

Statistical bulletin

# Public sector employment, UK: September 2020

Estimates of people employed in the public and private sectors in the UK.



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Release date:  
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Next release:  
23 March 2021

## Correction

**16 March 2021 09:30**

The date of the next release has been corrected from 16 March 2021 to 23 March 2021.

# Notice

**15 December 2020**

The effect of the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic on our capacity means we have reviewed the existing labour market releases and will be suspending some publications.

This will protect the delivery and quality of our remaining labour market outputs as well as ensuring we can respond to new demands as a direct result of the coronavirus. More details about the impact on labour market outputs can be found in our [statement](#).

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# 1 . Main points

- Total public sector employment was an estimated 5.56 million for September 2020, an increase of 8,000 (0.1%) compared with June 2020 and an increase of 143,000 (2.6%) compared with September 2019.
- Employment in public corporations was 199,000, up 44,000 (28.4%) on the previous year mainly because train operating companies transferred to the public sector in June 2020; on the previous quarter it is down 3,000 (1.5%) mainly because housing associations in Northern Ireland transferred back to the private sector in September 2020.
- The National Health Service employed an estimated 1.78 million people in September 2020, a decrease of 7,000 (0.4%) compared with June 2020 but an increase of 65,000 (3.8%) compared with September 2019; the increase since the previous year was impacted by the response to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic between March and June 2020.
- Employment in central government increased to an estimated 3.35 million for September 2020, up 5,000 (0.1%) compared with June 2020 and up 104,000 (3.2%) compared with September 2019; the main contributors to this increase were local authority schools becoming academies, the Civil Service, and for the annual increase, the NHS.
- Employment in local government was an estimated 2.01 million and little changed on the previous quarter and previous year, up 6,000 (0.3%) compared with June 2020 but down 5,000 (0.2%) compared with September 2019; an increase in employment in the police has been offset by falls in local authorities.
- Employment in the Home Civil Service continued to increase in September 2020; at 463,000 it was up 4,000 (0.9%) compared with June 2020 and 12,000 (2.7%) compared with September 2019.
- There were 26.96 million people estimated to be working in the private sector in September 2020, 151,000 (0.6%) lower than for June 2020 and 422,000 (1.5%) lower than for September 2019.

## 2 . Public sector employment data

### [Public sector employment](#)

Dataset | Released 15 December 2020

Quarterly estimates of UK and regional public sector employment, made up of central government (including Civil Service), local government and public corporations. The estimates also include an industrial breakdown.

### [Public sector employment time series](#)

Dataset | Dataset ID: PSE | Released 15 December 2020

Seasonally adjusted and non-seasonally adjusted quarterly time series of UK public sector employment, containing the latest estimates.

## 3 . Measuring the data

### Revisions

For this month's release revisions have been made to the public sector employment estimates back to the start of the quarterly data time series in 1999.

Train operating companies (TOCs) in England, Scotland and Wales running under emergency measures agreements (EMAs) were reclassified to the public sector from April 2020 and are now included in the public sector employment estimates from June 2020. The public sector employment series affected by this are public corporations, other public sector, total public sector and private sector. More information on these classification changes can be found in our news articles for [train operating companies in England and Scotland](#) and the [Wales and Borders rail operator](#).

Estimates for March and June 2020 of total employment and private sector employment derived from the Labour Force Survey (LFS) have been revised because of a change in weighting methodology. More information can be found in the [Labour market overview, UK: October 2020](#) release and an article [Coronavirus and its impact on the Labour Force Survey](#).

We also reviewed the seasonal adjustment process for the public sector employment series.

## Coronavirus

For more information on how labour market data sources are affected by the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, see the article published on 6 May 2020, which details [some of the challenges that we have faced in producing estimates](#) at this time.

An article published 11 December 2020 [compares our labour market data sources and discusses some of the main differences](#).

Our latest data and analysis on the impact of the coronavirus on the UK economy and population are available on our dedicated [coronavirus web page](#). This is the hub for all special coronavirus-related publications, drawing on all available data. In response to the developing coronavirus pandemic, we are working to ensure that we continue to publish economic statistics. For more information, please see [COVID-19 and the production of statistics](#).

## Impact on production of public sector employment estimates

For September 2020, the Public Sector Employment Survey received 93% response to all questionnaires, compared with 93% for June 2020. The impact on the survey response and levels of imputation and construction are not statistically significant. Survey contributor-level comments provided to us over the telephone or electronically suggested the estimates were partly affected by coronavirus planning and response.

## End of EU exit transition period

After the transition period ends on 31 December 2020, the UK statistical system will continue to collect and produce our wide range of economic and social statistics. We are committed to continued alignment with international statistical standards, enabling comparability both over time and internationally and we will work with users of statistics to make sure they have the data they need to support the decisions they have to make.

As the shape of the UK's future statistical relationship with the EU becomes clearer over the coming period, the ONS is making preparations to assume responsibilities that as part of our membership of the EU, and during the transition period, were delegated to the statistical office of the EU, Eurostat. This includes responsibilities relating to international comparability of economic statistics, deciding what international statistical guidance to apply in the UK context and to provide further scrutiny of our statistics and sector classification decisions.

In applying international statistical standards and best practice to UK economic statistics, we will draw on the technical advice of experts in the UK and internationally, and our work will be underpinned by the UK's well-established and robust framework for independent official statistics, set out in the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007. Further information on our proposals will be made available in early 2021.

We will continue to produce our labour market statistics in line with the UK Statistics Authority's [Code of Practice for Statistics](#) and in accordance with International Labour Organization (ILO) definitions and agreed international statistical guidance.

## Sources

The main source of public sector employment (PSE) is the Quarterly Public Sector Employment Survey, which aims to obtain complete coverage of local authorities and the Civil Service, and coverage of all public bodies with 20 or more employees. The survey data are supplemented by data from external sources. Further information can be found in the [Quality and Methodology Information report](#).

## Full-time equivalents

While this bulletin focuses on headcount estimates of PSE, full-time equivalent estimates (based on the number of hours worked divided by the standard full-time hours) are available in the [accompanying PSE datasets](#).

## Seasonal adjustment

All PSE [time series](#) in this release, with the exception of the regional series, are seasonally adjusted to aid interpretation. Relationships that hold in the unadjusted series do not necessarily hold for the seasonally adjusted series. For example, total PSE equals the total of all public sector industry estimates before seasonal adjustment, but this is not necessarily true after seasonal adjustment.

## Reclassifications between the public and private sectors

Comparisons of public and private sector employment over time are complicated by several major reclassifications, where bodies employing large numbers of people have moved between the public and private sectors. We produce estimates of public and private sector employment excluding the effects of major reclassifications to help you understand underlying trends in employment. We publish these alongside estimates of total public and private sector employment in [Tables 5, 6a and 7a of the PSE datasets](#).

## Quality

More quality and methodology information on strengths, limitations, appropriate uses, and how the data were created is available in the [Public sector employment QMI](#).

## 4 . Related links

### [EMP13: Employment by industry](#)

Dataset | Released 10 November 2020

Estimates of public and private sector employment sourced from the Labour Force Survey (LFS). These estimates differ from our headline estimates of public sector employment derived from the Quarterly Public Sector Employment Survey (QPSES), because the QPSES estimates follow national accounts definitions of public and private sector employment, whilst the LFS estimates are based on survey respondents' perceptions of whether they are employed in the public or private sector.

### [Civil Service statistics](#)

Statistical release | Released 26 August 2020

Detailed information on the UK Civil Service workforce, including on pay, diversity and location. Responsibility for the collection and publication of this annual release was transferred from the ONS to the Cabinet Office with effect from 1 October 2018.

### [Public sector employment in Scotland](#)

Statistical release | Released 15 December 2020

Estimates of public sector employment (PSE) in Scotland, published quarterly by the Scottish Government on the same day as this bulletin.

### [Quarterly Employment Survey](#)

Statistical release | Released 15 December 2020

Estimates of short-term employee jobs in Northern Ireland, including public and private sector employment estimates, published by the Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency (NISRA) on the same day as this bulletin.

### [Local government employment](#)

Dataset

Estimates of employment for each local authority in England and Wales, sourced from the ONS Quarterly Public Sector Employment Survey (QPSES) and published quarterly by the Local Government Association.

# Index of Tables

Date of Publication: 15 December 2020      Date of Next Publication: 16 March 2021

These tables show data for the last two years, and to improve the readability of these tables on the printed page, most of the footnotes have been removed. A complete time series including footnotes are available from the PSE Datasets (Excel Spreadsheet) at: <https://www.ons.gov.uk/employmentandlabourmarket/peopleinwork/publicsectorpersonnel/datasets/publicsectoremploymentreferencetable>

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1 Public sector employment by sector classification; Headcount

United Kingdom (thousands), seasonally adjusted							
		General government			Total public corporations	Total public sector	Of which: Civil Service
		Central government	Local government	Total general government			
		G6NQ	G6NT	G6NW	G7AR	G7AU	G7D6
2018	Jun	3,118	2,059	5,177	172	5,349	431
	Sep	3,140	2,047	5,187	156	5,343	436
	Dec	3,168	2,037	5,205	155	5,360	440
2019	Mar	3,197	2,025	5,222	153	5,375	446
	Jun	3,218	2,021	5,239	154	5,393	448
	Sep	3,245	2,017	5,262	155	5,417	451
2020	Dec	3,272	2,010	5,282	154	5,436	453
	Mar	3,299	2,011	5,310	154	5,464	456
	Jun	3,344	2,006	5,350	202	5,552	459
Sep		3,349	2,012	5,361	199	5,560	463
Change on quarter:		5	6	11	-3	8	4
Change %:		0.1	0.3	0.2	-1.5	0.1	0.9
Change on year:		104	-5	99	44	143	12
Change %:		3.2	-0.2	1.9	28.4	2.6	2.7

Source: Quarterly Public Sector Employment Survey; Office for National Statistics

† Indicates earliest revision

2 Public sector employment by industry; Headcount

United Kingdom (thousands), seasonally adjusted										

3 Public sector employment by sector classification; Full-time equivalent

United Kingdom (thousands), seasonally adjusted							
		General government			Total public corporations	Total public sector	Of which: Civil Service
		Central government	Local government	Total general government			
		G7FP	G7FS	G7FV	G7FY	G7G3	G7G6
2018	Jun	2,705	1,569	4,274	160	4,434	400
	Sep	2,725	1,561	4,286	147	4,433	404
	Dec	2,749	1,556	4,305	146	4,451	409
2019	Mar	2,774	1,550	4,324	144	4,468	414
	Jun	2,791	1,550	4,341	145	4,486	416
	Sep	2,817	1,547	4,364	146	4,510	419
2020	Dec	2,839	1,545	4,384	145	4,529	421
	Mar	2,867	1,547	4,414	145	4,559	423
	Jun	2,909	1,548	4,457	191	4,648	426
Sep		2,916	1,553	4,469	189	4,658	431
Change on quarter:		7	5	12	-2	10	5
Change %:		0.2	0.3	0.3	-1.0	0.2	1.2
Change on year:		99	6	105	43	148	12
Change %:		3.5	0.4	2.4	29.5	3.3	2.9
					Source: Quarterly Public Sector Employment Survey; Office for National Statistics		
† Indicates earliest revision							

4 Public sector employment by industry; Full-time equivalent

United Kingdom (thousands), seasonally adjusted									

6 Regional public sector employment

Headcount (thousands), not seasonally adjusted																
Region																
All employees																
	United Kingdom	United Kingdom (seasonally adjusted)	Great Britain	England	North East	North West	Yorkshire and The Humber	East Midlands	West Midlands	East	London	South East	South West	Wales	Scotland	Northern Ireland
Area Code	K02000001	K02000001	K03000001	E92000001	E12000001	E12000002	E12000003	E12000004	E12000005	E12000006	E12000007	E12000008	E12000009	W92000004	S92000003	N92000002
2018 Jun	5,347	5,349	5,120	4,270	229	604	457	340	442	420	724	625	430	292	558	211
Sep	5,334	5,343	5,110	4,276	229	609	455	343	437	420	726	627	430	291	544	208
Dec	5,361	5,360	5,134	4,290	230	610	459	345	436	420	729	628	432	292	552	211
2019 Mar	5,385	5,375	5,157	4,308	230	612	462	348	437	417	735	631	436	293	555	212
Jun	5,391	5,393	5,162	4,311	231	611	464	351	436	417	732	633	436	293	558	213
Sep	5,408	5,417	5,183	4,329	233	616	464	352	438	419	735	635	439	294	560	211
Dec	5,436	5,436	5,208	4,351	235	617	466	353	439	419	739	638	443	295	561	214
2020 Mar	5,474	5,464	5,247	4,387	236	623	469	354	443	422	747	645	447	297	563	214
Jun	5,550	5,552	5,320	4,446	238	629	471	357	450	428	762	658	454	303	572	216
Sep	5,553	5,560	5,327	4,455	238	629	473	357	451	429	762	661	455	302	570	212
Change on year:	145	143	144	126	5	13	9	6	13	11	26	26	17	9	10	1
Change %:	2.7	2.6	2.8	2.9	2.2	2.1	1.9	1.6	3.0	2.5	3.6	4.2	3.8	2.9	1.8	0.5
% of total employment	17.1	17.1	16.9	16.2	20.3	18.2	18.5	16.2	16.1	15.5	14.3	14.9	16.7	21.8	21.4	25.3

Source: Quarterly Public Sector Employment Survey; Office for National Statistics

6a Regional public sector employment excluding effects of major reclassifications

Headcount (thousands), not seasonally adjusted																
Region																
All employees																
	United Kingdom	United Kingdom (seasonally adjusted)	Great Britain	England	North East	North West	Yorkshire and The Humber	East Midlands	West Midlands	East	London	South East	South West	Wales	Scotland	Northern Ireland
Area Code	K02000001	K02000001	K03000001	E92000001	E12000001	E12000002	E12000003	E12000004	E12000005	E12000006	E12000007	E12000008	E12000009	W92000004	S92000003	N92000002
2018 Jun	5,242	5,244	5,019	4,199	228	592	451	336	434	414	706	613	425	290	531	206
Sep	5,245	5,256	5,026	4,206	227	597	449	340	430	415	709	615	425	288	531	203
Dec	5,273	5,271	5,050	4,221	229	598	453	342	429	414	712	616	428	290	539	206
2019 Mar	5,296	5,285	5,073	4,239	228	600	456	344	429	412	718	619	431	291	543	207
Jun	5,302	5,303	5,078	4,245	230	601	458	348	429	412	713	622	432	291	542	208
Sep	5,319	5,330	5,099	4,263	232	605	458	349	431	414	717	624	434	292	544	206
Dec	5,348	5,347	5,124	4,285	234	607	461	350	433	414	721	627	439	293	546	209
2020 Mar	5,386	5,376	5,163	4,318	235	612	463	351	436	416	730	633	442	295	550	209
Jun	5,412	5,413	5,187	4,335	237	615	464	351	438	418	733	635	444	298	553	211
Sep	5,418	5,428	5,193	4,344	237	614	466	352	439	420	733	639	445	298	551	210
Change on year:	99	98	94	81	5	9	7	4	8	6	16	15	11	6	7	4
Change %:	1.9	1.8	1.8	1.9	2.1	1.5	1.6	1.0	1.9	1.5	2.2	2.4	2.5	2.2	1.2	2.1
% of total employment	16.7	16.7	16.5	15.8	20.2	17.8	18.2	16.0	15.6	15.2	13.8	14.4	16.4	21.5	20.7	25.1

Source: Quarterly Public Sector Employment Survey; Office for National Statistics

7 Regional private sector employment

Headcount (thousands), not seasonally adjusted																
Region																
All employees																
	United Kingdom	United Kingdom (seasonally adjusted)	Great Britain	England	North East	North West	Yorkshire and The Humber	East Midlands	West Midlands	East	London	South East	South West	Wales	Scotland	Northern Ireland
Area Code	K02000001	K02000001	K03000001	E92000001	E12000001	E12000002	E12000003	E12000004	E12000005	E12000006	E12000007	E12000008	E12000009	W92000004	S92000003	N92000002
2018 Jun	27,048	27,059	26,218	22,960	919	2,862	2,107	1,838	2,325	2,370	4,555	3,616	2,367	1,139	2,119	620
Sep	27,197	27,149	26,386	23,133	967	2,875	2,147	1,889	2,300	2,383	4,563	3,662	2,346	1,134	2,118	608
Dec	27,376	27,354	26,528	23,251	961	2,855	2,154	1,877	2,326	2,417	4,579	3,702	2,379	1,179	2,098	632
2019 Mar	27,310	27,371	26,466	23,205	937	2,861	2,112	1,892	2,306	2,469	4,526	3,704	2,397	1,140	2,121	639
Jun	27,374	27,384	26,513	23,264	942	2,821	2,126	1,897	2,366	2,488	4,478	3,744	2,401	1,142	2,107	639
Sep	27,407	27,384	26,534	23,353	954	2,893	2,139	1,904	2,359	2,405	4,602	3,720	2,375	1,125	2,056	641
Dec	27,596	27,549	26,706	23,499	958	2,917	2,118	1,908	2,354	2,399	4,700	3,761	2,386	1,128	2,079	648
2020 Mar	27,356	27,376	26,474	23,295	981	2,909	2,114	1,905	2,290	2,381	4,606	3,792	2,316	1,113	2,067	628
Jun	27,078	27,113	26,273	23,127	954	2,889	2,070	1,867	2,306	2,339	4,650	3,787	2,264	1,091	2,056	620
Sep	26,960	26,962	26,161	22,989	935	2,823	2,085	1,850	2,356	2,331	4,560	3,780	2,267	1,085	2,087	623
Change on year:	-447	-422	-373	-364	-19	-70	-54	-55	-3	-74	-42	60	-108	-40	31	-18
Change %:	-1.6	-1.5	-1.4	-1.6	-2.0	-2.4	-2.5	-2.9	-0.1	-3.1	-0.9	1.6	-4.6	-3.5	1.5	-2.8
% of total employment	82.9	82.9	83.1	83.8	79.7	81.8	81.5	83.8	83.9	84.5	85.7	85.1	83.3	78.2	78.6	74.7

Sources: Labour Force Survey and estimates from public sector organisations; Office for National Statistics

7a Regional private sector employment excluding effects of major reclassifications

Headcount (thousands), not seasonally adjusted																
Region																
All employees																
	United Kingdom	United Kingdom (seasonally adjusted)	Great Britain	England	North East	North West	Yorkshire and The Humber	East Midlands	West Midlands	East	London	South East	South West	Wales	Scotland	Northern Ireland
Area Code	K02000001	K02000001	K03000001	E92000001	E12000001	E12000002	E12000003	E12000004	E12000005	E12000006	E12000007	E12000008	E12000009	W92000004	S92000003	N92000002
2018 Jun	27,153	27,164	26,318	23,030	920	2,874	2,113	1,842	2,332	2,376	4,573	3,628	2,372	1,142	2,147	625
Sep	27,286	27,236	26,471	23,203	968	2,887	2,153	1,892	2,308	2,389	4,581	3,674	2,351	1,137	2,131	613
Dec	27,464	27,443	26,612	23,320	963	2,867	2,160	1,880	2,334	2,422	4,596	3,714	2,384	1,181	2,110	637
2019 Mar	27,399	27,461	26,550	23,274	939	2,873	2,118	1,896	2,313	2,474	4,544	3,716	2,402	1,142	2,133	644
Jun	27,463	27,474	26,596	23,330	944	2,831	2,132	1,900	2,373	2,493	4,497	3,755	2,405	1,144	2,123	644
Sep	27,496	27,471	26,618	23,419	955	2,903	2,145	1,907	2,366	2,410	4,621	3,731	2,380	1,127	2,072	646
Dec	27,684	27,638	26,789	23,565	959	2,927	2,123	1,911	2,361	2,404	4,718	3,772	2,390	1,130	2,094	653
2020 Mar	27,444	27,464	26,558	23,363	983	2,921	2,120	1,908	2,297	2,387	4,624	3,804	2,321	1,115	2,080	633
Jun	27,216	27,252	26,406	23,237	956	2,903	2,077	1,872	2,318	2,348	4,679	3,810	2,274	1,095	2,074	625
Sep	27,095	27,094	26,295	23,099	937	2,837	2,092	1,855	2,368	2,341	4,589	3,803	2,277	1,090	2,106	625
Change on year:	-401	-377	-323	-320	-19	-66	-53	-53	2	-69	-32	72	-102	-38	34	-21
Change %:	-1.5	-1.4	-1.2	-1.4	-1.9	-2.3	-2.5	-2.8	0.1	-2.9	-0.7	1.9	-4.3	-3.3	1.7	-3.3
% of total employment	83.3	83.3	83.5	84.2	79.8	82.2	81.8	84.0	84.4	84.8	86.2	85.6	83.6	78.5	79.3	74.9

Sources: Labour Force Survey and estimates from public sector organisations; Office for National Statistics

8 Civil Service employment by department <sup>1 2</sup>

Headcount, Great Britain, not seasonally adjusted

	September 2020						Total	June 2020	Change on
	Male			Female				Total	Quarter
	Full-time	Part-time	Total	Full-time	Part-time	Total			
Permanent Employees									
Attorney General's departments	2,980	260	3,240	3,900	1,990	5,890	9,130	8,960	170
Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy	5,870	450	6,320	4,590	1,430	6,020	12,340	11,840	500
Cabinet Office	3,980	120	4,100	4,100	520	4,620	8,720	8,230	490
Other Cabinet Office agencies	420	..	420	360	70	440	860	880	-30
Charity Commission	150	20	170	160	70	230	400	410	-10
Competition and Markets Authority	400	20	430	350	80	430	860	850	10
Defence	32,790	1,670	34,460	17,950	4,410	22,360	56,820	56,350	470
Digital, Culture, Media and Sport	680	10	690	710	90	800	1,490	1,390	100
Education	2,990	130	3,120	3,440	930	4,370	7,490	7,410	80
Environment, Food and Rural Affairs	4,090	310	4,400	3,980	1,610	5,600	10,000	9,980	20
Estyn	40	10	50	50	20	70	120	120	..
Export Credits Guarantee Department	210	10	220	120	20	140	360	330	20
Food Standards Agency	690	50	740	440	70	500	1,240	1,240	10
Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office <sup>3</sup>	4,440	130	4,570	3,860	430	4,300	8,870	6,360	2,510
Health and Social Care	2,770	180	2,950	4,230	1,230	5,450	8,410	8,210	200
HM Land Registry	1,980	410	2,390	2,000	1,600	3,600	5,990	5,990	..
HM Revenue and Customs	26,850	4,250	31,110	20,800	14,860	35,650	66,760	66,920	-160
HM Treasury	1,250	50	1,300	1,030	170	1,200	2,500	2,380	120
Chancellor's other departments	210	20	220	140	40	180	410	400	..
Home Office	14,710	1,560	16,270	12,170	5,720	17,890	34,160	33,870	290
Housing, Communities and Local Government	1,440	150	1,580	1,210	320	1,530	3,110	3,130	-10
International Development <sup>3</sup>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2,620	-2,620
International Trade	1,340	20	1,360	1,140	70	1,210	2,570	2,470	100
Justice	31,650	3,050	34,700	31,270	10,310	41,580	76,280	75,950	330
The National Archives	220	20	240	220	50	270	510	500	10
National Crime Agency	2,810	70	2,880	1,850	370	2,220	5,100	4,840	260
Northern Ireland Office	90	..	90	100	10	110	200	200	..
Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and	570	30	600	980	220	1,200	1,800	1,780	20
Office of Gas and Electricity Markets	480	10	500	380	60	440	930	880	50
Office of Qualifications and Examinations Regulation	80	..	80	100	20	130	210	210	0
Office of Rail and Road	170	20	190	100	30	130	320	310	10
Ofwat	120	10	120	100	30	120	250	250	-10
Scotland Office	50	..	50	70	10	80	130	130	0
Transport	7,430	840	8,280	4,350	2,560	6,920	15,190	15,130	70
UK Statistics Authority	1,580	600	2,180	1,610	1,180	2,790	4,970	4,820	150
UK Supreme Court	20	0	20	20	10	20	40	40	0
Wales Office	30	0	30	20	..	20	50	50	..
Work and Pensions	22,470	4,600	27,070	24,840	28,140	52,980	80,050	80,300	-250
Central Government Departments Total	178,070	19,080	197,150	152,740	78,730	231,460	428,620	425,710	2,910
Scottish Government	9,270	930	10,200	8,180	2,670	10,840	21,040	21,020	20
Welsh Government	2,140	170	2,320	2,420	920	3,340	5,660	5,620	40
TOTAL	189,490	20,180	209,670	163,340	82,310	245,650	455,310	452,340	2,970

	September 2020						Total	June 2020	Change on Quarter
	Male			Female				Total	Total
	Full-time	Part-time	Total	Full-time	Part-time	Total			
Temporary/Casual Employees									
Attorney General's departments	70	..	70	160	10	170	240	220	30
Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy	30	0	30	30	..	30	60	190	-140
Cabinet Office	20	0	20	30	..	30	50	40	10
Other Cabinet Office agencies	30	..	30	20	..	20	50	50	0
Charity Commission	10	..	10	10	..	10	20	10	20
Competition and Markets Authority	10	0	10	10	..	10	20	20	..
Defence	60	..	60	10	10	20	80	110	-30
Digital, Culture, Media and Sport	20	0	20	30	..	30	50	30	20
Education	40	0	40	80	10	90	120	100	20
Environment, Food and Rural Affairs	190	10	190	220	30	250	450	400	40
Estyn	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Export Credits Guarantee Department	..	0	..	..	0	..	10	..	..
Food Standards Agency	10	10	20	..	..	10	20	30	-10
Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office <sup>3</sup>	20	0	20	20	0	20	30	10	20
Health and Social Care	200	120	320	380	330	710	1,030	600	420
HM Land Registry	..	0	..	..	0	..	..	10	..
HM Revenue and Customs	80	10	90	40	10	50	130	200	-60
HM Treasury	10	0	10	10	..	20	30	20	10
Chancellor's other departments	0	0	0	..	0	..	..	10	..
Home Office	190	170	350	220	80	300	650	1,050	-400
Housing, Communities and Local Government	20	..	20	30	..	40	50	30	20
International Development <sup>3</sup>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	40	-40
International Trade	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Justice	330	30	350	680	70	750	1,100	1,200	-90
The National Archives	..	..	..	10	..	10	20	20	..
National Crime Agency	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Northern Ireland Office	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and	..	0	..	..	..	10	10	20	-10
Office of Gas and Electricity Markets	90	..	100	60	10	60	160	140	20
Office of Qualifications and Examinations Regulation	10	..	10	20	..	20	30	30	..
Office of Rail and Road	..	..	..	0	..	..	..	10	..
Ofwat	..	0	..	..	0	..	..	..	0
Scotland Office	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Transport	140	30	170	140	50	180	350	200	150
UK Statistics Authority	40	0	40	40	10	50	90	70	20
UK Supreme Court	10	0	10	10	..	10	10	10	0
Wales Office	..	0	..	0	0	0	..	..	..
Work and Pensions	1,200	10	1,210	1,400	60	1,460	2,670	1,660	1,010
Central Government Departments Total	2,810	390	3,190	3,650	670	4,330	7,520	6,500	1,020
Scottish Government	160	20	190	150	40	190	380	340	40
Welsh Government	20	..	20	20	..	20	40	60	-20
TOTAL	2,990	410	3,400	3,820	710	4,540	7,940	6,890	1,050

	September 2020							June 2020	Change on Quarter
	Male			Female			Total	Total	Total
	Full-time	Part-time	Total	Full-time	Part-time	Total			
All Employees	192,480	20,590	213,070	167,160	83,030	250,190	463,250	459,240	4,020

Source: Quarterly Public Sector Employment Survey, Office for National Statistics

1 Numbers are rounded to the nearest ten, and numbers less than five are represented by "...". Data not available are represented by "...".  
2 Department totals include Executive Agencies, Ministerial and Non-Ministerial Departments.  
3 The Foreign and Commonwealth Office and the Department for International Development merged on 1 September 2020 to form the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office.

8 ..continued, Civil Service employment by department

Full-time equivalents, Great Britain, not seasonally adjusted					
	September 2020			June 2020	Change on Quarter
	Male	Female	Total	Total	Total
Permanent Employees					
Attorney General's departments	3,160	5,300	8,460	8,290	170
Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy	6,190	5,620	11,810	11,290	520
Cabinet Office	4,060	4,480	8,550	8,060	480
Other Cabinet Office agencies	420	420	830	860	-20
Charity Commission	170	210	380	380	..
Competition and Markets Authority	420	410	830	820	10
Defence	33,880	21,040	54,920	54,450	470
Digital, Culture, Media and Sport	690	780	1,470	1,360	100
Education	3,090	4,130	7,230	7,150	80
Environment, Food and Rural Affairs	4,320	5,130	9,440	9,420	20
Estyn	50	60	110	110	..
Export Credits Guarantee Department	220	130	350	330	20
Food Standards Agency	730	480	1,210	1,200	10
Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office <sup>3</sup>	4,520	4,160	8,680	6,250	2,440
Health and Social Care	2,900	5,100	8,000	7,790	210
HM Land Registry	2,260	3,140	5,400	5,390	10
HM Revenue and Customs	29,760	31,060	60,810	60,820	-10
HM Treasury	1,280	1,150	2,430	2,310	120
Chancellor's other departments	220	170	390	390	..
Home Office	15,790	16,140	31,930	31,600	330
Housing, Communities and Local Government	1,540	1,450	2,990	3,000	-10
International Development <sup>3</sup>	0	0	0	2,550	-2,550
International Trade	1,350	1,190	2,540	2,440	100
Justice	33,400	37,970	71,370	71,030	340
The National Archives	240	250	490	480	10
National Crime Agency	2,860	2,120	4,970	4,720	260
Northern Ireland Office	90	110	200	200	0
Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills	600	1,140	1,740	1,710	20
Office of Gas and Electricity Markets	490	420	910	860	50
Office of Qualifications and Examinations Regulation	80	120	200	210	..
Office of Rail and Road	180	120	310	300	..
Ofwat	120	120	240	240	-10
Scotland Office	50	80	130	130	..
Transport	8,000	6,040	14,040	13,960	80
UK Statistics Authority	1,960	2,400	4,360	4,200	160
UK Supreme Court	20	20	40	40	0
Wales Office	30	20	50	50	0
Work and Pensions	25,780	44,670	70,460	70,640	-190
Central Government Departments Total	190,910	207,330	398,250	395,030	3,220
Scottish Government	9,830	10,060	19,900	19,880	20
Welsh Government	2,260	3,090	5,350	5,310	40
TOTAL	203,010	220,480	423,490	420,210	3,280

	September 2020			June 2020	Change on Quarter
	Male	Female	Total	Total	Total
Temporary/Casual Employees					
Attorney General's departments	70	170	240	220	20
Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy	30	30	60	180	-120
Cabinet Office	20	30	50	30	10
Other Cabinet Office agencies	30	20	50	50	0
Charity Commission	10	10	20	10	20
Competition and Markets Authority	10	10	20	20	..
Defence	60	20	80	100	-30
Digital, Culture, Media and Sport	20	30	50	30	20
Education	40	90	120	100	20
Environment, Food and Rural Affairs	190	240	440	400	40
Estyn	0	0	0	0	0
Export Credits Guarantee Department	..	..	10	..	..
Food Standards Agency	10	10	20	30	-10
Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office <sup>3</sup>	20	20	30	10	30
Health and Social Care	220	420	640	400	240
HM Land Registry	..	..	..	..	..
HM Revenue and Customs	80	40	130	190	-60
HM Treasury	10	10	20	20	10
Chancellor's other departments	0	..	..	10	..
Home Office	250	260	520	780	-260
Housing, Communities and Local Government	20	30	50	30	20
International Development <sup>3</sup>	0	0	0	40	-40
International Trade	0	0	0	0	0
Justice	340	720	1,060	1,160	-100
The National Archives	..	10	10	20	..
National Crime Agency	0	0	0	0	0
Northern Ireland Office	0	0	0	0	0
Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills	..	10	10	20	-10
Office of Gas and Electricity Markets	90	60	160	140	20
Office of Qualifications and Examinations Regulation	10	20	30	30	..
Office of Rail and Road	..	..	..	10	..
Ofwat	..	..	..	..	0
Scotland Office	0	0	0	0	0
Transport	150	170	320	190	130
UK Statistics Authority	40	50	90	70	20
UK Supreme Court	10	10	10	10	0
Wales Office	..	0	..	..	..
Work and Pensions	1,210	1,440	2,660	1,650	1,010
Central Government Departments Total	2,950	3,920	6,870	5,920	950
Scottish Government	180	180	350	320	40
Welsh Government	20	20	40	60	-20
TOTAL	3,150	4,110	7,260	6,290	970

	September 2020			June 2020	Change on Quarter
	Male	Female	Total	Total	Total
All Employees	206,160	224,590	430,750	426,490	4,260

Source: Quarterly Public Sector Employment Survey, Office for National Statistics

1    Numbers are rounded to the nearest ten, and numbers less than five are represented by "...". Data not available are represented by "-".  
2    Department totals include Executive Agencies, Ministerial and Non-Ministerial Departments.  
3    The Foreign and Commonwealth Office and the Department for International Development merged on 1 September 2020 to form the Foreign, Commonwealth and Devel

9 Civil Service employment by department and agency <sup>1</sup>

	September 2020		June 2020		Change on Quarter	
	Headcount	Full Time Equivalent	Headcount	Full Time Equivalent	Headcount	Full Time Equivalent
<b>Attorney General's departments</b>						
Attorney General's Office	50	50	50	50	..	..
Crown Prosecution Service	6,350	5,870	6,200	5,730	150	150
Government Legal Department	2,460	2,290	2,420	2,240	40	50
HM Crown Prosecution Service Inspectorate	30	20	30	30	..	..
Serious Fraud Office	480	470	480	470	..	..
<b>Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy</b>						
Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy	4,870	4,760	4,640	4,520	230	240
Advisory Conciliation and Arbitration Service	1,010	940	950	880	60	60
Companies House	1,080	1,000	1,060	980	20	20
The Insolvency Service	1,700	1,620	1,690	1,610	10	10
Intellectual Property Office	1,380	1,300	1,340	1,260	40	40
Met Office	2,110	2,030	2,110	1,990	..	30
UK Space Agency	250	230	240	240	10	..
<b>Cabinet Office</b>						
Cabinet Office (excluding agencies) <sup>2</sup>	8,770	8,590	8,270	8,100	500	490
<b>Other Cabinet Office agencies</b>						
Crown Commercial Service	710	690	670	650	40	40
Government in Parliament <sup>2</sup>	0	0	100	100	-100	-100
Government Property Agency	200	190	160	160	40	40
<b>Charity Commission</b>						
Charity Commission	420	400	410	390	10	20
<b>Competition and Markets Authority</b>						
Competition and Markets Authority	870	850	870	840	..	..
<b>Defence</b>						
Ministry of Defence (excluding trading funds)	38,550	37,260	38,180	36,880	370	370
Defence Electronics and Components Agency	440	410	420	400	10	10
Defence Equipment and Support	10,710	10,360	10,690	10,340	20	20
Defence Science and Technology Laboratory	4,450	4,290	4,480	4,320	-30	-30
Submarine Delivery Agency	1,920	1,880	1,860	1,820	60	50
UK Hydrographic Office	840	800	820	780	20	10
<b>Digital, Culture, Media and Sport</b>						
Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (excluding agencies)	1,540	1,520	1,420	1,390	120	120
<b>Education</b>						
Department for Education (excluding agencies)	5,410	5,210	5,320	5,120	90	90
Education and Skills Funding Agency	1,810	1,760	1,800	1,740	10	10
Institute for Apprenticeships and Technical Education	190	190	180	180	10	10
Standards and Testing Agency	120	120	130	130	-10	-10
Teaching Regulation Agency	70	70	80	70	..	..
<b>Environment, Food and Rural Affairs</b>						
Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (excluding agencies)	5,030	4,840	4,980	4,790	60	50
Animal and Plant Health Agency	2,420	2,280	2,390	2,250	30	30
Centre for Environment, Fisheries and Aquaculture Science	610	580	630	590	-10	-10
Rural Payments Agency	2,220	2,030	2,230	2,040	-10	-10
Veterinary Medicines Directorate	160	160	160	150	..	..
<b>Estyn</b>						
Estyn	120	110	120	110	..	..
<b>Export Credits Guarantee Department</b>						
Export Credits Guarantee Department	360	350	340	330	20	20
<b>Food Standards Agency</b>						
Food Standards Agency	1,260	1,230	1,270	1,230	..	..
<b>Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office</b>						
Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (excluding agencies) <sup>3</sup>	7,740	7,600	0	0	7,740	7,600
Foreign and Commonwealth Office (excluding agencies) ( <i>former</i> ) <sup>3</sup>	0	0	5,210	5,140	-5,210	-5,140
FCDO Services <sup>4</sup>	1,070	1,030	1,060	1,030	10	..
Wilton Park Executive Agency	90	80	90	80	..	..
<b>Health and Social Care</b>						
Department of Health and Social Care (excluding agencies)	2,140	2,070	1,810	1,750	330	320
Medicines and Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency	1,280	1,230	1,260	1,210	20	20
Public Health England	6,020	5,330	5,740	5,230	270	100
<b>HM Land Registry</b>						
HM Land Registry	5,990	5,400	6,000	5,390	..	10
<b>HM Revenue and Customs</b>						
HM Revenue and Customs (excluding agencies)	63,480	57,780	63,600	57,760	-130	30
Valuation Office Agency	3,420	3,160	3,510	3,250	-100	-90
<b>HM Treasury</b>						
HM Treasury (excluding agencies)	1,880	1,840	1,740	1,700	140	140
Government Internal Audit Agency	450	430	460	440	-10	-10
National Infrastructure Commission	40	40	40	40	..	..
Office for Budget Responsibility	30	30	40	30	..	..
UK Debt Management Office	110	110	110	110	0	..
<b>Chancellor's other departments</b>						
Government Actuary's Department	210	200	210	190	..	..
National Savings and Investments	200	200	200	200	..	..
<b>Home Office</b>						
Home Office	34,810	32,440	34,920	32,380	-110	60
<b>Housing, Communities and Local Government</b>						
Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (excluding agencies)	2,300	2,250	2,300	2,240	10	10

9 Civil Service employment by department and agency <sup>1</sup>

	September 2020		June 2020		Change on Quarter	
	Headcount	Full Time Equivalent	Headcount	Full Time Equivalent	Headcount	Full Time Equivalent
Planning Inspectorate	810	740	820	740	..	..
Queen Elizabeth II Centre	50	50	50	50	0	0
<b>International Development</b>						
Department for International Development <sup>3</sup>	0	0	2,660	2,580	-2,660	-2,580
<b>International Trade</b>						
Department for International Trade	2,570	2,540	2,470	2,440	100	100
<b>Justice</b>						
Ministry of Justice (excluding agencies) <sup>5</sup>	5,170	5,030	4,780	4,660	380	370
Criminal Injuries Compensation Authority	320	290	300	280	20	20
HM Courts and Tribunals Service	15,890	14,270	15,970	14,320	-80	-50
HM Prison and Probation Service <sup>5</sup>	53,330	50,330	53,370	50,400	-40	-60
Legal Aid Agency	1,180	1,110	1,180	1,110	..	..
Office of the Public Guardian	1,500	1,390	1,540	1,420	-40	-30
<b>The National Archives</b>						
The National Archives	530	500	520	490	10	10
<b>National Crime Agency</b>						
National Crime Agency	5,100	4,970	4,840	4,720	260	260
<b>Northern Ireland Office</b>						
Northern Ireland Office	200	200	200	200	..	0
<b>Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills</b>						
Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills	1,810	1,740	1,800	1,730	10	10
<b>Office of Gas and Electricity Markets</b>						
Office of Gas and Electricity Markets	1,090	1,070	1,020	1,000	70	70
<b>Office of Qualifications and Examinations Regulation</b>						
Office of Qualifications and Examinations Regulation	240	230	240	230	..	..
<b>Office of Rail and Road</b>						
Office of Rail and Road	320	310	320	310	..	..
<b>Ofwat</b>						
Ofwat	250	240	260	250	-10	-10
<b>Scotland Office</b>						
Scotland Office (incl. Office of the Advocate General for Scotland)	130	130	130	130	0	..
<b>Transport</b>						
Department for Transport (excluding agencies)	3,150	3,060	3,010	2,920	140	140
Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency	6,300	5,550	6,220	5,480	80	70
Driver and Vehicle Standards Agency	4,700	4,420	4,730	4,440	-30	-20
Maritime and Coastguard Agency	1,180	1,130	1,160	1,110	20	20
Vehicle Certification Agency	210	200	200	190	10	10
<b>UK Statistics Authority</b>						
UK Statistics Authority	5,060	4,450	4,890	4,270	170	180
<b>UK Supreme Court</b>						
UK Supreme Court	50	50	50	50	0	..
<b>Wales Office</b>						
Wales Office	50	50	50	50	..	..
<b>Work and Pensions</b>						
Department for Work and Pensions	80,220	70,780	79,450	69,950	770	820
Health and Safety Executive	2,490	2,330	2,500	2,340	-10	-10
<b>Scottish Government</b>						
Scottish Government (excluding agencies)	7,460	7,150	7,430	7,120	30	30
Accountant in Bankruptcy	110	100	130	110	-10	-10
Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal	1,970	1,820	1,970	1,820	..	..
Disclosure Scotland	290	280	290	280	0	0
Education Scotland	320	300	320	310	..	-10
Food Standards Scotland	220	220	230	220	..	..
Forestry and Land Scotland	960	930	950	910	20	20
National Records of Scotland	430	400	440	410	-10	-10
Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator	50	40	50	50	..	..
Registers of Scotland	1,180	1,130	1,180	1,130	..	..
Revenue Scotland	70	60	70	60	..	..
Scottish Courts and Tribunals Service	1,770	1,610	1,780	1,620	-10	-10
Scottish Fiscal Commission	20	20	20	20	0	0
Scottish Forestry	180	170	180	170	..	..
Scottish Housing Regulator	50	50	50	50	..	..
Scottish Prison Service	4,480	4,210	4,440	4,180	40	30
Scottish Public Pensions Agency	290	260	290	260	..	..
Social Security Scotland	850	830	840	810	20	20
Student Awards Agency for Scotland	230	220	230	220	..	..
Transport Scotland	480	460	470	460	..	..
<b>Welsh Government</b>						
Welsh Government	5,630	5,320	5,610	5,300	20	20
Welsh Revenue Authority	70	70	70	70	..	..
<b>Total employment</b>	<b>463,250</b>	<b>430,750</b>	<b>459,240</b>	<b>426,490</b>	<b>4,020</b>	<b>4,260</b>

Source: Quarterly Public Sector Employment Survey, Office for National Statistics

<sup>1</sup> Numbers are rounded to the nearest ten, and numbers less than five are represented by "..".  
<sup>2</sup> Government in Parliament is now included within the Cabinet Office return.  
<sup>3</sup> The Foreign and Commonwealth Office and the Department for International Development merged on the 1st September 2020 to form the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office.  
<sup>4</sup> As of 1 September 2020 FCO Services has changed name to FCDO Services.  
<sup>5</sup> Around 300 employees transferred from HM Prison and Probation Service to the Ministry of Justice since June 2020.

## 10 Employment in Executive NDPBs <sup>1 2 3</sup>

Permanent Employees	September 2020		June 2020		Change on Quarter	
	Headcount	Full Time Equivalent	Headcount	Full Time Equivalent	Headcount	Full Time Equivalent
Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy	10,940	10,560	10,440	10,050	510	520
Cabinet Office	810	760	780	730	40	40
Defence	500	430	500	430	10	..
Digital, Culture, Media and Sport	11,200	10,250	11,320	10,310	-120	-60
Education	4,740	4,530	4,780	4,570	-50	-40
Environment, Food and Rural Affairs <sup>4</sup>	14,520	13,600	14,510	13,590	10	10
Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office <sup>5</sup>	1,390	1,350	1,410	1,370	-30	-20
Health and Social Care	13,490	12,910	11,650	11,120	1,840	1,790
Home Office	2,480	2,310	2,460	2,290	20	20
Housing, Communities and Local Government	1,270	1,240	1,190	1,160	80	80
Justice	2,450	2,320	2,430	2,290	30	40
Transport	1,860	1,820	1,790	1,750	70	70
Work and Pensions	970	950	970	940	..	..
<b>Central Government Departments Total</b>	<b>66,610</b>	<b>63,020</b>	<b>64,210</b>	<b>60,580</b>	<b>2,400</b>	<b>2,440</b>
Scottish Government	11,540	10,610	11,510	10,600	30	20
Welsh Assembly	3,300	3,030	3,250	3,000	50	30
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>81,450</b>	<b>76,670</b>	<b>78,980</b>	<b>74,180</b>	<b>2,480</b>	<b>2,490</b>

  

Temporary Employees	September 2020		June 2020		Change on Quarter	
	Headcount	Full Time Equivalent	Headcount	Full Time Equivalent	Headcount	Full Time Equivalent
Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy	210	200	130	120	70	80
Cabinet Office	20	20	0	0	20	20
Defence	130	20	140	20	-20	..
Digital, Culture, Media and Sport	1,200	460	1,470	540	-270	-80
Education	160	150	190	190	-40	-40
Environment, Food and Rural Affairs <sup>4</sup>	750	680	770	700	-20	-20
Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office <sup>5</sup>	0	0	..	..	..	..
Health and Social Care	1,220	1,120	1,770	750	-550	360
Home Office	50	40	70	50	-10	-10
Housing, Communities and Local Government	90	90	90	90	..	..
Justice	50	50	50	50	..	10
Transport	30	30	30	30	..	..
Work and Pensions	90	90	90	90	..	..
<b>Central Government Departments Total</b>	<b>4,000</b>	<b>2,950</b>	<b>4,810</b>	<b>2,630</b>	<b>-810</b>	<b>320</b>
Scottish Government	440	340	580	450	-140	-110
Welsh Assembly	540	230	510	190	30	30
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4,980</b>	<b>3,520</b>	<b>5,890</b>	<b>3,270</b>	<b>-910</b>	<b>250</b>

  

<b>All NDPB Employees</b>	<b>86,430</b>	<b>80,190</b>	<b>84,860</b>	<b>77,450</b>	<b>1,570</b>	<b>2,740</b>
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Source: Quarterly Public Sector Employment Survey, Office for National Statistics

<sup>1</sup> Includes Executive NDPBs with an employment of greater than 20.

<sup>2</sup> Numbers are rounded to the nearest ten.

<sup>3</sup> These figures do not include employees of ACAS, Health and Safety Executive, Institute for Apprenticeships & Technical Education, Office for Budget Responsibility. These are Crown NDPBs, the employees of which are included as part of Civil Service headcounts.

<sup>4</sup> Environment Agency includes all regional divisions.

<sup>5</sup> The Foreign and Commonwealth Office and the Department for International Development merged on 1 September 2020 to form the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office.



# 11 Employment in Academies

England (thousands), not seasonally adjusted			
		Headcount	Full-time equivalent
2018	Jun	554	421
	Sep	560	425
	Dec	570	432
2019	Mar	580	439
	Jun	591	447
	Sep	597	452
	Dec	603	456
2020	Mar	606	459
	Jun	611	462
	Sep	616	465
Change on quarter		5	3
Change %		0.8	0.6
Change on year		19	13
Change %		3.2	2.9

Source: Office for National Statistics

- 1. Estimates of employment in academies are derived by matching the monthly Open Academies dataset with the annual School Workforce Census, both published by the Department for Education.
- 2. More detailed statistics on academies are available from the Department for Education: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/statistics-school-workforce>