



**Strictly Embargoed until 09.30 HRS on Thursday 22 August 2024**

### **Northern Ireland GCSE Results 2024**

- Summer 2024 completes the return to pre-pandemic arrangements, with outcomes similar to those of 2019.
- 82.7% of students received grade C/4 and above.
- 31% received grade A/7 and above.

Today, the Joint Council for Qualifications (JCQ) has published the provisional 2024 results for over 32,000 GCSE students across Northern Ireland. These provisional results reflect the completion of the return to pre-pandemic arrangements and are similar to those awarded to students in 2019.

#### **GCSE**

Entries for GCSE qualifications this year have increased from 168,118 in 2023 to 175,555, a 4.4 percentage point increase. This is in line with the school population increase in Northern Ireland this year of 5.7%.

31% of students achieved grade A/7 and above in GCSE, compared to 30.5% in 2019. At grades C/4 and above 82.7% of students received these grades, similar to the 82.2% awarded in 2019.

#### **English Language & Mathematics**

In GCSE English Language, 24.7% achieved A/7 and above, when compared to 22.9% in 2019. 82.5% were awarded grade C/4 and above, in comparison to 80.7% in 2019.

This year's figures for GCSE Mathematics show that 27.8% of entries achieved A/7 grade and above, compared to 25.6% in 2019. 73% of entries were awarded a grade C/4 or above, in comparison to 71.3% in 2019.

#### **Subject entries**

Overall, 41.5% of all GCSE entries are in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) subjects.

**Ends**

## **Media enquiries to:**

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For information about the UK results, contact the JCQ<sup>CIC</sup> press office on 020 7227 0671, or 07534 156213 or at [pressoffice@jcq.org.uk](mailto:pressoffice@jcq.org.uk)

Further statistical details on the results for the UK, Wales, England, and Northern Ireland may be found at [www.jcq.org.uk](http://www.jcq.org.uk)

## **Notes to Editors**

The data provided is for all Northern Ireland candidates, including those in schools and Further Education colleges.

There is an open qualifications market, which means that schools can choose to offer GCSEs from awarding organisations other than CCEA. This includes AQA, OCR, Pearson and WJEC. Qualifications to be delivered in schools must comply with the Department of Education requirements.

## **9-1 GCSEs**

To note for those qualifications offered in Northern Ireland by AQA, OCR and Pearson, these are awarded in a 9-1 grading scale.

A small percentage of students in Northern Ireland (3.1%) will receive a 9–1 grade, with the vast majority (96.9%) of students continuing to take A\* - G graded GCSEs.

Further information on the GCSE grading is available at:

[http://ccea.org.uk/regulation/gcse\\_grading](http://ccea.org.uk/regulation/gcse_grading)

## **Summer 2024: Grading**

Further information on the Summer 2024 approach to grading is available via the applicable Qualifications Regulators website:

CCEA Regulation - [CCEA confirms the approach to awarding qualifications for 2023/24 academic year | CCEA](#)

Ofqual - [www.gov.uk/ofqual](http://www.gov.uk/ofqual)

Qualifications Wales - [Exams and assessments 2023-2024 | Qualifications Wales](#)

## **GCSE Provisional results 2024**

The statistics below represent the provisional Northern Ireland GCSE results from five JCQ awarding organisations: - AQA, CCEA, OCR, Pearson and WJEC.

**Table 1: Northern Ireland GCSE provisional results compared to 2019**

|                 | <b>2024</b> | <b>2019</b> |
|-----------------|-------------|-------------|
| % A/7 and above | <b>31.0</b> | 30.5        |
| % C/4 and above | <b>82.7</b> | 82.2        |
| % G/1 and above | <b>99.2</b> | 98.8        |

**Table 2: Northern Ireland GCSE provisional results compared to 2023**

|                 | <b>2024</b> | <b>2023</b> |
|-----------------|-------------|-------------|
| % A/7 and above | <b>31.0</b> | 34.5        |
| % C/4 and above | <b>82.7</b> | 86.8        |
| % G/1 and above | <b>99.2</b> | 99.5        |

**Table 3: Northern Ireland GCSE provisional results by gender (combined A\*-G/9-1)**

| <b>2024 Provisional</b> | <b>Males</b> |             |             | <b>Females</b> |             |             |
|-------------------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|----------------|-------------|-------------|
|                         | <b>2024</b>  | <b>2019</b> | <b>2023</b> | <b>2024</b>    | <b>2019</b> | <b>2023</b> |
| % A/7 and above         | <b>25.7</b>  | 25.0        | 29.4        | <b>36.0</b>    | 35.7        | 39.3        |
| % C/4 and above         | <b>80.0</b>  | 78.5        | 84.9        | <b>85.2</b>    | 85.6        | 88.6        |
| % G/1 and above         | <b>99.0</b>  | 98.6        | 99.4        | <b>99.3</b>    | 99.1        | 99.5        |

†. The approach to grading returned to pre-pandemic arrangements in England last year, and this year Northern Ireland and Wales have completed their transition to pre-pandemic arrangements.

1. Detailed tabulations of the GCSE Full Course, GCSE Short Course, GCSE Double Award, Entry Level Certification, Level 1 and Level 2 Project, are published separately, also with the STRICT EMBARGO of 09.30 Thursday 22 August 2024 and will be available on the JCQ<sup>CIC</sup> website from 09.30 on Thursday 22 August 2024 [www.jcq.org.uk](http://www.jcq.org.uk).
2. These results are for qualifications taken by students across the UK but predominantly in England, Wales and Northern Ireland.
3. All awarding organisations are accountable to the UK qualification regulators - Ofqual (England), Qualifications Wales (Wales) and CCEA Regulation (Northern Ireland). The regulatory authorities monitor the standards of qualifications within their jurisdiction.
4. The JCQ<sup>CIC</sup> is a membership organisation, comprising AQA, CCEA, City & Guilds, NCFE, OCR, Pearson, SQA and WJEC – the eight largest providers of qualifications in the UK.

