng	813
Maseru	468
Mohales Hoek	175
Mokhotlong	79
Qachas Nek	18
Quthing	160
Thaba-Tseka	57
Total Votes	2531

In Percentage

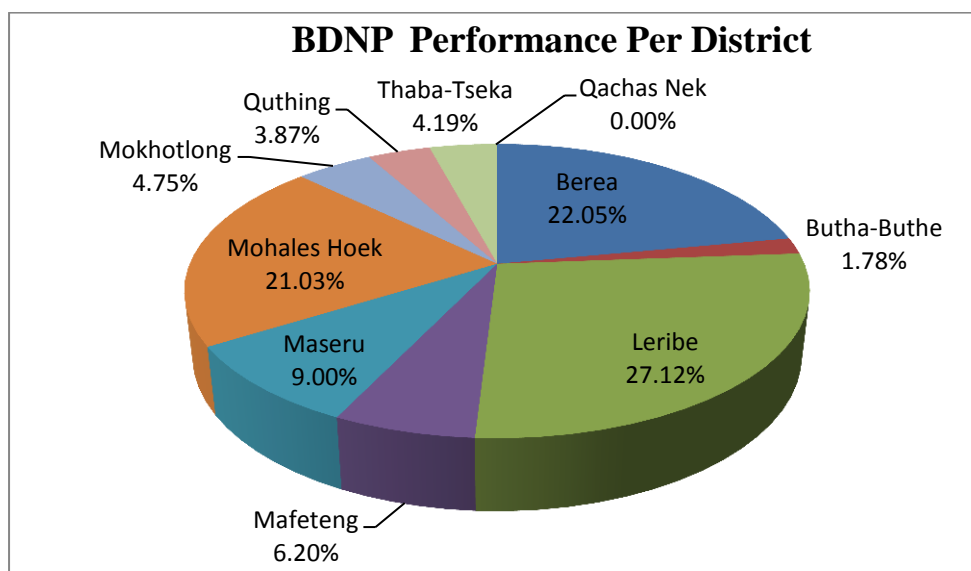


14.2.7 BASOTHO DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL PARTY (BDNP)

In Numbers

District	Votes
Berea	757
Butha-Buthe	61
Leribe	931
Mafeteng	213
Maseru	309
Mohales Hoek	722
Mokhotlong	163
Quthing	133
Thaba-Tseka	144
Qachas Nek	0
Total Votes	3433

In Percentage

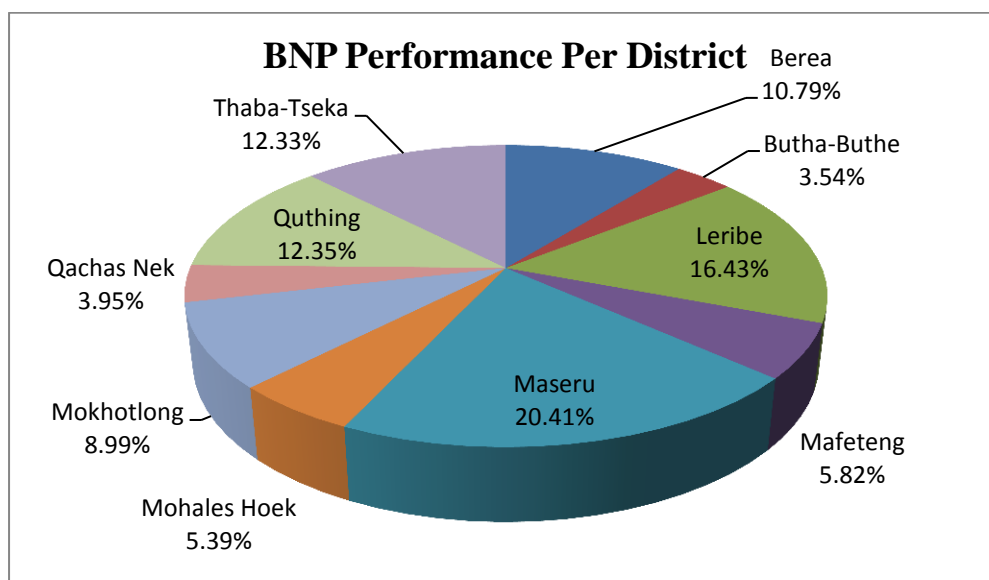


14.2.8 BASOTHO NATIONAL PARTY (BNP)

In Numbers

District	Votes
Berea	2567
Butha-Buthe	841
Leribe	3908
Mafeteng	1384
Maseru	4856
Mohales Hoek	1283
Mokhotlong	2139
Qachas Nek	939
Quthing	2938
Thaba-Tseka	2933
Total Votes	23788

In Percentage

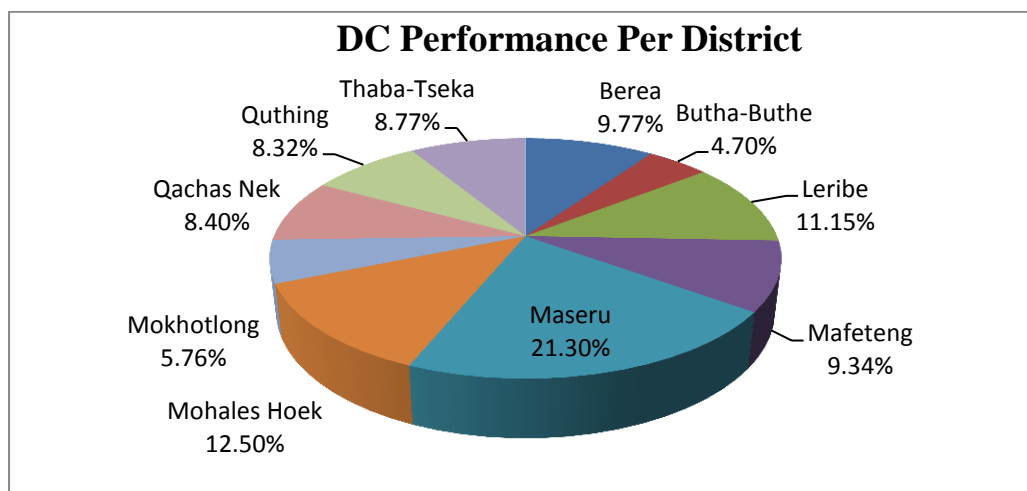


14.2.9 DEMOCRATIC CONGRESS (DC)

In Numbers

District	Votes
Berea	21324
Butha-Buthe	10257
Leribe	24342
Mafeteng	20393
Maseru	46515
Mohales Hoek	27287
Mokhotlong	12576
Qachas Nek	18348
Quthing	18178
Thaba-Tseka	19146
Total Votes	218366

In Percentage

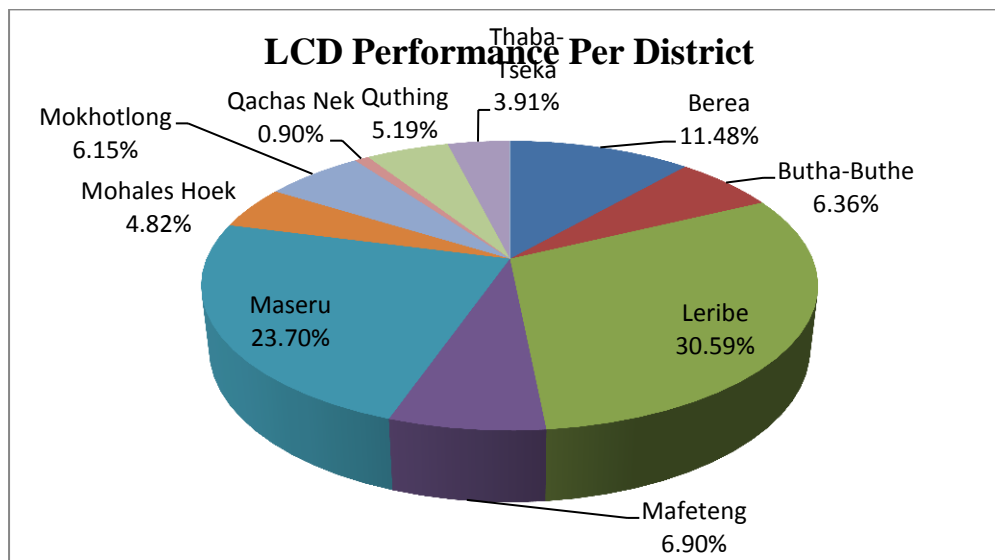


14.2.10 LESOTHO CONGRESS FOR DEMOCRACY (LCD)

In Numbers

District	Votes
Berea	13901
Butha-Buthe	7703
Leribe	37037
Mafeteng	8357
Maseru	28693
Mohales Hoek	5841
Mokhotlong	7443
Qachas Nek	1090
Quthing	6282
Thaba-Tseka	4729
Total Votes	121076

In Percentage

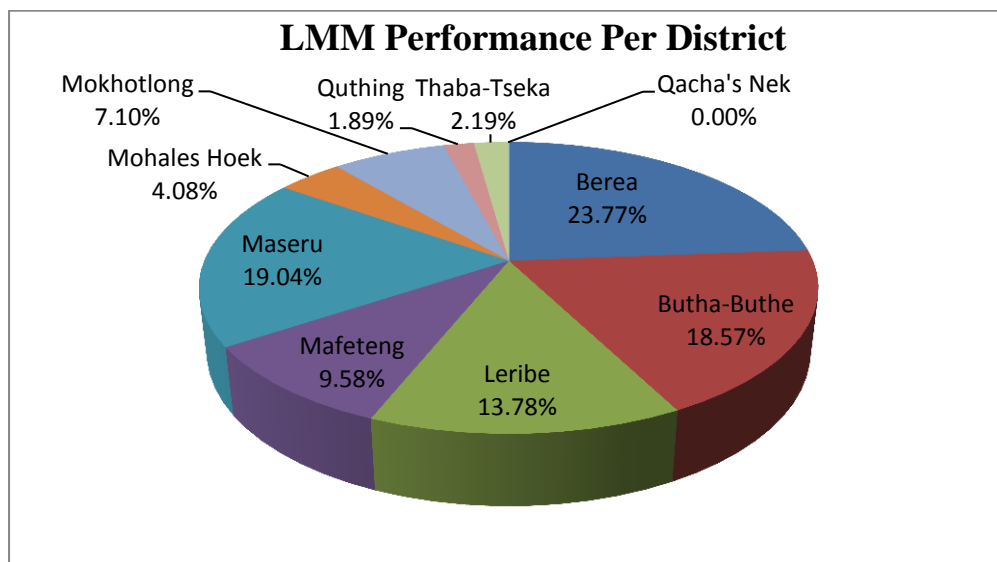


14.2.11 LEKHOTLA LA MEKHOA LE MEETLO (LMM)

In Numbers

District	Votes
Berea	402
Butha-Buthe	314
Leribe	233
Mafeteng	162
Maseru	322
Mohales Hoek	69
Mokhotlong	120
Quthing	32
Thaba-Tseka	37
Qacha's Nek	0
Total Votes	1691

In Percentage

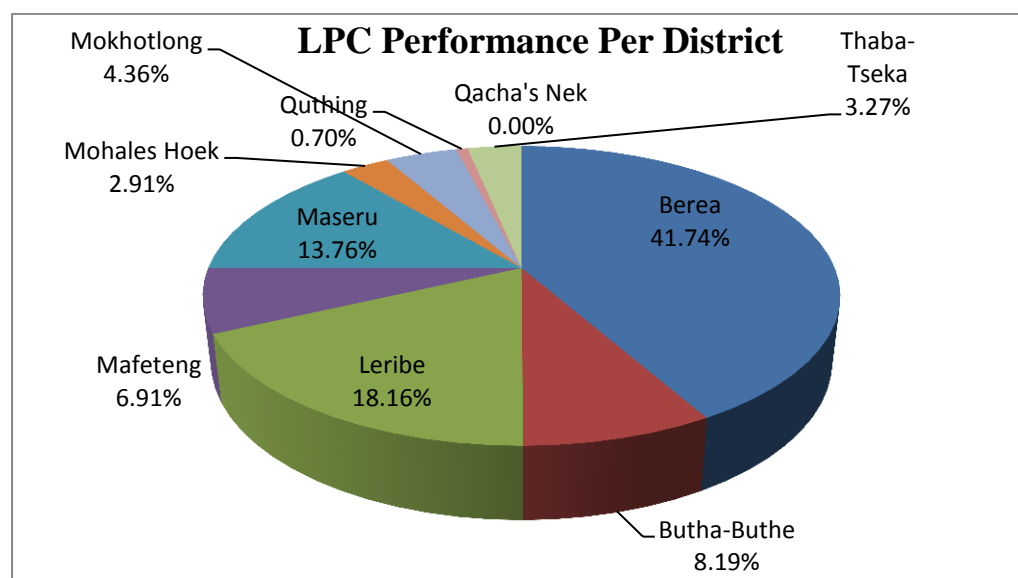


14.2.12 LESOTHO PEOPLES CONGRESS (LPC)

In Numbers

District	Votes
Berea	2096
Butha-Buthe	411
Leribe	912
Mafeteng	347
Maseru	691
Mohales Hoek	146
Mokhotlong	219
Quthing	35
Thaba-Tseka	164
Qacha's Nek	0
Total Votes	5021

In Percentage

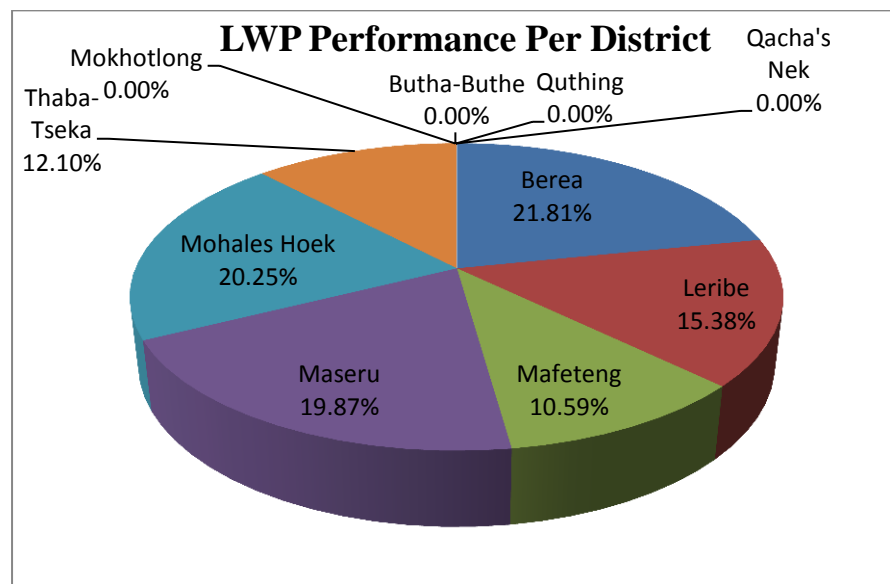


14.2.13 LESOTHO WORKERS PARTY (LWP)

In Numbers

District	Votes
Berea	519
Leribe	366
Mafeteng	252
Maseru	473
Mohales Hoek	482
Thaba-Tseka	288
Butha-Buthe	0
Mokhotlong	0
Quthing	0
Qacha's Nek	0
Total Votes	2380

In Percentage

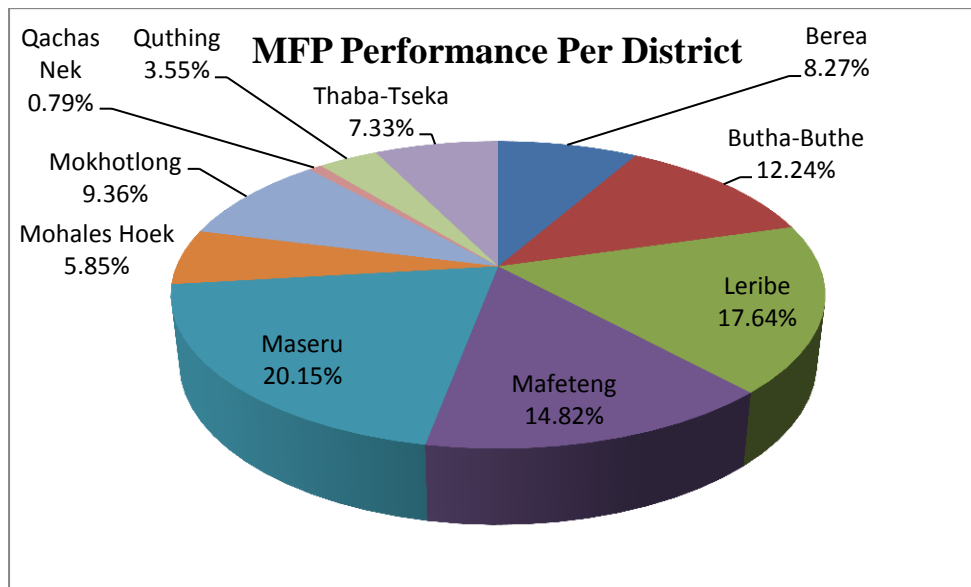


14.2.14 MAREMATLOU FREEDOM PARTY (MFP)

In Numbers

District	Votes
Berea	273
Butha-Buthe	404
Leribe	582
Mafeteng	489
Maseru	665
Mohales Hoek	193
Mokhotlong	309
Qachas Nek	26
Quthing	117
Thaba-Tseka	242
Total Votes	3300

In Percentage

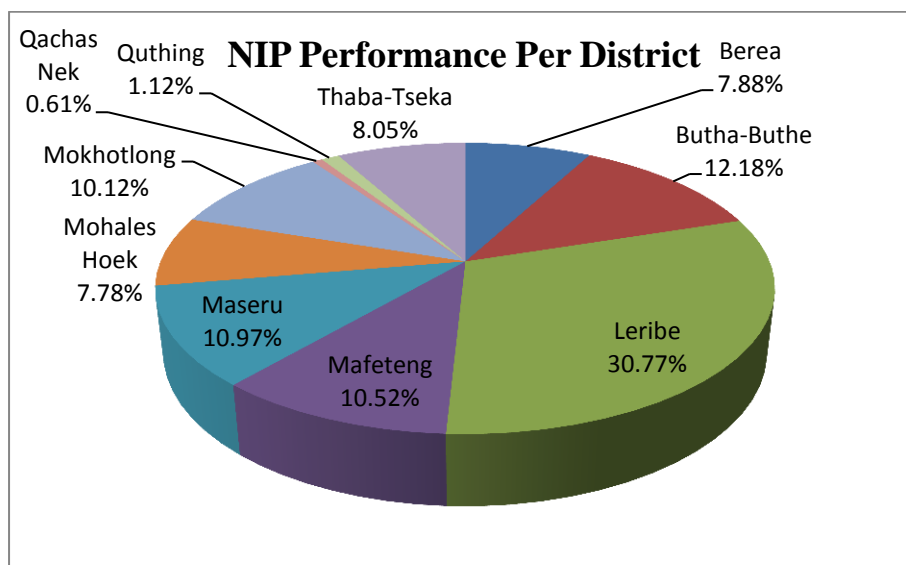


14.2.15 NATIONAL INDEPENDENT PARTY (NIP)

In Numbers

District	Votes
Berea	542
Butha-Buthe	838
Leribe	2117
Mafeteng	724
Maseru	755
Mohales Hoek	535
Mokhotlong	696
Qachas Nek	42
Quthing	77
Thaba-Tseka	554
Total Votes	6880

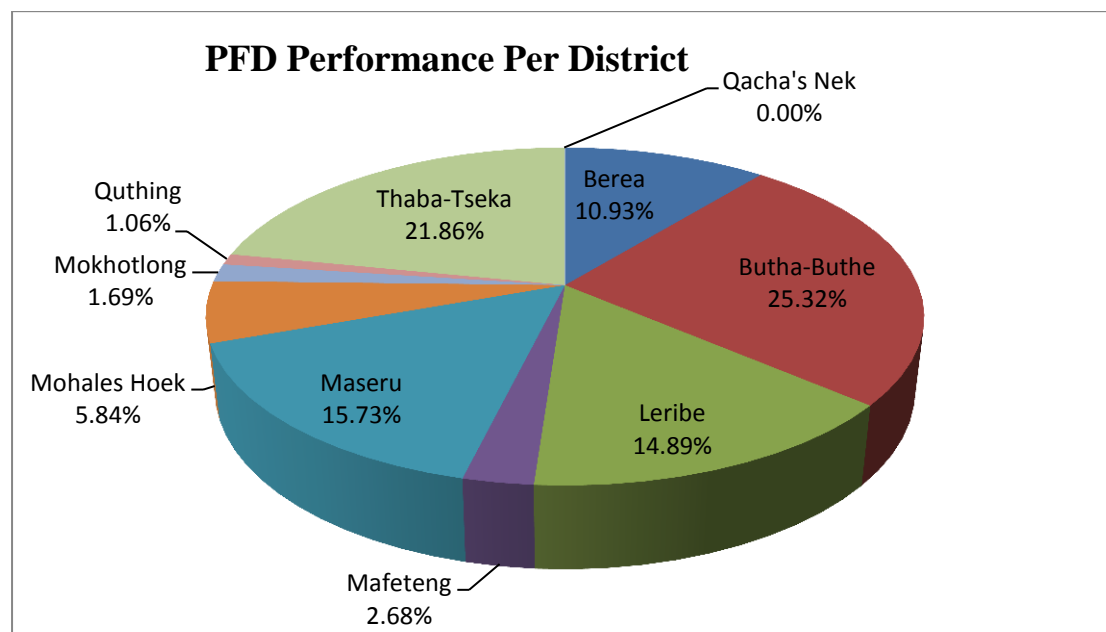
In Percentage



14.2.16 POPULAR FRONT FOR DEMOCRACY (PFD)

In Numbers

District	Votes
Berea	1221
Butha-Buthe	2827
Leribe	1663
Mafeteng	299
Maseru	1756
Mohales Hoek	652
Mokhotlong	189
Quthing	118
Thaba-Tseka	2441
Qacha's Nek	0
Total Votes	11166

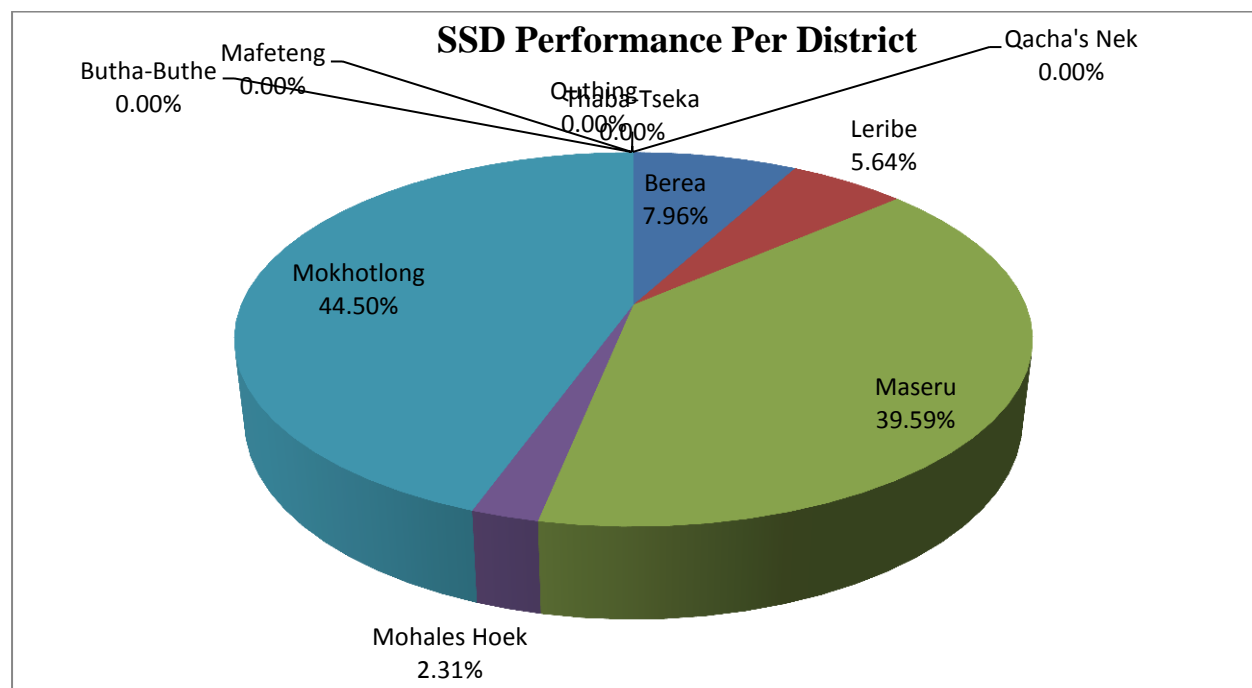


14.2.17 LEKHOTLA LA SENKATANA (SSD)

In Numbers

District	Votes
Berea	86
Leribe	61
Maseru	428
Mohales Hoek	25
Mokhotlong	481
Butha-Buthe	0
Mafeteng	0
Quthing	0
Thaba-Tseka	0
Qacha's Nek	0
Total Votes	1081

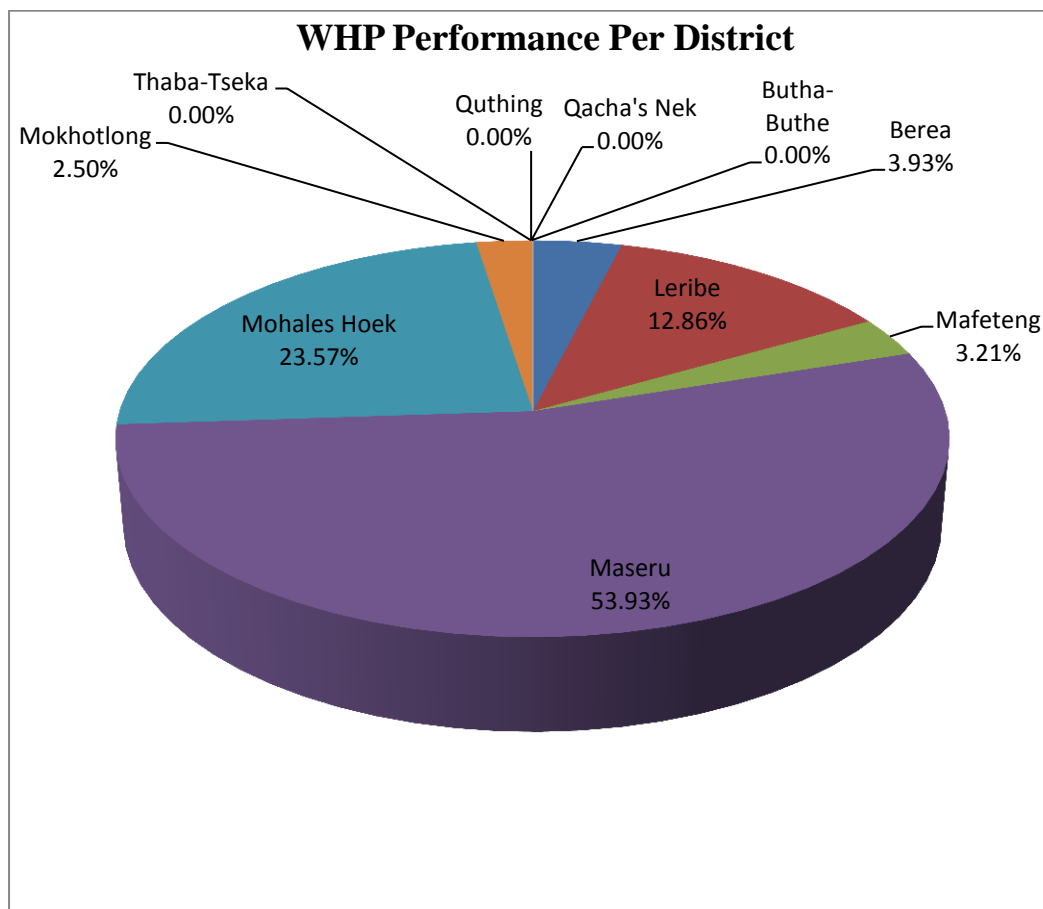
In Percentage



14.2.18 WHITEHORSE PARTY (WHP)

In Numbers

District	Votes
Berea	11
Leribe	36
Mafeteng	9
Maseru	151
Mohales Hoek	66
Mokhotlong	7
Thaba-Tseka	0
Quthing	0
Qacha's Nek	0
Butha-Buthe	0
Total Votes	280



15. Seat Allocation

The process of seat allocation was performed immediately after announcing all the constituency results. The Commission jointly with the Elections Coordination Committee embarked on the process of calculating the proportional representation seats by converting the constituency votes into political party votes. A total of nine Independent Candidates who had submitted their proportional representation lists were treated as political parties during the process of converting the constituency votes into political party votes. Table 5 here-below shows how seats were allocated to individual parties and independent candidates

Table 5 – Seat Allocation

Party name	Total Party Votes	Party's Quota of Votes	Allocation based on full quotas	Highest decimal fractions	Rank	Party's provisional seats	Constituency seats won by party	Party's provisional allocation of compensatory seats
ABC	138,917	30.212484	30			30	26	4
ADC	1,933	0.420400	0			0	0	0
ACFD/Baena	1,227	0.266855	0			0	0	0
AUM	714	0.155285	0			0	0	0
BBDP	2,440	0.530666	0	0.530666	[4]	1	0	1
BCP	2,531	0.550457	0	0.550457	[3]	1	0	1
BDNP	3,433	0.746629	0	0.746629	[1]	1	0	1
BNP	23,788	5.173554	5			5	0	5
DC	218,366	47.491518	47	0.491518	[7]	48	41	7
KHOETS/PFD	11,166	2.428447	2	0.428447	[8]	3	1	2
LCD	121,076	26.332318	26			26	12	14
LPC	5,021	1.091997	1			1	0	1
LMM	1,691	0.367769	0			0	0	0
LWP	2,408	0.523706	0	0.523706	[5]	1	0	1
MFP	3,300	0.717703	0	0.717703	[2]	1	0	1

NIP	6,880	1.496303	1	0.496303	[6]	2	0	2
SSD	1,081	0.235102	0			0	0	0
WHP	252	0.054806	0			0	0	0
Ntjatsane # 05	979	0.212919	0			0	0	0
Molati # 10	515	0.112005	0			0	0	0
Leoma # 11	531	0.115485	0			0	0	0
Mokone # 15	230	0.050022	0			0	0	0
Bopa # 19	635	0.138104	0			0	0	0
Maqelepo # 27	160	0.034798	0			0	0	0
Kotelo-Molaoa # 33	726	0.157895	0			0	0	0
Khomari # 48	1,692	0.367986	0			0	0	0
Ranooe # 49	34	0.007395	0			0	0	0
Total Votes (TV) [2]	551,726		112			120	80	40
TV/120 [3]	4597.716667							
Rounding off [4]	4598							

16. Conclusion

The 2012 National Assembly Elections was highly contested and the Commission had introduced new advancements in order to ensure that elections were credible. Some of the new advancements were as follows: NGO's entered into contract with the Commission to conduct voter education; monitoring of elections by political parties was a new concept in the management of elections in Lesotho; the political parties were given campaign funding and members of the election coordination committee played a pivotal role in the allocation of proportional representation seats.

Administratively this election had its successes and challenges; the management of the advance voting and the participation of the Tribunal on the monitoring of the electoral code of conduct was a success story. The Electoral Act had defined an independent candidate as a politically party and that forced the independent candidates to file their Proportional Representation Lists. This was challenged by some independent candidates and the courts ruled in their favour. This is a challenge that needs to be addressed by the Commission.