

Cookies on GOV.UK

We use some essential cookies to make this website work.

We'd like to set additional cookies to understand how you use GOV.UK, remember your settings and improve government services.

We also use cookies set by other sites to help us deliver content from their services.

[Accept additional cookies](#)

[Reject additional cookies](#)

[View cookies](#)

GOV.UK

Menu

[Home](#) > [Education, training and skills](#) > [School curriculum](#) > [Secondary curriculum, key stage 3 and key stage 4 \(GCSEs\)](#)
> [Key stage 3 and 4 exam marking, qualifications and results](#) > [Entries for GCSE: November 2022 exam series](#)

The logo for Ofqual, featuring the word 'ofqual' in a bold, lowercase, sans-serif font. The letters 'o' and 'a' are grey, while 'f', 'q', 'u', and 'l' are a darker grey. Below the letters 'o' and 'a' are two horizontal green bars of equal length.

Official Statistics

Provisional November 2022 exam entries: GCSE English language and mathematics

Published 24 November 2022

Applies to England

Contents

1. [Provisional November 2022 exam entries: GCSE English language and mathematics](#)
2. [Main trends](#)
3. [November GCSE entries over time](#)
4. [November GCSE entries by subject](#)
5. [November GCSE mathematics entries by tier](#)
6. [GCSE entries by year group](#)
7. [Background information](#)
8. [User feedback](#)

 [Print this page](#)

1. Provisional November 2022 exam entries: GCSE English language and mathematics

The provisional figures below show the number of entries for GCSE English language and mathematics for exams sat in November 2022. Schools and colleges submitted the data by 28 October 2022.

The November series is usually restricted to students who were aged at least 16 by the end of the preceding August. There were alternative arrangements in 2020 and 2021, where any students, including younger students, who were entered in the summer and wished to do so could sit these exams.

The 2020 and 2021 November series were also open to students the exam boards believe had intended to enter in the summer but were unable to do so or who chose not to do so when exams were cancelled. [Further information about arrangements for the November and autumn series is available on the Ofqual website](#). For this reason, comparisons with 2019, the last year when summer examinations were held, are also drawn in the report.

All the November 2022 entries reported in this release are for students sitting GCSE English language or GCSE mathematics, or both.

2. Main trends

- The total GCSE entries in English language and mathematics in November 2022 decreased by 10% compared to 2021, from 114,040 to 102,405. The number of entries in November 2022 are similar to entries

in 2019 (109,495 entries) and 2018 (104,710 entries). Variation of entries over recent years may reflect alternative awarding arrangements for summer series in 2020 and 2021, and different approaches to grading in summer 2022.

- Entries for English language decreased by 7% from 50,345 in 2021 to 46,900 this year.
- Entries for mathematics decreased by 13% from 63,695 in 2021 to 55,500 this year.
- As in previous years, the majority of entries in GCSE mathematics were for the foundation tier (95%). The remaining students (5%) entered for the higher tier paper.
- Entries by year 12 and 13 students decreased both respect to 2021 and 2019.

3. November GCSE entries over time

Entries in GCSEs in November 2022 decreased by 10%, from 114,040 in November 2021 to 102,405 in November 2022. Entries in November 2022 are slightly lower than before the pandemic.



Table 1. GCSE entries from November 2018 to November 2022

Year	Total entries	Percentage change with previous year
2018	104,710	Not applicable
2019	109,495	5%
2020	131,300	20%
2021	114,040	-13%
2022	102,405	-10%

Variations in entries over recent years may reflect alternative awarding arrangements for summer series in [2020](#) and [2021](#), and different approaches to grading in summer [2022](#).

4. November GCSE entries by subject

Entries in GCSE English language in November 2022 decreased by 7% , from 50,345 in November 2021 to 46,900 in November 2022. In November 2022 entries were lower than in 2018 and 2019.

Entries in GCSE mathematics in November 2022 decreased by 13%, from 63,695 in November 2021 to 55,500 in November 2022. Entries in November 2022 are similar to pre-pandemic levels.



Table 2. GCSE English language and mathematics entries from November 2018 to November 2022

Year	Subject	Total entries	Percentage change with previous year
2018	English language	49,585	Not applicable
2019	English language	53,540	8%
2020	English language	59,185	11%
2021	English language	50,345	-15%

2022	English language	46,900	-7%
2018	Mathematics	55,125	Not applicable
2019	Mathematics	55,955	2%
2020	Mathematics	72,115	29%
2021	Mathematics	63,695	-12%
2022	Mathematics	55,500	-13%

5. November GCSE mathematics entries by tier

GCSE mathematics is a tiered qualification with foundation and higher tiers. The tier of entry determines the possible range of grades. The November entries followed a similar pattern to previous years with the majority (95%) of entries being for the foundation tier.



Table 3. GCSE mathematics entry by tier from November 2018 to November 2022

Exam series	Foundation tier entries	Higher tier entries	Percentage of foundation tier entries	Percentage of higher tier entries
November				

2018	51,440	3,685	93%	7%
<hr/>				
November				
2019	52,860	3,095	94%	6%
<hr/>				
November				
2020	66,935	5,180	93%	7%
<hr/>				
November				
2021	60,910	2,785	96%	4%
<hr/>				
November				
2022	52,755	2,750	95%	5%
<hr/>				

6. GCSE entries by year group

Year 12 entries decreased by 7% from 64,830 in November 2021 to 60,395 in November 2022.

Year 13 entries decreased by 12% from 47,830 in November 2021 to 41,980 in November 2022.

Entries at year 11 and below were significantly lower in November 2022 than in November 2021 and November 2020. This is likely a result of the altered entry arrangements following the disruption to the summer 2020 and 2021 exam series.



Table 4. GCSE entries by year group from November 2018 to November 2022

Exam Series	Year 11 and below	Year 12	Year 13 and above	Total entry
November	50	57,650	47,010	

2018				104,710
November	Fewer than 5	60,090	49,400	
2019				109,495
November	1,285	62,565	67,450	
2020				131,300
November	1,380	64,830	47,830	
2021				114,040
November	30	60,395	41,980	
2022				102,405

English language entries in November 2022 were similar for year 12 and decreased by 10% for year 13 and above compared to November 2021.

Mathematics entries in November 2022 decreased by 12% for year 12 and decreased by 14% for year 13 and above compared to November 2021.

Table 5. GCSE English language and mathematics entries by year group from November 2021 to November 2022

Subject	Year group	November 2021	November 2022	Percentage change
English language	Year 12	29,005	28,900	0%
English language	Year 13 and above	20,100	18,000	-10%
Mathematics	Year 12	35,825	31,495	-12%
Mathematics	Year 13 and above	27,730	23,980	-14%

7. Background information

In this release, Ofqual presents data on the number of provisional entries for GCSE English language and mathematics in England received by awarding organisations for the November 2022 exam series. In England, GCSE English language and GCSE mathematics exams are routinely available in November. Since 2017, entry to the November series has been limited to students who were aged 16 or above on 31 August of the year of the November series. In 2020 and 2021, any students, including younger students, who were entered in the summer and wished to do so could sit these exams. The 2020 and 2021 series were also open to students the exam boards believe had intended to enter but were unable to do so.

The figures for entries can change daily up to the day of the exams. We collect provisional data at the point when it is reasonably complete, although final entry numbers may be slightly different from these. The figures presented here are the provisional figures as submitted by schools and colleges to exam boards by 28 October 2022.

In this release, all figures are rounded to the nearest 5 to ensure confidentiality of data.

Further information is available in the [detailed background information and data tables](#) accompanying this release.

8. User feedback

We welcome your feedback on our publications. Should you have any comments on this statistical release and how to improve it to meet your needs please contact us at data.analytics@ofqual.gov.uk.

Head of profession: Nadir Zanini

[Back to top](#)

Is this page useful?

Yes

No

[Report a problem with this page](#)

Topics

[Benefits](#)

[Births, death, marriages and care](#)

[Business and self-employed](#)

[Childcare and parenting](#)

[Citizenship and living in the UK](#)

[Cost of living support](#)

[Crime, justice and the law](#)

[Disabled people](#)

[Driving and transport](#)

[Education and learning](#)

[Employing people](#)

[Environment and countryside](#)

[Housing and local services](#)

[Money and tax](#)

[Passports, travel and living abroad](#)

[Visas and immigration](#)

[Working, jobs and pensions](#)

Government activity

[Departments](#)

[News](#)

[Guidance and regulation](#)

[Research and statistics](#)

[Policy papers and consultations](#)

[Transparency](#)

[How government works](#)

[Get involved](#)

[Help](#) [Privacy](#) [Cookies](#) [Accessibility statement](#) [Contact](#) [Terms and conditions](#)
[Rhestr o Wasanaethau Cymraeg](#) [Government Digital Service](#)

All content is available under the [Open Government Licence v3.0](#), except where otherwise stated





© Crown copyright