



## ECONOMY AND LABOUR MARKET

# Public Sector Employment in Scotland Statistics for 2nd 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 June 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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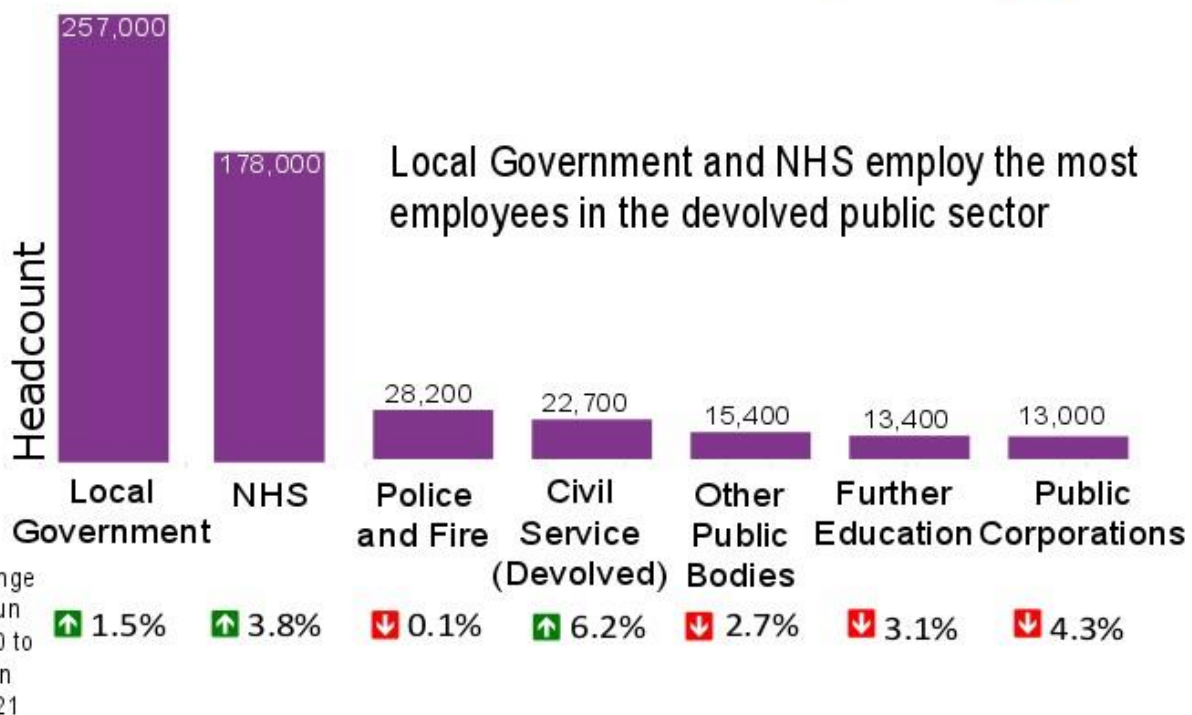
# Quarterly Public Sector Employment in Scotland Q2 2021

Public Sector  
Employment  
Headcount  
583,100  
↑ 1.9%

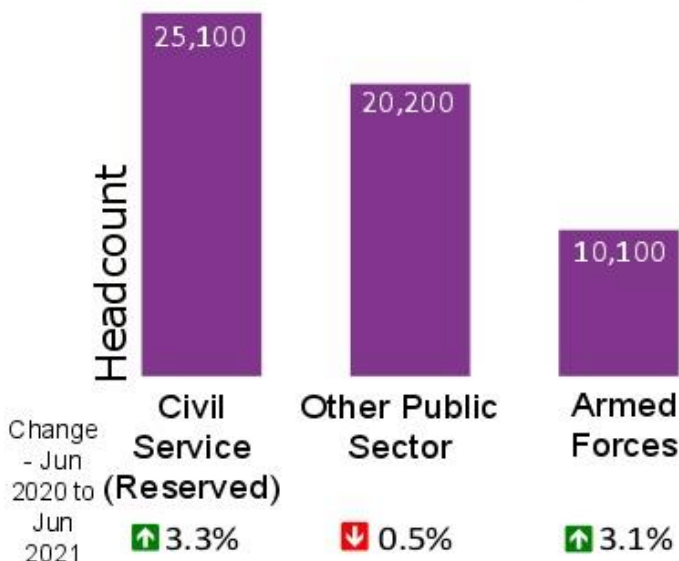


Private Sector  
Employment  
Headcount  
2,047,400  
↓ 0.4%

**Devolved Public Sector Headcount: 527,700** ↑ 1.9%



**Reserved Public Sector Headcount: 55,400** ↑ 1.8%



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

Devolved civil service saw the largest percentage increase (6.2%), while reserved civil service saw a percentage increase of 3.3%.

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

# Summary

Key points (based on headcount data) include:

- In June 2021, there were 583,100 people employed in the public sector in Scotland, accounting for 22.2% of total employment<sup>1</sup>.
- In June 2021, employment in the public sector was 11,050 (1.9%) more than in June 2020.
- When major reclassifications are excluded, the public sector increased between June 2020 and June 2021 by around 11,000 (2.0%)<sup>2</sup>.
- Of the total 583,100 people employed in the public sector in Scotland, 527,700 (90.5%) were employed in the devolved public sector in June 2021, 10,060 (1.9%) more than in June 2020.
- Between June 2020 and June 2021, employment in the devolved public sector increased in the NHS by 6,460 (3.8%), in the Civil Service by 1,310 (6.2%) and in Local Government by 3,750 (1.5%). Employment in the devolved public sector decreased in Further Education Colleges by -420 (-3.1%), Police and Fire Related Services by -20 (-0.1%), Other Public Bodies by -430 (-2.7%) and in Public Corporations by -580 (-4.3%).
- In June 2021, 55,400 (9.5%) people in the public sector were employed in the reserved public sector in Scotland, 990 (1.8%) more than in June 2020.
- Between June 2020 and June 2021, employment within the reserved public sector increased in the Civil Service by 800 (3.3%) and in Armed Forces by 300 (3.1%). Employment decreased in Other Public Sector by -110 (-0.5%).

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<sup>1</sup> **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 to Feb-Apr 2021 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.

<sup>2</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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/>

## 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 June 2021 data), including for Scottish Government, Agencies, Crown Office, Procurator Fiscal and Non-Ministerial Departments are updated and published today 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/>

It is our intention to review this change to our dissemination in December 2021.

Next Publication: December 2021

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

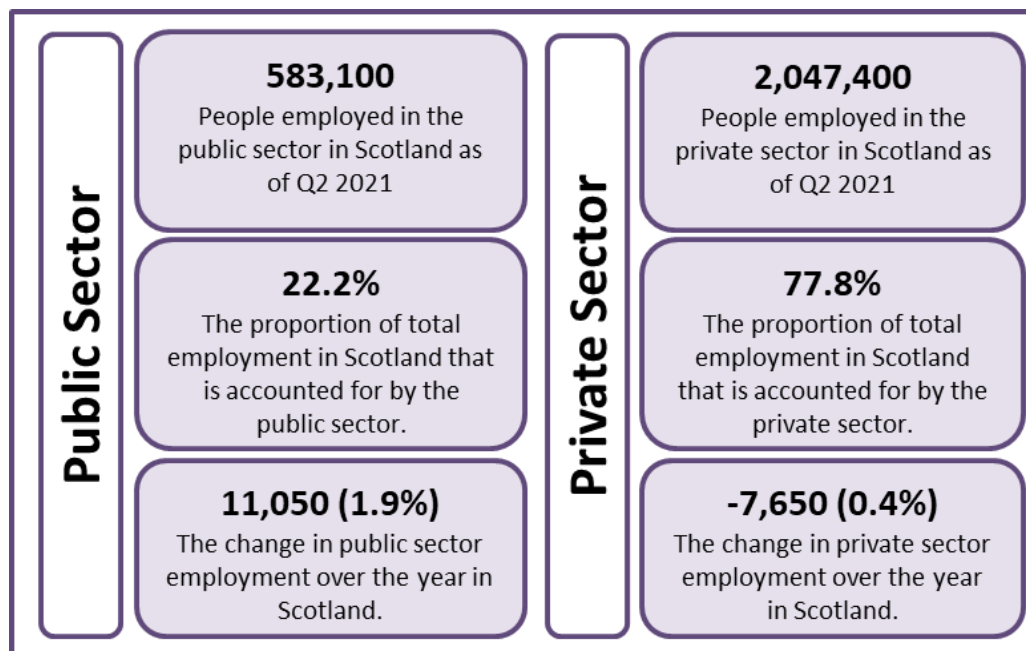
(see Table 1)

Public sector employment increased by 11,050 (up 1.9%) between June 2020 and June 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.

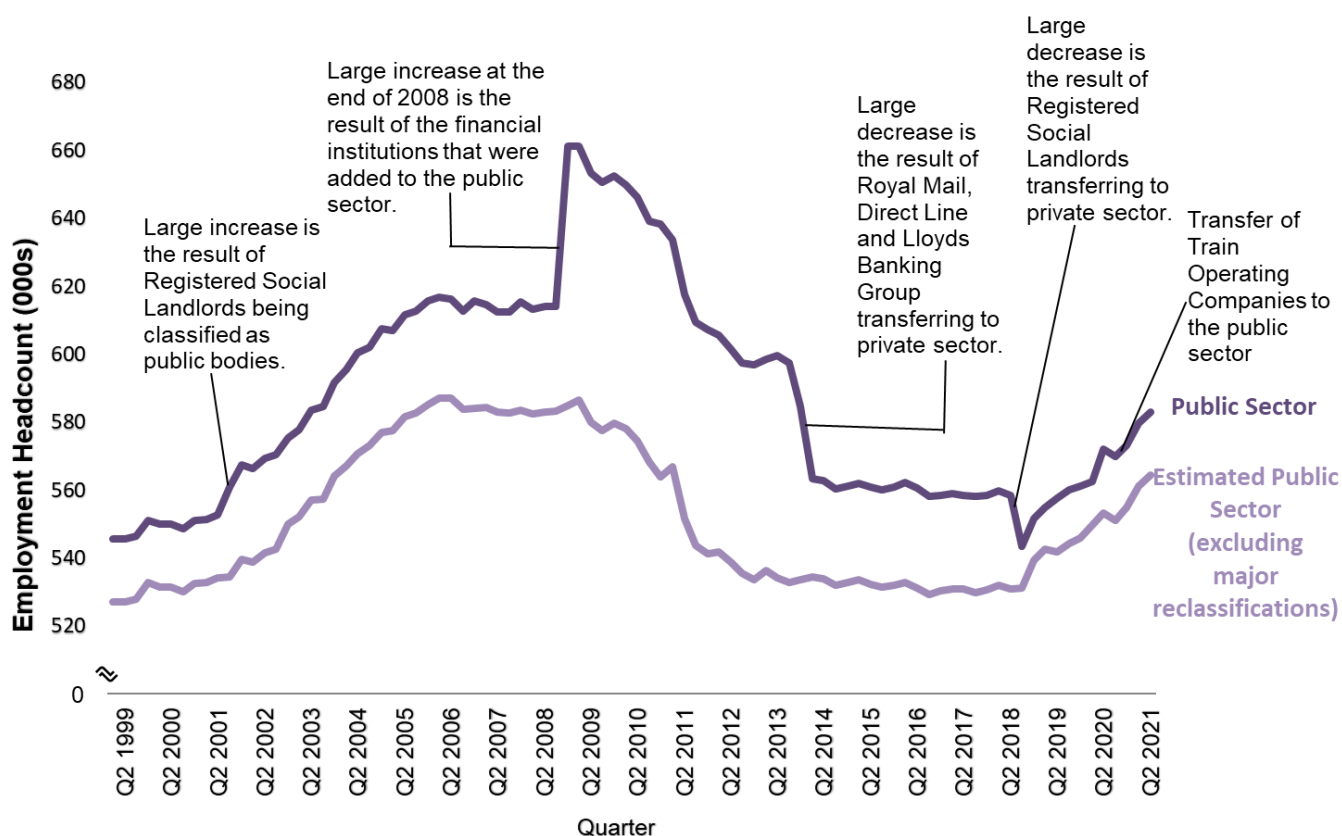
Figure 1: Public and Private\* Sector Employment in Scotland as at June 2021



Source: Public Sector Employment in Scotland, Quarter 2 2021

\* **Important Note:** Estimates for **private sector employment** are based on the Labour Force Survey, ONS. Labour Force Survey (LFS) estimates from Jan-Mar 2020 to Feb-Apr 2021 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.

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



Source: Public Sector Employment in Scotland, Quarter 2 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 reclassifications<sup>3</sup> (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 11,050 between June 2020 and June 2021, driven mainly by increases in the devolved public sector headcount. The devolved

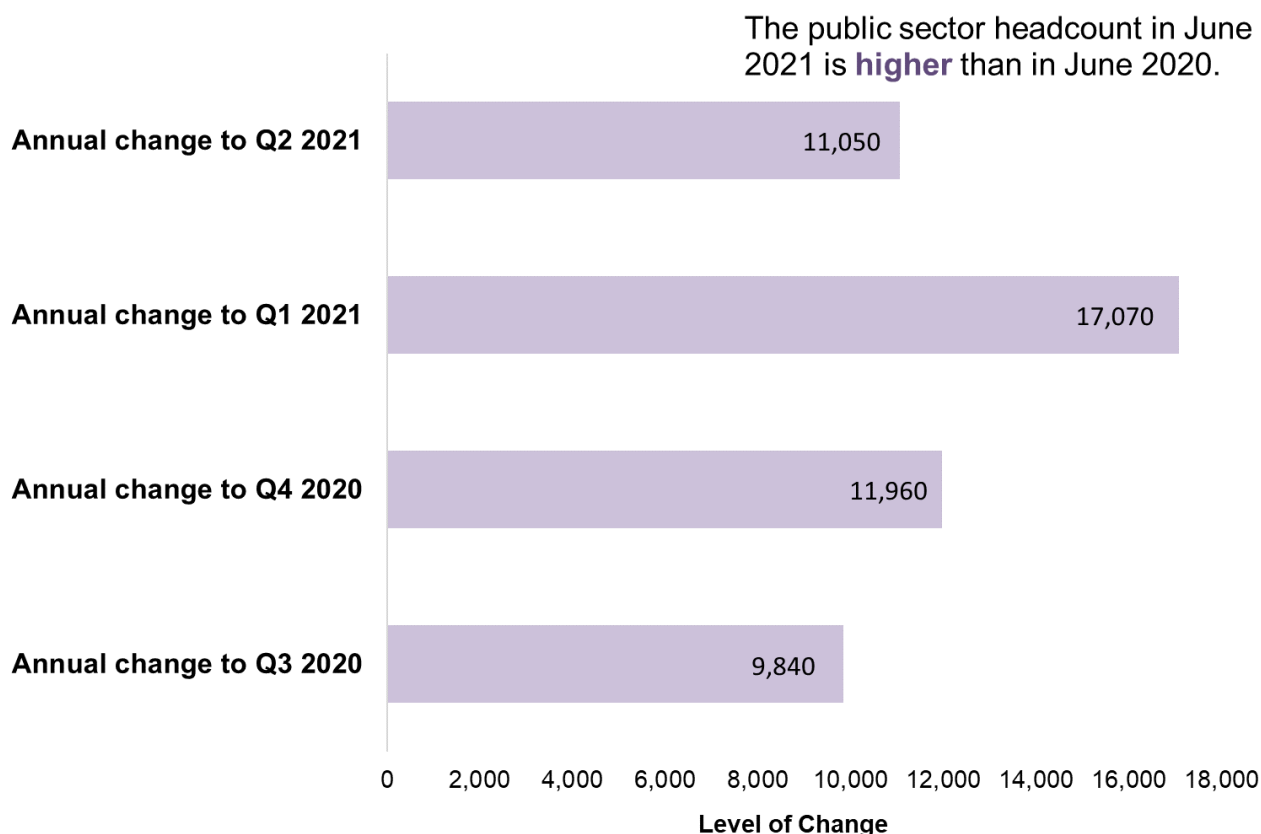
<sup>3</sup> Major reserved reclassifications include Royal Bank of Scotland plc, Lloyds Banking Group plc, Northern Rock plc, Lloyds TSB Commercial Finance, Lloyds Bank Asset Finance, Scottish Widows, Direct Line, Royal Mail Group plc, (known as the Post Office Ltd (until Q2 2006) and Network Rail.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



public sector headcount has risen due to increases in the NHS, local government and the devolved Civil Service.

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 1<sup>st</sup> 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 2 2021

## Impact of Excluding Major Reclassifications from Public Sector

If the major reclassifications<sup>3</sup> 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 565,000 people employed in the public sector in June 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 11,000 (2.0%) higher in June 2021 compared with June 2020. This shows that the increase over the year is due to increases in substantive public sector organisations.

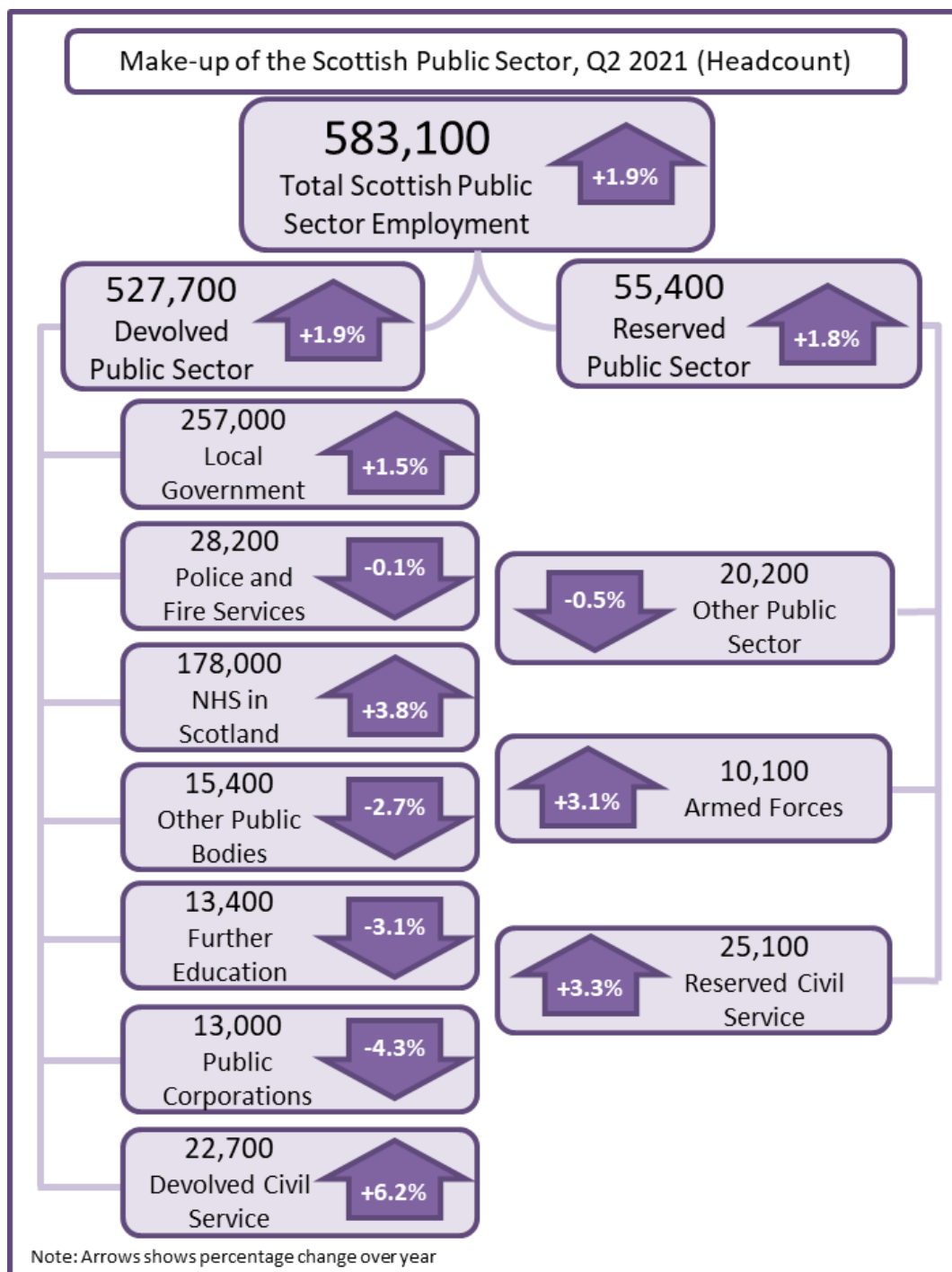
## 2. Public Sector Employment by Devolved and Reserved Responsibility; Headcount

(see Tables 2, 3 and 4)

The devolved public sector headcount was 1.9% higher and the reserved public sector was 1.8% higher as at June 2021 compared with June 2020. Devolved Civil Service saw the largest percentage increase (6.2%) in the Devolved public sector, while Public Corporations had the largest decrease (-4.3%). In the Reserved public sector, Reserved Civil Service saw the largest percentage increase (3.3%), while Other Public Sector decreased by -0.5%.

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 June 2021, Headcount<sup>4</sup>



Source: Public Sector Employment in Scotland, Quarter 2 2021

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

<sup>4</sup> 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 10,060 (1.9%) higher at 527,700 in June 2021 compared with 517,600 in June 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,

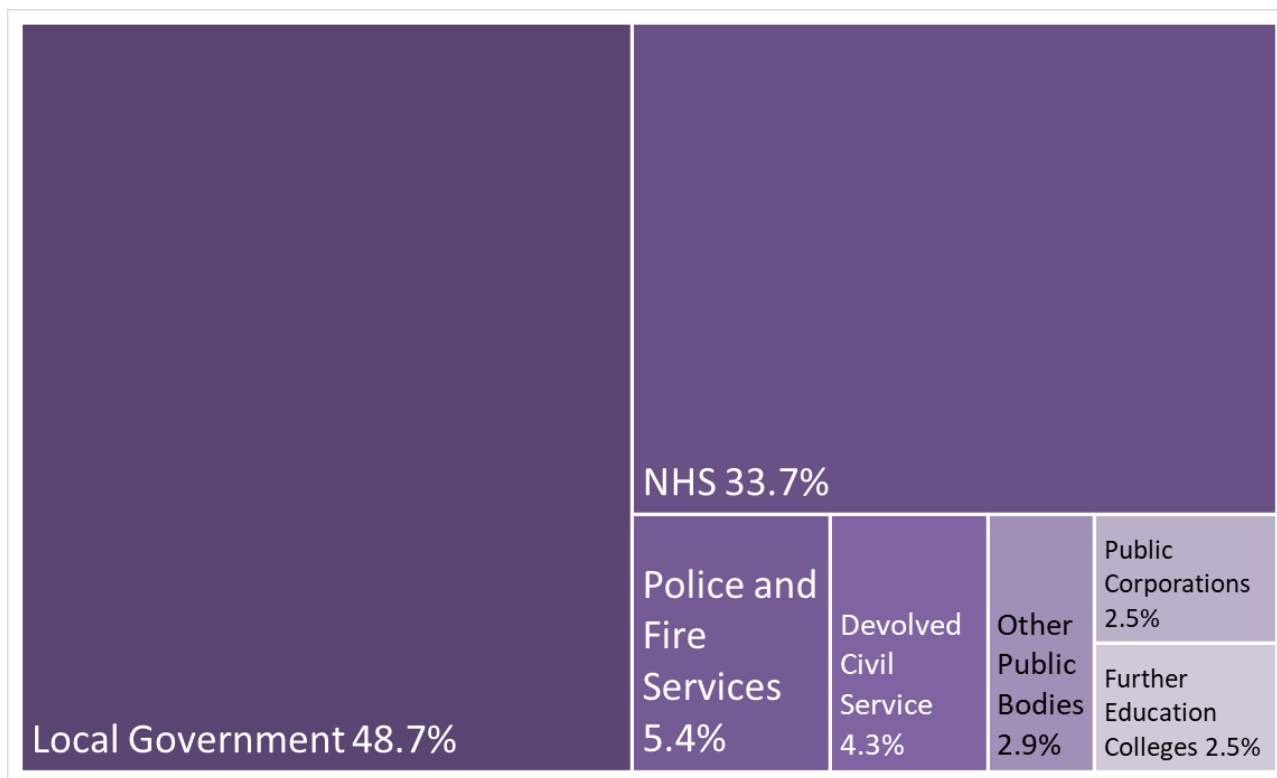
Further Education Colleges,

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 June 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 June 2021, Headcount



Source: Public Sector Employment in Scotland, Quarter 2 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 6,460 (3.8%) to 178,000 in June 2021<sup>5</sup>;

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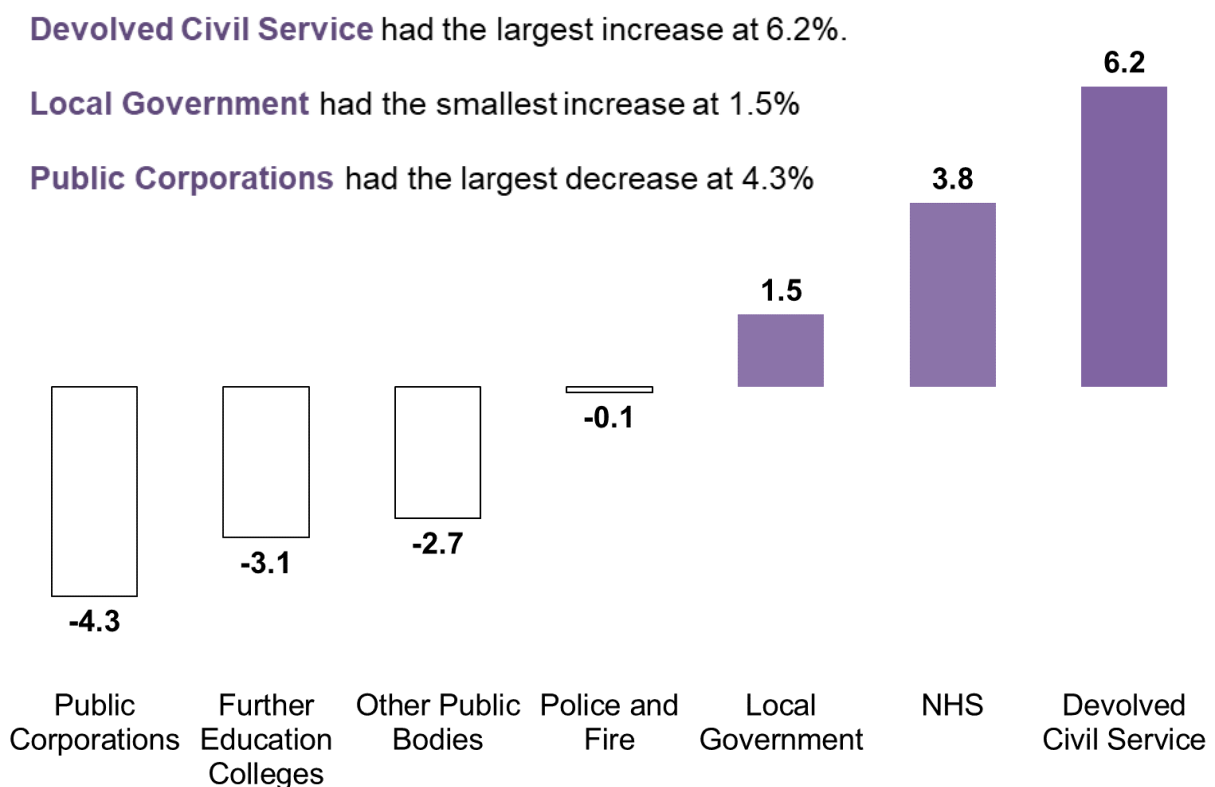
<sup>5</sup> A detailed breakdown on this information by staffing group was published by NHS Education for Scotland on the 7 September 2021: <https://turasdata.nes.nhs.scot/workforce-official-statistics/nhsscotland-workforce/publications/>

- Employment in the Devolved Civil Service increasing by 1,310 (6.2%) to 22,700 in June 2021<sup>6</sup>; and
- Employment in Scottish Local Government increasing by 3,750 (1.5%) to 257,000 in June 2021;

while:

- Employment in Public Corporations decreased by -580 (-4.3%) to 13,000 in June 2021;
- Employment in the Police and Fire Services decreased by -20 (-0.1%) to 28,200 in June 2021;
- Employment in Further Education Colleges fell by -420 (-3.1%) to 13,400 in June 2021; and
- Employment in Other Public Bodies fell by -430 (-2.7%) to 15,400 in June 2021.

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



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

## 4. Reserved Public Sector Employment in Scotland; Headcount

(see Table 4)

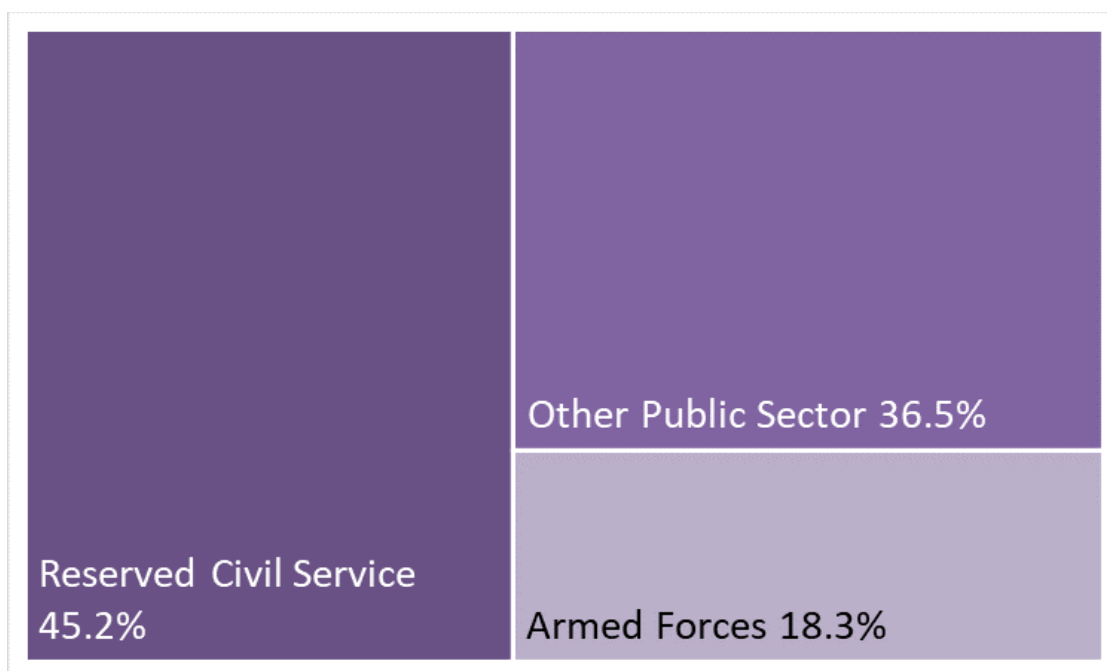
The number of people employed in the reserved public sector in June 2021 was 55,400, which is 990 (1.8%) higher than in June 2020.

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 June 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 June 2021, Headcount



Source: Public Sector Employment in Scotland, Quarter 2 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 800 (3.3%) to 25,100 in June 2021; and
- Employment levels for the Armed Forces increasing by 300 (3.1%) to 10,100 in June 2021;

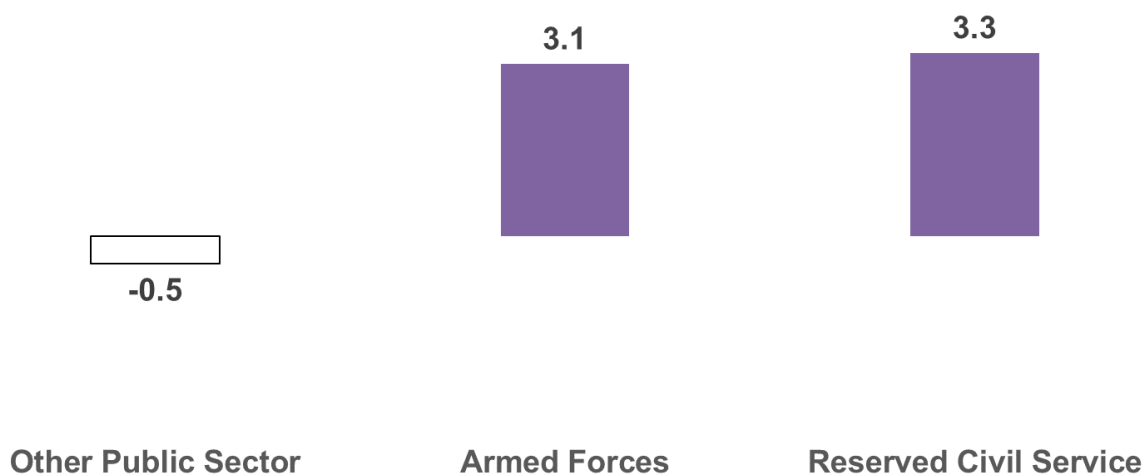
while:

- Employment levels for Other Public Sector<sup>7</sup> decreased by -110 (-0.5%) from 20,400 in June 2020 to 20,200 in June 2021.

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

**Reserved Civil Service** had the largest increase at 3.3%

**Other Public Sector** had the largest decrease at -0.5%



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<sup>7</sup> 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 Q2 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, Headcount<sup>1</sup>**

Not Seasonally Adjusted

Quarter	Total Employment <sup>6</sup>	Private Sector <sup>2</sup>		Public Sector		Estimated Private Sector including major reclassifications <sup>3,4</sup>		Estimated Public Sector excluding major reclassifications <sup>3,5</sup>	
	Level	Level	Percentage of total employment	Level	Percentage of total employment	Level	Percentage of total employment	Level	Percentage of total employment
Q2 1999	2,245,000	1,699,100	75.7%	545,600	24.3%	1,718,000	76.5%	527,000	23.5%
Q2 2015	2,601,000	2,040,600	78.4%	560,800	21.6%	2,069,000	79.5%	532,000	20.5%
Q2 2016	2,645,000	2,084,400	78.8%	560,600	21.2%	2,114,000	79.9%	531,000	20.1%
Q2 2017	2,700,000	2,141,800	79.3%	558,400	20.7%	2,170,000	80.4%	530,000	19.6%
Q2 2018	2,677,000	2,119,000	79.1%	558,500	20.9%	2,147,000	80.2%	531,000	19.8%
Q2 2019	2,665,000	2,107,100	79.1%	557,700	20.9%	2,123,000	79.7%	542,000	20.3%
Q2 2020 r	2,627,000	2,055,000	78.2%	572,000	21.8%	2,074,000	78.9%	553,000	21.1%
Q2 2021	2,630,000	2,047,400	77.8%	583,100	22.2%	2,066,000	78.5%	565,000	21.5%
<b>Change on year to:</b>									
Q2 2021	3,400	-7,650	-0.4 p.p.	11,050	0.4 p.p.	-8,000	-0.4 p.p.	11,000	0.4 p.p.
<b>% change on year:</b>									
Q2 2021	0.1%	-0.4%		1.9%		-0.4%		2.0%	

r = revisions to total employment and private sector employment figures (see note below)

**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 to Feb-Apr 2021 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.

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 equivalent<sup>1</sup>**  
 Not Seasonally Adjusted

Quarter	Headcount			Full-time equivalent		
	Total Public Sector	Devolved Public Sector <sup>2</sup>	Reserved Public Sector <sup>3</sup>	Total Public Sector	Devolved Public Sector <sup>2</sup>	Reserved Public Sector <sup>3</sup>
Q2 1999	545,600	470,900	74,700	456,000	384,700	71,300
Q2 2015	560,800	503,500	57,300	479,100	425,600	53,500
Q2 2016	560,600	502,600	58,100	479,500	425,100	54,400
Q2 2017	558,400	501,700	56,700	478,800	425,500	53,300
Q2 2018	558,500	503,100	55,400	478,200	426,100	52,100
Q2 2019	557,700	500,300	57,400	477,000	423,000	54,000
Q2 2020	572,000	517,600	54,400	489,600	438,400	51,200
Q2 2021	583,100	527,700	55,400	501,600	449,200	52,400
<b>Change on year to:</b>						
Q2 2021	11,050	10,060	990	11,980	10,830	1,150
<b>% change on year:</b>						
Q2 2021	1.9%	1.9%	1.8%	2.4%	2.5%	2.2%

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<sup>1,4</sup>**  
Not Seasonally Adjusted

Quarter	Total Devolved Public Sector	NHS	Civil Service	Police and Fire Services <sup>2</sup>	Further Education Colleges <sup>3</sup>	Other Public Bodies <sup>3</sup>	Local Government <sup>2</sup>	Public Corporations
Q2 1999	470,900	129,100	14,600	-	15,700	8,500	294,000	9,000
Q2 2015	503,500	160,600	17,900	28,300	13,900	14,200	246,000	22,000
Q2 2016	502,600	161,300	16,800	28,100	14,100	15,700	244,000	23,000
Q2 2017	501,700	162,200	17,100	27,700	13,900	15,800	242,000	23,000
Q2 2018	503,100	162,300	17,500	27,600	13,800	16,100	243,000	23,000
Q2 2019	500,300	163,600	20,000	28,000	14,000	16,300	250,000	8,000
Q2 2020	517,600	171,600	21,400	28,300	13,800	15,800	253,000	14,000
Q2 2021	527,700	178,000	22,700	28,200	13,400	15,400	257,000	13,000
<b>Change on year to:</b>								
Q2 2021	10,060	6,460	1,310	-20	-420	-430	3,750	-580
<b>% change on year:</b>								
Q2 2021	1.9%	3.8%	6.2%	-0.1%	-3.1%	-2.7%	1.5%	-4.3%

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<sup>1,3</sup>**  
Not Seasonally Adjusted

Quarter	Total Reserved Public Sector	Civil Service	Armed Forces	Public Bodies <sup>2</sup>	Public Corporations <sup>2</sup>	Public Sector Financial Institutions <sup>2</sup>	Other Public Sector <sup>2</sup>
Q2 1999	74,700	33,800	14,900	5,800	20,200	-	25,900
Q2 2015	57,300	26,300	9,400	*	*	*	21,500
Q2 2016	58,100	25,700	10,000	*	*	*	22,400
Q2 2017	56,700	25,900	9,800	*	*	*	21,100
Q2 2018	55,400	25,100	9,700	*	*	*	20,600
Q2 2019	57,400	24,900	9,700	*	*	*	22,800
Q2 2020	54,400	24,300	9,800	*	*	*	20,400
Q2 2021	55,400	25,100	10,100	*	*	*	20,200
<b>Change on year to:</b>							
Q2 2021	990	800	300	n/a	n/a	n/a	-110
<b>% change on year:</b>							
Q2 2021	1.8%	3.3%	3.1%	n/a	n/a	n/a	-0.5%

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** <sup>1,4</sup>

Not Seasonally Adjusted

Quarter	Total Devolved Public Sector	NHS	Civil Service	Police and Fire Services <sup>2</sup>	Further Education Colleges <sup>3</sup>	Other Public Bodies	Local Government <sup>2</sup>	Public Corporations
Q2 1999	384,700	106,200	14,100	-	11,500	7,800	236,000	9,000
Q2 2015	425,600	137,400	16,900	27,600	10,500	12,900	201,000	20,000
Q2 2016	425,100	138,100	16,000	27,300	10,600	14,100	199,000	20,000
Q2 2017	425,500	138,900	16,100	27,000	10,300	14,300	198,000	21,000
Q2 2018	426,100	139,100	16,500	26,900	10,200	14,500	198,000	21,000
Q2 2019	423,000	140,300	18,900	27,300	10,500	14,700	203,000	8,000
Q2 2020	438,400	147,300	20,200	27,600	10,300	14,300	206,000	13,000
Q2 2021	449,200	152,600	21,500	27,600	10,400	13,800	211,000	13,000
<b>Change on year to:</b>								
Q2 2021	10,830	5,290	1,290	0	100	-480	4,990	-350
<b>% change on year:</b>								
Q2 2021	2.5%	3.6%	6.4%	0.0%	0.9%	-3.4%	2.4%	-2.7%

## 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** <sup>1,3</sup>

Not Seasonally Adjusted

Quarter	Total Reserved Public Sector	Civil Service	Armed Forces	Public Bodies <sup>2</sup>	Public Corporations <sup>2</sup>	Public Sector Financial Institutions <sup>2</sup>	Other Public Sector <sup>2</sup>
Q2 1999	71,300	32,000	14,900	5,400	18,900	-	24,300
Q2 2015	53,500	23,800	9,400	*	*	*	20,300
Q2 2016	54,400	23,300	10,000	*	*	*	21,200
Q2 2017	53,300	23,600	9,800	*	*	*	20,000
Q2 2018	52,100	22,800	9,700	*	*	*	19,600
Q2 2019	54,000	22,600	9,700	*	*	*	21,700
Q2 2020	51,200	22,000	9,800	*	*	*	19,500
Q2 2021	52,400	22,900	10,100	*	*	*	19,400
<b>Change on year to:</b>							
Q2 2021	1,150	890	300	n/a	n/a	n/a	-50
<b>% change on year:</b>							
Q2 2021	2.2%	4.1%	3.1%	n/a	n/a	n/a	-0.2%

## 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

The United Kingdom Statistics Authority has designated these statistics as National Statistics, in accordance with the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007 and signifying compliance with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics.

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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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ISBN 978-1-80201-356-6 (web only)

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