

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Paul Givan, Minister
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Cara Hunter MLA
Parliament Buildings
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AQW 51103/22-27

Cara Hunter MLA has asked:

To ask the Minister of Education to detail the number of (i) GCSE; (ii) AS Level; and (iii) A-level, examination results subject to a review of marking, broken down by (a) awarding body; (b) qualification; (c) the number resulting in no change to the candidate's mark; (d) the number resulting in an increase in the candidate's mark; (e) the number resulting in a decrease in the candidate's mark; and (f) the number resulting in a change to the candidate's overall grade, in each of the last five years.

ANSWER

A copy of the data requested has been provided by the Council for the Curriculum, Examinations and Assessment, CCEA Regulation, and has been placed in the Assembly Library.

The information, provided by CCEA Regulation, presents data on reviews of marking, reviews of moderation and administrative error reviews for GCSE, AS and A level qualifications for the summer 2025 exam series in Northern Ireland. Data from the summers of 2022 to 2024, is also included for comparison. Examinations data for 2021 is not available as public examinations did not take place that year due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and alternative awarding arrangements were in place.

Data for 2026 will not be available until later in the Autumn as the request for review of marking window remains open until 24 September.

Further details about reviews of marking and moderation for the GCSE, AS and A level, summer 2025 examination series are available in the CCEA Regulation publication: [Review of Marking and Moderation-2025Summer-bulletin-full-tables.xlsx](#).

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Paul Givan', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Paul Givan MLA
Minister of Education

Key headlines: Reviews of marking and moderation for GCSE, AS and A level, summer 2025 examination series.

The number of (i) GCSE; (ii) AS Level; and (iii) A-level, examination results subject to a review of marking in summer 2025 (includes all AOs) [from Table 1].

Summer Series	2025
GCSE	10,160
AS	3,700
A level	2,665
Grand Total	16,525

For reference:

GCSE: Total qualification entry 173,675

AS: Total qualification entry 43,499

A level: Total qualification entry 32,419

The number of reviews resulting in no change to the candidate's mark; the number resulting in an increase in the candidate's mark; and the number resulting in a decrease in the candidate's mark (includes all AOs) [from Table 2.1].

Summer Series	2025
GCSE	10,160
No change	6,985
Increase	2,365
Decrease	810
AS	3,700
No change	2,425
Increase	1,055
Decrease	220
A level	2,665
No change	1,630
Increase	755
Decrease	280
Grand Total	16,525

The number of reviews resulting in a change to the candidate's overall grade (includes all AOs) [from Table 3.1].

Summer Series	2025
GCSE	885
AS	420
A level	295
Grand Total	1,600

Data source: CCEA Regulation RoMM data collection (collected by Ofqual on behalf of CCEA Regulation). Further details about reviews of marking and moderation for the GCSE, AS and A level, summer 2025 examination series are available in the CCEA Regulation publication: [Review of Marking and Moderation-2025Summer-bulletin-full-tables.xlsx](#).

TABLES

The tables provided below detail the number of reviews for summer examination series 2022 – 2025.

In all the review tables the number of reviews is rounded to the closest multiple of 5. Values from 1 to 4 are written as "0~" instead of an exact number. A true count of zero is shown as "0". Sum totals in tables are calculated using the original unrounded numbers, which means a total might look slightly different from adding up the rounded values manually.

Table 1 Number of reviews broken down by GCSE; AS; and A level and awarding organisation

Summer Series	2022	2023	2024	2025
GCSE	6,075	7,090	10,505	10,160
CCEA	5,880	6,850	10,325	9,940
AQA	100	70	65	115
Cambridge OCR	65	30	40	20
Pearson	15	10	20	10
WJEC	15	135	55	75
AS	1,995	2,895	3,510	3,700
CCEA	1,915	2,670	3,320	3,410
AQA	20	25	20	25
Cambridge OCR	5	10	10	0~
Pearson	0~	5	0~	0~
WJEC	50	190	165	265
A level	1,735	2,290	2,635	2,665
CCEA	1,520	1,940	2,325	2,380
AQA	120	190	95	110
Cambridge OCR	15	45	20	15
Pearson	45	50	60	30
WJEC	40	70	130	125
TOTAL	9,805	12,280	16,650	16,525

For reference these figures provide the Northern Ireland qualification level entries for GCSE, AS and A level in summer 2025 by awarding organisation (unrounded).

GCSE	CCEA	AQA	Cambridge OCR	Pearson	WJEC	Total
Summer 2025	167,982	1,781	765	679	2,468	173,675

AS	CCEA	AQA	Cambridge OCR	Pearson	WJEC	Total
Summer 2025	39,727	416	100	114	3,142	43,499

A level	CCEA	AQA	Cambridge OCR	Pearson	WJEC	Total
Summer 2025	28,569	880	145	447	2,378	32,419

A single GCSE, AS or A level qualification generally comprises several units/components, which are either external or internal assessments. Reviews are requested for each unit/component individually and not the qualification as a whole. If a review shows that marking or administrative errors have been made and the mark of the reviewed unit/component is incorrect, the awarding organisation changes the mark to correct the error.

Table 2.1 Number of reviews broken down by GCSE; AS; and A level and mark change (includes all AOs)

Summer Series	2022	2023	2024	2025
GCSE	6,075	7,090	10,505	10,160
No change	4,025	4,550	6,790	6,985
Increase	1,515	1,895	2,805	2,365
Decrease	535	645	910	810
AS	1,995	2,895	3,510	3,700
No change	1,350	2,040	2,410	2,425
Increase	500	670	865	1,055
Decrease	145	190	235	220
A level	1,735	2,290	2,635	2,665
No change	1,040	1,450	1,610	1,630
Increase	505	610	755	755
Decrease	190	230	270	280
Grand Total	9,805	12,280	16,650	16,525

Table 2.2 Number of reviews broken down by GCSE; AS; and A level and resulting in a mark change (includes all AOs)

Summer Series	2022	2023	2024	2025
GCSE	2,050	2,545	3,715	3,175
AS	645	855	1,105	1,275
A level	695	840	1,025	1,035
Grand Total	3,390	4,240	5,845	5,485

The table above combines marks changes for increases and decreases.

In some cases, mark changes for units/reviewed components can affect the overall grade, which leads to the grade being changed.

For the summer 2025 exam series, a total of 16,525 reviews of marking and moderation (RoMM) were requested in Northern Ireland (10,160 GCSE, 3,700 AS, and 2,665 A level). 1,600 grade challenges resulted in a grade change (885 GCSE, 420 AS and 295 A level).

Table 3.1 Number of reviews broken down by GCSE; AS; and A level and resulting in a grade change (includes all AOs)

Summer Series	2022	2023	2024	2025
GCSE	610	740	965	885
AS	290	270	375	420
A level	245	235	290	295
Grand Total	1,145	1,250	1,630	1,600

Table 3.2 Number of reviews broken down by GCSE; AS; and A level and grade change (includes all AOs)

Summer Series	Increase	Decrease	Total
2022	1,140	5	1,145
A level	245	0~	245
AS	285	0~	290
GCSE	610	0~	610
2023	1,240	10	1,250
A level	235	0~	235
AS	270	0~	270
GCSE	735	10	740
2024	1,615	15	1,630
A level	285	0~	290
AS	365	10	375
GCSE	965	0~	965
2025	1,590	10	1,600
A level	295	0~	295
AS	415	0~	420
GCSE	885	0~	885

Table 3.3 Number of reviews broken down by GCSE; AS; and A level and resulting in a grade increase

Summer Series	CCEA	AQA	Cambridge OCR	Pearson	WJEC	Total
2022	1,065	30	15	10	20	1,140
A level	215	15	0~	0~	15	245
AS	275	0~	0~	0	5	285
GCSE	580	10	10	5	0~	610
2023	1,145	35	15	5	40	1,240
A level	200	20	0~	5	5	235
AS	250	0~	0~	0	15	270
GCSE	695	15	10	0	15	735
2024	1,515	20	10	15	60	1,615
A level	245	5	0~	10	25	285
AS	335	0~	0~	0	25	365
GCSE	935	10	5	0~	10	965
2025	1,445	40	5	0~	95	1,590
A level	260	15	0~	0~	15	295
AS	345	0~	0~	0	65	415
GCSE	840	25	0~	0~	10	885

Table 3.4 Number of reviews broken down by GCSE; AS; and A level and resulting in a grade decrease

Summer Series	CCEA	AQA	Cambridge OCR	Pearson	WJEC	Total
2022	5	0	0~	0	0	5
A level	0~	0	0	0	0	0~
AS	0~	0	0~	0	0	0~
GCSE	0~	0	0	0	0	0~
2023	0~	0	0	0	5	10
A level	0~	0	0	0	0	0~
AS	0~	0	0	0	0	0~
GCSE	0~	0	0	0	5	10
2024	10	0	0	0	0~	15
A level	0~	0	0	0	0	0~
AS	10	0	0	0	0~	10
GCSE	0~	0	0	0	0	0~
2025	5	0~	0	0	0	10
A level	0~	0	0	0	0	0~
AS	0~	0	0	0	0	0~
GCSE	0~	0~	0	0	0	0~