



A National Statistics publication for Scotland



Scottish Government  
Riaghaltas na h-Alba

## ECONOMY AND LABOUR MARKET

# Public Sector Employment in Scotland Statistics for 1st Quarter 2023

### 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 March 2023.

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

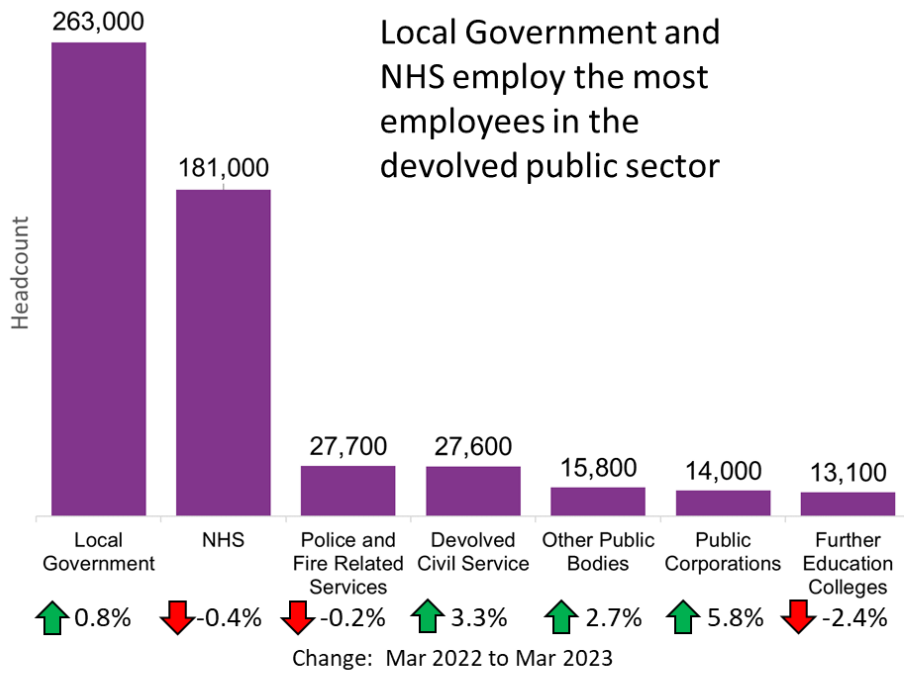
Q1 2023

Public Sector  
Employment  
Headcount  
598,600  
↑ 0.5%

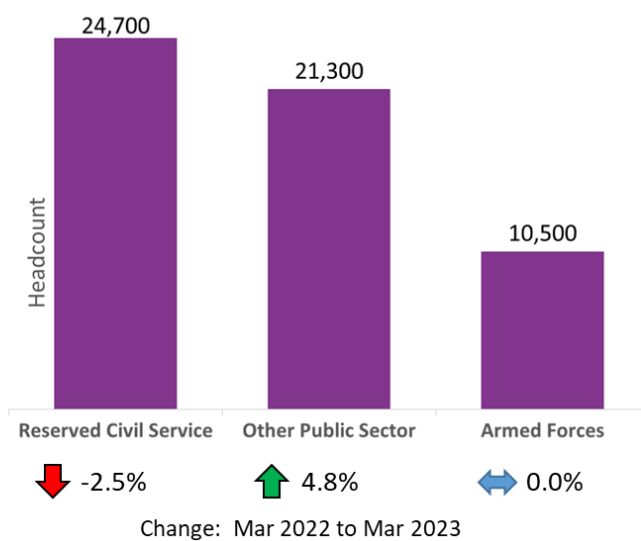


Private Sector  
Employment  
Headcount  
2,059,900  
↓ -1.6%

Devolved Public Sector Headcount: 542,200 ↑ 0.5%



Reserved Public Sector Headcount: 56,400 ↑ 0.6%



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

The 'Public Corporations' saw the largest percentage increase (5.8%), while 'Reserved civil service' saw the largest decrease (-2.5%).

Source: Public Sector Employment, Joint Staffing Watch, Scottish Government, ONS  
Changes between Mar 2022 and Mar 2023 are shown

# Summary

Key points - based on headcount data:

- in March 2023, there were 598,600 people employed in the public sector in Scotland, accounting for 22.5% of total employment<sup>1</sup>.
- in March 2023, employment in the public sector was 3,210 (0.5%) more than in March 2022.
- when major reclassifications are excluded, the public sector increased between March 2022 and March 2023 by around 3,000 (0.5%)<sup>2</sup>.
- of the total 598,600 people employed in the public sector in Scotland, 542,200 (90.6%) were employed in the devolved public sector in March 2023. This was 2,880 (0.5%) more than in March 2022.
- between March 2022 and March 2023, employment in the devolved public sector increased by:
  - 1,970 (0.8%) in Local Government
  - 880 (3.3%) in the Devolved Civil Service
  - 760 (5.8%) in Public Corporations
  - 420 (2.7%) in Other Public Bodies

Employment in the devolved public sector decreased by:

- 770 (-0.4%) in the NHS
- 330 (-2.4%) in Further Education Colleges
- 50 (-0.2%) in Police and Fire Related Services
- in March 2023, there were 56,400 people employed in the Reserved Public Sector in Scotland. This was 330 (0.6%) more than in March 2022. The Reserved Public Sector accounts for 9.4% of total public sector employment in Scotland.
- between March 2022 and March 2023, employment within the Reserved Public Sector decreased in the reserved Civil Service by 640 (-2.5%). Employment increased in Other Public Sector<sup>3</sup> by 970 (4.8%).

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<sup>1</sup> Estimates for **total employment and private sector employment** are based on the Labour Force Survey, ONS.

<sup>2</sup> Further details on major reclassifications are provided on page 5 and on the [About public sector employment statistics](#) page of the Scottish Government website.

<sup>3</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.

# About this publication

## Major Reclassifications

An outline of major reclassifications which have taken place in the Scottish public sector since 2013 are summarised on the [about Public Sector Employment statistics – classifications webpage](#)

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 summarised on the [about Public Sector Employment statistics – classifications webpage](#)

## Public Sector Employment Web section

The [Public Sector Employment Web section](#) provides additional information to this National Statistics publication, including the [Public Sector Employment data web tables](#)

The web section includes detailed information on:

- 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 for 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 \(ONS\) Public Sector Employment publication tables](#).

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

## 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 on the [about Public Sector Employment statistics - background notes webpage](#)

## 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 civil service including Scottish Government, Scottish Government Agencies, Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal and Non-Ministerial Departments and the reserved civil service are updated and published in our associated [Public Sector Employment statistics web tables](#). Tables 5 and 6 provide the headcount figures for the devolved and reserved civil service and Tables 12 and 13 provide the full-time equivalent figures.

Next Publication: September 2023

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

(see Table 1)

Public sector employment in Scotland increased by 3,210 (0.5%) between March 2022 and March 2023. 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.

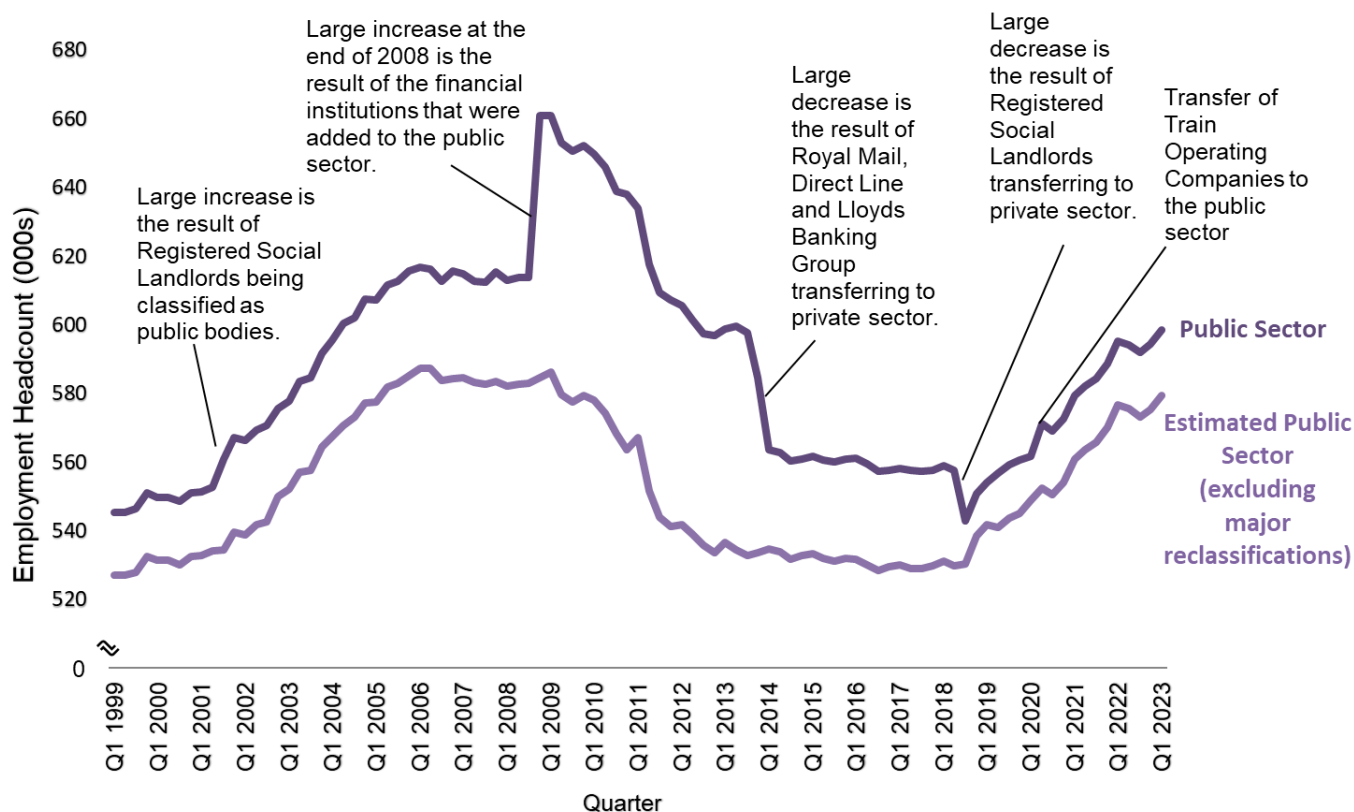
Figure 1: Public and Private<sup>4</sup> Sector Employment in Scotland as at March 2023



Source: Public Sector Employment in Scotland, Quarter 1 2023

<sup>4</sup> Estimates for **private sector employment** are based on non-seasonally adjusted total employment estimates from the Labour Force Survey, ONS and public sector employment figures.

Chart 1: Public Sector Employment in Scotland between March 1999 and March 2023, Headcount, non-seasonally adjusted



Source: Public Sector Employment in Scotland, Quarter 1 2023

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>5</sup> (i.e. taking out the headcounts for all large organisations listed in footnote 5 from the overall numbers), the number of people employed in the public sector gradually reached a peak in Q2 2006, decreased until 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. Since Q4 2018, the series has typically been increasing over time.

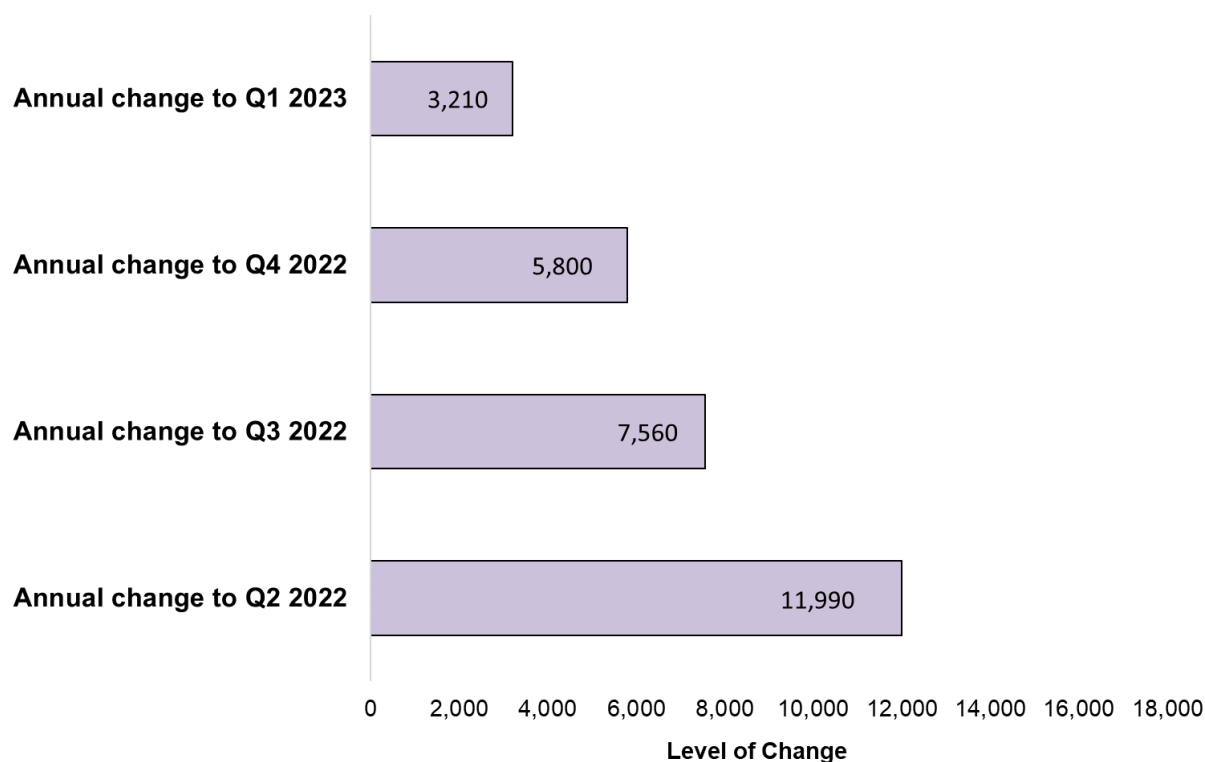
Chart 2 shows the annual change in employment for the public sector. Employment increased by 3,210 (0.5%) between March 2022 and March 2023, driven by increases in the devolved public sector headcount. The

<sup>5</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.



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

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



Source: Public Sector Employment in Scotland, Quarter 1, 2023

## Impact of Excluding Major Reclassifications from Public Sector

If the major reclassifications<sup>5</sup> were to be excluded from the public sector series (i.e. the headcounts for all large organisations listed in footnote 5 were taken out of the overall numbers), there would be around 579,000 people employed in the public sector as at March 2023. This would be 21.8% of the total employment in Scotland compared with 22.5% if major reclassifications are included.

Public sector employment, excluding the effects of the major reclassifications, would be around 3,000 (0.5%) higher in March 2023 compared with March 2022. As this increase is similar to the increase when major reclassifications are included (3,210), it shows that the changes over the year are not overly influenced by reclassifications.

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

(see Tables 2, 3 and 4)

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.

The devolved public sector headcount was 0.5% higher (2,880 headcount) in March 2023 compared with March 2022 and the reserved public sector was 0.6% higher (330 headcount).

In the devolved public sector, the Public Corporations saw the largest percentage increase (5.8%) over the year, while Further Education Colleges saw the largest percentage decrease (-2.4%).

The largest increase in headcount over the year was in Local Government (increasing by 1,970) and the largest decrease was in the NHS (decreasing by 770).

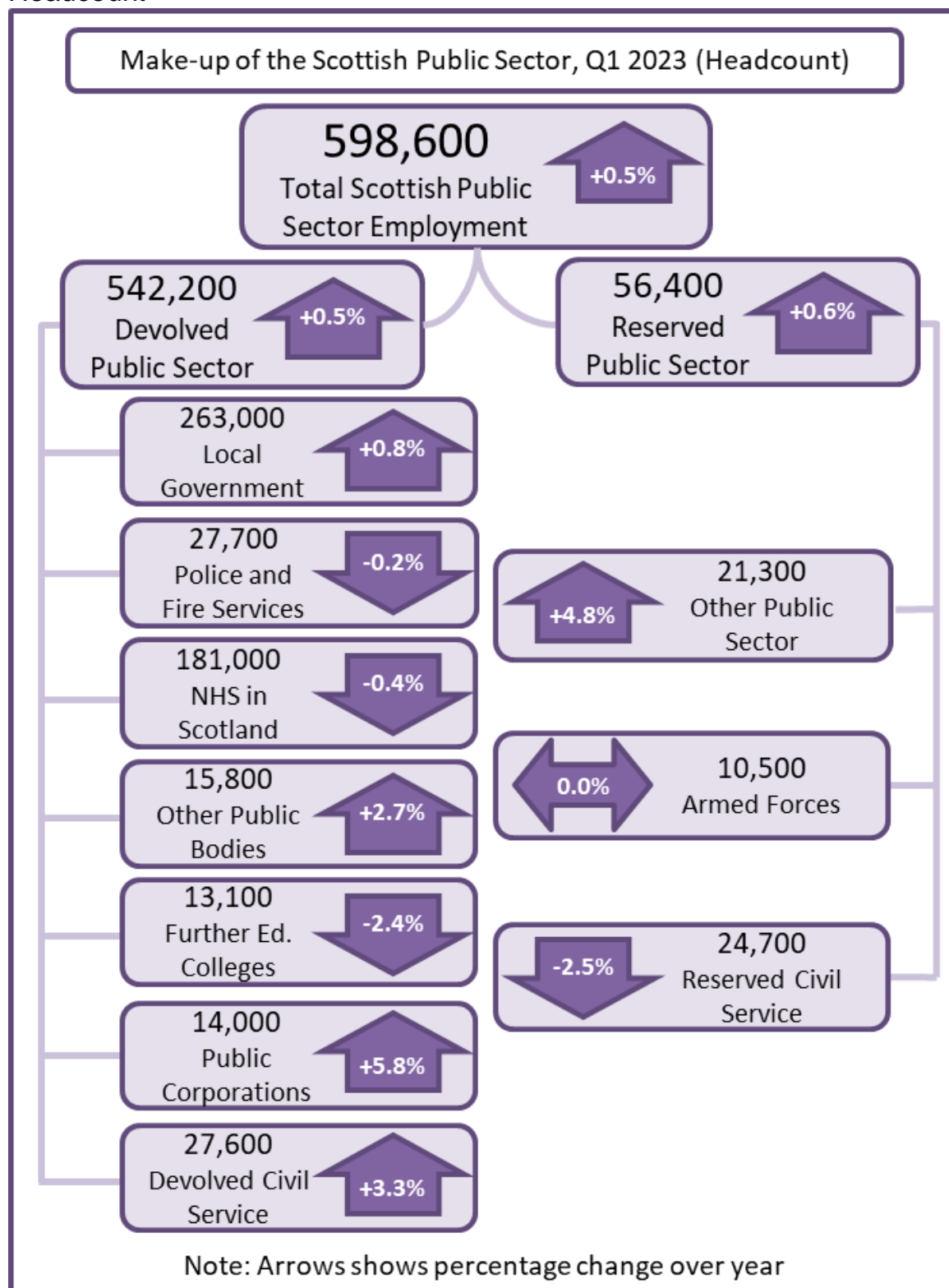
In the Reserved public sector, the Other Public Bodies<sup>6</sup> saw the largest percentage increase (4.8%), while the reserved Civil Service had the largest percentage decrease (-2.5%).

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

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<sup>6</sup> For the Reserved sector: 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.

Figure 2: Make-up of the Scottish Public Sector as at March 2023, Headcount<sup>7</sup>



Source: Public Sector Employment in Scotland, Quarter 1 2023  
 Note: Armed Forces data is only available once per year in July.

<sup>7</sup> For further details on the make-up of the Scottish Public Sector, please see the background notes for this publication on the [About public sector employment statistics – background notes webpage](#)

### **3. Devolved Public Sector Employment in Scotland; Headcount**

(see Table 3)

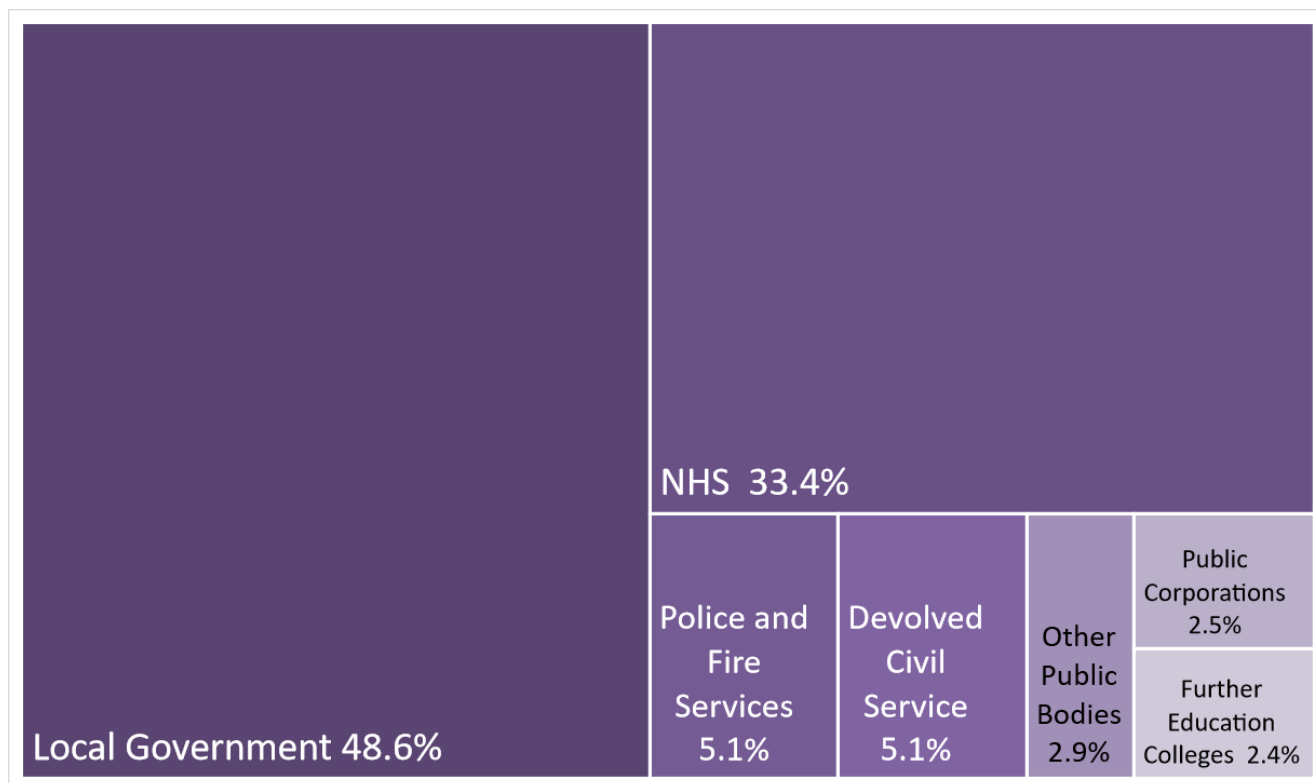
The devolved public sector includes:

- Devolved Civil Service
- 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).

Employment in the devolved public sector was 542,200 in March 2023. This is 2,880 (0.5%) higher than in March 2022. This increase is largely due to an increase in Local Government of 1,970 (0.8%) and growth in Social Security Scotland.

Chart 3 shows the size of each group in the devolved public sector as at March 2023. Local Government and NHS employ the largest proportion of people in the devolved public sector.

Chart 3: Breakdown of Devolved Public Sector Employment by Category as at March 2023, Headcount



Note: Totals may not equal the sum of the individual parts due to rounding

Source: Public Sector Employment in Scotland, Quarter 1 2023

The increase over the year in the devolved public sector headcount was due to the following changes (changes are given from March 2022 to March 2023):

- employment in Local Government increased by 1,970 (0.8%) to 263,000<sup>8</sup>
- employment in Devolved Civil Service increased by 880 (3.3%) to 27,600
- employment in Public Corporations increased by 760 (5.8%) to 14,000
- employment in Other Public Bodies increased by 420 (2.7%) to 15,800

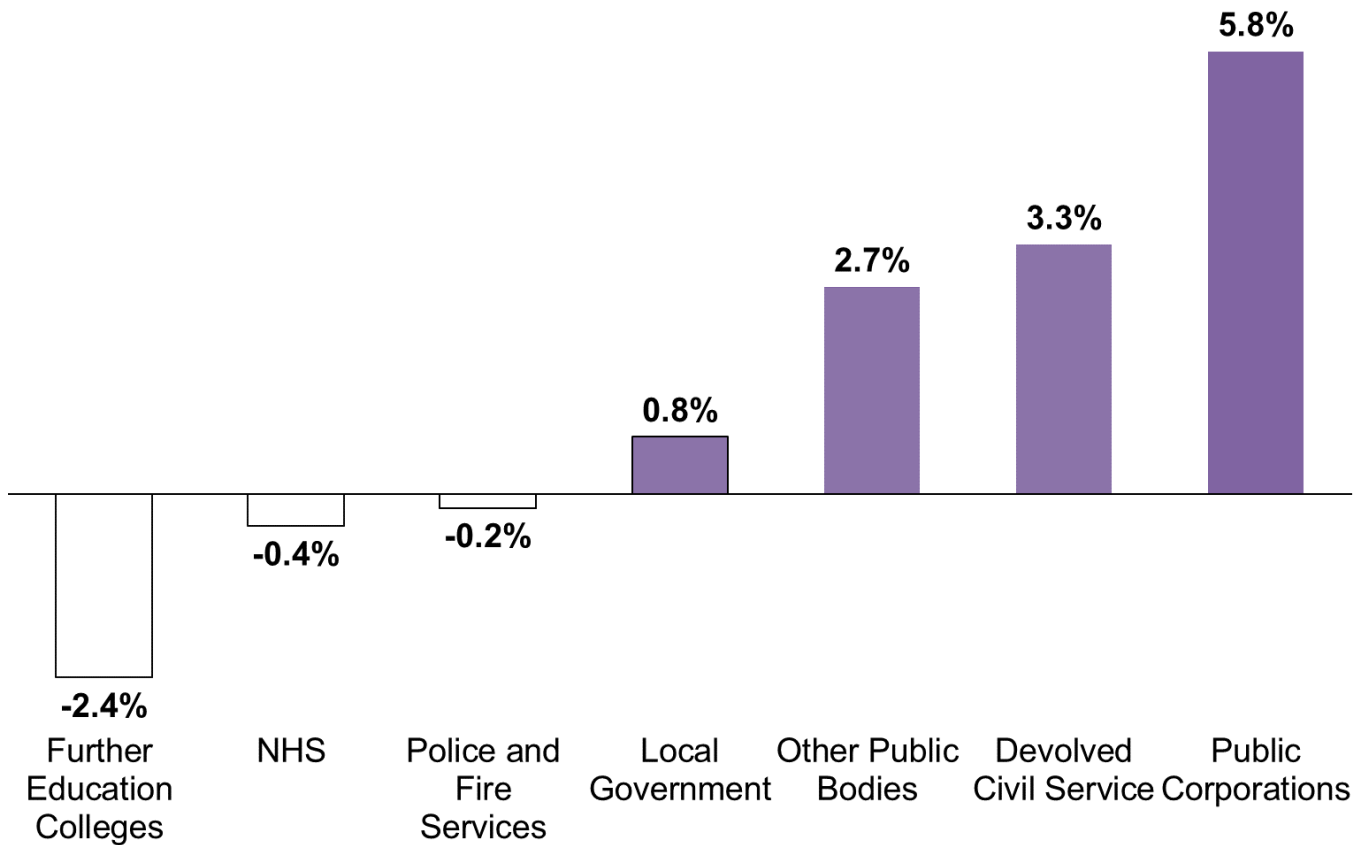
while:

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<sup>8</sup> A more detailed breakdown of the Devolved Civil Service data is published in the associated [Public Sector Employment data web tables](#)

- employment in NHS decreased by 770 (-0.4%) to 181,000
- employment in Further Education Colleges decreased by 330 (-2.4%) to 13,100<sup>9</sup>
- employment in Police and Fire Related Services decreased by 50 (-0.2%) to 27,700

Figure 3: Percentage Change (from March 2022 to March 2023) in the Devolved Public Sector, Headcount



<sup>9</sup> A detailed breakdown of NHS employment by staffing group was published by NHS Education for Scotland (NES) on 6 June 2023, with data relating to 31 March 2023 in their [NHS Scotland official workforce statistics publication](#)

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

(see Table 4)

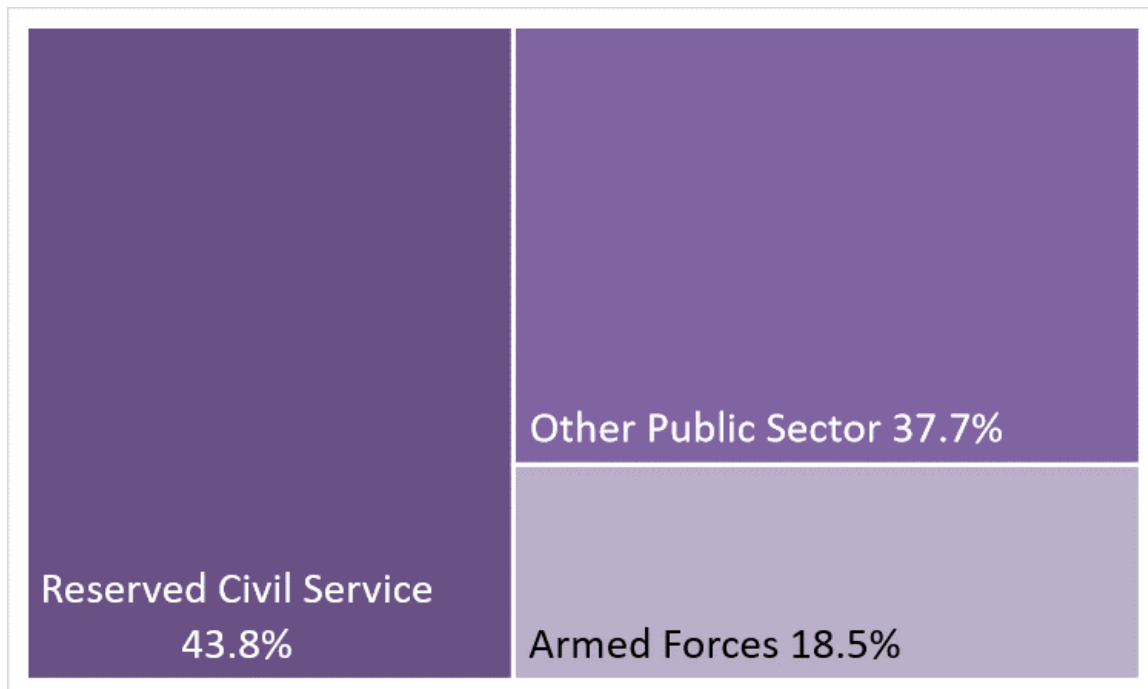
The reserved public sector employment includes:

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

The number of people employed in the reserved public sector in March 2023 was 56,400. This was 330 (0.6%) higher than in March 2022.

Chart 4 shows the size of each group in the reserved public sector as at March 2023. The reserved civil service employs the largest proportion of people in the reserved public sector.

Chart 4: Breakdown of Reserved Public Sector Employment by Sector as at March 2023, Headcount



Source: Public Sector Employment in Scotland, Quarter 1 2023.

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 the following changes (changes are given from March 2022 to March 2023):

- employment in Other Public Sector increased by 970 (4.8%) to 21,300

while:

- employment in Reserved Civil Service decreased by 640 (-2.5%) to 24,700

Armed Forces data is only available once per year, so changes in Armed Forces cannot be given for this quarter.



# List of Tables

**Please note:** figures for previous years in the tables may differ from those in the [Public Sector Employment in Scotland, Statistics for 1st Quarter of 2022](#) publication released in June 2022.

Changes are mostly due to historic revisions to Local Government figures, as well as other minor changes such as the addition of the Scottish National Investment Bank and the 2023 World Cycling Championships Ltd to the collection. Q1 2022 has also been revised to take into account temporary census workers at NRS.

These tables are also provided in ODS (OpenDocument Spreadsheet) format as a supplementary document accompanying this publication. The ODS version conforms to the Scottish Government's accessibility guidelines.

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These tables include comparisons for 1999 and 2017 to 2023 only. A complete time series, including all quarters back to Q1 1999, is provided in the [Public Sector Employment web tables](#)

**Table 1: Number of people employed by public and private sector; Scotland, Headcount<sup>1</sup>**

Not Seasonally Adjusted

Quarter <sup>7</sup>	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
Q1 1999	2,228,000	1,682,900	75.5%	545,500	24.5%	1,701,000	76.3%	527,000	23.7%
Q1 2017 r	2,644,000	2,086,000	78.9%	558,200	21.1%	2,114,000	80.0%	530,000	20.0%
Q1 2018 r	2,643,000	2,084,000	78.8%	559,100	21.2%	2,112,000	79.9%	531,000	20.1%
Q1 2019 r	2,676,000	2,121,600	79.3%	554,200	20.7%	2,134,000	79.7%	542,000	20.3%
Q1 2020 r	2,630,000	2,068,400	78.6%	561,800	21.4%	2,081,000	79.1%	549,000	20.9%
Q1 2021 r	2,632,000	2,052,300	78.0%	579,300	22.0%	2,071,000	78.7%	561,000	21.3%
Q1 2022 r	2,688,000	2,092,800	77.9%	595,400	22.1%	2,111,000	78.5%	577,000	21.5%
Q1 2023	2,658,000	2,059,900	77.5%	598,600	22.5%	2,079,000	78.2%	579,000	21.8%
<b>Change on year to Q1 2023</b>	-29,750	-32,960	-0.4 p.p.	3,210	0.4 p.p.	-32,000	-0.3 p.p.	3,000	0.3 p.p.
<b>% change on year Q1 2023</b>	-1.1%	-1.6%		0.5%		-1.5%		0.5%	

p.p. - percentage points, r - revision

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).

7. There have been minor revisions to this data since the Q1 data was published a year ago. These are mostly due to historic revisions in Local Government figures. The Scottish National Investment Bank and the 2023 World Cycling Championships Ltd have been added to the data within the last year, including a backseries. Q1 2022 is affected by a larger amendment made to include temporary census workers at NRS

**Table 2: Public sector employment by devolved and reserved sector; Scotland, Headcount and Full-time equivalent<sup>1</sup>**

Not Seasonally Adjusted

Quarter <sup>4</sup>	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>
Q1 1999	545,500	471,000	74,400	455,200	384,000	71,200
Q1 2017 r	558,200	502,100	56,100	477,900	425,300	52,700
Q1 2018 r	559,100	503,100	56,000	479,800	427,200	52,600
Q1 2019 r	554,200	499,100	55,000	473,700	421,900	51,800
Q1 2020 r	561,800	508,000	53,900	480,500	429,700	50,700
Q1 2021 r	579,300	523,900	55,400	499,100	446,700	52,400
Q1 2022 r	595,400	539,300	56,100	513,500	460,300	53,200
Q1 2023	598,600	542,200	56,400	516,900	463,200	53,600
<b>Change on year to Q1 2023</b>	3,210	2,880	330	3,330	2,910	420
<b>% change on year Q1 2023</b>	0.5%	0.5%	0.6%	0.6%	0.6%	0.8%

r - revision

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)

4. There have been minor revisions to this data since the Q1 data was published a year ago. The revisions are mostly in the Devolved Public Sector. There have been historic revisions in Local Government figures. The Scottish National Investment Bank and the 2023 World Cycling Championships Ltd have been added to the data within the last year, including a backseries. Q1 2022 is affected by a larger amendment made to include temporary census workers at NRS

**Table 3: Total devolved public sector employment by sector; Scotland, Headcount<sup>1,4</sup>**

Not Seasonally Adjusted

Quarter <sup>5</sup>	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
Q1 1999	471,000	129,000	14,600	-	15,700	8,300	294,000	9,000
Q1 2017 r	502,100	162,600	17,000	27,800	14,000	15,400	242,000	23,000
Q1 2018 r	503,100	163,100	17,400	27,500	14,000	15,500	242,000	23,000
Q1 2019 r	499,100	164,100	18,700	27,900	14,200	16,000	250,000	8,000
Q1 2020 r	508,000	167,000	21,100	28,400	14,400	15,800	253,000	8,000
Q1 2021 r	523,900	177,700	22,200	28,200	13,400	15,700	253,000	13,000
Q1 2022 r	539,300	181,700	26,700	27,800	13,400	15,400	261,000	13,000
Q1 2023	542,200	181,000	27,600	27,700	13,100	15,800	263,000	14,000
<b>Change on year to Q1 2023</b>	2,880	-770	880	-50	-330	420	1,970	760
<b>% change on year Q1 2023</b>	0.5%	-0.4%	3.3%	-0.2%	-2.4%	2.7%	0.8%	5.8%

r - revision

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.

5. There have been minor revisions to this data since the Q1 data was published a year ago. There have been historic revisions in Local Government figures. The Scottish National Investment Bank and the 2023 World Cycling Championships Ltd have been added to the data within the last year, including a backseries. Q1 2022 is affected by a larger amendment made to include temporary census workers at NRS

**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	Other Public Sector <sup>2</sup>
Q1 1999	74,400	33,700	14,800	25,900
Q1 2017	56,100	25,700	9,800	20,600
Q1 2018	56,000	25,400	9,700	20,900
Q1 2019	55,000	25,000	9,700	20,400
Q1 2020	53,900	24,300	9,800	19,800
Q1 2021	55,400	25,100	10,100	20,200
Q1 2022 r	56,100	25,300	10,500	20,300
Q1 2023	56,400	24,700	10,500	21,300
<b>Change on year to Q1 2023</b>	330	-640	0	970
<b>% change on year Q1 2023</b>	0.6%	-2.5%	0.0%	4.8%

r - revision

1. 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. 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
Q1 1999	384,000	106,000	14,100	-	11,500	7,700	235,000	9,000
Q1 2017 r	425,300	139,400	16,000	27,100	10,300	13,800	198,000	21,000
Q1 2018	427,200	139,900	16,400	26,800	10,500	14,000	199,000	21,000
Q1 2019	421,900	140,900	17,700	27,300	10,600	14,200	203,000	8,000
Q1 2020	429,700	143,400	20,000	27,700	10,600	14,200	206,000	8,000
Q1 2021	446,700	152,400	21,000	27,600	10,200	14,200	208,000	13,000
Q1 2022 r	460,300	156,900	25,000	27,100	10,400	14,000	214,000	12,000
Q1 2023	463,200	156,200	26,300	27,100	10,100	14,400	216,000	13,000
<b>Change on year to Q1 2023</b>	2,910	-700	1,230	-30	-290	410	1,620	680
<b>% change on year Q1 2023</b>	0.6%	-0.4%	4.9%	-0.1%	-2.8%	2.9%	0.8%	5.5%

r - revision

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.

5. There have been minor revisions to this data since the Q1 data was published a year ago. The Scottish National Investment Bank and the 2023 World Cycling Championships Ltd have been added to the data within the last year, including a backseries (some of these revisions will not be apparent due to rounding). Q1 2022 is affected by a larger amendment made to include temporary census workers at NRS

**Table 6: Total reserved public sector employment by sector; Scotland, Full-time equivalent <sup>1,3</sup>**  
Not Seasonally Adjusted

<b>Quarter</b>	<b>Total Reserved Public Sector</b>	<b>Civil Service</b>	<b>Armed Forces</b>	<b>Other Public Sector<sup>2</sup></b>
Q1 1999	71,200	32,100	14,800	24,300
Q1 2017	52,700	23,300	9,800	19,500
Q1 2018	52,600	23,200	9,700	19,800
Q1 2019	51,800	22,700	9,700	19,500
Q1 2020	50,700	22,000	9,800	18,900
Q1 2021	52,400	22,900	10,100	19,400
Q1 2022 r	53,200	23,300	10,500	19,500
Q1 2023	53,600	22,700	10,500	20,500
<b>Change on year to Q1 2023</b>	420	-560	0	980
<b>% change on year Q1 2023</b>	0.8%	-2.4%	0.0%	5.0%

r - revision

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. 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.

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- are produced, managed and disseminated to high standards
- are explained well

### Correspondence and enquiries

For enquiries about this publication please contact:

Labour Market Statistics Team,  
OCEAES: Labour Market and Employability Statistics Unit  
Telephone: 0131 244 6773  
e-mail: [lmstats@gov.scot](mailto:lmstats@gov.scot)

For general enquiries about Scottish Government statistics please contact:

Office of the Chief Statistician, Telephone: 0131 244 0442  
e-mail: [statistics.enquiries@gov.scot](mailto:statistics.enquiries@gov.scot)

### How to access background or source data

The data collected for this statistical publication are available via web-tables on the [Public Sector Employment Statistics web tables](#).

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Chief Statistician  
St Andrews House  
Edinburgh  
EH1 3DG  
Telephone: (0131) 244 0302  
e-mail: [statistics.enquiries@gov.scot](mailto:statistics.enquiries@gov.scot)



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