

GCSE French & German in 2019 with Ofqual 2020 adjustment

Ofqual adjustments for GSCE Fr and Gn were quantified on p.25 of "Requirements for the Calculation of Results in Summer 2020" - 7th July 2020:

For GCSE French and German, national prediction including the following adjustments:
+2% at grades 7, 8 and 9, +1.67% at grade 6, +1.33% at grade 5, +1% at grade 4, +0.67% at grade 3 and +0.33% at grade 2.

These amendments were applied by the exam boards to their national prediction matrices for June 2020 to calculate the adjustments to be made to the calculated grades. To show the impact if Ofqual were to apply the proposed/agreed uplift, the same percentage adjustments have been applied to two sets of data.

1. JCQ - England - this includes all candidates in centres in England incl indept. schools and candidates without KS2 prior attainment (122,803 for French, 41,222 for German)
2. DfE subject Transition Matrices - matched candidates in England, with KS2 scores, from state-funded schools in general (109,139 for French, 37,292 for German)

The prediction matrices used by the exam boards are very similar to the DfE TMs, designed to ensure year-on-year stability and matching candidates with KS2.

Because of the closeness in outcomes after applying the changes to both sets of data, we can be confident about the overall impact of the changes, recognising that there will be small differences when applied to the actual figures in August 2020.

Using JCQ figures for England 9-1 in 2019

The figures below are taken from JCQ "Jurisdictions All Grades 2019.pdf - GCSE 9-1 England"

French

	Fr actual 2019			adjust to be added	Fr + Ofqual adj.			adjusted - actual			from actual to adjusted		
	no.	cumul	cumul %		cumul %	cumul	no.	diff	diff as %	cumul diff	of actual 2019	go up a grade	stay same grade
9	6,263	6,263	5.1%	2%	7.1%	8,719	8,719	2,456	2.00%	2,456	6,263		4,087
8	9,456	15,719	12.8%	2%	14.8%	18,175	9,456	0	0.00%	2,456	9,456	2,456	4,870
7	13,386	29,104	23.7%	2%	25.7%	31,560	13,386	0	0.00%	2,456	13,386	2,456	8,691
6	13,386	42,490	34.6%	1.67%	36.3%	44,541	12,980	-405	-0.33%	2,051	13,386	2,456	9,320
5	23,455	65,945	53.7%	1.33%	55.0%	67,578	23,038	-418	-0.34%	1,633	23,455	2,051	19,271
4	19,648	85,594	69.7%	1.00%	70.7%	86,822	19,243	-405	-0.33%	1,228	19,648	1,633	16,618
3	23,578	109,172	88.9%	0.67%	89.6%	109,995	23,173	-405	-0.33%	823	23,578	1,228	21,112
2	9,210	118,382	96.4%	0.33%	96.7%	118,787	8,793	-418	-0.34%	405	9,210	823	7,915
1	2,579	120,961	98.5%		98.5%	120,961	2,174	-405	-0.33%	0	2,579	405	2,081
U	1,842	122,803	100.0%		100.0%	122,803	1,842	0	0.00%	0	1,842	0	1,666
Tot	122,803			11%		122,803	122,803	0			122,803	13,508	95,631
												11%	89%

How does the Ofqual adjustment work?

Reading across the top line in the table above, there were 6,263 grade 9s in French in 2019, which is 5.1% of the total of 122,803, and so the cumulative percentage gaining grade 9 (and above, but 9 is top) is 5.1%. Ofqual have specified an increase in the cumulative percentage of 2%, so the cumulative percentage becomes $5.1\% + 2\% = 7.1\%$. 7.1% of 122,803 is 6,270, and as this is grade 9, that means that is also the number of grade 9s with the adjustment added. For the following grades, the actual number getting each grade is calculated from the cumulative numbers. The average point score per student rises from 4.83 to 4.94, and increase of 0.11 grades per student.

- So 2,456 (2% of entry) more pupils will gain a grade 9 than do currently (i.e. instead of a grade 8), which would in itself lead to a drop of 2,456 in the number of grade 8s.
- In fact exactly the same number of pupils will gain a grade 8 in total, but as there are 2,456 pupils who originally gained a grade 8 but now will get a grade 9, that means that 2,456 pupil shift upwards out of grade 7 and get a higher grade. So in total, 2,456 more pupils gain a grade 8 or grade 9 than do currently i.e. the cumulative % increase remains at 2% , but $2,456 + 2,456 = 4,912$ pupils have shifted up a grade, whether from grade 8 to grade 9 or grade 7 to grade 8
- Similarly for grade 7 where the number getting a grade 7 stays the same, and still 2,183 more pupils will gain a grade 7 to 9 than do currently i.e. the cumulative % increase remains at 2% , but $2,456 + 2,456 + 2,456 = 7,368$ pupils have shifted up a grade, whether from grade 8 to grade 9 or grade 7 to grade 8 or grade 6 to grade 7
- The same principle continues for grade 6, 5 etc, but there are slightly fewer getting the cumulative increase each time as the percentage increase drops steadily. However, the total number getting a higher grade than they would have done continues to increase

Note that the cumulative difference e.g. "2,456 pupils gain a grade 7 to 9 than do currently". in practice gives one the number gaining a grade 7 who previously gained a grade 6, because the cumulative difference subsumes any changes at a higher grade

German

	Fr actual 2019			adjust to be added	Fr + Ofqual adj.			adjusted - actual			from actual to adjusted		
	no.	cumul	cumul %		cumul %	cumul	no.	diff	diff as %	cumul diff	of actual 2019	go up a grade	stay same grade
9	2,391	2,391	5.8%	2%	7.8%	3,215	3,215	824	2.00%	824	2,391		2,391
8	3,009	5,400	13.1%	2%	15.1%	6,225	3,009	0	0.00%	824	3,009	824	2,185
7	4,576	9,976	24.2%	2%	26.2%	10,800	4,576	0	0.00%	824	4,576	824	3,751
6	5,812	15,788	38.3%	1.67%	40.0%	16,476	5,676	-136	-0.33%	688	5,812	824	4,988
5	8,080	23,868	57.9%	1.33%	59.2%	24,416	7,939	-140	-0.34%	548	8,080	688	7,391
4	7,379	31,246	75.8%	1.00%	76.8%	31,658	7,243	-136	-0.33%	412	7,379	548	6,830
3	6,554	37,801	91.7%	0.67%	92.4%	38,077	6,418	-136	-0.33%	276	6,554	412	6,142
2	2,226	40,027	97.1%	0.33%	97.4%	40,163	2,086	-140	-0.34%	136	2,226	276	1,950
1	660	40,686	98.7%		98.7%	40,686	524	-136	-0.33%	0	660	136	524
U	536	41,222	100.0%		100.0%	41,222	536	0	0.00%	0	536	0	536
Tot	41,222			11%		41,222	41,222	0			41,222	4,534	36,688
												11%	89%

Exactly the same commentary applies to the German numbers as to the French above

The average point score per student rises from 5.03 to 5.14. So the rise of 0.11 is the same in German as in French, but the average score values are higher in German reflecting the higher prior attainment of those taking German.

Summary

French	German		% of pupils
2,456	824	gained grade 8 and would move to grade 9	2%
2,456	824	gained grade 7 and would move to grade 8	2%
2,456	824	gained grade 6 and would move to grade 7	2%
2,051	688	gained grade 5 and would move to grade 6	1.67%
1,633	548	gained grade 4 and would move to grade 5	1.33%
1,228	412	gained grade 3 and would move to grade 4	1.00%
823	276	gained grade 2 and would move to grade 3	0.67%
405	136	gained grade 1 and would move to grade 2	0.33%
0	0	gained grade U and would move to grade 1	
13,508	4,534	Total who would move up a grade	11%

= 11% of entries gain a higher grade in French and also in German

There are cumulative graphs at the end of this document displaying these figures.

Using DfE transition matrices for matched candidates (with KS2 score)

The figures below are taken from DfE 2019 Subject Transition Matrices (of candidates with KS2 prior attainment) - Pupils eligible for TM inclusion are those at the end of KS4 attending state-funded mainstream schools, state-funded special schools, hospital schools and non-maintained special schools who also have KS2 prior attainment records.

French

	Fr actual 2019				Fr + Ofqual adj.			adjusted - actual		from actual to adjusted		
	no.	cumul	cumul %	adjust to be added	cumul %	cumul	no.	diff	cumul diff	of actual 2019	go up a grade	stay same grade
9	4,087	4,087	3.7%	2%	5.7%	6,270	6,270	2,183	2,183	4,087		4,087
8	7,326	11,413	10.5%	2%	12.5%	13,596	7,326	0	2,183	7,326	2,183	5,143
7	11,147	22,560	20.7%	2%	22.7%	24,743	11,147	0	2,183	11,147	2,183	8,964
6	11,776	34,336	31.5%	1.67%	33.1%	36,159	11,416	-360	1,823	11,776	2,183	9,593
5	21,322	55,658	51.0%	1.33%	52.3%	57,110	20,951	-371	1,452	21,322	1,823	19,499
4	18,251	73,909	67.7%	1.00%	68.7%	75,000	17,891	-360	1,091	18,251	1,452	16,799
3	22,340	96,249	88.2%	0.67%	88.9%	96,980	21,980	-360	731	22,340	1,091	21,249
2	8,738	104,987	96.2%	0.33%	96.5%	105,347	8,367	-371	360	8,738	731	8,007

1	2,486	107,473	98.5%		98.5%	107,473	2,126	-360	0		2,486	360	2,126
U	1,666	109,139	100.0%		100.0%	109,139	1,666	0	0		1,666	0	1,666
Tot	109,139						109,139	0			109,139	12,005	97,134
												11%	89%

How does the Ofqual adjustment work?

Reading across the top line in the table above, there were 4,087 grade 9s in French in 2019, which is 3.7% of the total of 109,139, and so the cumulative percentage gaining grade 9 (and above, but can't) is 3.7%. Ofqual have specified an increase in the cumulative percentage of 2%, so the cumulative percentage becomes $3.7\% + 2\% = 5.7\%$. 5.7% of 109,139 is 6,270, and as this is grade 9, that means that is also the number of grade 9s with the adjustment added. For the following grades, the actual number getting each grade is calculated from the cumulative numbers.

The average point score per student rises from 4.68 to 4.79.

- So 2,183 (2% of entry) more pupils will gain a grade 9 than do currently (i.e. instead of a grade 8), which would in itself lead to a drop of 2,183 in the number of grade 8s.
- In fact exactly the same number of pupils will gain a grade 8 in total, but as there are 2,183 pupils who originally gained a grade 8 but now will get a grade 9, that means that 2,183 pupil shift upwards out of grade 7 and get a higher grade. So in total, 2,183 more pupils gain a grade 8 or grade 9 than do currently i.e. the cumulative % increase remains at 2% , but $2,183 + 2,183 = 4,366$ pupils have shifted up a grade, whether from grade 8 to grade 9 or grade 7 to grade 8
- Similarly for grade 7 where the number getting a grade 7 stays the same, and still 2,183 more pupils will gain a grade 7 to 9 than do currently i.e. the cumulative % increase remains at 2% , but $2,183 + 2,183 + 2,183 = 6,549$ pupils have shifted up a grade, whether from grade 8 to grade 9 or grade 7 to grade 8 or grade 6 to grade 7
- The same principle continues for grade 6, 5 etc, but there are slightly fewer getting the cumulative increase each time as the percentage increase drops steadily. However, the total number getting a higher grade than they would have done continues to increase

Note that the cumulative difference e.g. "2,183 pupils gain a grade 7 to 9 than do currently". in practice gives one the number gaining a grade 7 who previously gained a grade 6, because the cumulative difference subsumes any changes at a higher grade

German

	Gn actual 2019			adjust to be added	Gn + Ofqual adj.			adjusted - actual		from actual to adjusted		
	no.	cumul	cumul %		cumul %	cumul	no.	diff	cumul diff	of actual 2019	go up a grade	stay same grade
9	1,479	1,479	4.0%	2%	6.0%	2,225	2,225	746	746	1,479		1,479
8	2,417	3,896	10.4%	2%	12.4%	4,642	2,417	0	746	2,417	746	1,671
7	3,969	7,865	21.1%	2%	23.1%	8,611	3,969	0	746	3,969	746	3,223
6	5,313	13,178	35.3%	1.67%	37.0%	13,801	5,190	-123	623	5,313	746	4,567
5	7,532	20,710	55.5%	1.33%	56.9%	21,206	7,405	-127	496	7,532	623	6,909
4	7,011	27,721	74.3%	1.00%	75.3%	28,094	6,888	-123	373	7,011	496	6,515

3	6,286	34,007	91.2%	0.67%	91.9%	34,257	6,163	-123	250		6,286	373	5,913
2	2,159	36,166	97.0%	0.33%	97.3%	36,289	2,032	-127	123		2,159	250	1,909
1	630	36,796	98.7%		98.7%	36,796	507	-123	0		630	123	507
U	496	37,292	100.0%		100.0%	37,292	496	0	0		496	0	496
Tot	37,292						37,292	0			37,292	4,102	33,190
												11%	89%

Exactly the same commentary applies to the German numbers as to the French above

The average point score per student rises from 4.88 to 4.99. So the rise of 0.11 is the same in German as in French, but the average score values are higher in German reflecting the higher prior attainment of those taking German.


Summary

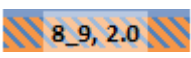
French	German		% of pupils
2,183	746	gained grade 8 and would move to grade 9	2%
2,183	746	gained grade 7 and would move to grade 8	2%
2,183	746	gained grade 6 and would move to grade 7	2%
1,823	623	gained grade 5 and would move to grade 6	1.67%
1,452	496	gained grade 4 and would move to grade 5	1.33%
1,091	373	gained grade 3 and would move to grade 4	1.00%
731	250	gained grade 2 and would move to grade 3	0.67%
360	123	gained grade 1 and would move to grade 2	0.33%
0	0	gained grade U and would move to grade 1	
12,005	4,102	Total who would move up a grade	11%

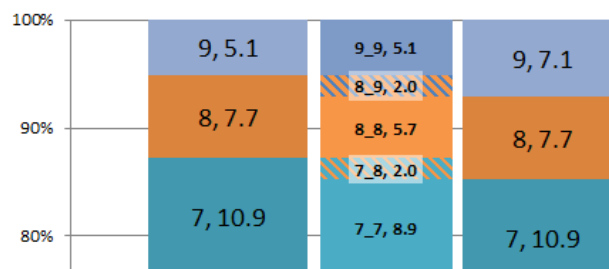
= 11% of entries gain a higher grade in both French and German

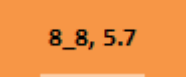
Graphs using JCQ figures for England 9-1 in 2019

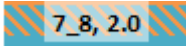
The graphs on the next pages represent the figures in the first section. In the central column,

9_9, 5.1  signifies that it represents the 5.1% of pupils who gained a 9 in 2019 and would still gain a 9 (with the extra 2% Ofqual adjustment),

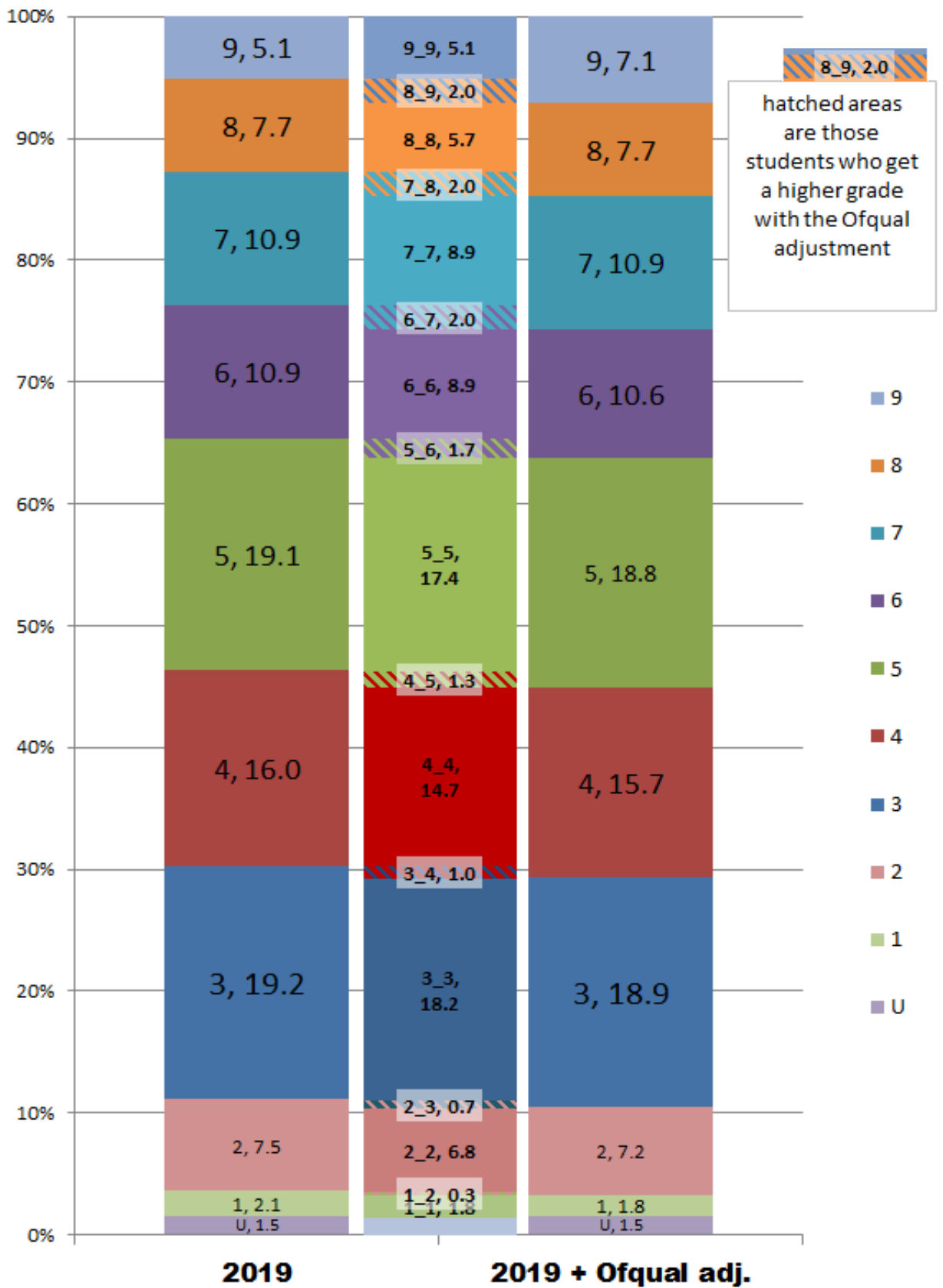
8_9, 2.0  (hatched blue and orange) signifies that it represents the 2.0% of pupils who gained a 8 in 2019 and would gain a 9 with the extra 2% Ofqual adjustment, making 7.1% overall with a 9 after adjustment



8_8, 7.7  signifies that it represents the 5.7% of pupils who gained a 8 in 2019 AND would still gain a 8 (with the extra 2% Ofqual adjustment),

8_9, 2.0  (hatched cyan and orange) signifies that it represents the 2.0% of pupils who gained a 7 in 2019 and would gain a 8 with the extra 2% Ofqual adjustment, making 7.1% overall with a 8 after adjustment

Comparison Fr GCSE 2019 v+ Ofqual adj



Comparison Gn GCSE 2019 v + Ofqual adj

