



ECONOMY AND LABOUR MARKET

Public Sector Employment in Scotland Statistics for 4th Quarter 2020

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 December 2020, **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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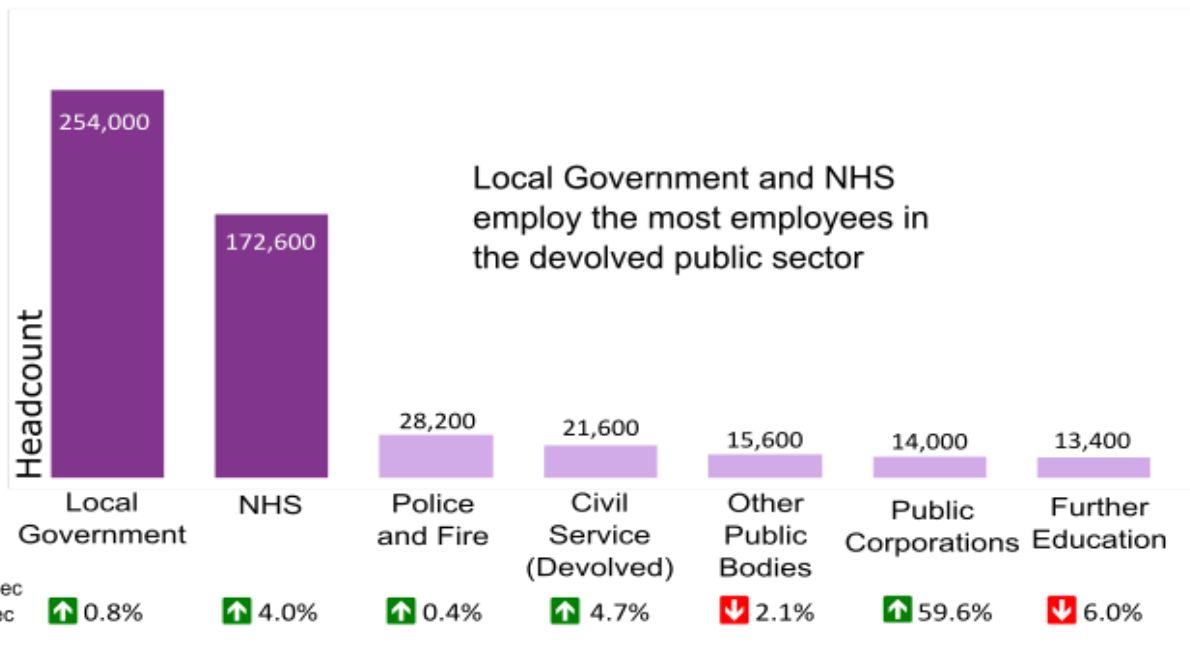
Quarterly Public Sector Employment in Scotland Q4 2020

Public Sector
Employment
Headcount
573,200
↑ 2.1%

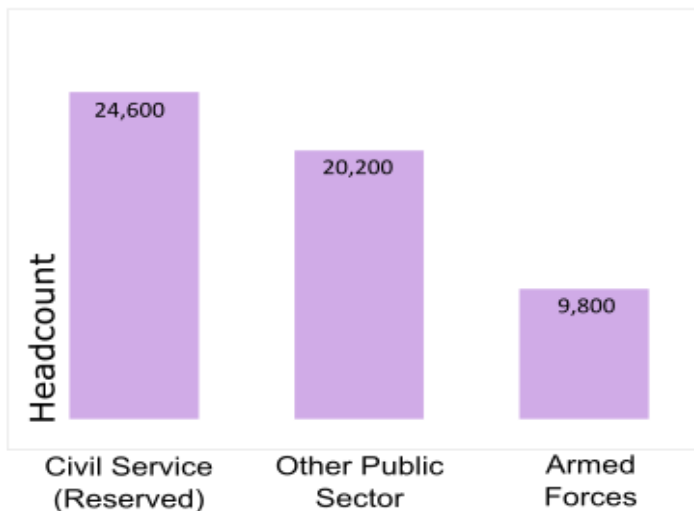


Private Sector
Employment
Headcount
2,059,400
↓ 0.9%

Devolved Public Sector Headcount: 518,700 ↑ 2.7%



Reserved Public Sector Headcount: 54,600 ↓ 3.1%



Over the year, the devolved public sector headcount increased and reserved public sector headcount decreased.

Devolved public corporations saw the largest percentage increase (59.6%), while reserved other public sector saw the largest percentage decrease (-9.3%).

Change - Dec
2019 to Dec
2020

Source: Public Sector Employment, Joint Staffing Watch, Scottish Government, ONS
Changes between December 2019 and December 2020

Summary

Key points (based on headcount data) include:

- In December 2020, there were 573,200 people employed in the public sector in Scotland, accounting for 21.8% of total employment.
- In December 2020, employment in the public sector was 11,970 more than in December 2019.
- When major reclassifications are excluded, the public sector increased between December 2019 and December 2020 by around 9,000 (1.6%)¹.
- Of the total 573,200 people employed in the public sector in Scotland, 518,700 (90.5%) were employed in the devolved public sector in December 2020, 13,690 (2.7%) more than in December 2019.
- Between December 2019 and December 2020, employment in the devolved public sector increased in the NHS by 6,670 (4.0%), in Public Corporations by 5,040 (59.6%), in the Civil Service by 960 (4.7%), in Local Government by 2,100 (0.8%) and in Police and Fire Related Services by 100 (0.4%). Employment in the devolved public sector decreased in Further Education Colleges by -850 (-6.0%) and Other Public Bodies by -330 (-2.1%).
- In December 2020, 54,600 (9.5%) people in the public sector were employed in the reserved public sector in Scotland, 1,720 (3.1%) less than in December 2019.
- Between December 2019 and December 2020, employment within the reserved public sector increased in the Armed Forces by 130 (1.3%) and in the Civil Service by 230 (0.9%), and decreased in Other Public Sector by -2,080 (-9.3%).

¹ 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

The estimates of public and private sector employment published in this quarter's release have been impacted by the reclassification of Train Operating Companies operating under Emergency Measure Agreements, which were included in the private sector until March 2020. Having been reclassified to the public sector on 1 April 2020, they are included in estimates of public sector employment from Q2 2020 onwards. This reclassification is split across the reserved and devolved public sector.

An outline of other 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/>

Next Publication: June 2021

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

(see Table 1)

Public sector employment increased by 11,970 (up 2.1%) between December 2019 and December 2020, while private sector employment decreased (down 0.9%). This increase in public sector employment is 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.

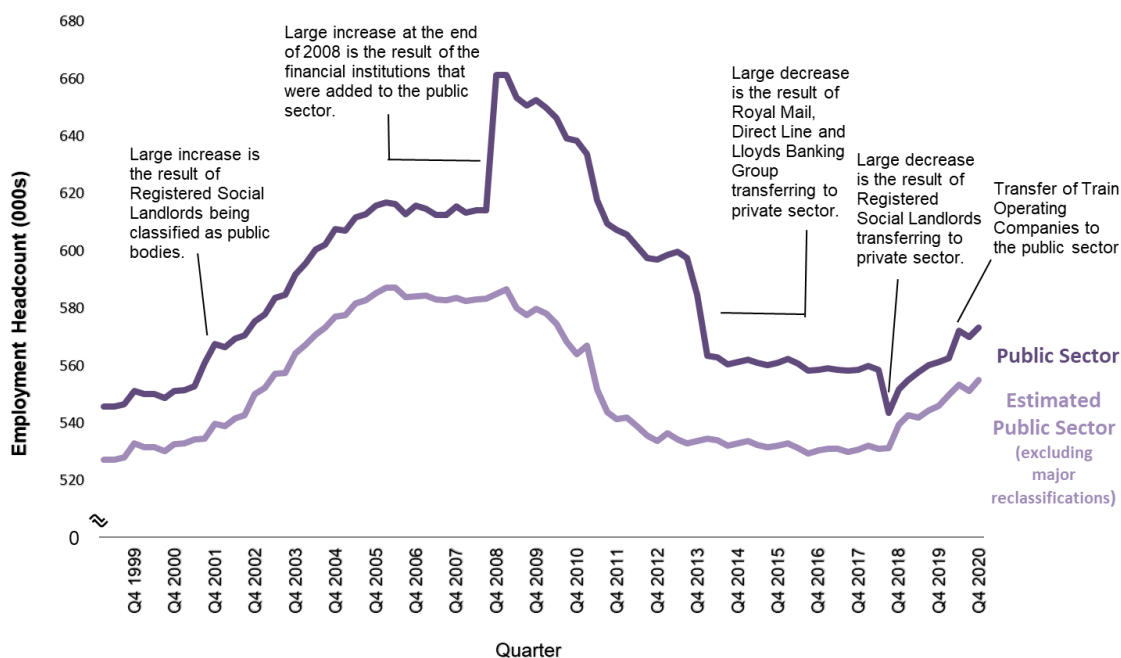
Figure 1: Public and Private Sector Employment in Scotland as at December 2020



Source: Public Sector Employment in Scotland, Quarter 4 2020

IMPORTANT NOTE: Estimates for private sector employment are based on the Labour Force Survey. Labour Force Survey (LFS) responses are weighted to official population projections. As the current projections are 2018-based they are based on demographic trends that pre-date the COVID-19 pandemic. ONS are analysing the population totals used in the weighting process and may make adjustments if appropriate. Rates published from the LFS remain robust; however, levels and changes in levels (for 2020) should be used with caution.

Chart 1: Public Sector Employment in Scotland between March 1999 and December 2020, Headcount, non-seasonally adjusted



Source: Public Sector Employment in Scotland, Quarter 4 2020

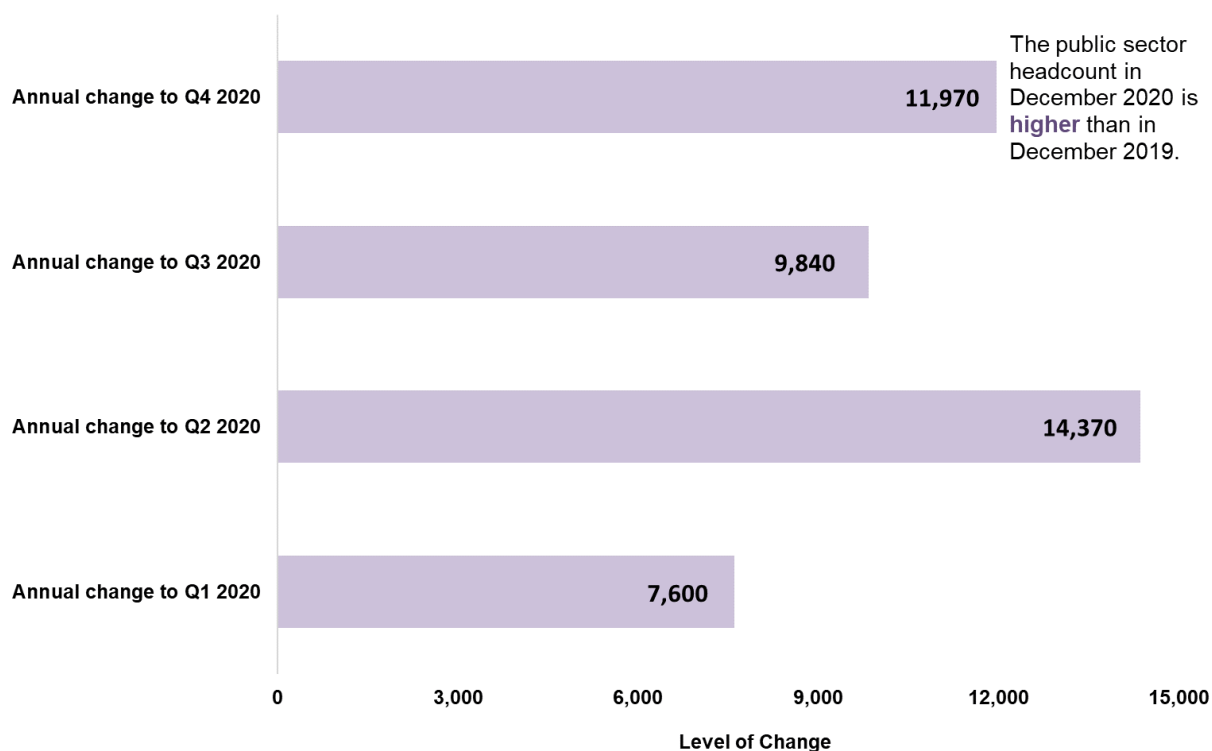
Chart 1 shows that the number of people employed in the public sector remained relatively constant between Q1 2014 and Q2 2018, before falling in Q3 2018 and rising again from Q4 2018 onwards. Excluding the effects of major reclassifications² (i.e. taking out the headcounts for all large organisations listed in footnote 2 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.

² 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.

Chart 2 shows the annual change in employment for the public sector increased by 11,970 between Q4 2019 and Q4 2020, driven by increases in the devolved public sector headcount. The devolved public sector headcount has risen due to increases in the NHS, public corporations, local government and the devolved Civil Service.

The annual change in Chart 2 for Q2, Q3 and Q4 2020 shows the effect of the inclusion of several Train Operating Companies (TOCs) within the public sector as at 1st April 2020.

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



Source: Public Sector Employment in Scotland, Quarter 4 2020

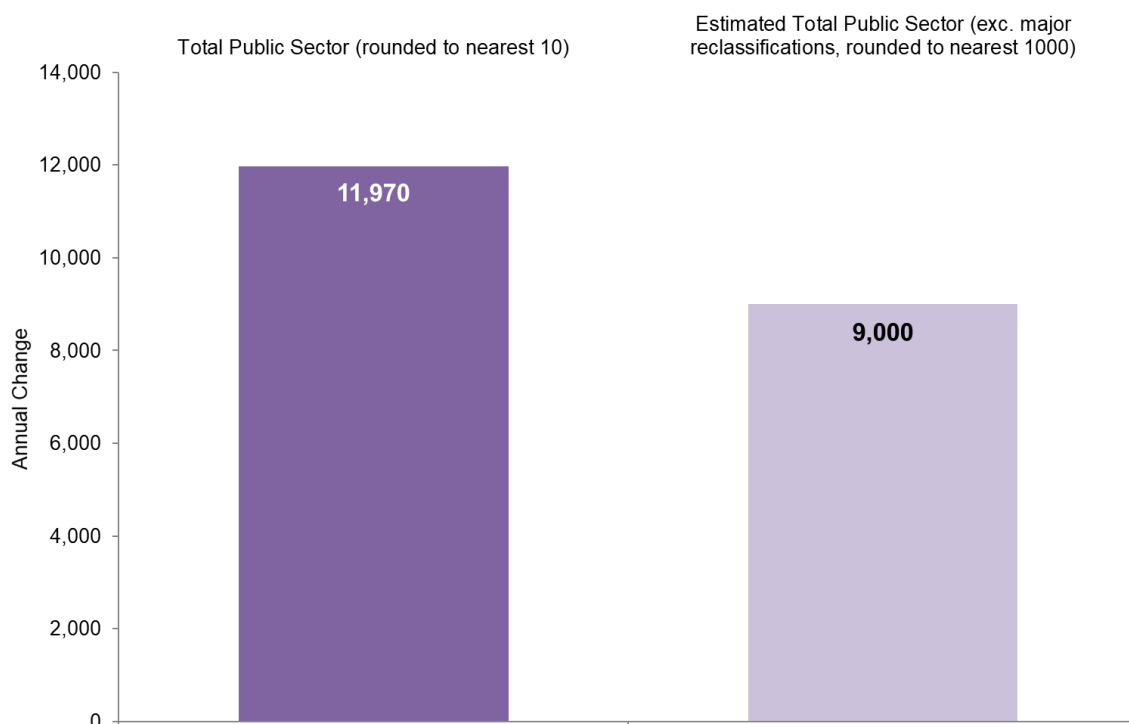
Impact of Excluding Major Reclassifications from Public Sector

If the major reclassifications² were to be excluded from the public sector series (i.e. the headcounts for all large organisations listed in footnote 2 were taken out of the overall numbers), there would be around 555,000 people employed in the public sector in December 2020. This was 21.1% of the total employment in Scotland compared with 21.8% if major reclassifications are included.

Public sector employment, excluding the effects of the major reclassifications, would be around 9,000 (1.6%) higher in December 2020 compared with December 2019.

Chart 3 below shows that the overall public sector in Scotland increased by 11,970 (2.1%) between December 2019 and December 2020. Chart 3 also shows the estimated impact of removing major reclassifications from the series.

Chart 3: Annual Change (from December 2019 to December 2020) in Public Sector Employment, Headcount



Source: Public Sector Employment in Scotland, Quarter 4 2020
Note: Totals may not equal the sum of individual parts due to rounding

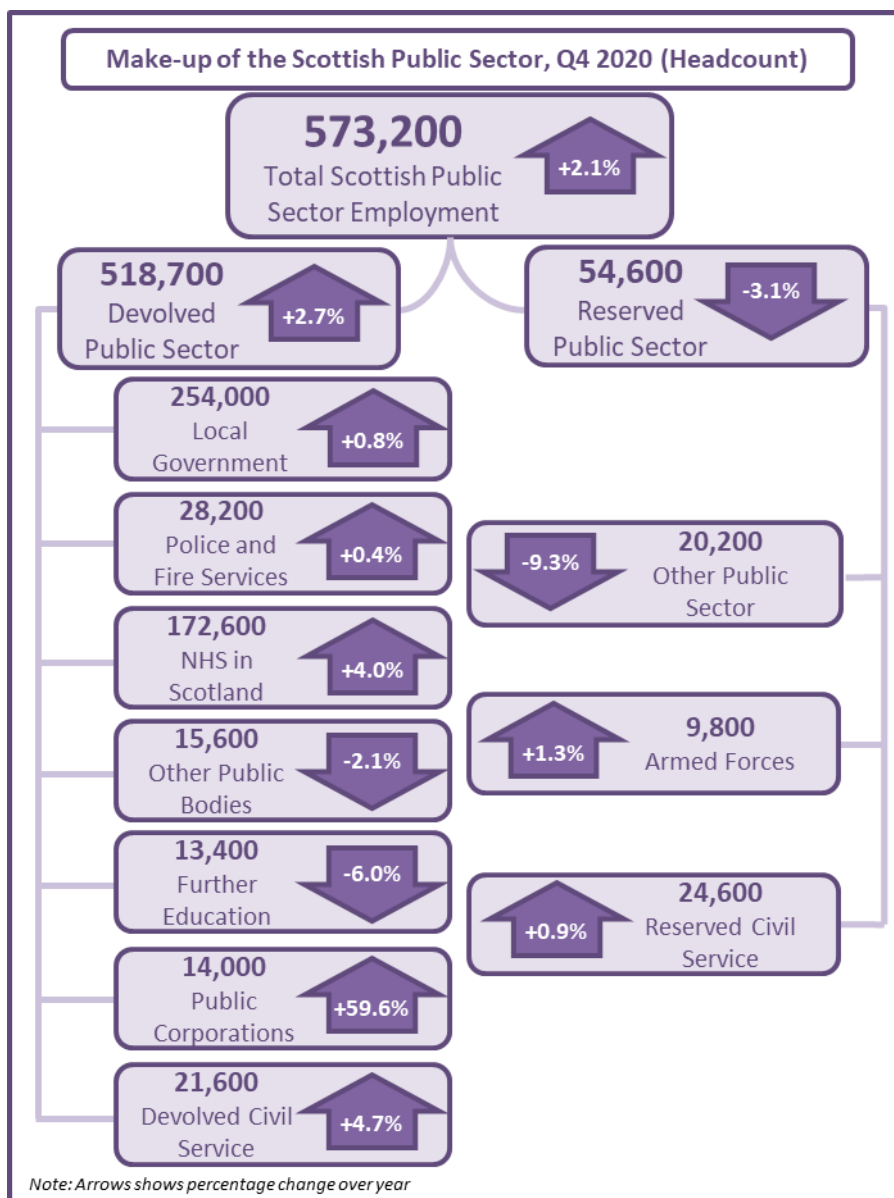
2. Public Sector Employment by Devolved and Reserved Responsibility; Headcount

(see Tables 2, 3 and 4)

The devolved public sector headcount was 2.7% higher and the reserved public sector was 3.1% lower as at December 2020 compared with December 2019. Public Corporations saw the largest percentage increase (59.6%) in the Devolved public sector, while Further Education Colleges had the largest decrease (-6.0%). In the Reserved public sector, Other Public Sector had the largest decrease (-9.3%) and the Armed Forces had the largest increase (1.3%) compared to December 2019.

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 December 2020, Headcount³



Source: Public Sector Employment in Scotland, Quarter 4 2020

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

³ 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 13,690 (2.7%) higher at 518,700 in December 2020 compared with 505,000 in December 2019.

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,

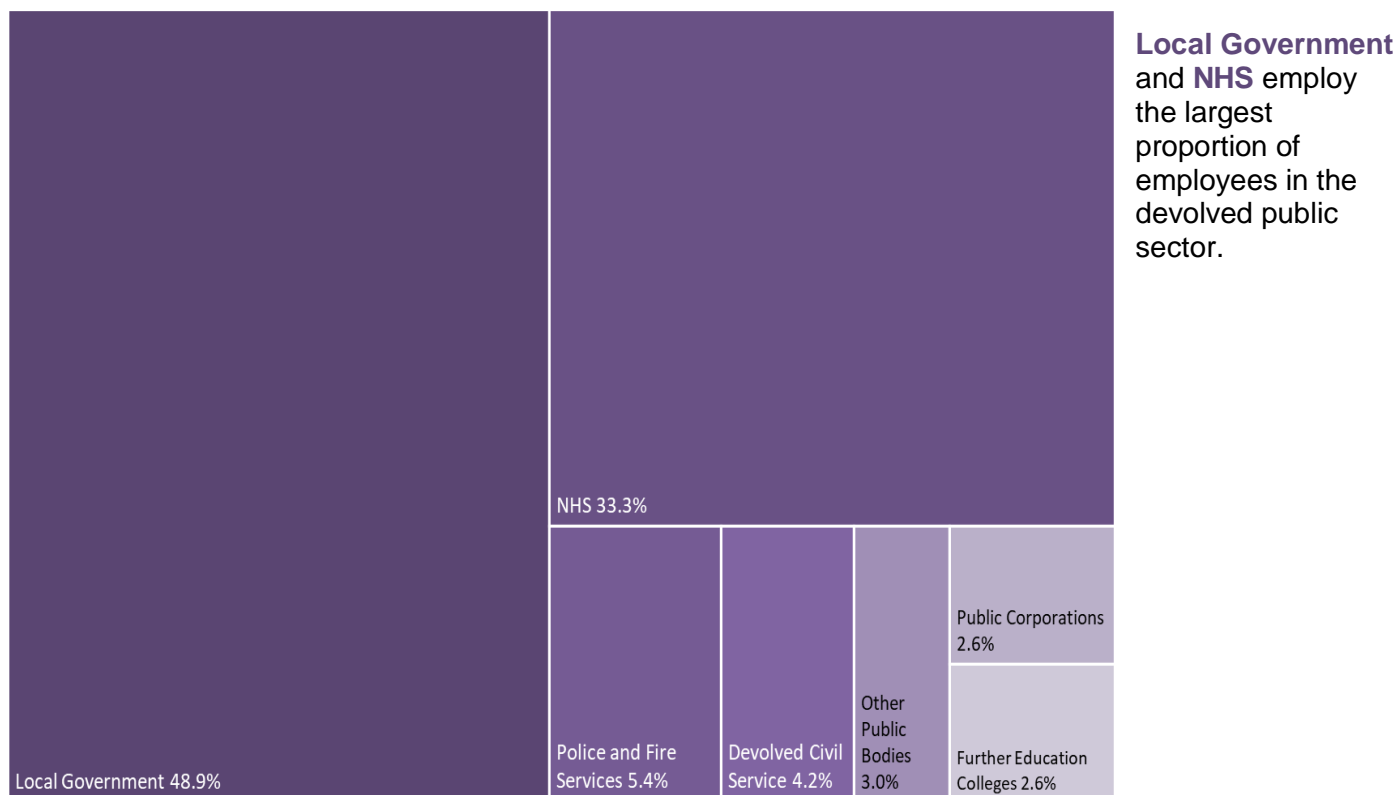
Further Education Colleges,

Devolved Public Corporations,

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

Chart 4 shows the size of each group in the devolved public sector as at December 2020.

Chart 4: Breakdown of Devolved Public Sector Employment by Category as at December 2020, Headcount



Source: Public Sector Employment in Scotland, Quarter 4 2020

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 6,670 (4.0%) to 172,600 in December 2020⁴;
- Employment in Public Corporations increasing by 5,040 (59.6%) to 14,000 in December 2020;
- Employment in the Devolved Civil Service increasing by 960 (4.7%) to 21,600 in December 2020;

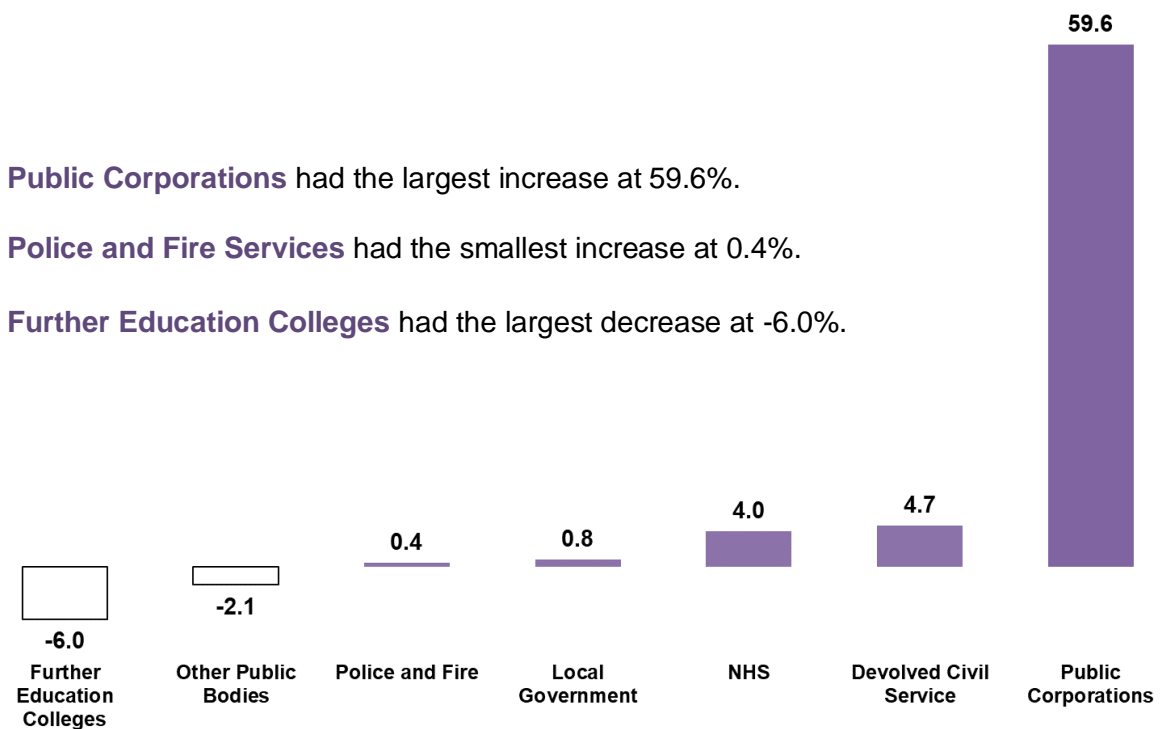
⁴ A detailed breakdown on this information by staffing group was published by NHS Education for Scotland on the 2nd March 2021: <https://turasdata.nes.nhs.scot/workforce-official-statistics/nhsscotland-workforce/publications/>

- Employment in Scottish Local Government increasing by 2,100 (0.8%) to 254,000 in December 2020;
- Employment in the Police and Fire Services increasing by 100 (0.4%) to 28,200 in December 2020;

while:

- Employment in Further Education Colleges fell by -850 (-6.0%) to 13,400 in December 2020;
- Employment in Other Public Bodies fell by -330 (-2.1%) to 15,600 in December 2020.

Figure 3: Percentage Change (from December 2019 to December 2020) in the Devolved Public Sector, Headcount



4. Reserved Public Sector Employment in Scotland; Headcount

(see Table 4)

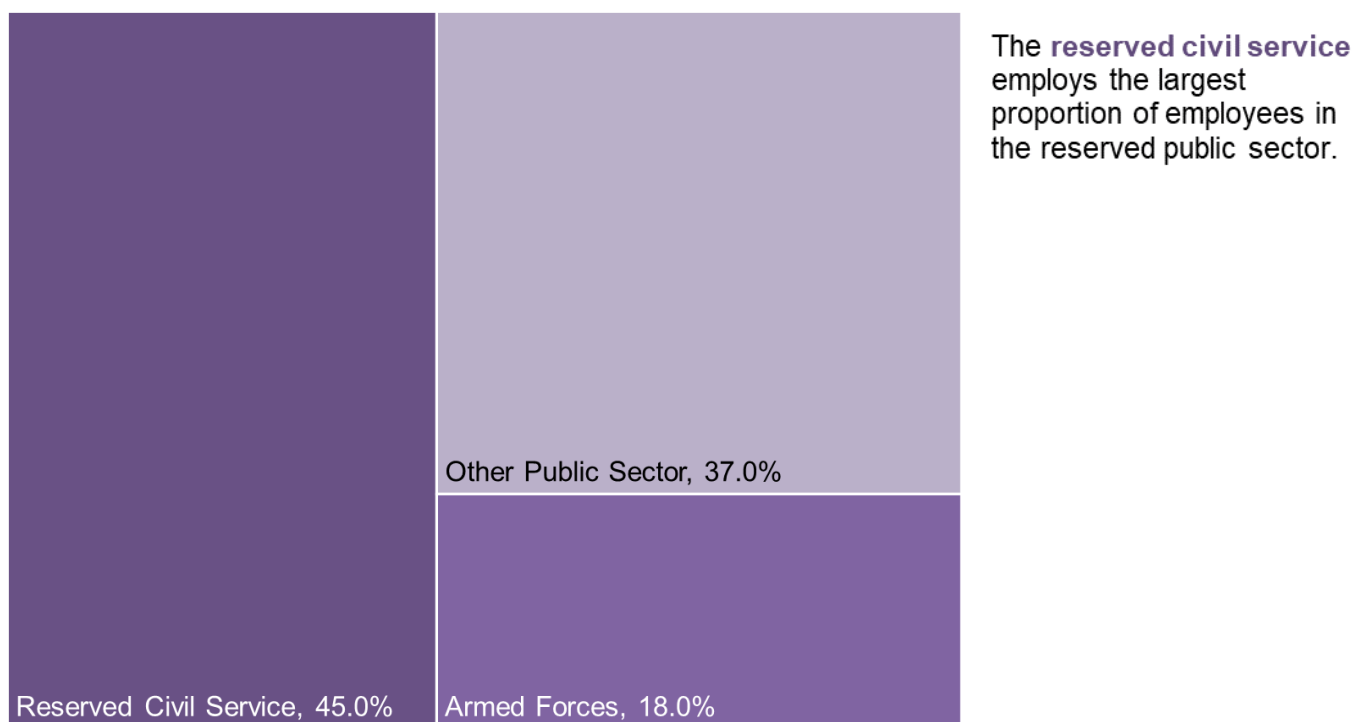
The number of people employed in the reserved public sector in December 2020 was 54,600, which is 1,720 (3.1%) lower than in December 2019.

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 5 shows the size of each group in the reserved public sector as at December 2020.

Chart 5: Breakdown of Reserved Public Sector Employment by Sector as at December 2020, Headcount



Source: Public Sector Employment in Scotland, Quarter 4 2020
Note: Totals may not equal the sum of the individual parts due to rounding.

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

- Employment levels for Other Public Sector⁵ falling by -2,080 (-9.3%) from 22,300 in December 2019 to 20,200 in December 2020;

while:

- Employment levels for the Reserved Civil Service increased by 230 (0.9%) to 24,600;
- Employment levels for the Armed Forces increased by 130 (1.3%) to 9,800.

Figure 4: Percentage Change (from December 2019 to December 2020) in the Reserved Public Sector, Headcount



Armed Forces had the largest increase at 1.3%.

Other Public Sector⁵ had the largest decrease at -9.3%.

⁵ 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.

5. Civil Service Employment in Scotland; Headcount

(see Tables 5 and 6)

This section provides a summary of the civil service in Scotland.

In December 2020, there were 46,100 people employed as civil servants in Scotland. This is made up of 21,600 (46.8%) people working in the Devolved Civil Service and 24,600 (53.2%) working in UK government departments. The total number of civil servants has increased by 1,190 (2.6%) between December 2019 and December 2020.

The **devolved civil service** is made up of:

- Scottish Government Core Departments
- Scottish Government Agencies
- Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service
- Non-Ministerial Departments

The **reserved civil service** is made up of:

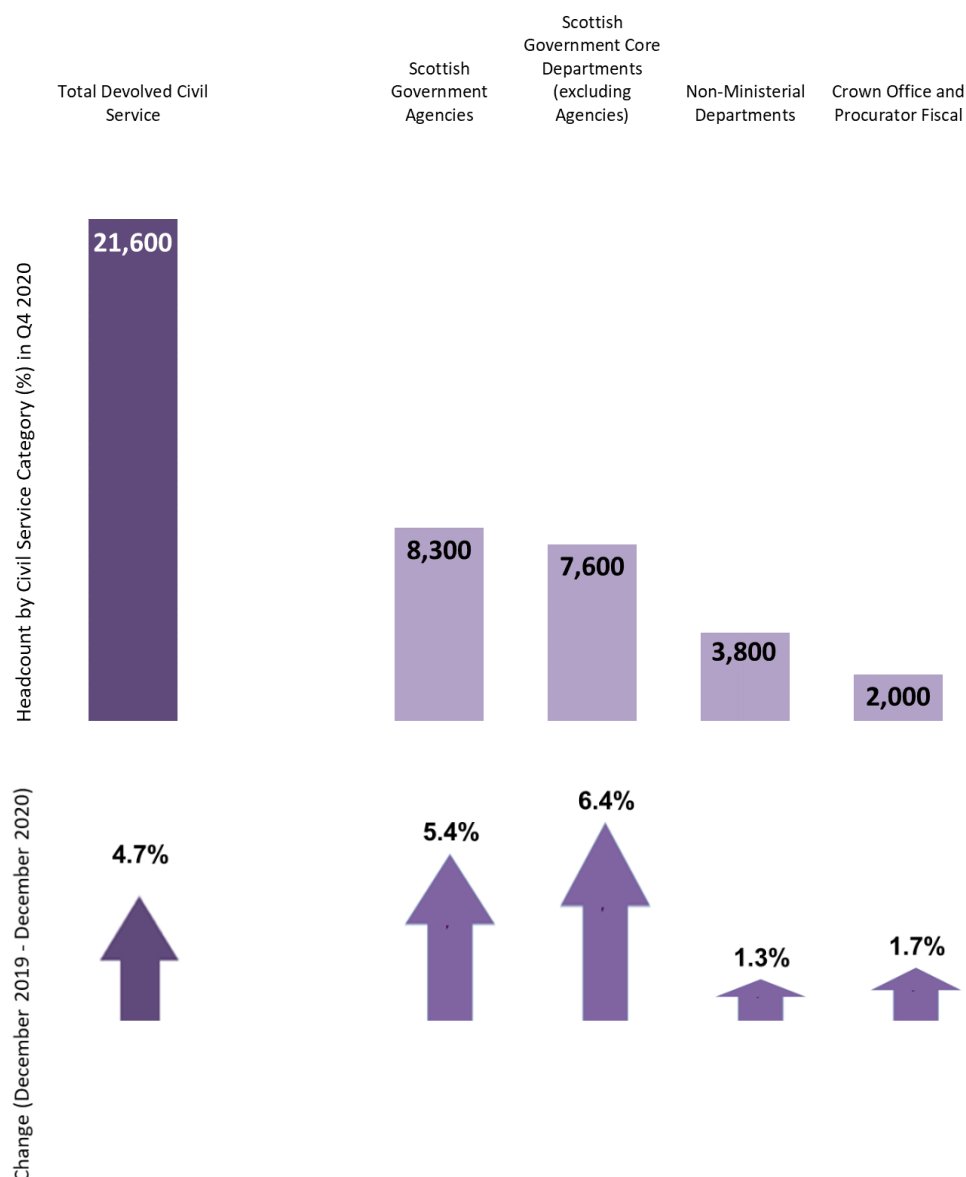
- UK Government Departments
- Scotland Office

Devolved Civil Service

The Devolved Civil Service has 960 (4.7%) more people employed in December 2020 than in December 2019.

Chart 6 shows a breakdown of the Devolved Civil Service in Scotland as of December 2020⁶.

Chart 6: Breakdown of Devolved Civil Service Employment in Scotland as at December 2020, Headcount



Source: Public Sector Employment in Scotland, Quarter 4 2020
 Note: Totals may not equal the sum of individual parts due to rounding.

⁶ When interpreting changes over time in the Devolved Civil Service in Scotland it should be noted that due to organisational changes, staff have transferred between the Scottish Government core directorates and agencies. Detail about the above changes can be found in the background notes. <https://www.gov.scot/publications/about-public-sector-employment-statistics/pages/background-notes/>

Scottish Government Core

In December 2020, there were 7,600 people employed in Scottish Government (SG) Core Directorates, which is 35.2% of the devolved civil service in Scotland. Employment in SG Core Directorates was 460 (6.4%) higher in December 2020, compared with December 2019.

Scottish Government Agencies⁷

There were 8,300 people employed in Scottish Government Agencies in December 2020. Employment in SG Agencies increased by 420 (5.4%) compared with December 2019.

Non Ministerial Departments

Non Ministerial Departments (NMD) include National Records of Scotland, Registers of Scotland, Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator, Scottish Courts and Tribunals Service, Scottish Housing Regulator (from April 2012), Revenue Scotland (from January 2015), Food Standards Scotland (from April 2015) and Scottish Fiscal Commission (from September 2017). In December 2020, there were 3,800 people employed in these NMDs. This was 50 (1.3%) more than in December 2019.

Crown Office & Procurator Fiscal

In December 2020, there were 2,000 people employed in the Crown Office & Procurator Fiscal, an increase of 30 (1.7%) since December 2019.

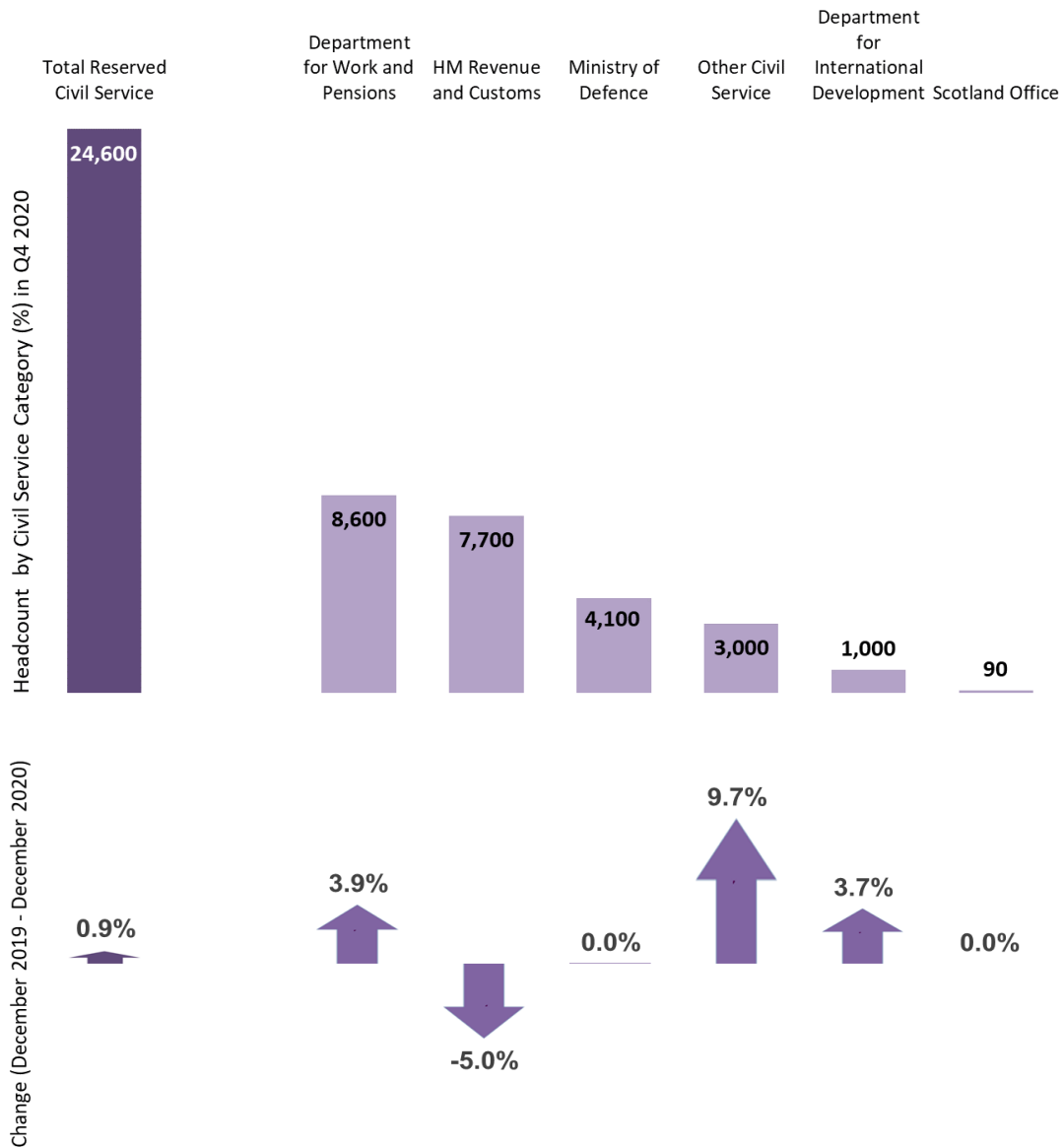
⁷ Scottish Government Agencies includes Scottish Prison Service, Disclosure Scotland, Transport Scotland, Student Awards Agency for Scotland, Scottish Public Pensions Agency, Accountant in Bankruptcy and Historic Scotland until Q3 2015, Social Security Scotland from Q3 2018 and Forestry and Land Scotland and Scottish Forestry from Q3 2019.

Reserved Civil Service

Employment in the Reserved Civil Service was 230 (0.9%) higher than in December 2019, increasing from 24,300 in December 2019 to 24,600 in December 2020.

Chart 7 identifies the breakdown of headcount employment in UK government departments as at December 2020.

Chart 7: Breakdown of Employment in the UK Government Departments as of December 2020



Source: Public Sector Employment in Scotland, Quarter 4 2020
 Note: Totals may not equal the sum of individual parts due to rounding

Department for Work and Pensions

In December 2020, there were 8,600 people employed in the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP). Employment in DWP was 330 (3.9%) higher in December 2020 compared with December 2019.

HM Revenue and Customs

There were 7,700 people employed in HM Revenue and Customs in December 2020, 400 (-5.0%) fewer than December 2019.

Ministry of Defence

There were 4,100 people employed in the Ministry of Defence in December 2020, the same as in December 2019.

Other Civil Service⁸

The number of people employed in Other Reserved Civil Service in December 2020 was 3,000, 270 (9.7%) higher than December 2019.

Department for International Development

The number of people employed in the Department for International Development in December 2020 was 1,000, 40 (3.7%) higher than December 2019.

Scotland Office

In December 2020, there were 90 people employed in the Scotland Office, the same as in December 2019.

⁸ Other Civil Service includes Home Office, Ministry of Justice, Department for Transport, Food Standards Agency (until 31 March 2015), Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy, Chancellor's Other Departments, Department for International Trade, HM Treasury, Office of Gas and Electricity Markets, Office of Rail and Road, UK Export Finance, UK Statistics Authority, Cabinet Office and Driver and Vehicles Standards Agency.

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These tables include comparisons for Q4 in 1999 and 2014 to 2020 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

	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
Q4 1999	2,276,000	1,725,000	75.8%	551,200	24.2%	1,743,000	76.6%	533,000	23.4%
Q4 2014	2,596,000	2,034,500	78.4%	561,100	21.6%	2,063,000	79.5%	533,000	20.5%
Q4 2015	2,624,000	2,063,400	78.6%	560,900	21.4%	2,092,000	79.7%	532,000	20.3%
Q4 2016	2,612,000	2,053,900	78.6%	558,600	21.4%	2,082,000	79.7%	530,000	20.3%
Q4 2017	2,640,000	2,081,100	78.8%	558,500	21.2%	2,109,000	79.9%	531,000	20.1%
Q4 2018	2,650,000	2,098,000	79.2%	551,700	20.8%	2,110,000	79.6%	539,000	20.4%
Q4 2019 r	2,640,000	2,079,000	78.7%	561,300	21.3%	2,094,000	79.3%	546,000	20.7%
Q4 2020	2,633,000	2,059,400	78.2%	573,200	21.8%	2,078,000	78.9%	555,000	21.1%
Change on year to:									
Q4 2020	-7,610	-19,580	-0.5 p.p.	11,970	0.5 p.p.	-17,000	-0.4 p.p.	9,000	0.4 p.p.
% change on year:									
Q4 2020	-0.3%	-0.9%		2.1%		-0.8%		1.6%	

r - due to minor revisions to data

IMPORTANT NOTE: Estimates for private sector employment are based on the Labour Force Survey. Labour Force Survey (LFS) responses are weighted to official population projections. As the current projections are 2018-based they are based on demographic trends that pre-date the COVID-19 pandemic. ONS are analysing the population totals used in the weighting process and may make adjustments if appropriate. Rates published from the LFS remain robust; however, levels and changes in levels (for 2020) should be used with 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

	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
Q4 1999	551,200	474,500	76,700	460,300	387,200	73,100
Q4 2014	561,100	503,700	57,400	480,500	426,800	53,600
Q4 2015	560,900	503,400	57,600	479,700	425,800	53,900
Q4 2016	558,600	502,000	56,600	477,900	424,700	53,200
Q4 2017	558,500	502,800	55,700	479,400	427,100	52,400
Q4 2018	551,700	496,900	54,800	471,600	420,000	51,600
Q4 2019 r	561,300	505,000	56,300	480,100	427,200	53,000
Q4 2020	573,200	518,700	54,600	493,100	441,600	51,500
Change on year to:						
Q4 2020	11,970	13,690	-1,720	12,990	14,480	-1,490
% change on year:						
Q4 2020	2.1%	2.7%	-3.1%	2.7%	3.4%	-2.8%

r - due to minor 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

	Total Devolved Public Sector	NHS	Civil Service	Police and Fire Services²	Further Education Colleges³	Other Public Bodies³	Local Government²	Public Corporations
Q4 1999	474,500	129,800	14,500	-	15,700	8,600	296,000	9,000
Q4 2014	503,700	160,500	17,300	28,600	13,900	14,100	247,000	22,000
Q4 2015	503,400	161,400	16,800	28,200	13,900	15,300	245,000	22,000
Q4 2016	502,000	162,300	16,800	27,900	13,900	15,400	243,000	23,000
Q4 2017	502,800	163,400	17,300	27,600	13,900	15,500	242,000	23,000
Q4 2018	496,900	163,800	18,200	27,800	14,000	16,000	249,000	8,000
Q4 2019 r	505,000	165,900	20,600	28,100	14,200	16,000	252,000	8,000
Q4 2020	518,700	172,600	21,600	28,200	13,400	15,600	254,000	14,000
Change on year to:								
Q4 2020	13,690	6,670	960	100	-850	-330	2,100	5,040
% change on year:								
Q4 2020	2.7%	4.0%	4.7%	0.4%	-6.0%	-2.1%	0.8%	59.6%

r - due to minor 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*

	Total Reserved Public Sector	Civil Service	Armed Forces	Public Bodies²	Public Corporations²	Public Sector Financial Institutions²	Other Public Sector²
Q4 1999	76,700	33,800	15,100	6,000	21,900	-	27,800
Q4 2014	57,400	25,500	9,700	*	*	*	22,200
Q4 2015	57,600	25,600	10,100	*	*	*	21,800
Q4 2016	56,600	25,700	10,000	*	*	*	20,900
Q4 2017	55,700	25,500	9,800	*	*	*	20,400
Q4 2018	54,800	24,900	9,700	*	*	*	20,300
Q4 2019	56,300	24,300	9,700	*	*	*	22,300
Q4 2020	54,600	24,600	9,800	*	*	*	20,200
Change on year to:							
Q4 2020	-1,720	230	130				-2,080
% change on year:							
Q4 2020	-3.1%	0.9%	1.3%				-9.3%

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: Devolved civil service employment; Scotland, Headcount ^{1,2}
Not Seasonally Adjusted

	Devolved Civil Service				
	Total Devolved Civil Service	Scottish Government Core Directorates (excluding Agencies)	Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal	Scottish Government Agencies	Non-Ministerial Departments
Q4 2014	17,300	5,400	1,700	7,200	3,000
Q4 2015	16,800	5,300	1,700	6,400	3,400
Q4 2016	16,800	5,400	1,700	6,200	3,500
Q4 2017	17,300	5,800	1,700	6,100	3,600
Q4 2018	18,200	6,500	1,800	6,400	3,600
Q4 2019	20,600	7,100	1,900	7,800	3,700
Q4 2020	21,600	7,600	2,000	8,300	3,800
<i>Change on year to:</i>					
Q4 2020	960	460	30	420	50
<i>% change on year:</i>					
Q4 2020	4.7%	6.4%	1.7%	5.4%	1.3%

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. Totals may not equal the sum of individual parts due to rounding.
2. For further information on interpreting these series, see the series reclassification guide or background notes of the publication.

Table 6: Reserved civil service employment; Scotland, Headcount ^{1,2}

Not Seasonally Adjusted

	Reserved Civil Service						Other Civil Service
	Total Reserved Civil Service	Ministry of Defence	HM Revenue and Customs	Department for Work and Pensions	Department for International Development	Scotland Office	
Q4 2014	25,500	4,000	8,200	10,000	600	80	2,600
Q4 2015	25,600	3,900	8,900	9,600	600	70	2,500
Q4 2016	25,700	4,000	9,000	9,500	700	70	2,400
Q4 2017	25,500	4,100	8,800	9,400	800	80	2,400
Q4 2018	24,900	4,100	8,200	9,000	900	80	2,600
Q4 2019	24,300	4,100	8,100	8,300	1,000	90	2,800
Q4 2020	24,600	4,100	7,700	8,600	1,000	90	3,000
Change on year to:							
Q4 2020	230	0	-400	330	40	0	270
% change on year:							
Q4 2020	0.9%	0.0%	-5.0%	3.9%	3.7%	0.0%	9.7%

Notes:

1. Employment figures have been rounded to the nearest hundred, with the exception of the Scotland Office figures, which have been rounded to the nearest ten. 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. For further information on interpreting these series, see the series reclassification guide or background notes of the publication.

Table 7: Total devolved public sector employment by sector; Scotland, Full-time equivalent ^{1,4}

Not Seasonally Adjusted

	Total Devolved Public Sector	NHS	Civil Service	Police and Fire Services²	Further Education Colleges³	Other Public Bodies	Local Government²	Public Corporations
Q4 1999	387,200	106,900	14,000	-	11,500	8,000	238,000	9,000
Q4 2014	426,800	137,500	16,400	27,800	10,500	12,800	202,000	20,000
Q4 2015	425,800	138,300	15,900	27,400	10,600	13,800	200,000	20,000
Q4 2016	424,700	139,300	15,900	27,200	10,300	13,800	198,000	21,000
Q4 2017	427,100	140,300	16,300	26,900	10,400	13,900	199,000	21,000
Q4 2018	420,000	140,700	17,200	27,200	10,400	14,200	202,000	8,000
Q4 2019 r	427,200	142,500	19,500	27,400	10,500	14,300	205,000	8,000
Q4 2020	441,600	148,600	20,400	27,500	10,200	14,100	208,000	13,000
Change on year to:								
Q4 2020	14,480	6,170	930	100	-320	-220	2,940	4,890
% change on year:								
Q4 2020	3.4%	4.3%	4.8%	0.3%	-3.0%	-1.5%	1.4%	60.7%

r - due to minor 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 8: Total reserved public sector employment by sector; Scotland, Full-time equivalent ^{1,3}*Not Seasonally Adjusted*

	Total Reserved Public Sector	Civil Service	Armed Forces	Public Bodies ²	Public Corporations²	Public Sector Financial Institutions²	Other Public Sector²
Q4 1999	73,100	31,900	15,100	5,600	20,500	-	26,100
Q4 2014	53,600	23,000	9,700	*	*	*	20,900
Q4 2015	53,900	23,200	10,100	*	*	*	20,600
Q4 2016	53,200	23,400	10,000	*	*	*	19,800
Q4 2017	52,400	23,300	9,800	*	*	*	19,300
Q4 2018	51,600	22,600	9,700	*	*	*	19,300
Q4 2019	53,000	22,100	9,700	*	*	*	21,200
Q4 2020	51,500	22,300	9,800	*	*	*	19,300
<i>Change on year to:</i>							
Q4 2020	-1,490	270	130				-1,890
<i>% change on year:</i>							
Q4 2020	-2.8%	1.2%	1.3%				-8.9%

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.

Table 9: Devolved civil service employment; Scotland, Full-time equivalent ^{1,2}
Not Seasonally Adjusted

	Devolved Civil Service				
	Total Devolved Civil Service ^{3,4}	Scottish Government Core Directorates (excluding Agencies)	Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal	Scottish Government Agencies	Non-Ministerial Departments
Q4 2014	16,400	5,200	1,600	6,900	2,800
Q4 2015	15,900	5,100	1,600	6,100	3,100
Q4 2016	15,900	5,100	1,600	6,000	3,200
Q4 2017	16,300	5,500	1,600	5,800	3,400
Q4 2018	17,200	6,200	1,600	6,000	3,300
Q4 2019	19,500	6,800	1,800	7,400	3,500
Q4 2020	20,400	7,300	1,800	7,800	3,500
<i>Change on year to:</i>					
Q4 2020	930	440	40	410	40
<i>% change on year:</i>					
Q4 2020	4.8%	6.5%	2.1%	5.5%	1.1%

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

Table 10: Reserved civil service employment; Scotland, Full-time equivalent ^{1,2}
Not Seasonally Adjusted

	Reserved Civil Service						
	Total Reserved Civil Service	Ministry of Defence	HM Revenue and Customs	Department for Work and Pensions	Department for International Development	Scotland Office	Other Civil Service
Q4 2014	23,000	3,900	7,200	8,800	600	80	2,400
Q4 2015	23,200	3,800	7,800	8,600	600	70	2,400
Q4 2016	23,400	3,900	8,000	8,500	700	70	2,200
Q4 2017	23,300	4,000	7,800	8,400	800	70	2,300
Q4 2018	22,600	4,000	7,300	7,900	900	80	2,500
Q4 2019	22,100	4,000	7,200	7,200	900	90	2,600
Q4 2020	22,300	4,000	6,900	7,600	1,000	90	2,800
Change on year to:							
Q4 2020	270	-10	-310	320	30	0	230
% change on year:							
Q4 2020	1.2%	-0.2%	-4.3%	4.4%	3.4%	0.0%	8.8%

Notes:

1. Employment figures have been rounded to the nearest hundred, with the exception of the Scotland Office figures, which have been rounded to the nearest ten. 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. For further information on interpreting these series, see the series reclassification guide or background notes of the publication.

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