

Northern Ireland

- Overall GCSE entries in Northern Ireland have fallen slightly by 5.2% (from 170348 to 161405).
- Overall results in Northern Ireland were up slightly at the 7/A and 4/C boundaries; 30.5% of entries in Northern Ireland were graded 7/A or above this year, compared to 29.4% last year, while 82.2% of entries received a grade 4/C or above compared to 81.1% last year.
 - Females continue to outperform males at both the 7/A boundary (35.7% vs. 25.0%) and the 4/C boundary (85.6% vs. 78.5%), although the gap has narrowed at both grade boundaries.
- Entries in English Literature and English Language decreased by 1.5% and 4.2% respectively.
- However, outcomes for English Literature and English Language either improved or remained stable for both the 7/A boundary and 4/C boundary.
 - English: 0.5ppt increase in outcomes at 4/C and a stability at 7/A
 - English Literature: 1.0ppt increase in outcomes at 4/C and a 0.4ppt increase in outcomes at 7/A
- Entries in maths decreased by 5.9%; although entries in additional maths increased by 1.9%.
- However, outcomes for maths either improved or remained stable for both the 7/A boundary and 4/C boundary.
 - Maths: 2.4ppt increase in outcomes at 4/C and a 3.2ppt increase in outcomes at 7/A
- Entries for the Sciences were down across all subjects; Biology -1.1%, Chemistry -0.6%, Physics -3.7% and Science: Double Award -0.7%.
- Females outperformed males at the top grades (7/A boundary) across all science subjects:
 - Biology: 51.0% of females achieved 7/A compared to 46.8% of males, although the gap has narrowed substantially
 - Chemistry: 63.4% of females achieved 7/A compared to 52.4% of males, although the gap has narrowed
 - Physics: 60.8% of females achieved 7/A compared to 52.6% of males, although the gap has narrowed
 - Double Award: 27.5% of females achieved 7/A compared to 20.9% of males, although the gap has narrowed
- MFL language entries were down for French (-6.3%), German (-25%) and Spanish (-12%). Irish entries were down (-7.5%)
- Outcomes improved at the top grades (7/A boundary) across all MFL subjects:
 - French: 35.3% achieved 7/A up 0.1ppt from last year
 - German: 37.7% achieved 7/A up 1.3ppt from last year
 - Spanish: 40.6% achieved 7/A up 1.7ppt from last year
 - Irish: 49.6% achieved 7/A up 4.6ppt from last year
- Entries increased for history (+11.2%) and social sciences (+49.8%), while entries decreased for geography (-1.3%) and design & technology (-6.8%)