

How many public sector jobs are there in Oxford?

Oxford is often cited as a place which will fare badly when public spending cuts are made because “46% of jobs are in the public sector”. In 2008 the total number of jobs in Oxford was estimated to be between 100,200 and 115,400 (this comes from a survey of businesses called the Annual Business Inquiry). The chart below shows which industrial sectors these jobs are in (taking the survey’s best estimate of 107,800 jobs). It identifies jobs in activities which are public sector dominated, those which are mainly private sector and higher education jobs. In this chart the 46% figure quoted above is the combination of higher education and jobs in public sector-dominated activities.

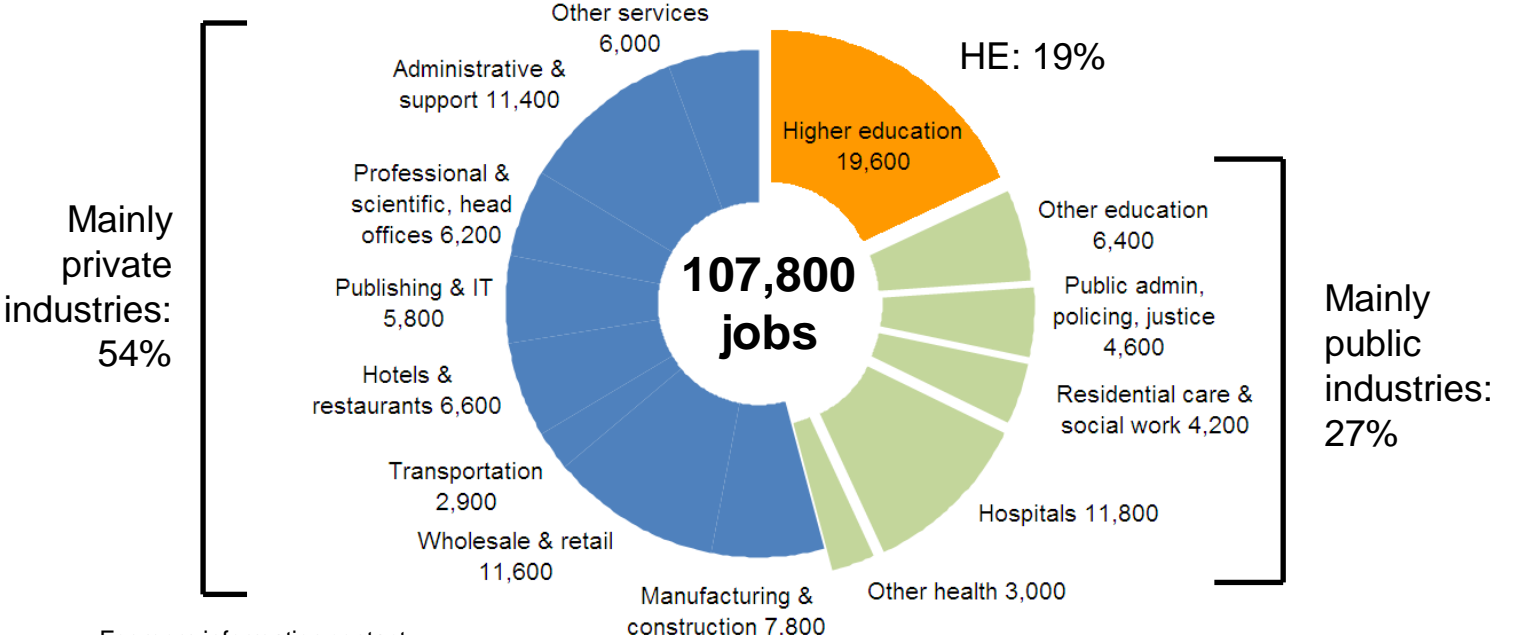
However strictly speaking public sector jobs are those in publicly-owned organisations such as local authorities, the NHS, central government and public corporations (e.g. Royal Mail and nationalised banks). Note this excludes higher education institutions. Although we do not have a detailed breakdown we do know that 27% of Oxford’s jobs in 2008 were in publicly-owned organisations.

A briefing paper which estimates the impact of public spending cuts on Oxford’s jobs is available at www.oxford.gov.uk/economicstatistics.

www.oxford.gov.uk



Employee jobs in Oxford 2008 by industrial classification



For more information contact:
 Mark Fransham
 Social Research Officer
 01865 252797

mfransham@oxford.gov.uk
www.oxford.gov.uk/oxfordstats
www.oxfordshireobservatory.info

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