



Background information for Assessment Arrangements 2023

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Purpose

Assessment Arrangements - August 2023 presents a summary of [assessment arrangements](#) requested for National 5, Higher and Advanced Higher.

Status

These data are classified as *information*.

Geography and time period covered

Assessment Arrangements - August 2023 presents data on assessment arrangement requests in the 2022 to 2023 academic year and includes data for the previous four years (where available).

Description

Assessment arrangements allow candidates who are disabled, and/or have been identified as having additional support needs, access to appropriate arrangements to complete the assessment without compromising its integrity.

This information publication reports data captured from assessment arrangement requests for National 5, Higher and Advanced Higher assessments in the 2022 to 2023 academic year. [Further information about assessment arrangements and the system and process for requesting them is available on the SQA website.](#)

Source of data

These figures are derived from SQA operational data.

Methodology

Duplicate request information is removed as well as withdrawn (centre has withdrawn the entry) and invalid (inconsistent data) requests.

Counts of assessment arrangements are based on the candidate record by subject and level. For example, a candidate with requests relating to both National 5 and Higher Mathematics qualifications will be counted once in the National 5 requests and once in the Higher requests table.

For each assessment arrangement request, multiple assessment arrangements categories can be requested; each arrangement is counted based on whether the associated data is present or missing.

The breakdown by centre type shows Education Authority - Secondary School, Education Authority - Special School, Independent - Secondary School, Independent - Special School and FE College. All remaining centre types, including training providers, voluntary sector organisations, HM Armed Forces, prisons and primary schools are reported as 'Other'.

Confidentiality and rounding

All figures are rounded to the nearest five. Figures between one and four inclusive have been suppressed to protect against the risk of disclosure of personal information. Cells containing suppressed figures are marked up with the shorthand [c].

Totals are calculated using figures prior to rounding; the sum of rounded figures may differ from the total reported.

Limitations

SQA external assessments did not go ahead in 2020 and 2021 due to disruption caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. As such, assessment arrangement data for these years are not available.

For assessment arrangement requests which include free-text responses under “Any other arrangements”, a count of 1 arrangement is recorded for every request with a response. In some cases, the free text may list more than one arrangement but responses are always treated as one arrangement request.

Centres often submit multiple assessment arrangements within each subject/level request but also include contingency arrangements in these requests. SQA do not hold information on whether (and which) assessments arrangements requested are actually used when assessments take place.

Finally, requests for assessment arrangements are made at the subject level rather than at component level. For example, a request for coloured paper in a Higher modern language qualification may be used for any (or all) of the components that involve a written assessment (‘examination paper’) but would be unlikely to be required for a speaking assessment component.

Revisions and corrections

Once published these statistics are not usually subject to revisions. [Further information about revisions and corrections is available in our policy document.](#)

Related publications

For any related publications for qualifications offered in Wales, Northern Ireland and England please contact the [Joint Council for Qualifications](#) or the respective regulators [Qualifications Wales](#), [CCEA](#) and [Ofqual](#).

Useful links

- ◆ [data tables accompanying this release](#)
- ◆ [attainment statistics 2023](#)
- ◆ [component marks 2023](#)
- ◆ [grade boundaries 2023](#)
- ◆ [equalities monitoring report 2023](#)

Feedback

We welcome your feedback on our publications. Please [contact the team](#) with any comments about ways we can improve a publication to meet your needs.