

SCOTTISH QUALIFICATIONS AUTHORITY

RESULTS SERVICES REPORT 2015

STATISTICAL SUMMARY



Key points

This release provides statistical information on the number of requests made for Results Services¹ following the 2015 National Qualification examinations². It also provides data on the number of grade changes that resulted from such requests. A detailed breakdown of Results Services requests at subject level is provided in 'Results Services Report - Statistical Tables'.

'Entries' are defined in this release to be the number of entries, as reported on 4th August 2015, that were eligible to go through the Clerical Check or Marking Review procedures. As Results Services are not available for all subjects, the total eligible entry figures may differ from total entries published elsewhere.

The key findings of the release are as follows:

- There were a total of 12,077 requests for either a Clerical Check or a Marking Review of the examination material.
- The majority of the requests were for a Marking Review (94.7% of all requests). A smaller number of requests went through the Priority Marking Review (4.7%) and/or the Clerical Check (0.6%).
- 2.4% of eligible entries requested a Results Service review³.
 - Of the eligible entries for Marking Review, 2.2% requested this service.
 - Of the eligible entries for Priority Marking Review, 0.1% requested this service.
 - Of the eligible entries for Clerical Check, less than 0.05% requested this service.
- 19.7% of the 12,077 requests resulted in a grade change.

¹ This includes Clerical Check, Marking Review and Priority Marking Review services.

² Results Services procedures are only available for certain subjects at Intermediate 1, Intermediate 2, National 5, Higher, New Higher and Advanced Higher.

³ The total requests as a percentage of eligible entries is defined as the total number of requests received divided by the number of eligible entries for Marking Review services. Details on this calculation are provided at the end of this document.

Clerical Checks

The Clerical Check service involves SQA checking the externally assessed materials to make sure every question has been marked and the total number of marks awarded for each paper is correctly added up and recorded. Subjects which are e-marked are not eligible for this service.

Figure 1: Clerical Check Summary Statistics

Clerical Checks	Eligible Entries	Requests	Requests as a percentage of entries	Upgrades	Downgrades	No Change	Changes as a percentage of entries	Changes as a percentage of requests
Intermediate 1	1,024	0	-	-	-	-	-	-
Intermediate 2	9,569	1	<0.05%	0	0	1	0.0%	0.0%
National 5	195,219	14	<0.05%	0	0	14	0.0%	0.0%
Higher	78,068	15	<0.05%	0	0	15	0.0%	0.0%
New Higher	76,879	35	<0.05%	2	0	33	<0.05%	5.7%
Advanced Higher	23,348	4	<0.05%	0	0	4	0.0%	0.0%
Overall	384,107	69	<0.05%	2	0	67	<0.05%	2.9%

- The total number of requests for Clerical Checks was 69, representing less than 0.05% of the total eligible entries for this service.
- The majority of requests for Clerical Checks were at SCQF level 6 (Higher and New Higher level), accounting for 72.5% of all Clerical Check requests.
- 2 changes to grade resulted from Clerical Checks (2.9% of requests resulted in a grade change).

Priority Marking Review

The Priority Marking Review service involves a review by the Principal Assessor or Senior Examiners (not the original marker) to make sure the authorised mark scheme has been applied appropriately to the agreed national standard. A full Clerical Check is also applied. Centres can request this priority service if the candidate's place in further or higher education depends upon the outcome of the review about results.

Figure 2: Priority Marking Review Summary Statistics

Priority Marking Review	Eligible Entries	Requests	Requests as a percentage of entries	Upgrades	Downgrades	No Change	Changes as a percentage of entries	Changes as a percentage of requests
Intermediate 1	1,437	0	-	-	-	-	-	-
Intermediate 2	10,096	14	0.1%	0	0	14	0.0%	0.0%
National 5	274,134	5	<0.05%	1	0	4	<0.05%	20.0%
Higher	92,555	239	0.3%	72	0	167	0.1%	30.1%
New Higher	107,295	168	0.2%	49	0	119	<0.05%	29.2%
Advanced Higher	23,348	145	0.6%	28	0	117	0.1%	19.3%
Overall	508,865	571	0.1%	150	0	421	<0.05%	26.3%

- The total number of requests for a Priority Marking Review was 571, representing 0.1% of the total eligible entries for this service.
- The majority of requests for a Priority Marking Review were at SCQF level 6 (Higher and New Higher level), accounting for 71.3% of all Priority Marking Review requests.
- 150 changes to grade resulted from Priority Marking Reviews (26.3% of requests resulted in a grade change).

Marking Review

The Marking Review service involves a review by the Principal Assessor or Senior Examiners (not the original marker) to make sure the authorised mark scheme has been applied appropriately to the agreed national standard. A full Clerical Check is also applied.

Figure 3: Marking Review Summary Statistics

Marking Review	Eligible Entries	Requests	Requests as a percentage of entries	Upgrades	Downgrades	No Change	Changes as a percentage of entries	Changes as a percentage of requests
Intermediate 1	1,437	7	0.5%	1	0	6	0.1%	14.3%
Intermediate 2	10,096	97	1.0%	17	0	80	0.2%	17.5%
National 5	274,134	3,810	1.4%	586	5	3,219	0.2%	15.5%
Higher	92,555	3,148	3.4%	684	0	2,464	0.7%	21.7%
New Higher	107,295	3,741	3.5%	790	0	2,951	0.7%	21.1%
Advanced Higher	23,348	634	2.7%	143	0	491	0.6%	22.6%
Overall	508,865	11,437	2.2%	2,221	5	9,211	0.4%	19.5%

- The total number of requests for a Marking Review was 11,437, representing 2.2% of the total eligible entries for this service.
- The majority of requests for a Marking Review were at SCQF level 6 (Higher and New Higher level), accounting for 60.2% of all Marking Review requests.
- 2,226 changes to grade resulted from the Marking Reviews, (19.5% of requests resulted in a grade change).

Further Notes

Requests as a Percentage of Entries

A total requests as a percentage of entries has been calculated within the Key Points. Providing an overall figure is complicated by two factors

- A centre can request both a Clerical Check and a Marking Review for a single candidate in a given qualification at a given level and therefore will appear in two of the Results Services tables for the same qualification/level. While this is appropriate when reporting at individual Service level, it does mean that both requests would be counted when reporting across all Services.
- The subjects where a candidate can request a Clerical Check are a subset of the subjects which can request a Marking Review. Therefore there are a different total number of eligible entries for the two services.

While these factors are acknowledged, the total requests as a percentage of entries has been defined as total number of requests received divided by the number of eligible entries for Marking Review services, for the purposes of this report.

The figure should be used as a guide of the relative scale of the requests received and allow comparison over time in future years when trend information is available.

Notation

Percentages are rounded to 1 decimal place. In cases where the rounded percentage would be displayed as 0.0%, to 1 decimal place, '<0.05%' has been used in the summary tables.