



A National Statistics publication for Scotland



Scottish Government
Riaghaltas na h-Alba
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ECONOMY AND LABOUR MARKET

Public Sector Employment in Scotland Statistics for 3rd Quarter 2021

About this publication

The statistics in this release are based on administrative records and surveys of individual public sector bodies carried out by the Scottish Government and the Office for National Statistics (ONS).

This is a snapshot of employment as at September 2021, therefore the data relates to employment during the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic in Scotland.

The publication includes information on public sector employment in Scotland with distinctions made for employment in devolved bodies and reserved bodies (located in Scotland). The public sector is defined based on UK National Accounts definitions. The statistics in this release were designated National Statistics in December 2009.

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Quarterly Public Sector Employment in Scotland

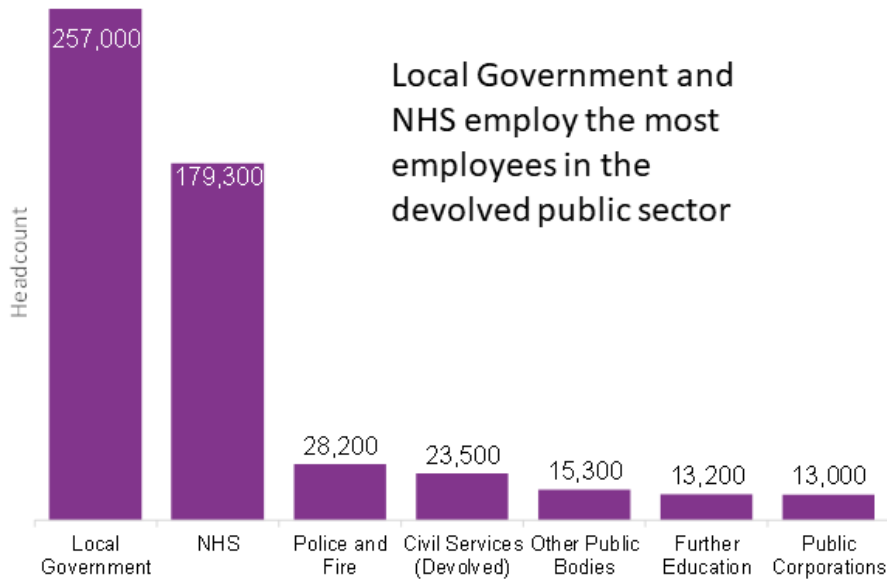
Q3 2021

Public Sector
Employment
Headcount
585,400
↑ 2.7%



Private Sector
Employment
Headcount
2,054,200
↓ 1.0%

Devolved Public Sector Headcount: 529,800 ↑ 2.8%

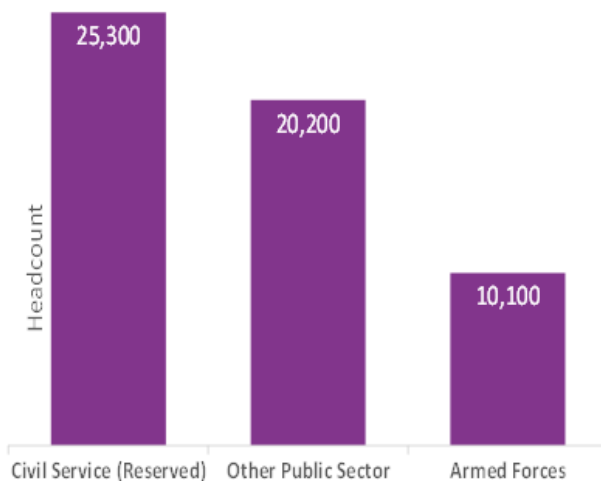


Local Government and NHS employ the most employees in the devolved public sector

Change –
Sep 2020
to Sep
2021

↑ 1.8% ↑ 5.1% ↓ 0.2% ↑ 9.6% ↓ 2.4% ↓ 2.2% ↓ 3.8%

Reserved Public Sector Headcount: 55,600 ↑ 2.5%



Change –
Sep 2020
to Sep
2021

↑ 4.9% ↓ 0.6% ↑ 3.1%

Over the year, the devolved public sector and reserved public sector headcounts both increased.

Devolved civil service saw the largest percentage increase (9.6%), while public corporations decreased by 3.8%.

Source: Public Sector Employment, Joint Staffing Watch, Scottish Government, ONS
Changes between Sep 2020 and Sep 2021 are shown

Summary

Key points (based on headcount data) include:

- In September 2021, there were 585,400 people employed in the public sector in Scotland, accounting for 22.2% of total employment¹.
- In September 2021, employment in the public sector was 15,590 (2.7%) more than in September 2020.
- When major reclassifications are excluded, the public sector increased between September 2020 and September 2021 by around 16,000 (2.8%)².
- Of the total 585,400 people employed in the public sector in Scotland, 529,800 (90.5%) were employed in the devolved public sector in September 2021, 14,230 (2.8%) more than in September 2020.
- Between September 2020 and September 2021, employment in the devolved public sector increased in the NHS by 8,730 (5.1%), in the Civil Service by 2,060 (9.6%) and in Local Government by 4,670 (1.8%). Employment in the devolved public sector decreased in Further Education Colleges by -290 (-2.2%), Police and Fire Related Services by -50 (-0.2%), Other Public Bodies by -380 (-2.4%) and in Public Corporations by -520 (-3.8%).
- In September 2021, 55,600 (9.5%) people in the public sector were employed in the reserved public sector in Scotland, 1,360 (2.5%) more than in September 2020.
- Between September 2020 and September 2021, employment within the reserved public sector increased in the Civil Service by 1,180 (4.9%) and in Armed Forces by 300 (3.1%). Employment decreased in Other Public Sector by -120 (-0.6%).

¹ **Important Note:** Estimates for **total employment and private sector employment** are based on the Labour Force Survey, ONS.

² Further details on major reclassifications are provided on page 5 and online at <https://www.gov.scot/publications/about-public-sector-employment-statistics/> This includes several Train Operating Companies (TOCs) included within the public sector as at 1st April 2020.

About this publication

Major Reclassifications

An outline of major reclassifications which have taken place in the Scottish public sector since 2013 are outlined here:

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/about-public-sector-employment-statistics/pages/classifications/>

A separate public sector series excluding the effects of these major reclassifications has been included in this publication to show the impact of the reclassifications on the number of people employed in the public sector.

More information is available on the Public Sector Employment Web Section.

National Accounts Classifications

An outline of National Accounts classifications which have taken place in the Scottish public sector since 2015 are outlined here:

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/about-public-sector-employment-statistics/pages/classifications/>

In December 2020, Moredun Research Institute was assessed by the Office for National Statistics as not being subject to public control and therefore reclassified from a central government body to the non-profit institutions serving households sector. The classification applies from January 1994. In line with the Public Sector Employment revision policy, the data for this organisation has been removed from the full series within this publication.

Public Sector Employment Web section

The Public Sector Employment Web section provides additional information to this National Statistics publication:

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/public-sector-employment-statistics-web-tables/>

It contains detailed information including:

- Local government employment by local authority for the current quarter. A time series of total local government employment from Q1 1999 and by gender from Q1 2011.
- Detailed tables showing a full time series of data - all quarters back to Q1 1999 – are also available to download.
- Background notes outlining the methodology used to compile this series.

UK Comparisons

Public Sector Employment for Government Office Regions and Nations of the UK can be found in the Office for National Statistics Publication.

Comparisons to UK data should be made using non-seasonally adjusted UK data.

See the regional tables at:

<http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/rel/pse/public-sector-employment/index.html>.

Background Notes

Statistics prior to Q1 2008 are estimates. These have been calculated using the total UK reserved public sector employment figure and applying to Scotland on a pro-rata basis as regional level data has only been collected from Q1 2008 onwards.

Background notes about the information contained in our PSE series are available at the following web section:

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/about-public-sector-employment-statistics/pages/background-notes/>

Devolved and Reserved Civil Service Tables

Tables and commentary on the devolved and reserved civil service are not included in this summary. However, the full time series of data for the devolved and reserved civil service (including September 2021 data), including Scottish Government, Scottish Government Agencies, Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal and Non-Ministerial Departments are updated and published in our related web tables publication section (Tables 5 and 6 for headcount figures and tables 12 and 13 for full-time equivalent figures):

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/public-sector-employment-statistics-web-tables/>

Next Publication: March 2022

1. Total Employment and Public and Private Sector Employment in Scotland; Headcount

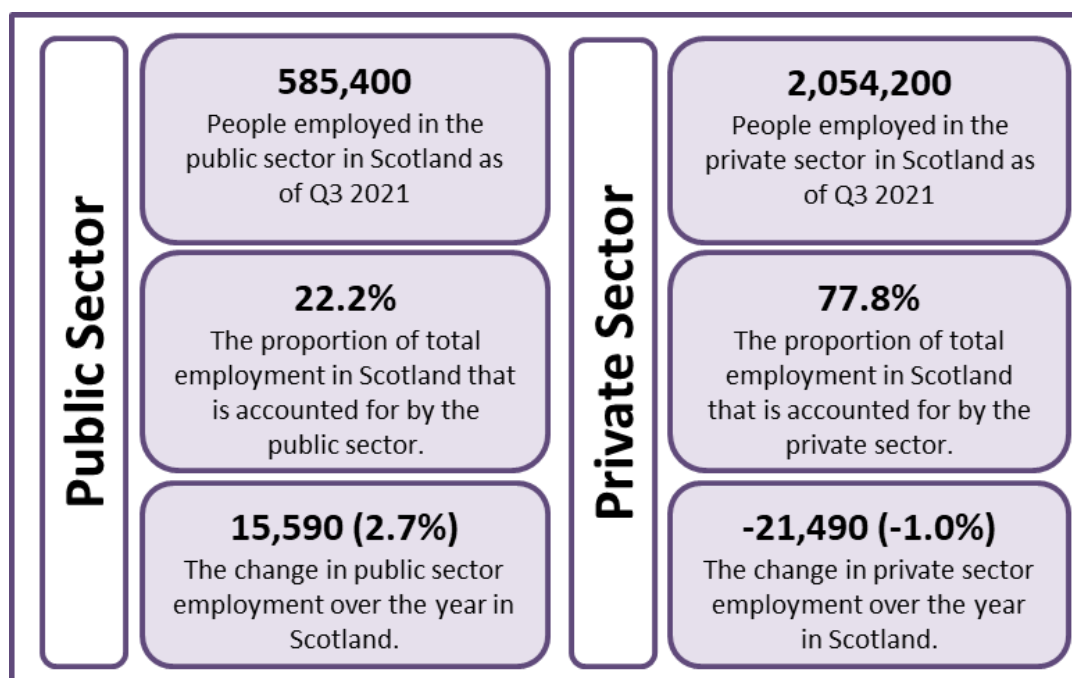
(see Table 1)

Public sector employment increased by 15,590 (up 2.7%) between September 2020 and September 2021. This increase in public sector employment is mainly due to an increase in the devolved public sector.

The public sector is defined according to the [UK National Accounts Classifications Guide](#)

Figure 1 provides a summary of total employment in Scotland by public and private sector.

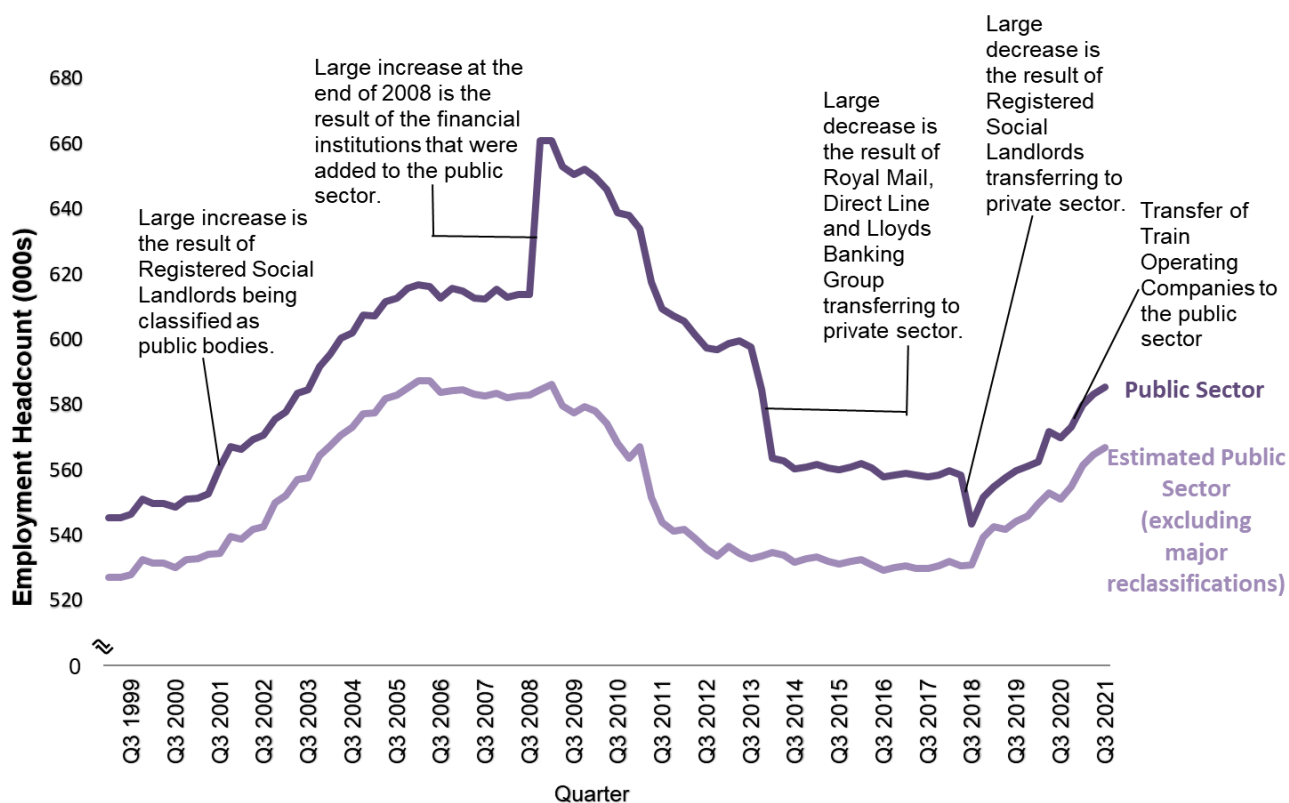
Figure 1: Public and Private* Sector Employment in Scotland as at September 2021



Source: Public Sector Employment in Scotland, Quarter 3 2021

* **Important Note:** Estimates for **private sector employment** are based on the Labour Force Survey, ONS.

Chart 1: Public Sector Employment in Scotland between March 1999 and September 2021, Headcount, non-seasonally adjusted



Source: Public Sector Employment in Scotland, Quarter 3 2021

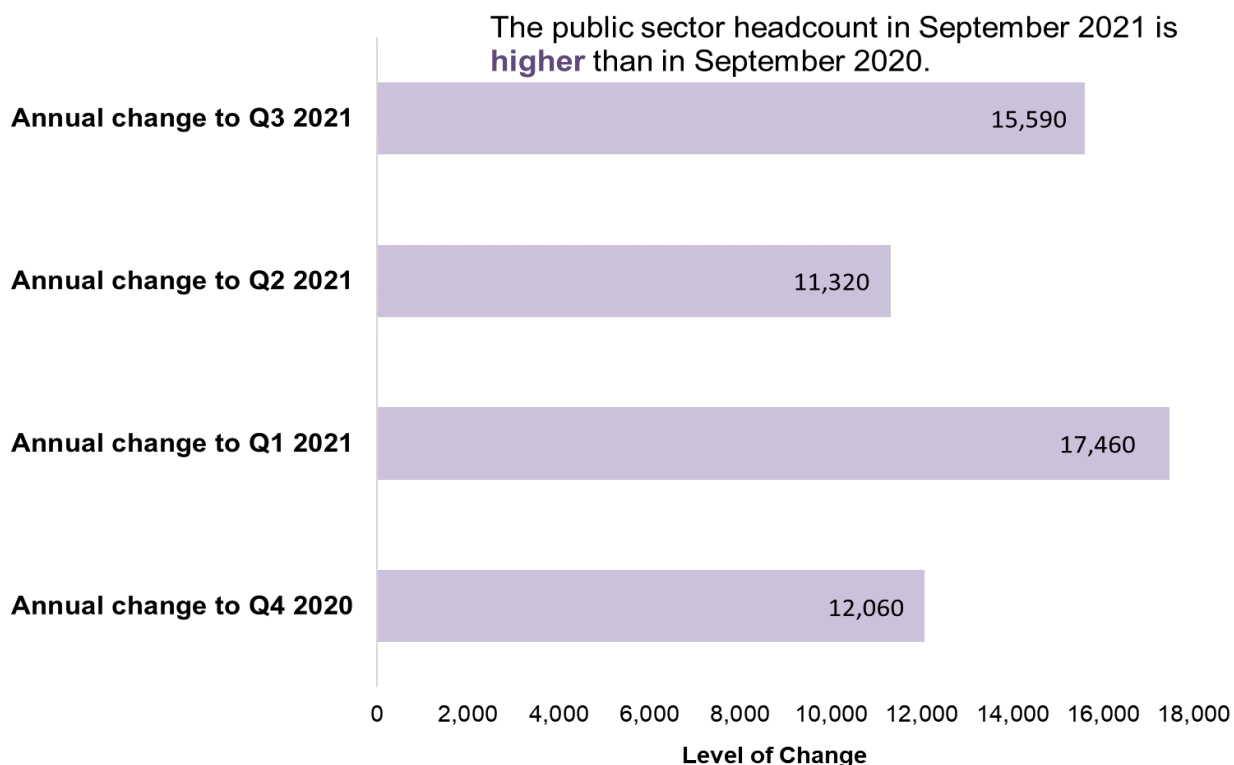
Chart 1 shows that the number of people employed in the public sector remained relatively constant between Q1 2014 and Q2 2018, before falling in Q3 2018 and rising again from Q4 2018 onwards. Excluding the effects of major reclassifications³ (i.e. taking out the headcounts for all large organisations listed in footnote 3 from the overall numbers), the number of people employed in the public sector gradually reached a peak in Q2 2006, decreased to Q3 2013 and remained relatively constant until Q3 2018. The increase between Q3 2018 and Q4 2018 is mainly due to Cordia services moving back under Glasgow City Council services and the series has continued to rise from Q4 2018 onwards.

Chart 2 shows the annual change in employment for the public sector. Employment increased by 15,590 between September 2020 and September 2021, driven mainly by increases in the devolved public sector headcount. The devolved public sector headcount has risen due to increases in the NHS, local government and the devolved Civil Service.

³ Major reserved reclassifications include Royal Bank of Scotland plc, Lloyds Banking Group plc, Northern Rock plc, Lloyds TSB Commercial Finance, Lloyds Bank Asset Finance, Scottish Widows, Direct Line, Royal Mail Group plc, (known as the Post Office Ltd (until Q2 2006) and Network Rail. Devolved reclassifications include Registered Social Landlords, with Train Operating Companies split across Reserved and Devolved responsibility.

The annual changes in Chart 2 prior to Q2 2021 show the effect of the inclusion of several Train Operating Companies (TOCs) within the public sector from 1st April 2020 onwards alongside increases in the NHS, local government and devolved Civil Service.

Chart 2: Annual Change in Employment for Public Sector, Headcount



Source: Public Sector Employment in Scotland, Quarter 3 2021

Impact of Excluding Major Reclassifications from Public Sector

If the major reclassifications³ were to be excluded from the public sector series (i.e. the headcounts for all large organisations listed in footnote 3 were taken out of the overall numbers), there would be around 567,000 people employed in the public sector in September 2021. This was 21.5% of the total employment in Scotland compared with 22.2% if major reclassifications are included.

Public sector employment, excluding the effects of the major reclassifications, would be around 16,000 (2.8%) higher in September 2021 compared with September 2020. This shows that the increase over the year is due to increases in substantive public sector organisations.

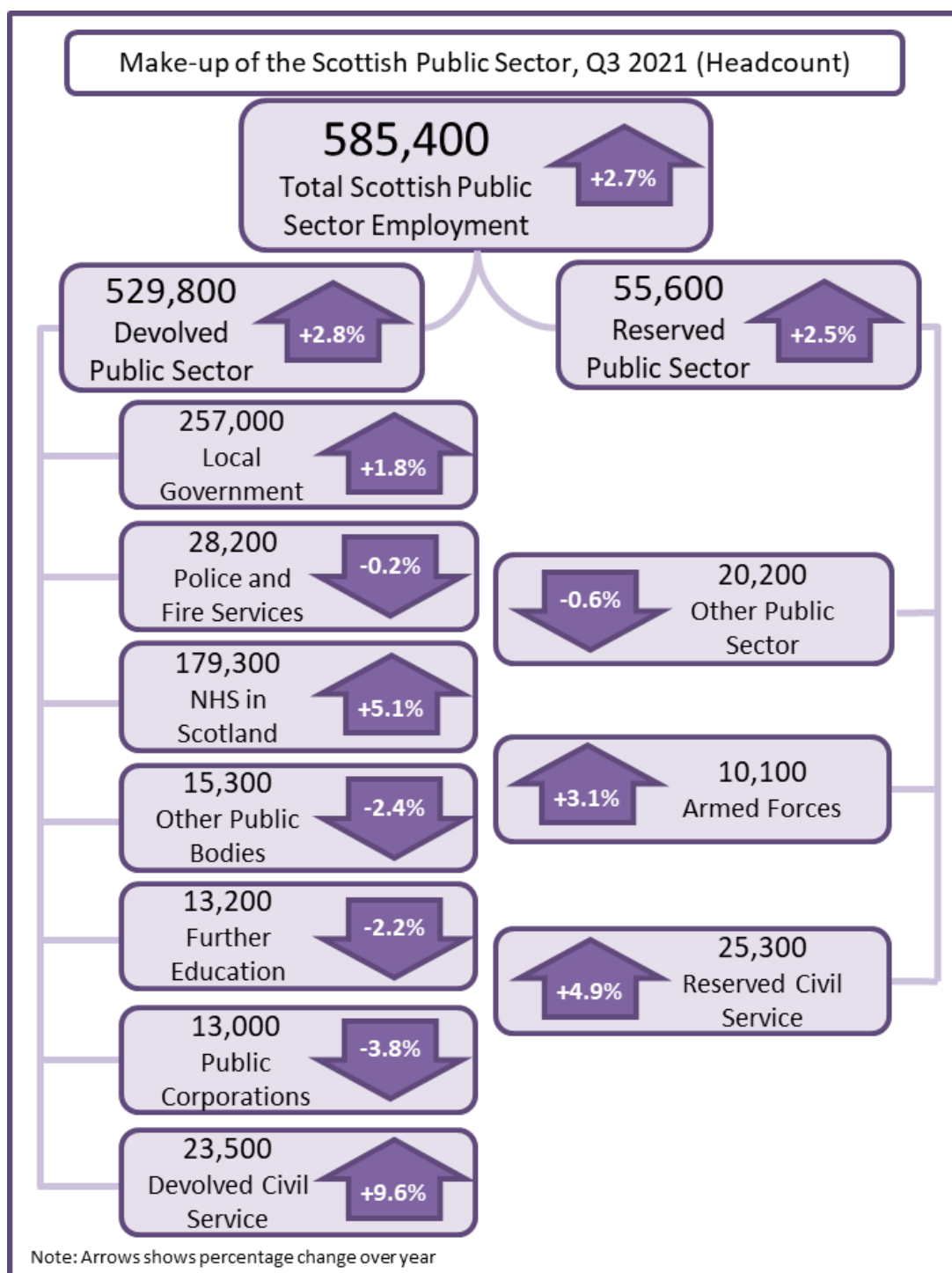
2. Public Sector Employment by Devolved and Reserved Responsibility; Headcount

(see Tables 2, 3 and 4)

The devolved public sector headcount was 2.8% higher and the reserved public sector was 2.5% higher as at September 2021 compared with September 2020. Devolved Civil Service saw the largest percentage increase (9.6%) in the Devolved public sector, while Public Corporations had the largest decrease (-3.8%). In the Reserved public sector, Reserved Civil Service saw the largest percentage increase (4.9%), while Other Public Sector decreased by -0.6%.

The devolved public sector covers those bodies which are the responsibility of the Scottish Government or Scottish Parliament while the reserved public sector in Scotland covers those bodies for which the UK Government has ministerial responsibility.

Figure 2: Make-up of the Scottish Public Sector as at September 2021, Headcount⁴



Source: Public Sector Employment in Scotland, Quarter 3 2021

Changes in the devolved and reserved public sector are explored in more detail in sections 3 and 4 respectively.

⁴ For further details on the make-up of the Scottish Public Sector, please see the background notes for this publication: <https://www.gov.scot/publications/about-public-sector-employment-statistics/pages/background-notes/>

3. Devolved Public Sector Employment in Scotland; Headcount

(see Table 3)

Employment in the devolved public sector was 14,230 (2.8%) higher at 529,800 in September 2021 compared with 515,600 in September 2020.

The devolved public sector includes:

Devolved Civil Service (see section 5),

Local Government, covering Scottish Local Authorities, Police and Fire Services (up to Q1 2013), Valuation Joint Boards and Regional Transport Partnerships,

Police and Fire Services (Q2 2013 onwards),

NHS in Scotland,

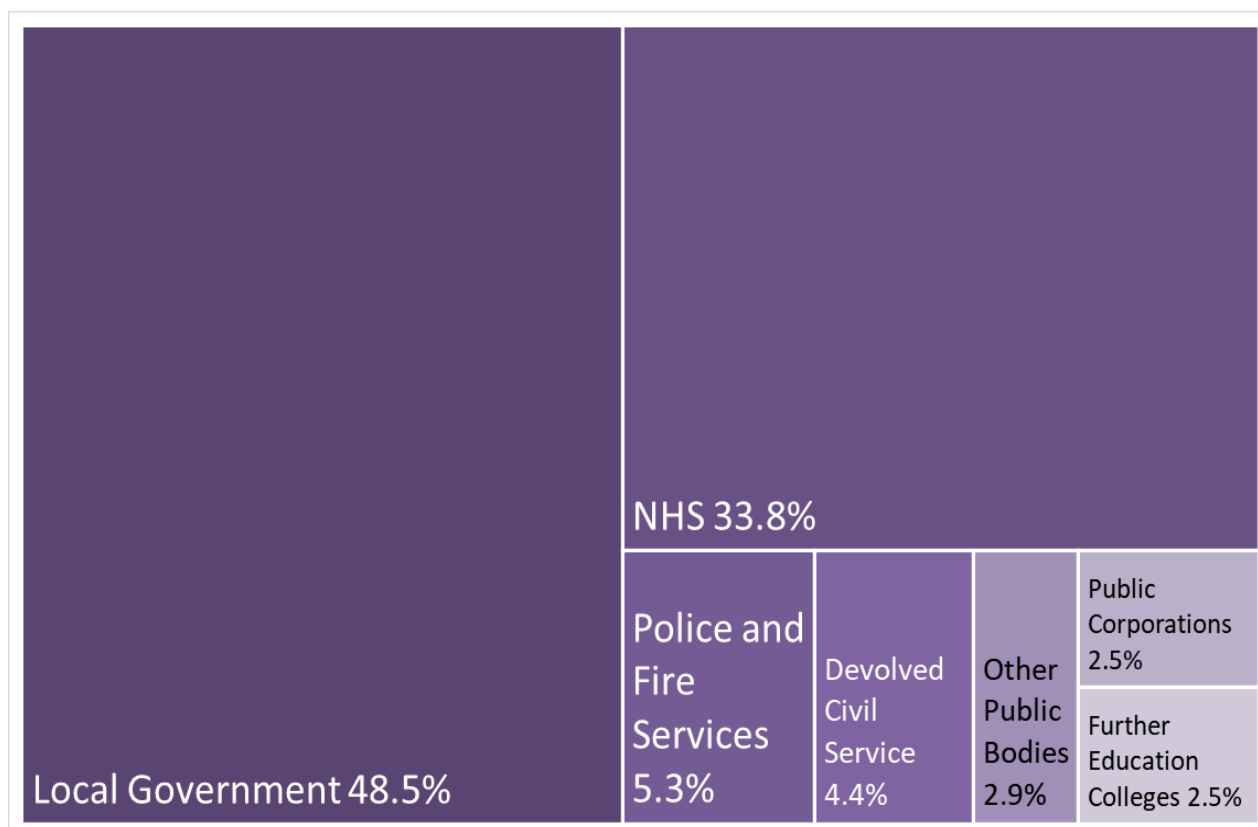
Further Education Colleges,

Devolved Public Corporations,

Other Devolved Public Bodies (which covers Non-Departmental Bodies and other bodies).

Chart 3 shows the size of each group in the devolved public sector as at September 2021. Local Government and NHS employ the largest proportion of employees in the devolved public sector.

Chart 3: Breakdown of Devolved Public Sector Employment by Category as at September 2021, Headcount



Source: Public Sector Employment in Scotland, Quarter 3 2021
 Note: Totals may not equal the sum of the individual parts due to rounding

The increase over the year in the overall devolved public sector headcount was due to:

- Employment levels in the NHS increasing by 8,730 (5.1%) to 179,300 in September 2021⁵;

⁵ A detailed breakdown on this information by staffing group was published by NHS Education for Scotland on 7 December 2021: <https://turasdata.nes.nhs.scot/workforce-official-statistics/nhsscotland-workforce/publications/>

- Employment in the Devolved Civil Service increasing by 2,060 (9.6%) to 23,500 in September 2021⁶; and
- Employment in Scottish Local Government increasing by 4,670 (1.8%) to 257,000 in September 2021;

while:

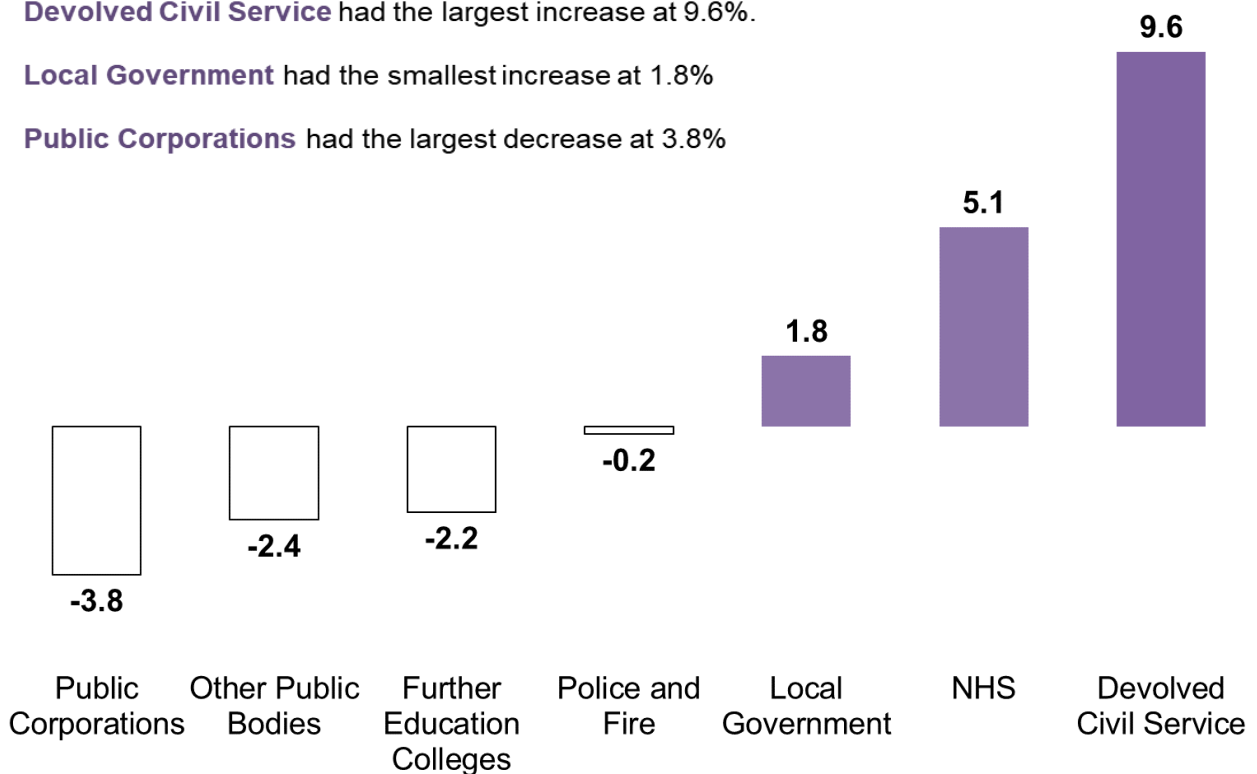
- Employment in Public Corporations decreased by -520 (-3.8%) to 13,000 in September 2021;
- Employment in the Police and Fire Services decreased by -50 (-0.2%) to 28,200 in September 2021;
- Employment in Further Education Colleges fell by -290 (-2.2%) to 13,200 in September 2021; and
- Employment in Other Public Bodies fell by -380 (-2.4%) to 15,300 in September 2021.

Figure 3: Percentage Change (from September 2020 to September 2021) in the Devolved Public Sector, Headcount

Devolved Civil Service had the largest increase at 9.6%.

Local Government had the smallest increase at 1.8%

Public Corporations had the largest decrease at 3.8%



⁶ A more detailed breakdown is published in related [web tables](#)

4. Reserved Public Sector Employment in Scotland; Headcount

(see Table 4)

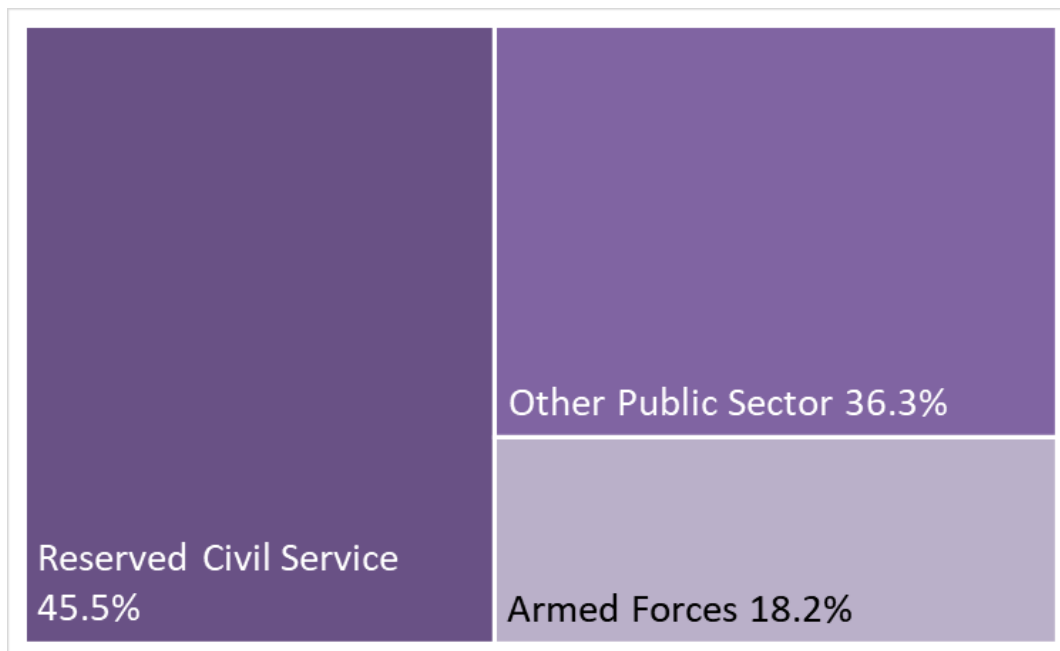
The number of people employed in the reserved public sector in September 2021 was 55,600, which is 1,360 (2.5%) higher than in September 2020.

The reserved public sector employment includes:

- Reserved Civil Service (see section 5);
- Armed Forces;
- Other Public Sector (which covers Public Sector Financial Institutions, Non-Departmental Bodies and Other Bodies).

Chart 4 shows the size of each group in the reserved public sector as at September 2021. The reserved civil service employs the largest proportion of employees in the reserved public sector.

Chart 4: Breakdown of Reserved Public Sector Employment by Sector as at September 2021, Headcount



Source: Public Sector Employment in Scotland, Quarter 3 2021
Note: Totals may not equal the sum of the individual parts due to rounding.

The increase over the year in the overall reserved public sector headcount was due to:

- Employment levels for the Reserved Civil Service increasing by 1,180 (4.9%) to 25,300 in September 2021; and
- Employment levels for the Armed Forces increasing by 300 (3.1%) to 10,100 in September 2021;

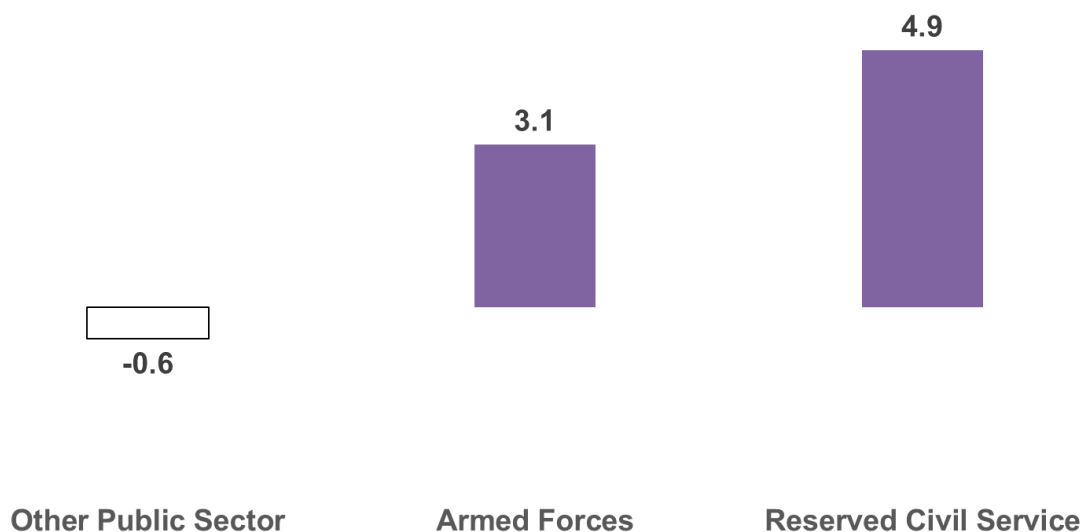
while:

- Employment levels for Other Public Sector⁷ decreased by -120 (-0.6%) from 20,300 in September 2020 to 20,200 in September 2021.

Figure 4: Percentage Change (from September 2020 to September 2021) in the Reserved Public Sector, Headcount

Reserved Civil Service had the largest increase at 4.9%

Other Public Sector had the largest decrease at -0.6%



⁷ Public corporations, public sector financial institutions and public bodies have been combined into 'other public sector' to ensure individual organisation employment figures are not disclosed.

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These tables include comparisons for Q3 in 1999 and 2015 to 2021 only. A complete time series, including all quarters back to Q1 1999 is provided in the excel spreadsheets published at the public sector employment web section <https://www.gov.scot/publications/public-sector-employment-statistics-web-tables/>

Table 1: Number of people employed by public and private sector; Scotland, Headcount¹

Not Seasonally Adjusted

Quarter	Total Employment ⁶	Private Sector ²		Public Sector		Estimated Private Sector including major reclassifications ^{3,4}		Estimated Public Sector excluding major reclassifications ^{3,5}	
	Level	Level	Percentage of total employment	Level	Percentage of total employment	Level	Percentage of total employment	Level	Percentage of total employment
Q3 1999 r	2,293,000	1,746,200	76.2%	546,400	23.8%	1,765,000	77.0%	528,000	23.0%
Q3 2015 r	2,620,000	2,059,700	78.6%	560,100	21.4%	2,088,000	79.7%	531,000	20.3%
Q3 2016 r	2,600,000	2,042,000	78.5%	558,000	21.5%	2,071,000	79.6%	529,000	20.4%
Q3 2017 r	2,666,000	2,107,600	79.1%	558,000	20.9%	2,136,000	80.1%	530,000	19.9%
Q3 2018 r	2,662,000	2,118,500	79.6%	543,500	20.4%	2,131,000	80.1%	531,000	19.9%
Q3 2019 r	2,616,000	2,056,300	78.6%	559,900	21.4%	2,072,000	79.2%	544,000	20.8%
Q3 2020 r	2,646,000	2,075,700	78.5%	569,800	21.5%	2,094,000	79.2%	551,000	20.8%
Q3 2021	2,640,000	2,054,200	77.8%	585,400	22.2%	2,073,000	78.5%	567,000	21.5%
Change on year to:									
Q3 2021	-5,900	-21,490	-0.6 p.p.	15,590	0.6 p.p.	-22,000	-0.6 p.p.	16,000	0.6 p.p.
% change on year:									
Q3 2021	-0.2%	-1.0%		2.7%		-1.0%		2.8%	

r = minor reclassification and revisions to data

Important Note: Estimates for total employment and private sector employment are based on the Labour Force Survey, ONS. Labour Force Survey (LFS) estimates from Jan-Mar 2020 onwards were reweighted in July 2021 to new populations derived using growth rates from HM Revenue and Customs (HMRC) Real Time Information (RTI) to allow for different trends during the Covid-19 pandemic. These revisions were included in the PSE publication released on 14 September 2021. Q3 2020 LFS estimates in this table may differ from those previously published.

Notes:

p.p. - percentage points

1. Employment figures have been rounded to the nearest hundred, unless otherwise stated. Change on year rounded to the nearest ten. Totals may not equal the sum of individual parts due to rounding.
2. Private sector is derived as the difference between the Labour Force Survey 'Total employment' workforce based estimate for the whole of Scotland (not seasonally adjusted) and the public sector estimate (derived from individual organisation statistical returns).
3. Major reclassifications include: Royal Bank of Scotland plc, Lloyds Banking Group plc, Northern Rock plc, Lloyds TSB Commercial Finance, Lloyds Bank Asset Finance, Scottish Widows, Direct Line, Royal Mail Group plc, Post Office Ltd (until Q2 2006), Network Rail, Registered Social Landlords and Train Operating Companies.
4. Private sector including major reclassifications includes the figures for the above organisations in the private sector series when they were part of the public sector and are rounded to the nearest thousand.
5. Public sector excluding major reclassifications excludes the figures for the above organisations from the public sector series when they were part of the public sector and are rounded to the nearest thousand.
6. Total employment figures are rounded to the nearest thousand and are taken from Labour Force Survey (LFS).

Table 2: Public sector employment by devolved and reserved sector; Scotland, Headcount and Full-time equivalent¹
Not Seasonally Adjusted

Quarter	Headcount			Full-time equivalent		
	Total Public Sector	Devolved Public Sector ²	Reserved Public Sector ³	Total Public Sector	Devolved Public Sector ²	Reserved Public Sector ³
Q3 1999 r	546,400	471,600	74,700	457,600	386,300	71,200
Q3 2015 r	560,100	502,800	57,200	479,700	426,000	53,600
Q3 2016 r	558,000	501,000	57,000	478,100	424,600	53,500
Q3 2017 r	558,000	501,700	56,300	479,200	426,300	52,900
Q3 2018 r	543,500	488,300	55,200	466,000	414,100	51,900
Q3 2019 r	559,900	502,900	57,000	479,700	426,000	53,600
Q3 2020 r	569,800	515,600	54,200	489,700	438,500	51,100
Q3 2021	585,400	529,800	55,600	504,700	452,000	52,700
Change on year to:						
Q3 2021	15,590	14,230	1,360	15,010	13,470	1,540
% change on year:						
Q3 2021	2.7%	2.8%	2.5%	3.1%	3.1%	3.0%

r = minor reclassification and revisions to data

Notes:

1. Employment figures have been rounded to the nearest hundred. Change on year rounded to the nearest ten. Percentages are based on unrounded figures. Totals may not equal the sum of individual parts due to rounding.
2. Devolved Public Sector consists of the following staff groups: Civil Service, Other Public Bodies, NHS, Further Education Colleges, Local Government and Public Corporations (as shown in Table 3).
3. Reserved Public Sector consists of the following staff groups: Civil Service, Armed Forces, Other Public Sector (as shown in Table 4)

Table 3: Total devolved public sector employment by sector; Scotland, Headcount^{1,4}
Not Seasonally Adjusted

Quarter	Total Devolved Public Sector	NHS	Civil Service	Police and Fire Services ²	Further Education Colleges ³	Other Public Bodies ³	Local Government ²	Public Corporations
Q3 1999 r	471,600	129,700	14,600	-	15,700	8,400	294,000	9,000
Q3 2015 r	502,800	160,900	18,000	28,200	13,800	14,200	245,000	22,000
Q3 2016 r	501,000	161,800	16,800	28,100	14,000	15,500	242,000	23,000
Q3 2017 r	501,700	162,700	17,200	27,700	13,500	15,500	242,000	23,000
Q3 2018 r	488,300	162,900	17,800	27,600	13,800	16,100	242,000	8,000
Q3 2019 r	502,900	164,800	20,300	28,100	13,900	16,000	251,000	9,000
Q3 2020	515,600	170,600	21,400	28,300	13,500	15,700	252,000	14,000
Q3 2021	529,800	179,300	23,500	28,200	13,200	15,300	257,000	13,000
Change on year to:								
Q3 2021	14,230	8,730	2,060	-50	-290	-380	4,670	-520
% change on year:								
Q3 2021	2.8%	5.1%	9.6%	-0.2%	-2.2%	-2.4%	1.8%	-3.8%

r = minor reclassification and revisions to data

Notes:

1. Employment figures have been rounded to the nearest hundred, with the exception of local government and public corporation figures which are rounded to the nearest thousand; change on year rounded to the nearest ten; percentages are based on unrounded figures. "-" denotes blank entries. Totals may not equal the sum of individual parts due to rounding.
2. Police and Fire Reform: From Q2 2013 Police and Fire Services have been reclassified as central government rather than local government (as their predecessors were). All police staff are employed by the Scottish Police Authority (SPA) whether deployed with the SPA or with the Police Service of Scotland.
3. Information for further education colleges in Scotland is based on collected information from Q4 2010. The method used to create the back series is detailed in the background notes of this publication.
4. For further information on interpreting these series, see the series reclassification guide or background notes of the publication.

Table 4: Total reserved public sector employment by sector; Scotland, Headcount^{1,3}
Not Seasonally Adjusted

Quarter	Total Reserved Public Sector	Civil Service	Armed Forces	Public Bodies ²	Public Corporations ²	Public Sector Financial Institutions ²	Other Public Sector ²
Q3 1999	74,700	33,900	15,000	5,900	19,900	-	25,800
Q3 2015	57,200	25,600	9,800	*	*	*	21,800
Q3 2016	57,000	25,500	10,000	*	*	*	21,500
Q3 2017	56,300	25,700	9,800	*	*	*	20,800
Q3 2018	55,200	25,000	9,700	*	*	*	20,500
Q3 2019	57,000	24,600	9,700	*	*	*	22,800
Q3 2020	54,200	24,100	9,800	*	*	*	20,300
Q3 2021	55,600	25,300	10,100	*	*	*	20,200
Change on year to:							
Q3 2021	1,360	1,180	300	n/a	n/a	n/a	-120
% change on year:							
Q3 2021	2.5%	4.9%	3.1%	n/a	n/a	n/a	-0.6%

Notes:

1. Figures have been rounded to the nearest hundred. Change on year rounded to the nearest ten. Percentages are based on unrounded figures. "-" denotes blank entries and "*" denotes entries that have been suppressed for disclosure reasons. Totals may not equal the sum of individual parts due to rounding.

2. Public corporations, public sector financial institutions and public bodies, have been combined into 'other public sector' to ensure individual organisation figures are not disclosed.

3. For further information on interpreting these series, see the series reclassification guide or background notes of the publication.

Table 5: Total devolved public sector employment by sector; Scotland, Full-time equivalent ^{1,4}

Not Seasonally Adjusted

Quarter	Total Devolved Public Sector	NHS	Civil Service	Police and Fire Services ²	Further Education Colleges ³	Other Public Bodies	Local Government ²	Public Corporations
Q3 1999 r	386,300	107,000	14,100	-	11,500	7,800	237,000	9,000
Q3 2015 r	426,000	137,700	17,100	27,500	10,500	12,900	201,000	20,000
Q3 2016 r	424,600	138,700	15,900	27,400	10,100	14,000	198,000	20,000
Q3 2017 r	426,300	139,500	16,200	27,000	10,200	14,100	199,000	21,000
Q3 2018 r	414,100	139,800	16,800	26,900	10,100	14,400	198,000	8,000
Q3 2019 r	426,000	141,400	19,200	27,500	10,200	14,300	205,000	8,000
Q3 2020	438,500	146,600	20,200	27,600	10,300	14,200	206,000	13,000
Q3 2021	452,000	154,300	22,300	27,600	10,200	14,000	211,000	13,000
Change on year to:								
Q3 2021	13,470	7,680	2,030	-10	-90	-200	4,350	-290
% change on year:								
Q3 2021	3.1%	5.2%	10.0%	0.0%	-0.9%	-1.4%	2.1%	-2.2%

r = minor reclassification and revisions to data

Notes:

1. Employment figures have been rounded to the nearest hundred, with the exception of local government and public corporation figures which are rounded to the nearest thousand; change on year rounded to the nearest ten; percentages are based on unrounded figures. "-" denotes blank entries. Totals may not equal the sum of individual parts due to rounding.
2. Police and Fire Reform: From Q2 2013 Police and Fire Services have been reclassified as central government rather than local government (as their predecessors were). All police staff are employed by the Scottish Police Authority (SPA) whether deployed with the SPA or with the Police Service of Scotland.
3. Information for further education colleges in Scotland is based on collected information from Q4 2010. The method used to create the back series is detailed in the background notes of this publication.
4. For further information on interpreting these series, see the series reclassification guide or background notes of the publication.

Table 6: Total reserved public sector employment by sector; Scotland, Full-time equivalent ^{1,3}
Not Seasonally Adjusted

Quarter	Total Reserved Public Sector	Civil Service	Armed Forces	Public Bodies ²	Public Corporations ²	Public Sector Financial Institutions ²	Other Public Sector ²
Q3 1999	71,200	32,000	15,000	5,500	18,700	-	24,200
Q3 2015	53,600	23,200	9,800	*	*	*	20,600
Q3 2016	53,500	23,100	10,000	*	*	*	20,400
Q3 2017	52,900	23,400	9,800	*	*	*	19,700
Q3 2018	51,900	22,700	9,700	*	*	*	19,500
Q3 2019	53,600	22,300	9,700	*	*	*	21,700
Q3 2020	51,100	21,900	9,800	*	*	*	19,400
Q3 2021	52,700	23,200	10,100	*	*	*	19,300
Change on year to:							
Q3 2021	1,540	1,290	300	n/a	n/a	n/a	-50
% change on year:							
Q3 2021	3.0%	5.9%	3.1%	n/a	n/a	n/a	-0.3%

Notes:

1. Employment figures have been rounded to the nearest hundred. Change on year rounded to the nearest ten. Percentages are based on unrounded figures. "-" denotes blank entries and "*" denotes entries that have been suppressed for disclosure reasons. Totals may not equal the sum of individual parts due to rounding.
2. Public corporations, public sector financial institutions and public bodies, have been combined into 'other public sector' to ensure individual organisation figures are not disclosed.
3. For further information on interpreting these series, see the series reclassification guide or background notes of the publication.

A National Statistics publication for Scotland

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How to access background or source data

The data collected for this statistical publication are available via web-tables on the [Scottish Government website](#).

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