


## Commentary:

There were declines in performance for both year 4 and 8 students between 1999 and 2003, larger for year 4 than year 8. Both year 4 and year 8 students in 2003 had more difficulty when required to use subtraction to answer a question (Q2) or, for year 4 students, to identify features visible from a given position (Q3). Overall, year 8 students interpreted the map more correctly than year 4 students ( $70 \%$ cf $34 \%$ achieved a total score of six or more in 2003).

