

GENERAL CERTIFICATE OF SECONDARY EDUCATION

For students in maintained schools in England, Wales and Northern Ireland, it is a legal requirement to study either Single Award Science or Double Award Science or Biology and Chemistry and Physics. The only exception is when dis-application is sanctioned by the Secretary of State. In independent schools the same situation is the norm. The data below therefore applies to students in England, Wales and Northern Ireland.

The number of entries for GCSE **double** award science has **increased** since 1996. This means that the number and proportion of students studying some chemistry to age 16 has **increased**. The figures given below are the total number of entries for GCSE, irrespective of age.

Number of GCSE Entries

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Chemistry	46924	45797	46275	46968	46917	46862	47068	48802	51225	53428	56764	59219
Physics	46452	44892	45687	46685	46627	46477	46511	47953	50404	52568	56035	58391
Biology	61158	47743	49267	47957	48715	48958	49171	51156	53389	56522	60082	63208
Double Science	468652	464761	475232	474405	489913	509242	511871	519575	527017	494450	479789	478028
Single Science	77067	75968	71006	68670	66036	66702	68393	71184	74095	89348	96374	98485
Science*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	57316
Total Entries for Science*	592171	585621	591925	589760	602576	622421	626741	638712	651516	636366	632198	692220

