

Skills Development Scotland produce Regional Skills Assessment (RSA) reports which include forecast data produced by Oxford Economics.

Below you will see excerpts taken from the Aberdeen City and Shire RSA report. Have a go at answering the questions.

Figure 1

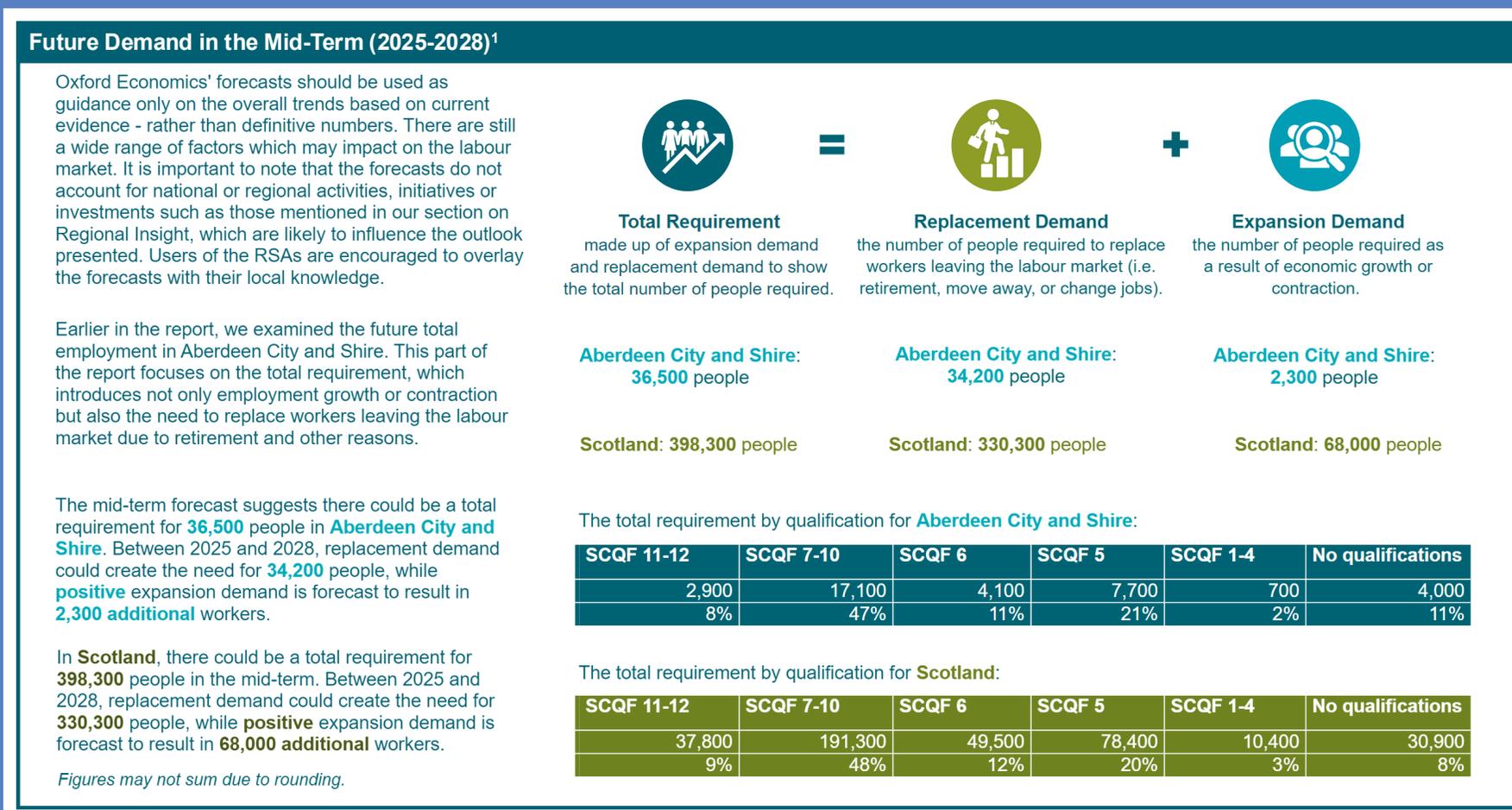


Figure 2

Employment by Occupation¹

The largest employing occupational groups in the region in 2025 (based on people) were estimated to be:

 **Elementary Occupations: Clerical and Services**
27,400

 **Administrative Occupations**
24,600

 **Science and Technology Professionals**
23,400

In 2025, 48.0% of employed people in the region were in 'higher-level' occupations*, which was a lower percentage of the workforce than Scotland (50.8%). 'Mid-level' occupations accounted for 31.5% of the workforce, which was a higher percentage of the workforce than Scotland (27.8%). Around 20.5% of people were employed in 'lower-level' occupations, which was a lower percentage of the workforce than Scotland (21.3%).

Between 2025 and 2028, the greatest growth is forecast to be in Caring Personal Service Occupations (800 people). While Process, Plant and Machine Operatives is likely to experience the greatest contraction (-700 people).

Over the long-term, between 2028 and 2035, the greatest growth is forecast to be in Caring Personal Service Occupations (1,900 people). While Process, Plant and Machine Operatives is likely to experience the greatest contraction (-1,400 people).

Figures may not sum due to rounding.

Employment in the 15 Largest Occupational Groups, Aberdeen City and Shire

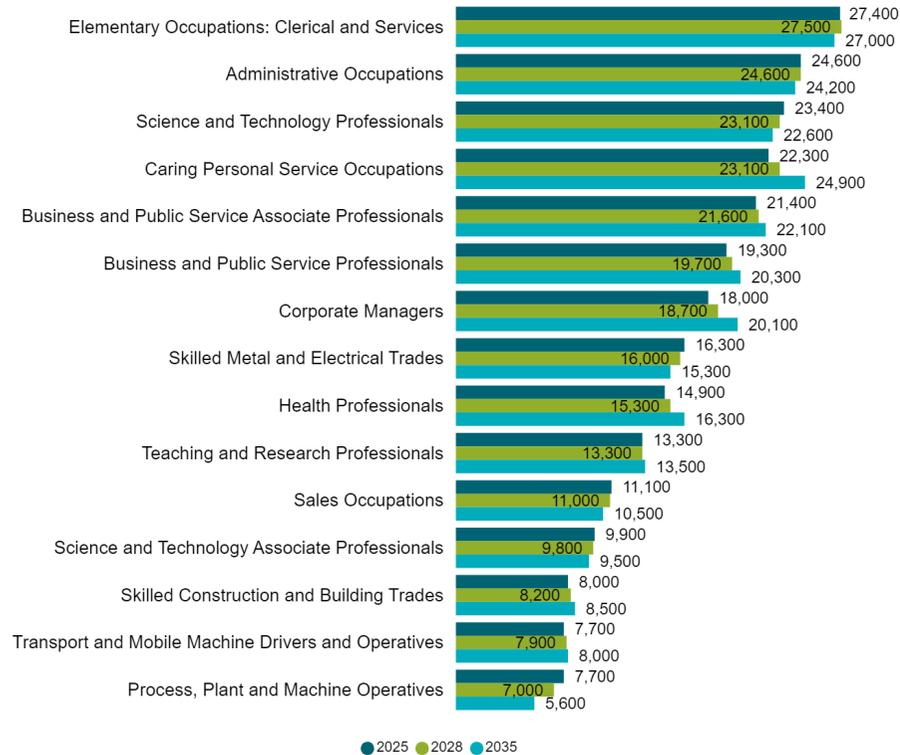


Figure 3

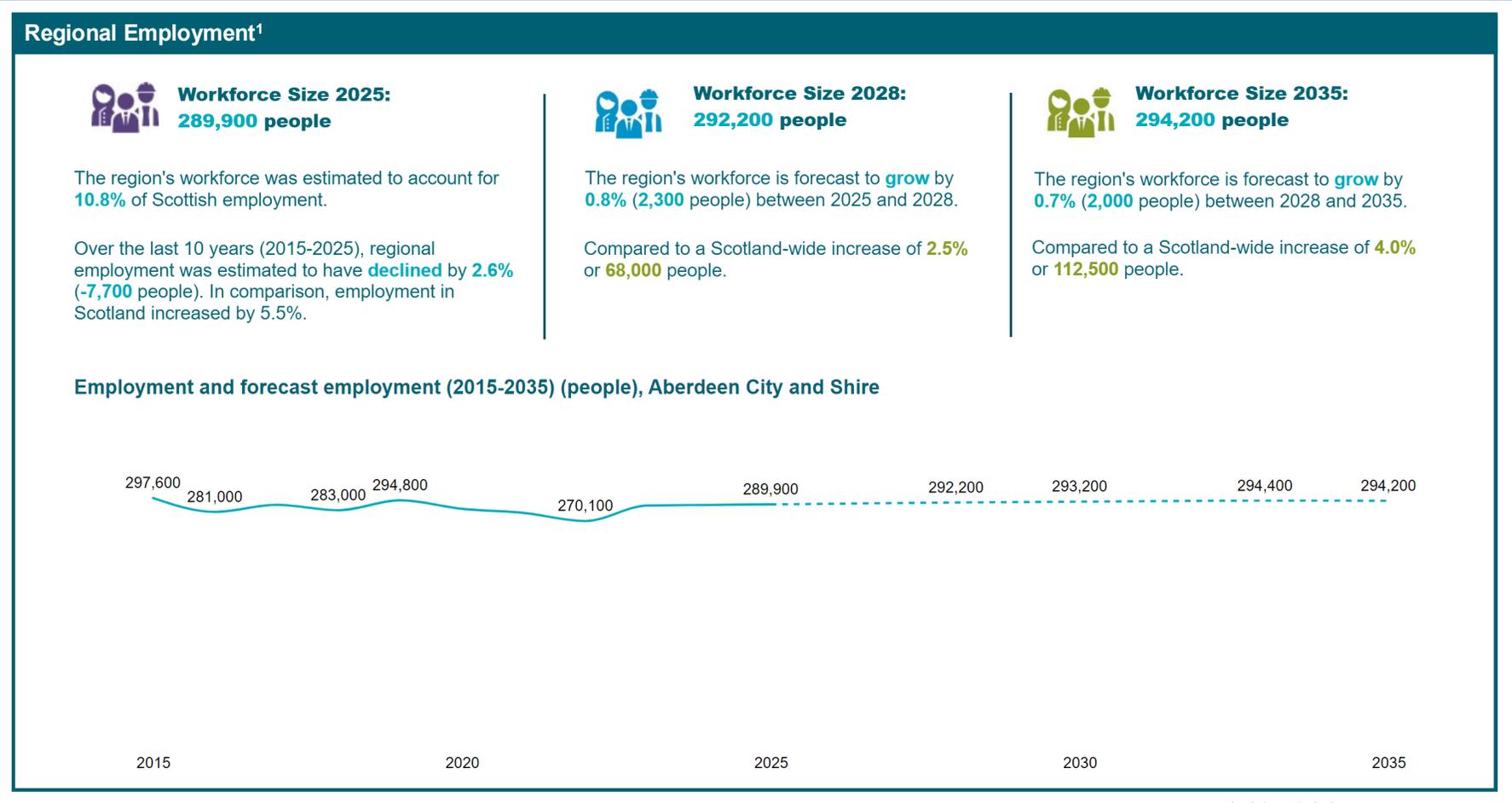


Figure 4

Employment by Industry¹

The largest employing industries in the region in 2025 (based on people) were estimated to be:

 **Human Health and Social Work Activities**
44,700

 **Mining and Quarrying**
37,800

 **Professional, Scientific and Technical Activities**
32,800

Between 2025 and 2028, employment in the region is forecast to grow, however industries will have varying performance. The greatest employment growth is forecast in Professional, Scientific and Technical Activities, with 1,000 more people by 2028. While Mining and Quarrying is forecast to have the greatest employment contraction (-2,000 people) in the mid-term.

Over the long-term, between 2028 and 2035, the greatest employment growth is forecast in Human Health and Social Work Activities, with 2,800 more people by 2035. While Mining and Quarrying is forecast to have the greatest employment contraction (-4,300 people) in the long-term.

In 2025, the Extraction of Crude Petroleum and Natural Gas, and Mining Support Service Activities were estimated to be the region's greatest specialisms, with the percentage of employment in both industries 9.1 times greater than the Scottish average. 

Figures may not sum due to rounding.

Employment by Industry, Aberdeen City and Shire

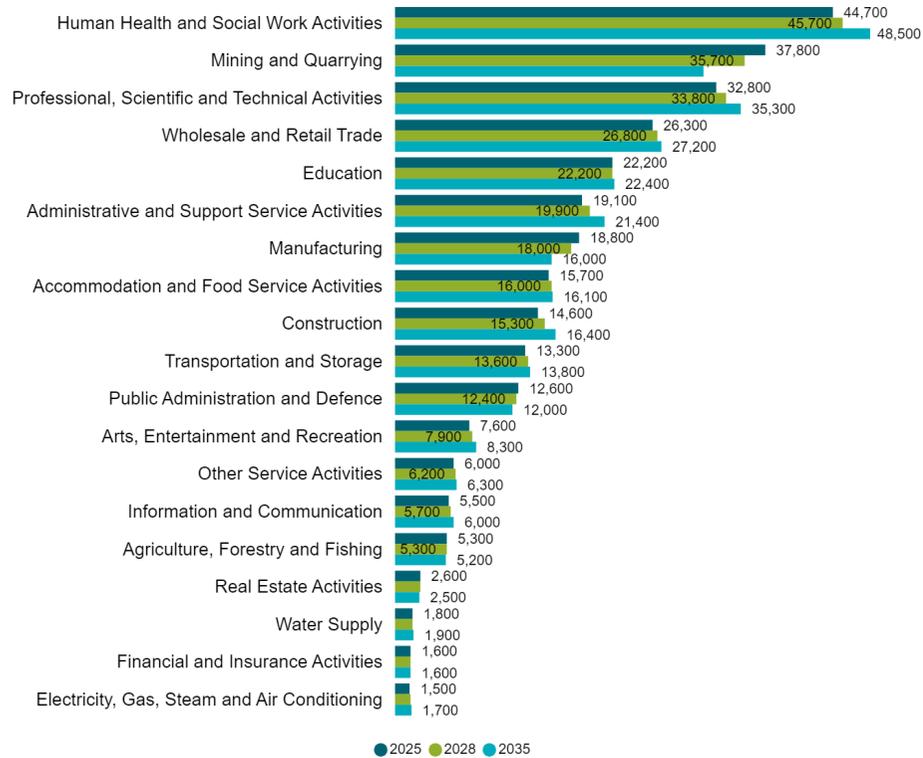


Figure 5



Questions

1. Future demands (2025 and 2028) show which level of qualification will be most in demand for job opportunities (figure 1)? How does this compare to Scotland as a whole?
2. Between 2025 and 2028, which occupational group is forecast to have the biggest growth and by how many people (figure 2)?
3. What is the workforce size in 2025, and what is it predicted to be in 2035 (figure 3)?
4. What were the top 3 employing industries in 2025 (figure 4)?
5. Future demand for occupations (figure 5):
 - a. Which occupation will be most in demand?
 - b. Which occupation shows a major decrease in expansion demand? Can you think of a reason why?

Answers

1. SCQF Level 7-10 (47%). Slightly lower than Scotland as whole which is 48%.
2. Caring Personal Service occupations. 800 people.
3. 289,900 in 2025, 294,200 in 2035.
4. Human Health & Social Work Activities; Mining and Quarrying; Professional, Scientific and Technical Activities.
5. a. Elementary Occupations: Clerical and Services
b. Process, Plant and Machine Operatives. Advances in technology means more automated systems will replace operatives.