

Quarterly Statistics Report

Highlights for Quarter 1 2022–23:

1 April – 30 June 2022

Publication date:

Publication code:

Published by the Scottish Qualifications Authority SQA Accreditation

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<https://accreditation.sqa.org.uk>

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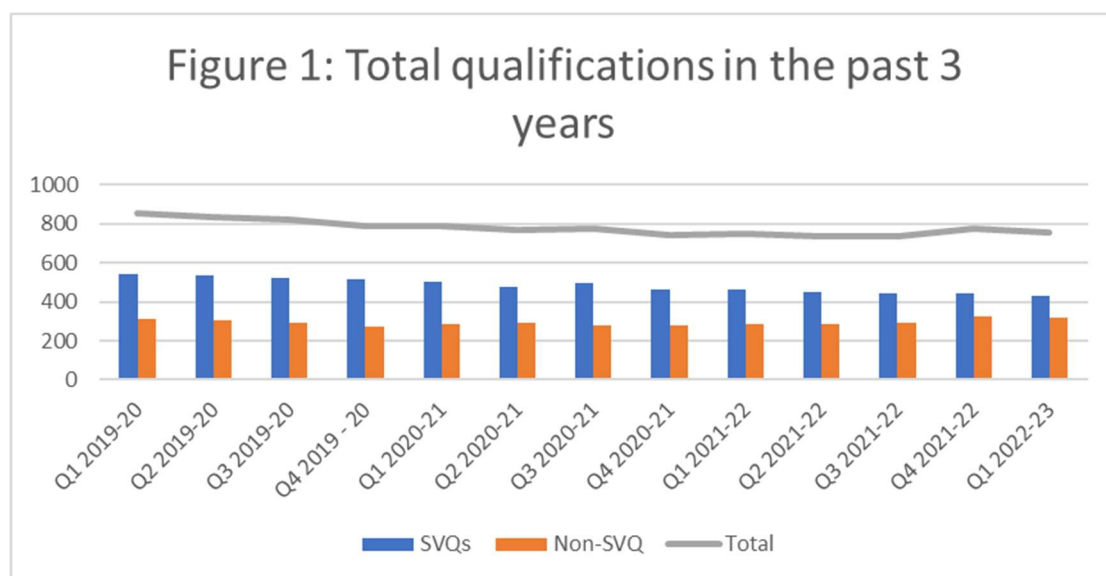
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Summary

This report provides statistical information on SQA Accreditation approved qualifications for the fourth quarter (Q1) of 2022–23 (1 April – 30 June 2022). This data is submitted by awarding bodies, who are responsible for quality assuring their data submissions.

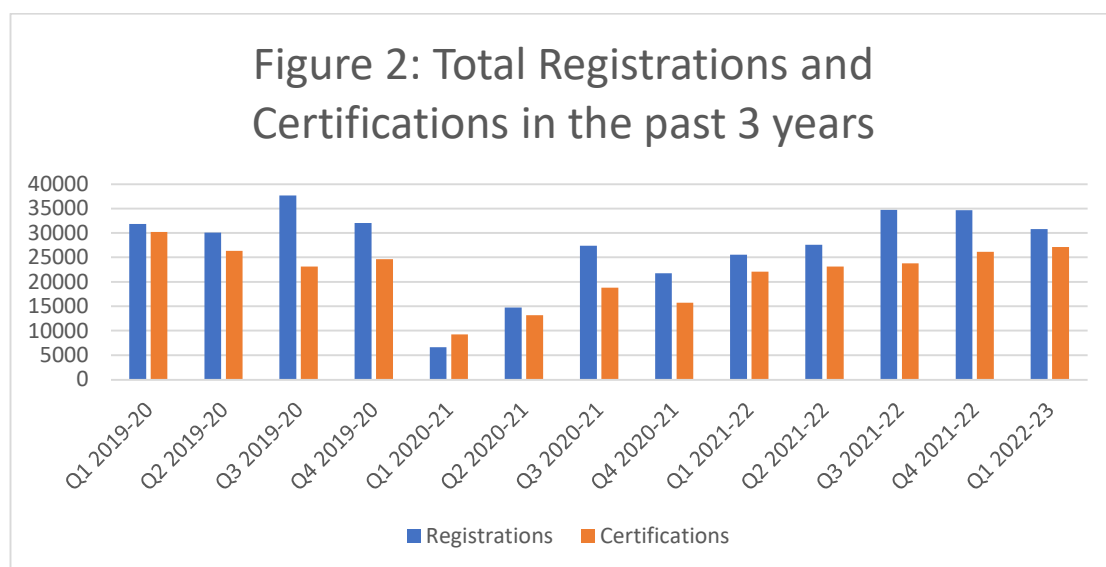
From Q1 2022–23 we will only report on two qualification type categories (SVQs and Non-SVQs), compared to the three that were used previously (SVQs, Other, and Regulation & Licencing).



At the end of this period there were 753 accredited qualifications: 433 Scottish Vocational Qualifications (SVQs), and 320 Non-SVQs.

In Q1 2022–23 there were 753 accredited qualifications, compared to 852 in Q1 of 2019–20.

Data submissions



There were a total of **30,767*** registrations (decrease of 12.5% from Q4 2021-22) and **27,132*** certifications (increase of 3.7% from Q4 2021-22) in Q1.

*These totals do not include workplace core skills.

SVQs

Of these totals, 11,810 (38.4%) were SVQ registrations and 10,868 (40.0%) were SVQ certifications. The SQA awarding body had the highest percentage of SVQ registrations (54.1%) and certifications (55.3%). The developer with the highest proportion of SVQ registrations and certifications was Skills for Care and Development — 24.3% and 19.9%, respectively.

Non-SVQ qualifications

There were 18,957 registrations and 16,264 certifications, a decrease of 29.3% and 20.5% respectively compared to Q4. First Aid Awards Ltd awarding body accounted for 21.3% of registrations and 24.7% of certifications. The developer with the most registrations and certifications was First Aid Awarding Organisation Forum — 37.5% and 43.8% respectively.

Qualification category

The area with the highest number of registrations and certifications is 003 Health Care, Social Care and Childcare, as it was in Q4.

Workplace Core Skills

There were a total of 6622 registrations (a decrease of 32.7% compared to Q4) and 5929 certifications (a decrease of 11.3% compared to Q4).

1 Introduction

SQA Accreditation is the national accrediting body for Scotland with a statutory remit under the Education (Scotland) Act 1996 to accredit and quality assure qualifications in Scotland. Although part of the Scottish Qualifications Authority, SQA Accreditation is distinct and autonomous from SQA's awarding function.

SQA Accreditation sets and specifies the requirements for accrediting qualifications to safeguard and support the interests of learners, parents, funding bodies, employers, providers and Scottish Government. We do this to promote and maintain public confidence in accredited qualifications and approved awarding bodies.

Methodology

This report summarises the qualification data that has been provided to us by approved awarding bodies, referred to as data submissions. Awarding bodies use a [data submission template](#)¹ so all submissions are standardised. Registration and certification data is provided [directly to SQA Accreditation](#) (further information on the methodology can be found in our [methodology](#)² document).

The information in this report covers SQA accredited qualifications during the first quarter (Q1) of 2022–23 (1 April – 30 June 2022) and shows the number of candidates who were:

- ♦ registered for an SQA accredited qualification
- ♦ certificated for an SQA accredited qualification

The data has been analysed in relation to:

- ♦ qualification type
- ♦ awarding body
- ♦ developer
- ♦ qualification category (classification)
- ♦ Workplace Core Skills

This document is published alongside the raw data received from the awarding bodies. If there are any figures below 10, these are removed to protect confidentiality and represented by an asterisk (*). The numbers given do not necessarily represent the number of learners,

1

https://accreditation.sqa.org.uk/accreditation/Research_and_Statistics/Data_Collection_Requirements_and_Guidance

2

https://accreditation.sqa.org.uk/accreditation/accreditationfiles/About_Us/20210412_Methodology.pdf

as a learner could register for several qualifications and could have achieved several certifications. The statistical information in this report is only collated by SQA Accreditation.

For upcoming data submissions, the following deadline dates apply and must be adhered to by all awarding bodies to ensure consistency and accuracy of data in future reports, the guidance document can be used to clarify how data must be submitted:

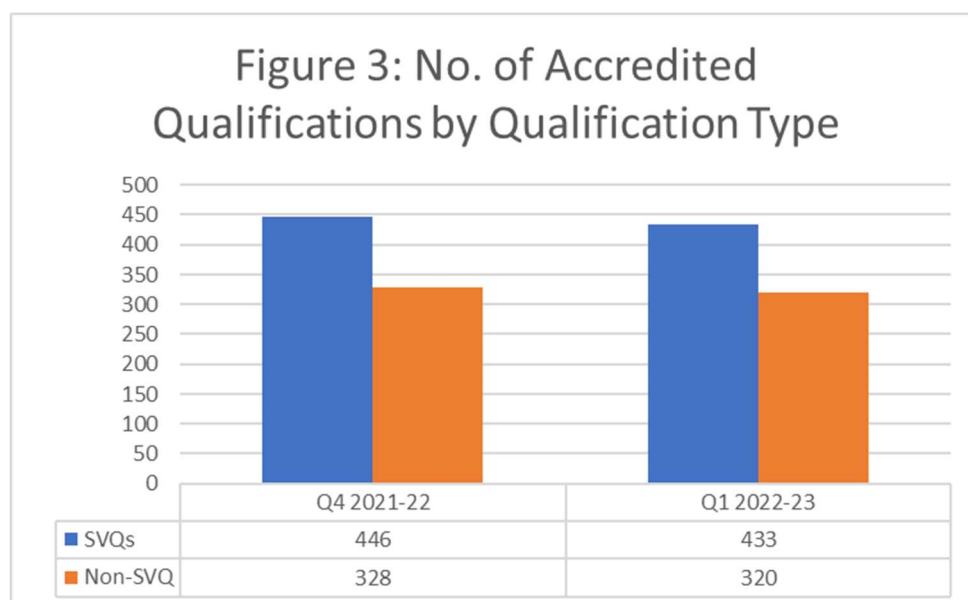
Quarter	Submission deadline
Quarter 2 (1 July – 30 September 2022)	14 October 2022
Quarter 3 (1 October – 31 December 2022)	17 January 2023
Quarter 4 (1 January – 31 March 2023)	14 April 2023
Quarter 1 (1 April – 30 June 2023)	14 July 2023

2 Accredited qualifications

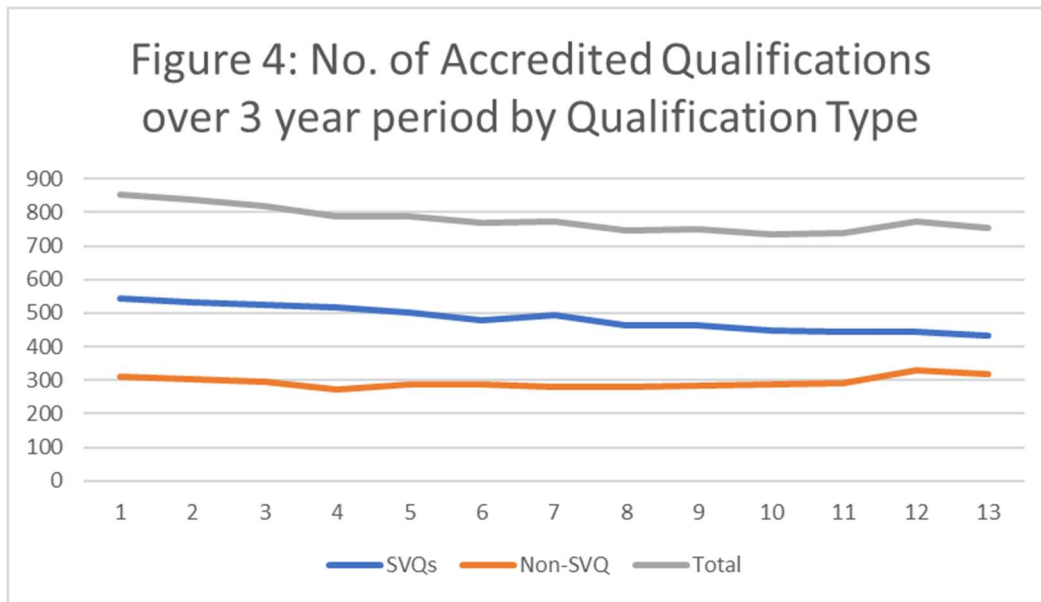
At the end of Q1 of 2022–23 there were 753 live accredited qualifications.*

- ◆ 433 SVQs (57.5%)
- ◆ 320 Non SVQs (42.5%)

*Note that this total does not include qualifications that are within their lapsing period.



Compared to Q4 2021–22, the total number of accredited qualifications has decreased by 21. In Q1 2022–23 there were 753 accredited qualifications, compared to 852 in Q1 of 2019–20.



As shown in the graph, the number of qualifications has remained steady overall, and the number of SVQs has decreased by less than 100 in the last three years.

2.1 Total candidate registrations and certifications

2.1.1 Registrations

30,779 candidates were registered for SQA accredited qualifications in Q1.

This is an 12.5% decrease from Q4 2021–22.

2.1.2 Certifications

27,144 certificates were awarded for SQA accredited qualifications in Q1.

This is a 3.7% increase compared to Q4 2021–22.

2.2 Top ten qualifications

Table 1: Top 10 performing qualifications in terms of registrations

Qualification title	Registrations
NEBOSH National General Certificate in Occupational Health and Safety	1,981
Safecert SCQF Level 6 Award in Emergency First Aid at Work	1835
Award in Emergency First Aid at Work at SCQF Level 6	1624
Award in Emergency First Aid at Work at SCQF Level 6	917
Scottish Certificate for Personal Licence Holders at SCQF Level 6	902
SVQ in Social Services and Healthcare at SCQF Level 7	900
Scottish Certificate for Personal Licence Holders at SCQF Level 6	864
SVQ in Social Services and Healthcare at SCQF Level 6	810
Award in First Aid for Mental Health at SCQF Level 5	745
ITC Certificate in Emergency First Aid at Work at SCQF Level 6	730

NEBOSH National General Certificate in Occupational Health and Safety had the highest number of registrations in Q1 of 2022–23. Compared to figures from Q4:

- ◆ Registrations for this qualification are 27.0% greater.

Table 2: Top 10 performing qualifications in terms of certifications

Qualification title	Certifications
NEBOSH National General Certificate in Occupational Health and Safety	1,960
Safecert SCQF Level 6 Award in Emergency First Aid at Work	1835
Award in Emergency First Aid at Work at SCQF Level 6	1614
Scottish Certificate for Personal Licence Holders at SCQF Level 6	842
Award in Emergency First Aid at Work at SCQF Level 6	838
Award in First Aid for Mental Health at SCQF Level 5	742
ITC Certificate in Emergency First Aid at Work at SCQF Level 6	727
Award in First Aid at Work at SCQF Level 6	725
Highfield Award in Emergency First Aid at Work at SCQF Level 6	716
Scottish Certificate for Personal Licence Holders at SCQF Level 6	708

Safe Cert SCQF Level 6 Award in Emergency First Aid at Work had the highest number of certifications in Q1 of 2022–23. Compared to figures from Q4 of 2021–22:

- ◆ Certifications for this qualification are 42.8% lower.

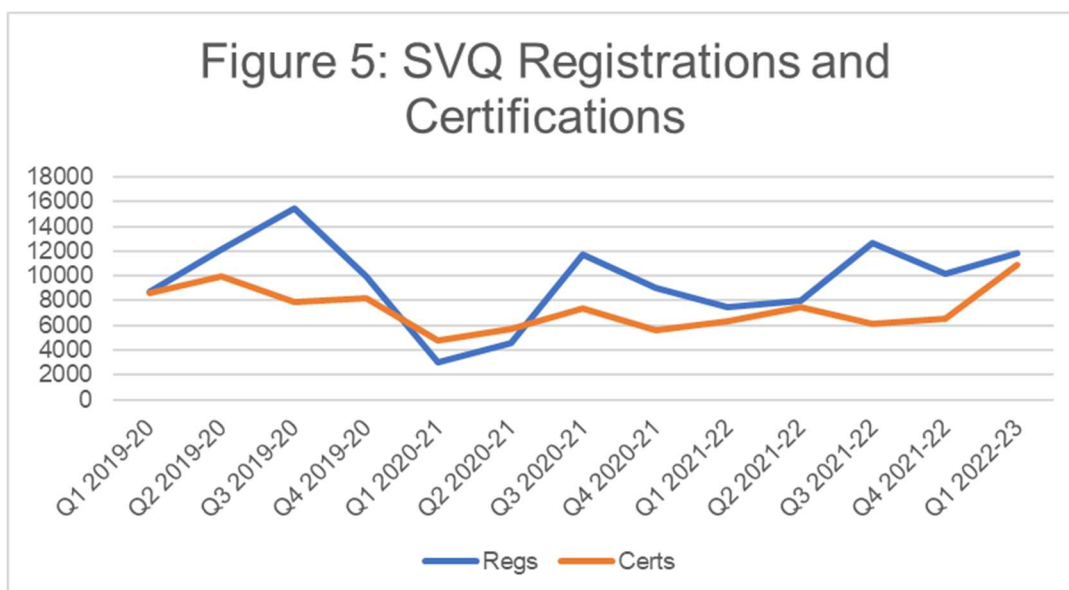
2.3 Registrations and certifications by qualification type

The following figures detail the number of registrations and certifications over a three-year period, broken down by qualification type. As there are peaks and troughs throughout the year for SVQs, it is more appropriate to compare the number of registrations and certifications to the equivalent quarter from the previous year rather than the preceding quarter.

The impact of COVID-19 is evident for all qualification types, as shown by the dip in early 2020–21. However, registrations and certifications have since increased and are now at a level comparable with the pre-pandemic period.

2.3.1 SVQs

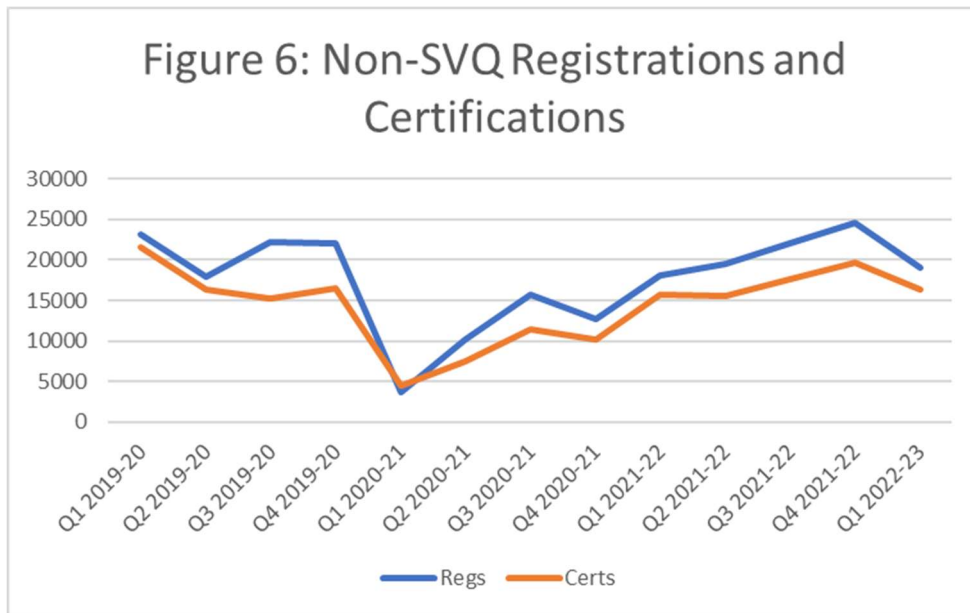
- ◆ 11,810 registrations
- ◆ 10,868 certifications



- ◆ Compared to Q1 of 2020–21, the number of SVQ registrations has increased by 37.1%.
- ◆ Compared to Q1 of 2020–21, the number of SVQ certifications has increased by 41.3%.

2.3.2 Non-SVQs

- ◆ 18,957 registrations
- ◆ 16,264 certifications



In comparison to Q4 of 2021–22:

- ◆ Non-SVQ registrations are 29.3% lower in Q1.
- ◆ Non-SVQ certifications are 20.4% lower in Q1.

Analysis by awarding body

At the end of the first quarter there were 35 awarding bodies approved by SQA Accreditation. The number of qualifications offered by each awarding body varies greatly. The five largest awarding bodies, in terms of qualifications offered, are:

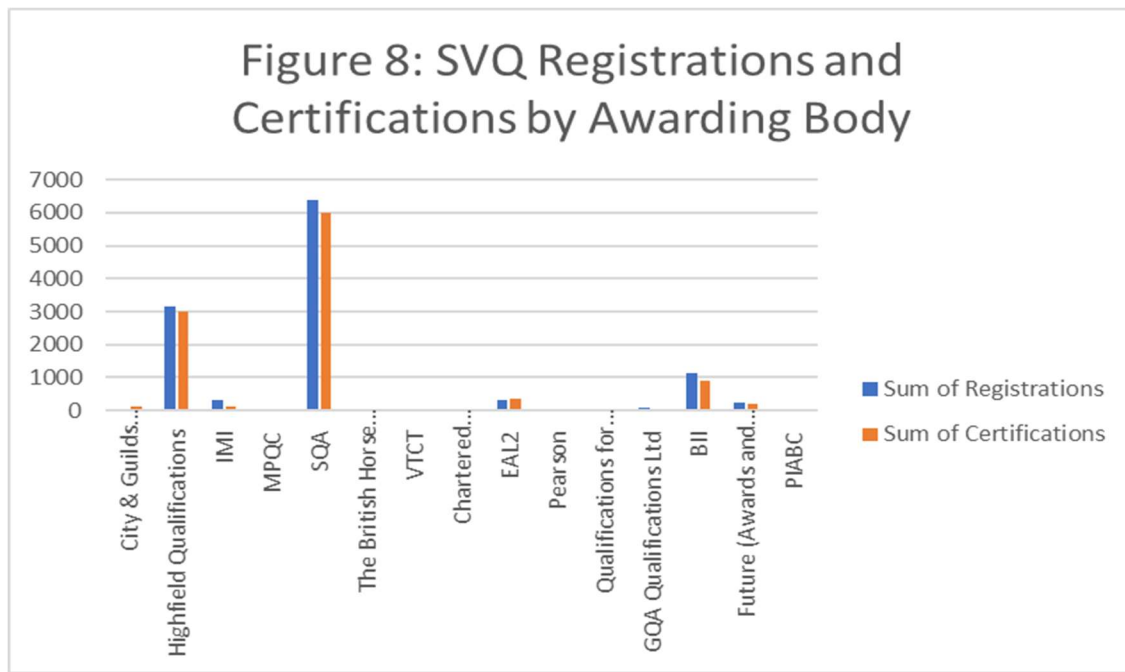
Awarding body	Number of accredited qualifications*
Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA)	457
Institute of the Motor Industry (IMI)	60
City & Guilds	54
Qualifications for Industry (QFI)	41
National Examination Board in Occupational Safety and Health (NEBOSH)	38

*Including qualifications that have passed their lapse dates.

2.4.1 SVQs

SQA continues to have the highest number of SVQ registrations and certifications:

- ◆ 54.1% of SVQ registrations
- ◆ 55.3% of SVQ certifications

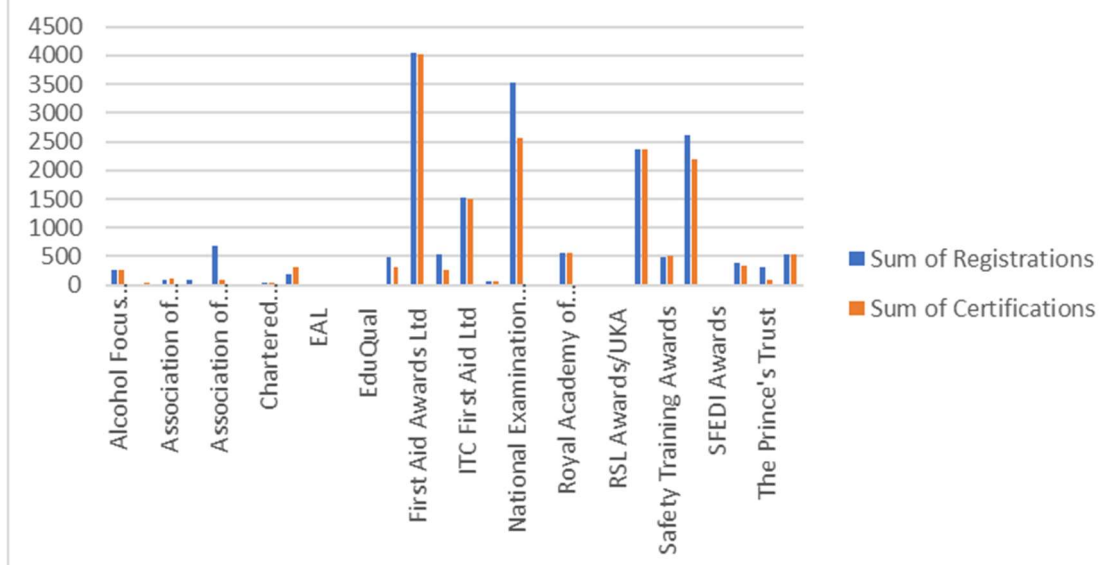


2.4.2 Non-SVQs

First Aid Awards Ltd accounted for the highest number of Non-SVQ registrations and certifications:

- ◆ 21.3% of registrations
- ◆ 24.7% of certifications

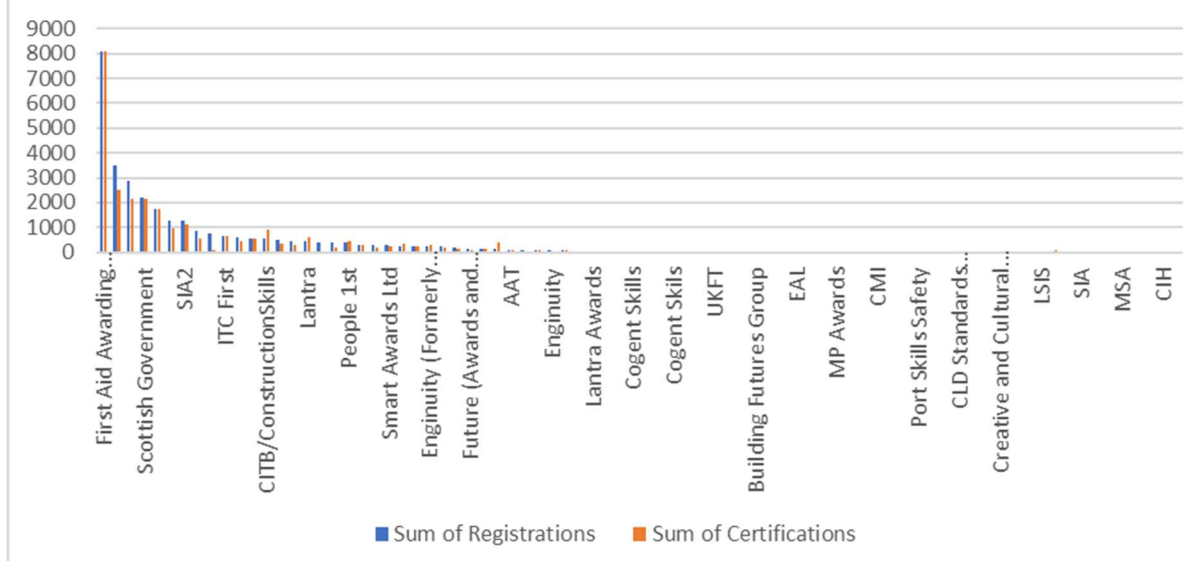
Figure 9: Non-SVQ Registrations and Certifications by Awarding Body



2.5 Analysis by developer

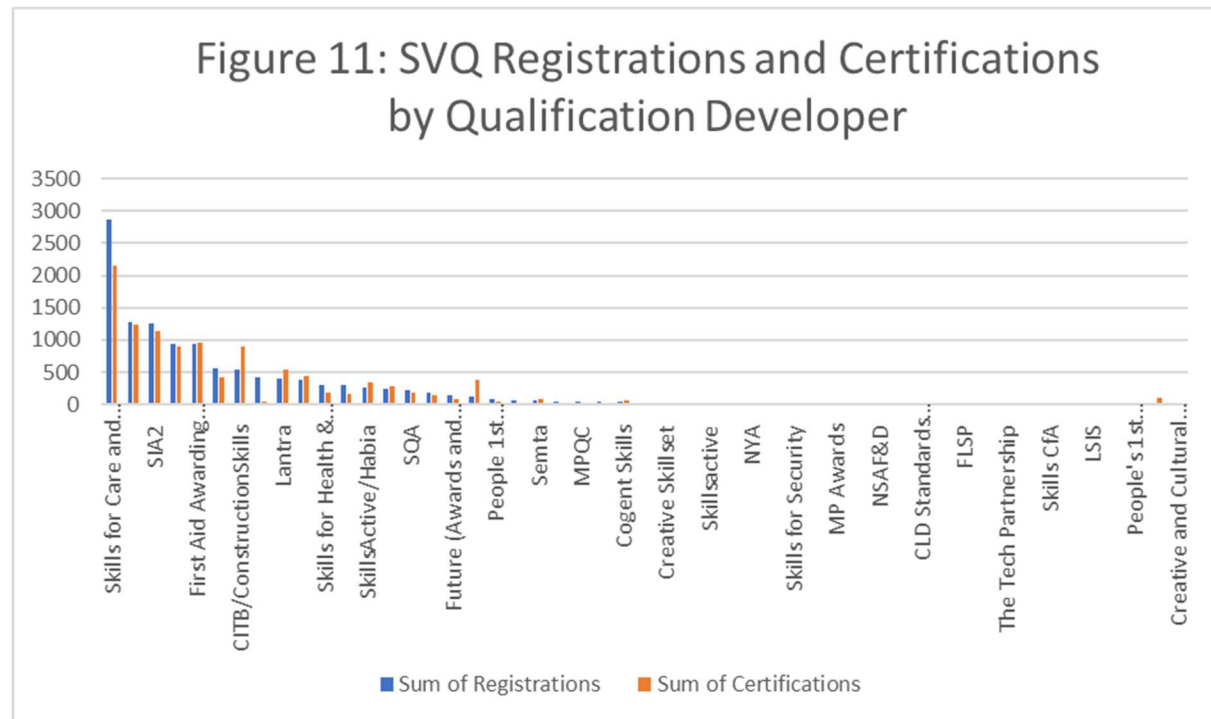
This section compares the registrations and certifications by developer across the two qualification types — SVQs and Non SVQs. The following graph summarises registrations and certifications by developer.

Figure 10: Registrations and Certifications by Qualification Developer



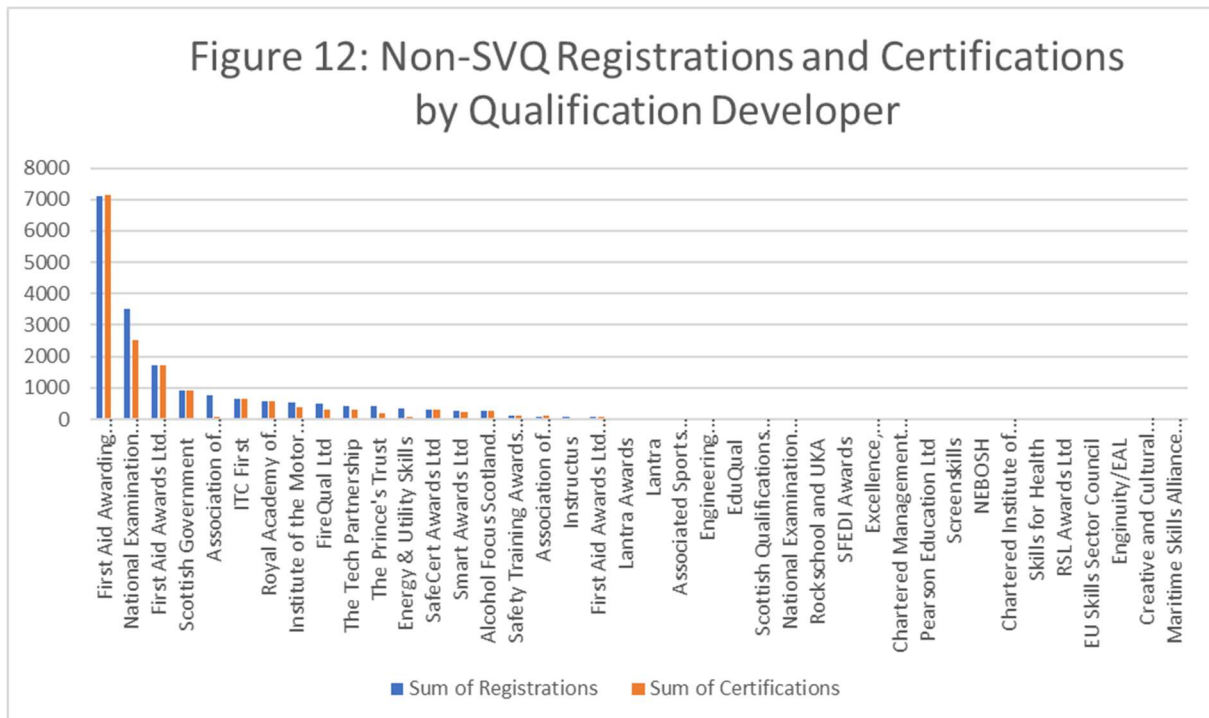
First Aid Awarding Organisation Forum has the highest number of registrations (26.2%) and the highest number of certifications (29.8%).

2.5.1 SVQs



SVQs are favoured across a wide range of developers. Skills for Care and Development account for the largest proportion of SVQ registrations and certifications — 24.3 % and 19.9%, respectively.

2.5.2 Non SVQ



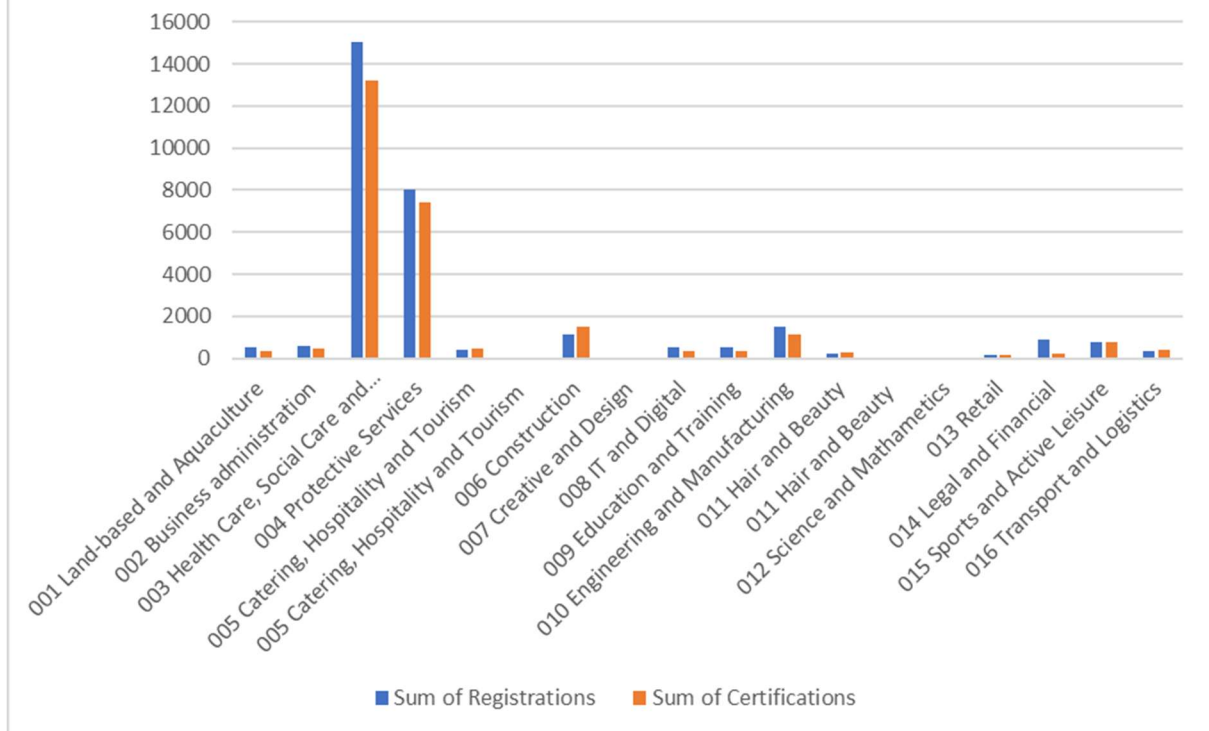
For Non-SVQ qualifications, the developer with the largest proportion of registrations and certifications is First Aid Awarding Organisation Forum with 37.5% and 43.8% respectively.

2.6 Analysis by qualification categories

SQA Accreditation assigns qualifications to one of the following 16 qualification categories:

- ◆ 001 Land-based and Aquaculture
- ◆ 002 Business Administration
- ◆ 003 Health care, Social care and Childcare
- ◆ 004 Protective Services
- ◆ 005 Catering, Hospitality and Tourism
- ◆ 006 Construction
- ◆ 007 Creative and Design
- ◆ 008 IT and Digital
- ◆ 009 Education and Training
- ◆ 010 Engineering and Manufacturing
- ◆ 011 Hair and Beauty
- ◆ 012 Science and Mathematics
- ◆ 013 Retail
- ◆ 014 Legal and Financial
- ◆ 015 Sports and Active Leisure
- ◆ 016 Transport and Logistics

Figure 13: Registrations and Certifications by Qualification Category



The area with the highest number of registrations and certifications is 003 Health Care, Social Care and Childcare.

- ◆ 48.8% of registrations
- ◆ 48.6% of certifications

By qualification type, the qualification categories with the highest number of registrations and certifications are:

Qualification type	Category	% of total regs	Category	% of total certs
SVQs	003	35.6%	003	30.5%
Non SVQs	003	57.1%	003	60.7%

3 Workplace Core Skills

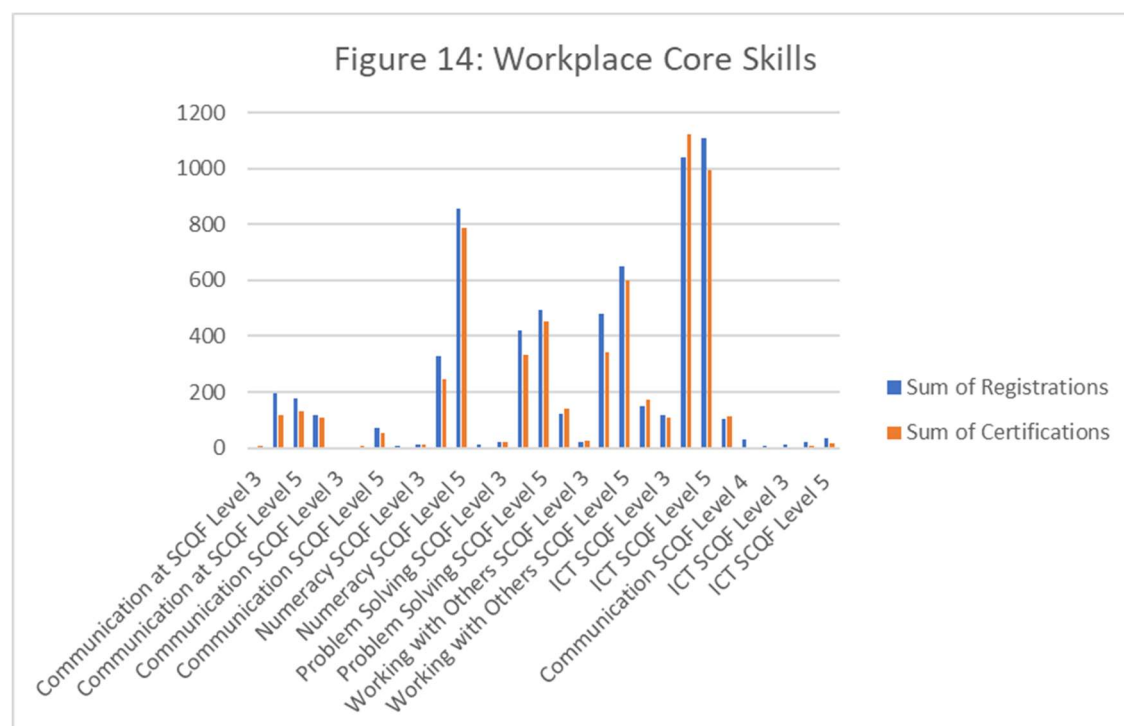
Workplace Core Skills are the broad, transferable skills that help to develop the main capabilities people need to be full, active and responsible members of society. Workplace Core Skills were specifically developed to assess Core Skills in a work environment. They contribute to employability and are a component of Modern Apprenticeships in Scotland. Each Workplace Core Skill is available at SCQF levels 3 to 6.

The five Workplace Core Skills are:

- ◆ Communication
- ◆ Information and Communication Technology (ICT)
- ◆ Numeracy
- ◆ Problem Solving
- ◆ Working with Others

At the end of Q1 2022–23, there were:

- ◆ 145 accredited Workplace Core Skills
- ◆ 8787 registrations (a decrease of 3.3% compared to Q4)
- ◆ 6597 certifications (an decrease of 11.3% compared to Q4)



Workplace Core Skills are offered by seven awarding bodies.

Awarding body	Registrations	Certifications
City & Guilds	0	338
EAL	51	65
Institute of the Motor Industry (IMI)	573	585
Pearson	188	52
Qualifications for Industry	9	7
Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA)	5761	4853
Vocational Training Charitable Trust (VTCT)	40	29
Grand Total	6622	5929

*City & Guilds registers candidates for Workplace Core Skills on a one-to-many basis using their internal Programme of Study number (PoS), therefore it is not possible at this time to generate registration figures for each Core Skill.

SQA continues to have the highest registrations and certifications for Workplace Core Skills:

- ◆ 87% of registrations
- ◆ 83.5% of certifications