

Quarterly Statistics Report

Report on accredited qualifications

Quarter 1 2018–19: April–June 2018

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SQA Accreditation

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Executive summary

This report provides an overview of qualification activity for SQA Accreditation approved awarding bodies for the first quarter (Q1) of 2018–19 (April–June 2018). The data used to form this report is obtained directly from awarding bodies as part of their quarterly submission requirements. Therefore, the awarding bodies are responsible for ensuring the accuracy of the data supplied.

Currently accredited qualifications

At the end of Q1 2018–19 there were 841 currently accredited qualifications. These consisted of:

- ◆ 535 Scottish Vocational Qualifications (SVQs) (63.5% of all qualifications)
- ◆ 34 Regulatory and Licensing qualifications (4% of all qualifications)
- ◆ 272 ‘Other’ accredited qualifications (32.5% of all qualifications)

There has been a 1.7% decrease (14 in total) in the number of available qualifications compared to Q4 of 2017–18.

SQA Accreditation collects quarterly registration and certification data from all approved awarding bodies. This report summarises the data for Q1 2018–19. As SVQs typically take longer to complete and have more seasonal drivers than other qualification types, this summary compares SVQ statistics to the previous year, rather than the previous quarter.

Scottish Vocational Qualifications (SVQs)

8,781 SVQ registrations were received across all levels. This is an increase of 2% compared to the same quarter in the previous year. During the same period, **8,653 SVQ certifications** were submitted across all levels. This is an increase of 17% compared to the same period last year.

SCQF levels 5 and 6 had the highest number of registrations and certifications. This reflects high demand for qualifications at these levels, partially due to their inclusion in Modern Apprenticeship (MA) frameworks.

Regulatory and Licensing qualifications

4,279 Regulatory and Licensing qualification registrations were submitted to SQA Accreditation. Compared to Q4 2017–18, this is an increase of 18%. During the same period, **4,104 Regulatory and Licensing certifications** were submitted to SQA Accreditation, which is an increase of 20% compared to Q4 2017–18.

‘Other’ qualifications

In Q1 2018–19, **14,883 ‘Other’ qualification registrations** were submitted to SQA Accreditation. This is a reduction of 5% compared to Q4 2017–18. During the same period, **11,736 ‘Other’ qualification certifications** were submitted, which is an increase of 4% compared to Q4 2017–18.

Analysis by awarding body

It is clear from the data that some awarding bodies are more prominent in different qualification types:

- ◆ Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA) was the leading awarding body for registering and certifying SVQ candidates.
- ◆ BIIAB was the leader for Regulatory and Licensing qualifications.
- ◆ NEBOSH was the leader for ‘Other’ qualifications.

SVQs: SQA registered 7,532 candidates (86% of all SVQ registrations) and certificated 8,653 candidates (85% of all SVQ certifications).

Regulatory and Licensing: BIIAB registered 1,490 candidates (40% of all Regulatory and Licensing registrations) and certificated 1,479 candidates (41% of all Regulatory and Licensing certifications).

‘Other’: NEBOSH registered 4,353 candidates (28% of all ‘Other’ registrations) and certificated 2,494 candidates (20% of all ‘Other’ certifications).

Analysis by area of competence

Area 008: Providing Health, Social Care and Protective Services had the highest number of registrations and certifications for both SVQs and ‘Other’ qualifications.

Area 007: Providing Goods and Services had the highest number of registrations and certifications for Regulatory and Licensing qualifications.

1 Introduction

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

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

The information shown has been produced from information provided by approved awarding bodies. This data covers SQA accredited qualifications during the first quarter of 2018–19 (April to June 2018) and focuses on those candidates who were:

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

At the point of accreditation, all qualifications are allocated a qualification type and an area of competence, which are used to classify qualifications in this report. This report provides information on the number of registrations and certifications according to awarding body, area of competence, qualification type and level. Analyses of uptake based on qualification developer and Workplace Core Skills are also included. Data may be subject to revision in subsequent reports if any discrepancies are identified.

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:

Quarter	Submission deadline
Quarter 1 (1 April to 30 June 2018)	Friday 13 July 2018
Quarter 2 (1 July to 30 September 2018)	Friday 12 October 2018
Quarter 3 (1 October to 31 December 2018)	Friday 11 January 2019
Quarter 4 (1 January to 31 March 2019)	Friday 12 April 2019

2 Quarterly statistics

This report covers all qualification types that we accredit, categorised as follows:

- ◆ Scottish Vocational Qualifications (SVQs)
- ◆ Regulatory and Licensing qualifications (R&L)
- ◆ ‘Other’ accredited qualifications

SQA Accreditation has a statutory remit to accredit SVQs and Regulatory and Licensing qualifications. It also accredits ‘Other’ qualifications on a voluntary basis. Where these qualifications form part of the mandatory section of Modern Apprenticeship (MA) frameworks, they must be accredited by SQA Accreditation.

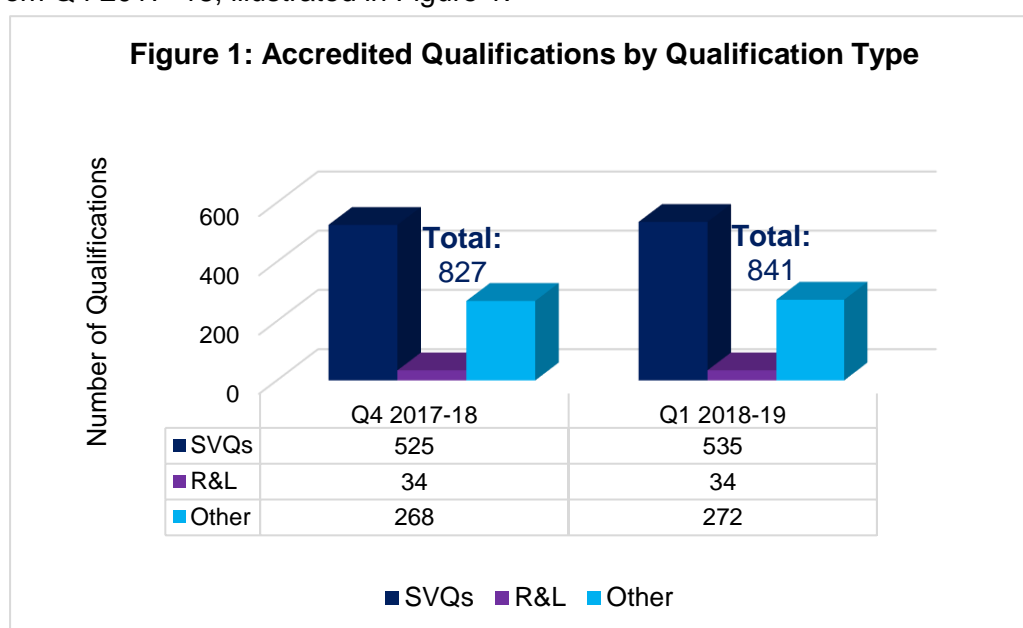
The qualification uptake statistics in the report are based on data submitted to us by our approved awarding bodies for Q1 2018–19. Awarding bodies are responsible for ensuring the accuracy of the data submitted. These statistics cover a three-year period in order to ensure that the published information is relevant, appropriate and easy to understand.

2.1 Currently accredited qualifications

At the end of quarter 1 of 2018–19 there were 841 live accredited qualifications¹:

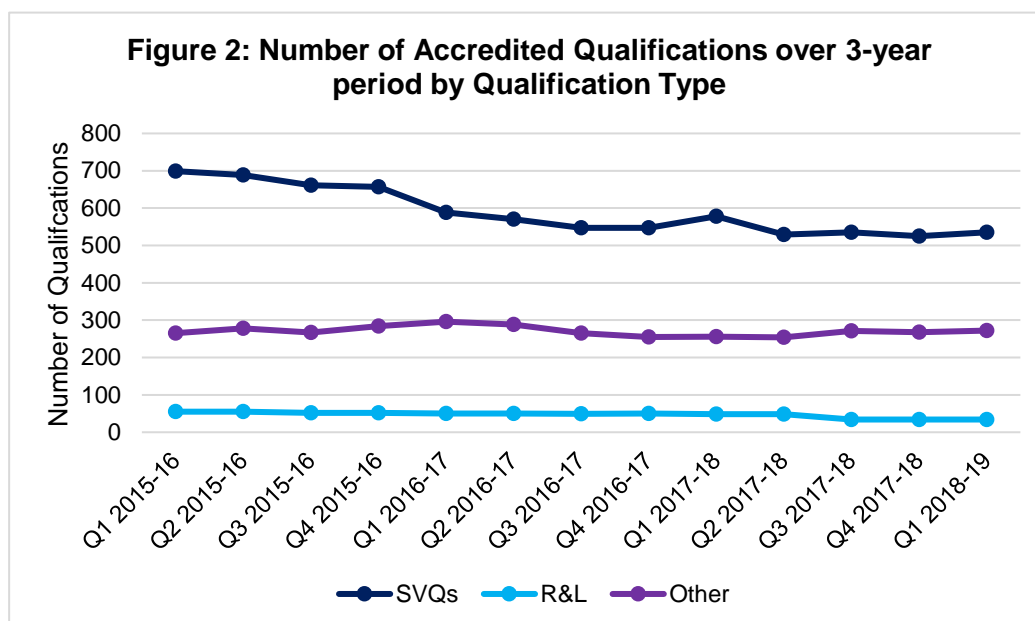
- ◆ **535 SVQs** (63.6%)
- ◆ **34 Regulatory and Licensing qualifications** (4%)
- ◆ **272 ‘Other’ qualifications** (32.3%)

The total number of accredited qualifications has increased by 14 qualifications (1.7%) in total from Q4 2017–18, illustrated in Figure 1.



¹ Note that this total does not include qualifications that are within their lapsing period.

Figure 2 shows the change in qualification type over a three-year period. In previous quarters, the number of SVQs had decreased slightly, but the number of SVQs has increased by 10 between Q4 2017–18 and Q1 2018–19.



2.2 Top ten registrations and certifications

During Q1 2018–19 the qualification with the highest number of registrations was the **NEBOSH National General Certificate in Occupational Health and Safety**. This qualification also had the highest registration numbers in Q4 2017–18. Table 1 shows the top ten qualifications in terms of registration numbers for Q1 2018–19.

Qualification title	No. of registrations	Qualification type
NEBOSH National General Certificate in Occupational Health and Safety	2,309	Other
Award in Emergency First Aid at Work at SCQF Level 6 (SQA)	1,460	Other
Scottish Certificate for Personal Licence Holders at SCQF Level 6	1,340	Regulatory
SVQ in Social Services and Healthcare at SCQF Level 6	1,020	SVQ
Award in Emergency First Aid at Work at SCQF Level 6 (FAA)	806	Other
Highfield Award for Working as a Door Supervisor within the Private Security Industry (Scotland) at SCQF Level 6	714	Regulatory
SVQ in Social Services and Healthcare at SCQF Level 7	707	SVQ
SVQ in Social Services (Children and Young People) at SCQF Level 7	641	SVQ
Award in First Aid at Work at SCQF Level 6	584	Other
NEBOSH Award in Health and Safety at Work	492	Other

Table 1: Top 10 performing qualification in terms of registrations

The qualification with the highest number of certifications was also the NEBOSH National General Certificate in Occupational Health and Safety. This qualification ranked first in Q4 2017–18 in terms of certification numbers. Table 2 shows the top ten qualifications — based on the number of certifications — for Q1 2018–19.

Qualification title	No. of certifications	Qualification type
NEBOSH National General Certificate in Occupational Health and Safety	1,459	Other
Award in Emergency First Aid at Work at SCQF Level 6 (SQA)	1,347	Other
Scottish Certificate for Personal Licence Holders at SCQF Level 6	1,283	Regulatory
SVQ in Social Services and Healthcare at SCQF Level 6	994	SVQ
Award in Emergency First Aid at Work at SCQF Level 6 (FAA)	803	Other
Highfield Award for Working as a Door Supervisor within the Private Security Industry (Scotland) at SCQF Level 6	648	Regulatory
Award in First Aid at Work at SCQF Level 6	582	Other
SVQ in Social Services and Healthcare at SCQF Level 7	548	SVQ
ITC Certificate in Emergency First Aid at Work at SCQF Level 6	478	Other
ITC Certificate in Outdoor First Aid at SCQF Level 6	467	Other

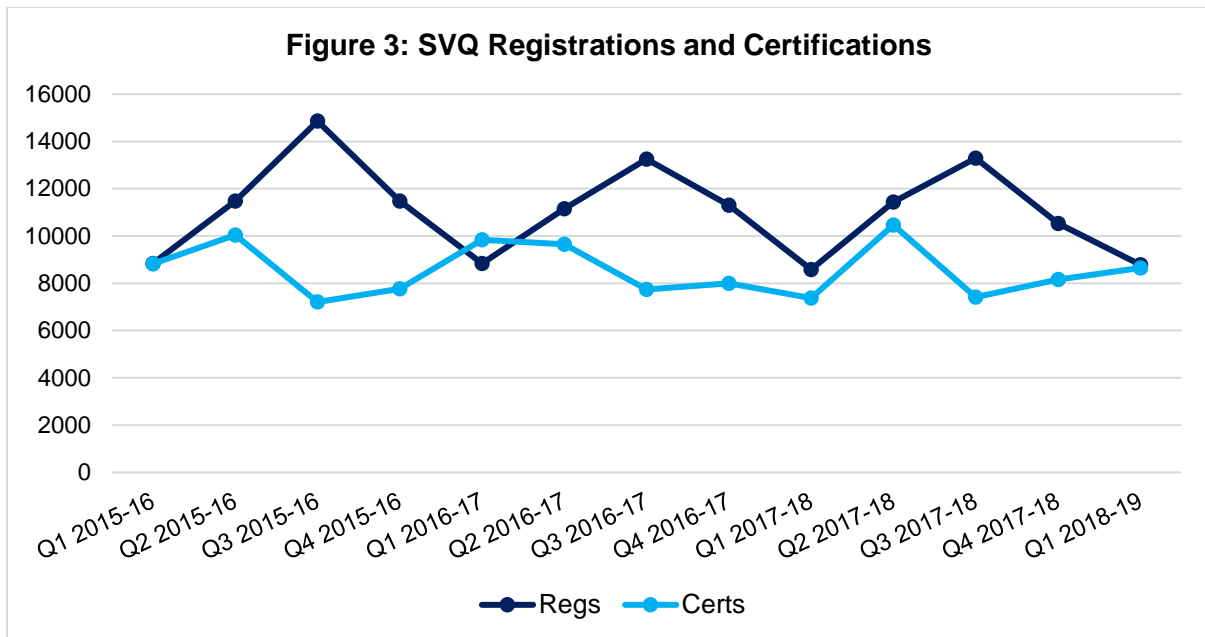
Table 2: Top 10 performing qualifications in terms of certifications

2.3 Analysis by qualification type

SQA Accreditation has collected qualification data from approved awarding bodies for a number of years and as a result is able to identify trends, and present several years of data. The data that is gathered informs analysis across a variety of sectors and all types of accredited qualifications without limiting statistics to SVQs. This should give a complete picture of the landscape for accredited qualifications.

2.3.1 Scottish Vocational Qualifications (SVQ)

During Q1 of 2018–19 (April-June), **8,781 registrations** were received across all SVQ levels. This is a 2.3% increase compared to the same quarter of the previous financial year. Figure 3 demonstrates a fairly stable annual pattern.



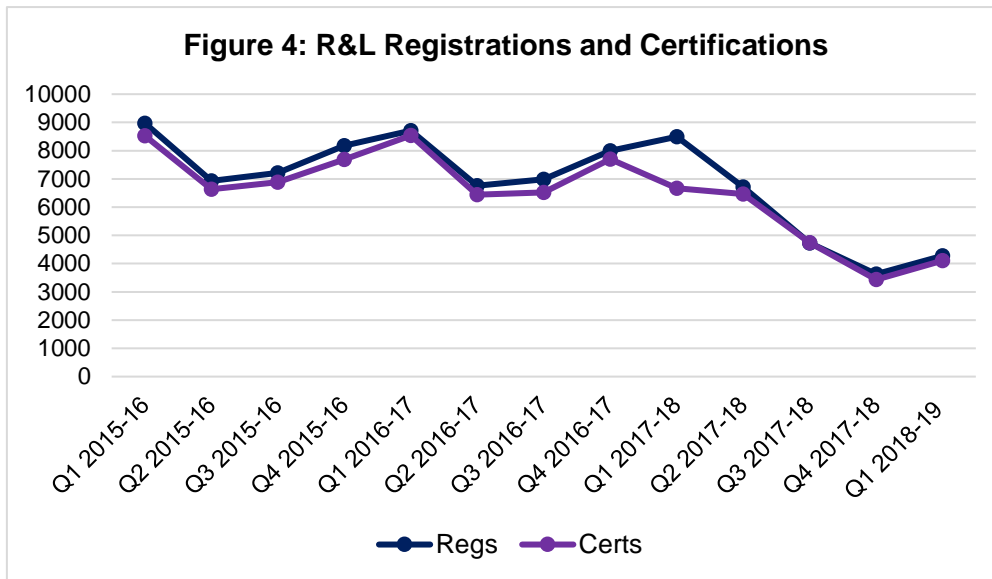
During Q1, **8,653 certifications** were submitted across all levels — an increase of 17% compared to the same quarter last year.

These registrations and certifications cover 951 different qualifications (including lapsed qualifications), offered by 16 different awarding bodies. During this quarter, SVQs represented 63.5% of all live accredited qualifications, 31% of all registrations and 35% of all certifications.

The SVQ with the highest number of registrations was the SQA **SVQ in Social Services and Healthcare at SCQF level 6**, with 1,020 registrations. This has been the SVQ with the highest uptake since Q2 2014–15.

2.3.2 Regulatory and Licensing (R&L) qualifications

During Q1 of 2018–19, **4,279 Regulatory and Licensing registrations** were submitted to SQA Accreditation. Compared to Q4 2017–18, this is an increase of 18%. During the same period, **4,104 Regulatory and Licensing certifications** were submitted to SQA Accreditation, which is an increase of 20% compared to Q4. Registrations and certifications since 2015–16 are shown in Figure 4.

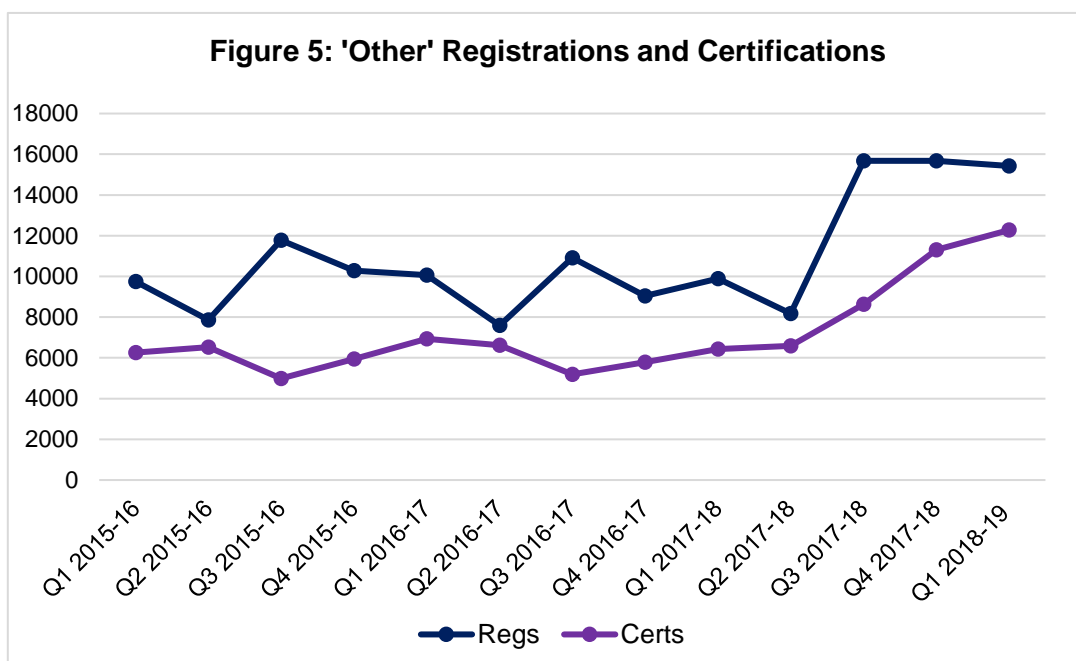


The R&L registrations and certifications cover 38 different qualifications — including lapsed qualifications — offered by nine awarding bodies. During this quarter, Regulatory and Licensing qualifications represented 4% of all live accredited qualifications, 15% of all registrations, and 16% of all certifications.

The R&L qualification with the highest number of registrations and certifications in this quarter was the **Scottish Certificate for Personal Licence Holders at SCQF Level 6** offered by BIIAB, with 1,340 registrations and 1,283 certifications.

2.3.3 All other accredited qualifications ('Other')

During Q1 of 2018–19, **15,424 registrations** for 'Other' qualifications were submitted to SQA Accreditation. This is a reduction of 2% compared to Q4 of 2017–18. During the same period, **12,277 'Other' certifications** were submitted — an increase of 9% compared to Q4.

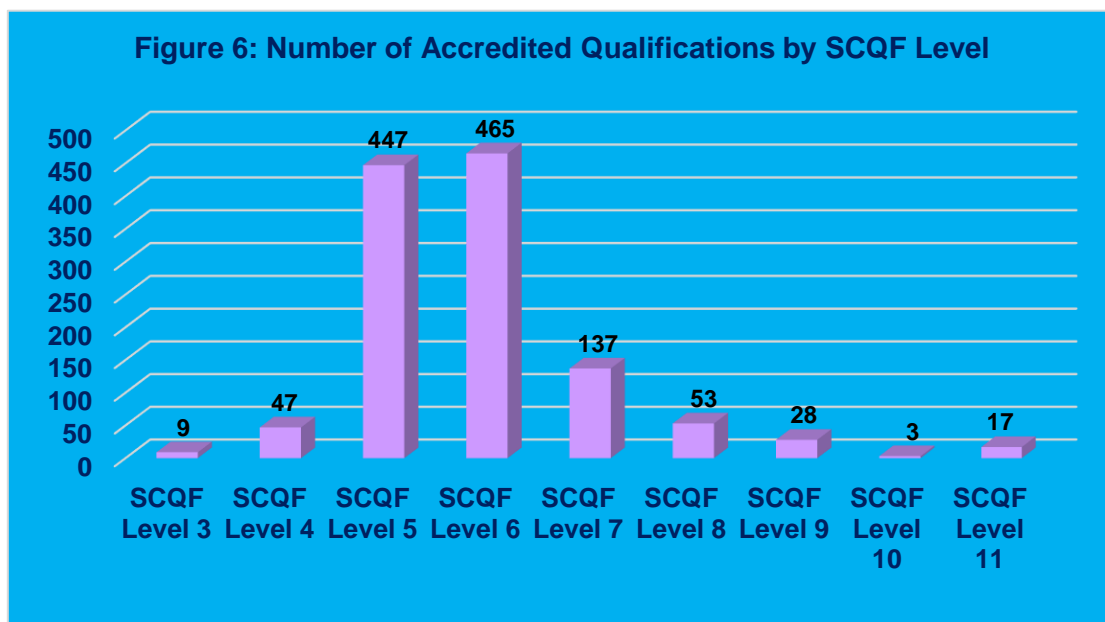


Registrations and certifications for 'Other' qualifications cover 348 different qualifications, offered by 29 different awarding bodies. During this quarter, 'Other' qualifications represented 32% of all live accredited qualifications, 54% of all registrations, and 49% of all certifications.

The 'Other' qualification with the highest number of registrations and certifications this quarter was **NEBOSH National General Certificate in Occupational Health and Safety**, with 2,309 registrations and 1,459 certifications.

2.4 Analysis by SCQF level

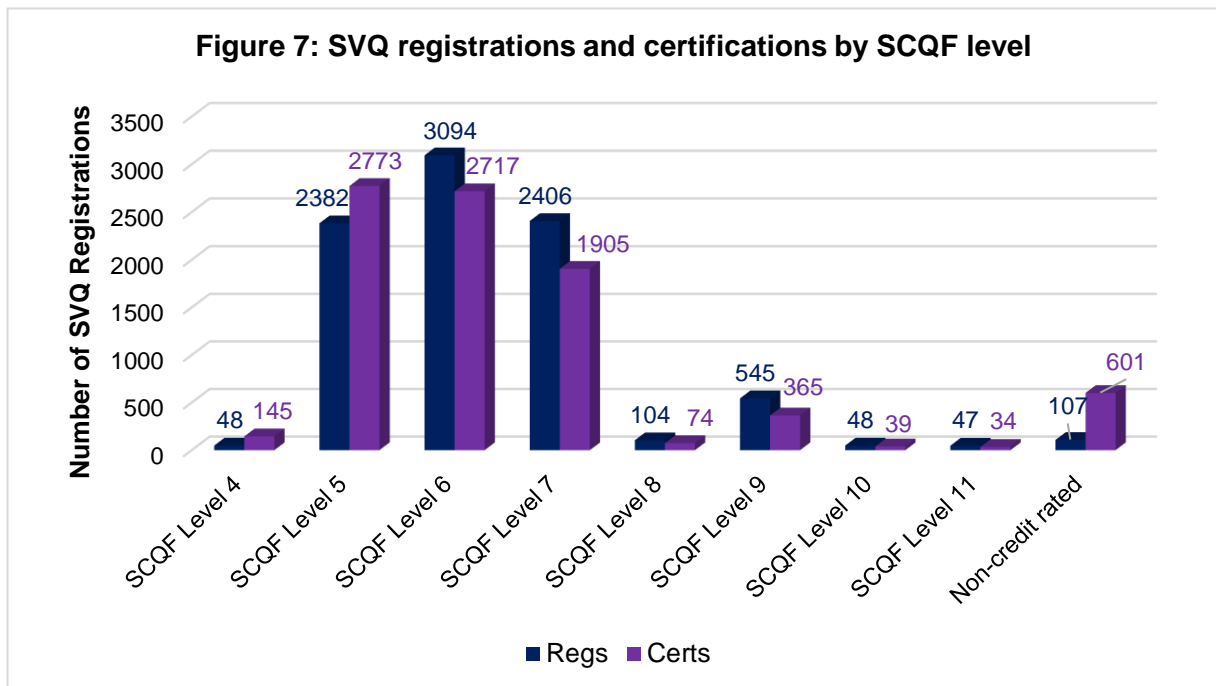
Across our qualification provision, the largest proportion of credit rated qualifications are at SCQF levels 5-6. This is demonstrated in Figure 6.



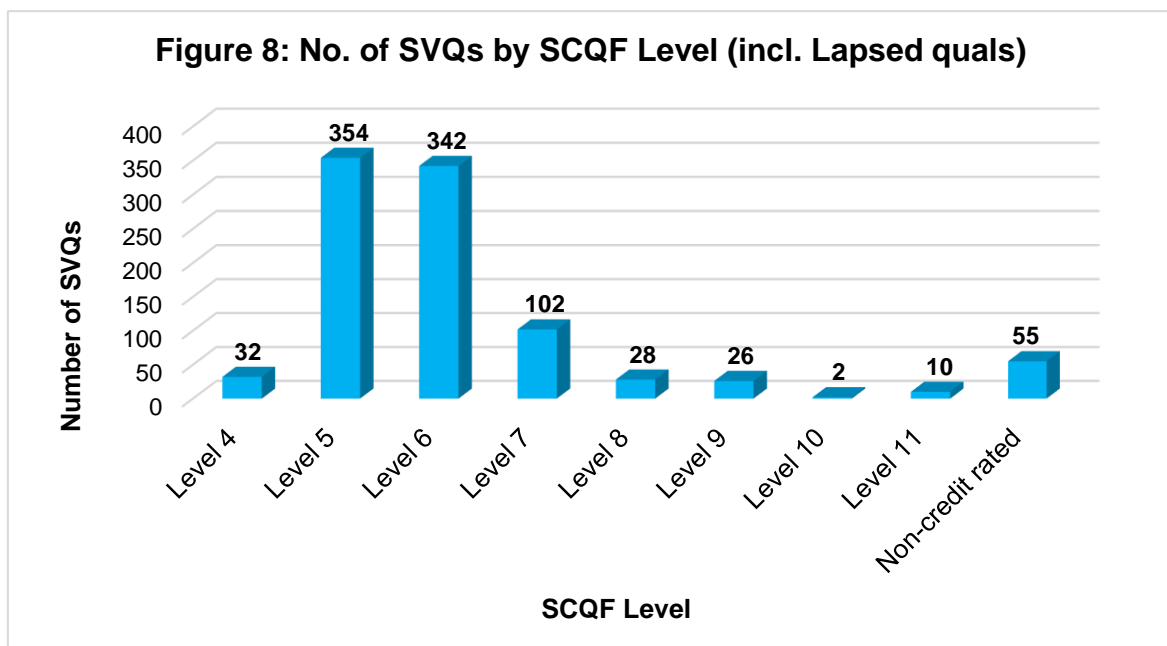
Following agreement with the SQA Accreditation Committee, the SVQ level has been dropped from the title of SVQs in favour of the SCQF level, except where the SVQ has not been credit rated. This change has been implemented to remove any potential confusion with multiple levels being used in qualification titles, and to promote knowledge and understanding of the SCQF framework.

The following section of the report will focus on the SCQF level of SVQs rather than SVQ levels. The majority of registrations and certifications are across SCQF level 5, 6 and 7, which is expected as these would mainly have been at SVQ Levels 2 and 3 using the original titling convention.

The majority of SVQ registrations were for SVQs at SCQF level 6, with 3,094 representing 36% of SVQ registrations. The majority of SVQ certifications were at level 5, with 2,773 certifications representing 32% of SVQ certifications during Q1. This is illustrated in Figure 7.



Many more SVQs are available at levels 5 and 6, as shown in Figure 8.



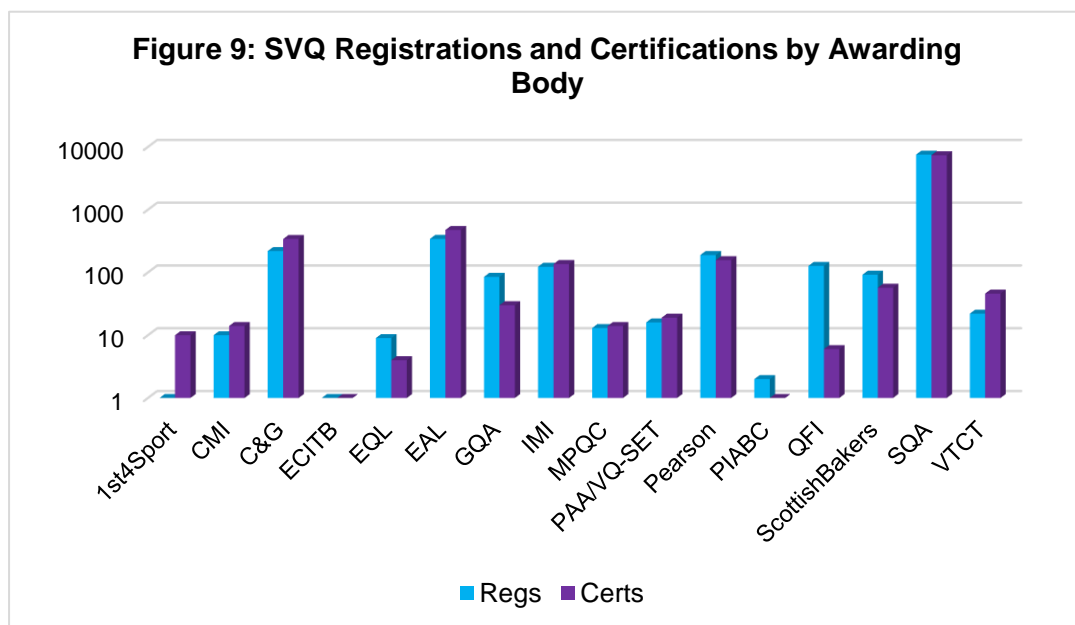
The higher numbers of qualifications at these levels is due to SVQs at SCQF levels 5, 6 and 7 forming part of a considerable number of Modern Apprenticeship (MA) frameworks.

- ◆ 50% of SCQF level 5 SVQs are present in MA frameworks
- ◆ 46% of SCQF level 6 SVQs
- ◆ and 55% of SCQF level 7 SVQs

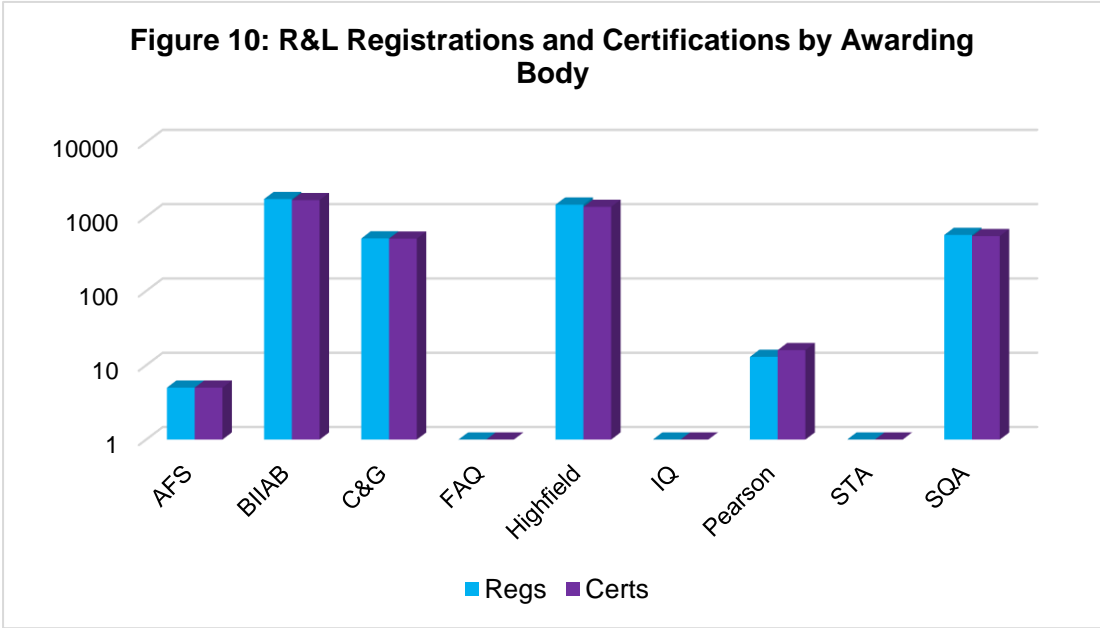
2.5 Analysis by awarding body

Awarding bodies tend to focus on specific qualification types, with only SQA, City & Guilds, and Pearson offering accredited qualifications across all types. (See figures 9 to 11 below). Please note that the scale in the graphs above has been altered to make them more easily interpreted.

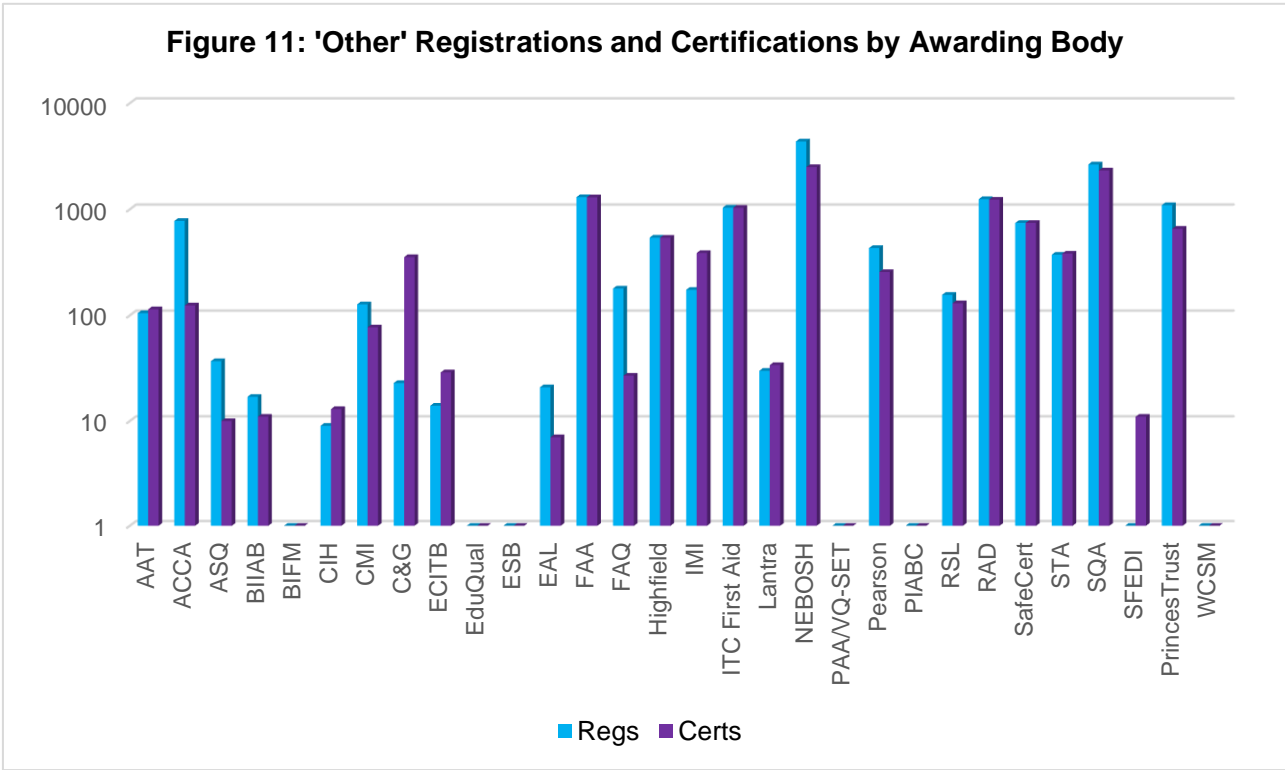
During Q1 the awarding body with the highest number of SVQ registrations overall was SQA, with 7,532 registrations (86% of all SVQ registrations). SQA awarding body also reported the highest number of SVQ certifications overall, with 7,344 certifications (85% of all SVQ certifications).



For R&L qualifications (Figure 10), the top awarding body for registrations was BIIAB, with 1,728 registrations (40% of all R&L registrations). BIIAB also had the most certifications, with a total number of 1,673 certifications (41% of all R&L certifications).



NEBOSH was the awarding body with the most registrations and certifications for 'Other' qualifications with 4,353 registrations (28% of all 'Other' registrations) and 2,494 certifications (20% of all 'Other' certifications).



The following awarding bodies indicated that they had no registrations or certifications in Q1 for any of their accredited qualifications:

- ◆ Industry Qualifications Ltd (IQ)
- ◆ EduQual
- ◆ English Speaking Board (ESB)
- ◆ Worshipful Company of Spectacle Makers (WCSM)

Qualifications and awarding bodies with zero uptake are monitored regularly, and where there is no activity for a two-year period, the Accreditation and/or Regulation manager will discuss the reasons for this with the awarding body (as described in SQA Accreditation's [Zero Uptake](#) policy).

2.6 Analysis by area of competence

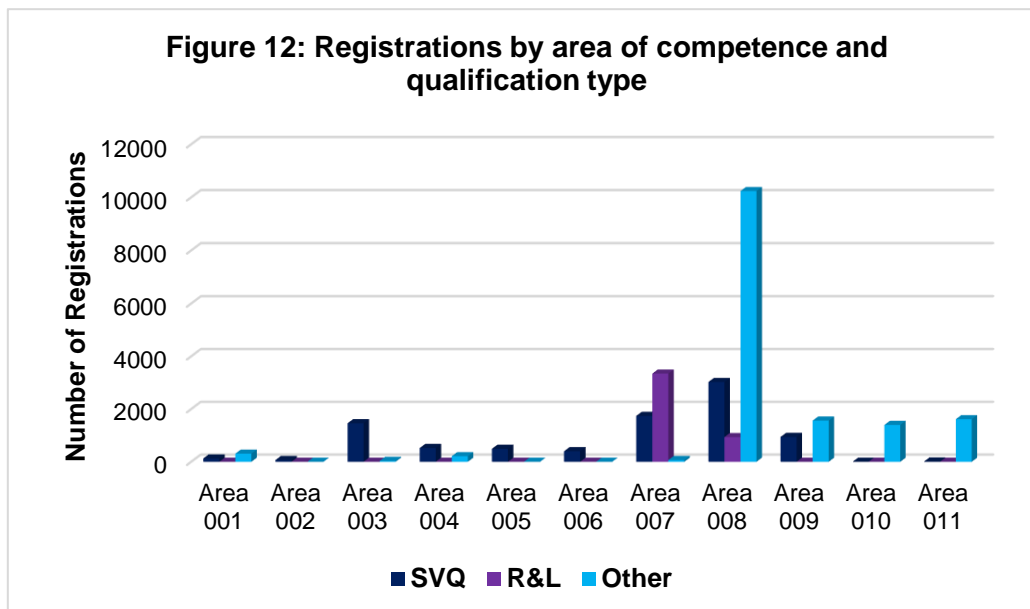
At the point of accreditation, each qualification is assigned to one of the following 11 areas of competence:

- ◆ 001 Tending Animals, Plants and Land
- ◆ 002 Extracting and Providing Natural Resources
- ◆ 003 Constructing
- ◆ 004 Engineering
- ◆ 005 Manufacturing
- ◆ 006 Transporting
- ◆ 007 Providing Goods and Services
- ◆ 008 Providing Health, Care and Protective Services
- ◆ 009 Providing Business Services
- ◆ 010 Communicating and Entertaining
- ◆ 011 Developing and Extending Knowledge and Skill

Each awarding body and standards setting organisation (SSO) has responsibility for verifying the allocation of these areas on a monthly basis when they are published on the [Qualification Listing and Lapsing Reports](#) web page. These classifications are combined with registration and certification data submitted by awarding bodies to produce the statistics below.

2.6.1 Registrations by areas of competence

Registrations across areas of competence have historically been concentrated in two of the 11 areas listed — 007 Providing Goods and Services, and 008 Providing Health, Care and Protective Services. Figure 12 provides an overview of registrations for each area of competence, further broken down by qualification type.



The area of competence that experienced the highest number of SVQ registrations was Area 008: Providing Health, Social care and Protective Services:

- ◆ 3,024 registrations, representing 34% of SVQs during Q1.
- ◆ Compared to Q1 2017–18, registrations in Area 008 increased by 7%.

The area of competence with the highest number of Regulatory and Licensing registrations was Area 007: Providing Goods and Services:

- ◆ 3,343 registrations, representing 78% of R&L qualifications during Q1.
- ◆ Compared to Q4 2017–18, registrations in Area 007 increased by 18%.

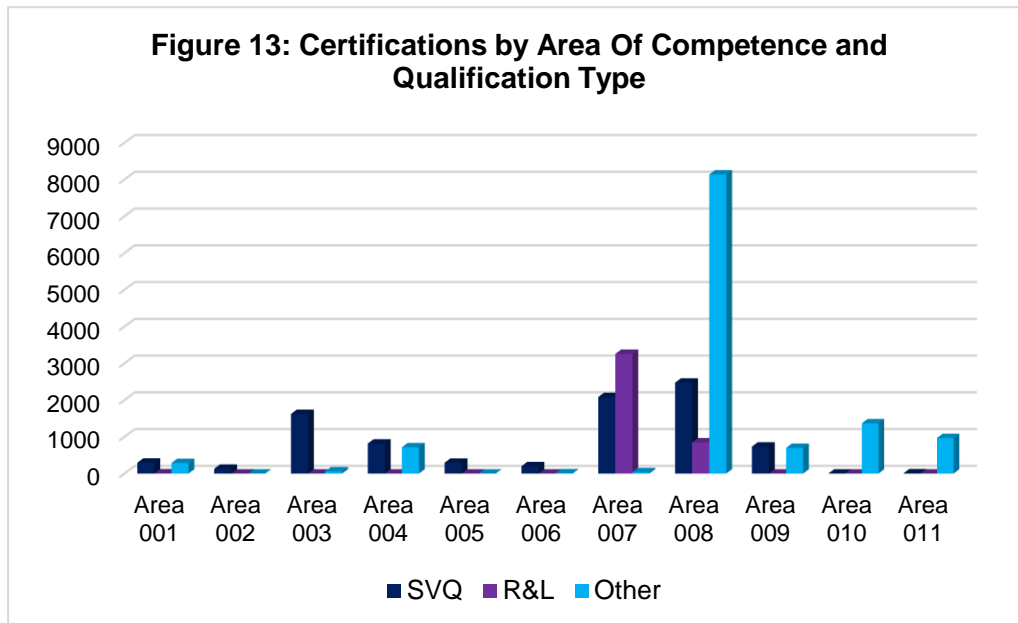
The area of competence with the highest number of 'Other' registrations was also Area 008: Providing Health, Social Care and Protective services:

- ◆ 10,236 registrations, representing 66% of 'Other' qualifications during Q4 of 2017–18.
- ◆ Compared to Q4 2017–18, registrations in Area 008 decreased by 2%.

2.6.2 Certifications by area of competence

Similarly to the trend observed in registrations, the largest numbers of certifications fell into competence areas 007 and 008.

Figure 13 shows the number of certifications by area of competence for each qualification type.



The area of competence that experienced the highest number of SVQ certifications was Area 008: Providing Health, Social Care and Protective Services:

- ◆ 2,472 certifications, representing 29% of SVQ certifications during Q1.
- ◆ Compared to Q1 2017–18, certifications in Area 008 increased by 20%.

The area of competence with the highest number of R&L certifications was Area 007: Providing Goods and Services:

- ◆ 3,256 certifications, representing 79% of R&L certifications in Q1.
- ◆ Certifications in Q1 increased by 19%, compared to Q4 2017–18.

The area of competence that experienced the highest number of certifications for ‘Other’ qualifications was also Area 008: Providing Health, Social Care and Protective Services:

- ◆ 8,137 certifications, representing 66% of ‘Other’ certifications in this quarter.
- ◆ Certifications decreased by 13% compared to Q4 2017–18.

2.7 Analysis by qualifications developer

A breakdown of registrations and certifications by qualification developer is presented in Figures 14, 15 and 16.

Figure 14 demonstrates that SVQs are favoured across a wide range of developers, compared to Regulatory and Licensing and 'Other' qualifications. SVQs span a variety of sectors, including health and social care, transport, construction and business services. Skills for Care and Development accounts for 26% of all SVQ registrations and 28% of all certifications – this is consistent with registration and certification figures from Q4 2017–18, which were 27% and 26% respectively.

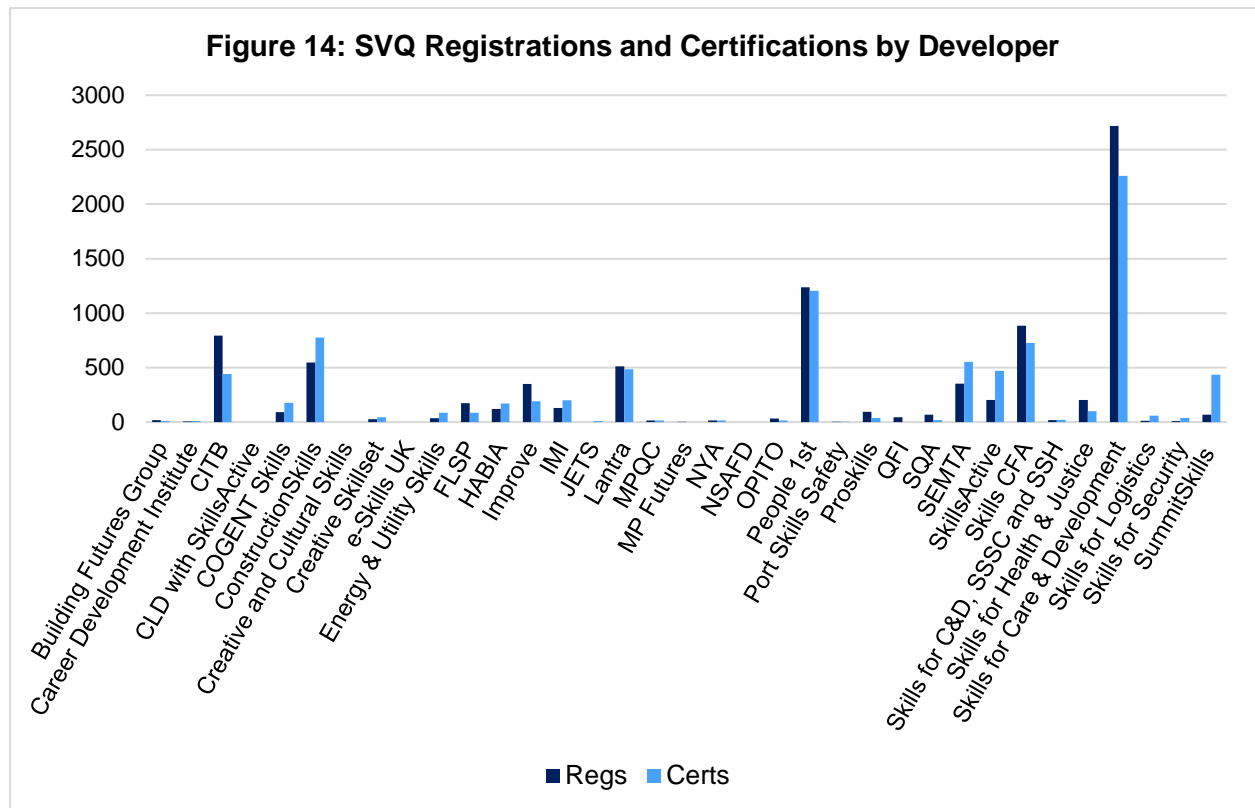


Figure 15 demonstrates that a smaller number of developers create qualifications within the Regulatory and Licensing category. It can be seen from Figure 15 that organisations in these sectors work in partnership to develop these qualifications.

Although fewer candidates undertake R&L qualifications compared to SVQs, the numbers of registrations and certifications are still significant.

In Q1, R&L qualifications were subject to:

- ◆ 4,279 registrations — accounting for 15% of the total registrations across all qualification types
- ◆ 4,104 certifications — accounting for 16% of the total certifications across all qualification types

The qualifications themselves are relevant to a smaller range of sectors in comparison to SVQs — the majority of registrations for this qualification type are in the Hospitality and Security sectors.

- ◆ People 1st and other awarding bodies account for 37% of registrations and certifications.
- ◆ People 1st and Scottish Government account for 26% of registrations and certifications.

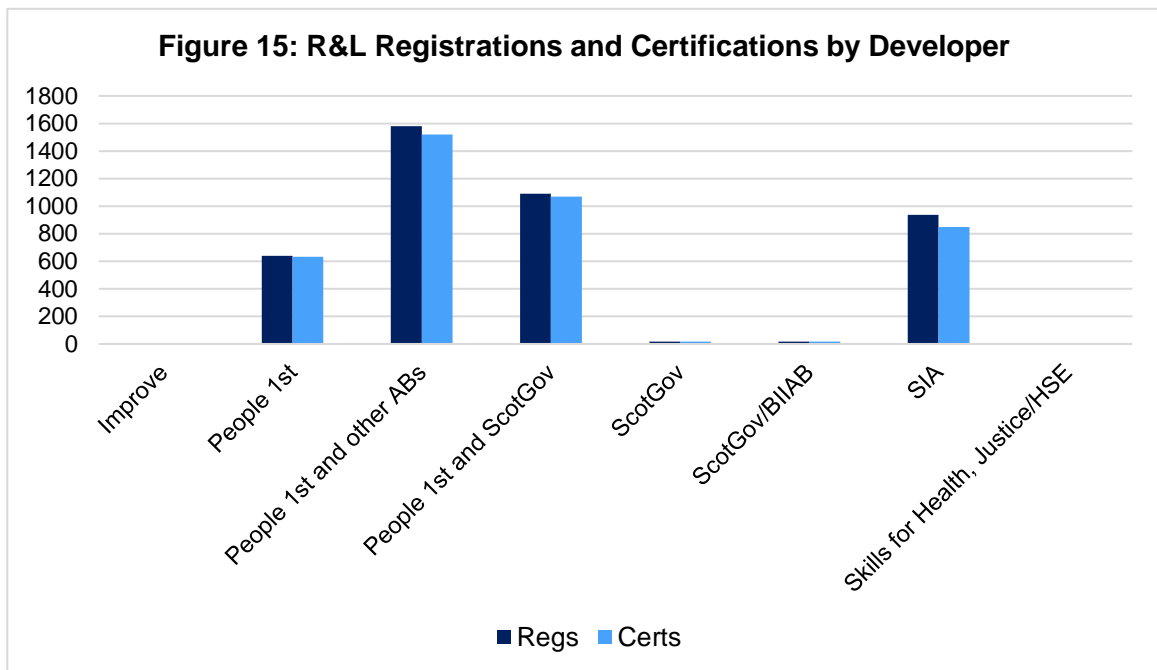
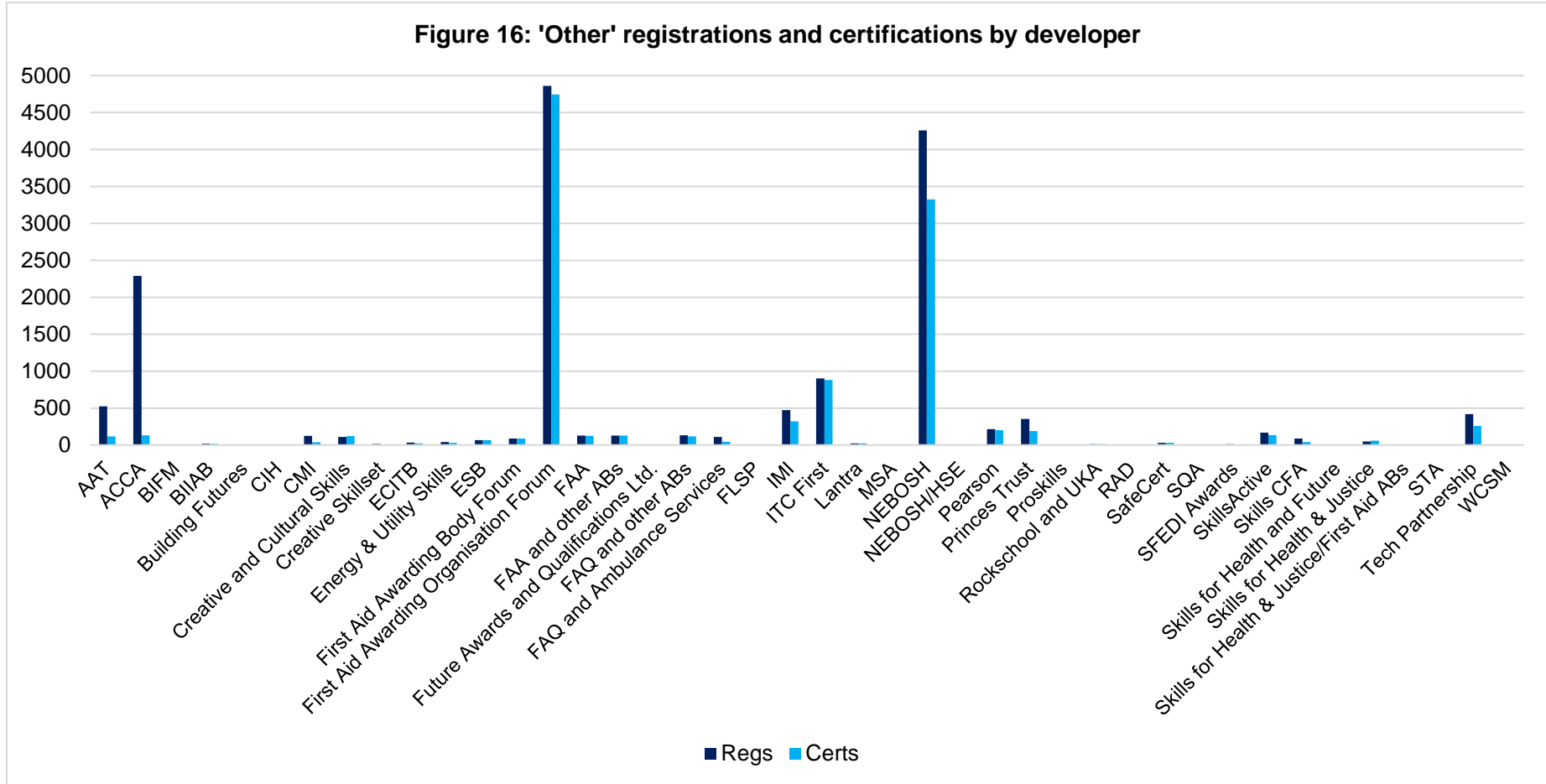


Figure 16 shows that, while a wide range of qualification developers have created 'Other' qualifications across different industries, the majority of registrations can be attributed to a small number of developers, and hence a small number of sectors. The largest uptake figures are recorded in the First Aid and Occupational Safety and Health sectors.



- ◆ 32% of registrations and 39% of certifications are in qualifications developed by the First Aid Awarding Organisation Forum.
- ◆ 28% of registrations and 20% of certifications are in qualifications developed by NEBOSH.

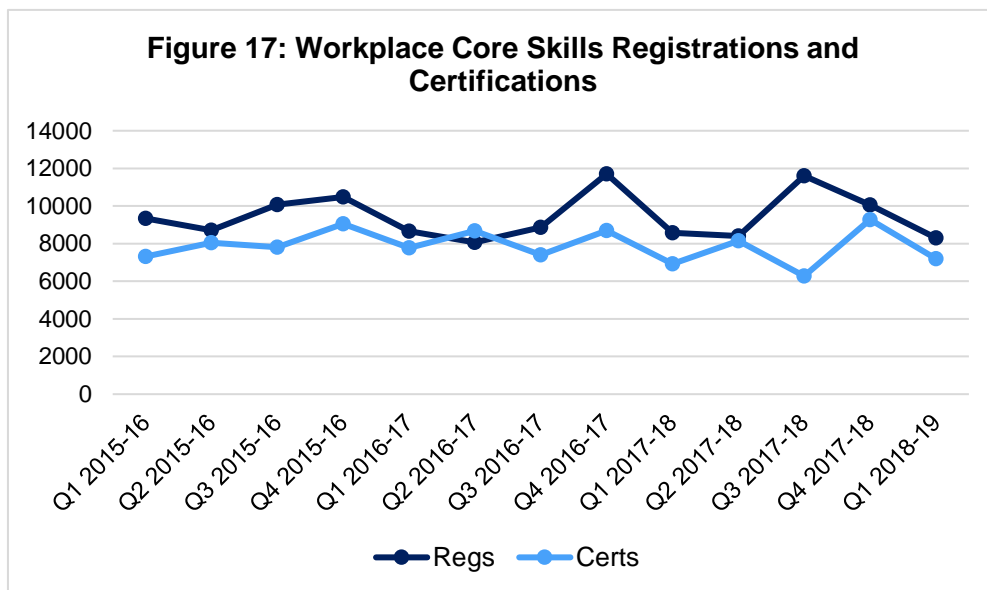
2.8 Workplace Core Skills

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
- ◆ Numeracy
- ◆ Problem Solving
- ◆ Working with Others

Figure 17 shows registrations and certifications over a three-year period.



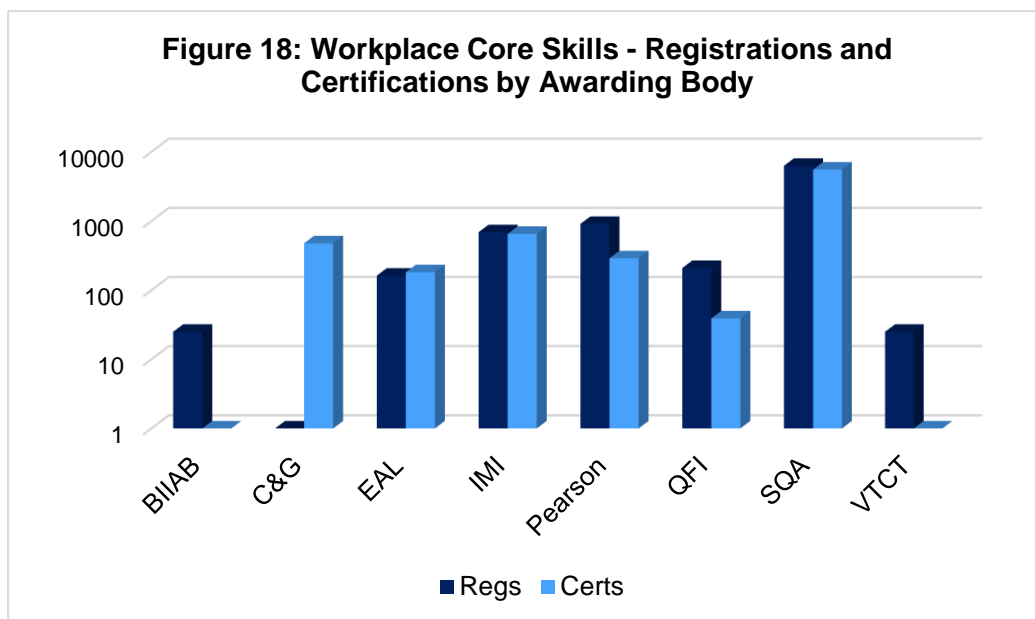
At the end of Q1 2018–19, there were:

- ◆ 145 accredited Workplace Core Skills
- ◆ 8,311 Workplace Core Skills registrations
- ◆ 7,194 Workplace Core Skills certifications

The Workplace Core Skill with the most registrations and certifications was Information and Communication Technology at SCQF level 4:

- ◆ 1,233 registrations
- ◆ 1,178 certifications

The awarding body with the most registrations and certifications was SQA, with 76% of registrations and 77% of certifications. Figure 19 show the number of registrations and certifications by awarding body.



The following figures (19-23) show the number of registrations and certifications of each Workplace Core Skill at SCQF levels 3–6:

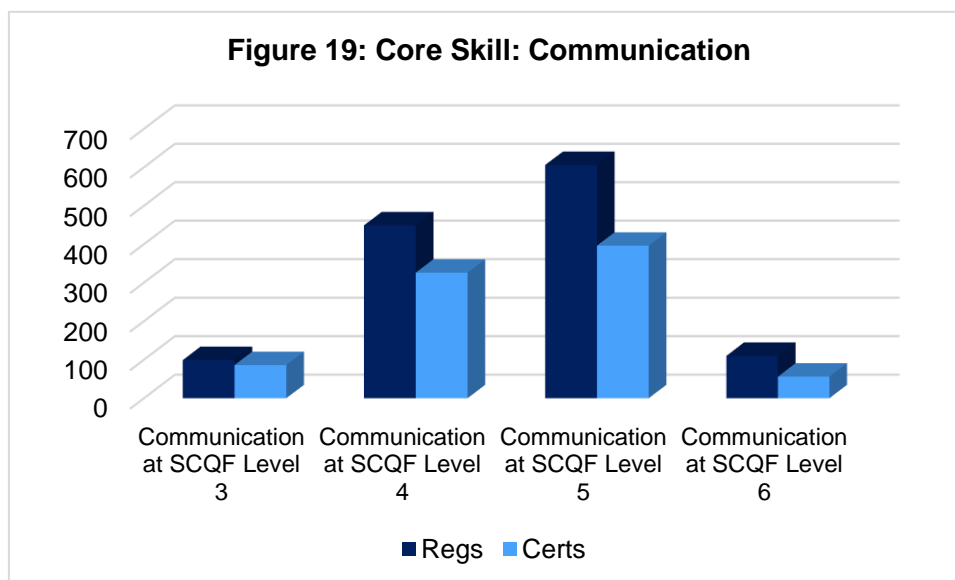


Figure 20: Core Skill: Information and Communication Technology

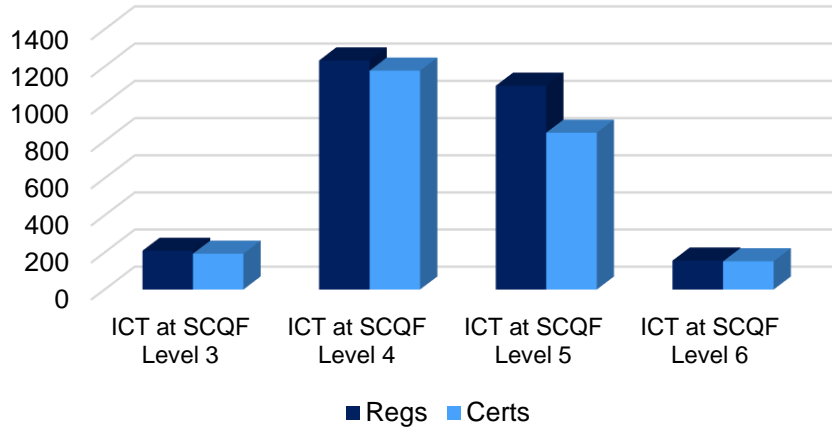


Figure 21: Core Skill: Numeracy

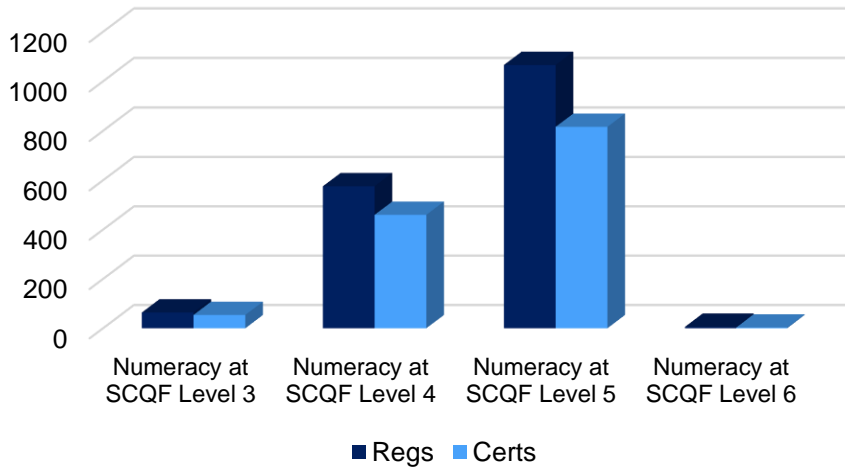
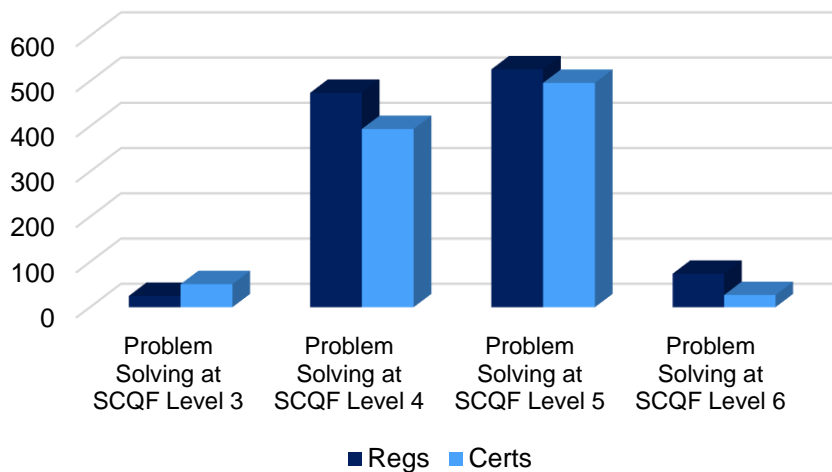
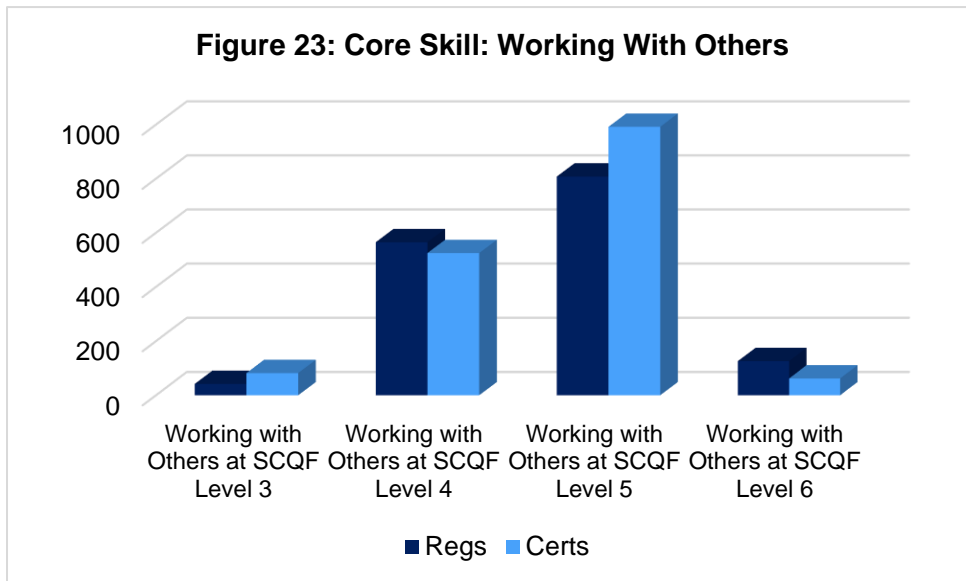


Figure 22: Core Skill: Problem Solving





The number of registrations and certifications of qualifications and Workplace Core Skills is continually monitored via SQA Accreditation’s Quarterly Statistics Reports. These reports are published in the [Research and Statistics](#) section of our SQA Accreditation website.

Appendix 1: Glossary of terms

Term	Description
Area of competence	There are 11 occupational areas of competence. These range from Tending Animals, Plants and Land, to Engineering, to Developing and Extending Knowledge and Skill. All SVQs are organised by the area of competence to which they belong.
Certifications	The process by which a centre requests a certificate for a candidate who has completed the full accredited qualification.
'Other' accredited qualification	All 'Other' accredited qualifications that are not SVQs or Regulatory and Licensing qualifications.
Registrations	The process by which a centre informs an awarding body that a candidate has commenced working towards an accredited qualification.
Regulatory and Licensing qualification	Qualifications which are defined or required by industry regulators, such as the Security Industry Authority, and often underpin licence to practise schemes.
Scottish Vocational Qualification	Scottish Vocational Qualifications (SVQs) are qualifications which combine skills, knowledge and ability within a specific occupational area and are delivered in a workplace setting. The standards for SVQs are designed by the appropriate sector skills council (SSC).

Appendix 2: Awarding bodies

SQA Accreditation approved awarding bodies.

Abbreviation	Awarding body
Not Applicable	1st4sport Qualifications
ASQ	Associated Sports Qualifications
AFS	Alcohol Focus Scotland
AAT	Association of Accounting Technicians
ACCA	Association of Chartered Certified Accountants
Not Applicable	BIIAB
BIFM	British Institute of Facilities Management
CIH	Chartered Institute of Housing
CMI	Chartered Management Institute
Not Applicable	City & Guilds of London Institute
Not Applicable	EduQual
ECITB	Engineering Construction Industry Training Board
ESB	English Speaking Board
EQL	Equestrian Qualifications GB Limited
EAL	Excellence, Achievement and Learning Limited
FAA	First Aid Awards Limited
FAQ	Future (Awards & Qualifications) Limited
GQA	GQA Qualifications Limited
Not Applicable	Highfield Qualifications
IMI	IMI Awards Limited
IQ	Industry Qualifications Limited
ITC	ITC First
Not Applicable	Lantra Awards Limited
MPQC	Mineral Products Qualifications Council
NEBOSH	National Examination Board in Occupational Safety and Health
Not Applicable	PAA/VQ-SET
Not Applicable	PIABC
Not Applicable	Pearson Education Limited
Not Applicable	The Prince's Trust
QFI	Qualifications for Industry
Not Applicable	Rockschool Limited
RAD	Royal Academy of Dance
Not Applicable	SafeCert Awards Limited
STA	Safety Training Awards Limited

Not Applicable	SFEDI Awards
Not Applicable	Scottish Bakers
SQA	Scottish Qualifications Authority
VTCT	Vocational Training Charitable Trust
WCSCM	Worshipful Company of Spectacle Makers