

Quarterly Statistics Report

Highlights for Quarter 1:

1 April – 30 June 2020

Publication date: August 2020

Publication code: IG210820

Published by the Scottish Qualifications Authority

SQA Accreditation

The Optima Building, 58 Robertson Street, Glasgow, G2 8DQ

Lowden, 24 Wester Shawfair, Dalkeith, Midlothian EH22 1FD

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

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Executive summary

This report provides statistical information on SQA Accreditation approved qualifications for the first quarter (Q1) of 2020–21 (1 April – 30 June 2020). 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 789 accredited qualifications: 503 Scottish Vocational Qualifications (SVQs), 22 Regulatory and Licensing qualifications, and 264 'Other' qualifications.

Data submissions

There were a total of 6,650 (decrease of 79.3% from Q4) registrations and 9,229 (decrease of 62.5% from Q4) certifications in Q1.

SVQs

Of this total, 2,992 (45%) were SVQ registrations and 4,758 (51.6%) were SVQ certifications. The SQA awarding body had the highest percentage of SVQ registrations (93.4%) and certifications (88.9%). The developer with the most registrations and certifications was Skills for Care and Development — 50.1% and 37.3%, respectively.

Regulatory & Licensing qualifications

There were 495 registrations and 349 certifications, a decrease of 87.2% and decrease of 90.5% respectively compared to Q4. BIIAB accounted for 57% of registrations and Highfield Qualifications accounted for 55.3% of certifications. The developers with the most registrations were People 1st and other awarding bodies – 57.2% People 1st and the Scottish Government had the most certifications—54.4%.

'Other' qualifications

There were 3,163 registrations and 4,122 certifications, a decrease of 82.6% in registrations and 67.6% decrease in certifications. The Royal Academy of Dance (RAD) had the highest number of registrations — 20.8%. NEBOSH has the highest number of certifications — 48.4%. The largest proportion of registrations were in qualifications developed by the Royal Academy of Dance (RAD) — 20.8% of registrations. The largest proportion of certifications were in qualifications developed by NEBOSH — 48.4% 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 2,995 registrations (a reduction of 70.4% compared to Q4) and 9,320 certifications (a decrease of 62.4% 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 2020–21 (1 April–30 June 2020) 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 2020)	14 October 2020
Quarter 3 (1 October – 31 December 2020)	18 January 2021
Quarter 4 (1 January – 31 March 2021)	14 April 2021
Quarter 1 (1 April – 30 June 2021)	14 July 2021

Data submission guidance can be found here:

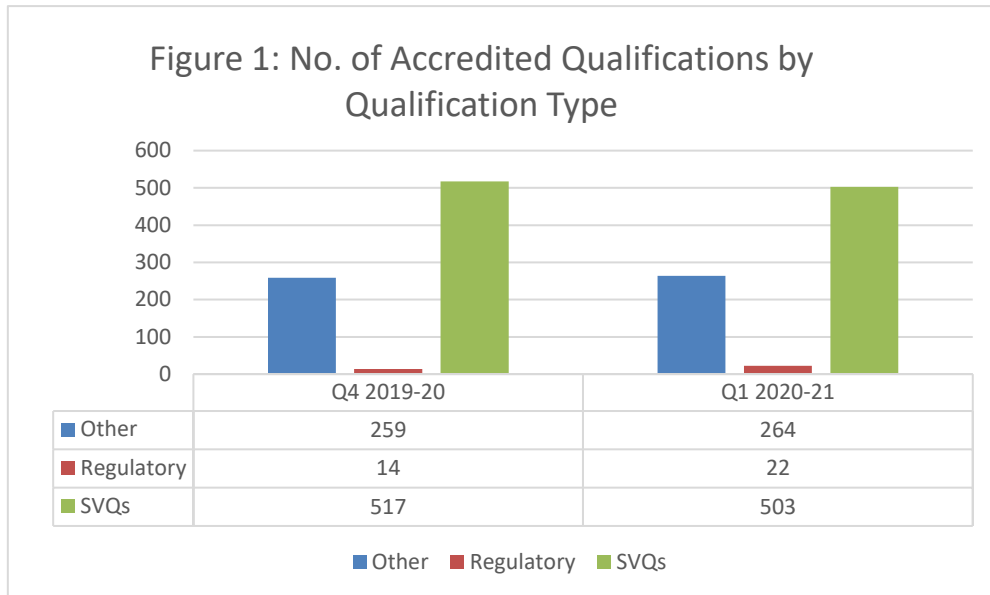
https://accreditation.sqa.org.uk/accreditation/Research_and_Statistics/Data_Collection_Requirements_And_Guidance

2 Accredited qualifications

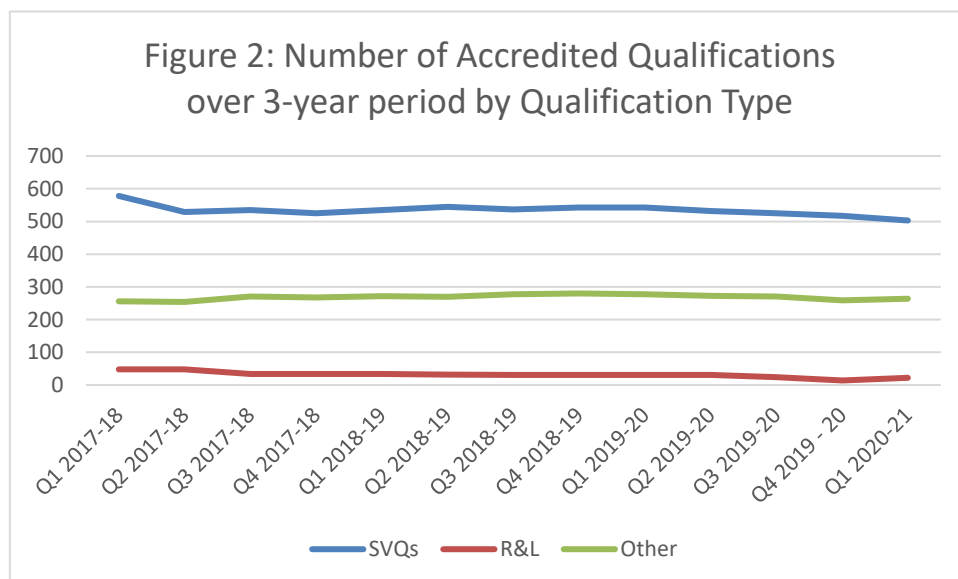
At the end of Q1 of 2020–21 there were 789 live accredited qualifications.¹

- ◆ **503 SVQs** (63.8%)
- ◆ **22 Regulatory and Licensing qualifications** (2.8%)
- ◆ **264 ‘Other’ qualifications** (33.5%)

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



Compared to Q4, the total number of accredited qualifications has decreased by one. The number of accredited qualifications has remained relatively stable in the last three years.



2.1 Total candidate registrations and certifications

2.1.1 Registrations

6,650 candidates were registered for SQA accredited qualifications in Q1.



This is a 79.3% decrease compared to Q4.

2.1.2 Certifications



9,229 certificates were awarded for SQA accredited qualifications in Q1.

This is a 62.5% decrease 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
SVQ in Social Services and Healthcare at SCQF Level 6 (SQA)	634
SVQ in Social Services and Healthcare at SCQF Level 7 (SQA)	387
SVQ in Social Services (Children and Young People) at SCQF Level 7 (SQA)	273
Scottish Certificate for Personal Licence Holders at SCQF Level 6 (BIIAB)	204
The Prince's Trust Award in Personal Development and Employability Skills at SCQF Level 4	182
NEBOSH National General Certificate in Occupational Health and Safety	175
Award in Emergency First Aid at Work at SCQF Level 6 (SQA)	125
SVQ in Construction Site Management (Construction): Building and Civil Engineering at SCQF Level 9 (SQA)	116
SVQ in Management at SCQF Level 7 (SQA)	112
Scottish Certificate for Personal Licence Holders at SCQF Level 6 (Highfield)	106

SVQ in Social Services and Healthcare at SCQF Level 6 had the highest number of registrations in Q1 of 2020–21. Compared to figures from Q4:

- ◆ Registrations for this qualification in Q1 were 47% lower.

Table 2: Top 10 performing qualifications in terms of certifications

Qualification title	Certifications
NEBOSH National General Certificate in Occupational Health and Safety	642
SVQ in Social Services and Healthcare at SCQF Level 6 (SQA)	617
NEBOSH National General Certificate in Occupational Health and Safety	591
SVQ in Social Services (Children and Young People) at SCQF Level 7 (SQA)	545
SVQ in Social Services and Healthcare at SCQF Level 7 (SQA)	416
NEBOSH National Certificate in Construction Health and Safety	280
SVQ 2 in Performing Engineering Operations at SCQF Level 5 (EAL)	207
Award in Emergency First Aid at Work at SCQF Level 6 (SQA)	201
NEBOSH National Certificate in Fire Safety and Risk Management	159
NEBOSH Certificate in Environmental Management	158

The NEBOSH National General Certificate in Occupational Health and Safety had the highest number of certifications in Q1 of 2020–21. Compared to figures from Q4:

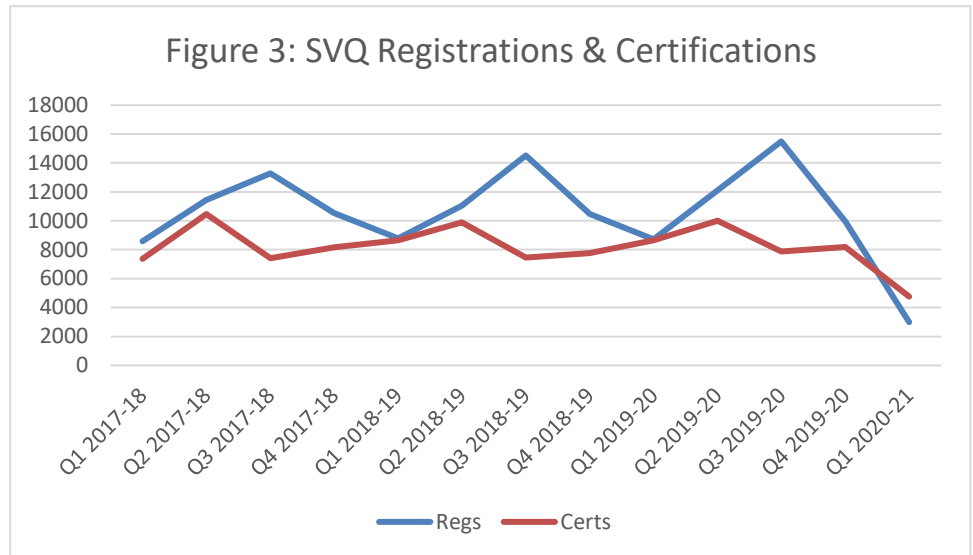
- ◆ Certifications for this qualification are 58% lower.

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.

2.3.1 SVQs

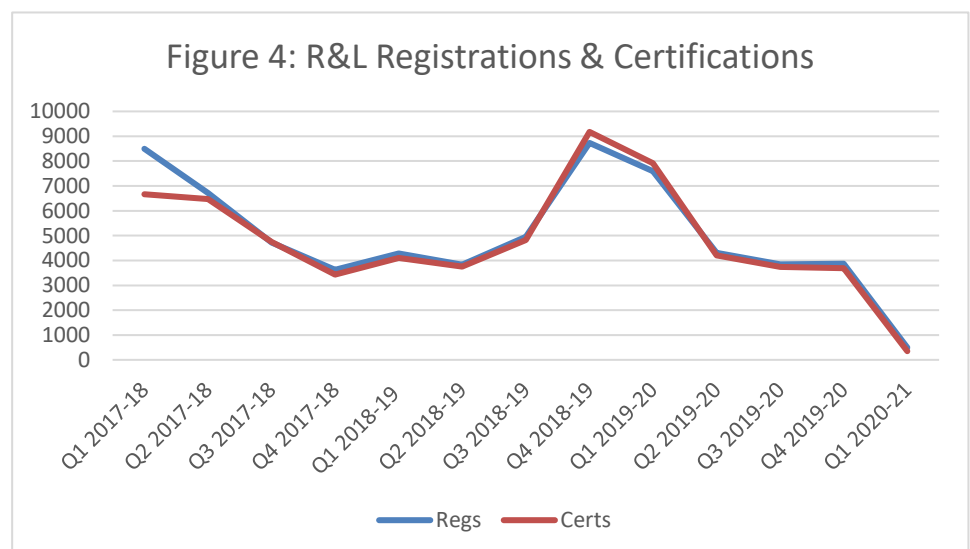
- ◆ 2,992 registrations
- ◆ 4,758 certifications



- ◆ Compared to Q1 of 2019–20, the number of SVQ registrations has decreased by 63%.
- ◆ SVQ certifications in Q1 2020–21 are 45% lower than those in Q1 of 2019–20.

2.3.2 Regulatory & Licensing (R&L)

- ◆ 495 registrations
- ◆ 349 certifications



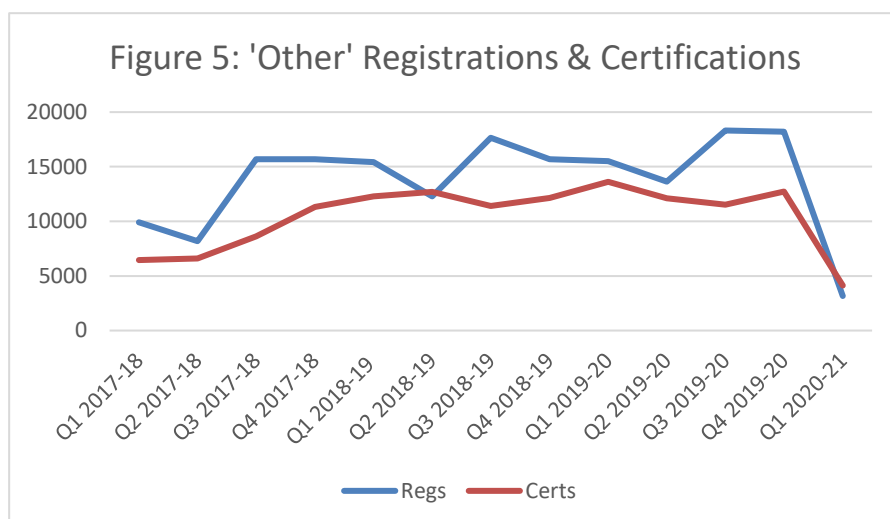
In comparison to Q4 of 2019–20:

- ◆ R&L registrations are 87% lower in Q1 2020-21.
- ◆ R&L certifications are 90% lower in Q1 2020-21.

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, and a refresher course is required every 5 years.

2.3.3 'Other' qualifications

- ◆ 3,163 registrations
- ◆ 4,122 certifications



In comparison to Q4 2019–20:

- ◆ registrations for other qualifications have decreased by 82.6%
- ◆ certifications for other qualifications have decreased by 67.6%

2.4 Analysis by awarding body

At the end of the first quarter there were 37 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)	546
City & Guilds	96
Institute of the Motor Industry (IMI)	73
Excellence, Achievement & Learning Ltd (EAL)	48
Qualifications for Industry (QFI)	37

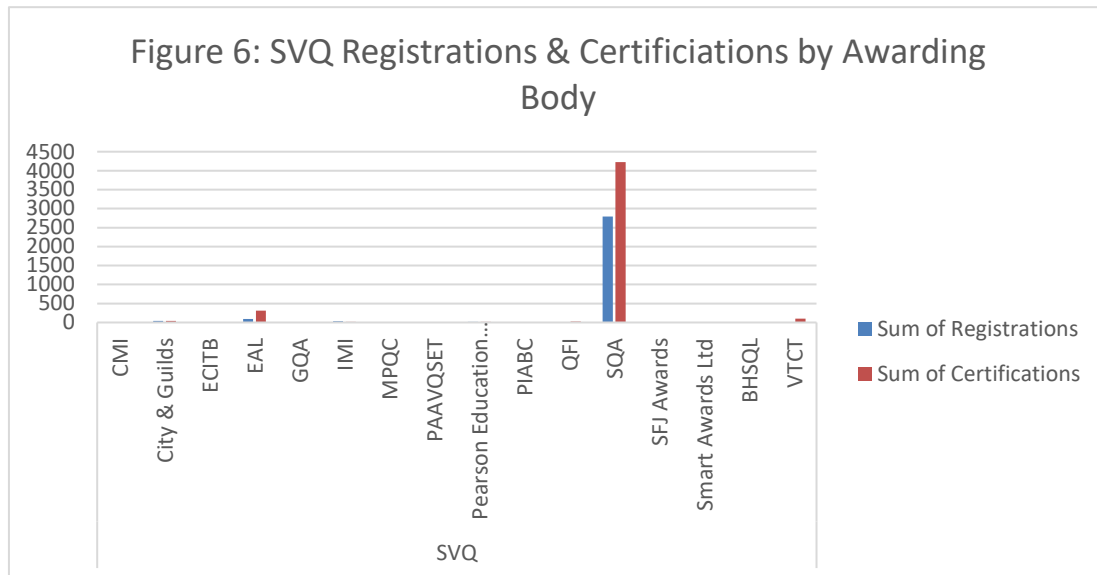
*Including qualifications that have passed their lapse dates.

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:

- ◆ 93.4% of registrations
- ◆ 88.9% of certifications



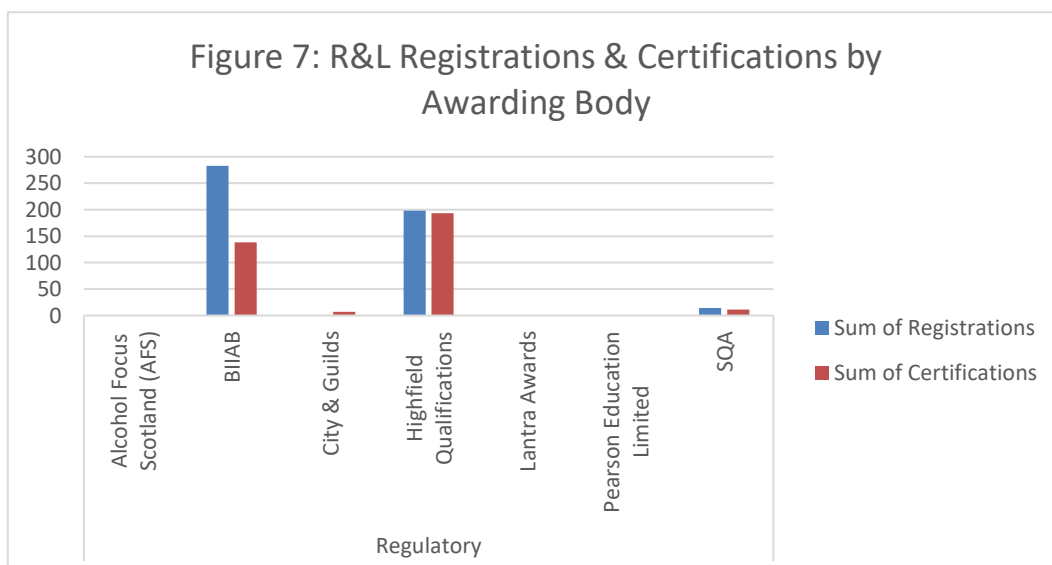
2.4.2 Regulatory and Licensing

BIIAB accounted for the highest number of R&L registrations:

- ◆ 57% of registrations

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

- ◆ 55.3% of certifications



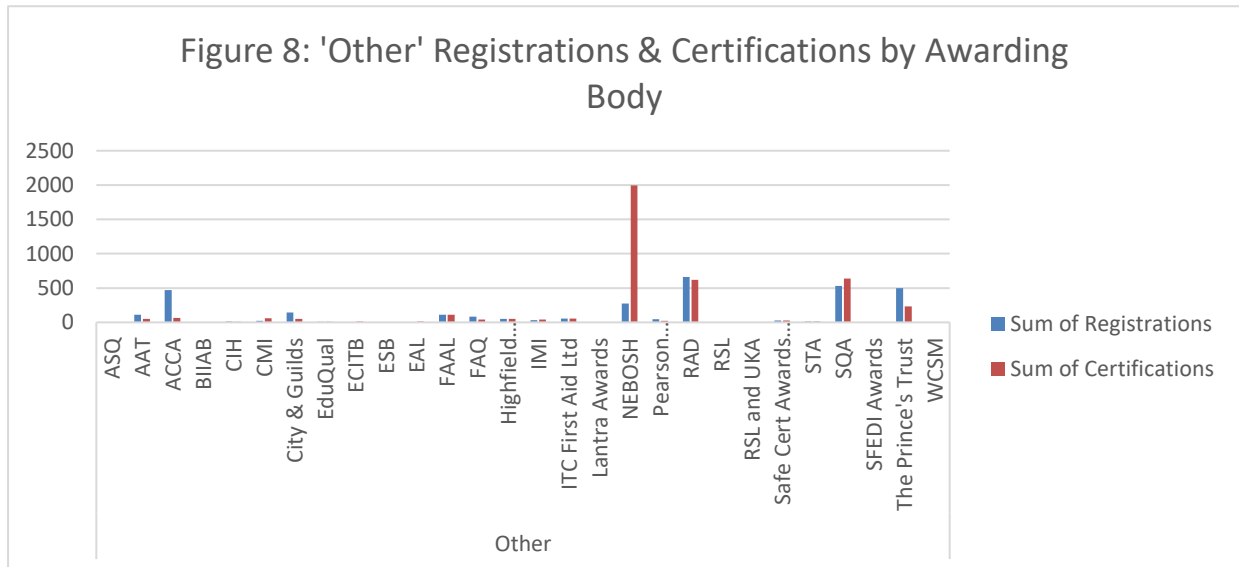
2.4.3 'Other' qualifications

The Royal Academy of Dance (RAD) has the highest number of registrations:

- ◆ 20.8% of registrations

NEBOSH has the highest number of certifications:

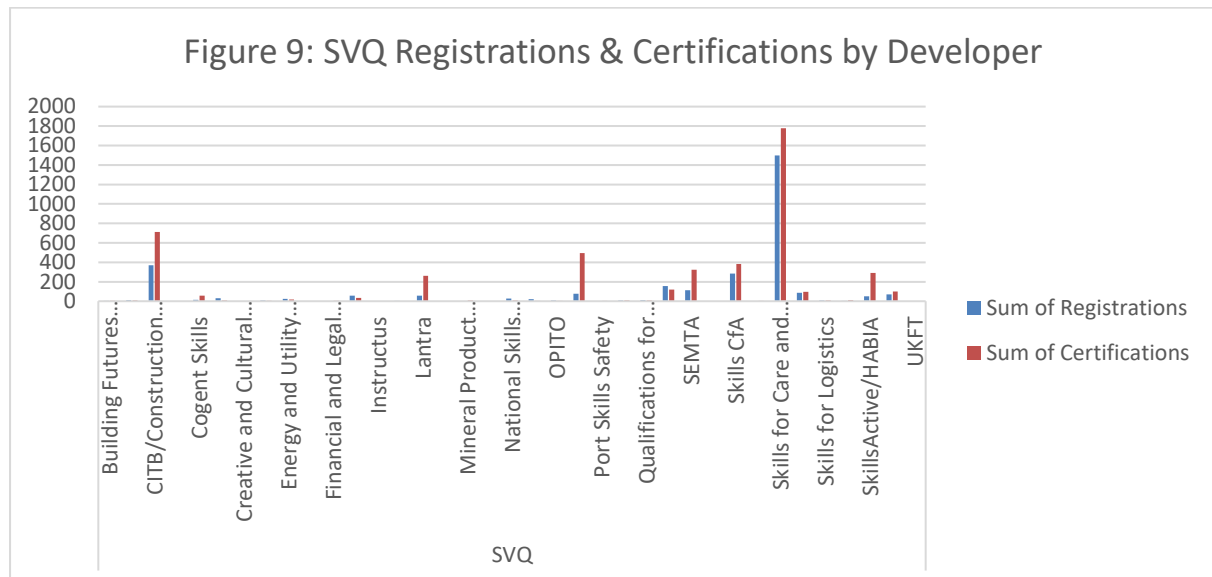
- ◆ 48.4% of certifications



2.5 Analysis by developer

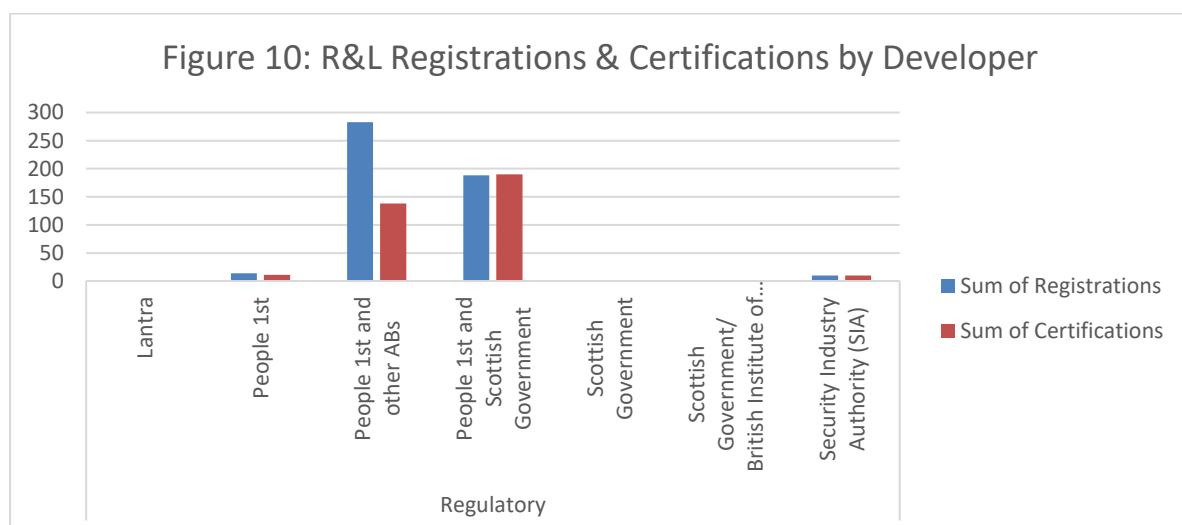
This section compares the registrations and certifications by developer across the three qualification types — SVQs, Regulatory & Licensing, and ‘Other’.

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 — 50.1% and 37.3%, respectively.

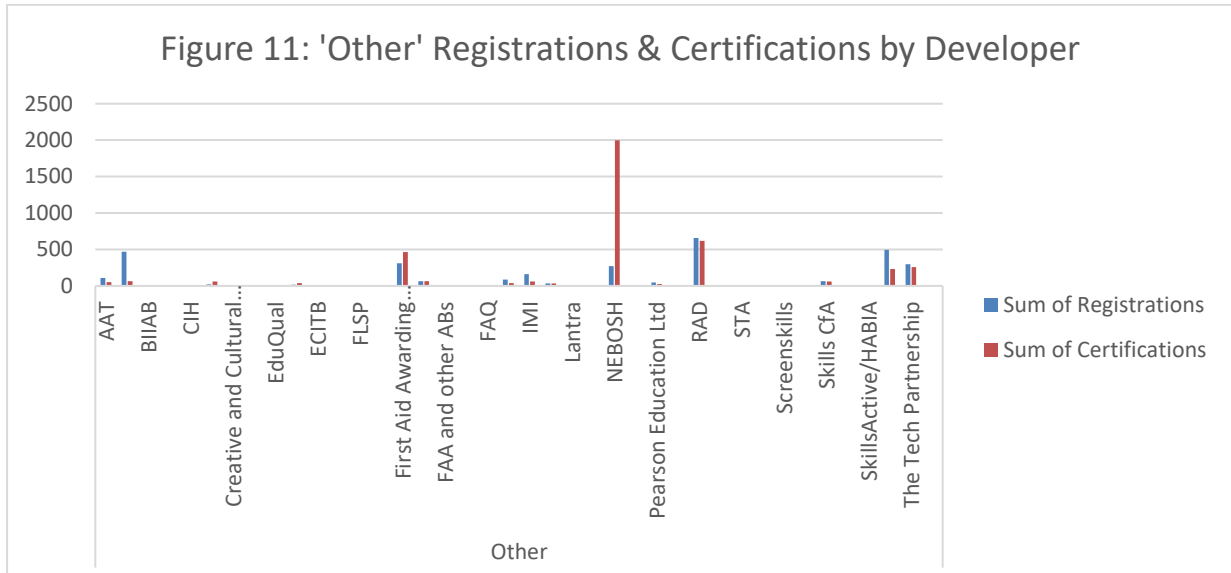
2.5.2 Regulatory and Licensing



Compared to SVQs, Regulatory & Licensing qualifications are offered by a smaller range of developers and are largely in the Security and First Aid sectors. People 1st and other awarding bodies account for the largest proportion of registrations— 57.2% and People 1st and the Scottish Government have the highest number of certifications - 54.4%.

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.



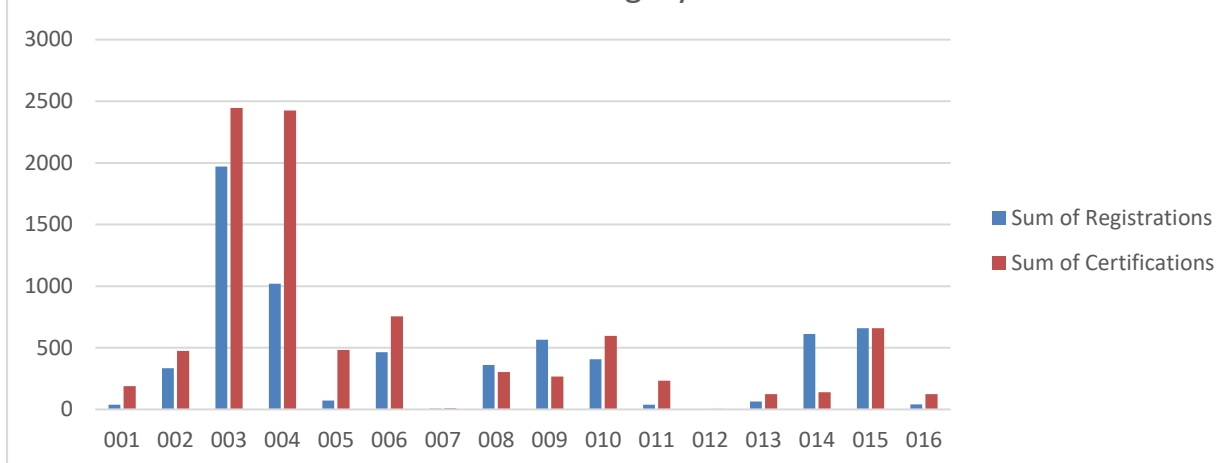
The largest proportion of registrations were in qualifications developed by the Royal Academy of Dance (RAD) — 20.8% of registrations. The largest proportion of certifications were in qualifications developed by NEBOSH — 48.4% of certifications.

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

Figure 12: Registrations & Certifications by Qualification Category



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

- ◆ 29.6% of registrations
- ◆ 26.5% 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	51.7%	003	39.5%
Regulatory & Licensing	004	100%	004	100%
Other	015	20.8%	004	49.6%

3 Workplace Core Skills

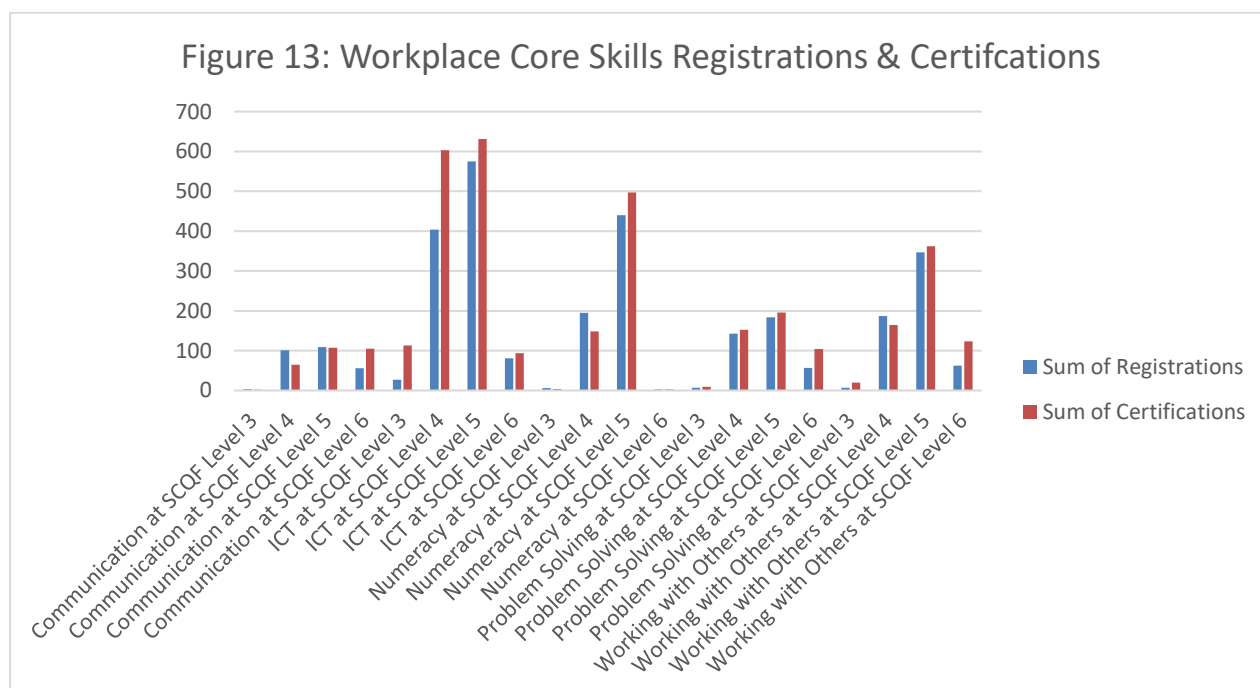
Workplace Core Skills are the broad, transferable skills that help to develop the main capabilities people need to be full, active and responsible members of society. Workplace Core Skills were specifically developed to assess Core Skills in a work environment. They contribute to employability and are 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 2020-21, there were:

- ◆ 145 accredited Workplace Core Skills
- ◆ 2,995 registrations (a reduction of 70% compared to Q4)
- ◆ 3,502 certifications (an increase of 62.4% compared to Q4)



Workplace Core Skills are offered by eight awarding bodies.

Awarding body	Registrations	Certifications
British Institute of Innkeepers Awarding Body (BIIAB)	0	0
City & Guilds	0	165
Excellence, Achievement & Learning Ltd (EAL)	23	26
Institute of the Motor Industry (IMI)	303	101
Pearson Education Limited	85	39
Qualifications for Industry (QFI)	0	13
Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA)	2,584	3,157
Vocational Training Charitable Trust (VTCT)	0	1
Grand total	2,995	3,502

*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:

- ◆ 86.3% of registrations
- ◆ 90.1% of certifications