

## A level and AS results 2019: Wales

### **A levels:**

#### **Key points:**

- The proportion of students in Wales getting A\* at A-level (9.1%) is at its highest since the top grade was introduced in 2010.
- Overall results in Wales are higher at grade A and above compared to last year (27.0% in 2019 compared with 26.3% in 2018).
- 97.6% of entries in Wales achieved grades A\* to E, up 0.2% on 2018.

#### **Rise in science entries**

- Entries for the sciences (Biology, Chemistry and Physics) continue to rise, reaching 20.9% of all A Levels (6,580) up from 19.0% in 2018.
- Chemistry entries were up by 10.1%, Biology up by 4.0% and Physics up by 6.0%.

#### **Languages**

- Since 2018, Spanish entries increased by 14.1% to 178, and French decreased by 6.8% to 314. German entries remained broadly level.
- Welsh First Language entries have increased by 10.3% to 278. Welsh Second Language entries have decreased by 12.7% to 248.
- Since 2018:
  - Achievement in French at grades A\*-A has increased by 1.5pp (to 39.2%).
  - Achievement in German at grades A\*-A has increased by 4.8pp (to 51.9%)
  - Achievement in Spanish at grades A\*-A has increased by 0.2pp (to 34.8%)
  - Achievement in Welsh First Language at grades A\*-A has decreased by 1.1pp (to 22.3%)
  - Achievement in Welsh Second Language at grades A\*-A has increased by 1.4pp (to 13.7%)

#### **Mathematics**

- Entries to mathematics were down by 9.2%, although it remains the most popular subject with a total of 3,585 entries.
- There has been an improvement at A\* with 19.6% achieving this grade (compared to 16.8% in 2018), whilst the percentage achieving A\*-A also increased from 42.2% in 2018 to 45.2% in 2019.

#### **English language and English Literature**

- English Literature and English language entries remained broadly the same as 2018.
- Outcomes in English language have improved at A\*-A, increasing from 10.8% in 2018 to 14.9% in 2019.
- Outcomes in English literature have also improved at A\*-A, increasing from 18.3% in 2018 to 21.4% in 2019.

#### **Other subjects**

- Student choice has led to an increase in entries in other subjects, for example Performing/Expressive Arts (+18.8%), Economics (+8.9%) and Computing (+7.0%),
- Decreases in entries were seen in a number of subjects including Drama (-19.6%), ICT (-17.4%), Media/Film/TV Studies (-13.7%), Law (-11.8%), Political Studies (-10.3%), Religious Studies (-8.7%) and Design and Technology (-6.2%)

#### **AS levels**

- AS Level entries in Wales declined slightly by 8% (to 39,646)
- The percentage of all pupils achieving an A grade has decreased slightly by 0.1pp, to 20.3%