

GCSE November 2024: Notes for users of the JCQ results tables

These notes put the results in context and explain some year-on-year changes in reporting and outcomes. The notes should be read before consulting the results tables.

The notes do not outline the details of every change that may influence results or entries in some way. The relevant government and regulatory websites give more information on the approach to examinations.

Regulator links

England

<https://gov.uk/government/organisations/ofqual>

Wales

<https://qualificationswales.org/english/>

<https://qualificationswales.org/cymraeg/>

Education Department links

England

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-education>

Wales

<http://gov.wales/topics/educationandskills/?lang=en>

England

GCSE English language and GCSE maths can be taken in November of each academic year, as well as in the summer series. Usually, students have to be 16 or over by the end of the August before the November series.

In England, students who do not achieve a GCSE grade 4 or above in English language or literature and/or maths at age 16 must continue studying English language and/or maths as part of their study programme. This is a condition of DfE 16 to 19 funding.

All GCSE specifications are graded 9 to 1.

Wales

GCSE English language, maths, maths – numeracy and Welsh language can be taken in November of each academic year, as well as in the usual summer series. In Wales, entry to the November series is not restricted by age, and a high proportion of 16-year-old students enter for these qualifications alongside those students re-sitting.

GCSEs in Wales are graded A* to G. A few non-maintained centres may offer 9-to-1 specifications.

Interpreting the tables (England and Wales)

The tables calculate age as of August 2025, and the post-16 tables include all students within the age group, not just those enrolled in 16-19 full-time study programs.

Various factors can influence changes in November entries, such as shifts in population size or changes in entry numbers in schools and colleges over the years.

Data Suppression

To protect candidate anonymity, data suppression (indicated by 0~) is applied to the results tables when the combined number of male and female students that entered a subject is fewer than 10.

Limitations

JCQ conducts quality assurance checks to ensure that the data received is accurate to the best of our knowledge.

The results tables are provisional, but we do not anticipate significant changes to outcomes to occur.
