

Statistics Release

An Official Statistics Publication for Scotland

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POLICE OFFICER QUARTERLY STRENGTH STATISTICS SCOTLAND, 31 DECEMBER 2008

Scotland's Chief Statistician today published the latest quarterly figures on the number of police officers employed by Scottish Forces. The main findings are:

- There were 16,675 police officers (full-time equivalent) in Scotland on 31 December 2008, the highest level ever recorded.
- This total includes 16,125 police officers deployed in the eight Scottish Police Forces (including Additional Regular Police), and 551 on secondment or central service.
- Police officer numbers have increased by 149 full-time equivalent (FTE) officers (+0.9%) in the last quarter, from 30 September 2008, and by 409 (+2.5%) in the last year, from 31 December 2007.

Chart 1- Police Officer Strength in Scotland, 2003-08

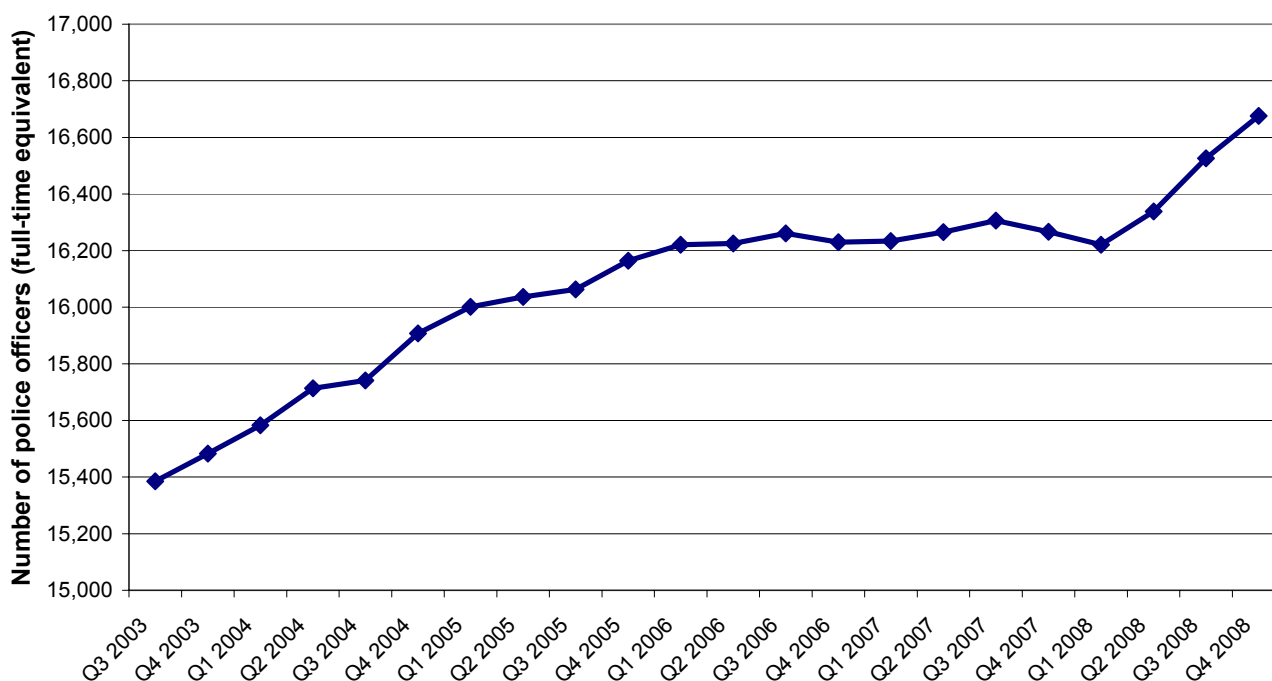


Table 1 - Number of Police Officers (Full-time Equivalent) in Scotland¹ by Police Force and Deployment, 31 December 2008

Deployment ³	Central Scotland Police		Dumfries and Galloway Constabulary		Fife Constabulary		Grampian Police		Lothian and Borders Police		Northern Constabulary		Strathclyde Police		Tayside Police		Scotland ²	
Police Officers in force	800		457		1,037		1,423		2,735		738		7,633		1,135		15,958	
Additional Regular Police	5		41		0		18		40		0		47		15		166	
Central Service	2		12		4		12		37		3		117		4		191	
SCDEA/SPSA	24		4		17		26		60		6		158		24		319	
Secondments	5		3		8		4		19		0		0		2		41	
Total²	836		517		1,066		1,483		2,891		747		7,955		1,180		16,675	

1. All figures are expressed in terms of full-time equivalent (FTE) police officers, rounded to the nearest whole number.

2. Scotland and force totals may not equal the sum of the parts due to rounding.

3. For definitions of the deployment categories, see Note 2 below.

Table 2 - Number of Police Officers (Full-time Equivalent) in Scotland^{1,2} by Police Force, 2003-08

Quarter ^{3,4}	Dumfries and										Scotland ⁵
	Central Scotland Police	Galloway Constabulary	Fife Constabulary	Grampian Police	Borders Police	Lothian and Borders Police	Northern Constabulary	Strathclyde Police	Tayside Police	Scotland ⁵	
Q3 2003	745	481	945	1,280	2,708	2,708	671	7,404	1,151	15,385	
Q4 2003	756	486	956	1,311	2,717	2,717	676	7,431	1,150	15,483	
Q1 2004	760	489	980	1,338	2,748	2,748	683	7,430	1,156	15,583	
Q2 2004	765	480	986	1,353	2,766	2,766	698	7,517	1,148	15,714	
Q3 2004	777	474	988	1,358	2,771	2,771	692	7,527	1,154	15,741	
Q4 2004	795	478	987	1,373	2,785	2,785	705	7,615	1,169	15,908	
Q1 2005	832	480	996	1,354	2,803	2,803	702	7,668	1,166	16,001	
Q2 2005	824	481	1,005	1,382	2,793	2,793	710	7,679	1,163	16,036	
Q3 2005	830	477	1,001	1,372	2,808	2,808	709	7,703	1,164	16,063	
Q4 2005	827	496	1,022	1,368	2,823	2,823	704	7,769	1,155	16,164	
Q1 2006	883	505	1,037	1,352	2,818	2,818	699	7,767	1,159	16,221	
Q2 2006	883	497	1,041	1,351	2,813	2,813	698	7,788	1,156	16,226	
Q3 2006	865	500	1,036	1,407	2,791	2,791	716	7,770	1,175	16,261	
Q4 2006	865	496	1,035	1,400	2,783	2,783	697	7,782	1,173	16,230	
Q1 2007	828	497	1,059	1,374	2,793	2,793	707	7,822	1,154	16,234	
Q2 2007	825	496	1,057	1,410	2,799	2,799	707	7,804	1,167	16,265	
Q3 2007	826	499	1,064	1,418	2,809	2,809	719	7,800	1,172	16,306	
Q4 2007	815	502	1,059	1,440	2,829	2,829	713	7,735	1,174	16,267	
Q1 2008	832	510	1,061	1,470	2,836	2,836	724	7,619	1,169	16,221	
Q2 2008	836	516	1,058	1,466	2,868	2,868	732	7,687	1,175	16,339	
Q3 2008	852	518	1,063	1,473	2,869	2,869	742	7,824	1,185	16,526	
Q4 2008	836	517	1,066	1,483	2,891	2,891	747	7,955	1,180	16,675	

1. All figures are expressed in terms of full-time equivalent (FTE) police officers, rounded to the nearest whole number.

2. Figures include all police officers employed by the force, including those on SPC training, secondment, central service, long-term sick leave and maternity/adoption leave, but excluding those on career breaks.

3. Figures are as at the end of the respective quarter - Q1 = 31 March, Q2 = 30 June, Q3 = 30 September and Q4 = 31 December.

4. Full-time equivalent figures have only been available from September 2003.

5. Scotland totals may not equal the sum of the parts due to rounding.

NOTES

1. This is the second publication of police quarterly strength statistics as Official Statistics. The first was published on 2 December 2008. Prior to this publication figures were collated by the Scottish Government and released through responses to Parliamentary Questions and by depositing the figures in the Scottish Parliamentary Library.
2. The following definitions apply to Table 1:
 - Police Officers in force - includes all officers employed by the force, including those on SPCS training, long-term sick leave and maternity/adoption leave.
 - Central Service - includes all officers seconded to HM Inspector of Constabulary, Association of Chief Police Officers in Scotland (ACPOS), Scottish Government or similar posts.
 - SCDEA/SPSA - includes all officers seconded to the Scottish Crime and Drug Enforcement Agency (SCDEA), Scottish Police College, Forensic Services, and the Scottish Police Services Agency (SPSA).
 - Secondments - includes all officers on secondments not otherwise covered, such as to Local Authorities
 - Additional Regular Police - Officers at ports and airports paid either wholly or partially by the port/airport authority and additional officers either wholly or partially funded by the locally authority or an external body.
3. These figures include all police officers employed by the eight Scottish police forces, but do not include police officers employed in Scotland by the British Transport Police, Ministry of Defence Police or the Civil Nuclear Constabulary.
4. Further information on Crime and Justice statistics within Scotland can be accessed at:
<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Statistics/Browse/Crime-Justice>
5. Official statistics are produced by professionally independent statistical staff – more information on the standards of official statistics in Scotland can be accessed at:
<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Statistics/About>

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Correspondence and enquiries

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The Scottish Funding Councils for Higher and Further Education	(0131) 313 6575

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LONDON SW1V 2QQ

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Further information on the General Register Office for Scotland is available on the website www.gro-scotland.gov.uk

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Complaints and suggestions

If you are not satisfied with our service, please write to the Chief Statistician, Mr Rob Wishart, 3R.01, St Andrews House, Edinburgh, EH1 3DG, Telephone: (0131) 244 0302, e-mail rob.wishart@scotland.gsi.gov.uk. We also welcome any comments or suggestions that would help us to improve our standards of service.

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