

**SFR 35/2007****18 October 2007****Coverage: England****Theme: Education and Training****Issued by**

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**GCE/VCE A/AS AND EQUIVALENT EXAMINATION RESULTS IN ENGLAND, 2006/07 (PROVISIONAL)****INTRODUCTION**

This Statistical First Release (SFR) provides the earliest information on the overall achievements of young people in GCE, VCE and Applied examinations and other equivalent qualifications. This information is based on data collated for the 2007 School and College Achievement and Attainment Tables (formerly Performance Tables) and covers achievements in all Level 3 qualifications approved under Section 96 of the Learning and Skills Act (2000). The QCA tariff is used to calculate point scores for all Level 3 qualifications.

The 2007 achievement data presented in this SFR is currently in the process of being checked by schools and colleges. Revised figures will be published in January 2008 accounting for amendments made by schools up until the publication of the Achievement and Attainment Tables.

**KEY POINTS****For students aged 16-18 in schools and colleges entered for all Level 3 qualifications in 2006/07 (Table 1)**

- 94.7% of candidates achieved passes equivalent in size to at least 2 GCE/VCE A-levels, compared with 95.1% in 2005/06.
- 11.7% of GCE/VCE A Level candidates achieved 3 or more A grades at A Level – an increase of 1 percentage point from 2005/06.
- The average QCA point score per candidate entered for Level 3 qualifications in 2006/07 was 726.3, compared with 721.5 in 2005/06.
- The average Level 3 point score per entry was 207.1, compared with 206.2 in 2005/06.



## MAIN TABLE

**TABLE 1:** Level 3 achievements of candidates aged 16-18, by type of establishment and gender, England, 2006/07.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION (These tables are only available on the DCSF Research and Statistics Gateway website: <http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/rsgateway/DB/SFR/s000755/index.shtml>)**

**TABLES 2, 2m and 2f:** GCE A level examination results of 16-18 year old students in all schools and colleges by subject and grade, England, 2006/07.

**TABLES 3, 3m and 3f:** GCE AS level examination results of 16-18 year old students in all schools and colleges by subject and grade, England, 2006/07.

**TABLE 4:** VCE/Applied A level examination results of 16-18 year old students in all schools and colleges by gender, subject and grade, England, 2006/07.

**TABLE 5:** VCE/Applied AS level examination results of 16-18 year old students in all schools and colleges by gender, subject and grade, England, 2006/07.

**TABLES 6, 6m and 6f:** VCE/Applied Double Award examination results of 16-18 year old students in all schools and colleges by subject and grade, England, 2006/07.

**TABLE 7:** Applied AS Double Award examination results of 16-18 year old students in all schools and colleges by subject and grade, England, 2006/07.

**TABLE 8:** Level 3 point scores of 16-18 year old candidates by gender in each Local Authority and Government Office Region, England, 2006/07.

## DEFINITIONS

- Age used for reporting examination and awards is “age at the start of the academic year”.
- Further notes on coverage and definitions can be found at the bottom of each table.

## NOTES TO EDITORS

1. The statistics in this first release cover the data prepared for the publication of the 2007 School and College Achievement and Attainment Tables.
2. **The figures for GCE/VCE/Applied A/AS examinations by subject and grade differ from those published by Awarding Bodies in August. The Awarding Bodies’ figures related to the outcome of the individual subject areas for all candidates in England, Wales and Northern Ireland, regardless of their age. The figures published in this Statistical First Release focus on the overall performance of candidates aged 16, 17 or 18 taking these examinations in England only.**
3. The coverage of this Statistical First Release is 16 to 18 year old students at the end of their final year of post-16 study. However, as the year group is not collected, a set of proxy criteria has been established. The criteria are that students must be 16, 17 or 18 (age at the start of the academic year) and they must have been entered for a GCE/VCE/Applied A level or a VCE/Applied Double Award in Summer 2007 or a Level 3 qualification equivalent in size to at least one GCE/VCE/Applied A Level during the 2006/2007 academic year.
4. Local Authority and Government Office Region figures are published for the maintained sector only (LA maintained schools, CTCs, Academies and FE Sector Colleges).

## QCA TARIFF

Up to 2005/06 the UCAS tariff was used to calculate average point scores. However this did not extend to cover the range of qualifications covered in this SFR, so the Qualifications and Curriculum Authority developed a tariff to calculate points scores for all Level 3 qualifications approved under Section 96 of the Learning and Skills Act (2000). It is this tariff (in preference to the UCAS tariff) that is used in table 1 of this SFR (and will be used in future ones) to calculate average point scores.

Annex A lists a few of the common qualifications and their scores based on the QCA tariff. Also included are their sizes in terms of entries.

Other approved qualifications at Level 3 and their point scores can be found at <http://www.ndaq.org.uk>.

## Key to symbols

- ‘x’ – indicates that a figure has been suppressed due to small numbers of entries in that subject.  
‘.’ – indicates not applicable.

The National Statistics Code of Practice requires that reasonable steps should be taken to ensure that all published or disseminated statistics produced by the DCSF protect confidentiality.

Every effort has been made to ensure the tables do not allow the identification of individuals. To protect confidentiality, low numbers of entries by either males or females in a particular subject will result in both sets of figures being suppressed. Where the total number of entries is very low, the numbers achieving each grade are suppressed.

## **Related publications**

SFR40/2006 - GCE/VCE A/AS and Equivalent Examination Results in England, 2005/06 (Provisional)  
<http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/rsgateway/DB/SFR/s000687/index.shtml>

SFR02/2007 - GCE/VCE A/AS and Equivalent Examination Results in England, 2005/06 (Revised)  
<http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/rsgateway/DB/SFR/s000703/index.shtml>

SFR34/2007 - GCSE and Equivalent Results in England, 2006/07 (Provisional)  
<http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/rsgateway/DB/SFR/s000754/index.shtml>

This publication is also available from 9.30am on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> October 2007.

## **Queries**

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## ANNEX A - QCA TARIFF POINTS

### GCE/VCE/Applied A/AS/Double Awards

General/Vocational/Applied A level		
Grade	Size	Points
A	1	270
B	1	240
C	1	210
D	1	180
E	1	150

General/Vocational/Applied AS		
Grade	Size	Points
A	0.5	135
B	0.5	120
C	0.5	105
D	0.5	90
E	0.5	75

Vocational/Applied Double Award		
Grade	Size	Points
AA	2	540
AB	2	510
BB	2	480
BC	2	450
CC	2	420
CD	2	390
DD	2	360
DE	2	330
EE	2	300

### BTEC Awards

BTEC National Award		
Grade	Size	Points
D	1	270
M	1	225
P	1	165

BTEC National Certificate		
Grade	Size	Points
DD	2	540
DM	2	480
MM	2	420
MP	2	360
PP	2	300

BTEC National Diploma		
Grade	Size	Points
DDD	3	810
DDM	3	757.5
DMM	3	705
MMM	3	652.5
MMP	3	600
MPP	3	547.5
PPP	3	495

### International Baccalaureate Diploma

Grade	Size	Points
45	5	1380
44	5	1350
43	5	1320
42	5	1290
41	5	1260
40	5	1230
39	5	1200
38	5	1170
37	5	1140
36	5	1110
35	5	1080
34	5	1050
33	5	1020
32	5	990
31	5	960
30	5	930
29	5	900
28	5	870
27	5	840
26	5	810
25	5	780
24	5	750

### Others

Advanced Free Standing Maths		
Grade	Size	Points
A	0.1667	45
B	0.1667	40
C	0.1667	35
D	0.1667	30
E	0.1667	25

Advanced Extension Award		
Grade	Size	Points
D	0	27
M	0	23

Level 3 Key Skill		
Grade	Size	Points
P	0.3	63

**TABLE 1: Level 3 achievements of candidates<sup>1</sup> aged 16-18<sup>2</sup> by type of establishment and gender**  
**Year: 2006/07 (Provisional)**  
**Coverage: England**

	Level 3 Qualifications				GCE/VCE/Applied A Levels and Double Awards		
	16-18 year old candidates entered for level 3 qualifications at least equivalent in size to one GCE/VCE A Level	Average QCA point score by candidates achieving all Level 3 qualifications <sup>3</sup>		Percentage of candidates achieving 2 or more passes of A Level equivalent size	16-18 year old candidates entered for GCE/VCE/Applied A levels and Double Awards	Percentage of candidates achieving 3 or more A grades <sup>4</sup> at GCE/VCE/Applied A Level and Double Awards	
		Per candidate	Per entry				
<b>Comprehensive Schools<sup>5</sup></b>							
Males	53,128	691.0	193.2	93.2	51,603	7.0	
Females	63,558	733.8	203.1	95.8	61,866	7.7	
Total	116,686	714.3	198.6	94.7	113,469	7.4	
<b>Selective Schools</b>							
Males	9,833	950.1	223.3	99.5	9,691	24.6	
Females	11,065	958.9	229.1	99.7	10,942	24.4	
Total	20,898	954.8	226.4	99.6	20,633	24.5	
<b>Modern Schools</b>							
Males	1,721	524.0	170.1	82.5	1,607	1.2	
Females	2,349	600.1	185.5	90.6	2,208	2.2	
Total	4,070	567.9	179.2	87.2	3,815	1.8	
<b>All Maintained Schools<sup>6</sup></b>							
Males	64,994	725.2	198.0	93.9	63,176	9.5	
Females	77,319	761.4	206.8	96.2	75,326	10.0	
Total	142,313	744.8	202.8	95.1	138,502	9.8	
<b>Independent Schools<sup>7</sup></b>							
Males	18,070	871.6	233.4	96.5	17,375	28.6	
Females	17,320	895.4	239.3	97.5	16,766	31.7	
Total	35,390	883.3	236.3	97.0	34,141	30.1	
<b>All Schools</b>							
Males	83,064	757.0	205.8	94.4	80,551	13.6	
Females	94,639	785.9	212.8	96.4	92,092	13.9	
Total	177,703	772.4	209.6	95.5	172,643	13.8	
<b>Sixth Form Colleges</b>							
Males	24,543	749.6	198.6	96.3	22,091	8.2	
Females	30,327	798.7	208.8	97.5	27,741	9.6	
Total	54,870	776.7	204.3	97.0	49,832	9.0	
<b>Other FE Sector Colleges</b>							
Males	39,364	573.5	198.3	89.1	11,935	3.8	
Females	47,286	621.6	207.1	93.6	17,091	3.9	
Total	86,650	599.7	203.2	91.6	29,026	3.8	
<b>All FE Sector Colleges</b>							
Males	63,907	641.1	198.4	91.9	34,026	6.7	
Females	77,613	690.8	207.9	95.1	44,832	7.4	
Total	141,520	668.4	203.7	93.7	78,858	7.1	
<b>All Schools and FE Sector Colleges</b>							
Males	2006/07	146,971	706.6	202.8	93.3	114,577	11.6
	2005/06 (final)	144,227	700.9	201.5	94.0	118,593	10.5
	2004/05 (final) <sup>8</sup>	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	121,929	9.3
Females	2006/07	172,252	743.0	210.7	95.8	136,924	11.8
	2005/06 (final)	167,258	739.3	210.2	96.1	139,692	10.9
	2004/05 (final) <sup>8</sup>	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	141,706	9.7
Total	2006/07	319,223	726.3	207.1	94.7	251,501	11.7
	2005/06 (final)	311,485	721.5	206.2	95.1	258,285	10.7
	2004/05 (final) <sup>8</sup>	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	263,635	9.5

<sup>1</sup> Students entered for a GCE/VCE/Applied A level or other Level 3 qualification equivalent in size to an A-level.

<sup>2</sup> Age at the start of the 2006/07 academic year i.e. 31 August 2006.

<sup>3</sup> Cumulative results obtained in academic years 2005/06 and 2006/07.

<sup>4</sup> A VCE/GCE Applied Double Award at grade AA counts as two grade As, an award at grade AB counts as one.

<sup>5</sup> Includes City Technology Colleges and Academies.

<sup>6</sup> Includes the results for community and foundation special schools, hospital schools and pupil referral units.

<sup>7</sup> Includes non-maintained special schools.

<sup>8</sup> Average QCA point scores are not available prior to 2005/06 as data covering all Level 3 qualifications was not collected at this time. Previous measures were based on the UCAS tariff and only covered GCE/VCE A/AS levels, Double Awards and Key Skills qualifications at level 3.