

[Home](#)
[About](#)
[Membership](#)
[Regions](#)
[Contact](#)
[Events ▾](#)
[News](#)
[Projects](#)
[Languages Education ▾](#)
[Languages Research](#)
[Achievements](#)
[Links ▾](#)
[Funding sources](#)
[Shaping the future ▾](#)

## 2013 A level results - languages data

### The A level results came out today (15 August 2013). What's been the impact on languages?

You can view the overall results on the [JCQ website](#) - organised by total UK; England only, Northern Ireland only, Wales only.

There follows a summary analysis of the impact on languages, including on individual languages listed by JCQ under 'other'. This was supplied by [Teresa Tinsley](#) of [Alcantara Communications](#).

- Over all subjects, entries for A Level are down by 1.3% in relation to 2012
- A Level language entries (including Irish and Welsh) have fallen by 5% - they now make up only 3.9% of all subject entries (3.8% discounting Irish and Welsh)
- French and German have fallen by 10% and 11% respectively, following on from 5% and 7% declines last year.
- JCQ are claiming that 'facilitating subjects' are growing in popularity, but this is not true for languages. Rather, it seems that pupils are opting for STEM subjects *instead of* languages (backed up by Language Trends findings).
- The movement in entries (across all subjects) is accentuating the gender divide. French in particular is heavily biased towards females (70%-30%), German less so (60%-40%)

#### Impact on particular languages (current numbers in brackets):

- French (11272): down 10% (actually 9.9%) on 2012, making a drop of 26% over 10 years.
- German (4242): down 11% (11.1%) on 2012, making a drop of 28% over 10 years
- Chinese (3326): down 3% on 2012, but has increased by 74% over 10 years – possibly settling after a period of rapid growth?
- Italian (816): down 6% on 2012, making a 3% drop over 10 years
- Welsh (752) L1&L2 combined): down 12% on last year, and down 12% over 10 years
- Urdu (566): down 13%, and down 22% over 10 years
- Japanese (261):down 7%, down by 9% over 10 years
- Spanish (7651): up 4% (4.1%) on 2012, making a 33% increase over 10 years
- Russian (1079): up 7%, and up 90% over 10 years
- Polish (900): down 2%, but up 10 fold in 10 years
- Arabic (643): up 6%, up by 150% in 10 years)
- Irish (310): up 2%, up by 23% in 10 years)
- Turkish (419): up 18%, up 52% in 10 years
- Portuguese (360): up 15%, up by 150% in 10 years
- Dutch (127): down 9%, but has more than trebled in 10 years (trend is now down – maybe reflected influx of Somalis from Holland?)
- Panjabi (189): increase of 3%, also increase of 3% over 10 years, but fluctuating/unclear.
- Persian (164): increase of 6%, and increase of 21% over 10 years
- Modern Greek (122): increase of 10% this year, but decline of 5% over 10 years (small numbers mean fluctuations not really significant)

Read [Teresa's blog](#) too! and see Bernardette Holmes' statement on the [Speak to the Future website](#)

[<< Back to news](#)

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