



This Digest provides a brief summary of uptake and attainment for all qualifications included in the Annual Statistical Report 2002. This is the first year this overview of the main Report has been published and it is hoped that it will prove to be a useful reference tool to help highlight some of the headline figures of the Report.

Additional information on the qualifications reported on in this Digest (as well as the examination system, maintenance of standards, special assessment arrangements etc) can be found in the full Annual Statistical Report.

Any comments or queries on the content of this Digest are welcomed and should be addressed to SQA's Assessment, Research and Development Team at the Dalkeith office.

NATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

Table 1: Entries and awards for National Units, Group Awards and Access Clusters, 2002

	ENTRIES	AWARDS
National Units	1,451,552	1,451,497
General Scottish Vocational Qualifications	3,435	688
National Certificate Group Awards	6,477	973
National Certificate Clusters	182	95
Scottish Group Awards	4,169	1,390
Scottish Progression Awards	315	191
Access 2	1,687	1,353
Access 3	3,567	3,116

National Units

- Both entries and awards for National Units increased by 21% in 2002.
- 93% of National Unit awards successfully resulted in a pass.

- SGA – entries increased by 62% in 2002, and awards increased by 93%.
- SPA – entry and award numbers are low within SPAs. However, both sets have increased by 192% and 169% respectively.

Group Awards

- GSVQ – entries increased by 29% in 2002. However, awards in the same year fell by 39%.
- NCGA – entries more than doubled in 2002, a 114% increase. Awards stayed relatively steady, with only a small decrease of 2%.
- NCC – entry and award numbers stayed small and steady.

Access Clusters

- There was a 36% increase in level 2 entries in 2002 and a notable 100% increase in awards.
- There was an even greater increase in level 3 entries in 2002 (89%) and an increase of 165% in awards.

Table 2: Entries and number of candidates entered for Standard Grade and National Courses

	ENTRIES		NO OF CANDIDATES
	2001	2002	2002
Standard Grade*	459,437	456,288	62,521
Intermediate 1	15,981	20,352	13,925
Intermediate 2	59,093	67,509	36,092
Higher	147,796	164,004	58,427
Advanced Higher	6,769	15,749	10,343

* Entries exclude the Writing options of Modern Languages and Gaelic (Learners)

Standard Grade

- Standard Grade uptake has stayed steady at around 450,000 entries.
- 97% of entries lead to a grade of 1 – 6.
- 67.5% of candidates enter for eight Standard Grades.
- Female candidates, on average, attained more credit awards per candidate (3.5), than males (2.8).

SCE Higher and CSYS

- This was the final year these qualifications will be offered, being fully replaced by Higher and Advanced Higher National Courses.
- English was the only subject available at SCE Higher and CSYS this year.

Intermediate 1

- 2002 saw an increase in Intermediate 1 entries by 27%.
- The overall pass rate stayed at a steady 65%.
- Female candidates, on average, attained a better pass rate (67%), than males (63%).
- 91% of Intermediate 1 candidates were aged between 15 and 17.
- 69% of candidates only enter for one Intermediate 1 Course.

Intermediate 2

- There was a 14% increase in the number of entries in Intermediate 2 this year.
- The overall pass rate rose slightly in 2002, to 71%.

- Female candidates, on average, attained a better pass rate (73%), than males (70%).
- 93% of Intermediate 2 candidates were aged between 15 and 17.
- 28% of candidates enter for two Intermediate 2 Courses and 47% of candidates only enter for one Intermediate 2 Course.

Higher

- Entries for Higher increased by 11% in 2002.
- The pass rate dropped slightly from 75% in 2001 to 73% in 2002.
- Female candidates, on average, attained a better pass rate (75%), than males (70%).
- 93% of Higher candidates were aged between 15 and 17.
- Entry figures for candidates attempting any number of Highers between one and five are relatively similar.

Advanced Higher

- Advanced Higher entries increased by 133% this year.
- The pass rate dropped from 77% last year to 74% this year.
- Female candidates, on average, attained a better pass rate (77%), than males (71%).
- 97% of Advanced Higher candidates were aged between 16 and 17.
- Most candidates, 59%, only enter for one Advanced Higher Course.

Table 3: Entries and awards for Higher National and Scottish Vocational Qualifications, 2002

	ENTRIES	AWARDS
Higher National Units	385,910	424,888
Higher National Certificates	21,872	15,844
Higher National Diplomas	11,857	7,606
Professional Development Awards	2,046	1,506
Scottish Vocational Qualifications	44,864	31,323
Workplace-assessed Professional Development Awards	11,494	9,188

Higher National

- Entries for HN Units have increased by 19% and Awards by 33%.
- 89% of HN Unit entries in 2002 resulted in a Pass or Merit.
- HNC entries increased by 30% and awards increased by 23%.
- HND entries stayed at a steady level in 2002 and awards increased by 16%.
- PDA entries increased by 22% and awards increased by 18%.

Scottish Vocational Qualifications

- In 2002, SVQ entries increased by 18% and there was also an 18% increase in awards.
- The largest entry figures were for level 2 SVQs.
- Workplace-assessed PDA entries increased by 31% and awards increased by 9%.