

# Quarterly Statistics Report

## Highlights for Quarter 1 2021–22:

1 April – 30 June 2021

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# Contents

<b>Executive summary</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>1 Introduction</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>2 Accredited qualifications</b>	<b>3</b>
2.1 Total candidate registrations and certifications	4
2.1.1 Registrations	4
2.1.2 Certifications	4
2.2 Top ten qualifications	4
2.3 Registrations and certifications by qualification type	6
2.3.1 SVQs	6
2.3.2 Regulatory & Licensing (R&L)	6
2.3.3 'Other' qualifications	7
2.4 Analysis by Awarding Body	7
2.4.1 SVQs	7
2.4.2 Regulatory and Licensing	8
2.4.3 'Other' qualifications	8
2.5 Analysis by developer	9
2.5.1 SVQs	9
2.5.2 Regulatory and Licensing	10
2.5.3 'Other' qualifications	10
2.6 Analysis by qualification categories	11
<b>3 Workplace Core Skills</b>	<b>13</b>

# Executive summary

This report provides statistical information on SQA Accreditation approved qualifications for the first quarter (Q1) of 2021–22 (1 April – 30 June 2021). This data is submitted by awarding bodies, who are responsible for quality assuring their data submissions.

## Accredited qualifications

At the end of this period there were 749 accredited qualifications: 464 Scottish Vocational Qualifications (SVQs), 23 Regulatory and Licensing qualifications, and 262 'Other' qualifications.

## Data submissions

There were a total of 25,520 registrations (increase of 17.5% from Q4) and 22,074 certifications (increase of 40.2% from Q4) in Q1.

### SVQs

Of this total, 7,428 (22.5%) were SVQ registrations and 6,379 (23.1%) were SVQ certifications. The SQA awarding body had the highest percentage of SVQ registrations (88.9%) and certifications (90.1%). The developer with the most registrations and certifications was Skills for Care and Development — 37.5% and 31.0%, respectively.

### Regulatory & Licensing qualifications

There were 3,135 registrations and 2,833 certifications, an increase of 43.0% and 52.1% respectively compared to Q4. BIIAB accounted for 43.4% of registrations and 43.7% of certifications. The developer with the most registrations and certifications was Scottish Government — 52.4% and 55.4% respectively.

### 'Other' qualifications

There were 14,957 registrations and 12,862 certifications, an increase of 41.8% in registrations and 55.5% increase in certifications. First Aid Awards Ltd (FAA) accounted for 20.2% of registrations, and 23.4% of certifications. The developer with the largest proportion of registrations and certifications was First Aid Awarding Organisation Forum — 46.0% of registrations 54.3% of certifications.

### 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 7,452 registrations (a decrease of 10.8% compared to Q4) and 5,590 certifications (an increase of 11.5% 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.

This report summarises the qualification data that has been provided to us by approved awarding bodies, referred to as data submissions. This information covers SQA accredited qualifications during the first quarter (Q1) of 2021–22 (1 April – 30 June 2021) 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

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 2 (1 July – 30 September 2021)	14 October 2021
Quarter 3 (1 October – 31 December 2021)	14 January 2022
Quarter 4 (1 January– 31 March 2022)	14 April 2022
Quarter 1 (1 April – 30 June 2022)	14 July 2022

Data submission guidance can be found here:

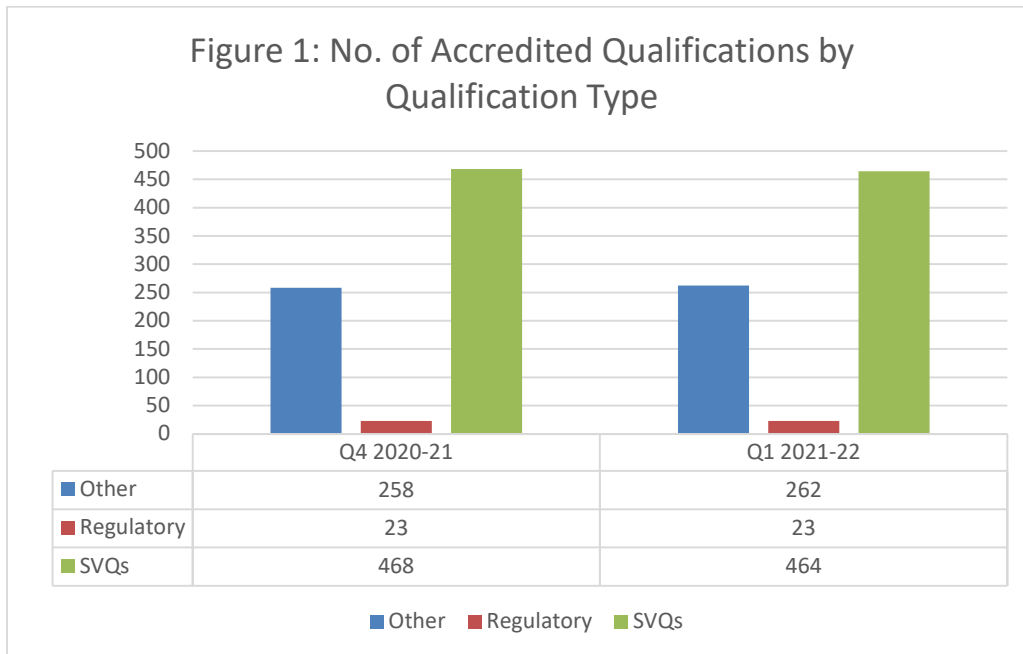
[https://accreditation.sqa.org.uk/accreditation/Research and Statistics/Data Collection Requirements And Guidance](https://accreditation.sqa.org.uk/accreditation/Research%20and%20Statistics/Data%20Collection%20Requirements%20And%20Guidance)

## 2 Accredited qualifications

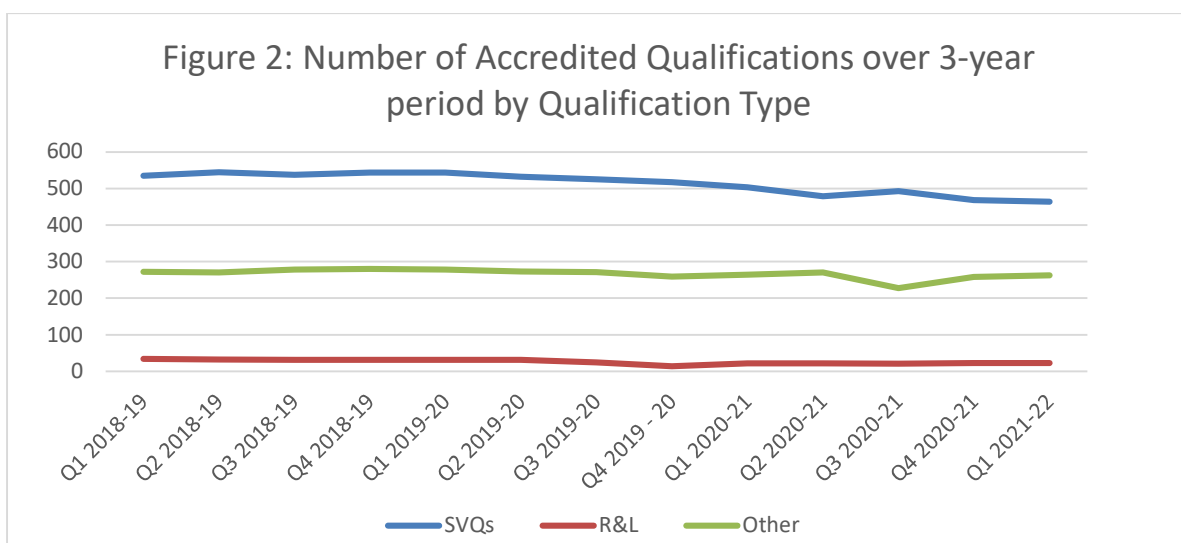
At the end of Q1 of 2021–22 there were 749 live accredited qualifications.<sup>1</sup>

- ◆ **464 SVQs** (61.9%)
- ◆ **23 Regulatory and Licensing qualifications** (3.1%)
- ◆ **262 'Other' qualifications** (35.0%)

<sup>1</sup> Note that this total does not include qualifications that are within their lapsing period.



Compared to Q4, the total number of accredited qualifications has stayed the same. In Q1 2021–22 there were 749 accredited qualifications, compared to 861 in Q1 of 2018–19.



## 2.1 Total candidate registrations and certifications

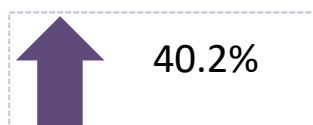
### 2.1.1 Registrations

**25,520** candidates were registered for SQA accredited qualifications in Q1.



This is an 17.5% increase from Q4.

### 2.1.2 Certifications



**22,074** certificates were awarded for SQA accredited qualifications in Q1.

This is a 40.2% increase compared to Q4.

## 2.2 Top ten qualifications

The qualification with the highest number of registrations and certifications was the NEBOSH National General Certificate in Occupational Health and Safety.

**Table 1: Top 10 performing qualifications in terms of registrations**

Qualification title	Registrations
NEBOSH National General Certificate in Occupational Health and Safety	1731
Safecert SCQF Level 6 Award in Emergency First Aid at Work	1708
Award in Emergency First Aid at Work at SCQF Level 6	1208
SVQ in Social Services and Healthcare at SCQF Level 6	942
Scottish Certificate for Personal Licence Holders at SCQF Level 6	889
Award in Emergency First Aid at Work at SCQF Level 6	789
SVQ in Social Services (Children and Young People) at SCQF Level 7	785
ITC Certificate in Outdoor First Aid at SCQF Level 6	711
SVQ in Social Services and Healthcare at SCQF Level 7	673
ITC Certificate in Emergency First Aid at Work at SCQF Level 6	661

NEBOSH National General Certificate in Occupational Health and Safety had the highest number of registrations in Q1 of 2021–22. Compared to figures from Q4:

- ◆ Registrations for this qualification in Q1 were 40.0% lower.

**Table 2: Top 10 performing qualifications in terms of certifications**

<b>Qualification title</b>	<b>Certifications</b>
Safecert SCQF Level 6 Award in Emergency First Aid at Work	1708
NEBOSH National General Certificate in Occupational Health and Safety	1415
Award in Emergency First Aid at Work at SCQF Level 6	1206
SVQ in Social Services and Healthcare at SCQF Level 6	873
Award in Emergency First Aid at Work at SCQF Level 6	762
Scottish Certificate for Personal Licence Holders at SCQF Level 6	743
ITC Certificate in Outdoor First Aid at SCQF Level 6	697
ITC Certificate in Emergency First Aid at Work at SCQF Level 6	660
Award in First Aid at Work at SCQF Level 6	619
Award in First Aid for Mental Health at SCQF Level 5	599

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

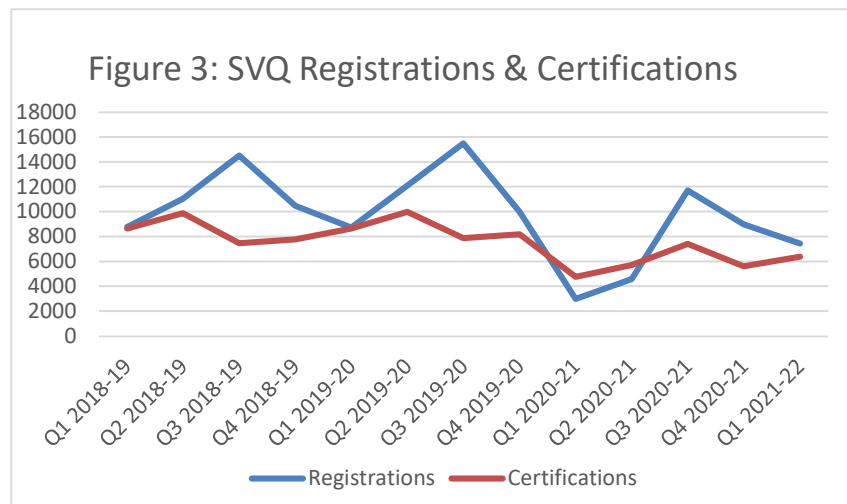
- ◆ Certifications for this qualification are 737.3% higher compared to Q4.

## 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.

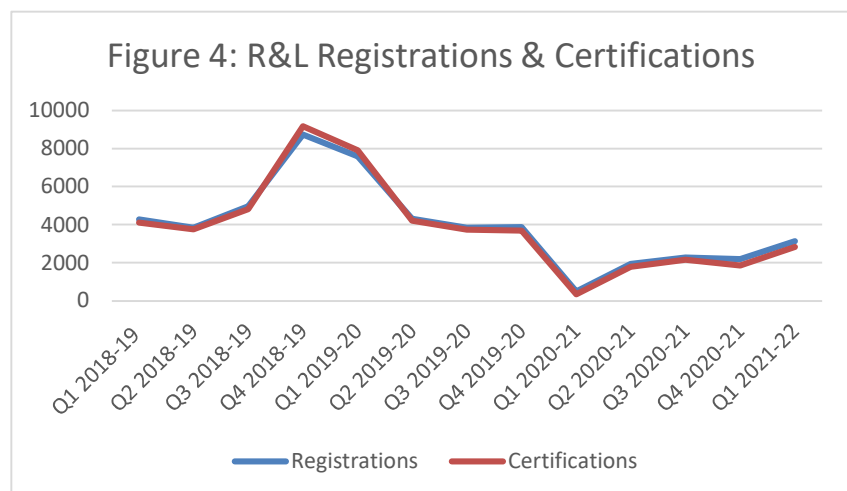
### 2.3.1 SVQs

- ◆ 7,428 registrations
- ◆ 6,379 certifications
- ◆ Compared to Q1 of 2020–21, the number of SVQ registrations has increased by 148.3%.
- ◆ Compared to Q1 of 2020–21, the number of SVQ certifications has increased by 34.1%.



### 2.3.2 Regulatory & Licensing (R&L)

- ◆ 3,135 registrations
  - ◆ 2,833 certifications
- In comparison to Q4 of 2020–21:
- ◆ R&L registrations are 43.0% higher in Q1.
  - ◆ R&L certifications are 52.1% higher in Q1.



The peak in Q4 2018–19 can be attributed to the Scottish Certificate for Personal License Holders (Refresher) qualifications. The Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005 came into full effect in September 2009. A refresher course is required every five years.

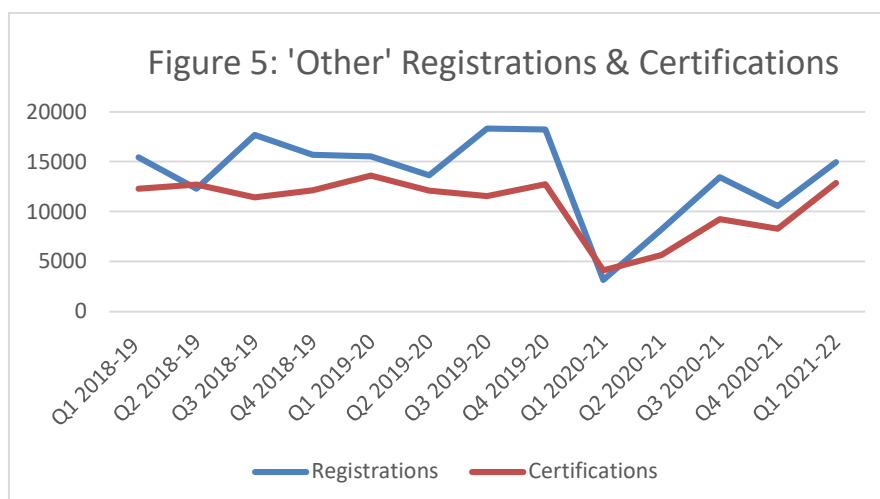


### 2.3.3 'Other' qualifications

- ◆ 14,957 registrations
- ◆ 12,862 certifications

In comparison to Q4 2020–21:

- ◆ registrations for other qualifications have increased by 41.8%
- ◆ certifications for other qualifications have increased by 55.5%



## 2.4 Analysis by awarding body

At the end of the first quarter there were 36 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)	486
City & Guilds	67
Institute of the Motor Industry (IMI)	60
Qualifications for Industry (QFI)	43
Excellence, Achievement & Learning Ltd (EAL)	41

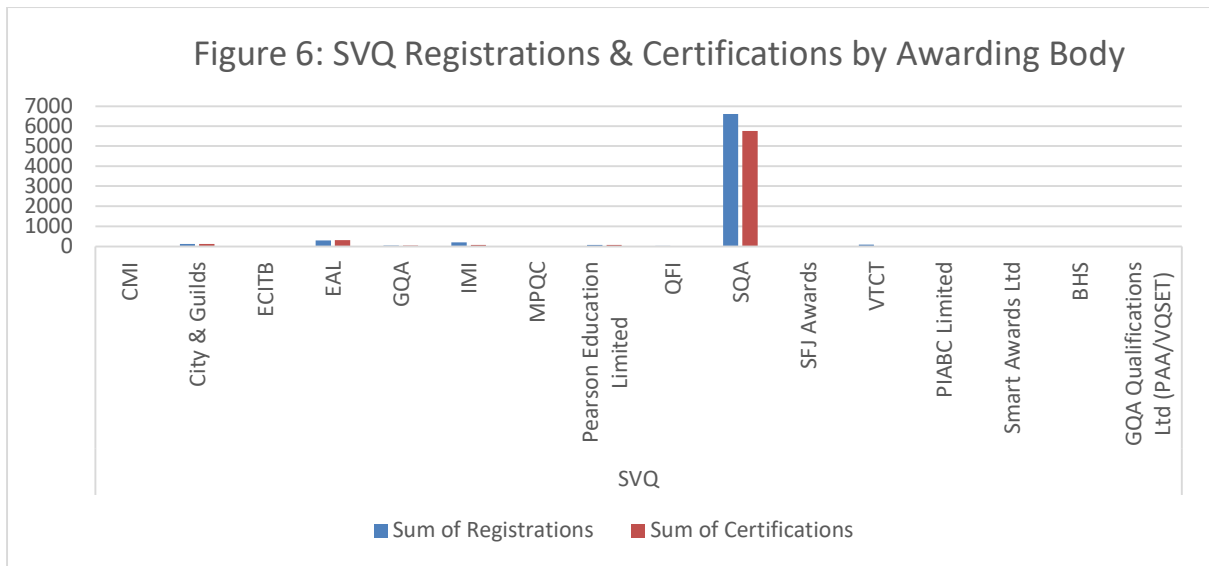
\*Including qualifications that have passed their lapse dates.

Registrations and certifications can be further categorised based on qualification type — SVQs, Regulatory & Licensing and 'Other'.

### 2.4.1 SVQs

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

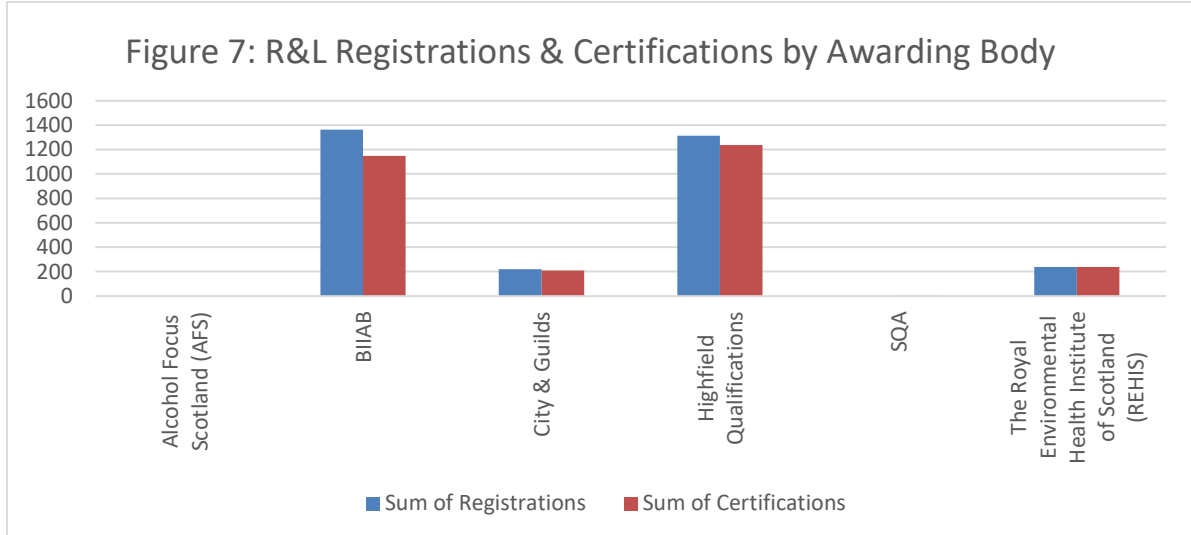
- ◆ 88.9% of registrations
- ◆ 90.1% of certifications



## 2.4.2 Regulatory and Licensing

BIIAB accounted for the highest number of R&L registrations and Highfield Qualifications accounted for the highest number of R&L certifications:

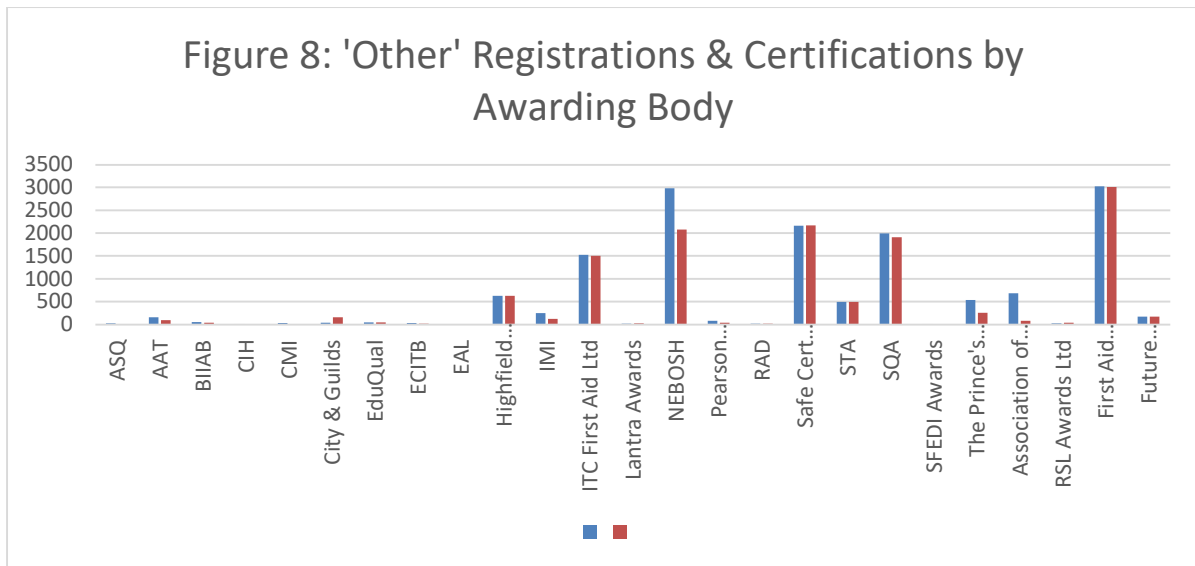
- ◆ 43.4% of registrations
- ◆ 43.7% of certifications



## 2.4.3 ‘Other’ qualifications

First Aid Awards Ltd (FAA) has the highest number of ‘Other’ registrations and certifications:

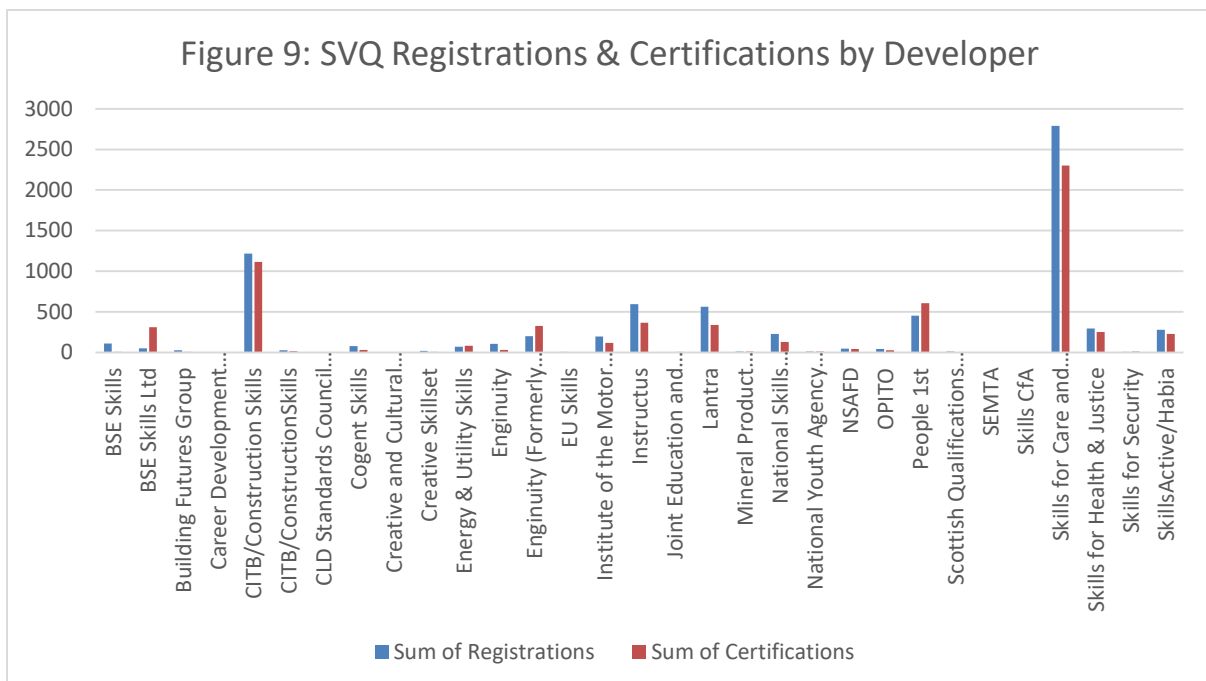
- ◆ 20.2% of registrations
- ◆ 23.4% of certifications



## 2.5 Analysis by developer

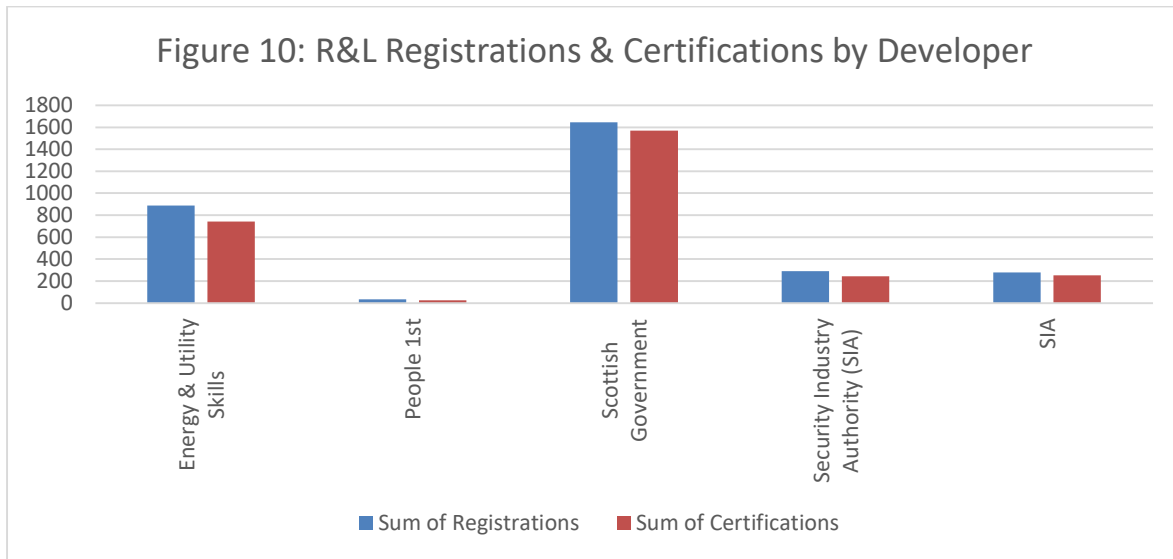
This section compares the registrations and certifications by developer across the three qualification types — SVQs, Regulatory & Licensing, and 'Other'.

### 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 — 37.5% and 31.0%, respectively.

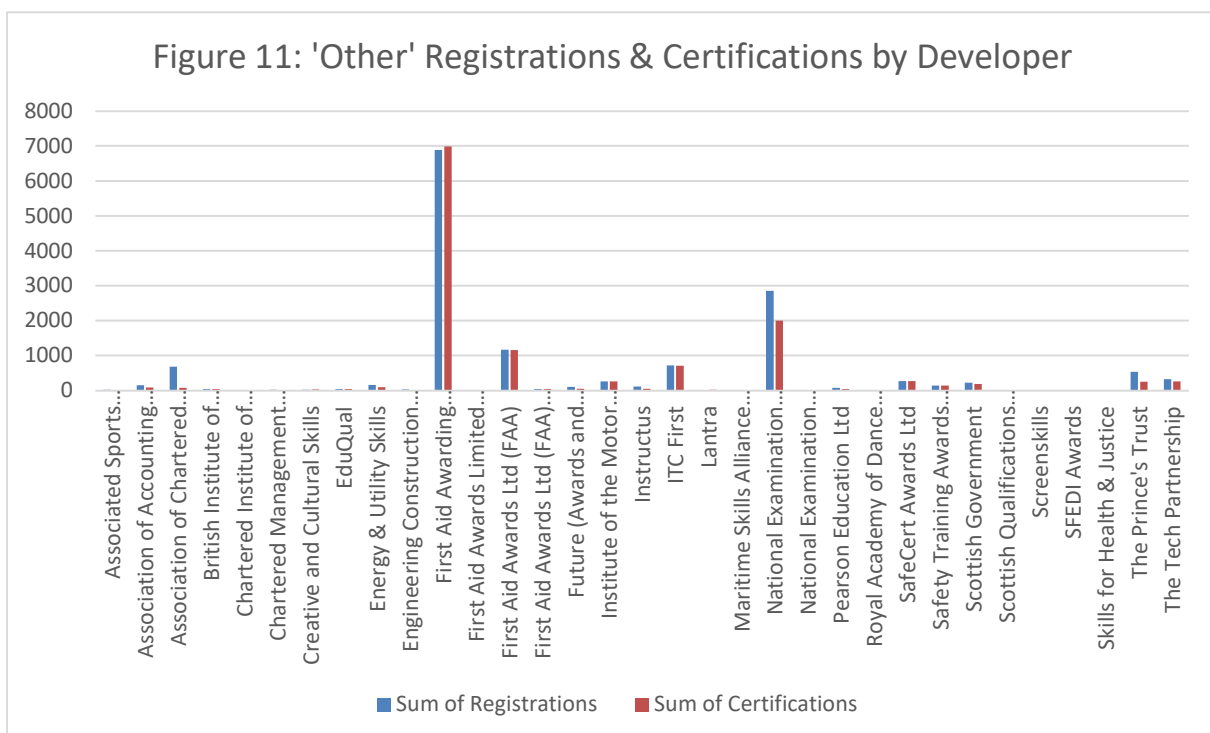
## 2.5.2 Regulatory and Licensing



Compared to SVQs, Regulatory & Licensing qualifications are offered by a smaller range of developers and are largely in the Security and First Aid sectors. Scottish Government accounts for the largest proportion of registrations and certifications — 52.4% and 55.4% respectively.

## 2.5.3 'Other' qualifications

While a wide range of organisations develop '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.

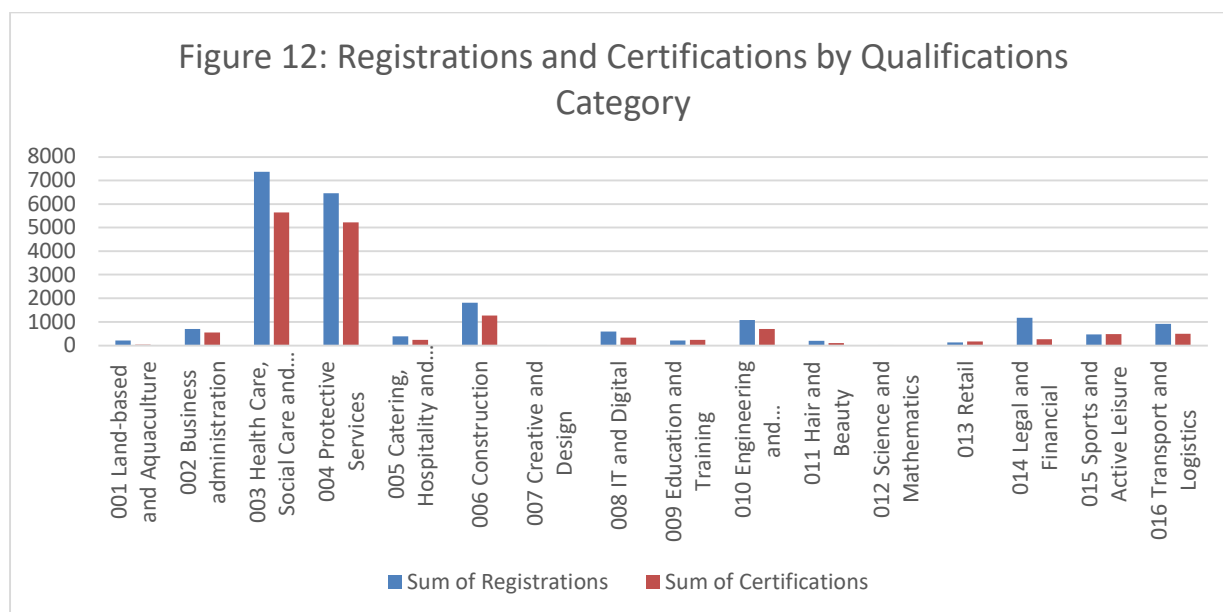


The largest proportion of registrations in qualifications were developed by First Aid Awarding Organisation Forum — 46.0% of registrations. The largest proportion of certifications were developed by the First Aid Awarding Organisation Forum — 54.3% of certifications.

## 2.6 Analysis by qualification categories

SQA Accreditation assign 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



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

- ◆ 28.9% of registrations
- ◆ 25.6% of certifications

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

Qualification type	Highest number of registrations		Highest number of certifications	
	Category	% of total regs	Category	% of total certs
SVQs	003	61.0%	003	70.7%
Regulatory & Licensing	004	100%	004	100%
Other	003	39.4%	004	32.8%

### 3 Workplace Core Skills

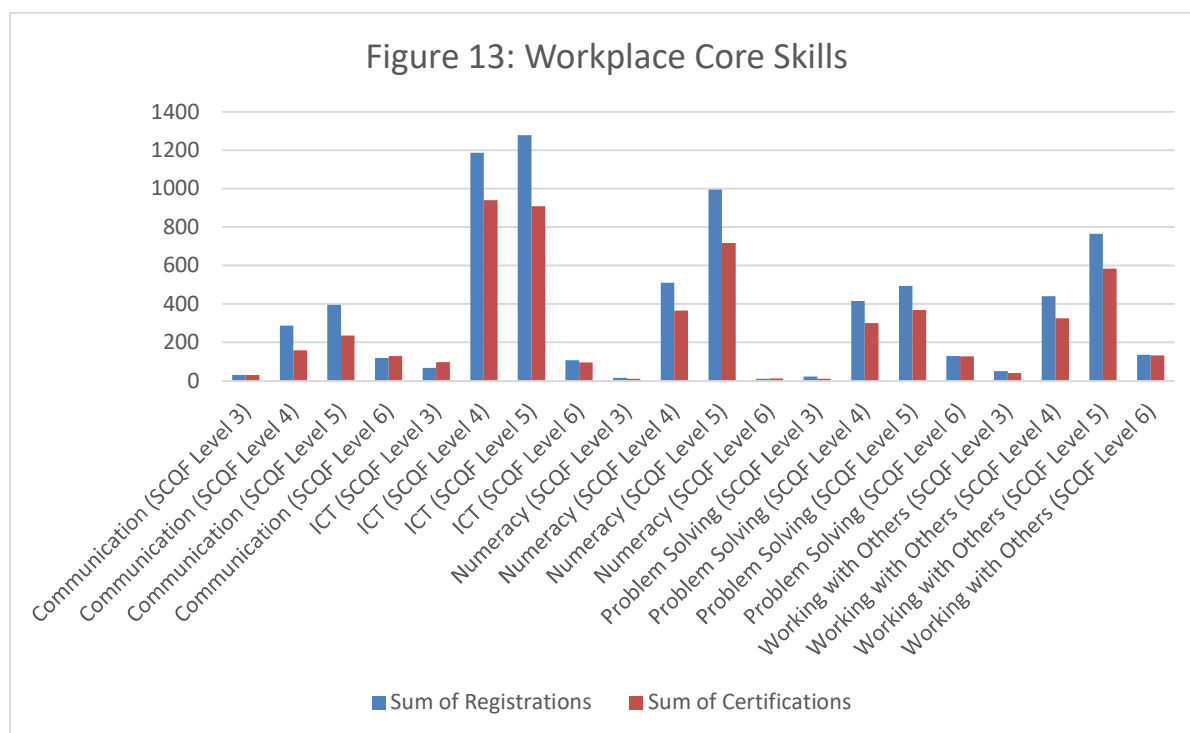
Workplace Core Skills are the broad, transferable skills that help to develop the main capabilities people need to be full, active and responsible members of society. Workplace Core Skills were specifically developed to assess Core Skills in a work environment. They contribute to employability and are 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 2021–22, there were:

- ◆ 145 accredited Workplace Core Skills
- ◆ 7,452 registrations (a decrease of 10.8% compared to Q4)
- ◆ 5,590 certifications (an increase of 11.5% compared to Q4)



Workplace Core Skills are offered by eight awarding bodies.

<b>Awarding body</b>	<b>Registrations</b>	<b>Certifications</b>
British Institute of Innkeepers Awarding Body (BIAB)	0	0
City & Guilds	0	265
Excellence, Achievement & Learning Ltd (EAL)	65	108
Institute of the Motor Industry (IMI)	902	388
Pearson Education Limited	249	226
Qualifications for Industry (QFI)	7	1
Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA)	6213	4598
Vocational Training Charitable Trust (VTCT)	16	4
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>7452</b>	<b>5590</b>

\*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:

- ◆ 83.4% of registrations
- ◆ 82.3% of certifications