

Number of A levels taken and subject combinations:

An analysis of NPD data for A level Mathematics and Further
Mathematics (2013, 2015 & 2017)

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Overview

This report presents analyses of NPD data to examine the number of A levels taken alongside A level Mathematics and Further Mathematics in 2017 for the cohort of students who completed KS4 in Y11 in 2015. Additionally, A level subjects taken alongside A level Mathematics and Further Mathematics are examined.

In 2017, just under half (46%) of students who study for A level Further Mathematics still did so as part of a 4 or more A level programme. This pattern declined from 64% in 2013. A closer inspection of the data showed that of this 18 percentage point reduction, 7 percentage points relate to the reduced number of students taking A level Further Mathematics as one of exactly 4 A levels, and 11 points to the reduced number taking it as one of five or more A levels.

The proportion of students who took A level Mathematics as one of four or more A levels was higher than the average at 16% in 2017 but seen to decline from 31% in 2013. This 15 percentage point decline seems to relate to a reduction in the number of students who took A level Mathematics as one of exactly 4 (11 points) or 5 (3 points) A levels.

The analyses also highlight how Physics or Chemistry A levels remain the most popular subjects taken alongside Mathematics and Further Mathematics for both males and females.

1. Background

This report builds on Demack et al. (2017) to present analyses of number of A levels taken and subject combinations for students taking A level Mathematics or Further Mathematics

The analyses presented here focus on Mathematics and Further Mathematics A level. Specifically, the analyses look at:

- Number of A levels sat (reported in section 2);
- A levels sat alongside Further Mathematics and Mathematics (reported in section 3).

Demack et al. (2017) presented analyses for two KS5/A level academic years; 2012/13 (2013 henceforth) and 2014/15 (2015). Specifically, these analyses focused on KS5 data for 2015 for the cohort of students who completed KS4 in 2010/11 (2011) and KS5 data for 2015 for the cohort of students who had completed KS4 in 2012/13 (2013).

The new analyses presented here relate to KS5 data for 2016/17 (2017) for the cohort of students who completed KS4 in 2015.

The analyses presented here focus on A levels taken in the 2013, 2015 and 2017.

Please note that this approach is slightly different to that taken for the all England analyses into participation and attainment in A level Mathematics and Further Mathematics (Demack et al., 2019). Demack et al. (2019) examined A level participation and attainment in either 2015/16 or 2016/17 whilst the analyses here focus solely on A level participation in 2016/17. The reason for this difference was to ensure that these analyses into the number of A levels taken alongside A level Mathematics and Further Mathematics can be directly compared with previous analyses (specifically Demack et al, 2017). Most A level students do take their examinations after two years in KS5. For example, for the 2011 NPD cohort, 92% of entries to A level Further Mathematics were in 2012/13 whilst 8% of entries were in either 2011/12 or 2013/14.

The analyses pay particular attention to Further Mathematics and Mathematics A level entrants. In section 2, the number of A levels taken alongside Further Mathematics and Mathematics is considered. Following this, in section 3, A level subjects commonly taken alongside Further Mathematics and Mathematics are examined. These analyses focus on three student populations; all students taking A level Further Mathematics / Mathematics; students taking Further Mathematics / Mathematics as one of three A levels; students taking Further Mathematics / Mathematics as one of four or more A levels.

A summary of the analysis is then considered in section 5.

2. Number of A levels Analyses

On the 2017 KS5 data file, 67,583 students who took KS4 in 2015 are recorded as sitting A level Mathematics and 12,328 are recorded as taking A level Further Mathematics in England in Y13 in 2017. Amongst 2015 KS4 students who took at least one A level (n=238,723), 28.3% of these took A level Mathematics and 5.2% took Further Mathematics.

In 2015, 65,195 students who took KS4 in 2013 are recorded as sitting A level Mathematics and 11,771 are recorded as taking A level Further Mathematics in England in Y13 in 2015. Amongst 2013 KS4 students who took at least one A level (n=240,030), 27.2% of these took A level Mathematics and 4.9% took Further Mathematics.

In 2013, 63,672 students who took KS4 in 2011 are recorded as sitting A level Mathematics and 10,474 are recorded as sitting A level Further Mathematics in England in Y13 in 2013. Amongst 2011 KS4 students who took at least one A level (N = 236,726); 26.9% of these took A level Mathematics and 4.4% took Further Mathematics.

Table 1 presents detail on the number of A levels taken for four different KS5 student populations. First, students recorded as taking any A level; second, students who took A level Mathematics; third, students who took A level Further Mathematics and fourth, students who took A level General Studies.

Table 1: Recorded A level entries (2013; 2015 & 2017)

Number of A levels Taken	% taking 1 or 2	% taking 3	% taking 4 or more	Total N
<i>Students taking 1+ A level</i>				
2017	27	66	7	238,723
2015	28	60	12	240,030
2013	27	55	17	236,726
<i>Students taking A level Mathematics</i>				
2017	8	77	16	67,583
2015	8	69	23	65,195
2013	8	61	31	63,672
<i>Students taking A level Further Mathematics</i>				
2017	2	53	46	12,328
2015	2	43	55	11,771
2013	2	35	64	10,474
<i>Students taking A level General Studies</i>				
2017	4	15	81	6,548
2015	5	14	81	16,518
2013	6	13	81	29,545

A clear reduction in the proportion of students taking 4 or more A levels is observed between 2013 and 2017. Overall, in 2017, 7% of all A level students took 4 or more A levels compared with 17% in 2013.

A level Mathematics was observed to have a higher than average prevalence of being studied amongst a combination of 4 or more A levels in 2017 (16%) which is down from 31% in 2013.

The data show that Further Mathematics is far more prevalent as a '4th A level' than other subjects overall. In 2013, almost two-thirds (64%) of entries to A level Further Mathematics are taken as one of at least four A levels in total, compared to an average of 17% across all A level subjects. By 2015, this is seen to reduce to 55% and by 2017 to 46%

The only other A level subject found to be more prevalent as a 4th A level than Further Mathematics was General Studies (81% of students took the A level as one of four or more in 2012/13, 2014/15 & 2016/17). Ahead of the discontinuation of A level General Studies in 2018¹, the drop in popularity of this subject is clear in the data. In 2013, around 12.5% of A level students took General Studies which is seen to fall to 6.9% in 2015 and 2.7% in 2017.

Comparing the 2013 and 2017 A level analyses, it is interesting to see relatively stable numbers of A level students overall; but increasing within A level Mathematics and Further Mathematics alongside a quite dramatic drop of students taking A level General Studies.

Table 2 considers recorded A level entries when the General Studies A level is excluded from the analysis in 2013, 2015 and 2017.

Table 2: Recorded A level entries (2013; 2015 & 2017) - excluding the General Studies A level

Number of A levels Taken	% taking 1 or 2	% taking 3	% taking 4 or more	Total N
<i>Students taking 1+ A level</i>				
2017	28	68	5	232,175
2015	30	64	6	223,512
2013	30	62	8	204,553
<i>Students taking A level Mathematics</i>				
2017	8	79	13	65,725
2015	9	74	17	60,311
2013	10	70	20	53,832
<i>Students taking A level Further Mathematics</i>				
2017	2	54	44	12,061
2015	2	46	52	11,008
2013	2	40	58	8,843

Excluding General Studies results in reducing the proportion of students taking 4+ A levels by around half in 2013 and 2015 and about a quarter in 2017. The declining impact of excluding the General Studies A level can be explained by the notable drop in numbers of students taking the A level from 29,545 in 2013 to 6,548 in 2017.

¹ <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/gcse-as-and-a-level-subjects-that-are-not-being-reformed/gcse-as-and-a-level-subjects-that-are-not-being-reformed>

Excluding General Studies results in reducing the proportion of students taking A level Mathematics as one of 4+ A levels by 11 percentage points in 2013, six points in 2015 and three points in 2017.

Excluding General Studies results in reducing the proportion of students taking A level Further Mathematics as one of 4+ A levels by six percentage points in 2013, three points in 2015 and two points in 2017.

To summarise, overall, A level entries were observed to be relatively stable across the three student cohorts between 2013 and 2017 (an increase of less than 1% of students taking 1+ A level) However, when general studies was excluded, a clear increase in entries is observed (by nearly 14%).

Mathematics and Further Mathematics A level entries are clearly observed to increase over the three student A level cohorts. However, alongside this increasing popularity, a notable drop in the proportion of students taking the subject amongst four or more A levels was observed. The strongest and clearest pattern is seen with Further Mathematics. Between 2013 and 2017, the number of Further Mathematics A level entries increased by nearly 18% (by 36% when general studies was excluded). In 2013, the majority of Further Mathematics A level entrants took the subject amongst 4 or more A levels (64% overall, 58% when general studies was excluded). However, by 2017, the majority of Further Mathematics A level entrants took the subject amongst exactly 3 A levels (53% overall, 54% excluding general studies) with the number taking it amongst 4 or more A levels becoming a sizable minority (46% overall, 44% excluding general studies). Similar patterns of increasing popularity and reduced number of A levels was observed with A level Mathematics but to a lesser extent.

Tables A1-A6 (see appendix) provide a closer look at the number of A levels students take within different types of KS5 institution in Y13 in 2013, 2015 and 2017. This is shown separately for student populations; all students taking 1+ A level; students who took A level Further Mathematics and all students who took A level Mathematics. Summary comments on these tables now follow.

2.1 Students who took 1+ A level

...in **2017**...**7%** of all A level students took four or more A levels (5% excluding general studies)

...in **2015**...the proportion was **12%** (6% excluding general studies)

...in **2013**... the proportion was **17%** (8% excluding general studies)

This was shown to vary between 2% (students in FE colleges) and 11% (students in Independent school sixth forms) across different types of KS5 institution. Males are seen to be more likely than females to take four or more A levels; the proportion of males taking 4+ A levels varies between 3% (students in FE colleges) and 12% (students in Independent school sixth forms); the proportion of females taking 4+ A levels varies between 2% (students in FE colleges) and 9% (students in Independent school sixth forms).

Comparing 2013 to 2017

There was a decline in the proportions of students taking 4+ A levels between 2013 and 2017. This is seen across different types of KS5 institution for males and females.

2.2 Students who took A level Mathematics

...in **2017**...the proportion of all A level students who took A level Mathematics as one of four or more A levels was **16%** (13% excluding general studies)

...in **2015**... this proportion was **23%** (17% excluding general studies)

...in **2013**... this proportion was **31%** (20% excluding general studies)

This was observed to vary between 9% (students in FE colleges) and 22% (students in Independent school sixth forms) across different types of KS5 institution. Males are seen to be more likely than females to take four or more A levels; the proportion of males taking 4+ A levels varies between 10% (students in FE colleges) and 23% (students in Independent school sixth forms); the proportion of females taking 4+ A levels varies between 7% (students in FE colleges) and 21% (students in Independent school sixth forms).

Comparing 2013 to 2017

There is a clear decline in the proportions of students taking A level Mathematics as one of four or more A levels. This is seen across different types of KS5 institution for males and females.

At the same time, the proportion of A level students that took A level Mathematics is seen to increase from 26.9% in 2013 to 28.3% in 2017.

2.3 Students who took A level Further Mathematics

...in **2017**...the proportion of all A level students who took A level Further Mathematics as one of four or more A levels was **46%** (44% excluding general studies)

...in **2015**...this proportion was **55%** (52% excluding general studies)

...in **2013**...this proportion was **64%** (58% excluding general studies)

This was seen to vary between 32% (students in FE colleges) and 67% (students in independent KS5 institutions). Females (46%) are slightly more likely to take Further Mathematics as one of four or more A levels compared with males (45%) overall but this pattern fluctuates across types of KS5 institution.

The proportion of female students who took A level Further Mathematics as one of four or more A levels is shown to vary between 29% (students in FE colleges) and 69% (students in independent KS5 institutions). The proportion of male students who took A level Further Mathematics as one of four or more A levels is shown to vary between 33% (students in FE colleges) and 66% (students in independent KS5 institutions).

Comparing 2013 to 2017

A decline in the proportions of students taking A level Further Mathematics as one of four or more A levels was evident between 2013 and 2015 and here is seen to continue to 2017. This is seen across different types of KS5 institution and for both males and females.

However, looking closer at the number of A levels taken by students who took A level Further Mathematics reveals interesting detail. Table 3 provides a finer grained analysis of recorded A level entries for A level Further Mathematics students and compares the 2013, 2015 and 2017 KS5 cohorts. The pattern observed for all A level students and students taking A level Mathematics is shown alongside those for students taking A level Further Mathematics for context.

Table 3: Detailed Recorded A level entries 2013, 2015 and 2017

Number of A levels Taken	1	2	3	4	5	6	Total N
Taking 1+ A level							
2017	10	17	66	6	0.3	0.0	238,723
2015	12	16	56	11	2	0.1	240,030
2013	12	16	55	16	2	0.1	236,726
Taking A level Mathematics							
2017	2	6	77	15	1	0.1	67,583
2015	2	6	69	21	2	0.2	65,195
2013	2	6	61	26	4	0.4	63,672
Taking A level Further Mathematics							
2017	<0.1	2	53	42	3	0.3	12,328
2015	0.1	1	43	47	8	1	11,771
2013	0.1	2	35	49	13	2	10,474

For students taking A level Further Mathematics, the reduced proportion of students taking the subject as one of four or more A levels seems to relate mainly to students taking five or more A levels (this reduced from 15% (13+2) to 3% (3+0.3) between 2013 and 2017) whilst the reduction relating to four A levels was less sharp (from 49% to 42%).

At the same time, the proportion of A level students taking A level Further Mathematics is seen to increase between 2013 (4.4%) and 2017 (5.2%).

3. A level subjects taken alongside Further Mathematics and Mathematics

In this section the analysis of A level subjects taken alongside Further Mathematics and Mathematics are presented. Table 4 displays the top ten subject choices for 2013, 2015 and 2017 among A level Further Mathematics students regardless of how many A levels they sat. Table 5 similarly displays the top ten subject choices for 2013, 2015 and 2017 among A level Mathematics students.

Table 4: Subjects taken at A level among all students taking Further Mathematics (2013, 2015 and 2017)

Subject	2013	2015	2017
Mathematics	98.5	99.2	99.4
Physics	63.3	64.2	62.9
Chemistry	36.4	34.7	30.5
Economics	14.9	13.5	12.7
Computer studies	3.2	4.4	8.1
Biology	11.2	8.0	6.3
History	4.8	3.9	3.3
Geography	3.1	2.8	2.5
General studies	12.5	6.5	2.2
French	2.7	-	1.6
Chinese	-	2.1	1.2
N students	10,474	11,771	12,328

Table 5: Subjects taken at A level among all students taking Mathematics (2013, 2015 and 2017)

Subject	2013	2015	2017
Chemistry	39.3	38.1	36.8
Physics	34.8	35.0	34.6
Biology	31.6	28.3	27.8
Further Mathematics	16.5	17.9	18.1
Economics	14.2	15.0	16.0
Geography	8.0	8.6	8.7
History	9.0	8.7	7.7
Psychology	7.3	6.9	7.4
Computer Studies	-	-	5.9
Business Studies	-	-	4.7
English literature	5.2	4.8	3.9
General studies	13.9	7.5	2.7
N students	63,672	65,195	67,583

The fall in popularity of A level General Studies is shown in both Tables 4 and 5. In 2013, General Studies was the fifth most popular A level taken alongside Further Mathematics (12.5% of A level Further Mathematics students took it) but this is seen to fall to being the eighth most popular (2.2% of Further Mathematics students took it). A similar pattern is seen with A level Mathematics.

From Table 4, the clear link between A level Further Mathematics and Mathematics is seen; 99% of Further Mathematics students also took A level Mathematics. Physics is the most popular non-Mathematics A level taken alongside Further Mathematics and this remained relatively static at 63%

between 2013 and 2017. Chemistry is the third most popular subject taken alongside Further Mathematics but this is seen to decline from 36% in 2013 to 31% in 2017.

From Table 5, for all students taking A level Mathematics, the traditional sciences, chemistry (37%), physics (35%) and biology (28%) are most popular options in all three cohorts. There was a small decline in popularity of Biology between 2013 (32%) and 2015 (28%) but stable between 2015 and 2017 (28%).

Further Mathematics was the fourth most popular in all three years and this is seen to increase between 2013 (17%) and 2017 (18%).

Table 6 displays the subjects most commonly taken alongside Further Mathematics for males and females in 2015 and 2017.

Table 6: Subjects taken at A level among all students taking Further Mathematics - Males and Females shown separately 2015 and 2017

	2015		2017	
	Females	Males	Females	Males
	% : (rank)	% : (rank)	% : (rank)	% : (rank)
Mathematics	99 (1)	99 (1)	99: (1)	99 (1)
Physics	47 (2)	70 (2)	49 (2)	68 (2)
Chemistry	37 (3)	34 (3)	34 (3)	29 (3)
Economics	14 (4)	13 (4)	12 (4)	12 (4)
Biology	13 (5)	6 (6)	12 (5)	5 (6)
Computer Studies	1	6 (7)	2	10 (5)
History	4 (8)	4 (8)	4 (6)	3 (7)
Geography	4 (9)	2 (9)	3 (8)	2 (8)
General Studies	7 (6)	6 (5)	2 (10)	2 (9)
French	3	1 (10)	3 (9)	1 (10)
Psychology	4 (10)	<1	3 (7)	<1
Chinese	5 (7)	1	2	<1
English Literature	3	1	2	<1
N Students	3,191	8,585	3,202	9,126

From Table 6, for both males and females, in 2015 and 2017 A level Physics is the second most common A level to be taken alongside A level Further Mathematics - although this is clearly a more popular option for males (68% took Physics A level in 2017, 70% in 2015) compared with females (49% in 2017, 47% in 2015). Some interesting gender differences are seen; males being more likely to take computer studies alongside Further Mathematics (10% compared with 2% of females) and females being more likely to take biology (12% compared with 5% of males) or psychology (3% compared with less than 1% of males) alongside Further Mathematics .

3.1 Explicit subject combination lists

Table 7 presents a list of the 'top 5' most common A level subject combinations amongst students who took A level Further Mathematics as part of 4 A levels in 2017 and includes the percentages from 2015 previously reported by Demack et al (2017).

Table 1 above showed that 46% of students taking A level Further Mathematics did so as one of four or more A levels in 2017. This was broken down further in Table 3 to show that 42% took Further Mathematics as one of exactly four A levels; 3% as part of five A levels and 0.3% as part of six or more A levels. The list below focuses solely on the 42% of students who took A level Further Mathematics as one of exactly four A levels in 2017.

Table 7: Top 5 subject combinations for Further Mathematics A level students who took the subject as one of exactly four A levels; 2015 and 2017

A level Subject Combination (All Students) A level Mathematics, Further Mathematics & ...	2015	2017
...Physics & Chemistry	38%	40%
...Physics & Computer Studies	4%	9%
...Physics & Economics	7%	7%
...Chemistry & Biology	8%	7%
...Physics & DT Productions	-	2%
...Physics & General Studies	3%	-

Combining A level Further Mathematics with Mathematics, Physics and Chemistry is clearly the most common combination in both 2015 (38%) and 2017 (40%). An increasing popularity of taking Physics and Computer Studies alongside Further Mathematics and Mathematics is seen between 2015 (4%) and 2017 (9%),

Table 8 presents the 'top 5' most common A level subject combinations amongst male and female students who took A level Further Mathematics as one of exactly four A levels in 2017.

Table 8: Top 5 subject combinations for Further Mathematics A level female and male students who took the subject as one of exactly four A levels; 2016/17

A level Subject Combination... Mathematics, Further Mathematics & ...	Female	Male
...Physics & Chemistry	35%	42%
...Physics & Computer Studies	2%	12%
...Physics & Economics	5%	8%
...Chemistry & Biology	14%	5%
...Physics & DT Productions	2%	-
...Physics & History	-	2%

The popularity of Physics and Chemistry is consistent for both males and females but clear gender difference is seen with Physics and Computer studies (2% females, 12% males) and Chemistry and Biology (14% females, 5% males).

4. Summary

This report of NPD analyses into number of A levels taken alongside A level Mathematics and Further Mathematics and common subject combinations updates previous analyses (Demack et al., 2017) using more recent data. The analyses presented here relate to the 2015 KS4 student cohort in England who took A level Mathematics or Further Mathematics in 2017. Previous analyses examined patterns within the 2011 KS4 student cohort who took A levels in 2013 and the 2013 KS4 student cohort who took A levels in 2015 (Demack et al., 2017).

Analysis show that in 2017, just under half (46%) of students who study for A level Further Mathematics still do so as part of a 4 or more A level programme. This pattern has declined from 64% in 2013 (Table 1). A closer inspection of the data showed that of this 18 percentage point reduction, 9 percentage points relate to the reduced number of students taking A level Further Mathematics as one of exactly 4 A levels and 11 points to the reduced number taking it as one of five or more A levels (Table 3).

The proportion of students who took A level Mathematics as one of four or more A levels was higher than the average at 16% in 2017 but seen to decline from 31% in 2013 (Table 1). This 15 percentage point decline seems to relate to a reduction in the number of students who took A level Mathematics as one of exactly 4 (11 points) or 5 (3 points) A levels (Table 3).

Overall, the number of A level students who took 4 or more A levels was seen to decline from 17% in 2013 to 7% in 2017 (Table 1). This decline seems to relate almost entirely to a reduction in the number of students taking exactly 4 A levels (Table 3).

The analyses also examined A level subjects commonly taken alongside Further Mathematics and explicit subject combination. Taking Further Mathematics alongside Mathematics, Physics or Chemistry is clearly the most popular for both males and females. Further, amongst students taking exactly four A levels including Further Mathematics, these four subjects are the clearly the most common combination for both males and females. The consistency over time and between genders is striking. The only real gender divergence relates to males being increasingly more likely to take Further Mathematics alongside Computer Studies and females being more likely to take the subject alongside Biology.

5. Appendix Summary Tables

Table A1: Number of recorded A level entries by type of KS5 institute

A levels in 2017 (2015 KS4 cohort)	1 or 2 A levels	3 A levels	4 + A levels	N=
All KS5 locations	27	66	7	238,723
State School 6th form	27	65	8	141,060
Independent school 6 th Form	16	73	11	29,448
Sixth Form College	31	66	4	45,962
FE College	32	66	2	12,555

A levels in 2015 (2013 KS4 cohort)	1 or 2 A levels	3 A levels	4 + A levels	N=
All KS5 locations	28	60	12	240,030
State School 6th form	30	59	12	143,826
Independent school 6 th Form	13	71	16	30,916
Sixth Form College	30	59	11	48,075
FE College	35	62	4	16,789

A levels in 2013 (2011 KS4 cohort)	1 or 2 A levels	3 A levels	4 + A levels	N=
All KS5 locations	27	55	17	236,713
State School 6th form	30	54	17	140,777
Independent school 6 th Form	10	71	18	29,264
Sixth Form College	28	49	23	48,083
FE College	35	58	7	18,589

Table A2: Number of recorded A level entries by type of KS5 institute by gender.

A levels in 2017 (2015 KS4 cohort)	Males				Females			
	1 or 2 A levels	3 A levels	4 + A levels	N =	1 or 2 A levels	3 A levels	4 + A levels	N =
All KS5 locations	27	64	9	105,718	27	68	5	133,005
State School 6th form	27	63	10	62,581	27	67	6	78,479
Independent school 6 th Form	18	70	12	14,757	14	77	9	14,691
Sixth Form College	31	64	5	19,131	30	67	3	26,831
FE College	32	64	3	4,791	31	68	2	7,764

A levels in 2015 (2013 KS4 cohort)	Males				Females			
	1 or 2 A levels	3 A levels	4 + A levels	N =	1 or 2 A levels	3 A levels	4 + A levels	N =
All KS5 locations	29	58	13	104,957	28	62	10	135,073
State School 6th form	31	56	13	63,061	29	60	11	80,765
Independent school 6 th Form	14	68	18	15,177	13	74	14	15,739
Sixth Form College	31	58	12	20,118	29	61	10	27,957
FE College	37	58	5	6,417	34	64	3	10,372

A levels in 2013 (2011 KS4 cohort)	Males				Females			
	1 or 2 A levels	3 A levels	4 + A levels	N =	1 or 2 A levels	3 A levels	4 + A levels	N =
All KS5 locations	28	53	19%	105,667	27	57	16	131,046
State School 6th form	31	51	18	63,044	29	56	15	77,733
Independent school 6 th Form	11	69	20	14,820	9	74	17	14,444
Sixth Form College	29	48	24	20,608	27	50	23	27,475
FE College	38	55	8	7,795	34	60	6	11,394

Table A3: Number of recorded A level entries for students taking A level Mathematics by type of KS5 institute.

A levels in 2017 (2015 KS4 cohort)	1 or 2 A levels	3 A levels	4 + A levels	N=
All KS5 locations	8	77	16	67,583
State School 6th form	7	77	16	39,925
Independent school 6 th Form	8	70	22	11,742
Sixth Form College	7	83	10	10,682
FE College	12	79	9	2,336

A levels in 2015 (2013 KS4 cohort)	1 or 2 A levels	3 A levels	4 + A levels	N=
All KS5 locations	8	69	23	65,195
State School 6th form	9	69	22	38,994
Independent school 6 th Form	5	65	30	12,348
Sixth Form College	8	70	22	10,618
FE College	15	74	11	3,116

A levels in 2013 (2011 KS4 cohort)	1 or 2 A levels	3 A levels	4 + A levels	N=
All KS5 locations	8	61	31	63,669
State School 6th form	9	62	29	38,118
Independent school 6 th Form	4	63	34	11,308
Sixth Form College	8	54	39	10,873
FE College	1	70	16	3,370

Table A4: Number of recorded A level entries for students taking A level Mathematics by type of KS5 institute and gender

A levels in 2017 (2015 KS4 cohort)	Males				Females			
	1 or 2 A levels	3 A levels	4 + A levels	N=	1 or 2 A levels	3 A levels	4 + A levels	N=
All KS5 locations	8	75	17	40,936	6	80	14	26,647
State School 6th form	8	75	18	24,297	6	81	13	15,628
Independent school 6 th Form	10	68	23	6,970	6	73	21	4,772
Sixth Form College	8	82	11	6,427	5	86	9	4,255
FE College	14	77	10	1,444	10	84	7	892

A levels in 2015 (2013 KS4 cohort)	Males				Females			
	1 or 2 A levels	3 A levels	4 + A levels	N=	1 or 2 A levels	3 A levels	4 + A levels	N=
All KS5 locations	9	67	24	39,323	7	71	22	25,872
State School 6th form	10	67	23	23,650	7	73	21	15,344
Independent school 6 th Form	5	64	31	7,228	4	66	29	5,120
Sixth Form College	9	69	22	6,423	7	72	21	4,195
FE College	17	72	11	1,946	12	77	11	1,170

A levels in 2013 (2011 KS4 cohort)	Males				Females			
	1 or 2 A levels	3 A levels	4 + A levels	N=	1 or 2 A levels	3 A levels	4 + A levels	N=
All KS5 locations	9	60	31	38,370	7	63	30	25,299
State School 6th form	11	60	29	23,005	8	65	28	15,113
Independent school 6 th Form	4	62	34	6,782	3	64	33	4,526
Sixth Form College	9	53	38	6,574	6	54	40	4,299
FE College	15	69	16	2,009	11	72	16	1,361

Table A5: Number of recorded A level entries for students taking A level Further Mathematics by type of KS5 institute.

A levels in 2017 (2015 KS4 cohort)	1 or 2 A levels	3 A levels	4 + A levels	N =
All KS5 locations	2	53	46	12,328
State School 6th form	1	56	42	7,369
Independent school 6 th Form	4	29	67	2,453
Sixth Form College	1	63	36	1,704
FE College	<i>SUPP*</i>	<i>SUPP</i>	<i>SUPP</i>	390

A levels in 2015 (2013 KS4 cohort)	1 or 2 A levels	3 A levels	4 + A levels	N =
All KS5 locations	2	43	55	11,771
State School 6th form	2	49	50	6,802
Independent school 6 th Form	1	25	74	2,819
Sixth Form College	2	50	49	1,706
FE College	2	57	41	432

A levels in 2013 (2011 KS4 cohort)	1 or 2 A levels	3 A levels	4 + A levels	N =
All KS5 locations	2	35	64	10,473
State School 6th form	2	40	59	6,156
Independent school 6 th Form	2	19	79	2,325
Sixth Form College	1	34	65	1,580
FE College	3	51	47	412

***Supp:** in 2017, when a cell count <10 cases, the statistics have been suppressed in order to comply with ONS requirements around statistical disclosure.

Table A6: Number of recorded A level entries for students taking A level Further Mathematics by type of KS5 institute and gender

A levels in 2017 (2015 KS4 cohort)	Males				Females			
	1 or 2 A levels	3 A levels	4 + A levels	N =	1 or 2 A levels	3 A levels	4 + A levels	N =
All KS5 locations	2	53	45	9,126	2	52	46	3,202
State School 6th form	1	56	43	5,516	1	57	42	1,853
Independent school 6 th Form	5	29	66	1,736	2	29	69	717
Sixth Form College	1	63	36	1,259	1	63	36	445
FE College	<i>SUPP*</i>	<i>SUPP</i>	<i>SUPP</i>	296	<i>SUPP</i>	<i>SUPP</i>	<i>SUPP</i>	94

A levels in 2015 (2013 KS4 cohort)	Males				Females			
	1 or 2 A levels	3 A levels	4 + A levels	N =	1 or 2 A levels	3 A levels	4 + A levels	N =
All KS5 locations	2	44	55	8,580	1	43	56	3,191
State School 6th form	2	48	50	5,066	2	49	50	1,736
Independent school 6 th Form	1	25	75	1,909	1	26	73	910
Sixth Form College	2	49	49	1,272	0	51	49	434
FE College	2	59	39	325	3	51	46	107

A levels in 2013 (2011 KS4 cohort) CHECKED	Males				Females			
	1 or 2 A levels	3 A levels	4 + A levels	N =	1 or 2 A levels	3 A levels	4 + A levels	N =
All KS5 locations	2	35	63	7,671	1	33	66	2,802
State School 6th form	2	40	59	4,605	2	39	59	1,551
Independent school 6 th Form	2	20	78	1,618	1	17	83	707
Sixth Form College	1	34	65	1,147	1	32	68	433
FE College	3	49	48	301	3	54	43	111

***Supp**: in 2017, when a cell count <10 cases, the statistics have been suppressed in order to comply with ONS requirements around statistical disclosure.