

## History GCSE Results 2018 UK

The first set of results for the reformed GCSE in history graded from 9-1 were released today (23 August 2018).

- A total of 260,204 students across the UK sat a GCSE (either legacy or reformed) in history this summer which represents a small rise in cohort of 4250 additional students taking history this year (1.7%) despite a drop in the cohort eligible for GCSE of 2.7%.
- Students in Northern Ireland continue to sit legacy GCSE and will not receive their first round of reformed gradings until 2019. In Wales, GCSE is on a similar timescale of reform to England, although reformed GCSE's continue to be graded A\*-G.
- Results are of the reformed 9-1 GCSE are difficult to compare to legacy/reformed A\*-G gradings, so only those grades that have been officially tied to legacy A\*-G grading have been compared – namely grades 7(A), 4(C), and 1(G) Across these grades, achievement is very slightly lower, but broadly stable and reflects that teachers and students have responded well to reformed GCSE. However also to note are lower grade boundaries this year from 2017 for history, yet drawing comparisons between grade boundaries between reformed and legacy qualifications is also problematic and cannot really provide any conclusions.
- Across the UK there were 15,021 (255,954 in 2017) entries from students sitting the A\*-G graded history GCSE. This is made up of students from England sitting legacy GCSE (only 1 student), Northern Ireland who continue to sit legacy GCSE until 2019, and Wales where students sit reformed but A\*-G graded GCSE. Achievement was considerably higher than 2017 with 10.9% achieving A\* (8.5% 2017) and 74.5% achieving at least a C grade (65.2% 2017). However, these results are to be compared with extreme caution as the cohort size represented is hugely reduced due to the majority of pupils in England now sitting the 9-1 GCSE and therefore makes any meaningful comparison difficult. However, greater comparison can be drawn in the specific jurisdictions of Northern Ireland and Wales. The table below reflects those students in Northern Ireland and Wales who were entered for A\*-G graded GCSE, although again it is worth noting that this may not represent the entire cohort of the jurisdiction. Certainly in Wales, schools also had the option of entering students for the 9-1 GCSE and 180 entries for the 9-1 GCSE were for pupils in Welsh schools. Performance in Wales at A\*-A is broadly stable although slightly down at overall A\*-C grading, possibly reflective of getting used to a reformed GCSE. In Northern Ireland results are continuing to show an upwards trend.

The table below shows results for students in Wales and Northern Ireland:

Grade and Jurisdiction	A*	A	B	C
Wales 2018 %	10.5	30.3	52.7	70.1
Wales 2017 %	10.8	30.9	53.2	71.8

N.I 2018 %	11.5	33.5	58.0	80.8
N.I 2017 %	10.7	33.3	58.0	81.0

- The 2018 9-1 results that are comparable with the legacy GCSE are below:

<b>Grade</b>	<b>% 2018</b>	<b>% 2017</b>
7 (A)	25.1	25.8
4 (C)	64.5	65.2
1 (G)	97.3	97.5

- 5.1% of students across the UK were awarded a grade 9 in history. In England only (removing the centres in Wales and Northern Ireland who sat the 9-1 GCSE), 24.7% of pupils achieved a grade 7.

For more information and analysis of 2018 GCSE results, please visit [Ofqual](#)