



## Impact Indicator 8

**Impact Indicator 8: Attainment gap at age 16 between free school meal pupils and the rest.**

### About the indicator

This indicator measures the attainment gap at age 16 between pupils eligible for free school meals and their peers. The attainment gap is calculated from the percentage of all other pupils (those known not to be eligible for free school meals or with an unclassified status) achieving an A\*-C grade in English and mathematics GCSEs minus the percentage of pupils known to be eligible for free school meals achieving an A\*-C grade in English and mathematics GCSEs.

### Why we measure it

This indicator is a measure of the attainment gap associated with economic disadvantage. Disadvantage remains strongly associated with poorer performance, on average, at every key stage. It is a leading Government priority to narrow the attainment gaps between disadvantaged pupils and their peers.

## The data

Impact indicator 8: Attainment gap<sup>1</sup> at age 16<sup>2</sup> between free school meal pupils and the rest<sup>3</sup>

Year: 2012/13 to 2013/14 (revised)<sup>4</sup>

Coverage: England, state-funded schools (including academies and CTCs)

	2013/14 <sup>5</sup>		2012/13	
	Number of eligible pupils	Percentage of pupils achieving an A*-C grade in English and mathematics GCSEs	Number of eligible pupils <sup>4</sup>	Percentage of pupils achieving an A*-C grade in English and mathematics GCSEs
<b>Warning: 2013/14 figures are not comparable to previous years<sup>5</sup></b>				
Pupils eligible for free school meals	80,629	36.3	85,185	38.7
All other pupils <sup>3</sup>	477,815	62.7	486,137	65.3
<b>Attainment gap<sup>6,7</sup></b>		<b>26.4</b>		<b>26.6</b>

Source: National Pupil Database (2012/13) and Key Stage 4 attainment data (2013/14)

1. Comparisons are made using the percentage of pupils achieving an A\*-C grade in English and mathematics GCSEs.
2. Pupils at the end of key stage 4 in each academic year.
3. Includes pupils for whom free school meal eligibility could not be determined.
4. Figures for 2012/13 are based on final data, 2013/14 figures are based on revised data.
5. New 2014 methodology applied to 2013/14 data ([see SFR main text](#)).
6. Figures are calculated using unrounded data.
7. The attainment gap is calculated from the percentage all other pupils (those known not to be eligible for free school meals or with an unclassified status) achieving an A\*-C grade in English and mathematics GCSEs minus the percentage of pupils known to be eligible for free school meals achieving an A\*-C grade in English and mathematics GCSEs.

## Further information

Visit the following resources for more details.

Further information on this indicator and associated data can be found within our statistical first release:

[GCSE and equivalent attainment by pupil characteristics](#)

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