

Quarterly Statistics Report

Highlights for Quarter 2:

1 July – 30 September 2020

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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 second quarter (Q2) of 2020–21 (1 July – 30 September 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 771 accredited qualifications: 479 Scottish Vocational Qualifications (SVQs), 22 Regulatory and Licensing qualifications, 270 'Other' qualifications.

Data submissions

There were a total of 14721 (increase of 121.4% from Q1) registrations and 13183 (increase of 42.8% from Q1) certifications in Q1.

SVQs

Of this total, 4,570 (24.1%) were SVQ registrations and 5,719 (32.7%) were SVQ certifications. The SQA awarding body had the highest percentage of SVQ registrations (82.2%) and certifications (88.6%). The developer with the most registrations and certifications was First Aid Awarding Organisation Forum — 51.4% and 36.0%, respectively.

Regulatory & Licensing qualifications

There were 1,942 registrations and 1,795 certifications, a decrease of 49.8% and decrease of 51.4% respectively compared to Q1. British Institute of Innkeepers Awarding Body (BIAB) for 50.5% of registrations and 48.2% of certifications. The developers with the most registrations and certifications were People 1st and the Scottish Government and other AB's — 54.2% and 54.1%, respectively.

'Other' qualifications

There were 8,209 registrations and 5669 certifications, a decrease of 54.9% in registrations and 55.5% decrease in certifications. NEBOSH accounted for 29.1% of registrations, however Safe Cert Awards Ltd accounted for the highest number of certifications, 24.9%. The developer with the largest proportion of registrations and certifications was the First Aid Awarding Organisation Forum — 34.6% of registrations 49.4% 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 Q1.

Workplace Core Skills

There were a total of 4201 registrations (a reduction of 68.5% compared to Q1) and 4220 certifications (a reduction of 55.7% compared to Q1).

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 second quarter second quarter (Q2) of 2020–21 (1 July – 30 September 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 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 2020)	14 July 2021
Quarter 2 (1 July – 30 September 2021)	14 October 2021

Data submission guidance can be found here:

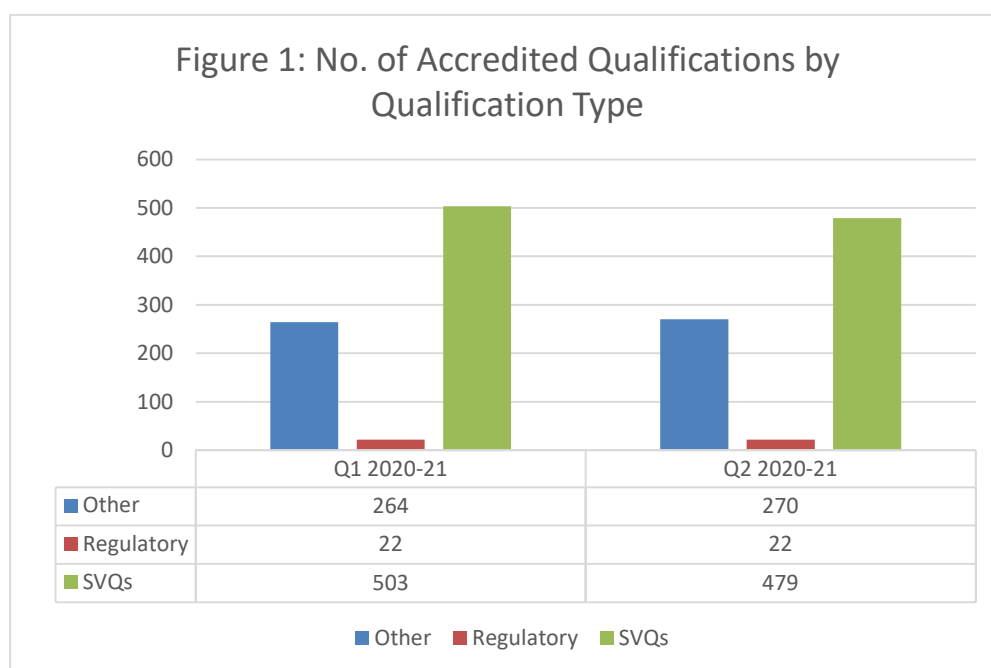
<https://accreditation.sqa.org.uk/accreditation/Research and Statistics/Data Collection Requirements And Guidance>

2 Accredited qualifications

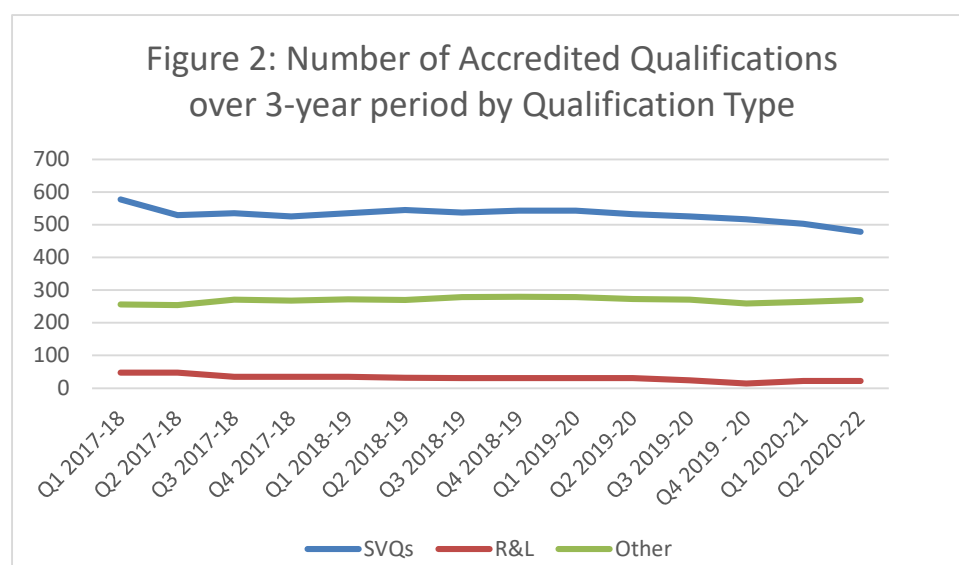
At the end of Q1 of 2020–21 there were 771 live accredited qualifications.¹

- ◆ **479 SVQs** (62.1%)
- ◆ **22 Regulatory and Licensing qualifications** (2.8%)
- ◆ **270 'Other' qualifications** (35.0%)

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



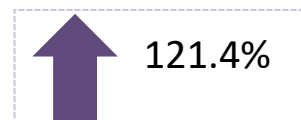
Compared to Q1, the total number of accredited qualifications has decreased by 18, (equating to a 2.3% decrease). The number of accredited qualifications has remained relatively stable in the last three years.



2.1 Total candidate registrations and certifications

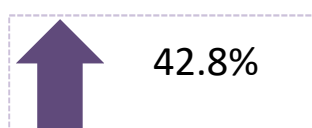
2.1.1 Registrations

14,721 candidates were registered for SQA accredited qualifications in Q2.



This is a 121.4% increase from Q1.

2.1.2 Certifications



13,183 certificates were awarded for SQA accredited qualifications in Q2.

This is an 42.8% increase compared to Q1.

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	1341
Safecert SCQF Level 6 Award in Emergency First Aid at Work	1006
Scottish Certificate for Personal Licence Holders at SCQF Level 6	584
SVQ in Social Services and Healthcare at SCQF Level 6	536
SVQ in Social Services and Healthcare at SCQF Level 7	514
Award in Emergency First Aid at Work at SCQF Level 6	420
SVQ in Social Services (Children and Young People) at SCQF Level 7	379
Scottish Certificate for Personal Licence Holders (Refresher) at SCQF Level 6	356
Scottish Certificate for Personal Licence Holders at SCQF Level 6	351
SVQ in Plant Operations (Construction) at SCQF Level 5	276

NEBOSH National General Certificate in Occupational Health and Safety had the highest number of registrations in Q2 of 2020–21. Compared to figures from Q1:

- ◆ Registrations for this qualification in Q1 were 52.7% lower.

Table 2: Top 10 performing qualifications in terms of certifications

Qualification title	Certifications
Safecert SCQF Level 6 Award in Emergency First Aid at Work	1006
SVQ in Social Services and Healthcare at SCQF Level 6	693
Scottish Certificate for Personal Licence Holders at SCQF Level 6	526
SVQ in Social Services (Children and Young People) at SCQF Level 7	510
SVQ in Social Services and Healthcare at SCQF Level 7	457
Award in Emergency First Aid at Work at SCQF Level 6	419
Scottish Certificate for Personal Licence Holders at SCQF Level 6	345
Scottish Certificate for Personal Licence Holders (Refresher) at SCQF Level 6	319
Award in Emergency First Aid at Work at SCQF Level 6	245
ITC Certificate in Emergency First Aid at Work at SCQF Level 6	242

Safecert SCQF Level 6 Award in Emergency First Aid at Work had the highest number of certifications in Q2 of 2020–21. Compared to figures from Q1:

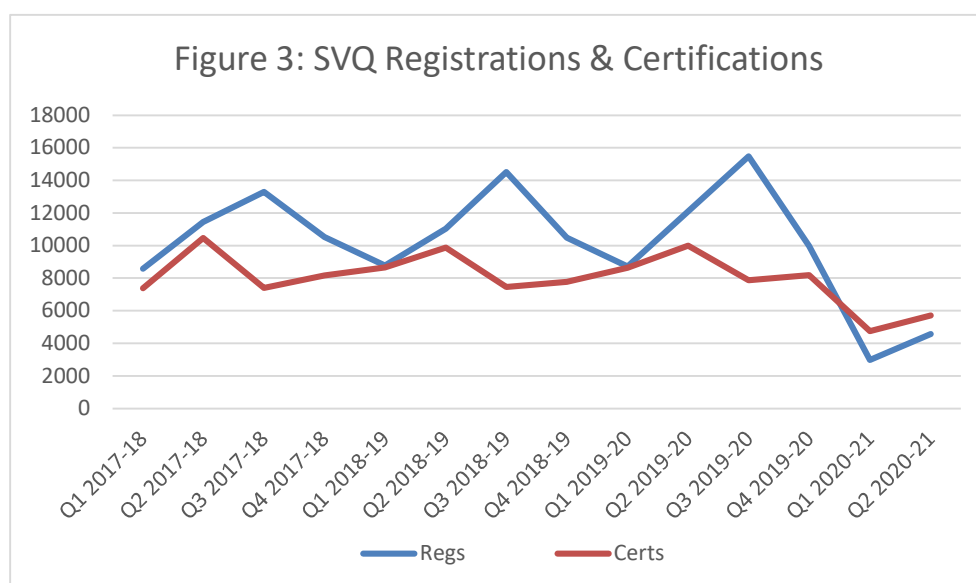
- ◆ Certifications for this qualification are 97.4% higher.

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

- ◆ 4,570 registrations
- ◆ 5,719 certifications
- ◆ Compared to Q1 of 2020–21, the number of SVQ registrations has increased by 52.7%.
- ◆ Compared to Q1 of 2020–21, the number of SVQ certifications has increased by 20.2%.

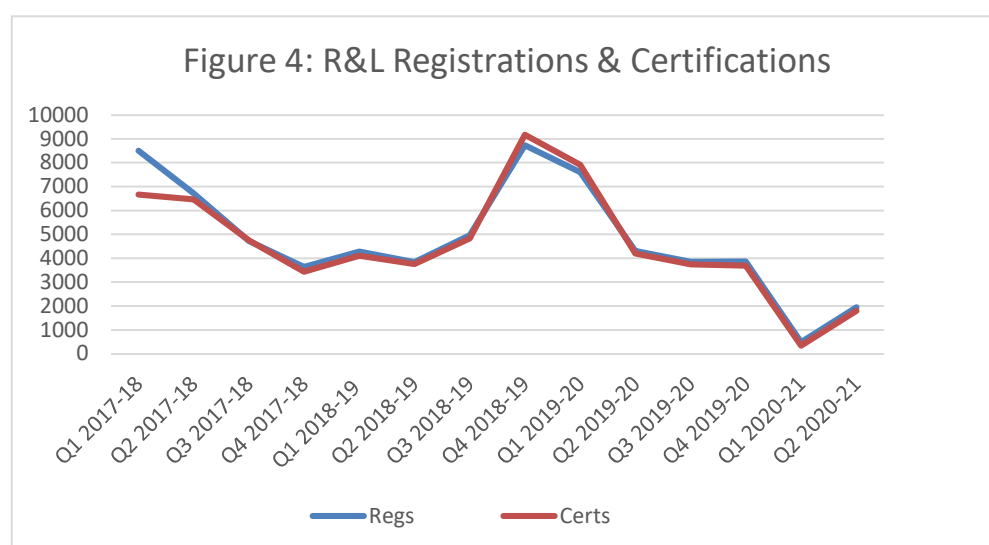


2.3.2 Regulatory & Licensing (R&L)

- ◆ 1,942 registrations
- ◆ 1,795 certifications

In comparison to Q1 of 2020–21:

- ◆ R&L registrations are 292.3% higher in Q1.
- ◆ R&L certifications are 414.3% higher in Q1.



The peak in Q4 2018–19 can be attributed to the Scottish Certificate for Personal License Holders (Refresher) qualifications. The

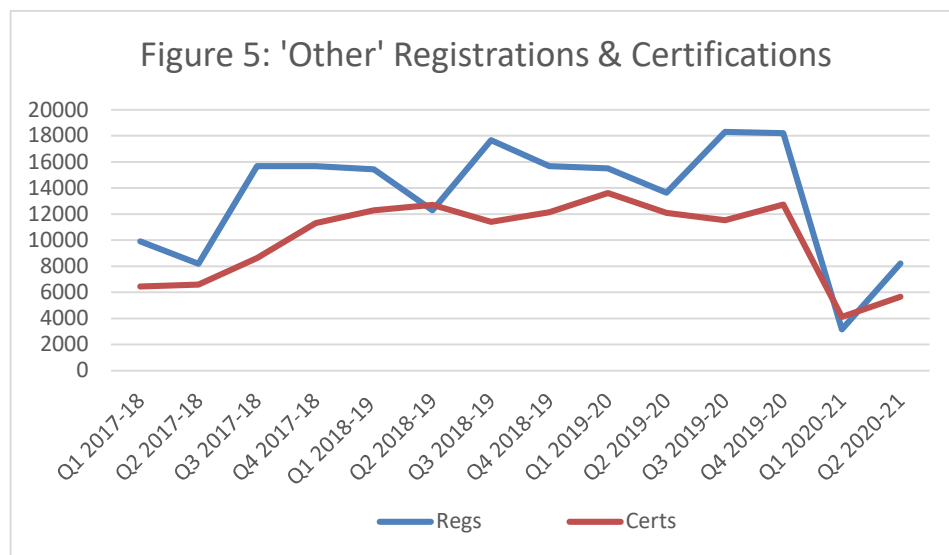
Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005 came into full effect in September 2009. A refresher course is required every five years.

2.3.3 'Other' qualifications

- ◆ 8,209 registrations
- ◆ 5,669 certifications

In comparison to Q1 2020–21:

- ◆ registrations for other qualifications have increased by 159.5%
- ◆ certifications for other qualifications have increased by 37.5%



2.4 Analysis by awarding body

At the end of the fourth quarter there were 38 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)	562
City & Guilds	112
Institute of the Motor Industry (IMI)	86
Excellence, Achievement & Learning Ltd (EAL)	65
Pearson Education Limited	53

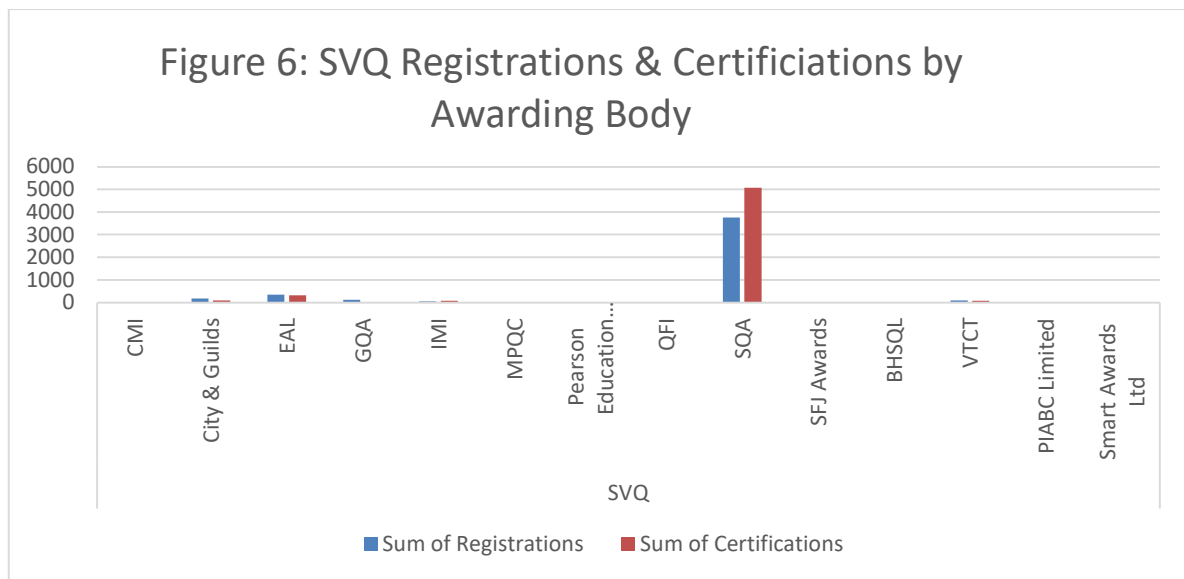
*Including qualifications that have passed their lapse dates.

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:

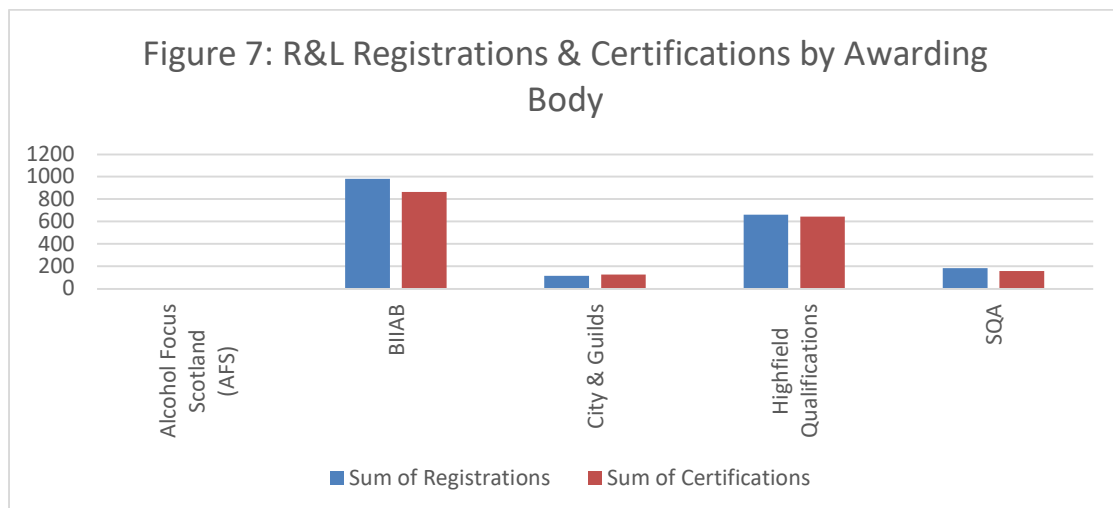
- ◆ 82.2% of registrations
- ◆ 88.6% of certifications



2.4.2 Regulatory and Licensing

British Institute of Innkeepers Awarding Body (BIAB) accounted for the highest number of R&L registrations and certifications:

- ◆ 50.5% of registrations
- ◆ 48.2% of certifications

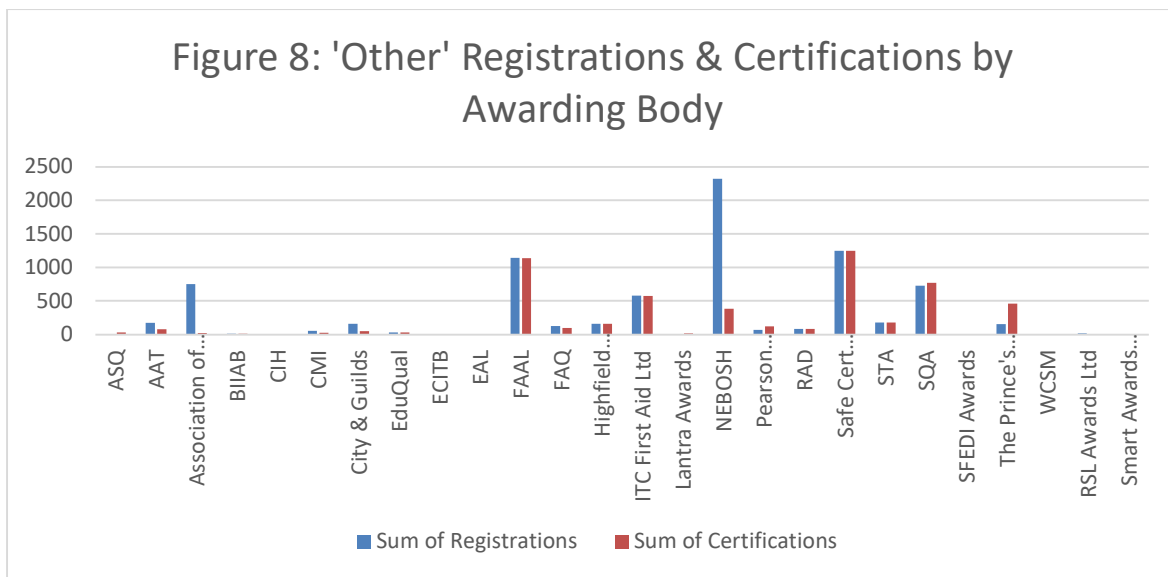


2.4.3 'Other' qualifications

NEBOSH has the highest number of 'Other' registrations.

Safe Cert Awards Ltd has the highest number of 'Other' certifications:

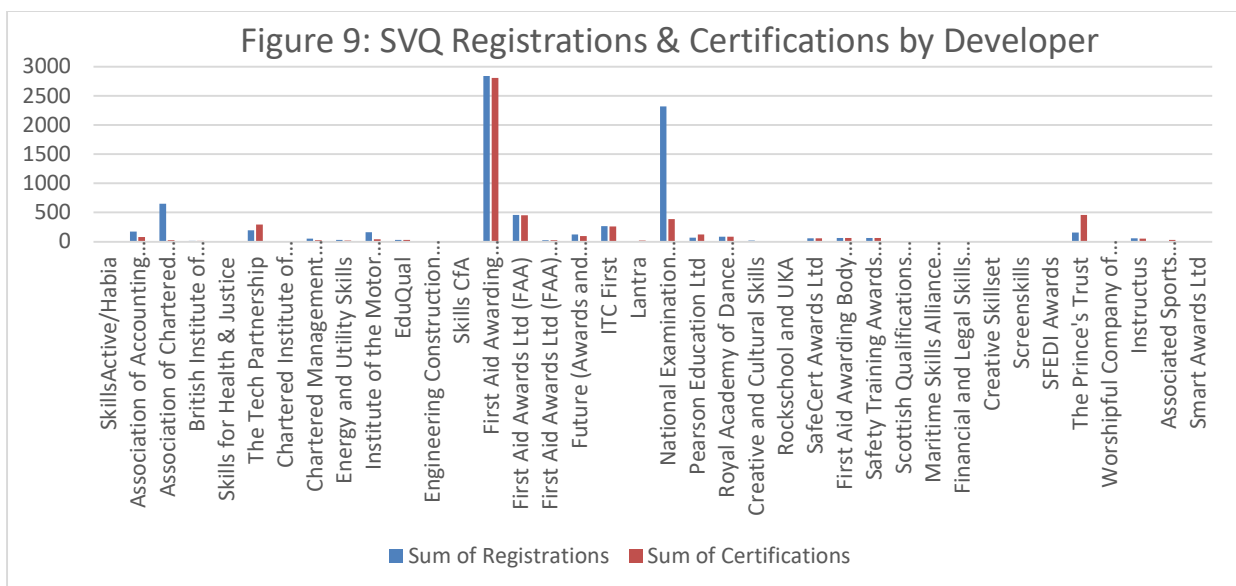
- ◆ 29.1% of registrations
- ◆ 22.9% of certifications



2.5 Analysis by developer

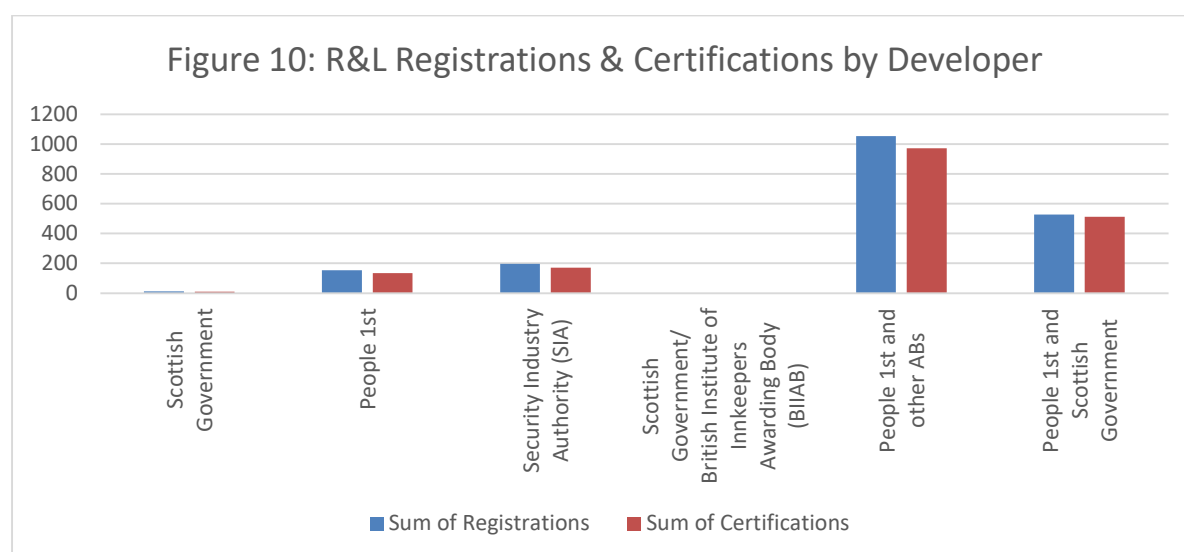
This section compares the registrations and certifications by developer across the three qualification types — SVQs, Regulatory & Licensing, and 'Other'.

2.5.1 SVQs



SVQs are favoured across a wide range of developers. First Aid Awarding Organisation Forum account for the largest proportion of SVQ registrations and certifications — 51.4% and 36.0%, respectively.

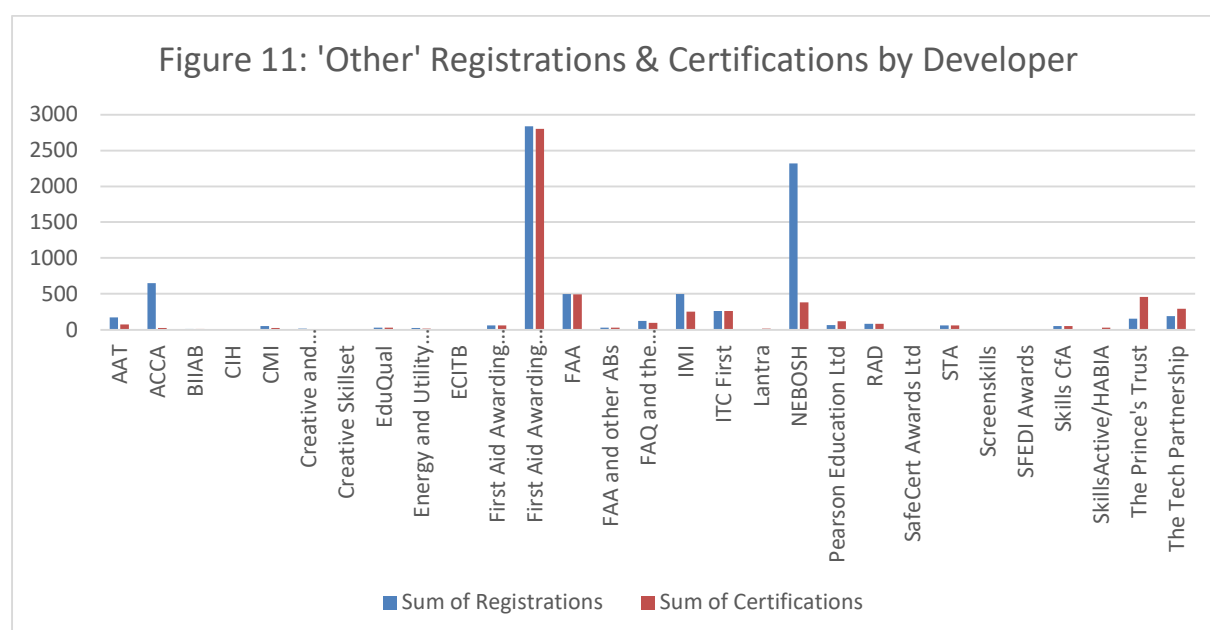
2.5.2 Regulatory and Licensing



Compared to SVQs, Regulatory & Licensing qualifications are offered by a smaller range of developers and are largely in the Security and First Aid sectors. People 1st and the Scottish Government and other AB's account for the largest proportion of registrations and certifications — 54.2% and 54.1%, 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.

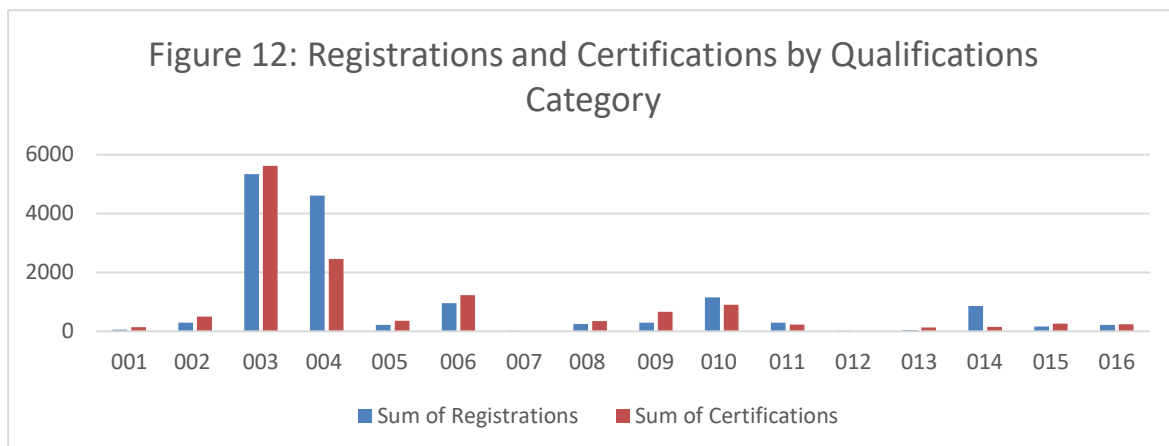


The largest proportion of registrations in qualifications were developed by First Aid Awarding Organisation Forum— 34.6% of registrations. The largest proportion of certifications were developed by the First Aid Awarding Organisation Forum — 49.4% of certifications.

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



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

- ◆ 36.2% of registrations
- ◆ 42.6% 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	37.6%	003	35.7%
Regulatory & Licensing	004	100%	004	100%
Other	003	44.0%	003	63.0%

3 Workplace Core Skills

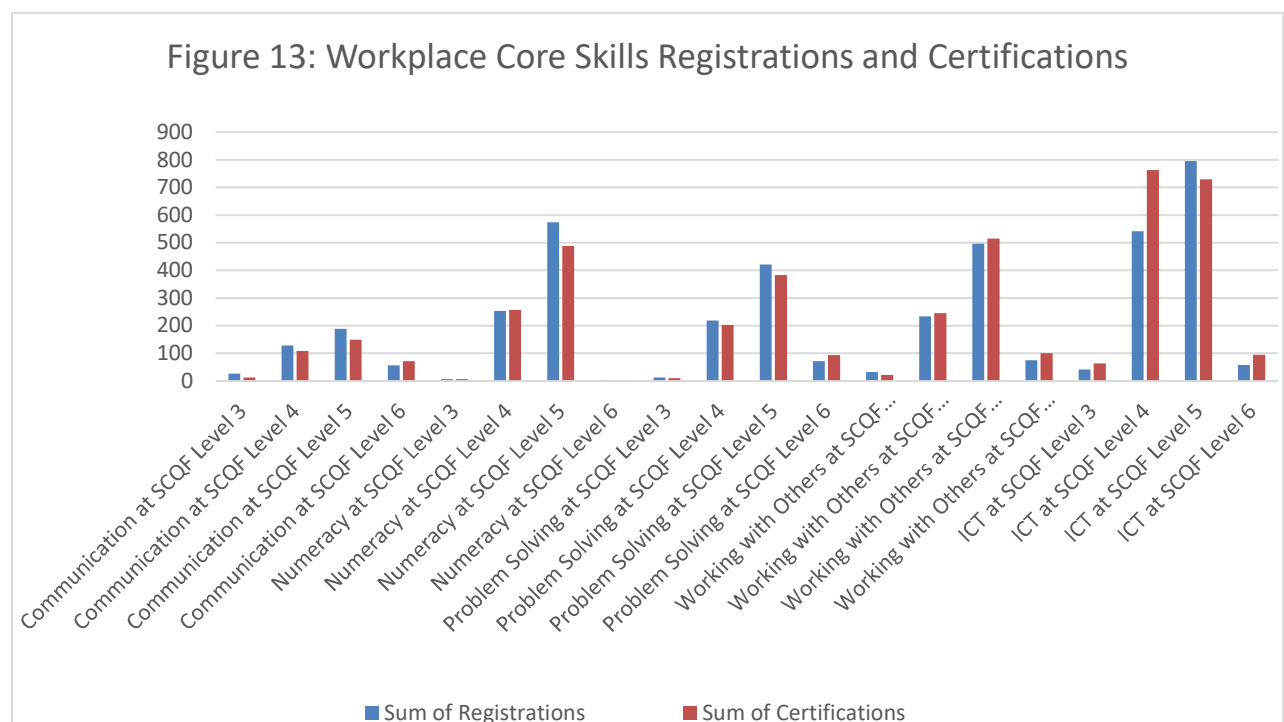
Workplace Core Skills are the broad, transferable skills that help to develop the main capabilities people need to be full, active and responsible members of society. Workplace Core Skills were specifically developed to assess Core Skills in a work environment. They contribute to employability and are 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 Q2 2020–21, there were:

- ◆ 145 accredited Workplace Core Skills
- ◆ 4,324 registrations (an increase of 44.4% compared to Q1)
- ◆ 4,320 certifications (an increase of 23.4% compared to Q1)



Workplace Core Skills are offered by eight awarding bodies.

Awarding body	Registrations	Certifications
British Institute of Innkeepers Awarding Body (BIAB)	0	0
City & Guilds	0	137
Excellence, Achievement & Learning Ltd (EAL)	117	120
Institute of the Motor Industry (IMI)	142	424
Pearson Education Limited	3	49
Qualifications for Industry (QFI)	5	10
Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA)	3966	3580
Vocational Training Charitable Trust (VTCT)	1	0
Grand Total	4234	4320

*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:

- ◆ 93.7% of registrations
- ◆ 82.9% of certifications