

# Statistical First Release



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# A LEVEL AND EQUIVALENT RESULTS IN ENGLAND, 2011/12 (REVISED)

#### **HEADLINES**

The number of students entered for at least one Advanced level (A level) or equivalent Level 3 qualification increased between 2010/11 and 2011/12, from 371,981 to 384,299.

The percentage of students who achieved passes equivalent in size to at least two A levels decreased slightly between 2010/11 and 2011/12, from 94.1 per cent to 93.6 per cent, as did the percentage of students who achieved three or more A\*/A passes at A level, down from 13.1 per cent to 12.8 per cent.

A higher percentage of male students achieved three or more A\*/A grades at A level than female students, 13.1 per cent compared with 12.6 per cent of females.

The average point score per student and per entry for Level 3 qualifications also decreased between 2010/11 and 2011/12, from 746.0 to 733.0 and from 216.2 to 212.8 respectively. Female students achieved higher average point scores per entry and per student than male students.

## **BACKGROUND**

This Statistical First Release (SFR) provides revised information on the overall achievements of young people in A level examinations and other equivalent qualifications in the 2011/12 academic year. Provisional figures for 2011/12 were published by the Department in October 2012. This information has now been checked by schools and colleges and revised figures are shown in this SFR.

The coverage of this release is 16 to 18 year old students at the end of their final year of post-16 study in schools and colleges in England. The information is based on data collated for the 2012 School and College Performance Tables and covers achievements in all Level 3 qualifications approved under Section 96 of the Learning and Skills Act (2000). More information on the Performance Tables can be found here: http://www.education.gov.uk/schools/performance/

In addition to the tables published in October this SFR provides further information at regional and local authority level.

In order to improve data transparency underlying data for this SFR will also be published at the Performance Tables web page via the link above.

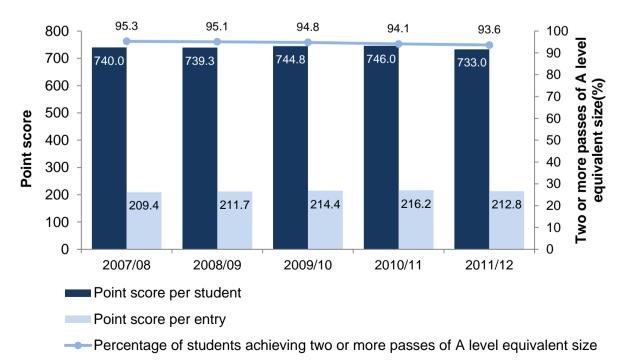
#### **KEY STATISTICS**

All comparisons are made with final 2010/11 figures.

# Level 3 results for students aged 16 to 18 in all schools and colleges in England

- There were 384,299 students entered for at least one A level or equivalent Level 3 qualification in 2011/12 compared with 371,981 in 2010/11, an increase of 3.3 per cent.
- 93.6 per cent of students achieved passes equivalent in size to at least two A level passes (grade A\* to E) compared with 94.1 per cent in 2010/11.
- A similar percentage of males and females achieved two A level passes or equivalent (93.8 per cent and 93.4 per cent respectively).
- The average point score per student entered for Level 3 qualifications was 733.0 compared with 746.0 in 2010/11.
- The average Level 3 point score per entry is equivalent to marginally above a grade C at A level and has decreased to 212.8, compared with an average of 216.2 in 2010/11. A grade C at A level is equivalent to 210 points.
- Female students achieved higher average point scores than males. The average total point score achieved by female students was 30.2 points higher (747.2 compared with 717.0 for males) and the average points per entry was 7.6 points higher (216.3 compared with 208.7 for males).
- Chart 1 (below) shows there was a gradual decline in the percentage of students who
  achieved passes equivalent in size to at least two A level passes between 2007/08 and
  2011/12, down from 95.3 per cent to 93.6 per cent. The fall in average point scores per
  student and per entry in 2011/12 contrasts with a broadly increasing trend in the four
  years up to 2010/11.

Chart 1: Average point score for all Level 3 qualifications per student and per entry and the percentage of students achieving two or more passes of A level equivalent size in all schools and colleges in England, 2007/08 to 2011/12 (see Table 1b)

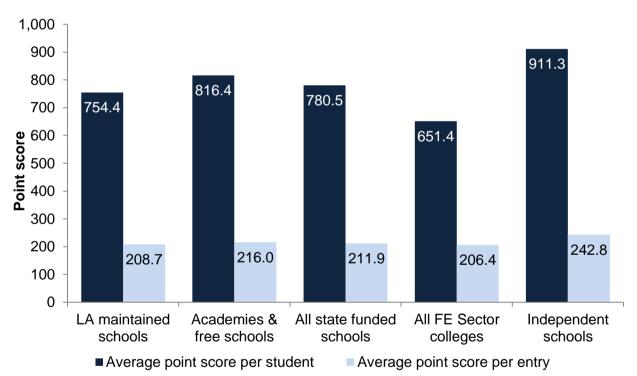


# Level 3 results for students aged 16 to 18 by institution type (Table 1a)

The average A level or equivalent point score per entry and per student varies between institution types (Chart 2).

- Students in independent schools achieved 242.8 points per entry (approximately a grade B at A level).
- The average point score per entry in state-funded schools was 211.9 (approximately a
  grade C at A level), with students in Academies and free schools (216.0 points) achieving
  a higher average point score per entry than students in Local Authority (LA) maintained
  mainstream schools (208.7 points).
- Students in all Further Education (FE) sector colleges achieved an average 206.4 points per entry.
- The average point score per student was 911.3 in independent schools, 780.5 in statefunded schools and 651.4 in all FE sector colleges.

<u>Chart 2: Average point score for all Level 3 qualifications per student and entry by type of institution, 2011/12</u> (Table 1a)



• 98.2 per cent of students in independent schools achieved two or more A level passes (grade A\* to E) or equivalent compared to 97.7 per cent in state-funded schools and 88.6 per cent in FE sector colleges.

# A level, Applied A level and Double Award A level results for students aged 16 to 18 in all schools and colleges in England (Table 1a)

- There were 262,104 students entered for A level, Applied A level and Double Award A level qualifications in 2011/12, an increase of 1.2 per cent from 258,892 in 2010/11.
- 12.8 per cent of students entered for A level, Applied A level and Double Award A level qualifications achieved 3 A\* or A grades or better, a decrease of 0.3 percentage points from 13.1 per cent in 2010/11.
- A higher percentage of male students achieved 3 A\* or A grades or better at A level, Applied A level and Double Award A level ,13.1 per cent compared with 12.6 per cent of female students.
- 20.5 per cent of students achieved grades AAB or better at A level, Applied A level and Double Award A level. A higher percentage of female students (20.9 per cent) achieved grades AAB or better compared with male students (20.0 per cent).
- 9.5 per cent of students achieved grades AAB or better at A level in 'facilitating' subjects'<sup>1</sup>.
   A higher percentage of male students (11.1 per cent) achieved grades AAB or better compared with female students (8.2 per cent).

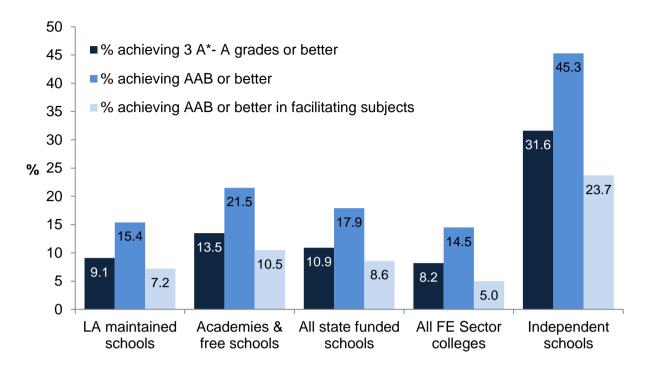
# A level, Applied A level and Double Award A level results for students aged 16 to 18 by institution type (Table 1a)

A level, Applied A level and Double Award A level achievement varies between institution types (Chart 3).

- 31.6 per cent of A level, Applied A level and Double Award A level students in independent schools achieved three A\* or A grades or better compared with 10.9 per cent in state-funded schools.
- A higher percentage of A level, Applied A level and Double Award A level students in Academies and free schools (13.5 per cent) achieved three A\* or A grades or better than students in LA maintained mainstream schools (9.1 per cent) and all FE sector colleges (8.2 per cent).
- The percentage of A level, Applied A level and Double Award A level students who achieved grades AAB or better was higher in independent schools (45.3 per cent) compared with state-funded schools (17.9 per cent) and FE sector colleges (14.5 per cent).
- The percentage of A level, Applied A level and Double Award A level students who
  achieved grades AAB or better in facilitating A level subjects was higher in independent
  schools (23.7 per cent) compared with state-funded schools (8.6 per cent) and FE sector
  colleges (5.0 per cent).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> 'Facilitating' A level subjects are Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Mathematics, Further Mathematics, Geography, History, English (Literature), Modern and Classical Languages. See technical notes for information on the 'AAB' methodology for facilitating subjects.

Chart 3: Percentage of students achieving 3 A\* - A grades or better, AAB or better and AAB or better in facilitating subjects at A level, Applied A level and Double Award A level by type of institution, 2011/12 (Table 1a)



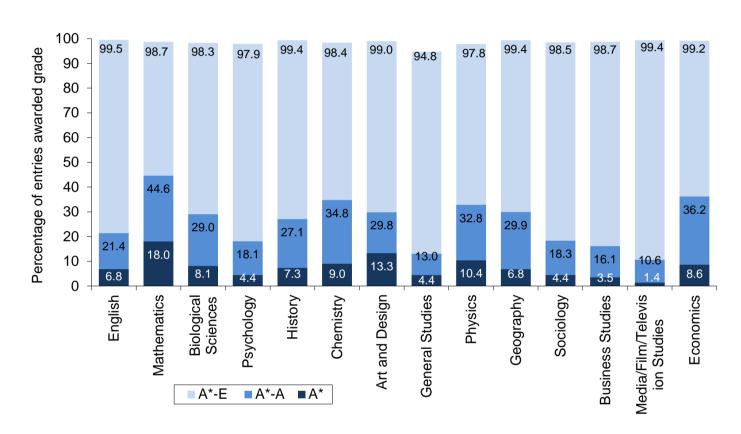
# A level entries and results by subject for students aged 16 to 18 in all schools and colleges in England (Table 2)

- The number of A level entries by 16 to 18 year olds decreased to 779,483 in 2011/12, from 782,771 in 2010/11.
- The pass rate (percentage of entries awarded A\* to E grades) was 98.6 per cent, compared with 98.5 per cent in 2010/11.
- A level entries in traditional science subjects increased when compared with 2010/11. Entries in Biology were up by 2.0 per cent, Chemistry by 3.4 per cent and Physics by 5.3 per cent. Entries in Mathematics and Further Mathematics also increased, by 3.4 per cent and 8.5 per cent respectively.
- Entries in modern foreign languages were lower overall (down by 3.0 per cent) when compared with 2010/11. French entries were down 5.4 per cent, German entries down 7.6 per cent and Spanish down 3.1 per cent. In contrast, entries in Other Modern Languages increased by 4.4 per cent. Most of the Other Modern Languages had a relatively small number of entries, with Chinese having the highest number of entries (2,738).
- The subjects which showed the greatest percentage decrease in entries were Home Economics (-13.9 per cent), Physical Education (-12.6 per cent) and General Studies (-12.2 per cent).
- The subjects which showed the greatest percentage increase in entries were Other Social Studies (+8.9 per cent), Classical Studies (+8.7 per cent) and Further Mathematics (+8.5 per cent).
- 8.2 per cent of A level entries by 16 to 18 year olds in 2011/12 were awarded an A\* grade compared with 8.4 per cent in 2010/11. These A\* awards, taken alongside the 18.8 per cent of entries awarded a grade A, show that 27.0 per cent of entries were awarded an A\*

or A grade in 2011/12. Equivalent figures for 2009/10 and 2010/11 were 26.9 per cent and 27.2 per cent respectively.

- The subjects with the greatest percentage of A\* grades awarded in 2011/12 were Further Mathematics (28.5 per cent) and Mathematics (18.0 per cent). A high percentage of entries in Other Modern Languages (13.6 per cent) and Art & Design (13.3 per cent) were also awarded A\* grades.
- The grades awarded in the most popular subjects (those with over 20,000 entries) are shown in Chart 4 below.

Chart 4: Grades achieved by 16 to 18 year olds in the most popular A level subjects, all schools and colleges in England, 2011/12 (Table 2)



• Table 10 provides A level time series information by subject, grade and gender.

## Results in Urban/Rural Areas (Table 14)

• In urban areas, the average point score per student entered for Level 3 qualifications in 2011/12 was 711.7, compared to 726.4 in 2010/11. In rural areas, the average point score was 743.8, compared to 750.5 in 2010/11. Nationally students attending schools in 'Rural areas – town and fringe' perform better than pupils attending schools in other rural areas, although there is some regional variation.

#### **TABLES**

These tables show information for England and are available from the DfE research and statistics website at: <a href="http://www.education.gov.uk/researchandstatistics/statistics/a00219213/a-level-results-england-2011-12">http://www.education.gov.uk/researchandstatistics/statistics/a00219213/a-level-results-england-2011-12</a>

**TABLE 1a**: GCE (General Certificate of Education) A level and equivalent results of students aged 16 to 18 by institution type and gender, 2011/12

**TABLE 1b**: Time series of GCE A level and equivalent results of students aged 16 to 18 by gender, 2005/06 to 2011/12

**TABLE 1c:** GCE A level and equivalent results of state-funded school students aged 16 to 18 by admission basis and gender, 2011/12

**TABLE 1d**: GCE A level results of students aged 16 to 18 by institution type, gender and grade, 2011/12

**TABLE 1e:** GCE A level results of state-funded school students aged 16 to 18 by admission basis gender and grade, 2011/12

**TABLES 2, 2m and 2f:** GCE A level results of students aged 16 to 18 by subject and grade, 2011/12, (Tables 2m and 2f show information by gender)

**TABLES 3, 3m and 3f:** GCE AS level results of students aged 16 to 18 by subject and grade, 2011/12 (Tables 3m and 3f show information by gender)

**TABLES 4, 4m and 4f:** 2011 GCE AS level results of Year 13 students aged 16 to 18 by grade and gender that are not discounted by 2012 A level results, 2011/12 (Tables 4m and 4f show information by gender)

**TABLE 5:** Applied GCE A level results of students aged 16 to 18 by gender, subject and grade, 2011/12

**TABLE 6:** Applied GCE AS level results of students aged 16 to 18 by gender, subject and grade, 2011/12

**TABLE 7:** Applied Double Award GCE A level results of students aged 16 to 18 by gender, subject and grade, 2011/12

**TABLE 8:** Applied Double Award GCE AS level results of students aged 16 to 18 by gender, subject and grade, 2011/12

**TABLE 9a:** GCE A level and equivalent results of state-funded students aged 16 to 18 by gender, local authority and region, 2011/12

**TABLE 9b:** GCE A level and equivalent results of state-funded students aged 16 to 18 by gender, local authority and region, 2011/12, (state-funded schools only).

**TABLE 10:** GCE A level examination results of students aged 16 to 18 by subject, grade and gender, 1995/96 to 2011/12, time series information

**TABLE 11:** GCE AS level examination results of students aged 16 to 18 by subject, grade and gender, 2000/01 to 2011/12

**TABLE 12a, 12b, 12c:** Number of GCE A level entries by state-funded school students aged 16 to 18 by subject and local authority, 2011/12, (Tables 12b and 12c show information on the number of A\*-A and A\*-E passes respectively)

**TABLE 13a, 13b, 13c, 13d:** GCE A level examination results of students aged 16 to 18 by subject, grade and institution type, 2011/12

**TABLE 14:** Level 3 achievements of students aged 16 to 18 by Degree of Rurality of school location and region, 2011/12 (not available in provisional SFR)

**TABLE 15:** Level 3 achievements of students aged 16 to 18 by Local Authority District of school location and region, 2011/12 (not available in provisional SFR)

#### **DEFINITIONS**

- Age used for reporting examination and awards is "age in years at start of academic year, i.e. 31 August 2011".
- Further notes on coverage and definitions can be found at the bottom of each table.

#### **RELATED PUBLICATIONS**

GCSE and equivalent results in England, 2011/12 (Revised)
This publication is available from 9.30am on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> January 2013.
<a href="http://www.education.gov.uk/researchandstatistics/statistics/a00219173/gcse-and-equivalent-results">http://www.education.gov.uk/researchandstatistics/statistics/a00219173/gcse-and-equivalent-results</a>

Performance Tables: Information on the achievements of secondary pupils and 16 to 18 year old students in schools and colleges in England.

Information for the 2011/12 academic year is available from 9.30am on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> January 2013.

http://www.education.gov.uk/schools/performance/

SFR01/2012 - DfE: GCE/Applied GCE A/AS and Equivalent Examination Results in England, 2010/11 (Revised)

http://www.education.gov.uk/researchandstatistics/statistics/allstatistics/a00201307/dfe-gceapplied-gce-aas-and-equivalent-examination-results-in-england-revised

SFR02/2012 - DfE: GCSE and Equivalent Results in England, 2010/11 (Revised) <a href="http://www.education.gov.uk/researchandstatistics/statistics/allstatistics/a00201306/dfe-gcse-and-equivalent-results-in-england-201011-revised">http://www.education.gov.uk/researchandstatistics/statistics/allstatistics/a00201306/dfe-gcse-and-equivalent-results-in-england-201011-revised</a>

Examination Results, 2011/12 (provisional): This publication is produced by the Welsh Assembly Government and provides the earliest results of external examinations taken by pupils aged 15 or 17 in schools in Wales in 2011/12.

http://wales.gov.uk/topics/statistics/headlines/schools2012/121004/?lang=en

The Department for Education Northern Ireland (DENI) have published A and AS level headline statistics 2012 on their website, which are available at:

http://www.deni.gov.uk/index/facts-and-figures-new/education-statistics/115-curriculum-and-assessment-qualifications-pg/a-and-as-level-headline-statistics-2012.htm

Summary Statistics for Schools in Scotland, No.2: 2011 Edition 7th December, 2011 (amended 3rd May 2012)

Annual summary statistics can be found in this bulletin covering pupils, teachers, pre-school children, school attendance, exclusions, examination results, destinations on leaving school and school buildings:

http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2011/12/06114834/0

#### A NATIONAL STATISTICS PUBLICATION

The United Kingdom Statistics Authority has designated these statistics as National Statistics, in accordance with the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007 and signifying compliance with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics.

Designation can be broadly interpreted to mean that the statistics:

- meet identified user needs:
- are well explained and readily accessible;
- are produced according to sound methods, and
- are managed impartially and objectively in the public interest.

Once statistics have been designated as National Statistics it is a statutory requirement that the Code of Practice shall continue to be observed.

The Department has a set of statistical policies in line with the *Code of Practice for Official Statistics*, these are published at: http://www.education.gov.uk/rsgateway/nat-stats.shtml

#### CONFIDENTIALITY

The Code of Practice for Official Statistics requires that reasonable steps should be taken to ensure that all published or disseminated statistics produced by the DfE protect confidentiality.

Every effort has been made to ensure the tables do not allow the identification of individuals. To protect confidentiality, low numbers of entries by either males or females in a particular subject will result in both sets of figures being suppressed. Where the total number of entries is very low, the numbers achieving each grade are suppressed. This suppression is consistent with the Departmental statistical policy which can be found at <a href="http://www.education.gov.uk/rsgateway/ns-sp-confidentialityv3.pdf">http://www.education.gov.uk/rsgateway/ns-sp-confidentialityv3.pdf</a>

#### **TECHNICAL NOTES**

#### Coverage

The statistics in this first release cover the data prepared for the publication of the 2012 School and College Performance Tables.

The figures for A level, Applied A level and Double Award A Level examinations by subject and grade differ from those published by Awarding Organisations in August. The Awarding Organisations' figures related to the outcome of the individual subject areas for all students in England, Wales and Northern Ireland, regardless of their age. The figures published in this SFR focus on the overall performance of students aged 16, 17 or 18 taking these examinations in England only.

The coverage of this Statistical First Release is 16 to 18 year old students at the end of their final year of Post-16 study. However, as the year group is not collected, a set of proxy criteria has been established. The criteria are that students must be aged 16, 17 or 18 and they must have been entered for an A level, Applied A level and Double Award A Level in Summer 2012 or a Level 3 qualification equivalent in size to at least one A level or Applied A level during the 2011/12 academic year.

Local Authority and regional figures are published for state-funded institutions only: these are Local Authority maintained schools, City Technology Colleges, Academies and Further Education Sector Colleges.

#### **Urban / Rural Areas**

The Rural and Urban Area Classification is a product of a joint project to produce a single and consistent classification of urban and rural areas. The project was sponsored by a number of Government Departments. The rural and urban definitions classify Output Areas, Wards and Super Output Areas by aggregating the underlying hectare grid squares classifications for the measures of settlement size and sparsity. Up to 8 classes of Output Areas could be distinguished; four settlement types (urban, town and fringe, village, hamlet and isolated dwelling) in either a sparse or less sparse regional setting. Further information about the Rural and Urban Area Classification 2004 can be found on the National Statistics website at:

http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/guide-method/geography/products/area-classifications/rural-urban-definition-and-la/index.html

#### **School status**

For the purposes of this SFR, the date of 12 September 2011 has been used to determine the status of a school. Any schools which converted to an Academy on or before this date have been published as an Academy and those that have converted after this date have been treated as their predecessor school type. This is the same as the policy adopted in the School Performance Tables and in other school level releases.

#### AS and A levels

The AS (Advanced Subsidiary) can be studied as either a free standing qualification, or as the first half of the full A level. At the end of the AS, students can either take the AS as the final qualification or continue to the (usually) second year and undertake the full A level by taking the A2. The A2 is not a separate qualification, but the second half of the A level and is designed to deepen the knowledge gained during the AS.

On completion of the AS, results can be claimed or 'cashed-in' with the examination board or delayed to re-sit a module, or possibly not cashed-in at all if the student progresses on to the A2 part of the A level. This 'cashing-in' behaviour appears to have changed given recent policy changes on how qualification success rates are calculated and funding allocations derived (see 'Uncashed AS Results' and 'Impact of Cashing-in').

## 'Uncashed' AS results

Since the 2010/11 academic year, performance measures and success rates for all qualifications (including the AS) are calculated according to when the qualifications are due to end (i.e. the planned end date), regardless of whether they are cashed-in (i.e. claimed). Any AS that has a one year end date that is not cashed-in will be treated as a 'fail' for success rate purposes. As most AS courses are taught over 1 year, it is expected that the vast majority will be 'cashed-in' at the end of one year's teaching.

#### Impact of 'cashing-in'

The number of examination entries and results in this SFR are affected by whether the AS is 'cashed-in'. If an AS is not cashed-in then it will not appear in the figures presented in this SFR. The above policy change appears to have changed cashing-in behaviour, resulting in a higher number of examination entries recorded in this SFR (see AS entries with discounting -Table 3).

# Discounting of AS entries and results

Where qualifications taken by a student are in the same subject area and similar in content, 'discounting' rules have been applied in this SFR, so that qualifications are not double counted. For example, where a student has gained an AS en route to an A level in the same subject, only the A level result will count (i.e. the AS is 'discounted' as it is part of the A level). However, if a student fails to obtain a pass grade at A level, an AS pass grade would be reported.

The same discounting principle is applied to the Key Stage 5 School and College Performance Tables, with discounting taking place over two years as students are expected to complete an A level in that period of time by the end of Key Stage 5 (typically age 18). Single year discounting is applied in this SFR to discount the AS if it was cashed-in in the same year as the A level result (i.e. in the SFR results are published for a particular year rather than reporting on results by the end of Key Stage 5).

By applying discounting the number of examination entries and results is underestimated in this SFR. In order to show the effect of discounting, this SFR shows two sets of AS tables, one with discounting applied and one without (Tables 3 and 4).

#### Source for participation figures

Discounting and cashing-in behaviour affect the examination entry (and achievement) figures shown in this SFR. Therefore the entry data should not be taken as a measure of participation. The DfE SFR 'Participation in Education, Training and Employment by 16 to 18 Year Olds in England' should be consulted for participation data, the latest version of which can be found at: <a href="http://www.education.gov.uk/researchandstatistics/statistics/allstatistics/a00210462/participation-in-education-training-employment-16-18">http://www.education.gov.uk/researchandstatistics/statistics/allstatistics/a00210462/participation-in-education-training-employment-16-18</a>

A DfE analysis paper investigating the impact of discounting and 'cashing-in' is available at <a href="http://www.education.gov.uk/researchandstatistics/statistics/a00198407/">http://www.education.gov.uk/researchandstatistics/statistics/a00198407/</a>

#### A\* grade at A level (Table 2)

The A level consists of the 'AS' and the 'A2', which together make up the overall A level grade (see above). A new A\* grade was awarded for the first time in 2010 to reward exceptional performance in A2 units. It is awarded to students who achieve a grade A overall at A level and also achieve 90 per cent or more on the uniform mark scale (UMS) across their A2 units.

## Methodology change for 'AAB' indicator

In October 2011 this SFR introduced a new indicator to show the percentage of students who achieved AAB or better passes at GCE A level, Applied A level or Double Award A level in summer 2011. Provisional figures published in the October 2011 SFR showed that 20.4 per cent of students achieved AAB or better passes at A level, Applied A level or Double Award A level in 2010/11.

The 2012 Key Stage 5 Performance Tables, published alongside this SFR, introduce a further two new indicators (among others<sup>2</sup>):

1. The percentage of Key Stage 5 students achieving 3 or more A levels at AAB or higher in 'facilitating subjects' (excluding equivalences).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> See School and College Performance Tables Statement of Intent: http://www.education.gov.uk/schools/performance/download/Statement\_of\_Intent\_2012.pdf

2. The percentage of A level students achieving 3 or more A levels at AAB or higher in 'facilitating subjects' (excluding equivalences).

For both indicators 1 and 2 the numerator includes students entered for GCE A levels in facilitating subjects: Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Mathematics, Further Mathematics, Geography, History, English Literature, Modern and Classical Languages. The denominator in 1 covers all Key Stage 5 students. The denominator in 2 covers students entered for GCE A level, Applied A level or Double Award A level in summer 2012.

Provisional figures for the percentage of A level students achieving 3 or more A levels at AAB or higher in facilitating subjects (excluding equivalences) were published by the Department in October 2012. This SFR shows revised figures in Table 1a and additionally includes information on students who achieved AAB or better passes at GCE/Applied GCE A levels or Double Awards based on those entered for these qualifications in all subjects.

#### **Cumulative achievements**

The KS5 PTs report cumulative achievements of students aged 16, 17 and 18<sup>3</sup> who are at the end of 'advanced level' study, typically lasting two years (often referred to as 'being at the end of KS5').

Therefore, results achieved by students in the two most recent academic years are included in the KS5 PTs, giving a cumulative picture of achievement by the reporting year. However, qualification discounting is applied where, for example, a student achieves an AS on route to achieving an A level in the same subject, only the A level pass is included, avoiding double counting results.

Students will be eligible to be reported in the 2012 KS5 PTs (to be published on the same day as this statistical release in January 2013) if they satisfy the following criteria:

- 1. They were age 16, 17 or 18 on 31 August 2011 (start of 2011/12 academic year)
- 2. Were on roll in January 2012
- 3. Were in, or deemed to be in, Year 13
- 4. Completed their advanced studies in the 2011/12 academic year

Students are identified as being at the end of KS5 for the KS5 PTs checking exercise by counting those students meeting the 1st, 2nd and 3rd criteria above, and who have been entered for at least one A level or equivalent qualification in the 2011/12 academic year. Schools and colleges can subsequently make amendments to add or remove students during the checking exercise where appropriate (e.g. where students are part way through their studies, so not at the end of KS5).

Similarly, this Statistical First Release includes 16 to 18 year old students at the end of their final year of post-16 study. A similar set of 'inclusion' criteria are also used, e.g. students must be aged 16, 17 or 18 and they must have been entered for an A level, Applied A level or Double Award A level in Summer 2012 or a Level 3 qualification equivalent in size to at least one A level or Applied A level during the 2011/12 academic year.

Table 1a and Tables 9a/b in this SFR show:

- Level 3 Achievements of Students aged 16 to 18, by Type of Institution and Gender
- Level 3 Achievements of Students aged 16 to 18, by Gender in each Local Authority and Region

Both tables include cumulative results obtained in academic years 2010/11 and 2011/12.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Age in years on 31<sup>st</sup> August prior to the start of the academic reporting year.

#### **Performance Table tariff**

The range of qualifications reported in this SFR covers all Level 3 qualifications approved under Section 96 of the Learning and Skills Act (2000). In order to do so the Performance Table tariff for Level 3 qualifications has been adopted in this SFR.

Annex A lists a few of the common qualifications and their point scores based on the Performance Table tariff. For the purposes of calculating average Level 3 point scores, Level 3 qualifications are also assigned a "size" relative to A level. General/Applied General AS has a size of 0.5, whereas an Applied General Double Award has a size of 2 compared to an A level of size 1.

Other approved qualifications at Level 3 and their point scores can be found at <a href="http://www.accreditedqualifications.org.uk">http://www.accreditedqualifications.org.uk</a>

# **ENQUIRIES**

Enquiries about the figures contained in this press release should be addressed to:

Schools Data Unit - Attainment Department for Education Sanctuary Buildings Great Smith Street LONDON SW1P 3BT

Telephone Number: 0870 000 2288

Email: Attainment.STATISTICS@education.gsi.gov.uk

Press enquiries should be made to the Department's Press Office at:

Press Office Newsdesk, Department for Education Sanctuary Buildings Great Smith Street LONDON SW1P 3BT

Telephone Number: 020 7783 8300

# **ANNEX A - PERFORMANCE TABLES TARIFF POINTS**

The DfE Performance Tables can be found at: <a href="http://www.education.gov.uk/performancetables/">http://www.education.gov.uk/performancetables/</a>

General/Applied General A level			
Grade	Size	Points	
A*	1	300	
Α	1	270	
В	1	240	
С	1	210	
D	1	180	
E	1	150	

General/Applied General AS level			
Grade	Size	Points	
Α	0.5	135	
В	0.5	120	
С	0.5	105	
D	0.5	90	
Е	0.5	75	

Applied General Double				
	Award			
Grade	Size	Points		
A*A*	2	600		
A*A	2	570		
AA	2	540		
AB	2	510		
BB	2	480		
BC	2	450		
CC	2	420		
CD	2	390		
DD	2	360		
DE	2	330		
EE	2	300		

BTEC National Award		
Grade	Size	Points
D	1	270
М	1	225
Р	1	165

BTEC National Certificate		
Grade	Size	Points
DD	2	540
DM	2	480
MM	2	420
MP	2	360
PP	2	300

BTEC National Diploma			
Grade	Size	Points	
DDD	3	810	
DDM	3	757.5	
DMM	3	705	
MMM	3	652.5	
MMP	3	600	
MPP	3	547.5	
PPP	3	495	

# **International Baccalaureate Diploma**

Grade	Size	Points
45	5.5	1518
44	5.5	1485
43	5.5	1452
42	5.5	1419
41	5.5	1386
40	5.5	1353
39	5.5	1320
38	5.5	1287
37	5.5	1254
36	5.5	1221
35	5.5	1188
34	5.5	1155
33	5.5	1122
32	5.5	1089
31	5.5	1056
30	5.5	1023
29	5.5	990
28	5.5	957
27	5.5	924
26	5.5	891
25	5.5	858
24	5.5	825

# Others

Advanced Free Standing Maths		
Grade	Size	Points
Α	0.1667	45
В	0.1667	40
С	0.1667	35
D	0.1667	30
Е	0.1667	25

Advanced Extension Award		
Grade	Size	Points
D	0	27
М	0	23

Level 3 Key Skill		
Grade	Size	Points
Р	0.3	63

**END**