

Examination results

- The percentage of pupils achieving level 4 or above at Key Stage 2 (KS2) rose sharply between 1997 and 2000. In 2015, 89% of pupils attained this level in reading, 87% in maths and 80% in reading, writing and maths.
- Pupils taking KS2 tests in 2016 were the first to follow the new national curriculum. Overall 53% reach new (higher) expected standards in reading, writing and maths.
- From 2013/14 GCSE data reflect changes to how equivalents are counted and only include a pupil's first attempt at a qualification.
- 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 in 2013/14
- 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.
- More than one-quarter of independent school pupils and one-quarter of selective school pupils gained three or more As at A-Level in 2014/15. 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

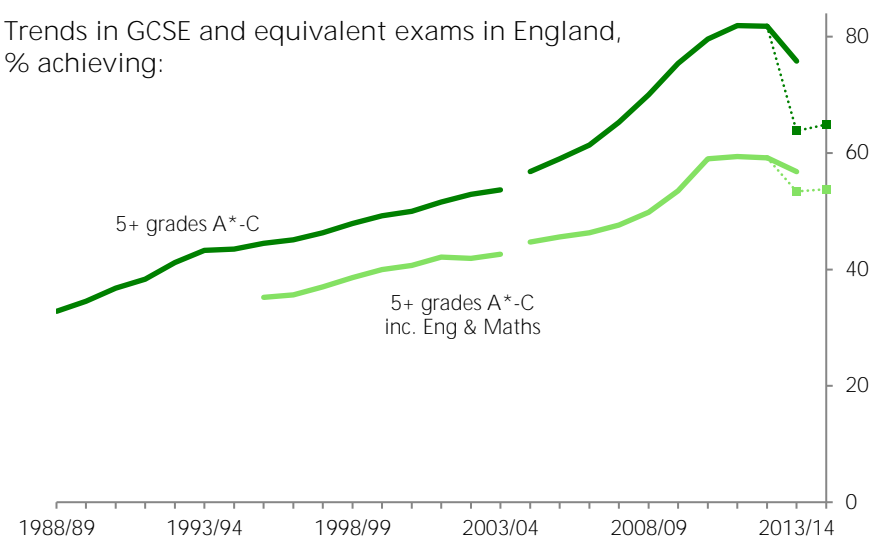
England, all schools

	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	78	..
2015	89	87	80	..

(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: 2015 (revised), 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	90.5	-	7.8	26.1	29.4
2014/15	91.4	-	7.7	25.5	28.3

Source: A level and other level 3 results: 2014 to 2015 (revised), DfE