

GCSE Geography Results Analysis 2008

Entries

Overall entries for GCSE nationally for all subjects are down by 2.7%. This is partly due to 6000 fewer students in the cohort and some early entries for English and maths.

Entries for geography are down by 9262 (4.3%) to 203862 the fifth largest drop amongst the major subjects and geography dropped from 8th to 9th place in terms of entry. Art went above geography. French saw a larger decrease and has gone to 10th place in terms of total entries. History dropped by 1152 entries 0.5%

The reduction in entries for geography was almost equal between males and females.

Males 4733 (-4.0%)

Females 4529 (-4.8%)

Performance

The number of candidates getting A* and A grades was very pleasing increasing to 26.6% from 25.2% in 2007. Candidates taking geography therefore did much better than the national average A* and A pass rate of 20.7%

Performance overall increased with the number of A*-C grades increasing to 68.2% from 66.8%. The compares favourably with the national average for all subjects of 65.7%

The percentage obtaining a grade (A*-G) for geography was 98.1% slightly lower than the national average for all subjects (98.4%)

Gender differences

Differential performance was maintained with girls outperforming boys by 3.7% at A*; 6.9% at A* and A; and 5.9% at A*-C

Males	A*	8.7% up 0.5% from 2007;
	A* and A	23.5% up 1.3% from 2007
	A*-C	65.5% up 1.5% from 2007
	A*-G	97.9% up 0.2% from 2007

Females	A*	12.4 up 0.4% from 2007
	A* and A	30.4% up 1.5% from 2007
	A*-C	71.4% up 1.2% from 2007
	A*-G	98.3% up 0.1% from 2007

Overall performance

A*	10.4% up 0.5% from 2007;
A* and A	26.6% up 1.4% from 2007
A*-C	68.2% up 1.4% from 2007
A*-G	98.1% up 0.3% from 2007

Entry share over the last three years has stayed much the same at about 44% female and 56% male. This is a pattern that has been consistent for the last twenty years.

	2008	2007	2006
M	55.5%	55.3%	55.7%
F	44.5%	44.7%	44.3%

Trends over time

The trend in entries over the last eight years has been steadily downwards. There has been a 19% drop over that time, about 2.4% per year so this year (-4.3%) is slightly worse than other years. This compares poorly with the previous two years which only had small reductions in numbers.

Year	entry	change	% change from previous year
2000	251605		
2001	253756	2151	0.9%
2002	240310	-13446	-5.3%
2003	232830	-7480	-3.1%
2004	227832	-4998	-2.1%
2005	216756	-11076	-4.9%
2006	213469	-3287	-1.5%
2007	213124	-345	-0.2%
2008	203862	-9262	-4.3%

Figures are for the UK as a whole

Subject	Gender	Entry	% Change	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
English Literature	Male & Female	721577 (732293)	12.7 (12.6)	4.0 (3.8)	15.5 (15.3)	35.6 (35.0)	62.9 (62.2)	82.7 (82.1)	92.6 (92.3)	96.9 (96.8)	98.7 (98.7)	100.0 (100.0)
	Male	268837 (273784)	9.6 (9.5)	3.9 (3.7)	16.3 (15.8)	37.8 (37.1)	64.2 (63.3)	82.1 (81.1)	91.8 (91.0)	96.0 (95.7)	97.9 (97.8)	100.0 (100.0)
	Female	289550 (295672)	10.1 (10.0)	6.3 (6.1)	24.7 (24.0)	50.7 (49.3)	76.0 (74.9)	89.8 (89.0)	95.8 (95.3)	97.9 (97.7)	98.8 (98.7)	100.0 (100.0)
French	Male & Female	558387 (569456)	9.8 (9.8)	5.1 (4.9)	20.6 (20.1)	44.5 (43.4)	70.3 (69.3)	86.1 (85.2)	93.9 (93.3)	97.0 (96.7)	98.3 (98.2)	100.0 (100.0)
	Male	87710 (94500)	3.1 (3.3)	8.8 (8.3)	21.4 (19.9)	38.4 (36.5)	62.6 (60.9)	82.0 (79.8)	92.5 (90.5)	97.6 (96.6)	99.5 (99.3)	100.0 (100.0)
	Female	114230 (122218)	4.0 (4.1)	11.4 (10.8)	27.7 (25.7)	47.9 (45.9)	72.6 (70.8)	88.4 (86.8)	95.8 (94.5)	98.7 (98.2)	99.7 (99.6)	100.0 (100.0)
Geography	Male & Female	201940 (216718)	3.6 (3.7)	10.3 (9.7)	25.0 (23.2)	43.8 (41.8)	68.3 (66.5)	85.6 (83.7)	94.3 (92.8)	98.2 (97.5)	99.7 (99.5)	100.0 (100.0)
	Male	113078 (117811)	4.0 (4.1)	8.7 (8.2)	23.5 (22.2)	41.3 (39.4)	65.5 (64.0)	81.8 (80.6)	90.7 (89.7)	95.4 (94.8)	97.9 (97.5)	100.0 (100.0)
	Female	90784 (95313)	3.2 (3.2)	12.4 (12.0)	30.4 (28.9)	49.1 (46.9)	71.4 (70.2)	85.1 (84.3)	92.4 (91.8)	96.2 (96.0)	98.3 (98.2)	100.0 (100.0)
German	Male & Female	203862 (213124)	3.6 (3.7)	10.4 (9.9)	26.6 (25.2)	44.8 (42.8)	68.2 (66.8)	83.3 (82.3)	91.4 (90.7)	95.8 (95.4)	98.1 (97.8)	100.0 (100.0)
	Male	36165 (38379)	1.3 (1.3)	8.0 (7.4)	21.2 (20.6)	39.4 (39.1)	67.5 (66.9)	85.8 (84.6)	93.7 (93.0)	97.7 (97.4)	99.6 (99.6)	100.0 (100.0)
	Female	40530 (42882)	1.4 (1.4)	10.4 (10.3)	27.3 (26.5)	49.2 (47.9)	76.1 (75.4)	90.7 (90.0)	96.3 (96.0)	98.7 (98.7)	99.8 (99.8)	100.0 (100.0)
Male & Female	76695 (81061)	1.4 (1.4)	9.3 (8.9)	24.4 (23.7)	44.6 (43.7)	72.0 (71.4)	88.4 (87.4)	95.1 (94.6)	98.2 (98.1)	99.7 (99.7)	100.0 (100.0)	

Changes by country

There are some differences in the entries by country. Entries were down by 4.1% overall in England and Wales and 9.3% in Northern Ireland. (4.3% UK)

Males were down 3.8% in England, 5.8% in Wales and 6.2% in Northern Ireland (4.0% -UK)
Females were down 4.6% in England, 1.8% in Wales and 12.6 in Northern Ireland (4.8%-UK)

		2008	2007	change 2007-8	%change
England	m	101079	105055	-3976	-3.8%
	f	81383	85294	-3911	-4.6%
	total	182462	190349	-7887	-4.1%
Wales	m	7830	8311	-481	-5.8%
	f	5862	5968	-106	-1.8%
	total	13692	14279	-587	-4.1%
NI	m	4169	4445	-276	-6.2%
	f	3539	4051	-512	-12.6%
	total	7708	8496	-788	-9.3%
UK	m	113078	117811	-4733	-4.0%
	f	90784	95313	-4529	-4.8%
	total	203862	213124	-9262	-4.3%

References

Results tables

<http://www.jcq.org.uk/attachments/published/1017/GCSE%20Results%20Table%202008.pdf>

Trends

<http://www.jcq.org.uk/attachments/published/1022/GCSE~AppGCSE~Entry%20Trends.pdf>

News release GCSE

<http://www.jcq.org.uk/attachments/published/1021/GCSE%20News%20release.pdf>

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