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Official Statistics

Provisional entries for GCSE, AS and A level: summer 2025 exam series

Published 12 June 2025

Applies to England

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This report presents provisional figures for the number of entries for GCSEs, AS and A levels submitted by schools and colleges in England to exam boards ahead of the summer exam series.

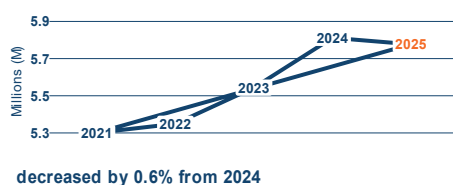
For the 2025 summer exam series, figures represent the number of entries submitted by schools and colleges to exam boards by 16 April 2025.

Entries data is collected at the same time every year, at a point when it should be reasonably complete, although final entries are always expected to vary to some degree. These figures are therefore provisional. Our [statistics on entries and late entries](#) give final numbers, which are published later in the year.

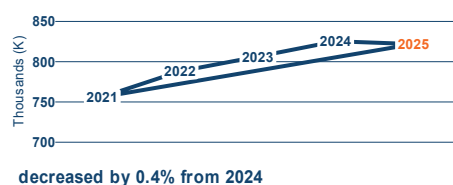
Key headlines

Provisional entries for GCSE, AS and A level: summer 2025

5,777,020 GCSE entries



821,875 A level entries



The key headlines in provisional entries for GCSEs, AS and A levels for the summer 2025 series are:

- GCSE entries have decreased by 0.6% from 5,811,595 in summer 2024 to 5,777,020 in summer 2025

- the proportion of entries by tier was broadly similar in summer 2025 compared with summer 2024 across all tiered GCSE subjects
- A level entries have decreased by 0.4% from 825,355 in summer 2024 to 821,875 in summer 2025
- AS entries have decreased by 12.7% from 59,935 in summer 2024 to 52,295 in summer 2025

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GCSE entries

The overall entry for GCSEs has decreased by 0.6% from 5,811,595 in summer 2024 to 5,777,020 in summer 2025. This interrupts the trend of slowly but steadily increasing entries for GCSE for the past 5 years.

GCSE entries have decreased by 0.6% in summer 2025

GCSE entries from summer 2021 to summer 2025

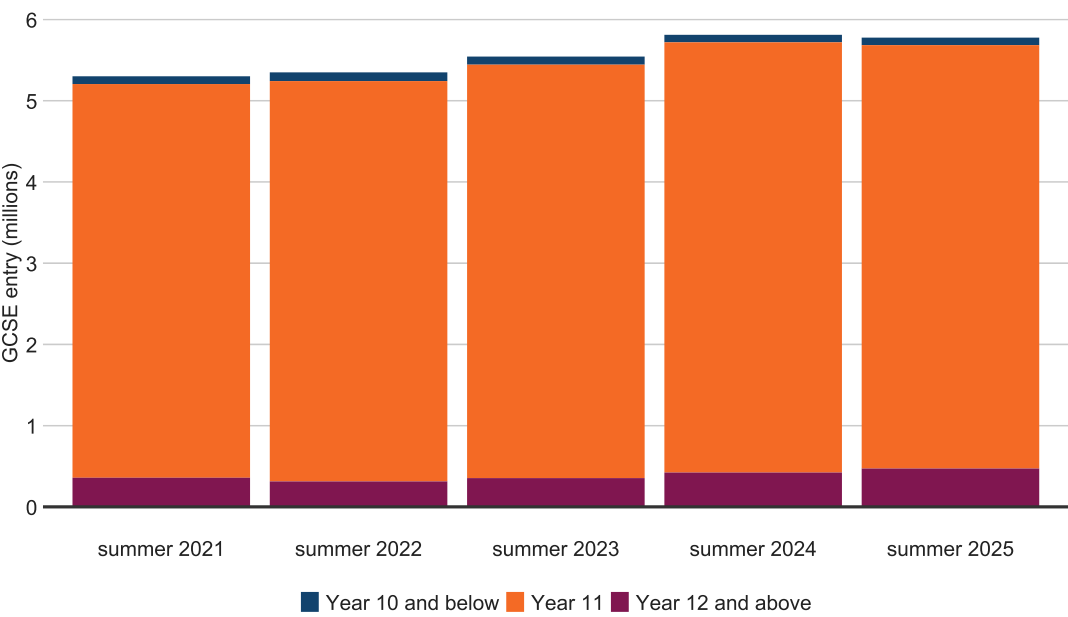


Table 1. GCSE entries from summer 2021 to summer 2025

Year group	Summer 2021	Summer 2022	Summer 2023	Summer 2024	Su
Year 10 and below	95,580	107,400	99,780	92,405	9
Year 11	4,847,140	4,928,640	5,090,115	5,296,815	5,21
Year 12 and above	358,350	313,210	353,940	422,380	47
All year groups	5,301,075	5,349,250	5,543,840	5,811,595	5,77

The majority of GCSE entries are from year 11 students. Entries from year 11 students have decreased in summer 2025 compared with summer 2024 (a decrease of 1.6%). However,

there was a 0.2% increase in the size of the population of those aged 16 in England, from 697,673 in 2024 (according to [ONS population estimates in 2022](#)) to 699,401 in 2025 (according to [ONS population estimates in 2023](#)).

The decrease of 0.6% for GCSE entries in summer 2025 is due to a drop in entries for both [EBacc subjects](#) and non-EBacc subjects.

The majority of GCSE entries are in EBacc subjects

Percentage of GCSE entries from summer 2021 to summer 2025 for EBacc and non-EBacc subjects

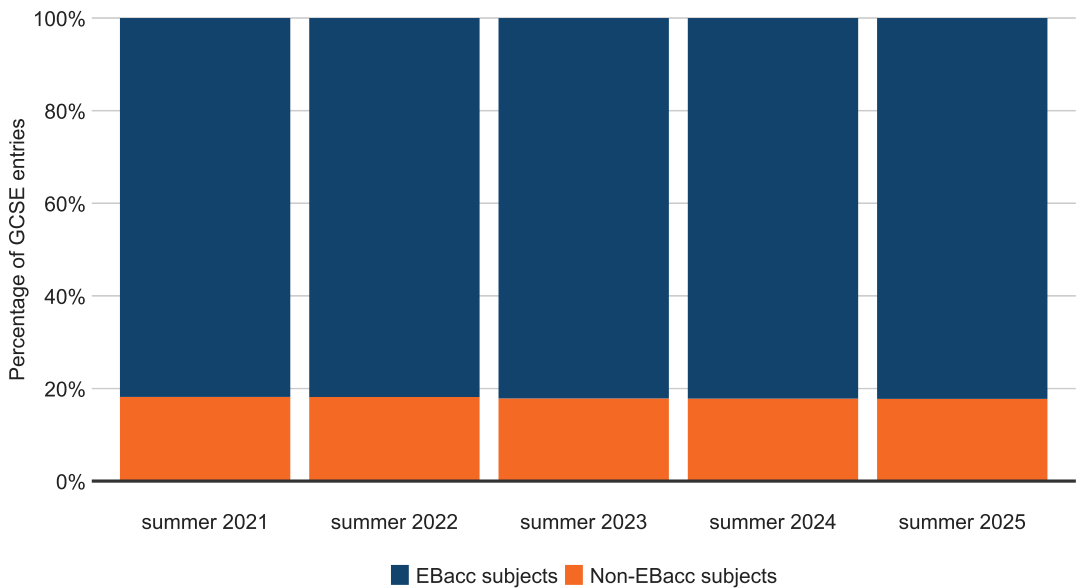


Table 2. GCSE entries for EBacc and non-EBacc subjects from summer 2021 to summer 2025

Subject types	Summer 2021	Summer 2022	Summer 2023	Summer 2024	Summer 2025
EBacc entries	4,337,685	4,378,110	4,554,415	4,776,805	4,710,000
Non-EBacc entries	963,390	971,140	989,430	1,034,790	1,000,000
Percent EBacc entries	81.8%	81.8%	82.2%	82.2%	81.6%

Percent non-EBacc entries	18.2%	18.2%	17.8%	17.8%
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Change from previous year in GCSE entries for EBacc subjects

The overall entry for all EBacc subjects in summer 2025 has decreased by 0.5% from 4,776,805 in summer 2024 to 4,751,520 in summer 2025.

There have been decreases in entries for 8 out of 15 EBacc subjects with the largest percentage decrease in German (down 7.6%). The decrease in German entries is a change from an increase seen in the [provisional entries report for 2024](#) where there was a 3.4% increase compared with 2023. English language saw the largest increase in entries this year, up by 2.3%.

Please note that entry in combined science is double counted because combined science is the equivalent of 2 GCSE grades. Please also note that ancient languages entries include ancient history as well as ancient languages entries.

Entries increased in some EBacc subjects and decreased in others

Percentage change in EBacc entries in summer 2025 compared to summer 2024

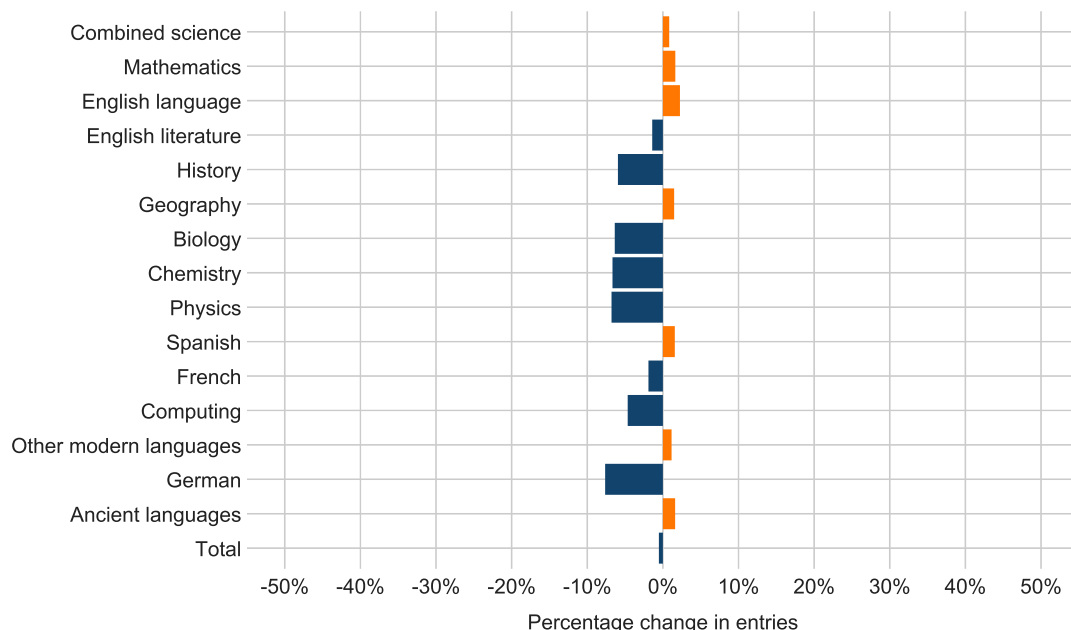


Table 3. Percentage change in EBacc entries in summer 2025 compared to summer 2024

Subject grouping	Entries in summer 2024	Entries in summer 2025	Percentage change in entries
Combined science	926,750	934,500	0.8%
Mathematics	842,575	856,430	1.6%
English language	807,725	825,940	2.3%
English literature	623,590	614,800	-1.4%
History	312,410	293,835	-5.9%
Geography	287,600	291,880	1.5%
Biology	183,360	171,690	-6.4%
Chemistry	174,745	163,100	-6.7%

Physics	174,735	162,865	-6.8%
Spanish	129,935	131,985	1.6%
French	130,650	128,155	-1.9%
Computing	93,980	89,610	-4.7%
Other modern languages	42,460	42,945	1.1%
German	35,110	32,430	-7.6%
Ancient languages	11,175	11,360	1.6%
Total	4,776,805	4,751,520	-0.5%

Entries in EBacc subjects over time and by year group

Like with GCSE entries overall, this decrease in entries for some EBacc subjects interrupts previous trends of continuing increases over the past 5 years.

Entries for combined science, Geography, Spanish and other modern languages have continued to increase this year as in recent years.

Entries for most EBacc subjects have consecutively increased each year between 2021 and 2024, but some have decreased in 2025

Entries in EBacc subjects from summer 2021 to summer 2025

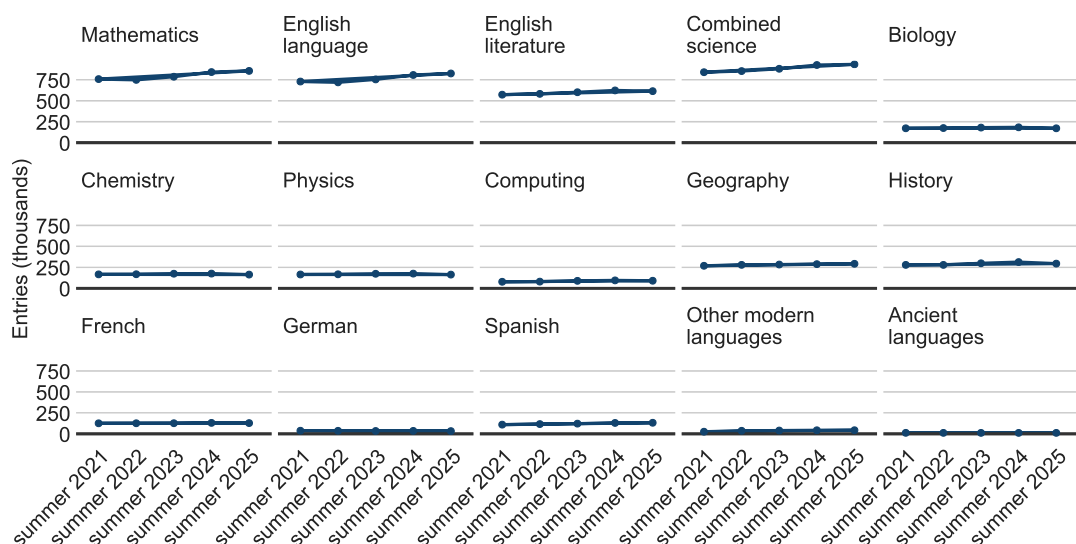


Table 4. Entries in EBacc subjects from summer 2021 to summer 2025

Subject	Summer 2021	Summer 2022	Summer 2023	Summer 2024	Summer 2025
Mathematics	758,755	749,390	786,815	842,575	851,000
English language	729,605	719,790	754,910	807,725	821,000
English literature	572,765	582,680	601,945	623,590	610,000
Combined science	840,955	854,450	881,925	926,750	930,000
Biology	171,835	174,605	180,125	183,360	170,000
Chemistry	165,710	167,190	173,530	174,745	160,000
Physics	164,330	166,550	172,725	174,735	160,000
Computing	77,245	79,135	88,530	93,980	80,000

Geography	268,180	279,205	283,020	287,600	29
History	278,880	278,750	298,155	312,410	29
French	125,655	126,185	126,560	130,650	12
German	37,035	36,000	33,945	35,110	3
Spanish	109,655	116,355	121,670	129,935	13
Other modern languages	25,225	36,310	39,270	42,460	4
Ancient languages	11,860	11,510	11,290	11,175	1

There are some slight changes to entries by year group in 2025 compared with previous years. In all subjects, most entries are from candidates in year 11, but the proportion of entries from candidates in year 10 and below (“early entries”) in other modern languages is consistently higher than in other subjects. The percentage of entries for mathematics and English language from students in year 12 and above has increased in summer 2025 when compared with summer 2024.

The majority of entries are from year 11 candidates for EBacc subjects

Percentage of candidates by year group in EBacc subjects

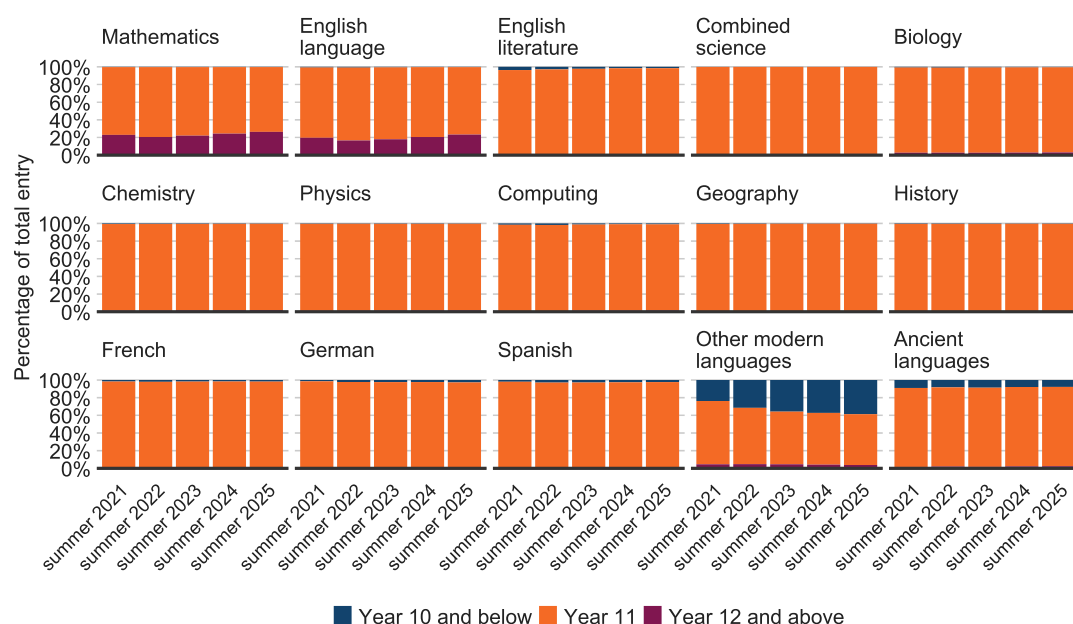


Table 5. Percentage of candidates by year group in EBacc subjects from summer 2021 to summer 2025

Subject	Year group	Summer 2021	Summer 2022	Summer 2023	Summer 2024	Summer 2025
Ancient languages	Year 10 and below	9.0%	8.3%	8.7%	8.7%	7.7%
Ancient languages	Year 11	89.4%	89.7%	89.6%	89.6%	89.6%
Ancient languages	Year 12 and above	1.6%	2.0%	1.7%	1.7%	2.7%
Biology	Year 10 and below	0.7%	0.9%	0.7%	0.7%	0.7%

Biology	Year 11	96.5%	96.3%	96.6%	96
Biology	Year 12 and above	2.8%	2.8%	2.7%	2
Chemistry	Year 10 and below	0.7%	0.6%	0.5%	0
Chemistry	Year 11	98.1%	98.0%	97.8%	97
Chemistry	Year 12 and above	1.3%	1.4%	1.6%	1
Combined science	Year 10 and below	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0
Combined science	Year 11	98.7%	98.9%	98.8%	98
Combined science	Year 12 and above	1.1%	1.0%	1.1%	1
Computing	Year 10 and below	1.5%	1.7%	1.3%	0
Computing	Year	97.6%	97.4%	97.6%	97

Computing	Year 12 and above	0.9%	0.9%	1.2%	1
English language	Year 10 and below	0.7%	0.8%	0.6%	0
English language	Year 11	79.6%	82.5%	81.4%	79
English language	Year 12 and above	19.7%	16.6%	18.0%	20
English literature	Year 10 and below	3.7%	2.9%	2.2%	1
English literature	Year 11	95.7%	96.5%	97.1%	97
English literature	Year 12 and above	0.7%	0.6%	0.7%	0
French	Year 10 and below	1.7%	2.1%	1.8%	1
French	Year 11	97.8%	97.4%	97.7%	97

French	Year 12 and above	0.5%	0.5%	0.5%	0
Geography	Year 10 and below	0.6%	0.5%	0.4%	0
Geography	Year 11	98.7%	98.9%	98.9%	98
Geography	Year 12 and above	0.7%	0.6%	0.8%	0
German	Year 10 and below	1.5%	2.2%	2.4%	2
German	Year 11	98.1%	97.3%	97.2%	97
German	Year 12 and above	0.5%	0.5%	0.5%	0
History	Year 10 and below	0.5%	0.5%	0.5%	0
History	Year 11	98.9%	99.0%	99.0%	99

History	Year 12 and above	0.6%	0.5%	0.6%	0
Mathematics	Year 10 and below	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%	0
Mathematics	Year 11	76.7%	79.1%	77.6%	75
Mathematics	Year 12 and above	23.0%	20.6%	22.1%	24
Other modern languages	Year 10 and below	23.8%	31.5%	35.8%	37
Other modern languages	Year 11	71.6%	63.7%	59.6%	58
Other modern languages	Year 12 and above	4.6%	4.8%	4.6%	4
Physics	Year 10 and below	0.5%	0.4%	0.5%	0
Physics	Year 11	98.5%	98.5%	98.2%	98

Physics	Year 12 and above	1.0%	1.1%	1.4%	1
Spanish	Year 10 and below	2.0%	2.9%	2.8%	2
Spanish	Year 11	97.4%	96.5%	96.6%	96
Spanish	Year 12 and above	0.6%	0.6%	0.6%	0

Change from previous year in GCSE entries for non-EBacc subjects

The overall entry for non-EBacc subjects has decreased by 0.9% from 1,034,790 in summer 2024 to 1,025,500 in summer 2025.

Most non-EBacc subjects had a decrease in entries. The largest percentage decrease was in engineering (down by 21.3%). There was an increase in entries in statistics (up by 9.2%) and performing / expressive arts (up by 7.5%).

Entries increased in some non-EBacc subjects and decreased in others

Percentage change in non-EBacc entries in summer 2025 compared to summer 2024

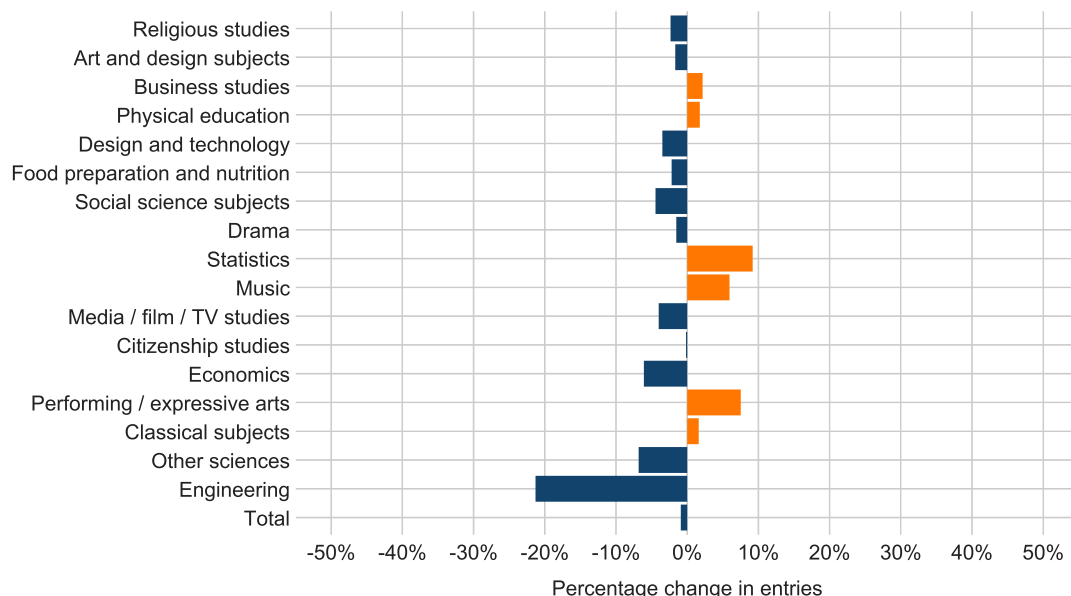


Table 6. Percentage change in non-EBacc entries in summer 2025 compared to summer 2024

Subject grouping	Entries in summer 2024	Entries in summer 2025	Percentage change in entries
Religious studies	248,115	242,310	-2.3%
Art and design subjects	197,500	194,190	-1.7%
Business studies	127,310	130,065	2.2%
Physical education	77,905	79,285	1.8%
Design and technology	80,580	77,770	-3.5%
Food preparation and nutrition	56,265	55,035	-2.2%

Social science subjects	52,355	50,025	-4.4%
Drama	49,410	48,650	-1.5%
Statistics	32,210	35,175	9.2%
Music	32,615	34,555	5.9%
Media / film / TV studies	33,910	32,555	-4.0%
Citizenship studies	21,535	21,500	-0.2%
Economics	7,760	7,290	-6.1%
Performing / expressive arts	6,675	7,175	7.5%
Classical subjects	5,005	5,085	1.6%
Other sciences	2,730	2,540	-6.8%
Engineering	2,925	2,300	-21.3%
Total	1,034,790	1,025,500	-0.9%

Entries for tiered GCSEs

In some subjects, there are 2 tiers of entry: foundation and higher. Entry by tier has remained broadly similar in most tiered subjects in summer 2025 compared with summer 2024.

Percentage entry by tier has remained broadly similar in most subjects in summer 2025 compared to summer 2024

Percentage of entries to foundation and higher tiers from summer 2021 to summer 2025

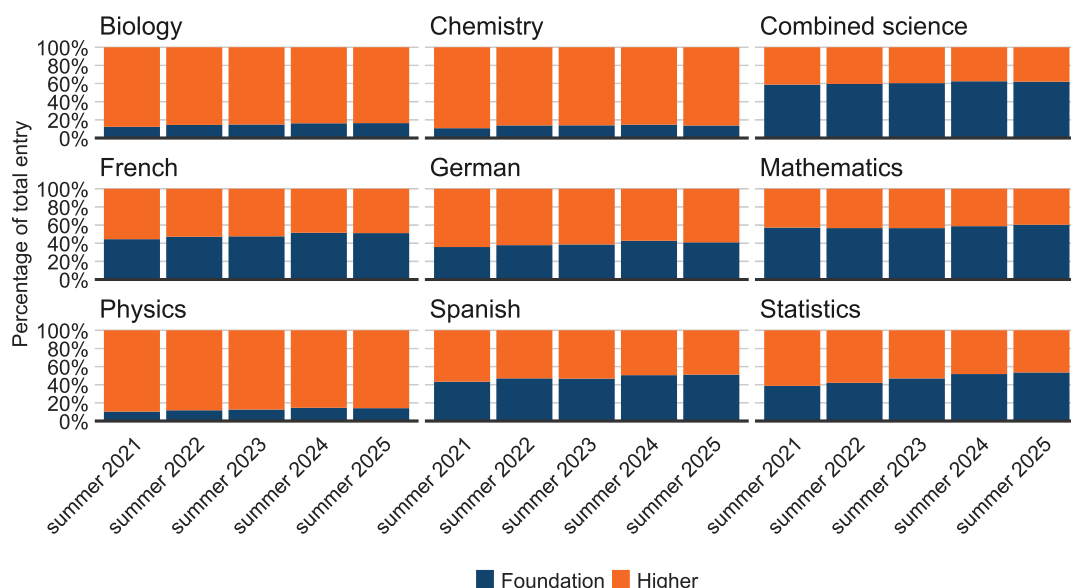


Table 7. Percentage of entries for higher tier from summer 2021 to summer 2025

Subject	Summer 2021	Summer 2022	Summer 2023	Summer 2024	Summer 2025
Biology	88%	86%	85%	84%	
Chemistry	89%	86%	86%	85%	
Combined science	41%	40%	40%	37%	
French	56%	53%	52%	48%	
German	64%	62%	61%	57%	
Mathematics	43%	43%	43%	41%	
Physics	90%	88%	87%	85%	
Spanish	57%	53%	53%	49%	
Statistics	61%	58%	53%	48%	

AS and A level entries

The overall entries for AS have decreased by 12.7% from 59,935 in summer 2024 to 52,295 in summer 2025. AS level entries have significantly decreased in previous years following the [decoupling of AS and A levels](#).

The overall entries for A level have decreased by 0.4% from 825,355 in summer 2024 to 821,875 in summer 2025 despite a 3.8% increase in the size of the population of those aged 18, which increased from 655,635 in 2024 (according to [ONS population estimates in 2022](#) to 680,553 in 2025 (according to [ONS population estimates in 2023](#)).

A level entries have decreased and AS entries have decreased in summer 2025 compared to summer 2024

AS and A level entries from summer 2021 to summer 2025

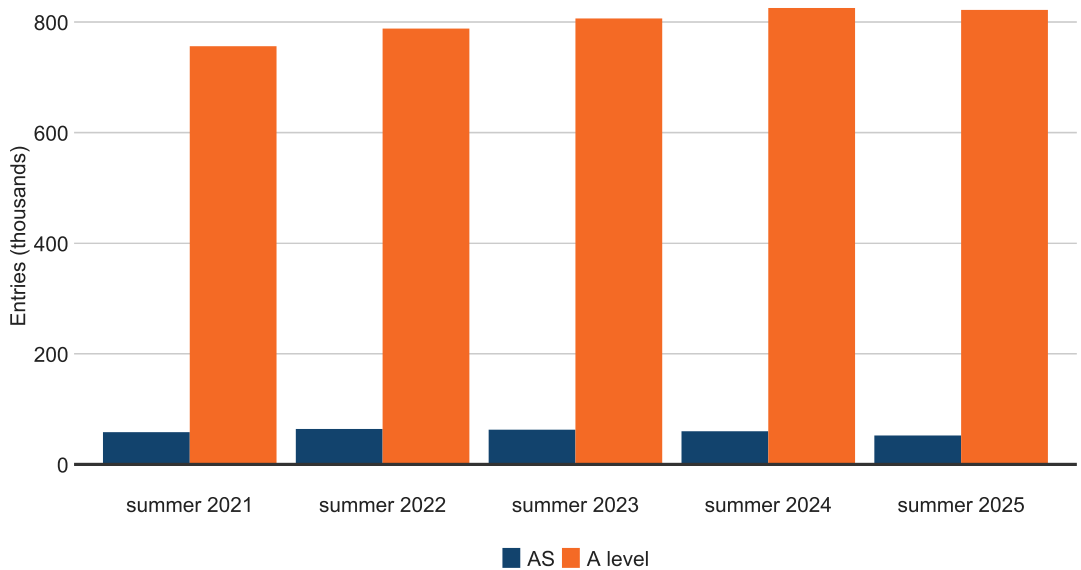


Table 8. AS and A level entries from summer 2021 to summer 2025

Qualification	Summer 2021	Summer 2022	Summer 2023	Summer 2024	S
AS	58,300	64,080	62,785	59,935	

A level	756,230	788,125	806,410	825,355	£
Total	814,525	852,200	869,195	885,290	£

A level entries by subject

More than half of A level subjects decreased in entry size in summer 2025 compared with summer 2024. French showed the biggest overall percentage decrease (down by 8.3%) in summer 2025 compared with summer 2024. The subject with the largest percentage increase in summer 2025 when compared with summer 2024 is further mathematics (up by 7.5%).

Please note that entries in 'other subjects' is the combination of subjects with fewer than 2,000 entries as well as those grouped as 'all other subjects' by the [Joint Council for Qualifications \(JCQ\)](#) for the purposes of results reporting.

More than half of A level subjects decreased in entry size summer 2025 compared to summer 2024

Percentage change in A level entries in summer 2025 compared to summer 2024

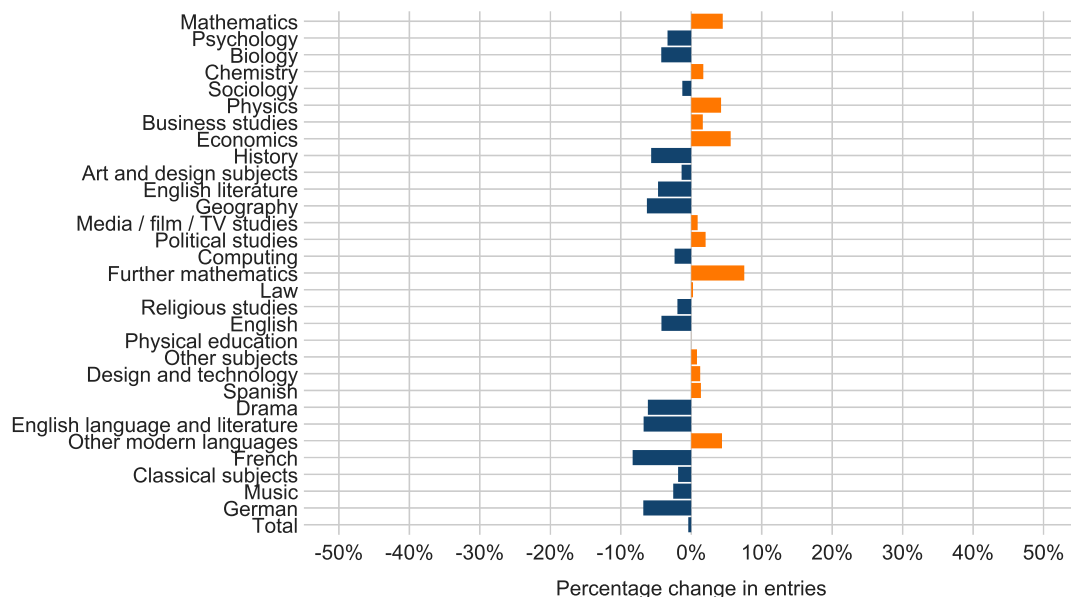


Table 9. Percentage change in A level entries in summer 2025 compared with summer 2024

Subject grouping	Entries in summer 2024	Entries in summer 2025	Percentage change in entries
Mathematics	101,230	105,755	4.5%
Psychology	76,125	73,565	-3.4%
Biology	69,040	66,100	-4.3%
Chemistry	58,845	59,850	1.7%
Sociology	42,570	42,035	-1.3%
Physics	40,315	42,025	4.2%
Business studies	41,260	41,940	1.6%
Economics	39,660	41,880	5.6%
History	43,405	40,940	-5.7%
Art and design subjects	40,965	40,400	-1.4%
English literature	36,650	34,920	-4.7%
Geography	33,505	31,395	-6.3%
Media / film / TV studies	21,245	21,435	0.9%
Political studies	20,420	20,835	2.0%
Computing	19,475	19,010	-2.4%
Further mathematics	17,420	18,730	7.5%

Law	14,385	14,420	0.3%
Religious studies	14,680	14,395	-2.0%
English	13,010	12,460	-4.2%
Physical education	11,810	11,815	0.0%
Other subjects	10,680	10,770	0.8%
Design and technology	8,985	9,095	1.3%
Spanish	7,720	7,830	1.4%
Drama	7,895	7,410	-6.2%
English language and literature	7,085	6,605	-6.8%
Other modern languages	6,280	6,555	4.4%
French	7,035	6,450	-8.3%
Classical subjects	6,380	6,260	-1.9%
Music	5,005	4,875	-2.6%
German	2,280	2,125	-6.8%
Total	825,355	821,875	-0.4%

Change in A level entries by subject over time

Entries in business studies have increased each year from summer 2021 to summer 2025. Entries in other high entry subjects have had slight fluctuations each year.

Please note that according to the JCQ subject classifications, English includes English language, English literature, and English language and literature specifications. Also note that modern foreign languages contain French, German, and Spanish as they have been grouped together to allow any trends in entries to be shown.

Entries in high entry subjects have had slight fluctuations each year

Entries in selected A level subjects from summer 2021 to summer 2025

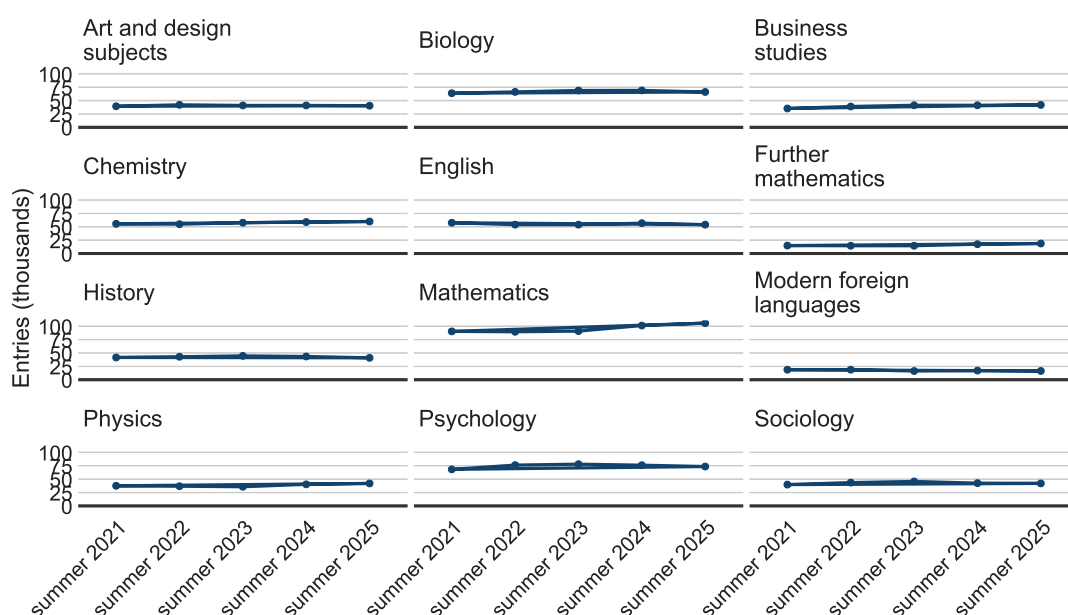


Table 10. Entries in selected A level subjects from summer 2021 to summer 2025

Subject	Summer 2021	Summer 2022	Summer 2023	Summer 2024	Summer 2025
Art and design	39,370	42,100	40,930	40,965	40,965

subjects

Biology	63,765	66,220	68,870	69,040	69,040
Business studies	35,285	38,980	41,265	41,260	41,260
Chemistry	55,485	54,865	57,620	58,845	58,845
English	57,515	53,965	53,960	56,745	56,745
Further mathematics	14,850	14,520	14,535	17,420	17,420
History	41,585	42,885	44,545	43,405	43,405
Mathematics	90,290	89,605	90,845	101,230	101,230
Modern foreign languages	18,715	18,750	16,265	17,035	17,035
Physics	37,560	36,770	35,815	40,315	40,315
Psychology	68,315	76,265	78,015	76,125	76,125
Sociology	39,825	43,590	45,730	42,570	42,570

AS entries by subject

AS entries in most subjects decreased in summer 2025 compared with summer 2024, although entries increased in further mathematics (up by 5.3%) and economics (up by 0.1%). The biggest percentage increase from summer 2024 to summer 2025 is in further mathematics with a 5.3% increase in entries. The biggest decrease in entries from summer 2024 to

summer 2025 can be seen in sociology (down by 23.2%).

Please note that entries in ‘other subjects’ is the combination of subjects with fewer than 2,000 entries as well as those grouped as ‘all other subjects’ by JCQ.

Entries decreased in many AS subjects

Percentage change in AS entries in summer 2025 compared to summer 2024

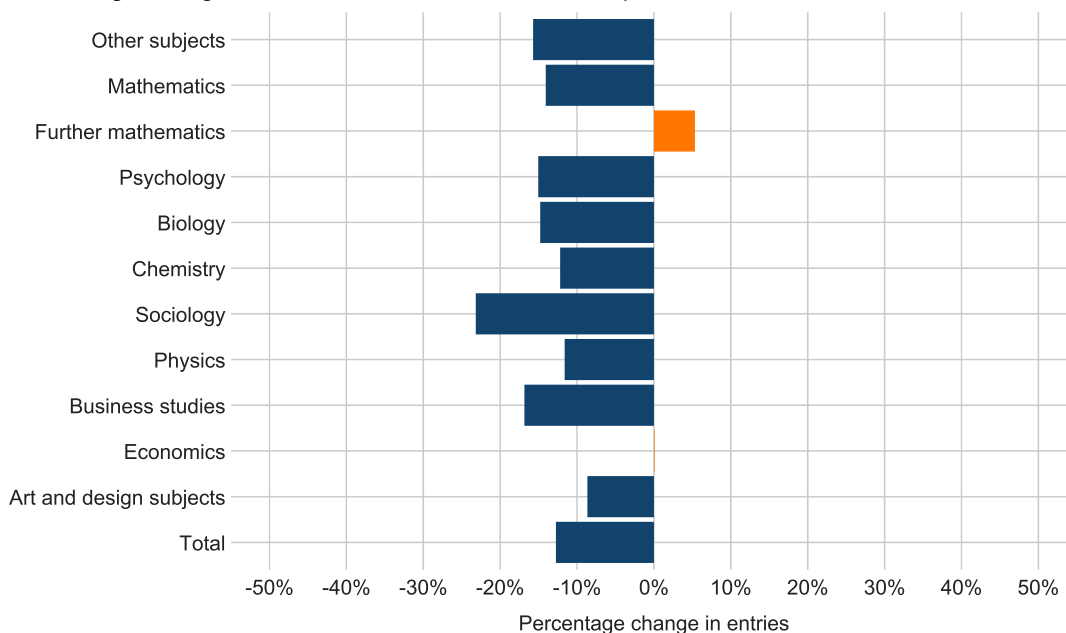


Table 11. Percentage change in AS entries in summer 2025 compared with summer 2024

Subject grouping	Entries in summer 2024	Entries in summer 2025	Percentage change in entries
Other subjects	15,940	13,435	-15.7%
Mathematics	8,520	7,320	-14.1%
Further mathematics	5,100	5,370	5.3%
Psychology	5,330	4,530	-15.0%
Biology	5,050	4,305	-14.8%

Chemistry	4,575	4,015	-12.2%
Sociology	4,365	3,350	-23.2%
Physics	3,410	3,015	-11.6%
Business studies	2,955	2,460	-16.8%
Economics	2,390	2,395	0.1%
Art and design subjects	2,300	2,100	-8.7%
Total	59,935	52,295	-12.7%

Entries by centre type

In previous releases of this report, we have included figures on the number entries broken down by centre type. We have taken the decision this year not to publish these figures as we are unable to validate the categorisation of entries into centre types carried out by the awarding organisations for this data, and therefore would have limited assurance of the accuracy of these figures. We are currently working on securing a more reliable data source and hope to resume the publication of centre type breakdowns in subsequent releases of this report.

Contextual information

In this report, Ofqual presents data on the number of provisional entries for GCSEs, AS and A levels in England received by

exam boards ahead of the summer exam series.

Schools and colleges enter students with exam boards to take these qualifications in the summer. The figures for entries can normally change up to the day of the exams. We collect provisional data at around the same time every year, at a point when it should be reasonably complete. The figures presented here relating to summer 2025 are the provisional figures as received by exam boards by 16 April 2025. Final entry numbers are always expected to vary slightly from these.

In this report, all figures for the number of entries are rounded to the nearest 5.

[Background information](#) accompanying this report includes factors that may have an impact upon the entries in summer 2025, as well as information on data collected for this release and definitions of important terms used in the report.

[Data tables](#) published along with this report give provisional entry data (rounded to the nearest 5) for different subjects broken down by year group for GCSEs, AS and A levels.

Note that we publish final figures on entries later in the year. Please see our [statistics on entries and late entries](#).

Head of Profession: Ben Cuff

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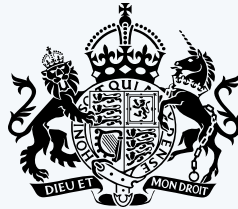
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