

Geography GCSE entries and results 2017



Overview of Geography entries and performance

- Geography maintained its place as the 8th most popular subject in 2017.
- The increase in entries was 1931 (+0.8%) to 245964
- Geography had the 6th highest percentage (0.8%) and total increase (1931) of the large entry (over 100 000) subjects.
- Overall entries for all subjects increased by 3.9 percent to just over 5.4 million. Much of this growth can be seen in English Language and English Literature specifications, and to a lesser extent Mathematics following the introduction of the new examinations)

English and Mathematics are the first reformed subjects now graded using the 9-1 scale and are not included in the following comparisons. This means that national year on year comparisons should be treated with caution

- A* grades in Geography stayed the same at 8.3% but this still compares favourably with the national average of 7.1% for all unreformed subjects (up 0.6%).
- A*-A grades in Geography were down 0.9% to 23.7% (24.6% -2016). The national increase in performance was 0.8% up to 21.3%
- A*-C grades in Geography were down 1.5% to 64.8%. This is similar to the decline in the national average for all subjects (65.3%) a decrease of -1.6%. These changes in performance may continue to reflect national policy attempts to reduce 'grade inflation' and a broadening of the ability of the geography cohort.
- The gender imbalance for geography has stayed the same at 53:47 (M:F). The national pattern is that 51% of all entries are from girls.
- 1991 (<1% of the total geography entry) were students aged 15 and under. This was a decrease of 2928 (-59.5%) that is in line with the overall decrease (-59.6%) nationally.
- Younger students' (age 15) performance improved so that it is now higher than the whole cohort at the highest grades. 11.6% achieving an A* grade (8.3% for the whole cohort) and 29.5% A*-A (23.7%). At A*-C grades performance was better (72.1% age 15 compared to 64.8% overall). This suggests that this entry group is now better targeted.
- The number of older student entries (aged 17+) stayed much the same at 3357 (1.4% of the total entry).
- Performance for this age group was broadly in line with overall entries A*: 7.4% (8.3%); A*-A: 23.4% (24.6%) and A*-C: 64.9% (64.8%)

Broader Context

The Joint Council for Qualifications publishes the national examination results for A-level and GCSE each August. It collects this data from the main GCSE and A-level awarding bodies. This is the first year of reformed examinations but the only subjects examined were Mathematics, English Language and English

Literature. It is the last year of letter grades for Geography in England. In 2018 the grades will be 9 (highest) to 1 (lowest) for England but will remain as letter grades in Northern Ireland and Wales.

In the JCQ press release there is no reference to performance in Geography.

In 2017 the JCQ news release stated:

Significant shift in entry patterns marginally affects overall outcomes in first year of GCSE reform

Key points

- *New GCSEs in English Language, English Literature and Mathematics graded 9-1 in England*
- *New specifications in England “more challenging” to “better recognise the achievements of high-attaining pupils” - as required by the regulator and Government*
- *Comparable outcomes used, protecting the first cohort taking reformed GCSEs*
- *Significant shift in entry patterns impact outcomes: IGCSE students switch to GCSEs; more 17 yr old re-sitters; double weighting of best English grade for students taking both Language and Literature*
- *Grades A/7 down 0.5 percentage points to 20.0 percent; C/4 down 0.6 percentage points to 66.3 percent*
- *Two new Mathematics GCSEs in Wales: Mathematics and Mathematics Numeracy, taken in November and summer*
- *Different reforms across countries make comparisons difficult across years; across subjects; and across jurisdictions.*

Reform

This year’s GCSE results are the first to include 9-1 grades, which are predominantly taken in England. The new scale applies to English Language, English Literature, and Mathematics with other subjects being reformed over the next two years.

The reformed GCSEs have been developed to meet the requirements of Government and the regulator, who wanted more challenging qualifications that enable the better differentiation of students at the top grades. The reformed subjects include an increase in content and external assessment.

The new grade scale cannot be directly compared with the old one, other than cumulatively at A/7; C/4; and G/1. Therefore comparisons across years; across reformed and unreformed subjects and across jurisdictions, can only be made at these grades. In Wales, there are two new Mathematics GCSEs: Mathematics and Mathematics Numeracy. These qualifications remain graded A-G and have examinations available to all candidates in November and summer series. Therefore, when comparing year on year data, it is important to refer to the whole year.*

New GCSEs have also been introduced in Wales in English Language, Welsh Language, English Literature and Welsh Literature. These continue to be graded A to G. The detailed results for these qualifications are available on the JCQ Website.*

(JCQ 2017a)

1. Results for geography 2017 (UK – England, Northern Ireland and Wales)

Table 1: Percentages of Subject Results by Grade and Gender 2012-2017

Gender	Year	Total Entry	A*	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	U	A*-C	Change	% Change
Boys	2012	103781	7.0	16.5	19.9	22.3	17.1	9.1	4.8	2.3	1.0	65.7		
Boys	2013	119887	7.0	15.4	19.5	23.0	17.1	9.6	4.9	2.5	1.0	64.9	16106	15.5
Boys	2014	121580	7.0	15.0	20.0	23.2	16.8	9.4	5.1	2.5	1.0	65.2	1693	1.4
Boys	2015	122774	6.9	15.5	20.2	22.7	16.6	9.5	5.1	2.5	1.0	65.3	1194	1.0
Boys	2016	129496	6.0	13.9	19.5	22.9	16.9	10.2	6.0	3.1	1.5	62.3	6722	5.5
Boys	2017	130565	6.1	13.3	18.9	22.6	17.2	10.7	6.4	3.2	1.6	60.9	1069	0.8
Girls	2012	83241	12.8	21.5	21.2	19.5	12.5	6.5	3.6	1.7	0.7	75.0		
Girls	2013	102965	12.4	20.0	21.3	20.2	13.1	6.9	3.7	1.8	0.6	73.9	19724	23.7
Girls	2014	103569	11.9	19.9	21.5	20.2	12.9	7.3	3.9	1.8	0.6	73.5	604	0.6
Girls	2015	105301	11.9	20.2	21.5	19.9	13.1	7.2	3.8	1.8	0.6	73.5	1732	1.7
Girls	2016	114537	11.0	18.9	20.9	20.1	13.4	7.9	4.7	2.3	0.8	70.9	9236	8.8
Girls	2017	115399	10.7	17.7	20.5	20.2	14.0	8.6	5.0	2.4	0.9	69.1	862	0.8
All	2012	187022	9.6	18.7	20.4	21.2	15.0	8.0	4.2	2.0	0.9	69.9		
All	2013	222852	9.5	17.5	20.4	21.6	15.3	8.4	4.3	2.2	0.8	69.0	35830	19.2
All	2014	225149	9.2	17.3	20.7	21.8	15.0	8.5	4.5	2.2	0.8	69.0	2297	1.0
All	2015	228075	9.2	17.7	20.7	21.5	14.9	8.6	4.4	2.2	0.8	69.1	2926	1.3
All	2016	244033	8.3	16.3	20.2	21.5	15.3	9.2	5.3	2.7	1.2	66.3	15958	7.0
All	2017	245964	8.3	15.3	19.7	21.5	15.6	9.8	5.7	2.8	1.3	64.8	1931	0.8

Source: JCQ (2017b)

There was a slight increase of 1931 (0.8%) in entries for geography 2017. Entries for the total GCSEs awarded in all subjects increased by 3.9 percent to just over 5.4 million. The percentage change in entries for geography was the same for girls and boys, although there remains a higher entry for girls compared with boys (115399 to 130565). This maintained the gender ratio of 2016 53:47 (M:F).

Girls continued to outperform boys at the higher grades A* by 4.6%, A* - A at 9%, and 8.2% at A* - C. However, there has been a slight reduction than in previous years with the percentage achieving A* seeing a slight shift with boys going up by 0.1% and girls going down by 0.3%. Overall the % achieving an A* remained constant at 8.3%.

2. Popularity of geography at GCSE: Top 10 subjects

Ranking 2017	Ranking 2016	Subject	% of total	Number of candidates
1	-1	Mathematics	14.1	770034
2	-2	English	14	760277
3	-3	English Literature	10.6	574358
4	-5	Additional Science	6.9	376347
5	-4	Science	5.4	295889
6	-6	Religious Studies	5.2	282193
7	-7	History	4.7	255954
8	-8	Geography	4.5	245964
9	-10	Art and Design Subjects	3.2	175792
10	-9	Design & Technology	3	165815

Ranking	Subject	% Change	2016	2017
			Number of candidates	Number of candidates
1	English	48.1	513285	760277
2	English Literature	38.6	414286	574358
3 (1)	Additional Science	2.3	368033	376347
4	Mathematics	1.7	757296	770034
5 (5)	Physics	1.6	139805	141977
6 (2)	Geography	0.8	244033	245964
7 (3)	Chemistry	0.4	141245	141867

(2016 ranking in brackets. Subjects having a year-on-year decrease in 2016 are shown as blank) (JCQ 2017d)

Geography remained the 8th most popular subject at GCSE and continued to reduce the gap to History (-4567 entries)

Geography had the 6th largest increase in entries (1931) a 0.8% increase

History entries decreased by 4567 to 255954 (-1.8%) but it remained the 7th most popular subject.

Recent policy changes in England (EBacc / Progress 8 / Attainment 8) appear to have increased geography entries.

3. Trends in geography entries over time

For the sixth year running there was an increase in entries for geography (1931) to 245964 (Table 3a). Entries are still below the high of over 300000 entries achieved in 1996.

There was a slightly larger increase in entries for boys (1069) (figure 3b) than girls (862) (figure 3c).

The gender imbalance stayed the same at 53:47 (M:F).

Performance at the higher grades largely stayed the same. A* grade was the same at 8.3%; A*-A grade down 1.0% to 23.6%;

Girls continue to outperform boys at A*-A grades by 9.0%. At A* boys performance improved by 0.1% to 6.1% but girls performance was down slightly -0.3% to 10.7%.

A*-C grade fell to 64.8%, a fall of 1.5%. Boys' performance was down by 1.4% to 60.9% while girls' performance fell by 1.8% to 69.1%

A*-G grades fell by 0.1% to 98.7%. Girls outperformed boys with 0.9% failing to obtain a grade compared to 1.6% of boys.

Table 3a: Entries for geography by all candidates 2008-2017

Year	Total Entry	Change	A*	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	U	A*-C
2008	203862	-9262	10.4	16.2	18.2	23.4	15.1	8.1	4.4	2.3	1.9	68.2
2009	196018	-7844	10.6	16.5	18.2	23.2	15.4	7.9	4.3	2.1	1.8	68.5
2010	194599	-1419	11.3	16.9	18.3	23.0	16.0	7.5	3.7	1.7	1.6	69.5
2011	180737	-13862	10.4	18.2	20.0	21.5	14.8	7.8	4.2	2.1	1.0	70.1
2012	187022	6285	9.6	18.7	20.4	21.2	15.0	8.0	4.2	2.0	0.9	69.9
2013	222852	35830	9.5	17.5	20.4	21.6	15.3	8.4	4.3	2.2	0.8	69.0
2014	225149	2297	9.2	17.3	20.7	21.8	15	8.5	4.5	2.2	0.8	69.0
2015	228075	2926	9.2	17.7	20.7	21.5	14.9	8.6	4.4	2.2	0.8	69.1
2016	244033	15958	8.3	16.3	20.2	21.5	15.3	9.2	5.3	2.7	1.2	66.3
2017	245964	1931	8.3	15.3	19.7	21.5	15.6	9.8	5.7	2.8	1.3	64.8

Table 3b: Boys entries for geography 2008-2017

Year	Total Entry	change	A*	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	U	A*-C
2008	113078	-4733	8.7	14.8	17.8	24.2	16.3	8.9	4.7	2.5	2.1	65.5
2009	108211	-4867	8.9	15.0	17.9	24.1	16.5	8.6	4.7	2.3	2.0	65.9
2010	107794	-417	9.1	15.1	18.1	24.1	17.6	8.3	4.0	1.9	1.8	66.4
2011	100353	-7441	7.9	16.0	19.4	22.7	16.8	8.8	4.8	2.5	1.1	66.0
2012	103781	3428	7.0	16.5	19.9	22.3	17.1	9.1	4.8	2.3	1.0	65.7
2013	119887	16106	7.0	15.4	19.5	23.0	17.1	9.6	4.9	2.5	1.0	64.9
2014	121580	1693	7.0	15.0	20.0	23.2	16.8	9.4	5.1	2.5	1.0	65.2
2015	122774	1194	6.9	15.5	20.2	22.7	16.6	9.5	5.1	2.5	1.0	65.3
2016	129496	6722	6.0	13.9	19.5	22.9	16.9	10.2	6.0	3.1	1.5	62.3
2017	130565	1069	6.1	13.3	18.9	22.6	17.2	10.7	6.4	3.2	1.6	60.9

Table 3c: Girls entries for geography 2008-2017

Year	Total Entry	change	A*	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	U	A*-C
2008	90784	-4529	12.4	18.0	18.7	22.3	13.7	7.3	3.8	2.1	1.7	71.4
2009	87807	-2977	12.7	18.3	18.6	22.1	14.0	7.1	3.9	1.9	1.4	71.7
2010	86805	-1002	14.0	19.0	18.8	21.5	14.1	6.4	3.3	1.5	1.4	73.3
2011	80384	-6421	13.4	21.0	20.8	19.9	12.5	6.5	3.4	1.7	0.8	75.1
2012	83241	2857	12.8	21.5	21.2	19.5	12.5	6.5	3.6	1.7	0.7	75.0
2013	102965	19724	12.4	20.0	21.3	20.2	13.1	6.9	3.7	1.8	0.6	73.9
2014	103569	604	11.9	19.9	21.5	20.2	12.9	7.3	3.9	1.8	0.6	73.5
2015	105301	1732	11.9	20.2	21.5	19.9	13.1	7.2	3.8	1.8	0.6	73.5
2016	114537	9236	11.0	18.9	20.9	20.1	13.4	7.9	4.7	2.3	0.8	70.9
2017	115399	862	10.7	17.7	20.5	20.2	14.0	8.6	5.0	2.4	0.9	69.1

(JCQ 2017B)

4. Performance by gender

Girls continued to outperform boys at the higher grades although the gender differential in performance has reduced slightly

The gender differentials in favour of girls were:

- A* 4.6% This was a decrease of 0.4% from 2016
- A*-A 9.0% This was an decrease of 1.0% from 2016
- A*-C 8.2% This was an decrease of 0.4% from 2016
- A*-G 0.7% This was the same as 2016

Table 4: Gender differentials in performance by cumulative grade for geography 2008 - 2017 (UK)

	A*	A*	A*	A*-A	A*-A	A*-A	A*-C	A*-C	A*-C	A*-G	A*-G	A*-G
Differential Girls - Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls- Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls- Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls- Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls- Boys
2008	12.4	8.7	3.7	30.4	23.5	6.9	71.4	65.5	5.9	98.3	97.9	0.4
2009	12.7	8.9	3.8	31.0	23.9	7.1	71.7	65.9	5.8	98.6	98.0	0.6
2010	14.0	9.1	4.9	33.0	24.2	8.8	73.3	66.4	6.9	98.6	98.2	0.4
2011	13.4	7.9	5.5	34.4	23.9	10.5	75.1	66.0	9.1	99.2	98.9	0.3
2012	12.8	7.0	5.8	34.3	23.5	10.8	75.0	65.7	9.3	99.3	99.0	0.3
2013	12.4	7.0	5.4	32.4	22.4	10.0	73.9	64.9	9.0	99.4	99.0	0.4
2014	11.9	7.0	4.9	31.8	22.0	9.8	73.5	65.2	8.3	99.4	99.0	0.4
2015	11.9	6.9	5.0	32.1	22.4	9.7	73.5	65.3	8.2	99.4	99.0	0.4
2016	11.0	6.0	5.0	29.9	19.9	10.0	70.9	62.3	8.6	99.2	98.5	0.7
2017	10.7	6.1	4.6	28.4	19.4	9.0	69.1	60.9	8.2	99.1	98.4	0.7

5 Entries for geography by age

This was the sixth year that entries have been analysed by age. Three categories were reported – Aged 15 and under; Aged 16; Aged 17 and over.

A summary of performance at different grades is given in table 5a. Full performance tables are shown in figures 5b, 5c and 5d.

The largest percentage loss in entries was for students aged 15 and under where entries decreased by 59.5% to 1991 so this is now only 0.8% of the total entry for geography. Performance by these students was slightly better than for those aged 16 (Table 5a). This is the last outing for the current GCSE specification with the new specifications being examined for the first time next summer.

There were gender differentials in performance with girls continuing to outperform boys at all grades but especially higher grades (Table 5b-d).

Grade	Age 15 and under	Change from 2016	Age 16	Change from 2016	Age 17 and over	Change from 2016
Entries	1991	-2928 (-59.5%)	240616	4798 (+2%)	3357	61 (1.9%)
% of Geog entry	0.80	-56.90%	97.40%	-27.90%	1.40%	-26.20%
A*	11.60%	3.10%	8.30%	-0.10%	7.40%	0.20%
A* / A	29.50%	7.60%	23.60%	-1.10%	23.40%	-1.50%
A*-C	72.10%	4.70%	64.70%	-1.60%	64.90%	-1.40%
A*-G	99.30%	0.20%	98.70%	-0.10%	98.20%	-0.60%

Table 5b Entries for geography by students aged 15 and under: 2012-2017 (UK)

Gender	Year	Total Entry	A*	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	U	A*-C	Change	Change
Boys	2012	4586	3.6	11.8	16.0	22.5	20.8	11.9	8.0	3.7	1.7	53.9		
Boys	2013	5875	4.5	10.8	15.6	24.2	20.2	12.9	6.5	3.6	1.7	55.1	1289	28.1
Boys	2014	3644	5.0	11.7	18.6	24.2	18.6	11.2	5.6	3.4	1.7	59.5	-2231	-38.0
Boys	2015	3279	4.4	13.3	18.2	21.8	17.3	11.6	7.1	4.2	2.1	57.7	-365	-10.0
Boys	2016	2649	5.6	12.9	21.1	25.5	15.9	8.6	6.0	3.2	1.2	65.1	-630	-19.2
Boys	2017	1033	7.1	15.6	24.0	21.2	14.8	8.1	5.5	2.4	1.3	67.9	-1616	-61.0
Girls	2012	3876	7.3	16.7	19.9	21.2	16.2	8.9	5.8	2.9	1.1	65.1		
Girls	2013	5230	7.5	15.3	18.6	22.6	16.9	9.2	5.8	3.0	1.1	64.0	1354	34.9
Girls	2014	3156	8.6	16.3	22.8	22.5	14.5	8.1	4.2	2.2	0.8	70.2	-2074	-39.7
Girls	2015	2769	7.8	16.4	20.1	20.7	14.2	8.8	7.3	3.5	1.2	65.0	-387	-12.3
Girls	2016	2270	8.9	17.0	22.7	21.6	14.2	7.8	4.6	2.6	0.6	70.2	-499	-18.0
Girls	2017	958	16.4	20.6	22.5	17.2	11.8	6.5	3.4	1.3	0.3	76.7	-1312	-57.8
All	2012	8462	5.3	14.0	17.8	21.9	18.7	10.6	6.9	3.4	1.4	59.0		
All	2013	11105	5.9	12.9	17.1	23.4	18.6	11.2	6.1	3.4	1.4	59.3	2643	31.2
All	2014	6800	6.7	13.8	20.5	23.5	16.7	9.7	5.0	2.8	1.3	64.5	-4305	-38.8
All	2015	6048	5.9	14.8	19.0	21.3	15.9	10.3	7.2	3.9	1.7	61.0	-752	-11.1
All	2016	4919	7.1	14.8	21.8	23.7	15.2	8.2	5.4	2.9	0.9	67.4	-1129	-18.7
All	2017	1991	11.6	17.9	23.3	19.3	13.4	7.3	4.5	2.0	0.7	72.1	-2928	-59.5

Table 5c Entries for geography by students aged 16: 2012-2017 (UK)

Gender	Year	Total Entry	A*	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	U	A*-C	Change	Change
Boys	2012	97335	7.2	16.8	19.9	22.4	16.9	9.0	4.6	2.2	1.0	66.3		
Boys	2013	112137	7.2	15.6	19.8	22.9	16.9	9.4	4.8	2.4	1.0	65.5	14802	15.2
Boys	2014	115910	7.1	15.1	20.1	23.1	16.7	9.4	5.1	2.5	0.9	65.4	3773	3.4
Boys	2015	117624	7.0	15.6	20.2	22.7	16.6	9.5	5.0	2.4	1.0	65.5	1714	1.5
Boys	2016	124987	6.0	14.0	19.4	22.8	17.0	10.2	6.0	3.1	1.5	62.2	7363	6.3
Boys	2017	127701	6.1	13.3	18.9	22.6	17.1	10.8	6.4	3.2	1.6	60.9	2714	2.2
Girls	2012	77984	13.1	21.7	21.2	19.5	12.4	6.4	3.4	1.7	0.6	75.5		
Girls	2013	96310	12.7	20.3	21.3	20.1	12.9	6.8	3.6	1.7	0.6	74.4	18326	23.5
Girls	2014	98905	12.0	20.1	21.4	20.1	12.9	7.2	3.9	1.8	0.6	73.6	2595	2.7
Girls	2015	101061	12.0	20.3	21.5	20.0	13.0	7.2	3.7	1.7	0.6	73.8	2156	2.2
Girls	2016	110831	11.0	18.9	20.9	20.1	13.4	7.9	4.7	2.3	0.8	70.9	9770	9.7
Girls	2017	112915	10.7	17.6	20.5	20.2	14.1	8.6	5.0	2.4	0.9	69.0	2084	1.9
All	2012	175319	9.8	19.0	20.5	21.1	14.9	7.8	4.1	2.0	0.8	70.4		
All	2013	208447	9.7	17.8	20.5	21.6	15.1	8.2	4.2	2.1	0.8	69.6	33128	18.9
All	2014	214815	9.4	17.3	20.8	21.7	14.9	8.5	4.4	2.2	0.8	69.2	6368	3.1
All	2015	218685	9.3	17.8	20.8	21.4	15.0	8.4	4.4	2.1	0.8	69.3	3870	1.8
All	2016	235818	8.4	16.3	20.1	21.5	15.3	9.1	5.4	2.7	1.2	66.3	17133	7.8
All	2017	240616	8.3	15.3	19.6	21.5	15.7	9.8	5.7	2.8	1.3	64.7	4798	2.0

Table 5d Entries for geography by students aged 17 and over: 2012-2017 (UK)

Gender	Year	Total Entry	A*	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	U	A*-C		Change
Boys	2012	1860	5.9	15.7	21.2	23.1	16.0	8.8	5.3	2.7	1.3	65.9		
Boys	2013	1875	5.0	14.3	20.2	21.7	17.9	10.4	5.5	3.7	1.3	61.2	15	0.8
Boys	2014	2026	4.9	15.6	19.2	22.2	17.5	10.3	5.8	3.1	1.4	61.9	151	8.1
Boys	2015	1871	5.8	15.5	20.1	23.7	16.4	9.1	5.0	3.0	1.4	65.1	-155	-7.7
Boys	2016	1860	4.7	14.4	21.2	23.4	17.3	10.6	4.4	2.7	1.3	63.7	-11	-0.6
Boys	2017	1831	5.1	13.7	19.9	22.2	17.6	10.2	6.2	3.2	1.9	60.9	-29	-1.6
Girls	2012	1381	11.7	23.5	20.6	17.6	11.2	7.4	3.8	2.4	1.8	73.4		
Girls	2013	1425	10.5	22.0	22.9	20.5	11.1	6.1	4.0	1.5	1.4	75.9	44	3.2
Girls	2014	1508	10.1	20.7	21.3	19.8	12.8	7.1	4.2	3.2	0.8	71.9	83	5.8
Girls	2015	1471	11.1	19.9	21.2	19.7	12.6	7.2	4.8	2.4	1.1	71.9	-37	-2.5
Girls	2016	1436	12.0	20.5	22.0	18.4	12.4	7.8	3.3	2.4	1.2	72.9	-35	-2.4
Girls	2017	1526	10.2	18.8	22.1	18.7	12.1	9.0	5.1	2.4	1.6	69.8	90	6.3
All	2012	3241	8.4	19.0	20.9	20.8	14.0	8.2	4.6	2.6	1.5	69.1		
All	2013	3300	7.4	17.6	21.4	21.2	14.9	8.6	4.8	2.7	1.4	67.6	59	1.8
All	2014	3534	7.2	17.7	20.1	21.2	15.4	9.0	5.1	3.1	1.2	66.2	234	7.1
All	2015	3342	8.1	17.5	20.5	22.0	14.7	8.3	4.9	2.7	1.3	68.1	-192	-5.4
All	2016	3296	7.9	17.0	21.6	21.2	15.2	9.4	3.9	2.6	1.2	67.7	-46	-1.4
All	2017	3357	7.4	16.0	21.0	20.5	15.2	9.6	5.7	2.8	1.8	64.9	61	1.9

Source: JCQ (2017c)

6: Entries by Country

England as the largest country dominates the overall patterns of entries (table 6a). England was the only country to experience an increase in entries, 2834, (+1.2%), compared with a loss of 222 (-3.7%) in Northern Ireland and a loss of 1415 (-14.9%) in Wales. This may continue to reflect the reporting changes in England that have influenced entries over the last five years.

Performance varies between countries with England having poorer results at the top performance measures.

The percentage change was generally small except for Northern Ireland with a difference of 9.8 percentage points from 2016 A*-C.

Differential gender performance is much the same between the three countries with girls outperforming boys by similar amounts as shown in the detailed tables 6b, 6c and 6d.

Gender imbalance is greatest in Wales where the ratio is 56:44 (M:F). Whereas In England it is **53:47 (M:F)**, and Northern Ireland it is **(54:46 M:F)** close to the UK overall gender imbalance of 53:47.

Table 6a: Entries by country for geography 2017 (UK)

Table 6a Entries by country for Geography 2017 (UK)								
	England	Change from 2016	Northern Ireland	Change from 2016	Wales	Change from 2016	UK	Change from 2016
Entries	231297	2834 (+1.2%)	5826	-222 (-3.7)	8107	-1415(-14.9)	245964	1931(+0.8%)
% of UK Geography entry	94.00%	0.40%	2.37%	-0.13%	3.30%	-0.60%	100%	0.00%
Grade								
A*	8.20%	-0.10%	9.40%	-0.10%	9.00%	-0.60%	8.30%	0.00%
A*/A	23.30%	-1.10%	33.20%	0.40%	25.60%	1.20%	23.60%	-1.00%
A*-C	64.10%	-1.70%	70.10%	-9.80%	71.30%	1.20%	64.80%	-1.50%
A*-G	98.70%	-0.10%	99.30%	0.00%	99.50%	0.30%	98.70%	-0.10%

Table 6b: Entries for geography 2012-2017 England

Gender	Year	Total Entry	A*	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	U	A*-C	Change	% Change
Boys	2012	93850	7.1	16.6	19.8	22.1	17	9.2	4.9	2.3	1	65.6		
Boys	2013	109494	7	15.5	19.5	22.7	17.1	9.6	5.1	2.5	1	64.7	15644	16.7
Boys	2014	111796	7.1	14.9	19.9	23	16.9	9.5	5.1	2.6	1	64.9	2302	2.1
Boys	2015	113617	7	15.5	20.1	22.6	16.5	9.6	5.2	2.5	1.0	65.2	1821	1.6
Boys	2016	120868	5.9	13.9	19.4	22.6	17	10.4	6.1	3.2	1.5	61.8	7251	6.4
Boys	2017	122409	6.1	13.1	18.6	22.5	17.2	11.0	6.6	3.3	1.6	60.3	1541	1.3
Girls	2012	76118	12.9	21.4	21.1	19.4	12.6	6.5	3.6	1.8	0.7	74.8		
Girls	2013	95003	12.4	19.9	21.1	20.2	13.1	7.1	3.8	1.8	0.6	73.6	18885	24.8
Girls	2014	96061	11.9	19.7	21.4	20.2	13	7.4	3.9	1.9	0.6	73.2	1058	1.1
Girls	2015	98104	11.9	20	21.4	19.9	13.1	7.4	3.9	1.7	0.7	73.2	2043	2.1
Girls	2016	107595	10.9	18.6	20.8	20	13.6	8.1	4.8	2.3	0.9	70.3	9491	9.7
Girls	2017	108888	10.6	17.3	20.3	20.2	14.3	8.8	5.1	2.4	1.0	68.4	1293	1.2
All	2012	169968	9.7	18.8	20.3	20.9	15	8.1	4.2	2.1	0.9	69.7		
All	2013	204497	9.6	17.5	20.2	21.6	15.2	8.4	4.5	2.2	0.8	68.9	34529	20.3
All	2014	207857	9.3	17.2	20.5	21.8	15	8.6	4.5	2.3	0.8	68.8	3360	1.6
All	2015	211721	9.3	17.6	20.6	21.4	14.9	8.6	4.6	2.2	0.8	68.9	3864	1.9
All	2016	228463	8.3	16.1	20	21.4	15.4	9.3	5.5	2.8	1.2	65.8	16742	7.9
All	2017	231297	8.2	15.1	19.4	21.4	15.8	10.0	5.9	2.9	1.3	64.1	2834	1.2

Table 6c: Entries for geography 2012-2017 Northern Ireland

Gender	Year	Total Entry	A*	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	U	A*-C	Change	% Change
Boys	2012	3853	5.9	18.9	24.9	23.6	13.9	7.1	3.3	1.6	0.8	73.3		
Boys	2013	3852	5.1	18.7	25.2	24.4	14.8	6.9	2.9	1.4	0.6	73.4	-1	0.0
Boys	2014	3753	5.5	19.6	26.3	22.4	13.4	7	3.5	1.9	0.4	73.8	-99	-2.6
Boys	2015	3624	6.1	19.9	25.2	23.5	13.1	6.8	3.2	1.4	0.8	74.7	-129	-3.4
Boys	2016	3191	5.9	19	24.8	24.6	14.7	6.4	2.5	1.1	1.0	74.3	-433	-11.9
Boys	2017	3161	6.0	20.4	25.9	23.8	12.8	6.3	2.6	1.3	0.9	76.1	-30	-0.9
Girls	2012	3002	12.5	27.1	23.5	18.9	10	4.5	2	1.1	0.4	82.0		
Girls	2013	3278	11.7	27.7	26.2	18.3	9.3	4.5	1.4	0.6	0.3	83.9	276	9.2
Girls	2014	3054	12.1	29.4	27.1	16.4	9	3.5	1.5	0.6	0.4	85.0	-224	-6.8
Girls	2015	2964	14.4	27.8	25.5	17.4	7.9	4	1.6	0.9	0.5	85.1	-90	-2.9
Girls	2016	2857	13.5	28.2	25.9	18.5	8.2	3.5	1.3	0.5	0.4	86.1	-107	-3.6
Girls	2017	2665	13.3	27.9	26.2	17.5	9.1	3.6	1.3	0.6	0.5	84.9	-192	-6.7
All	2012	6855	8.8	22.5	24.3	21.6	12.1	6	2.7	1.4	0.6	77.2		
All	2013	7130	8.1	22.9	25.6	21.6	12.3	5.8	2.2	1	0.5	78.2	275	4.0
All	2014	6807	8.4	24.1	26.6	19.7	11.5	5.4	2.6	1.3	0.4	78.8	-323	-4.5
All	2015	6588	9.8	23.5	25.4	20.7	10.8	5.5	2.4	1.2	0.7	79.4	-219	-3.2
All	2016	6048	9.5	23.3	25.4	21.7	11.6	5	2	0.8	0.7	79.9	-540	-8.2
All	2017	5826	9.4	23.8	26.0	20.9	11.1	5.1	2.0	1.0	0.7	80.1	-222	-3.7

Table 6d: Entries for geography 2012-2017 Wales

Gender	Year	Total Entry	A*	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	U	A*-C	Change	% Change
Boys	2012	6078	5.9	13.7	18.1	25.3	18.9	10.1	4.8	2.4	0.8	63.0		
Boys	2013	6541	6.1	13.3	17.4	25.7	18.6	10.4	5.1	2.2	1.2	62.5	463	7.6
Boys	2014	6031	5.9	13.9	19.4	25.2	18.1	9.7	4.7	2.3	0.8	64.4	-510	-7.8
Boys	2015	5533	5	13.1	18.5	25.5	19.3	10.3	5.1	2.3	0.9	62.1	-498	-8.3
Boys	2016	5437	7.3	12.4	18.6	27.8	17.3	8.9	4.6	2	1.1	66.1	-96	-1.7
Boys	2017	4564	6.2	13.8	20.5	26.4	17.6	8.9	3.9	1.9	0.8	66.9	-873	-16.1
Girls	2012	4121	11.3	19.1	20.1	22.7	14.3	7.1	3.3	1.3	0.8	73.2		
Girls	2013	4684	12.2	17.5	20	22.3	15	7	3.5	1.8	0.7	72.0	563	13.7
Girls	2014	4454	10.6	19.1	19.9	21.8	14.4	7.9	3.9	1.8	0.6	71.4	-230	-4.9
Girls	2015	4233	10.1	18.7	20.5	23.3	15.4	6.4	3.4	1.6	0.6	72.6	-221	-5.0
Girls	2016	4085	12.7	17.9	21.2	23.7	13.3	6.6	2.9	1.2	0.5	75.5	-148	-3.5
Giris	2017	3543	12.6	20.3	20.8	23.3	11.7	7.1	3.0	1.0	0.2	77.0	-542	-13.3
All	2012	10199	8.1	15.8	19	24.2	17.1	8.8	4.2	2	0.8	67.1		
All	2013	11225	8.7	15	18.5	24.3	17.1	9	4.4	2	1	66.5	1026	10.1
All	2014	10485	7.9	16.1	19.6	23.8	16.5	8.9	4.4	2.1	0.7	67.4	-740	-6.6
All	2015	9766	7.2	15.6	19.3	24.5	17.7	8.6	4.3	2	0.8	66.6	-719	-6.9
All	2016	9522	9.6	14.8	19.7	26	15.6	7.9	3.9	1.7	0.8	70.1	-244	-2.5
All	2017	8107	9.0	16.6	20.7	25.0	15.0	8.1	3.6	1.5	0.5	71.3	-1415	-14.9

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