

Examination results

- The percentage of pupils achieving level 4 or above at Key Stage 2 (KS2) rose sharply between 1997 and 2000. In 2012, 86% of pupils attained this level in reading, 85% in maths and 75% in reading, writing and maths.
- The 2013/14 GCSE data reflect changes to how vocational equivalents are counted and only include a pupil's first attempt at a qualification. Solid lines show results using the old methodology, dashed lines the new one.
- Even using the earlier methodology there was a fall in pupils passing at least five GCSEs/equivalents at A*-C including English and Maths. This may in part reflect other changes to GCSEs introduced this year.
- The percentage of 16-18 year old candidates with three or more A-level passes rose almost twenty points between 1997/98 and 2004/05.
- There has been a recent decline in A-level performance after many years of continued improvement.
- Approaching one-third of independent school pupils and more than one-quarter of selective school pupils gained three or more As at A-Level in 2012/13. At comprehensive schools one in thirteen pupils achieved this – up from one in twenty in 1997/98.

Percentage achieving level 4+ at Key Stage 2

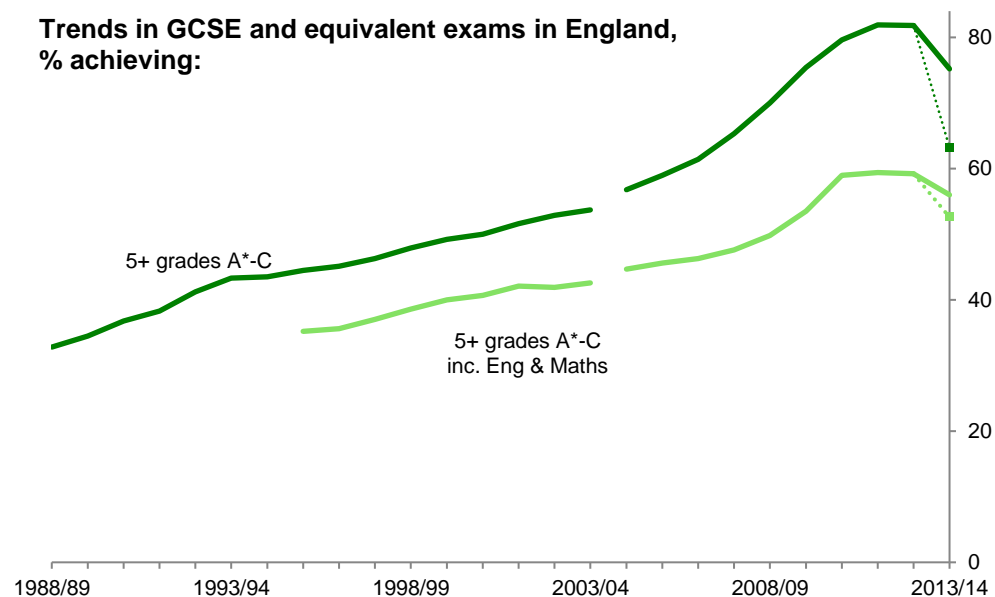
England, all schools

	Reading	Maths	Reading, writing & maths ^a	Science
1997	67	62	..	69
2000	83	72	..	85
2005	84	75	..	86
2006	83	76	..	87
2007	84	77	60	88
2008	87	79	62	88
2009	86	79	62	88
2010	83	79	64	..
2011	84	80	67	..
2012	87	84	75	..
2013	86	85	75	..
2014	89	86	79	..

(a) 2012 and later results are based on reading tests and writing teacher assessments, in earlier years both were test-based so the new data are not directly comparable.

Source: National curriculum assessments at key stage 2: 2013 to 2014 (and earlier), DfE

Trends in GCSE and equivalent exams in England, % achieving:



A-level and equivalent achievements in schools and colleges

England, academic years

	% of examinees with A-level or equivalent passes		% achieving at least three A grades, by school type		
	2+	3+	Comprehensive	Grammar	Independent
1997/98	81.4	57.1	4.7	12.7	16.9
2000/01	86.5	61.2	4.9	15.5	19.4
2004/05	93.2	76.8	6.0	21.5	27.1
2005/06	95.1	-	6.7	23.1	29.1
2006/07	95.2	-	7.5	24.7	31.1
2007/08	95.3	-	7.7	25.8	30.9
2008/09	95.1	-	8.1	26.2	32.6
2009/10	94.8	-	8.0	27.0	31.4
2010/11	94.1	-	8.4	27.7	32.7
2011/12	93.6	-	8.3	27.7	31.6
2012/13	92.3	-	8.4	28.0	30.5
2013/14	88.6	-	7.6	25.7	28.4

Source: A level and other level 3 results in England: academic year 2013/14 (provisional), DfE