

FEATURE

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Regional analysis of public sector employment

SUMMARY

This article presents updated analysis of public sector employment by region, with time series since 1999. The article uses the latest figures from public sector organisations for Scotland, Northern Ireland and the UK and the recently reweighted Labour Force Survey data to estimate the breakdown for English regions and Wales.

Regional estimates of public sector employment (PSE) are used for policy-related purposes and have been produced by the Office for National Statistics (ONS) using the Labour Force Survey (LFS), in conjunction with PSE estimates based on returns from public sector organisations, since 2005. The most recent estimates were produced in 2007 and featured in the March 2007 edition of *Economic & Labour Market Review*.

This article uses the most up-to-date PSE estimates alongside the recently reweighted LFS data to produce regional estimates for the period 1999 to 2007. The main findings from the analysis are:

- in 2007, all regions of the UK have an increased number of people working within the public sector, compared with the figure for 1999. This masks recent declines in the level of PSE; in the two years since 2005, many regions have seen levels of PSE fall (except Wales, West Midlands, London, Yorkshire and The Humber and Northern Ireland)
- over the year to Q4 2007, the largest relative decrease in the number of people working in the public sector was in the East Midlands region (1.1 per cent), while the largest relative increase was in the West Midlands region (0.7 per cent)
- Northern Ireland continues to have the highest proportion of their workforce working within the public sector in the 12 months to Q4 2007 (28.7 per cent), followed by Wales (23.6 per cent), the North East (22.9 per cent) and Scotland

(22.5 per cent). For the same time period, the East Midlands (17.0 per cent), East (17.1 per cent), South East (17.3 per cent) and London (18.5 per cent) had the smallest proportion of their workforce working in the public sector

Regional public sector employment estimates

Estimates of PSE are produced for Scotland and Northern Ireland using returns from public sector organisations and are compiled by the Scottish Government and the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment for Northern Ireland (DETINI), respectively. These 'administrative-based' estimates are in fact based on a combination of administrative data and estimates from surveys of public sector organisations. For the purpose of this article, these estimates will be referred to as administrative-based, since most of the surveys approach 100 per cent in coverage. UK PSE estimates are produced at ONS and combine the Scottish and Northern Irish administrative-based figures with administrative-based estimates for England and Wales combined. Separate PSE estimates for England and Wales are not available from administrative sources and therefore estimates have been provided periodically by combining administrative data with data from the LFS.

The most recent publication of regional PSE estimates was in 2007. Since then, the LFS microdata has been subject to a major reweighting exercise, to take account of changes in population profiles at a local level that have occurred since the

last reweighting exercise in 2003. More information regarding the 2007-weighted LFS microdata can be found in Hughes and Palmer (2008).

Using the LFS for regional estimates of PSE

The LFS is a survey of households and among other things collects information regarding the sector of employment and region of workplace. It is therefore possible to produce regional breakdowns of PSE using the LFS. However, as highlighted in Millard (2007), the LFS tends to overestimate PSE, relative to the administrative PSE series, for a number of reasons:

- public/private and industry classification rely on the respondent's view of the organisation they work for, whereas administrative estimates use information directly from the organisations. The respondent-based approach can lead to reporting error.

Analysis has highlighted that people sometimes associate their employer by their place of work, rather than the organisation that pays their wage. For example, a person working as a catering assistant in a school might state that they work for a school, even if their wage is paid by a private catering firm

- the LFS public/private variable (PUBLICR) does not fully match the National Accounts definition of the public sector used to produce the administrative PSE estimates. In particular, university staff and GPs should be classified under the private sector according to National Accounts definitions, whereas in the LFS they are both classified as belonging to the public sector
- the administrative PSE survey method tends to lead to undercoverage of schools devolved from local government

It is possible to adjust the LFS to bring the public sector variable closer to the National Accounts definition. **Figure 1** compares the PSE administrative series with the LFS and 'adjusted' LFS figures and illustrates the size of the LFS overestimation. It is clear that, under the adjusted methodology, the divergence between the LFS and PSE estimates is approximately halved.

The method utilised by this article closely follows that undertaken in Millard (2007). Seasonally adjusted LFS estimates are presented to ensure consistency with the administrative-based UK PSE series. The LFS estimates are four-quarter rolling averages, to minimise any effects related to sampling variations. The estimates run from Q1 1999 to Q4 2007, in line with the availability of PSE estimates for Scotland.

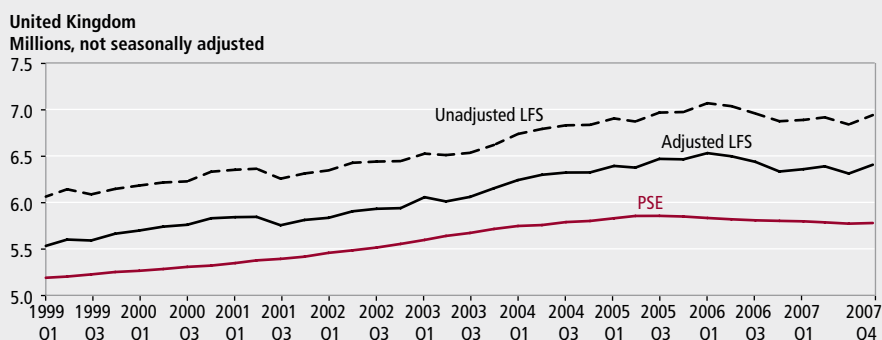
Figures for Scotland and Northern Ireland are four-quarterly averages taken from the published PSE estimates. These are not seasonally adjusted. The figures quoted in this article will therefore differ from the estimates published by the Scottish Government and DETINI. For example, the data shown in this article for Scotland for Q4 2007 is an average taken for the quarters Q1 to Q4 2007, whereas the published Scottish Government estimate for Q4 2007 refers to employment as at December 2007. Additionally, estimates of rates of PSE published by DETINI are typically expressed relative to the total number of employee jobs rather than the LFS-based estimate of total employment, as quoted in this article.

The regional split for England, Wales and the English regions is generated by prorating the England and Wales administrative total (the administrative-based UK PSE figure minus the administrative Scotland and Northern Ireland PSE estimates) according to the adjusted LFS proportions. Further explanation is available in Millard (2007).

Updated estimates

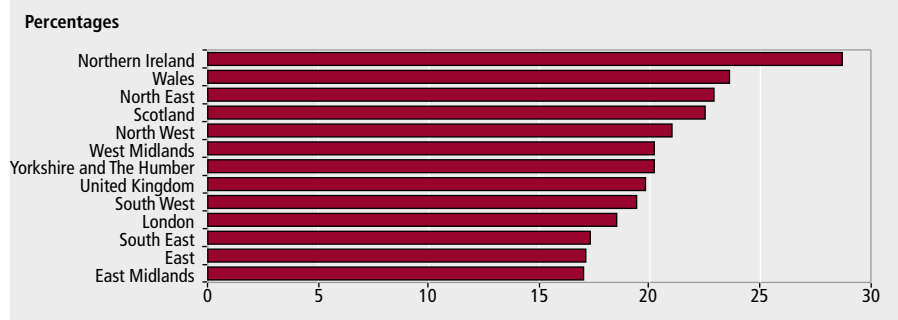
For the four quarters to Q4 2007, the regions having the highest proportion of their workforce in the public sector continued to be Northern Ireland (28.7 per cent), Wales (23.6 per cent), the North East (22.9 per cent) and Scotland (22.5 per cent). The regions with the lowest proportion of their workforce in the public sector were the East Midlands (17.0 per cent), East (17.1 per cent), South East (17.3 per cent) and London (18.5 per cent). This is presented in **Figure 2**. The rates are similar to those presented in Millard (2007) for the four quarters to Q3 2006.

Figure 1
Comparison of PSE estimates from public sector organisations and LFS



Source: Labour Force Survey; returns from public sector organisations (ONS, Scottish Government and Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment for Northern Ireland)

Figure 2
Public sector employment as a proportion of all in employment: by region and country¹ of workplace, year to Q4 2007²

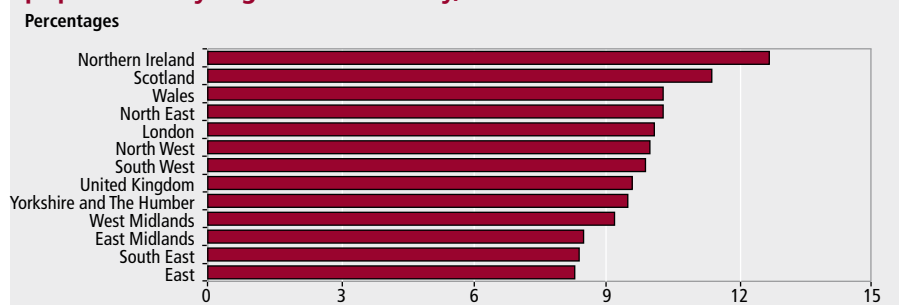


Notes:

- Public sector statistics for Northern Ireland relate to the number of public sector jobs rather than the number of people working in the public sector. HM Forces figures are not included in Northern Ireland estimates.
- Four-quarterly averages are based on estimates over the quarters March (Q1), June (Q2), September (Q3) and December (Q4) 2007.

Source: Labour Force Survey; returns from public sector organisations (ONS, Scottish Government and Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment for Northern Ireland)

Figure 3
Public sector employment as a proportion of total resident population: by region and country,¹ 2006^{2,3}



Notes:

- 1 Public sector statistics for Northern Ireland relate to the number of public sector jobs rather than the number of people working in the public sector. HM Forces figures are not included in Northern Ireland estimates.
- 2 Headcount, four-quarterly averages are based on estimates over the quarters March (Q1), June (Q2), September (Q3) and December (Q4) 2006.
- 3 Public sector employment estimates are workplace-based estimates, that is, where people work rather than where they live. Mid-year population estimates measure resident population.

Source: Labour Force Survey; returns from public sector organisations (ONS, Scottish Government and Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment for Northern Ireland); ONS mid-year 2006 population estimates

Table 1

Public sector employment:¹ by region and country of workplace

Thousands, seasonally adjusted

Average of four quarters to: ²	North East	North West	Yorkshire and The Humber	East Midlands	West Midlands	East	London	South East	South West	England	Wales	Scotland ³	Great Britain	Northern Ireland ⁴	United Kingdom
PSE level															
1999Q4	240	591	438	318	430	411	716	626	429	4,200	290	529	5,019	197	5,217
2000Q1	238	597	439	319	437	415	719	629	426	4,219	289	530	5,037	198	5,236
2000Q2	235	609	444	320	439	417	715	629	430	4,238	288	531	5,057	199	5,256
2000Q3	232	621	452	318	434	421	703	635	438	4,254	291	532	5,077	199	5,276
2000Q4	230	633	456	315	430	426	691	640	446	4,267	295	532	5,094	200	5,293
2001Q1	232	643	459	315	429	429	683	640	453	4,283	299	532	5,114	200	5,314
2001Q2	234	650	458	314	431	431	687	643	455	4,303	300	533	5,136	201	5,337
2001Q3	238	654	449	317	439	431	703	640	454	4,324	299	534	5,157	202	5,359
2001Q4	245	661	445	320	445	431	711	638	454	4,349	296	536	5,180	202	5,383
2002Q1	249	666	440	320	451	429	723	642	457	4,377	293	538	5,207	203	5,410
2002Q2	251	665	440	324	457	431	726	644	462	4,400	293	540	5,234	204	5,437
2002Q3	256	665	448	329	457	430	724	647	466	4,423	297	543	5,263	205	5,468
2002Q4	256	666	455	331	462	435	728	649	468	4,450	300	545	5,296	206	5,502
2003Q1	253	666	464	331	468	441	727	649	476	4,475	306	548	5,329	208	5,537
2003Q2	255	673	472	332	469	447	723	650	482	4,503	312	551	5,366	209	5,576
2003Q3	255	678	480	333	472	455	722	653	484	4,532	318	554	5,404	211	5,615
2003Q4	251	678	490	338	471	465	723	662	488	4,566	319	558	5,443	212	5,655
2004Q1	252	684	502	350	468	474	721	668	481	4,599	319	561	5,479	213	5,693
2004Q2	254	681	511	359	466	481	726	678	477	4,631	312	565	5,508	214	5,722
2004Q3	256	682	511	367	468	488	731	683	477	4,663	305	568	5,536	215	5,751
2004Q4	261	684	508	371	473	487	734	686	477	4,681	304	571	5,556	216	5,773
2005Q1	269	685	500	365	476	485	743	691	488	4,701	301	574	5,576	217	5,793
2005Q2	268	689	492	359	486	484	746	696	500	4,720	303	576	5,599	219	5,818
2005Q3	267	692	490	356	492	479	749	701	508	4,733	303	579	5,615	220	5,835
2005Q4	264	689	492	358	493	476	754	703	514	4,744	302	581	5,626	220	5,847
2006Q1	262	683	496	366	495	470	755	698	514	4,739	305	583	5,627	220	5,847
2006Q2	263	679	494	373	494	463	762	691	510	4,729	304	584	5,618	220	5,838
2006Q3	265	674	487	375	492	461	765	686	509	4,713	308	584	5,605	221	5,826
2006Q4	266	680	482	371	491	457	765	679	507	4,699	310	584	5,593	221	5,815
2007Q1	265	686	477	364	490	458	771	676	504	4,691	311	583	5,584	221	5,806
2007Q2	264	686	474	356	494	454	771	680	500	4,680	315	581	5,576	221	5,797
2007Q3	263	680	483	349	499	447	771	682	496	4,672	316	579	5,568	221	5,788
2007Q4	264	673	493	346	507	443	763	688	495	4,670	314	578	5,562	220	5,783
Change 2005Q4 to 2007Q4															
	0	-16	0	-12	13	-34	9	-15	-19	-74	12	-2	-64	0	-64
Percentage change 2005Q4 to 2007Q4															
	-0.2	-2.3	0.1	-3.3	2.7	-7.0	1.2	-2.1	-3.8	-1.6	3.9	-0.4	-1.1	0.1	-1.1

It is also possible to express PSE as a proportion of the resident population, illustrating the relationship between the size of the public sector and the size of the population it serves. Variation between regions is smaller – for the four quarters to Q4 2006, the range is between 8.3 per cent for the East and 12.7 per cent for Northern Ireland. This is presented in **Figure 3**. Again, the proportions are similar to those presented in Millard (2007).

Between 1999 and 2007, all regions increased the level of PSE (see **Table 1** and **Table 2**). Over the period 1999 to 2007, the region with the largest relative increase in the number of people working in the public sector was the West Midlands, which had a 17.8 per cent rise. London was the region with the smallest rise, showing an increase of 6.5 per cent.

Between Q4 2005 and Q4 2007, all

Table 1 continued

Thousands, seasonally adjusted

Average of four quarters to: ²	North East	North West	Yorkshire and The Humber	East Midlands	West Midlands	East	London	South East	South West	England	Wales	Scotland ³	Great Britain	Northern Ireland ⁴	United Kingdom
Change on year															
2000Q4	-9	41	18	-3	0	15	-26	14	17	67	4	3	74	2	77
2001Q1	-5	46	20	-4	-8	14	-36	11	26	64	10	2	76	2	79
2001Q2	-1	41	13	-6	-8	13	-28	14	26	65	12	2	79	2	82
2001Q3	6	33	-3	-1	4	11	0	5	16	71	7	2	80	3	83
2001Q4	14	28	-11	4	15	5	21	-2	7	82	1	4	87	3	90
2002Q1	17	23	-19	5	22	0	40	2	4	94	-6	6	94	3	96
2002Q2	17	15	-18	10	26	0	39	2	6	97	-7	7	97	3	100
2002Q3	18	11	0	12	19	-2	21	7	12	99	-2	9	106	3	109
2002Q4	11	5	10	11	17	4	17	12	14	102	4	9	115	4	119
2003Q1	5	0	24	11	17	12	4	7	18	99	13	10	122	5	127
2003Q2	4	8	33	8	12	16	-3	6	20	103	19	11	133	6	138
2003Q3	-2	12	32	4	15	25	-2	6	18	109	21	11	141	6	147
2003Q4	-5	12	35	7	9	31	-6	13	20	116	19	13	147	6	153
2004Q1	-2	17	38	18	-1	33	-6	19	6	123	13	14	150	6	156
2004Q2	-2	8	39	27	-3	34	3	28	-6	128	0	14	142	5	146
2004Q3	1	4	30	34	-4	34	9	30	-7	131	-13	14	132	4	136
2004Q4	10	6	19	32	2	21	12	24	-11	115	-15	14	113	4	118
2005Q1	17	1	-2	15	9	11	22	23	6	102	-18	13	97	4	101
2005Q2	15	8	-19	0	20	4	20	18	23	88	-9	12	91	5	96
2005Q3	11	10	-20	-11	24	-9	18	18	31	71	-2	11	79	4	84
2005Q4	3	5	-16	-13	20	-10	19	17	38	62	-2	9	70	4	74
2006Q1	-6	-2	-4	1	19	-15	12	8	26	38	3	9	51	3	54
2006Q2	-5	-10	2	14	8	-21	16	-5	10	9	2	8	19	1	21
2006Q3	-2	-18	-3	19	1	-18	15	-14	1	-20	5	5	-9	1	-8
2006Q4	2	-9	-10	13	-2	-19	11	-23	-7	-44	8	3	-33	1	-32
2007Q1	3	3	-19	-1	-5	-12	16	-22	-10	-48	6	-1	-43	1	-42
2007Q2	1	7	-20	-16	-1	-9	9	-11	-10	-49	11	-3	-42	1	-41
2007Q3	-1	7	-4	-26	7	-14	7	-4	-12	-41	8	-5	-38	0	-38
2007Q4	-2	-7	10	-25	16	-15	-2	8	-12	-29	4	-5	-31	-1	-32

Notes:

- 1 Headcount; rolling four-quarter averages.
- 2 Rolling four-quarterly averages are based on estimates over the quarters March (Q1), June (Q2), September (Q3) and December (Q4). For example, the Q4 1999 estimate is an average taken for the quarters Q1 1999 to Q4 1999.
- 3 Public sector employment estimates for Scotland are published by Scottish Government on a quarterly basis back to Q1 1999 from administrative records and surveys of public sector organisations in Scotland.
- 4 Public sector statistics for Northern Ireland relate to the number of public sector jobs rather than the number of people working in the public sector. The percentages for Northern Ireland as a proportion of all employment will differ from DETINI estimates expressed as a proportion of all jobs. HM Forces figures are not included in Northern Ireland estimates.

Source: Labour Force Survey; returns from public sector organisations (ONS, Scottish Government and Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment for Northern Ireland)

regions have seen a decrease in the level of PSE, except Wales (3.9 per cent growth), the West Midlands (2.7 per cent), London (1.2 per cent), Yorkshire and The Humber and Northern Ireland (both 0.1 per cent). The region with the largest fall over this period was the East, in which the level fell by 7.0 per cent. Overall, the level of PSE in the UK between 2005 and 2007 fell by 1.1 per cent.

Assessing the accuracy of ONS regional estimates of PSE

Although estimates for Scotland have been taken from those published by the Scottish Government, it is possible to produce figures for Scotland based on the LFS methodology. The regional estimates can

then be evaluated by comparing the two, as explained further in Millard (2007). Millard concluded that the differences between the two sources were no larger than the size that might be expected due to LFS sampling variability and respondent error.

A comparison of the two estimates is shown in **Table 3**. The variation between the two sources was of a very similar magnitude, as presented in Millard, at most 3.3 per cent more (Q3 2003) and 1.9 per cent less (Q4 1999).

PSE development programme

ONS is currently working with other government departments to develop regional PSE statistics from administrative sources, covering Northern Ireland,

Scotland, Wales and England (including English regional composition). This will incorporate existing regional administrative-based sources. Subject to a successful pilot study, the aim for future regional PSE estimates will be to replace the composite approach with the new administrative-based estimates.

CONTACT

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Table 2
Public sector employment rate: by region and country of workplace¹

															Thousands, seasonally adjusted		
Average of four quarters to: ²	North East	North West	Yorkshire and The Humber	East Midlands	West Midlands	East	London	South East	South West	England	Wales	Scotland ³	Great Britain	Northern Ireland ⁴	United Kingdom		
PSE rate																	
1999Q4	23.4	19.6	19.7	16.9	17.8	17.2	18.4	16.5	18.2	18.3	24.2	23.2	19.0	28.8	19.2		
2000Q1	23.0	19.6	19.8	16.9	18.1	17.3	18.4	16.5	18.1	18.3	24.0	23.1	19.0	28.9	19.2		
2000Q2	22.5	19.9	19.9	16.8	18.2	17.3	18.4	16.4	18.2	18.3	23.8	23.0	19.0	29.0	19.2		
2000Q3	22.1	20.3	20.2	16.7	18.1	17.2	18.1	16.5	18.4	18.3	24.0	22.9	19.0	29.1	19.2		
2000Q4	22.0	20.6	20.3	16.6	17.8	17.3	17.8	16.6	18.7	18.3	24.2	22.6	19.0	29.0	19.2		
2001Q1	22.2	20.9	20.4	16.6	17.8	17.2	17.6	16.5	18.9	18.4	24.5	22.6	19.0	29.0	19.3		
2001Q2	22.6	21.1	20.4	16.6	17.8	17.3	17.6	16.6	19.0	18.4	24.8	22.5	19.1	28.9	19.3		
2001Q3	23.0	21.3	19.9	16.7	18.1	17.3	17.8	16.5	18.9	18.5	24.8	22.6	19.1	28.8	19.4		
2001Q4	23.6	21.5	19.8	16.9	18.2	17.3	17.9	16.4	18.8	18.5	24.7	22.7	19.2	29.0	19.4		
2002Q1	23.8	21.6	19.4	16.8	18.4	17.2	18.2	16.5	18.9	18.6	24.5	22.8	19.2	29.2	19.5		
2002Q2	24.0	21.7	19.3	17.0	18.6	17.2	18.3	16.6	19.1	18.7	24.4	23.0	19.3	29.2	19.6		
2002Q3	24.3	21.6	19.6	17.1	18.5	17.0	18.3	16.7	19.2	18.7	24.6	23.0	19.4	29.4	19.6		
2002Q4	24.3	21.6	19.7	17.1	18.7	17.2	18.4	16.7	19.3	18.8	24.6	23.1	19.4	29.2	19.7		
2003Q1	24.0	21.5	20.1	17.1	18.9	17.5	18.5	16.7	19.5	18.9	24.7	23.1	19.5	28.8	19.8		
2003Q2	24.1	21.6	20.4	17.0	18.9	17.7	18.5	16.7	19.7	19.0	24.7	23.1	19.6	28.9	19.8		
2003Q3	23.9	21.6	20.6	17.0	19.2	18.0	18.4	16.8	19.7	19.1	24.9	23.1	19.7	29.1	19.9		
2003Q4	23.4	21.5	20.9	17.3	19.2	18.2	18.5	17.0	19.8	19.2	24.7	23.1	19.8	29.4	20.0		
2004Q1	23.1	21.6	21.4	17.8	19.1	18.5	18.4	17.1	19.5	19.3	24.6	23.2	19.9	30.0	20.1		
2004Q2	23.2	21.5	21.7	18.2	18.9	18.7	18.4	17.4	19.3	19.4	24.0	23.2	19.9	30.3	20.2		
2004Q3	23.2	21.4	21.6	18.7	18.9	18.9	18.6	17.5	19.3	19.4	23.5	23.3	20.0	30.5	20.2		
2004Q4	23.7	21.4	21.4	18.9	19.0	18.9	18.6	17.6	19.3	19.5	23.4	23.3	20.0	30.4	20.3		
2005Q1	24.3	21.4	21.0	18.5	19.0	18.8	18.8	17.6	19.7	19.5	23.2	23.3	20.0	30.2	20.3		
2005Q2	24.1	21.5	20.6	18.1	19.3	18.8	18.9	17.7	20.1	19.5	23.3	23.5	20.0	30.1	20.3		
2005Q3	24.0	21.6	20.4	17.8	19.5	18.6	18.9	17.7	20.3	19.5	23.1	23.5	20.1	29.9	20.3		
2005Q4	23.8	21.5	20.4	17.7	19.6	18.5	19.0	17.7	20.6	19.5	23.0	23.6	20.1	29.9	20.3		
2006Q1	23.5	21.3	20.4	17.9	19.8	18.3	18.9	17.5	20.5	19.5	23.2	23.7	20.0	29.8	20.3		
2006Q2	23.4	21.1	20.3	18.2	19.7	18.1	19.1	17.3	20.3	19.4	23.2	23.7	19.9	29.5	20.2		
2006Q3	23.5	20.9	20.0	18.3	19.6	18.0	19.1	17.2	20.2	19.3	23.5	23.6	19.9	29.4	20.1		
2006Q4	23.5	21.1	19.8	18.1	19.5	17.8	19.0	17.0	20.1	19.2	23.7	23.4	19.8	29.2	20.0		
2007Q1	23.4	21.3	19.6	17.8	19.5	17.7	19.0	17.0	19.9	19.2	23.7	23.2	19.7	29.0	20.0		
2007Q2	23.3	21.4	19.6	17.5	19.7	17.5	18.9	17.1	19.8	19.1	23.9	22.8	19.7	28.9	19.9		
2007Q3	23.1	21.2	19.9	17.2	20.0	17.3	18.8	17.2	19.6	19.1	23.8	22.6	19.6	28.7	19.8		
2007Q4	22.9	21.0	20.2	17.0	20.2	17.1	18.5	17.3	19.4	19.0	23.6	22.5	19.5	28.7	19.8		

Notes:

- 1 Headcount; rolling four-quarter averages.
- 2 Rolling four-quarterly averages are based on estimates over the quarters March (Q1), June (Q2), September (Q3) and December (Q4). For example, the Q4 1999 estimate is an average taken for the quarters Q1 1999 to Q4 1999.
- 3 Public sector employment estimates for Scotland are published by Scottish Government on a quarterly basis back to Q1 1999 from administrative records and surveys of public sector organisations in Scotland.
- 4 Public sector statistics for Northern Ireland relate to the number of public sector jobs rather than the number of people working in the public sector. The percentages for Northern Ireland as a proportion of all employment will differ from DETINI estimates expressed as a proportion of all jobs. HM Forces figures are not included in Northern Ireland estimates.

Source: Labour Force Survey; returns from public sector organisations (ONS, Scottish Government and Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment for Northern Ireland)

Table 3
Comparison between Scottish Government¹ and ONS PSE estimates

Scotland	Difference: ONS minus Scottish Government estimates of PSE	
	Average of four quarters to: ²	
	PSE levels (thousands)	PSE levels (percentage difference)
1999Q4	-10	-1.9
2000Q1	-6	-1.1
2000Q2	0	0.0
2000Q3	4	0.7
2000Q4	0	0.0
2001Q1	0	0.0
2001Q2	1	0.1
2001Q3	1	0.2
2001Q4	3	0.5
2002Q1	8	1.5
2002Q2	6	1.2
2002Q3	10	1.8
2002Q4	10	1.8
2003Q1	11	2.0
2003Q2	12	2.1
2003Q3	18	3.3
2003Q4	11	2.0
2004Q1	9	1.5
2004Q2	6	1.1
2004Q3	9	1.5
2004Q4	7	1.1
2005Q1	12	2.0
2005Q2	11	1.9
2005Q3	6	1.0
2005Q4	1	0.2
2006Q1	-3	-0.6
2006Q2	-7	-1.3
2006Q3	-5	-0.9
2006Q4	-5	-0.9
2007Q1	0	0.0
2007Q2	7	1.2
2007Q3	13	2.2
2007Q4	9	1.5

Notes:

- 1 Public sector employment estimates for Scotland are published by the Scottish Government on a quarterly basis back to Q1 1999 from administrative records and surveys of individual public sector organisations in Scotland.
- 2 Rolling four-quarterly averages are based on estimates over the quarters March (Q1), June (Q2), September (Q3) and December (Q4). For example, the Q4 1999 estimate is an average taken for the quarters Q1 to Q4 1999.

Source: Labour Force Survey; returns from public sector organisations (ONS, Scottish Government)

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