

Highlights from JCQ

A Level Geography entries increase

A Level

2019 the number of Geography A level entries **increased** from 2018 and now represent 4.4% of all A level entries. This is an increase of +4.2% from 2018.

Total A Level entries have increased as a proportion of 18 year-olds, with a decrease of 2.9% in the 18 year-old population in 2019, while the total number of entries fell by 1.3%. With more students taking A levels this year, this suggests changes in the cohort.

It is notable that the percentage achieving the highest grades in Geography (A-A*) has decreased from 24.9% in 2018 to 23.8% in 2019. Where there have been significant increases in entries, slight but not unexpected, decreases in the percentage achieving the higher grades have occurred. This is believed to be a consequence of the changing entry patterns.

The male to female ratio in Geography in 2019 is 49%:51% compared with 45%:55% for all entries. This makes Geography the most gender balanced subject at A Level.

In 2019 Geography was the 10th most popular subject (maintaining its position from 2018).

Entries for the sciences continued to increase with female entries for the first time overtaking males. Entries for Biology, Chemistry and Physics represent 20.9% of all entries. Although the entries for Mathematics were down by 5.9% it remains the most popular subject at A level.

AS Levels

The number of entries for AS Geography continued to decline. AS Geography entries represent 3.4% of all AS entries in 2019. The total entry for AS across all subjects has declined, with total entries declining by 44.1%. in line with recent policy changes in England. In Geography this decline was 67% from 2018. If we compare the decline from 2016, the last year of the legacy specifications, the decline is 88%.

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References

<https://www.jcq.org.uk/>

Recommended reading

Shows variation in Geography A level results in England by County

<https://analytics.ofqual.gov.uk/apps/Alevel/County/>

Shows variation over time in Geography A level

<https://analytics.ofqual.gov.uk/apps/Alevel/Outcomes/>