What do graduates do?

Science
Mathematics, IT and computing
Engineering and building management
Social sciences
Arts, creative arts and humanities
Business and administrative studies
Foundation degrees

Career planning for higher education and beyond

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Welcome to What Do Graduates Do 2012?
This publication is the result of a close collaboration between the Higher Education Careers Service Unit (HECSU) and the Association of Graduate Careers Advisory Services (AGCAS).

It uses statistics drawn from the Destinations of Leavers from Higher Education survey (DLHE), which is conducted by every university in the UK each year to try and establish what every graduate is doing six months after graduation. The figures are compiled by HESA (the Higher Education Statistics Agency) and are then used by HECSU to produce the tables and charts in this publication.

Commentary in the form of editorials is provided by higher education careers advisers who work on a day-to-day basis with students, graduates and employers, in collaboration with members of the HECSU team. Overall editing and publishing is undertaken by HECSU.

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Introduction - What do graduates do?

The information contained in What Do Graduates Do? is drawn from the annual Destinations of Leavers from Higher Education (DLHE) survey which was collected through a questionnaire sent out in winter 2011/12 to all UK- and EU-domiciled students who graduated in the academic year 2010/11 from a first degree or a Foundation degree. The results provide a snapshot of the employment status and types of work that graduates were doing six months after graduation.

Using the information from the DLHE survey, articles have been written to help put the information into context. Articles explore:
- Skills for employment
- Information about graduates and self-employment
- Information about further study
- Regional overview of graduate employment
- The labour market in 2011/12
- National and international comparisons
- Case studies
- Analysis

How to use WDGD?

WDGD is designed to be used by pupils, parents, students and careers advisers. It is intended to provide information about the destinations of graduates from specific academic disciplines so that those considering a particular degree or currently engaged in a field of study are informed about the first destinations of recent graduates following that degree.

The 26 first degree disciplines are arranged by subject under a broad heading e.g. Arts, creative arts and humanities. Facts and figures are supplied to provide information on a national basis for each of the individual subjects and accompanied by an overarching editorial which provides context to help explain the statistics. A separate article provides commentary on Foundation degrees and figures are provided to show what these graduates were doing six months after graduation.

Each subject has two sets of data. The first data set and pie chart detail what graduates were doing whether they were in employment, further study or perhaps unemployed and this varies widely from subject to subject. There are two pie charts one on top of the other, the inner chart shows how the activities can be grouped together when reporting graduate destinations. The second data set looks specifically at the types of work graduates who were in employment in the UK were employed in. Employment includes those who are working full-time, part-time, voluntary/unpaid or working and studying. The jobs are arranged into a standard classification system devised by HECSU. The percentages of graduates in each category are represented in a bar chart and each category of work has a particular colour assigned to it e.g. a red bar represents scientific research, analysis and development professionals in each chart for every subject.

There are also case studies included in this year’s publication and lists of examples of jobs and employers and actual courses of further study to provide a flavour of some of the activities that graduates were doing at the time of the survey. These are intended as illustrative rather than definitive given the almost endless range of possible careers and subjects of further study. Some employers who might have only recruited a very small number of graduates in the year are not named directly so that the anonymity of their employees is respected.

To bear in mind

The information in this publication is taken from data collected six months after students leave university. It is useful for providing an overview of early graduate employment and provides some indication of the changing state of the graduate labour market in any given year. However, the data tells us nothing about the intentions of graduates in the long term, the extent to which they have engaged in career planning from an early stage or the extent to which they may be undertaking non-graduate level employment with a view to further study or amassing volunteering experience for their chosen profession.

Please note that the data includes only those who were resident in the UK (UK-domiciled) prior to the commencement of their studies. It does not include EU or international graduates.

To gain a broader perspective

There are a huge range of factors which impinge on graduate employment in any given year. The level of preparedness of the individual will always play a part particularly with respect to skills development throughout their courses, early career planning and the sourcing of work experience in their chosen field. External factors are also important with the overall economic situation being hugely influential and downswings and upturns in certain sectors heavily influencing the number of vacancies in any given year. As such, pupils, students, parents and advisers should not rely on this information alone to make decisions about choice of university course or career. Make use of a broad range of information and publications such as Real Prospects 2011, which may help you understand more about what it is like to work in the roles identified in this book, and the Key Information Sets (KIS) provided by every university for specific courses.

HE careers services are available for consultation by prospective and existing students interested in individual destination data for particular courses and institutions as well as long term career planning.
Employment review written by Jennifer Redman

The graduate labour market is complex because it exists within a wider labour market which is affected by changes in both the UK and global economies. When graduates from 2010/11 left university, the labour market was experiencing some turbulence as the UK economy struggled with negative growth and a dip back into recession. In spite of this and trouble in the Eurozone affecting growth in the global economy, at the time of the survey 186,280 graduates from 2010/11 were in employment in the UK; that is 7,700 more graduates than in 2009/10. It is important to bear in mind that the destinations of graduates taken from HESA’s Destinations of Leavers from Higher Education (DLHE) survey were recorded six months after graduating from a first degree at a UK university and as such the destinations of these graduates may have changed since then as the economy and the labour market has moved on.

Graduate employment and unemployment

The outcomes of graduates qualifying in 2010/11 are much better than had been feared after a weakening in the economy and further job losses from the cuts in public spending. As shown in Table 1, the number of graduates increased on the previous year; there was only a slight decrease in the proportion of graduates in employment and a slight increase in the proportion believed to be unemployed.

Types of work

Looking at the destination figures for first degree graduates it may appear that all graduates have struggled in the labour market in 2010/11, but if you look at the subject they studied you can see that outcomes differ. There is an editorial for each category of subject which explains in more depth the outcomes of graduates from each. Here are some examples of how graduates from specific disciplines have fared in the labour market.

Example 1 – Engineering

There was a slight increase in the number of 2010/11 engineering graduates finding employment and a decrease in those believed to be unemployed, compared to 2009/10 engineering graduates, with the exception of electrical and electronic engineering graduates. The percentage of electrical and electronic engineering graduates in employment decreased and unemployment increased. However, of those electrical and electronic engineering graduates who did find work, 36.2% found work as engineering professionals (compared to 30.9% the previous year).

Example 2 – Computer science and IT

Engineering graduates were one discipline where employment outcomes appeared to be hit hard in the depths of the recession in 2008/09 (despite usually high rates of graduate employment). Another discipline which has seen negative outcomes in previous reports is computer science and IT. Overall this year’s computer science and IT cohort has seen an increase in the proportion finding employment and a drop in those believed to be unemployed. There was an increase of 8.5% in the proportion of employed computer science and IT graduates working as IT professionals compared to 2009/10 computer science and IT graduates, accounting for almost half of computer science and IT graduates in employment (47.3%). So nearly half of those who studied computer science and IT and were in employment became IT professionals.

Graduates in the public sector

The cuts to public spending continued to impact upon the ability of graduates to find entry level roles within the health and education sectors. It was clear last year from destinations figures for 2009/10 graduates that there were fewer opportunities available for new graduates to secure administrative work in the public sector, particularly in public administration and defence. This year it appears that there is a wider issue affecting the number of opportunities available in administrative roles in other sectors too. There were 20.5% (300) fewer 2010/11 graduates who secured work as counter assistants in banks, building societies and post offices compared to graduates from 2009/10. A recent report suggests that technological advancement is replacing the need for administrative personnel and, as such, these roles will continue to decline over the next eight years.

It is not just administrative roles which appear to have been affected by the cuts in public spending there may have been an impact on recruitment of front line professionals too. The occupations which saw the largest drop in the proportion of graduates from 2010/11 compared to 2009/10 graduates, include occupational therapists, physiotherapists, medical radiographers, secondary and primary school teachers, probation officers and social workers. Each of these occupations saw a decrease of over 100 graduates entering in 2010/11, with social workers having the largest decrease of 420. It remains to be seen if the changes in public spending will hamper the efforts of next year’s graduates aiming to find work in the public sector.

Employment in ‘graduate occupations’

The indicator which determines graduate occupations from non-graduate occupations will change next year, but for this cohort we have used the graduate job classifications developed in the Seven Years On report. The number of 2010/11 graduates who obtained graduate level occupations increased by 4,190 graduates (4.2%) on the previous year.

The number of graduates who entered non-graduate employment also increased by 3,485 graduates (6.0%) compared to the number of 2009/10 graduates in non-graduate level occupations. A recent report found that there are more graduates taking on lower-skilled roles. This is partly because of the increase in the number of graduates over time, which has sparked ‘credentialism’ where businesses employ graduates in lower-skilled jobs. Even though the number of graduates in non-graduate occupations immediately after graduation has increased, it is still more beneficial to be a graduate than not. Graduates earn more over time than non-graduates, and are less likely to be unemployed the longer they have been out of education. Although graduates may begin in non-graduate level employment six months after graduation, they move up the ladder relatively quickly, often within months.

Salaries

The average salary for UK graduates in full-time employment in the UK six months after graduation ranged between £18,285 and £23,635, which represents an increase on the average salary of graduates in 2009/10. Average salaries for first degree graduates in full-time employment in the UK vary, depending on the types of work they are doing six months after graduation.
Looking towards the future

It is not advisable to use historic data like the DLHE survey to predict what will happen in the future. The last five years of destinations figures demonstrate how different the graduate labour market can be when conditions in the economy change. Improvement in the labour market at the end of 2010 was uncertain and the end of 2012 is no different. Reports in July 2012 of a consecutive quarter of negative growth confirmed that the UK economy is fragile and, alongside the weak global economy, it is surprising that the UK labour market has remained fairly resilient during this double-dip recession.

The ‘types of work’ section above described improvements in the employment rate of 2010/11 engineering and computer science and IT graduates. Looking forward, growth in the number of engineering graduates finding work in the construction industry remains uncertain, as the drop in public spending, and projects stalling due to wet weather, saw a further decline in output in July 2012. However, the business services sector is anticipating further job creation for engineers for the rest of 2012.

Graduates from other disciplines look set to benefit from an increase in job creation in the business services sector too; the IT industry continues to grow as a result of businesses looking to decrease their labour costs by transacting more online so more IT jobs are expected in 2012.

While the AGR summer survey 2012 predicts a 0.6% decrease in the number of vacancies available in 2011/12, there are signs that employment opportunities overall are increasing compared to those which were available in 2010/11. The Office of National Statistics reported that there were 471,000 jobs available for the three months leading up to June 2012, 12,000 more vacancies than the same period of 2011. One report forecasts continued growth in higher-skilled occupations by 2020, including; managers, professionals and associate professionals. A report by the UK Commission of Employment and Skills suggests that these occupations are less likely to be filled by young people, but where they are, it is overwhelmingly by graduates.

During the recession, the number of vacancies in the UK decreased as economic conditions worsened. Since the depths of the recession in 2008/09 jobs have been created in the UK, but the majority of jobs have not been created by large companies; during the economic downturn 71% of jobs were created by start-ups and small firms. The recruitment practices used by small firms are variable and usually more informal than larger firms. This suggests that, when looking for vacancies, graduates should widen their search to include small firms, and take advantage of local information and informal contacts. Some universities already have good links with local employers, and the Wilson Review recommends universities increase their efforts to make those links. This should help students make contacts with local employers of all sizes before they graduate and thus increase their opportunities for employment.

References
1. Oxlade, A. (2012) Economy watch: What caused the return to recession and how long will it last. This is Money.co.uk. 6th July 2012.
2. ‘engineering professionals’, as classified under the 5 digit Standard Occupational Classification 2000, developed by the Office of National Statistics and adapted by HESA for the DLHE survey. All categories of work were adapted using the same classification system.
4. Employed using the graduate job classifications developed in Seven Years On: Graduate Careers in a Changing Labour Market, Kate Purcell and Peter Elias, June 2004.

Table 1. Comparison of destinations of first degree graduates from 2009/10 and 2010/11, six months after graduation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Numbers graduating (survey respondents)</th>
<th>Entering employment</th>
<th>Entering further study/training</th>
<th>Working and Unemployed at time of survey</th>
<th>Other</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2009/10 graduates</td>
<td>233865</td>
<td>62.2%</td>
<td>13.5%</td>
<td>8.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010/11 graduates</td>
<td>244680</td>
<td>61.8%</td>
<td>13.1%</td>
<td>8.4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: DLHE 2010/11
Regional overview of graduate employment written by Charlie Ball

This publication examines some of the information about the early career choices of new graduates in the UK, taken from the national Destination of Leavers from Higher Education (DLHE) survey that takes place every year six months after the students leave university.

It is clear from the DLHE information that jobs are not spread equally around the whole country, nor can everyone move to any part of the UK in search of a job. There is often a perception that ‘all the jobs are in London’ (this is clearly not true – although the City of London has a higher percentage of graduates in graduate level jobs than anywhere else in the country), or that there are no jobs for graduates in other parts of the UK.

Where did last year’s graduates find employment? Chart One demonstrates the geographical locations of students from the 2010/11 cohort.

London has the largest share of graduates and the overall distribution around the country is remarkably similar to last year’s, with no significant changes.

At present just over a fifth of UK graduates start their careers in the capital, with many working within a small region of central London around the City and Westminster. Over half the graduates working in the City and Westminster were in business and finance roles six months after they graduated.

Other types of job were more prevalent elsewhere. Westminster was the most likely place in London for a graduate in a marketing or sales role (although the borough of Camden was also popular). Outside London, Hertfordshire, Surrey, Oxfordshire and Manchester were also common places for graduates to find jobs in marketing or advertising.

Graduates entering science were most likely to start work in Oxfordshire or Cambridgeshire, but Merseyside, Surrey, Norfolk or Aberdeen were some of the more common other areas of employment. Aberdeen, and the local oil and gas industry, was also last year’s most common starting location for graduates going into engineering, with other popular working regions including Warwickshire, Surrey and Derby.

London – in the shape of the City proper and Westminster – was the most common place for graduates going into IT to start work. IT graduates were quite spread out across the country, and outside the capital. Surrey, Cambridgeshire, Hampshire, Hertfordshire, Belfast and Tyne and Wear were the most common starting areas for graduates going into computing jobs.

In the arts, London dominates, but areas outside the capital that were popular included Merseyside, Hertfordshire, Surrey, Manchester, Kent, Glasgow and Edinburgh.

Health, education and social care roles tend to be more evenly distributed around the country with few regional variations. Many of these roles are in the public sector so the number of roles available tends to be a greater reflection on the overall size of the jobs market.

In general, some parts of the country have, overall, relatively strong local labour markets, with a range of opportunities available. London is the obvious example, but some of the larger cities, particularly Birmingham, Manchester, Bristol, Leeds and Edinburgh, also come into this category, as do some of the more affluent local areas, largely in the south, such as Hampshire, Surrey, Hertfordshire, Warwickshire, Oxfordshire and Northamptonshire.

There are other regions that have very strong opportunities in certain sectors (often manufacturing or engineering), such as Aberdeen for oil and gas. However, some areas in the less affluent parts of the country appear to have few opportunities available in any sector, and consequently many graduates in these regions struggle to find jobs at graduate level within their locality.

Since business and finance constitute a large proportion of graduate vacancies, there are large clusters of graduate employment around London and the South East where many of the largest finance houses and businesses are based. Nonetheless, vacancies in the public sector, energy, retail, IT (etc) transcend regional boundaries but graduates must be prepared to relocate geographically to stand the best chance of employment in certain sectors or to obtain access to the broadest range of graduate vacancies.
Graduates in further study
written by Vanessa Fernandes

With over 300 universities and colleges in the UK alone, around 5000 different qualifications of varying costs and length on offer, the options available for further study in the UK are numerous. Figures from the Destinations of Leavers from Higher Education survey showed that in 2010/11 31,960 graduates undertook further study six months after completing a first degree at a UK university (13.1% of all UK graduates).

Graduates from 2010/11 in further study
The proportion of graduates going on to further study varies depending on the subject studied at first degree level. In 2010/11 the subjects which had large proportions of graduates going on to further study were physics (36.3%), chemistry (33.7%), biology (26.8%), law (29.7%), mathematics (23.4%) and history (21.2%). Some graduates go on to study for a postgraduate teaching qualification to become teachers; 1.8% of all 2010/11 graduates went on to study a teaching qualification in the UK six months after graduation. The proportion of graduates going on to study for a teaching qualification varies depending on the subject studied at first degree level. Mathematics graduates (6.7%) were more likely to go on to study a teaching qualification but other subjects with higher percentages than all graduates were chemistry (4.8%), English (4.6%), languages (4.3%) and physics (4.2%).

There are areas of employment where a postgraduate degree is compulsory to gain entry into a specific career path. To become a lawyer further study is compulsory as it is in architecture, although a year in trade is a requirement before embarking on further study to become a fully qualified architect. Both commercial and academic scientific research occupations either ask for postgraduate study as a formal requirement or prefer candidates who have completed further study. In other fields professional qualifications awarded by an independent professional body are studied for alongside work after finishing a degree. One field where it is a requirement to complete professional accreditation is in accounting to become chartered or certified accountants. Professional qualifications in accounting are often studied for alongside work and paid for by an employer and accounts for most of the 21.4% of 2010/11 accountancy graduates who said that they were working and studying six months after graduation. It is important to find out whether further qualifications are a requirement in some professions in order to factor into decisions about first degree study. However, you don’t necessarily have to study the subject directly related to the occupation you have chosen to aim for. For example, there are conversion courses to get into law and graduates from many disciplines find opportunities to study for the professional qualifications in accountancy after completing their first degree.

Making a decision about further study
Before looking at further study courses it is important to determine why you want to do it and what you expect to achieve. Some things to think about include:
- Does the career you have chosen require postgraduate study?
- Which qualification do you need to advance your career?
- Would a postgraduate qualification enhance your job prospects in your chosen field?
- If you want to change careers, will a particular qualification help you to achieve this?
- Do you need to do an initial postgraduate course (e.g. Masters) as preparation for later doctoral study?
- Can you afford it and are you aware of funding opportunities?

Applying for further study courses
When applying for a postgraduate course at a university it is important to find out as much information about the course and institution you want to study at so that you make an informed decision. Some things to be aware of include:
- Application deadlines (popular courses may fill up fast)
- Research standing of the university and if there is professional accreditation of the qualification
- Resources available to provide information about the institution and the course (e.g. student/staff ratios, careers service, library, IT etc.)
- Academic and other staff responsible for the course (industry professionals, leading researchers etc.)
- Employment and training outcomes of recent graduates from postgraduate study and opportunities available at the institution to students to improve career prospects (through internships, work experience, lab work etc.)

Applying to study overseas is a bit different to studying in the UK. In today’s global economy, studying abroad has numerous advantages; the chance to improve language skills, gain cultural awareness and get global contacts, are just a few. It is important to research the country and course that interests you. In addition to the points listed above other things to consider when applying overseas include:
- Entrance requirements for the course – are there any language requirements or entrance tests to complete?
- Start date and duration of course, this may vary between countries
- Visa regulations (documents required and time scale for processing visa applications)
- If the institution and qualification is recognised in the UK? UK NARIC is the UK’s national agency responsible for providing such information and expert opinion on recognised qualifications

What sources of funding are there?
Going on to further study can be expensive so it is important to think about how you will fund your study. The key to funding is to ask, prepare and apply. Competition for funding is intense so sending your application to multiple sources, the earlier you can, will improve your chances of funding. Depending on the region you live in and where you intend to study, there may be more options available to you. Find out more information about sources of funding on the Prospects website:
www.prospects.ac.uk/funding_my_further_study.htm

Useful websites
www.educationuk.org – Education UK
www.prospects.ac.uk/postgraduate_study.htm – Prospects Graduate Careers website
www.lifelonglearning.co.uk – Lifelong Learning
Graduates and self-employment

written by Janice Montgomery

Of the 2010/11 first degree graduates in employment, 4.8% class themselves as self-employed and make up part of the 4.2 million people who are self-employed in the UK in 2012. Whether graduates are “Necessity Entrepreneurs” because of higher unemployment, “Lifestyle Entrepreneurs” because of the attraction of working for themselves or “Opportunity Entrepreneurs” because they have spotted a product or service gap in the market, the numbers are consistently growing. The percentage of first degree graduates in employment who were undertaking self-employment freelance has been steadily rising from 3.3% in 2006/07 to 4.4% in 2009/10 and is now 4.8%.

Traditionally, the pattern of self-employment has been clustered around certain disciplines such as the performing arts, media production and art and design where the sectors have high levels of self-employment and freelance. Graduates entering these sectors have to be prepared to be self-employed, if not for the entirety of their careers, at least for some time before securing an in-house position. This is reflected in this year’s statistics where 64.6% of graduates working as artists, 34.6% of textile designers and 85.3% of musicians were self-employed/freelance six months after graduation.

The increasing proportion of graduates choosing this option studied a wide range of academic subjects. This year, 5.4% of computer science graduates, 4.8% of physics graduates, 3.7% of English graduates and 2.4% of history graduates were self-employed. Self-employed 2010/11 graduates were doing a variety of occupations. 46.8% of those in self-employment were working as artists, design, culture and sports professionals, in occupations such as musicians, composers, directors/producers, vocalists, fitness instructors and many more. It is not just art and design occupations where there were high proportions of 2010/11 graduates who were working self-employed; all garden designers, upholsterers and electricians were self-employed and over half of graduates working as acupuncturists, osteopaths and homeopaths were self-employed.

Demographics

Of the 2010/11 graduates in self-employment, 710 more male graduates became self-employed compared with female graduates. The gap is much narrower between genders for Foundation degree graduates (5.6% of female graduates compared with 6.6% of males), where graduates are more likely to have commenced their degree with some of the skills and experience required to set up their own business.

Looking at the 2010/11 first degree graduate cohort in employment, older graduates are more likely to be in self-employment than younger graduates. This year, only 3.4% of 18-20 year olds in employment started their own business compared to over 5.1% of 25-29 year olds and 8.6% amongst the over 40’s.

Geographically, 36.1% of entrepreneurs were based in London and the South East six months after graduation, presumably taking advantage of the high population density in these areas. But a significant proportion of self-employed graduates were based in the South West (8.8%), the North West (8.8%) and the East of England (7.7%). Self-employment, spanning, as it does, every discipline and almost every type of work, is not geographically inclined whereas certain employment sectors are e.g. oil and gas production is predominantly based in North East Scotland.

Enterprise and entrepreneurship skills development

Sir Tim Wilson in the 2012 Wilson Review, suggests that “never before has there been a greater need for a talented, enterprising workforce... for a thriving culture of entrepreneurship”. Enterprise skills are a set of skills and attitudes that can enable a culture of opportunism, creativity and risk taking; Being enterprising at university is increasingly embedded in the curriculum as well as through co-curricular activities and enterprise competitions. These skills – project management, enhanced communication, budgeting, business planning, networking and leadership – are highly prized by employers under the general heading of “commercial awareness”. The 4.8% of 2010/11 first degree graduates in employment who have created their own business have gone further using enterprise skills to create new businesses and bring them to market. HEFCE estimated that there were 2,350 new graduate start-up businesses in 2010.

According to the National Centre for Entrepreneurship in Education (NCEE), 77% of institutions support students and graduates in new venture creation. Students are enabled to enter business competitions, such as SIFE, SIE New Ideas and Shell Livewire, to test their ideas. They receive support through “incubation units” on campuses across the UK, are able to join student enterprise societies supported by Nacue and receive business advice and help from academics, business advisers and organisations, such as the Prince’s Youth Business Trust, Business Gateway and SIE.

Growing numbers of graduates entering self-employment appears set to continue as a viable alternative to “traditional” graduate employment.

References

2. These terms are coined by the UK Commission for Employment and Skills (2011) Skills for Self Employment. p.112. London: UKCES.

Key websites

www.nacue.com – National Consortium of University Entrepreneurs
www.sie.ac.uk – Scottish Institute for Enterprise
www.shell-livewire.org – Shell Livewire
www.princes-trust.org.uk – Prince’s Youth Business Trust
www.bis.gov.uk – Department for Business Innovation and Skills
www.prospects.ac.uk/self_employment – Prospects website
Developing your skills for employment written by Mary Macfarlane

Having a degree helps to improve your chances of getting a well-paid, professional job, but employers are also looking for evidence of extracurricular activities and employment experience.

Employers will look at your CV to see what qualifications you’ve achieved, but they will also want more specific details about your individual skills, aptitudes and potential. You’ll need to be able to articulate your skills and experience in order to persuade employers of your potential, but first you need to know what they’re looking for.

So what skills do employers want?
A report by the Confederation of British Industry (CBI) identified seven key employability skills sought by graduate employers: self-management, teamwork, business and customer awareness, problem-solving, communication and literacy, application of numeracy, application of information technology. Employers also looked for a positive attitude and an enterprising mindset.

Here we take each of the transferable skills above and identify some of the ways graduates can demonstrate them to employers:

Self-management includes accepting responsibility, managing your own time, assessing your own performance to identify strengths and areas for improvement.

Activities to develop and demonstrate self-management:
• Carrying out self-directed projects as part of your degree
• Balancing a range of activities alongside studying
• Initiating a campaign, event or activity as a member of a student society
• Contacting companies to arrange work experience or work shadowing

Teamwork is about how you relate to colleagues and co-workers. Good teamwork involves establishing rapport with your colleagues; communicating; helping out when colleagues are busy; accepting help; being reliable; anticipating others’ needs; and recognising and appreciating others.

Activities to develop and demonstrate teamwork:
• A part-time job or placement where you work in a team
• Team sports, music and drama activities
• Sitting on a committee for a student or voluntary society
• Volunteering as part of a team
• Organising an event or activities with others
• Participating in a group project as part of your studies

Business and customer awareness includes having an understanding of how a business operates, how your role impacts upon the business, the market the business operates in and how you deal with clients, customers and service-users to provide customer satisfaction.

Activities to develop and demonstrate business and customer awareness:
• A part-time job or involvement in a small business
• A sales or fund-raising job, especially if you have targets to meet
• Involvement in Students in Free Enterprise (SIFE) or other enterprise or small business societies
• Managing the budget for a student society or event

Problem-solving is about how you identify and approach problems, and set about finding and implementing solutions. Problem-solving is at the heart of mathematical and engineering disciplines, but there are lots of examples of problem-solving.

To demonstrate problem-solving, think about a project or activity where you encountered difficulties and reflect on how you dealt with them. How did you identify the specific problem, and how did you find a solution? Was it successful? What would you do differently next time?

Communication and literacy includes listening to others, asking for information, and getting your message across, both of which are also important parts of teamwork and customer awareness. The ability to communicate effectively both in written and verbal forms is vital in all employment circumstances. Communication is fundamental when demonstrating your skills to employers.

Activities to develop and demonstrate communication skills:
• Written work and presentations submitted as part of your degree
• Voluntary or work opportunities which depend on face-to-face or telephone contact
• Learning and using a foreign language
• Customer service roles, especially if you resolve problems or deal with high volumes of customers
• Blogging and using other social media tools, personally or professionally

Application of numeracy includes manipulation and analysis of numbers, statistics or other mathematical, financial or quantitative data. Not all jobs require high levels of numeracy, but it is a very marketable skill if you undertake a degree with a strong quantitative element.

Application of information technology is about basic IT skills (email, use of the internet, Microsoft Office, some use of social media) which most graduates are expected to have. In addition, think about the IT skills you may have developed which not everyone will have, and how you can demonstrate these:
• Use of social media as a marketing or communications tool
• Use of specialist software appropriate to your area or sector (Excel, SPSS, SAGE, Photoshop, Illustrator, NVivo, LaTeX, computer-aided design)
• Use of programming or coding languages (HTML, C++, C#, JavaScript)

Remember to think of these as transferable skills: you may not have used the exact programming language that a job description is asking for, but if you know two or three others, your chances of picking up a fourth is much better than that of someone who has no knowledge of programming.

It is essential to be proactive and engage in interests and work experience alongside your degree to help enrich your life and your CV. Visit your university careers service for more information on skills development and how to demonstrate these effectively to employers.

References
All subjects graduates from 2011

Survey response

141260 Female  
103420 Male  
244680 Total responses  
297105 All graduates  
82.4 % response

a 59.8% In UK employment includes those listing their activity as ‘Full-time paid work’, ‘Part-time paid work’, ‘Voluntary or unpaid work’ or ‘Self-employed’, in the UK

b 2.0% In overseas employment includes those listing their activity as ‘Full-time paid work’, ‘Part-time paid work’, ‘Voluntary or unpaid work’ or ‘Self-employed’, overseas

c 8.4% Working and studying includes those listing their activity as ‘Full time work and full-time study’, ‘Full time work and part time study’, ‘Part-time work and full-time study’ and ‘Part time work and part time study’

d 7.4% Studying in the UK for a higher degree includes those listing their activity as ‘Entered study or training’, in the UK, and describing it as ‘Higher degree by research’ or ‘Higher degree - taught’

e 1.8% Studying in the UK for a teaching qualification includes those listing their activity as ‘Further study’, in the UK, and describing it as ‘Diploma or certificate’ or ‘professional qualification’ for teaching professionals

f 3.6% Undertaking other further study or training in the UK includes those listing their activity as ‘Further study’, in the UK, and describing it as ‘Diploma or certificate (excluding PGCE) or professional qualification’ for other than teaching professionals, ‘First degree course’, ‘Private study’ or ‘Other study or training’, in the UK

g 0.3% Undertaking further study or training overseas includes those listing their principal activity as ‘Further study’, overseas

h 8.6% Believed to be unemployed includes those describing their employment circumstances as ‘Unemployed, and looking for employment, further study or training’ or ‘Due to start a job within the next month’

i 3.3% Not available for employment, study or training includes those describing their employment circumstances as ‘Permanently unable to work’, ‘Temporarily unable to work’, ‘Retired’, ‘Looking after the home or family’ and ‘Taking time out in order to travel’

j 4.9% Other
All subjects graduates from 2011

Type of work for those in employment

Graduates who are in employment either full-time, part-time, voluntary/unpaid or working and studying in the UK

- **14.7% Retail, Catering, Waiting and Bar Staff** includes chefs & cooks, waiters & waitresses & bar staff; and sales assistants & check-out operators
- **13.4% Health Professions and Associate Professionals** includes medical practitioners; house officers; registrars & consultants; pharmacists & pharmacologists; ophthalmic & dispensing opticians; dental practitioners; veterinarians; nurses; midwives; medical radiographers; physiotherapists; chiropodists; medical technicians & dental auxiliaries; occupational & speech therapists, psychotherapists & other therapists; and other health professionals
- **12.6% Other Occupations** includes assistant nurses & nursing auxiliaries; hospital ward assistants; ambulance staff; dental nurses; care assistants & attendants; nursery nurses; playgroup leaders; educational assistants; ncos and other ranks, armed forces; police officers; fire service officers; prison service officers; customs & excise officers & immigration officers; security guards & related occupations; craft & related occupations (skilled and unskilled); agricultural occupations; plant and machine operatives and other occupations
- **8.7% Commercial, Industrial and Public Sector Managers** includes officers in the armed forces; general managers & administrators in national & local government, large companies & organisations; production managers in manufacturing, construction, mining & energy industries; specialist managers; financial institution & office managers, & civil service executive officers; managers in transport & storage; protective service officers; managers in farming, horticulture, forestry & fishing; managers & proprietors in service industries; and other managers & administrators
- **8.2% Business and Financial Professionals and Associate Professionals** includes chartered & certified accountants; management accountants; actuaries, economists & statisticians; management consultants & business analysts; estimators & valuers; underwriters, claims assessors, brokers & investment analysts; taxation experts; personnel & industrial relations officers; transport and traffic advisors; events co-ordinators; recruitment agents; organisation & methods & work study officers
- **6.6% Arts, Design, Culture, Media and Sports Professionals** includes authors, writers & journalists; artists, commercial artists & graphic designers; industrial designers & textile designers; clothing designers; actors, entertainers, stage managers, producers & directors; musicians; photographers, camera, sound & video equipment operators; professional athletes & sports officials; web designers and desk top publishers, assistants and operators
- **6.5% Other Clerical and Secretarial Occupations** includes administrative & clerical officers & assistants in civil service & local government; filing & records clerks; other clerks; stores & despatch clerks & storekeepers; secretaries, personal assistants, typists, word processor operators; receptionists, telephonists & related occupations; marketing assistants; database assistants; legal secretaries; market research interviewers; and other clerical & secretarial occupations
- **6.0% Education Professionals** includes university teaching professionals; further education teaching professionals; education officers, school inspectors; secondary & (middle school deemed secondary) education teaching professionals; primary & (middle school deemed primary) & nursery education teaching professionals; special education teaching professionals; examiners & moderators and other teaching professionals
- **5.3% Marketing, Sales and Advertising Professionals** includes advertising writers and executives; auctioneers, buying and purchasing officers; contract officers; estate, land or letting agents; fundraising, appeals and campaign organisers; market research analysts; marketing professionals; media planners; public relations officers; sales controllers, administrators, representatives and agents
- **4.5% Other Professionals, Associate Professionals and Technical Occupations** includes general researchers; social science researchers; architects; town planners; surveyors; public service administrative professionals; registrars; clerg; librarians, archivists & curators; technicians; aircraft pilots, flight engineers & navigators; conservation, heritage & environmental protection officers; health and safety officers; industrial & trading standards inspectors; environmental health officers and careers advisers
- **4.1% Social & Welfare Professionals** includes community workers; counsellors; drug workers; housing and welfare officers; clinical, education, occupational & general psychologists; probation officers; social workers and youth workers
- **3.0% Information Technology Professionals** includes computer systems & data processing managers; software engineers; computer analysts & programmers; computer & IT consultants; telecommunications professionals and network systems professionals
- **3.0% Engineering Professionals** includes civil, structural, municipal, mining & quarrying engineers; mechanical engineers; electrical engineers; electronic engineers; chemical engineers; design & development engineers; process & production engineers; planning & quality control engineers; and other engineers & technologists
- **1.6% Numerical Clerks and Cashiers** includes accounts & wages clerks, book-keepers, & other financial clerks; counter clerks & cashiers; and debt, rent & other cash collectors
- **0.9% Scientific Research, Analysis & Development Professionals** includes chemists; biological scientists & biochemists; physicists; mathematicians; pathologists; geologists & meteorologists; and other natural scientists
- **0.7% Legal Professionals** includes adjudicators, tribunal & panels members; barristers & advocates; clerks & officers of court; judges, magistrates, coroners & sheriffs; legal advisers, executives & paralegals and solicitors
- **0.3% Unknown Occupations**
The figures taken from the Destination of Leavers from Higher Education (DLHE) 2010/11 survey showed that there were significant increases in the numbers of students graduating from first degree science disciplines across the UK compared to graduates from 2009/10. The biggest increase was in sports science with 9.0% more graduates than the previous year (2009/10), and the smallest increase was among physics graduates (2.0%).

**Destinations**

A significantly higher proportion of 2010/11 science graduates went on to further study six months after graduation than all 2010/11 graduates (13.1%) (see Table 1). 36.3% of physics graduates and 33.7% of chemistry graduates went straight on to further study. However, only 12.9% of sports science graduates went on to further study. For the other science subjects the high proportion of graduates entering further study reflects the value of higher degrees in career paths directly related to these disciplines.

If a graduate intends to pursue a career in scientific research or a career in environmental conservation a Masters degree is more or less essential. The number of science graduates that went straight into employment is therefore lower than the average for all graduates (61.8%) with the exception of sports science graduates – of whom 64.1% went into employment six months after graduation. Only 38.1% of physics graduates and 46.3% of biology graduates went straight into work.

Unemployment across the science disciplines was higher than the average for all graduates from 2010/11 (8.6%) with the exception of sports science graduates who reported low levels of unemployment at 6.8%. This may be connected to the ability of these graduates to make a job for themselves, with a higher than average rate of self-employment (5.4% of employed sports science graduates compared with 4.8% of all 2010/11 graduates), perhaps becoming freelance sports coaches, trainers and instructors.

**Employability**

Maintaining good rates of employment amongst science graduates will increasingly be related to students’ engagement with improving their own employability. The Higher Education Authority (HEA) – UK Physical Sciences Centre strongly recommends that graduates do all that they can to understand the world of work and the expectations of employers. According to the HE STEM Employability Skills Review (2012), science graduates will increasingly need to demonstrate not only high level technical skills in their chosen discipline, but also higher level skills sets such as management and leadership, customer focus and entrepreneurial skills. Although 82% of employers stated that employees came to them “well prepared from HE”, future employability will undoubtedly hinge on traits such as self-management, teamwork, business and customer awareness, problem solving and communication. Students need to engage with opportunities from the beginning of their degrees to develop these skills throughout their courses, extra curricular activity and work experience in their chosen field. This drive for skills development and enhanced articulation has been taken up by national organisations. The Royal Society for Chemistry now offers its Undergraduate Skills Record to assist students to identify and fill gaps in their skills and experience. Similarly, the Institute of Physics has recently developed an online learning centre to assist students and graduates in their professional development.

**Types of work**

Nearly one in five (18.2%) chemistry graduates in employment in the UK had begun their graduate careers in scientific research, analysis and development professions six months after graduation. Almost a third of environmental, physical geographical and terrestrial science graduates in employment in the UK were working as commercial, industrial and public sector managers (11.9%), business and finance professionals and associate professionals (10.6%), and other professionals, associate professional and technical occupations (9.9%). There were a number of chemistry (11.7%) and physics (19.3%) graduates finding employment in business and finance occupations six months after graduation.

Sports science graduates have varied destinations in employment in the UK. A fifth (20.4%) of 2010/11 graduates found employment in arts, design, culture and sports professions, in occupations such as, sports coaches, fitness instructors and sports players. Over a fifth (22.4%) of sports science graduates went on to work in other occupations, a third of these graduates were working as educational assistants.

Six months after graduation in 2010/11, the number of graduates working as retail, catering, waiting and bar staff remained high. Physics graduates had the lowest proportion of employed graduates in these professions at 9.2% and environmental, physical geographical and terrestrial science graduates had the highest proportion at 23.7%. Some graduates may be working in these areas while they accumulate sufficient volunteering experience or general skills to enter their chosen profession.

Long term career paths of science graduates are difficult to track using early DLHE information as often further study is required to gain entry into some science professions. This should be taken into account when assessing the ‘success’ of science graduates in the labour market immediately after graduation.

**Salaries**

The average salaries of 2010/11 graduates in full-time employment in the UK from chemistry, physics and environmental, physical geographical and terrestrial science subjects increased slightly on the 2009/10 averages to £20,030, £23,095 and £17,940 respectively. The higher salary of physics graduates may reflect the high numbers of employed graduates entering business and finance occupations, which are generally well paid. Graduates securing employment with the biggest graduate employers represented by the Association of Graduate Recruiters received starting salaries of approximately £26,500 in the recruiting season of 2010/11 but this salary figure represents less than 10% of all graduate employment.

**References**

Birmingham: National HE STEM Programme, p.4


5. www.rsc.org/Education/HEStudents/usr/index.asp accessed on 13th August 2012


Further reading
AGCAS Options Series including:
• Biology
• Chemistry
• Environmental science
• Physics
• Sport science

AGCAS Options Series are available online at www.prospects.ac.uk/options_with_your_subject.htm. Detailed information about types of work, written by AGCAS higher education careers advisers can be accessed at www.prospects.ac.uk/types_of_jobs.htm

Useful websites
www.prospects.ac.uk – careers information specific to graduates
www.rsc.org/careers-jobs – Royal Society for Chemistry careers
www.iop.org – Institute of Physics
www.societyofbiology.org/home – Society of Biology
www.sebiology.org – Society of Experimental Biology
www.lantra.co.uk – The Sector Skills Council for the Environmental and Land-based Sector
www.bases.org.uk/Home – The British Association of Sports and Exercises Sciences

Case studies
Ellen
Job Title: Safety Engineer
Subject Studied: Physics
Prior to graduating I was unsure as to whether I wanted to pursue a career in industry or continue in academia. However I soon came to the decision that I would experience life in the ‘real world’. After graduating university I continued to work as a team manager in Boots at the weekend. I supplemented this by temping whilst I searched for a permanent role related to my discipline. At first I was unsure which opportunities were open to someone with my qualifications so my search involved a great deal of research too. During my search I looked through what felt like thousands of websites, both employers and recruitment sites. I also submitted CVs on spec to companies in my local area. At first I was unsure which opportunities were open to someone with my qualifications so my search involved a great deal of research too. During my search I looked through what felt like thousands of websites, both employers and recruitment sites. I also submitted CVs on spec to companies in my local area. I found my current position in an advertisement in a local newspaper. I have worked as a safety engineer for two years, during this time I have almost completed a part-time MSc in safety and reliability engineering to further expand my skill set. I am quite happy in my chosen career path and would like to progress so that I am seen as an expert in my field. In the long term I would like to move into a career or research that is physics based rather than engineering based.

David
Job Title: Development Manager
Subject studied: Sports science

After completing my sports science degree I went on to complete my Graduate Diploma in Law whilst living at home and commuting to London. Then after I graduated I searched for jobs and found a work experience opportunity in Cambridge with a media and technology company. 18 months later I’m now permanently employed as partner development manager. I develop new business opportunities and manage accounts for our key clients.

Tracey
Job Title: Environmental Campaigner
Subject studied: Environmental science

After studying I moved home and applied for internships in environmental campaigning. I spent five months at an NGO in London as a volunteer and a further three months there as a paid campaigner. I was then unemployed for three months and struggled to find paid work so I took up another internship this time at Friends of the Earth for five months. I gained my current job as an environmental campaigner three months ago, working with supporters to lobby their MPs to effect positive environmental change at a political level. I enjoy the responsibility and the sense that I am helping to make a real, positive change. I would advise new graduates to be imaginative and don’t just look at graduate schemes. I wouldn’t be doing anything this interesting if I had

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Numbers graduating (survey respondents)</th>
<th>Entering employment</th>
<th>Entering further study/training</th>
<th>Working and studying</th>
<th>Unemployed at time of survey</th>
<th>Other</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Biology</td>
<td>3770</td>
<td>46.3%</td>
<td>26.8%</td>
<td>8.1%</td>
<td>11.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chemistry</td>
<td>2525</td>
<td>44.4%</td>
<td>33.7%</td>
<td>7.4%</td>
<td>8.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environmental, physical geographical and terrestrial sciences</td>
<td>2865</td>
<td>53.7%</td>
<td>20.2%</td>
<td>8.5%</td>
<td>8.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physics</td>
<td>2000</td>
<td>38.1%</td>
<td>36.3%</td>
<td>8.9%</td>
<td>10.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sports science</td>
<td>7080</td>
<td>64.1%</td>
<td>12.9%</td>
<td>8.6%</td>
<td>6.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All subjects</td>
<td>244680</td>
<td>61.8%</td>
<td>13.1%</td>
<td>8.4%</td>
<td>8.6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 1. Destinations of first degree science graduates from 2010/11, six months after graduation

Source: DfEE 2010/11
Biology graduates from 2011

Survey response

2265 Female
1505 Male
3770 Total responses
4460 All graduates
84.5% response

a 44.3% In UK employment
b 2.0% In overseas employment
c 8.1% Working and studying
d 18.2% Studying in the UK for a higher degree
   - PhD Biological Sciences
   - MRes Aquatic Ecology and Conservation
   - MSc Marine Biology
   - MSc Ecology
   - MSc Animal Behaviour
   - MSc Nanomedicine
   - MA Education and School Improvement
e 2.9% Studying in the UK for a teaching qualification
   - PGCE Biology
f 5.4% Undertaking other further study or training in the UK
   - Graduate Diploma in Law
   - PGDip Radiotherapy
g 0.4% Undertaking other further study or training overseas
h 11.3% Believed to be unemployed
i 3.6% Not available for employment, study or training
j 3.8% Other

DISCIPLINES INCLUDED

- APPLIED BIOLOGY
- APPLIED CELL BIOLOGY
- BEHAVIOURAL BIOLOGY
- BIODIVERSITY
- BIOLOGY
- BIOLOGY NOT ELSEWHERE CLASSIFIED
- BIOMETRY
- CELL BIOLOGY
- DEVELOPMENTAL BIOLOGY
- DEVELOPMENTAL/REPRODUCTIVE BIOLOGY
- ECOLOGY
- ENVIRONMENTAL BIOLOGY
- EVOLUTION
- FRESHWATER BIOLOGY
- MARINE BIOLOGY
- MARINE/FRESHWATER BIOLOGY
- PARASITOLOGY
- POPULATION BIOLOGY
- REPRODUCTIVE BIOLOGY
Biology graduates from 2011

Type of work for those in employment

Graduates who are in employment either full-time, part-time, voluntary/unpaid or working and studying in the UK

- 21.7% Retail, Catering, Waiting and Bar Staff
- 17.7% Other Occupations
- 12.8% Other Professionals, Associate Professional and Technical Occupations
- 7.9% Scientific Research, Analysis & Development Professionals
- 7.3% Other Clerical and Secretarial Occupations
- 7.0% Commercial, Industrial and Public Sector Managers
- 6.8% Business and Financial Professionals and Associate Professionals
- 4.1% Education Professionals
- 3.9% Marketing, Sales and Advertising Professionals
- 3.2% Health Professionals and Associate Professionals
- 2.3% Arts, Design, Culture and Sports Professional
- 1.8% Numerical Clerks and Cashiers
- 1.7% Social & Welfare Professionals
- 0.8% Information Technology Professionals
- 0.7% Engineering Professionals
- 0.2% Legal Professionals
- 0.2% Unknown Occupations

EXAMPLES OF 2011 BIOLOGY GRADUATES: JOB TITLES AND EMPLOYERS  (6 months after graduation)

Buyer, Waterstones

Environmental protection officer, SEPA; Executive Officer, Home Office; Graduate Trainee, Welsh Water

Microbiologist, a research lab; Medical Laboratory Technician, a teaching hospital; University Researcher, Biological Sciences; Marine Taxonomist, an ecological survey company

Pharmacist, Boots; Dental Nurse, Drug and Alcohol Services; Theatre Sterilisation Assistant, NHS; Nurse, NHS Foundation Trust

Secondary Teacher; Tefl Teacher

Events officer, a university; Business Analyst, Accenture

Web Designer; Computer Analyst

Freelance TV Producer; Freelance Artist; Freelance Musician; Museum Assistant, London Museums; Sports Coach, a premier division club; Media Researcher, BBC

Adviser, Office of Fair Trading

Social Worker, a city council; Residential Care Assistant

Property Negotiator, an estate agent; Army Officer

Accounts Clerk, Office Angels

Customer Assistant, Hamrods; Customer Assistant, Domino’s Pizza

Gardener; Dressmaker
Chemistry graduates from 2011

Survey response

1090 Female
1440 Male
2530 Total responses
2945 All graduates
85.9% response

a 42.4% In UK employment
b 2.0% In overseas employment
c 7.4% Working and studying
d 25.4% Studying in the UK for a higher degree
   PhD Chemical Synthesis
   MSc Inorganic Chemistry
   MSc Crystal Structure Prediction
e 4.9% Studying in the UK for a teaching qualification
   PGDE Chemistry
f 2.8% Undertaking other further study or training in the UK
g 0.6% Undertaking other further study or training overseas
h 8.2% Believed to be unemployed
i 2.8% Not available for employment, study or training
j 3.4% Other

DISCIPLINES INCLUDED

ANALYTICAL CHEMISTRY
APPLIED CHEMISTRY
BIOMOLECULAR CHEMISTRY
BIO-ORGANIC CHEMISTRY
CHEMISTRY
CHEMISTRY NOT ELSEWHERE CLASSIFIED
COLOUR CHEMISTRY

CRYSTALLOGRAPHY
ENVIRONMENTAL CHEMISTRY
INDUSTRIAL CHEMISTRY
INORGANIC CHEMISTRY
MARINE CHEMISTRY
MEDICINAL CHEMISTRY
ORGANIC CHEMISTRY

ORGANOMETALIC CHEMISTRY
PETROCHEMICAL CHEMISTRY
PHARMACEUTICAL CHEMISTRY
PHYSICAL CHEMISTRY
POLYMER CHEMISTRY
STRUCTURAL CHEMISTRY
Chemistry graduates from 2011

Type of work for those in employment
Graduates who are in employment either full-time, part-time, voluntary/unpaid or working and studying in the UK

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Scientific Research, Analysis &amp; Development Professionals</td>
<td>18.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Professionals, Associate Professional and Technical Occupations</td>
<td>17.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retail, Catering, Waiting and Bar Staff</td>
<td>13.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business and Financial Professionals and Associate Professionals</td>
<td>11.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Occupations</td>
<td>9.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commercial, Industrial and Public Sector Managers</td>
<td>6.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Clerical and Secretarial Occupations</td>
<td>5.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education Professionals</td>
<td>3.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marketing, Sales and Advertising Professionals</td>
<td>3.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engineering Professionals</td>
<td>3.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information Technology Professionals</td>
<td>1.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Numerical Clerks and Cashiers</td>
<td>1.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Professionals and Associate Professionals</td>
<td>1.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arts, Design, Culture and Sports Professionals</td>
<td>1.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social &amp; Welfare Professionals</td>
<td>1.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legal Professionals</td>
<td>0.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unknown Occupations</td>
<td>0.4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

EXAMPLES OF 2011 CHEMISTRY GRADUATES: JOB TITLES AND EMPLOYERS (6 months after graduation)

- Social Researcher, Ipsos Mori; Marketing Manager, Samsung
- Health Service Manager, BUPA; Production Manager, Network Rail; Manager, Majestic Wines
- Scientific Researcher, GlaxoSmithKline; Researcher, Cancer Research UK; Development Chemist, NHS; Analytical Chemist, Health Sciences Authority; Medical Scientist, NHS; Scientist, Ministry of Defence
- Secondary Teacher, a city council; Primary Teacher, a city council; Teaching English as a Foreign Language Tutor, Jet Scheme; Lecturer, a university
- Management Accountant, Capita
- Software Engineer, Barclays; IT Consultant, Logica; IT Support Technician, a bank
- Leisure Attendant, a leisure centre; Instructor, Curves; Runner, BBC; Professional Athlete, an athletics club; Trumpet Player, self-employed; Curator, National Museum
- Clerk of Court, County Court; Legal Adviser, CAB
- Care Assistant, National Autistic Society; Residential Care Assistant, Mencap; Welfare Officer, Victim Support
- Officer, Royal Navy; Assistant Editor, a publishing house; Librarian, a university library; Fundraiser, an international charity
- Receptionist, a recruitment company
- Waiter, Pizza Express; Barista, Starbucks
- Freelance Tiler; Mail Sorter, Royal Mail
Environmental, physical geographical and terrestrial sciences graduates from 2011

Survey response

1360 Female
1505 Male
2865 Total responses
3385 All graduates
84.6% response

a  51.6% In UK employment
b  2.2% In overseas employment
c  8.5% Working and studying
d  14.6% Studying in the UK for a higher degree
   MSc Environmental Planning
   MSc Urban Design
   MSc Ecology and the Environment
   MSc Management with Finance
   MSc Spatial Regeneration
e  2.8% Studying in the UK for a teaching qualification
   PGCE Geography
   PGCE Primary
f  2.5% Undertaking other further study or training in the UK
   PG Dip Community Development
g  0.3% Undertaking other further study or training overseas
h  8.7% Believed to be unemployed
i  4.8% Not available for employment, study or training
j  4.0% Other

DISCIPLINES INCLUDED

APPLIED ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES
BIODEGEOGRAPHY
CLIMATOLOGY
ENVIRONMENTAL GEOGRAPHY
ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

GEOGRAPHICAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES NOT ELSEWHERE CLASSIFIED
GEOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION SYSTEMS
GEOLOGY
HYDROLOGY
MARITIME GEOGRAPHY
METEOROLOGY
PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY
POLLUTION CONTROL
REMOTE SENSING
SOIL SCIENCE
TOPOGRAPHY
### Environmental, physical, geographical and terrestrial sciences graduates from 2011

#### Type of work for those in employment

Graduates who are in employment either full-time, part-time, voluntary/unpaid or working and studying in the UK:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Occupation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>23.7%</td>
<td>Retail, Catering, Waiting and Bar Staff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14.6%</td>
<td>Other Occupations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.9%</td>
<td>Commercial, Industrial and Public Sector Managers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.6%</td>
<td>Business and Financial Professionals and Associate Professionals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.9%</td>
<td>Other Professionals, Associate Professional and Technical Occupations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.3%</td>
<td>Other Clerical and Secretarial Occupations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.2%</td>
<td>Marketing, Sales and Advertising Professionals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.2%</td>
<td>Arts, Design, Culture and Sports Professionals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.3%</td>
<td>Education Professionals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.6%</td>
<td>Information Technology Professionals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.5%</td>
<td>Numerical Clerks and Cashiers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.5%</td>
<td>Engineering Professionals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.4%</td>
<td>Scientific Research, Analysis &amp; Development Professionals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.4%</td>
<td>Social &amp; Welfare Professionals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.2%</td>
<td>Health Professionals and Associate Professionals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.1%</td>
<td>Legal Professionals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.1%</td>
<td>Unknown Occupations</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Examples of 2011 Environmental, Physical, Geographical and Terrestrial Sciences Graduates: Job Titles and Employers

(6 months after graduation)

- **Market Research Analyst**, Ipsos; **Marketing Manager**, Proctor and Gamble; **Sales Marketing**, an asset management company
- **Civil Servant**, Foreign and Commonwealth Office; **Personnel Adviser**, a hospital; **Transport Planner**, Transport for London
- **Scientific Researcher**, Institute of Cancer Research; **BioChemist**, Forensic Science; **Researcher**, a university
- **Engineer**, Atkins; **Civil Engineer**, Arup; **Geophysicist**, BP; **Flood Risk Engineer**, Environment Agency
- **University Tutor**, a university; **Classroom Assistant**, Strathclyde; **Primary Teacher**
- **Finance Manager**, Lloyds TSB; **Financial Adviser**, Barclays; **Chartered Accountant**, Deloitte; **HR Adviser**, a glazing company
- **Computer Analyst**, Goldman Sachs; **Database Administrator**, Office Angels; **IT Support Technician**, Balfour Beattie
- **Freelance DJ; Photographer**, BBC Sport; **Museum Education Officer**
- **Church Minister**, Methodist Church; **Community Worker**, Salvation Army; **Charity Officer**, Amnesty International
- **Chartered Surveyor**, Richard Ellis; **Hydrographic Surveyor**, an oil company; **Land Surveyor**, Civil Aviation Authority; **Building Surveyor**, English Heritage; **Quantity Surveyor**, Balfour Beatty; **Town Planner**, a county council; **Meteorologist**, the Government; **Geologist**, Shell; **Tree Surgeon**
- **Bar Person**, Wetherspoons; **Waiter**, Pizza Hut; **Bookseller**, Waterstones
Physics graduates from 2011
Survey response

- **440 Female**
- **1565 Male**
- **2005 Total responses**
- **2300 All graduates**
- **87.0% response**

- **a 35.4%** In UK employment
- **b 2.7%** In overseas employment
- **c 8.9%** Working and studying
- **d 29.1%** Studying in the UK for a higher degree
  - PhD Materials Engineering
  - PhD Photonics
  - MSc Nuclear Physics
  - MSc Aerospace Engineering
- **e 4.2%** Studying in the UK for a teaching qualification
  - PGDE Physics
- **f 2.1%** Undertaking other further study or training in the UK
- **g 1.0%** Undertaking other further study or training overseas
- **h 10.3%** Believed to be unemployed
- **i 3.2%** Not available for employment, study or training
- **j 3.0%** Other

**DISCIPLINES INCLUDED**

- ACOUSTICS
- APPLIED PHYSICS
- ATMOSPHERIC PHYSICS
- CHEMICAL PHYSICS
- COMPUTATIONAL PHYSICS
- ELECTROMAGNETISM
- ENGINEERING PHYSICS
- ENVIRONMENTAL PHYSICS
- LASER PHYSICS
- MARINE PHYSICS
- MATHEMATICAL & THEORETICAL PHYSICS
- MEDICAL PHYSICS
- NUCLEAR AND PARTICLE PHYSICS
- OPTICAL PHYSICS
- PHYSICS
- PHYSICS NOT ELSEWHERE CLASSIFIED
- QUANTUM MECHANICS
- RADIATION PHYSICS
- SOLID STATE PHYSICS
Physics graduates from 2011

Type of work for those in employment

Grades who are in employment either full-time, part-time, voluntary/unpaid or working and studying in the UK

- 19.3% Business and Financial Professionals and Associate Professionals
- 12.9% Information Technology Professionals
- 9.2% Retail, Catering, Waiting and Bar Staff
- 9.0% Scientific Research, Analysis & Development Professionals
- 8.6% Engineering Professionals
- 7.4% Other Occupations
- 6.8% Other Professionals, Associate Professional and Technical Occupations
- 6.7% Education Professionals
- 5.5% Other Clerical and Secretarial Occupations
- 4.5% Commercial, Industrial and Public Sector Managers
- 3.0% Marketing, Sales and Advertising Professionals
- 2.6% Arts, Design, Culture and Sports Professional
- 2.0% Numerical Clerks and Cashiers
- 1.0% Social & Welfare Professionals
- 0.7% Unknown Occupations
- 0.6% Legal Professionals
- 0.4% Health Professionals and Associate Professionals

EXAMPLES OF 2011 PHYSICS GRADUATES: JOB TITLES AND EMPLOYERS (6 months after graduation)

- Actuary, an international bank; Tax Adviser, KPMG; Stock Broker, Bank of Canada; Accountant, Deloitte; Trainee Accountant, PWC
- Web Developer, BBC; Freelance Web Designer; IT Consultant, IBM
- Chef, Café Rouge; Customer Assistant, Marks and Spencer
- Food Technologist, Mars; Physicist, BP; Physicist, AWE
- Telecommunications Engineer, BT; Maintenance Engineer, BAE; Aeronautical Engineer, an aeronautical production company
- Security Guard, BAA; Gardener, National Trust; Sports Analyst, Betting Agency
- Social Science Researcher, the Government; Meteorologist, Met Office; Astronomer, ESA
- Further Education Lecturer; Secondary Teacher
- PR Officer, Department of Health; Advertising Salesperson, a national newspaper
- Freelance Photographer; Freelance Writer
- Wages Clerk, Balfour Beatty
- Youth Worker, Church of England; Youth Worker, UCCF
- Radiographer, NHS Scotland
Sports science graduates from 2011
Survey response

2695 Female
4385 Male
7080 Total responses
8555 All graduates
82.8% response

a 62.0% In UK employment
b 2.0% In overseas employment
c 8.6% Working and studying
d 6.2% Studying in the UK for a higher degree
   MSc Physiotherapy
   MSc Exercise Physiology
   MSc Public Health and Nutrition
   MSc Sports Performance
   MA Cardiovascular Rehabilitation
e 4.0% Studying in the UK for a teaching qualification
   PGCE Physical Education
   PGCE Primary
f 2.5% Undertaking other further study or training in the UK
   Law Conversion Course
g 0.2% Undertaking other further study or training overseas
h 6.8% Believed to be unemployed
i 3.9% Not available for employment, study or training
j 3.8% Other

DISCIPLINES INCLUDED
EXERCISE SCIENCE
PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND SPORTS SCIENCE
SCIENCE IN HEALTH, EXERCISE AND SPORT
SPORTS BIOMEDICINE

SPORTS CONDITIONING
SPORTS DEVELOPMENT
SPORTS REHABILITATION AND INJURY PREVENTION
SPORTS SCIENCE AND COACHING
SPORTS SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT
SPORTS THERAPY
**Sports science graduates from 2011**

**Type of work for those in employment**

Graduates who are in employment either full-time, part-time, voluntary/unpaid or working and studying in the UK

- 22.4% Other Occupations
- 20.4% Arts, Design, Culture and Sports Professional
- 18.2% Retail, Catering, Waiting and Bar Staff
- 8.3% Commercial, Industrial and Public Sector Managers
- 6.9% Education Professionals
- 5.4% Other Clerical and Secretarial Occupations
- 4.5% Business and Financial Professionals and Associate Professionals
- 3.5% Marketing, Sales and Advertising Professionals
- 3.3% Social & Welfare Professionals
- 3.2% Health Professionals and Associate Professionals
- 1.4% Other Professionals, Associate Professional and Technical Occupations
- 1.2% Numerical Clerks and Cashiers
- 0.4% Scientific Research, Analysis & Development Professionals
- 0.3% Engineering Professionals
- 0.3% Information Technology Professionals
- 0.1% Unknown Occupations
- 0.1% Legal Professionals

**EXAMPLES OF 2011 SPORTS SCIENCE GRADUATES: JOB TITLES AND EMPLOYERS**

(6 months after graduation)

- **Sales Representative**, a pharmaceutical company
- **Quality Control Engineer**, a laboratory
- **Physiotherapist**, NHS
- **Primary Teacher**, a school
- **HR Adviser**, Sainsbury's
- **Database Administrator**, 3M
- **Martial Arts Instructor**; **Freelance Model**; **Archivist**, National Museum; **Sports Coach**, Adidas; **Sports Coach**, Racquets sports; **Fitness Instructor**, Virgin Active
- **Paralegal**, a solicitor; **Legal Executive**, a law firm
- **Youth Worker**, a church
- **Trade Union Officer**, Institute of Art; **Travel Agent**, Flight Centre; **Fireman**, the fire service; **Police Officer**, the police force; **Careers Adviser**, Action for Employment
- **Customer Assistant**, Debenhams
- **Van Driver**, John Lewis partnership; **Delivery Driver**, Parcelforce; **Builder**, a construction company
Mathematics, IT and computing

The future outlook for sectors which have traditionally employed graduates from mathematics and information technology (IT) related degrees are showing signs of strong recovery. According to the 2012 High Fliers report, the biggest growth in graduate vacancies was at the accounting & professional services firms. IT & telecoms sectors also expanded recruitment substantially, hiring a fifth more graduates than in 2010.

The skills gained from studying a science, technology, engineering or mathematics (STEM) degree are in demand. According to a CBI report, employers expect growing difficulty in finding STEM-skilled staff over the next three years. Alongside their academic knowledge and technical ability, employers seek employability skills, such as teamworking, customer awareness and communication. Such employability skills are considered critical to an employee’s ability to adapt to the changing demands of the workplace.

Destinations
Mathematics
- 23.4% of 2010/11 maths graduates entered further study or training six months after graduation, compared to the average for all graduates of 13.1%. Teaching is a popular choice with 6.7% studying in the UK for a teaching qualification (compared to 1.8% of all graduates)
- Working and studying is also popular (14.3% of maths graduates were working and studying six months after graduation), likely to be a consequence of the fact that professions such as accountancy, popular amongst maths graduates, involve study towards professional exams
- Unemployment has marginally decreased on last year’s figure (9.4% compared to 9.5% in 2009/10)

Computer science & IT
- The percentage of computer science & IT graduates in employment six months after graduation (64.2%) is higher than the average for all 2010/11 graduates (61.8%), and marginally higher than last year’s figure (63.9%)
- Unemployment is slightly lower than last year’s computer science & IT graduates (13.9% compared to 14.2%) but is higher than the average for all 2010/11 graduates (8.6%)
- A report by e-Skills UK reveals that IT employment through to 2020 is forecast to grow at almost twice the UK average

Types of work
Nearly 40% (39.9%) of the mathematics graduates who entered employment in the UK were employed as business and financial professionals and associate professionals. The top ten occupations include actuaries (7.7%), financial analysts (5.9%) and chartered accountants (5.0%). According to the AGR Summer Review, accountancy continues to be the career area that attracts the highest proportion of vacancies at an estimated 17.1%, followed by IT at 15.2% and consulting at 9.8%. The Institute of Mathematics and its Applications is seeking to highlight to graduates the wide range of employers and sectors that employ maths graduates, such as food and drink, pharmaceuticals, utilities, aerospace and defence.

There has been another increase in the percentage of employed IT graduates working as IT professionals in the UK, with the figure for 2010/11 being 47.3% (up from 44.2% in 2009/10 and 38.9% in 2008/09). The top occupations computer science and IT graduates were working in six months after graduation include software designers and engineers (16.0%), computer analysts and programmers (7.3%) and web developers and producers (6.3%). The Institute of Management of Information Systems highlights that IT and computing graduates have a very wide variety of jobs open to them, demanding knowledge of the various aspects of the computing industry and using skills such as programming or systems analysis. Many of the roles involve communicating with people at all levels and sorting out their business related problems.

Graduates in mathematics and IT need to emphasise their technical knowledge and analytical skills to employers. They should also seek to sell themselves by gaining relevant work experience, demonstrating employability skills and targeting their applications to the specific organisation to ensure they stand out. Employers look for graduates to be enthusiastic and knowledgeable about their chosen career and sector.

Salaries
According to figures from the Destination of Leavers from Higher Education Survey (DLHE), the average UK starting salary for full-time employed first degree mathematics graduates in 2010/11 was £22,725, an increase from £22,415 in 2009/10. For computer science & IT subjects the average UK salary in 2010/11 was £21,490, again an increase on the 2009/10 figure, which was £21,095. This compares favourably with the UK average for all 2010/11 graduates in employment in the UK which was £19,935.

References
5. Institute of Mathematics and its Applications www.ima.org.uk

Further reading
AGCAS Options Series including:
- Computer Science/IT
- Mathematics

AGCAS Options Series are available online at www.prospects.ac.uk/options_with_your_subject.htm

Detailed information about types of work, written by AGCAS higher education careers advisers can be accessed at www.prospects.ac.uk/links/types_of_jobs.htm.
especially relevant to mathematics and IT graduates can be found under Financial Management & Accountancy, Information Technology, Insurance & Pensions and Management & Statistics.

**Useful websites**
- www.prospects.ac.uk – careers information specific to graduates
- www.bcs.org – Chartered Institute for IT
- www.e-skills.com – e-Skills UK (the Sector Skills Council for Business and IT)
- www.ncc.co.uk – National Computing Centre
- www.actuaries.org.uk – Institute and Faculty of Actuaries
- www.imf.org.uk – Institute of Mathematics and its Applications
- www.rss.org.uk – Royal Statistical Society
- www.mathscareers.org.uk – information on potential careers for those who study mathematics

**Case studies**

**Pippa**
**Job Title:** Marketing Manager  
**Subject studied:** Mathematics  
After graduating from university I undertook a three month internship in direct marketing at a children’s charity. On the strength of this experience I was offered a five month fixed term contract working at a property and asset management company as a marketing manager. Although at the end of the contract they offered me a full-time permanent job, I decided that I wanted to go down the advertising rather than marketing route. I got offered a role as an account executive extremely quickly for a small integrated agency based in London. However after five months, my ambition led me to leave this role and set my sights higher. I now work as a marketing manager for a large independent wholesaler in London and I manage all aspects of their marketing as well as building their loyalty club scheme.

**Lisa**
**Job Title:** Graphic Designer  
**Subject studied:** Multimedia computing  
Whilst taking my final exams at university I started applying for positions in London. I wasn’t 100% sure I wanted to go into design but when I read the advert for my current role it sounded so right for me. I applied and got the job and have been there since, working my way up from junior to senior designer in five years.

**Kyle**
**Job Title:** Senior Information Analyst  
**Subject studied:** Information systems with business management  
After university I enrolled on an MSc course but once I started the course I felt that it wasn’t right for me to continue so I dropped out and worked in my part-time role at Tesco until I got a job with the NHS as an information analyst. I am now a senior information analyst for a hospital in London. My role involves building reports for the hospital using SQL and Excel, maintaining a database, presenting reports to hospital managers and directors and submitting data to the department of health. I enjoy building reports as it is challenging and I have learnt new techniques. I would advise new graduates to start looking for roles as early as possible, taking the key strengths you have developed in the degree and finding jobs to match them.

**Sam**
**Job Title:** Science Professional – Business Manager  
**Subject studied:** Mathematics  
After university I worked for the Edinburgh Fringe Festival for the summer. I then spent one month temping before finding my first job at GEC Marconi as a mathematician. After two years I started working on future concepts and became a senior systems engineer. After a further two years I headed up a small software research team and became a principal scientist, the organisation by then was called BAE Systems Avionics. Having started working on space projects I found myself working completely on defence projects which I had never intended to do. I then started working part-time two days a week while doing a full-time MSc in geographic information systems. My dissertation was in spatial epidemiology and I applied and got a job in the statistics and epidemiology section of the health and safety laboratory as a senior scientist. During this time I undertook two modules from the Masters in public health at university. In 2008 I was promoted to principal scientist in charge of the software team. In September 2010 I moved to the explosive safety unit where I am the deputy head of the unit and business manager.

**Table 1. Destinations of first degree mathematics and IT graduates from 2010/11, six months after graduation**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Numbers graduating (survey respondents)</th>
<th>Entering employment</th>
<th>Entering further study/training</th>
<th>Working and studying</th>
<th>Unemployed at time of survey</th>
<th>Other</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>4380</td>
<td>45.6%</td>
<td>23.4%</td>
<td>14.3%</td>
<td>9.4%</td>
<td>7.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer science &amp; IT</td>
<td>8915</td>
<td>64.2%</td>
<td>9.2%</td>
<td>4.9%</td>
<td>13.9%</td>
<td>7.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All subjects</td>
<td>244680</td>
<td>61.8%</td>
<td>13.1%</td>
<td>8.4%</td>
<td>8.6%</td>
<td>8.2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: DLHE 2010/11
Mathematics graduates from 2011
Survey response

1825 Female
2555 Male
4380 Total responses
5155 All graduates
84.9% response

a  43.7% In UK employment
b  2.0% In overseas employment
c  14.3% Working and studying
d  13.1% Studying in the UK for a higher degree
   MSc Applied Maths
   MSc Sports Engineering
   MSc Economics
   MA Computing
e  6.7% Studying in the UK for a teaching qualification
   PGCE Maths
f  3.1% Undertaking other further study or training in the UK
   Game Developer Course
g  0.4% Undertaking other further study or training overseas
h  9.4% Believed to be unemployed
i  3.3% Not available for employment, study or training
j  4.0% Other

DISCIPLINES INCLUDED

APPLIED MATHEMATICS  MATHEMATICAL METHODS  NUMERICAL ANALYSIS
COMPUTATIONAL MATHEMATICS  MATHEMATICAL MODELLING  NUMERICAL METHODS
ENGINEERING MATHEMATICS  MATHEMATICS NOT ELSEWHERE CLASSIFIED  PURE MATHEMATICS
INDUSTRIAL MATHEMATICS  MATHEMATICAL MECHANICS
Mathematics graduates from 2011

Type of work for those in employment

Graduates who are in employment either full-time, part-time, voluntary/unpaid or working and studying in the UK

EXAMPLES OF 2011 MATHEMATICS GRADUATES: JOB TITLES AND EMPLOYERS (6 months after graduation)

- Marketing Analyst, Sainsbury's
- Market Researcher, a planning company
- Management Trainee, Lloyds Banking Group
- Tutor, a university; Trainee Maths Teacher, an arts and community college
- Supply Associate, Arcadia Group; Audit Associate, Deloitte and Touche; Statistical Officer, Welsh Government;
- Trainee Chartered Accountant, PwC; Information Analyst, NHS; Financial Risk Analyst, Skipton Building Society;
- Management Consultant, PA Consulting; Business Analyst, Santander UK
- Graduate Developer, Logica; Software Developer, Siemens
- Graphic Designer, an online sign shop
- Debt Management Advisor, Co-operative Group
- Customer Service Consultant, Nationwide Building Society
- Administrator, a travel agency
- Sales Assistant, Debenhams; Waiter, Pizza Hut
Computer science and IT graduates from 2011

Survey response

1510 Female
7405 Male
8915 Total responses
10945 All graduates
81.5 % response

a 63.1% In UK employment
b 1.0% In overseas employment
c 4.9% Working and studying
d 6.2% Studying in the UK for a higher degree
  PhD Computer Science
  MSc Computing and Software
  MSc Management Information Systems
e 0.9% Studying in the UK for a teaching qualification
f 1.9% Undertaking other further study or training in the UK
g 0.2% Undertaking other further study or training overseas
h 13.9% Believed to be unemployed
i 2.1% Not available for employment, study or training
j 5.8% Other

DISCIPLINES INCLUDED

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE
ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE NOT ELSEWHERE CLASSIFIED
AUTOMATED REASONING
COGNITIVE MODELLING
COMPUTATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATIONS
COMPUTER ARCHITECTURES
COMPUTER ARCHITECTURES & OPERATING SYSTEMS
COMPUTER SCIENCE
COMPUTER VISION
COMPUTING SCIENCE NOT ELSEWHERE CLASSIFIED
DATA MANAGEMENT
DATABASES
DECLARATIVE PROGRAMMING
HUMAN-COMPUTER INTERACTION
INFORMATION MODELLING
INFORMATION SYSTEMS
KNOWLEDGE REPRESENTATION
MACHINE LEARNING
MULTI-MEDIA COMPUTING SCIENCE
NETWORKS AND COMMUNICATIONS
NEURAL COMPUTING
OBJECT ORIENTED PROGRAMMING
OPERATING SYSTEMS
PROCEDURAL PROGRAMMING
PROGRAMMING
SOFTWARE DESIGN
SOFTWARE ENGINEERING
SOFTWARE ENGINEERING NOT ELSEWHERE CLASSIFIED
SPEECH AND NATURAL LANGUAGE PROCESSING
SYSTEMS ANALYSIS AND DESIGN
SYSTEMS ANALYSIS AND DESIGN NOT ELSEWHERE CLASSIFIED
SYSTEMS AUDITING
SYSTEMS DESIGN METHODOLOGIES
Computer science and IT graduates from 2011

Type of work for those in employment

Graduates who are in employment either full-time, part-time, voluntary/unpaid or working and studying in the UK

- 47.3% Information Technology Professionals
- 12.3% Retail, Catering, Waiting and Bar Staff
- 8.8% Other Occupations
- 7.5% Commercial, Industrial and Public Sector Managers
- 5.7% Arts, Design, Culture and Sports Professional
- 4.4% Business and Financial Professionals and Associate Professionals
- 4.0% Other Clerical and Secretarial Occupations
- 2.9% Marketing, Sales and Advertising Professionals
- 1.8% Other Professionals, Associate Professional and Technical Occupations
- 1.7% Education Professionals
- 1.6% Engineering Professionals
- 0.9% Numerical Clerks and Cashiers
- 0.7% Social & Welfare Professionals
- 0.3% Health Professionals and Associate Professionals
- 0.1% Scientific Research, Analysis & Development Professionals
- 0.1% Unknown Occupations
- 0.0% Legal Professionals

Examples of 2011 Computer Science and IT Graduates: Job Titles and Employers

(6 months after graduation)

- Assistant Manager, Abercrombie and Finch; Graduate Trainee, Ministry of Defence
- English Language Assistant, British Council
- Human Resources Advisor, UBS
- Technology Analyst, Bank of America; Software Developer, Travis Perkins plc; Java Application Analyst, Capgemini; Application Developer, a county council; Software Engineer, BT; Web Developer, RBC; IT Analyst, Tesco; Technical Support, PC Adviser; Computer Games Programmer, a games company
- Web Designer, NHS
- Sales Associate, T-mobile; Sales Assistant, WM Morrisons plc
- Special Constable, the police force
Engineering and building management

This section covers four degree subjects, architecture and building management, civil engineering, electrical and electronic engineering and mechanical engineering, which are closely linked, and graduates from these disciplines often work together professionally.

With a quarter of all UK economic turnover (24.9%) generated from the engineering sector alone, the sector is considered crucial to the economic recovery ahead. A report from the Sector Skills Council for Science, Engineering & Manufacturing Technologies highlights the profitable growth particularly in leading edge technologies (electronics, marine, aerospace and other engineering activities) and forecasts demand for higher-level skills among employers. With over 5.6 million employees already employed in the sector, ten engineering-related Sector Skills Councils estimate the engineering sector will require 2,217,500 more professionals in the next five to ten years.

Destinations
According to figures from the Destinations of Leavers from Higher Education (DLHE) survey, employment rates six months after graduation in 2010/11 for architecture and building, civil engineering, electrical and electronic engineering and mechanical engineering graduates were higher than the average for all graduates from first degree disciplines (see Table 1). With the exception of electrical and electronic engineering, unemployment has fallen compared to graduates from 2009/10 for the other engineering and building subjects covered here. Amongst architecture and building graduates, 8.4% of 2010/11 graduates were unemployed six months after graduation, compared with 9.5% from 2009/10. Similarly, the unemployment rate fell from 11.4% to 9.5% for civil engineering graduates and from 9.3% to 8.9% for mechanical engineering graduates. Conversely, unemployment rose from 11.2% to 12.1% for electrical and electronic engineering graduates. With the exception of architecture and building, the level of unemployment is still higher than for graduates from all first degree subjects, which has seen unemployment increase slightly from 8.5% in 2009/10 to 8.6% in 2010/11.

It is forecast that due to an ageing workforce, significant numbers of staff will be needed in the engineering and construction sectors to replace those who leave their jobs because of retirement or other reasons. The majority of job opportunities in the medium term will come from meeting replacement demand rather than from any growth or expansion but this is in addition to new jobs being created.

The sector is taking steps to encourage women into engineering and building management careers, but at the moment the UK has the lowest proportion of female engineering professionals in the EU, at only 8.7%.

Types of work
The types of work entered by engineering and building management graduates are clustered around the career areas directly relating to their degree subjects. For example, 57.1% of civil engineering and 65.8% of mechanical engineering graduates from 2010/11 working in the UK entered careers as engineering professionals. The majority of employed electronic and electrical engineering graduates entered one of two careers: 36.2% as professional engineers, and 19.1% becoming IT professionals. Employment in the ‘other professional, associate professional and technical occupations’, which includes architects, building surveyors and town planners, was the option for 51.0% of architecture and building graduates.

According to an Engineering UK report, engineers may be employed across virtually all sectors, as their skills are well regarded by employers. One area of growth is the low carbon and environmental goods and services (LCEGS) sector which is closely linked to the engineering and manufacturing industry. Engineering UK forecasts an 18.7% increase in market value to £3.8 trillion by 2013/14. This suggests that there may be jobs created in this sector which future engineering graduates can look to for employment.

Salaries
According to the DLHE survey of 2010/11 graduates six months after graduation, the average salaries for full-time first degree building and engineering graduates entering full-time employment in the UK increased compared to the previous year, except for civil engineering graduates which saw the average salary decrease slightly to £22,720. Average salaries earned were, £17,950, £22,720, £24,825, £20,585, £22,880, and £22,880 for civil engineering, electrical and electronic engineering and mechanical engineering graduates respectively. Conversely, unemployment rose from 11.4% to 9.5% for civil engineering graduates which saw the average salary decrease slightly to £22,720. Average salaries earned were, £17,950, £22,720, £24,825, £20,585, £22,880, and £22,880 for civil engineering, electrical and electronic engineering and mechanical engineering graduates respectively. It is important to note that these salaries include graduates working in any occupation full-time who studied these particular subjects.

References

Further reading
AGCAS Options Series including:
• Architecture
• Building and construction management
• Civil engineering
• Electrical/electronic engineering
• Mechanical engineering

AGCAS Options Series are available online at www.prospects.ac.uk/options_with_your_subject.htm
Detailed information about types of work, written by AGCAS higher education careers advisers can be accessed at www.prospects.ac.uk/types_of_jobs.htm. Occupations especially relevant to engineering and building management graduates can be found under Engineering, manufacturing and production, Construction and property, and Environment. The sector briefings for Construction, Energy and Utilities, Engineering and Manufacturing are available online at www.prospects.ac.uk/industries.htm

Useful websites
www.prospects.ac.uk – Careers information specific to graduates
www.cibse.org – Chartered Institution of Building Services Engineers
www.ciob.org.uk – Chartered Institution of Building
www.ice.org.uk – Institution of Civil Engineers
www.theiet.org.uk – Institution of Engineering and Technology
www.imeche.org – Institution of Mechanical Engineers
www.architecture.com – Royal Institute of British Architects
www.stemnet.org.uk – STEM Network

Case studies
Martin
Job Title: Plant Engineer
Subject studied: Mechanical engineering
After leaving school I undertook an apprenticeship with British Steel (which became Corus and is now Tata Steel). When I finished the apprenticeship I was sponsored by Corus to attend university on a full-time basis. After graduating I returned to Corus on the graduate training programme. Since then I have achieved chartered status with the IMechE whilst progressing through various mechanical maintenance engineering roles to reach my current role as plant engineer. I lead a team of engineers, technicians and craftsmen to safely maintain a 24/7 heavy industrial steelmaking process.

Jack
Job Title: Electrical/Electronic Engineer
Subject studied: Electrical/electronic engineering
After university I moved back to London and tried to find a full-time graduate job in engineering. During the 12 months I spent searching I took a few temp jobs while keeping my eye on job advertisements in electronics. During this time I also volunteered for the Citizens Advice Bureau. After a series of interviews at various companies I was offered a position at MBDA as a graduate electronic engineer. Now a year and a half on I am working on an electronic design and will be leaving the graduate scheme to join the company as a full employee in September. My job involves designing and testing electronic circuits to meet specific requirements placed on the company by our customer. I really enjoy the challenge my job presents me as there is a new challenge everyday whether that is design or planning.

Sophie
Job Title: Research Professional
Subject studied: Architecture
After my first degree, I worked for a year in an architecture practice before going back to university to study for an MA at an art college in London. In the months leading up to graduation I applied to a variety of organisations that I wanted to work for. I decided that I didn’t want to work in a standard architecture practice so I applied mainly to research and think-tank organisations. I managed to get an unpaid internship at a built environment think-tank. After a few months, I was offered a permanent part-time paid role as programme coordinator. Since then I have started another part-time role with an architecture practice doing research to make up a full working week.

Zoë
Job Title: Freelance Graphic Designer
Subject studied: Electrical/electronic engineering
After university I moved back in with my parents and spent the next three years studying to go into graphic design at a local college as I knew engineering was not what I wanted to pursue. I did an Access course in visual communications followed by a HND in graphic design. On completion of the HND I did a 6-month graphic design placement at a small design firm. After my placement, I registered as self-employed and became a freelance graphic and web designer which I have been doing now for just over 12 months.

Table 1. Destinations of first degree engineering and building management graduates from 2010/11, six months after graduation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subjects</th>
<th>Numbers graduating (survey respondents)</th>
<th>Entering employment</th>
<th>Entering further study/training</th>
<th>Working and studying</th>
<th>Unemployed at time of survey</th>
<th>Other</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Architecture and building</td>
<td>7150</td>
<td>65.9%</td>
<td>8.2%</td>
<td>9.3%</td>
<td>8.4%</td>
<td>8.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Civil engineering</td>
<td>2320</td>
<td>62.8%</td>
<td>13.3%</td>
<td>7.6%</td>
<td>9.5%</td>
<td>6.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electrical and electronic</td>
<td>2225</td>
<td>63.9%</td>
<td>11.1%</td>
<td>5.3%</td>
<td>12.1%</td>
<td>7.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engineering</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mechanical engineering</td>
<td>2600</td>
<td>65.6%</td>
<td>12.3%</td>
<td>6.4%</td>
<td>8.9%</td>
<td>6.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All subjects</td>
<td>24480</td>
<td>61.8%</td>
<td>13.1%</td>
<td>8.4%</td>
<td>8.6%</td>
<td>8.2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: DLHE 2010/11
Architecture and building graduates from 2011
Survey response

1890 Female
5260 Male
7150 Total responses
8695 All graduates
82.2 % response

| a  | 63.4%  | In UK employment |
| b  | 2.5%   | In overseas employment |
| c  | 9.3%   | Working and studying |
| d  | 5.4%   | Studying in the UK for a higher degree |
|   |        | MSc Rural Development |
|   |        | MA Conservation of Furniture and Decorative Arts |
| e  | 0.1%   | Studying in the UK for a teaching qualification |
| f  | 2.6%   | Undertaking other further study or training in the UK |
| g  | 0.1%   | Undertaking other further study or training overseas |
| h  | 8.4%   | Believed to be unemployed |
| i  | 3.0%   | Not available for employment, study or training |
| j  | 5.2%   | Other |

DISCIPLINES INCLUDED

ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN THEORY
ARCHITECTURAL TECHNOLOGY
ARCHITECTURE, BUILDING AND PLANNING NOT ELSEWHERE CLASSIFIED
BUILDING SURVEYING
BUILDING TECHNOLOGY
CONSERVATION OF BUILDINGS
CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT
HOUSING
INTERIOR ARCHITECTURE
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE
LANDSCAPE DESIGN
LANDSCAPE STUDIES
OTHERS IN ARCHITECTURE, BUILDING AND PLANNING
PLANNING (URBAN, RURAL AND REGIONAL)
PLANNING STUDIES
QUANTITY SURVEYING
REGIONAL PLANNING
RURAL PLANNING
TRANSPORT PLANNING
URBAN PLANNING
URBAN AND RURAL PLANNING
URBAN STUDIES

8.2% in further study
9.3% working & studying
65.9% in employment
6.6% unemployed
0.1% other
Architecture and building graduates from 2011

Type of work for those in employment

Graduates who are in employment either full-time, part-time, voluntary/unpaid or working and studying in the UK

51.0% Other Professionals, Associate Professional and Technical Occupations
13.6% Commercial, Industrial and Public Sector Managers
8.4% Retail, Catering, Waiting and Bar Staff
7.1% Other Occupations
4.2% Business and Financial Professionals and Associate Professionals
3.7% Engineering Professionals
3.4% Marketing, Sales and Advertising Professionals
3.0% Other Clerical and Secretarial Occupations
2.1% Arts, Design, Culture and Sports Professional
1.5% Social & Welfare Professionals
0.7% Numerical Clerks and Cashiers
0.5% Education Professionals
0.4% Information Technology Professionals
0.1% Scientific Research, Analysis & Development Professionals
0.1% Health Professionals and Associate Professionals
0.1% Unknown Occupations
0.0% Legal Professionals

EXAMPLES OF 2011 ARCHITECTURE AND BUILDING GRADUATES: JOB TITLES AND EMPLOYERS
(6 months after graduation)

- **Project & Development Manager**, a construction company; **Fitness Manager**, a gym; **Assistant Project Manager**, Davis Langdon; **Assistant Property Manager**, a property management consultancy
- **Project Mechanical Engineer**, a consultancy firm; **Structural Engineer**, Ramboll
- **Business Support Officer**, Welsh Government; **Trainee Broker**, Willis Insurance; **Trainee Financial Advisor**, RBS
- **CAD/ BIM Technician**, Arup; **Landscape Architect**, a contractor; **Graphic Designer**, LOCOG; **Museum and Exhibition Designer**, a design firm
- **Charity Worker**, YMCA
- **Architectural Technician**, a city council; **Building Surveyor**, Babcock International Group; **Architect Assistant**, Atkins; **Graduate Surveyor**, Trident; **Landscape Architect**, a landscape architecture firm
- **Data Entry Clerk**, a medical services firm
- **Customer Service Assistant**, Waitrose; **Waitress**, an art gallery; **Sales Assistant**, Apple Store
Civil engineering graduates from 2011
Survey response

320 Female
2000 Male
2320 Total responses
2740 All graduates
84.6 % response

- a 60.0% In UK employment
- b 2.8% In overseas employment
- c 7.6% Working and studying
- d 11.5% Studying in the UK for a higher degree
  - MSc Renewable Energy Engineering
  - MSc Structural Engineering & Mechanics
- e 0.7% Studying in the UK for a teaching qualification
- f 0.9% Undertaking other further study or training in the UK
- g 0.2% Undertaking other further study or training overseas
- h 9.5% Believed to be unemployed
- i 3.5% Not available for employment, study or training
- j 3.3% Other

DISCIPLINES INCLUDED
- CIVIL ENGINEERING NOT ELSEWHERE CLASSIFIED
- COASTAL DECAY
- ENERGY RESOURCES
- ENGINEERING SURVEYING
- ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING
- ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT
- GENERAL PRACTICE SURVEYING
- GEOTECHNICAL ENGINEERING
- PERMANENT WAY ENGINEERING
- STRUCTURAL ENGINEERING
- SURVEYING SCIENCE
- TRANSPORT ENGINEERING
- URBAN STUDIES
Civil engineering graduates from 2011

Type of work for those in employment
(Graduates who are in employment either full-time, part-time, voluntary/unpaid or working and studying in the UK)

- 57.1% Engineering Professionals
- 8.4% Other Professionals, Associate Professional and Technical Occupations
- 8.2% Commercial, Industrial and Public Sector Managers
- 7.6% Retail, Catering, Waiting and Bar Staff
- 6.9% Other Occupations
- 4.6% Business and Financial Professionals and Associate Professionals
- 1.9% Other Clerical and Secretarial Occupations
- 1.3% Marketing, Sales and Advertising Professionals
- 1.0% Information Technology Professionals
- 0.8% Arts, Design, Culture and Sports Professional
- 0.7% Numerical Clerks and Cashiers
- 0.6% Education Professionals
- 0.3% Social & Welfare Professionals
- 0.3% Unknown Occupations
- 0.1% Scientific Research, Analysis & Development Professionals
- 0.1% Health Professionals and Associate Professionals
- 0.1% Legal Professionals

EXAMPLES OF 2011 CIVIL ENGINEERING GRADUATES: JOB TITLES AND EMPLOYERS
(6 months after graduation)

Marketing Executive, a marketing agency; Student Marketing Officer, a university
Officer Training, British Army; Customer Development Manager, Chep
Research Associate, a university
Graduate Civil Engineer, Tata Steel; Graduate Engineer, Mott MacDonald; Assistant Engineer, BAM Nuttall; Trainee Planner/Scheduler, BP; Graduate Engineer, Halcrow; Graduate Civil Engineer, a city council; Graduate Structural Engineer, Arup; Graduate Civil Engineer, Network Rail; Field Engineer, Schlumberger; Graduate Civil Engineer, Balfour Beatty Utility Solutions Ltd
Maths Teacher, a school
Commercial Business Analyst, Virgin Business Media; Trainee Chartered Accountant, Deloitte; Assurance Associate, PwC
IT Technician, a computer store
Hockey Player, a hockey team
Checking Operator, ASDA
Electrical and electronic engineering graduates from 2011

Survey response

220 Female
2005 Male
2225 Total responses
2655 All graduates
83.7% response

a 62.8% In UK employment
b 1.2% In overseas employment
c 5.3% Working and studying
d 9.3% Studying in the UK for a higher degree
MSc Nanotechnology & Nanoelectronic Devices
e 0.5% Studying in the UK for a teaching qualification
f 1.3% Undertaking other further study or training
in the UK
g 0.0% Undertaking other further study or training
overseas
h 12.1% Believed to be unemployed
i 1.9% Not available for employment, study or training
j 5.6% Other

DISCIPLINES INCLUDED

ANALOGUE CIRCUIT ENGINEERING
BIOENGINEERING
BROADCAST ENGINEERING
COMMUNICATIONS ENGINEERING
CONTROL BY LIGHT SYSTEMS
CONTROL SYSTEMS
CYBERNETICS
DIGITAL CIRCUIT ENGINEERING
ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING
ELECTRICAL POWER
ELECTRICAL POWER DISTRIBUTION
ELECTRICAL POWER GENERATION
ELECTRONIC AND ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING
ELECTRONIC ENGINEERING
INSTRUMENTATION CONTROL
INTEGRATED CIRCUIT DESIGN
MICROELECTRONIC ENGINEERING
MICROWAVE ENGINEERING
OPTOELECTRONIC ENGINEERING
ROBOTICS
ROBOTICS AND CYBERNETICS
SATELLITE ENGINEERING
SYSTEMS ENGINEERING
TELECOMMUNICATIONS ENGINEERING
VIRTUAL REALITY ENGINEERING
Electrical and electronic engineering graduates from 2011

Type of work for those in employment

Graduates who are in employment either full-time, part-time, voluntary/unpaid or working and studying in the UK

- 36.2% Engineering Professionals
- 19.1% Information Technology Professionals
- 9.2% Retail, Catering, Waiting and Bar Staff
- 8.1% Other Occupations
- 7.7% Arts, Design, Culture and Sports Professional
- 6.1% Commercial, Industrial and Public Sector Managers
- 3.6% Other Professionals, Associate Professional and Technical Occupations
- 2.8% Other Clerical and Secretarial Occupations
- 2.1% Business and Financial Professionals and Associate Professionals
- 2.0% Marketing, Sales and Advertising Professionals
- 1.1% Education Professionals
- 0.8% Social & Welfare Professionals
- 0.3% Health Professionals and Associate Professionals
- 0.3% Numerical Clerks and Cashiers
- 0.2% Unknown Occupations
- 0.2% Scientific Research, Analysis & Development Professionals
- 0.1% Legal Professionals

EXAMPLES OF 2011 ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC ENGINEERING GRADUATES: JOB TITLES AND EMPLOYERS (6 months after graduation)

Assistant Operations Manager, a power company; Technical Energy Manager, Integral UK Ltd

Electronics Engineering Fellow, CERN

System Technician/Engineer, EDF Energy; Distribution Planning Engineers, UK Power Networks; Graduate Engineer, BAE Systems; Electrical Engineer, Tata Steel; Graduate Engineer, Nissan Motor Manufacturing; Nuclear Graduate, an engineering consultancy firm; Microwave Engineer, Thales

Android Developer, an application development firm; Support Worker, Logitech

Sales Advisor, Maplin

Post Office Worker, Royal Mail
Mechanical engineering graduates from 2011
Survey response

225 Female
2375 Male
2600 Total responses
3070 All graduates
84.7 % response

a 63.2% In UK employment
b 2.4% In overseas employment
c 6.4% Working and studying
d 10.4% Studying in the UK for a higher degree
PhD Mechanical Engineering
MSc Petroleum Engineering
MSc Technical Management of Ship Operations
e 0.5% Studying in the UK for a teaching qualification
f 1.2% Undertaking other further study or training in the UK
g 0.2% Undertaking other further study or training overseas
h 8.9% Believed to be unemployed
i 2.8% Not available for employment, study or training
j 3.9% Other

DISCIPLINES INCLUDED
ACOUSTICS
ACOUSTICS AND VIBRATION
AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERING
AGRICULTURAL MECHANICS
AUTOMOBILE ASSESSMENT
AUTOMOTIVE ENGINEERING
DYNAMICS
ELECTROMECHANICAL ENGINEERING
FARM ENGINEERING
FLUID POWER ENGINEERING
HEAT EXCHANGER TECHNOLOGY
MARINE ENGINEERING
MECHANISMS AND MACHINES
OFFSHORE ENGINEERING
RAIL VEHICLE ENGINEERING
ROAD VEHICLE ENGINEERING
SHIP PROPULSION ENGINEERING
THERMODYNAMICS
TURBINE TECHNOLOGY
VIBRATION
Mechanical engineering graduates from 2011

Type of work for those in employment

Graduates who are in employment either full-time, part-time, voluntary/unpaid or working and studying in the UK

- 65.8% Engineering Professionals
- 6.2% Commercial, Industrial and Public Sector Managers
- 6.1% Other Occupations
- 5.3% Retail, Catering, Waiting and Bar Staff
- 4.8% Other Professionals, Associate Professional and Technical Occupations
- 3.5% Business and Financial Professionals and Associate Professionals
- 1.6% Marketing, Sales and Advertising Professionals
- 1.5% Information Technology Professionals
- 1.5% Other Clerical and Secretarial Occupations
- 1.4% Arts, Design, Culture and Sports Professional
- 0.8% Education Professionals
- 0.5% Scientific Research, Analysis & Development Professionals
- 0.4% Numerical Clerks and Cashiers
- 0.2% Health Professionals and Associate Professionals
- 0.2% Legal Professionals
- 0.2% Social & Welfare Professionals
- 0.1% Unknown Occupations

Examples of 2011 Mechanical Engineering Graduates: Job Titles and Employers
(6 months after graduation)

Research Assistant, a university

Graduate Engineer, Airbus; Product Development Engineer, Jaguar Land Rover; Graduate Engineer, Nestle; Design Engineer, Triumph Motorcycles; Design Engineer, Honeywell Aerospace; Field Engineer, Schlumberger; Graduate Building Services Engineer, Babcock International Group; Graduate Trainee, Shell; Engineering Design Assistant, an engineering consultancy

Trainee Accountant, PwC; Renewable Energy Consultant, an energy company

Web Developer, a design firm; Network Administrator, an investment firm

Youth & Schools Worker, a religious organisation

Sales Assistant, Comet

Golf Course Assistant, a golf centre
**Social sciences** written by Janice Montgomery

**Destinations and types of work**

Social science students are drawn from subjects as diverse as economics, sociology and psychology and many embrace a wide variety of career and further study paths after leaving university to become solicitors, town planners, accountants, researchers, educationalists and psychologists.

Figures taken from the Destinations of Leavers from Higher Education survey show that the numbers of students graduating from social sciences subjects increased again in 2010/11 compared to the previous year (2009/10) by 11.5% in economics, 4% in geography, 5.7% in law, 5.5% in psychology, 6.8% in sociology and 6.0% in politics. Although this expansion is unlikely to continue, the increase in numbers has not yet resulted in inflated unemployment figures as more graduates are pursuing a finite number of vacancies. The proportion of graduates who were unemployed six months after graduating were a little better than might have been predicted with economics graduates seeing the highest unemployment rate in the social sciences at 10.9% and geography the lowest rate at 6.4% (lower than the rate for all 2010/11 graduates at 8.6%).

The numbers of graduates who went directly into employment were somewhat lower than the average for all 2010/11 graduates (61.8%), with the exception of sociology graduates which stood at 61.9%, but this was compensated for in most cases by higher numbers going into further study. This reflects the need for further professional or vocational training in order to gain access to the kinds of jobs frequently associated with these disciplines. It is most pronounced amongst law graduates where almost 30% went into further study perhaps to obtain the legal practice qualifications required for entry to a traineeship as a solicitor or a pupillage, as barrister or advocate (Scotland). Geography, psychology and politics graduates also showed high levels of further study with many undertaking postgraduate study to enhance their employability for occupations such as town planners, surveyors, psychologists, researchers and teachers.

A recent survey conducted by the CBI indicates that for 80% of employers, degree subject is less important in the selection of future employees than employability skills (valued by 82% of employers) and work experience (67% of employers). The willingness of employers to recruit from across the disciplines is clearly reflected in the destinations of social sciences graduates from the 2010/11 cohort. Although law graduates understandably demonstrated the highest proportion of employed graduates going into legal professions (15.3%) quite apart from those who went on to study to become solicitors, certain professions are prevalent across all six disciplines. Occupations within business and finance professions and associate professions were undertaken by a significant proportion of science graduates, perhaps recruited for their sound analytical and research skills. Almost half (49.8%) of employed economics graduates went into these professions in occupations such as, auditors, economists, tax specialists, business analysts, management consultants and investment analysts. Even amongst sociology graduates 7.3% entered these professions with similar figures for geography (17.1%), law (10.6%), politics (15.2%) and psychology (6.3%).

Roles as commercial, industrial and public sector managers were also popular with around 10% of employed graduates from each of the six disciplines entering these professions. Psychology and sociology have the highest levels of graduates working in social and welfare professions (12.3 and 7.7% respectively) with graduates becoming housing and welfare officers or support workers to amass the experience required to proceed to further study in psychology specialisms. The persistence of high levels of employment in the retail, catering, waiting and bar staff may reflect a lack of preparation amongst students for employment after graduation resulting in their continuing with jobs they had while they were students but on a much more full-time basis. Alternatively, it may reflect the wider economic situation where graduates must ensure that they are well placed to compete in a highly competitive market.

**Salaries**

The average annual salary of 2010/11 all first degree graduates in full-time employment in the UK was £19,935, which represented a modest increase on the previous year. This average masks considerable differences between average salaries of graduates from different disciplines, even within the social sciences. While law graduates earned more or less the same as the previous year at £17,415 and sociology averages demonstrated a slight reduction at £16,500, economics graduates, geography graduates, psychology graduates and politics graduates all had an increase in their average salaries to over £25,000, £19,000, £16,000 and £20,000 respectively. However these figures can be misleading. It is not the subject of study which determines the salary of a graduate, though some subjects do tend toward higher paying types of career, but the actual choice of profession made by the student. For example a psychology graduate who became an investment banker could expect a starting salary of £38,250 or an economics graduate who became a public sector manager, a salary of £23,750. Likewise a psychology graduate who wished to enter an advanced course of psychology study with a view to becoming a clinical psychologist, might spend a year in care home type settings amassing experience and thus have a salary closer to the minimum wage albeit temporarily. Those graduates entering graduate training schemes with the top firms in accountancy, banking, retail, law, the armed services and the public sector tend to have the highest starting salaries but these represent only 5-10% of all graduates. The national figure of £19,935 is much more realistic though many earn much less in the two or three years after graduation.

**References**

1. Recurrent Grants and Student Number Controls for 2012-13. HEFCE 2012/08. This report suggests a reduction in applications to universities of 10% due to the new fees structure which will affect the numbers at 75% of universities.
4. For more information on how to increase employability and prepare well for life after university, please see the introductory article in this publication “Developing your skills for employment”.


**Further reading**

AGCAS Options Series including:
- Economics
- Geography
- Law
- Politics
- Psychology
- Sociology

AGCAS Options Series are available online at www.prospects.ac.uk/options_with_your_subject.htm. Detailed information about types of work, written by AGCAS higher education careers advisers can be accessed at www.prospects.ac.uk/types_of_jobs.htm.

**Useful websites**

www.prospects.ac.uk – careers information specific to graduates
www.res.org.uk – Royal Economic Society
www.lawscot.org.uk – Law Society of Scotland
www.rgs.org – Royal Geographical Society
www.britsoc.co.uk – British Sociological Society
www.pnarchive.org – The Higher Education Academy

**Psychological Network**

**Case studies**

*Eden*

**Job Title:** Social Researcher  
**Subject studied:** Economics

I took a gap year after completing my Masters degree and then applied for a role as a data manager at a clinical trials unit and spent five years there working my way up. I wanted to be a researcher though so during this time I applied for a role as research associate. Unfortunately I wasn’t successful, mainly due to my lack of statistical training so I decided to study part-time via a distance learning course for an MSc in applied statistics. After completing the course, I applied for another research associate role and this time was successful. I’ve been in this role now for a year and intend to start working for a PhD. I work on several research projects doing a variety of quantitative and qualitative work. I enjoy conducting research from start to finish and then writing up research reports and academic papers.

*Phil*

**Job Title:** Public Servant  
**Subject studied:** Law

After university I worked for a member of parliament as a parliamentary researcher and caseworker. I left to join the Court Service working for six months for the Royal Courts of Justice as a criminal appeal caseworker. I saw an advert for a graduate scheme at a local council in London and decided to apply. I was successful at interview both over the phone and one-to-one. Three years later I am a permanent member of staff in the council’s strategy team.

*Heather*

**Job Title:** Trainee Clinical Psychologist  
**Subject studied:** Psychology

After university I moved back home to live with my parents and I got a job in a local mental health hospital. I also volunteered at a mental health helpline. I then managed to get a job with a mental health charity and completed my MSc part-time. I worked as an assistant psychologist for two years in the NHS before becoming an NHS research assistant. I am now employed as a trainee clinical psychologist so I’m employed full-time by the NHS but also attend lectures at university.

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**Table 1. Destinations of first degree social sciences graduates from 2010/11, six months after graduation**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Numbers graduating (survey respondents)</th>
<th>Entering employment</th>
<th>Entering further study/training</th>
<th>Working and studying</th>
<th>Unemployed at time of survey</th>
<th>Other</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Economics</td>
<td>4065</td>
<td>53.6%</td>
<td>14.8%</td>
<td>12.2%</td>
<td>10.9%</td>
<td>8.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geography</td>
<td>2185</td>
<td>56.7%</td>
<td>20.5%</td>
<td>8.1%</td>
<td>6.4%</td>
<td>8.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Law</td>
<td>10775</td>
<td>41.7%</td>
<td>29.7%</td>
<td>12.5%</td>
<td>7.5%</td>
<td>8.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Politics</td>
<td>4110</td>
<td>53.4%</td>
<td>20.8%</td>
<td>8.4%</td>
<td>9.4%</td>
<td>8.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psychology</td>
<td>10235</td>
<td>57.5%</td>
<td>15.7%</td>
<td>10.5%</td>
<td>7.8%</td>
<td>8.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sociology</td>
<td>5070</td>
<td>61.9%</td>
<td>12.4%</td>
<td>7.7%</td>
<td>8.9%</td>
<td>9.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All subjects</td>
<td>244680</td>
<td>61.8%</td>
<td>13.1%</td>
<td>8.4%</td>
<td>8.6%</td>
<td>8.2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: DLHE 2010/11
Economics graduates from 2011

Survey response

1135 Female
2930 Male
4065 Total responses
4930 All graduates
82.4% response

a 51.1% In UK employment
b 2.6% In overseas employment
c 12.2% Working and studying
d 11.6% Studying in the UK for a higher degree
   MSc International Business Management
   MSc European Political Economy
   MSc Business and Economics
   MSc Financial Economics
   MA Politics
   MA Creative Writing
e 0.6% Studying in the UK for a teaching qualification
   PGCE Social Sciences
f 2.2% Undertaking other further study or training in the UK
   Graduate Diploma in Law
   PGDip Economics
   BA Fashion
g 0.4% Undertaking other further study or training overseas
h 10.9% Believed to be unemployed
i 4.2% Not available for employment, study or training
j 4.3% Other

DISCIPLINES INCLUDED

AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS  ECONOMIC POLICY  KEYNESIANISM
APPLIED ECONOMICS  ECONOMIC SYSTEMS  MACROECONOMICS
CAPITALISM  ECONOMICS NOT ELSEWHERE CLASSIFIED  MICROECONOMICS
COLLECTIVISM  FINANCIAL ECONOMICS  MONETARISM
ECONOMETRICS  INTERNATIONAL ECONOMICS  POLITICAL ECONOMICS
# Economics graduates from 2011

## Type of work for those in employment

Graduates who are in employment either full-time, part-time, voluntary/unpaid or working and studying in the UK

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Work</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Business and Financial Professionals and</td>
<td>49.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associate Professionals</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commercial, Industrial and Public Sector Managers</td>
<td>12.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retail, Catering, Waiting and Bar Staff</td>
<td>9.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marketing, Sales and Advertising Professionals</td>
<td>6.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Clerical and Secretarial Occupations</td>
<td>5.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Occupations</td>
<td>5.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Numerical Clerks and Cashiers</td>
<td>4.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Professionals, Associate Professional and</td>
<td>2.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technical Occupations</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information Technology Professionals</td>
<td>1.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arts, Design, Culture and Sports Professional</td>
<td>1.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education Professionals</td>
<td>1.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social &amp; Welfare Professionals</td>
<td>0.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unknown Occupations</td>
<td>0.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legal Professionals</td>
<td>0.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Professionals and Associate Professionals</td>
<td>0.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engineering Professional</td>
<td>0.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scientific Research, Analysis &amp; Development</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professionals</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Examples of 2011 Economics graduates: job titles and employers (6 months after graduation)

- **Associate Recruitment Consultant**, Hays
- **Market Research Analyst**, Ipsos Mori
- **Account Manager**, a market intelligence company
- **Telecommunications Manager**, BT
- **Trainee Bank Manager**, a Scottish bank
- **Classroom Assistant**, a primary school
- **Auditor**, Deloitte
- **Investment Analyst**, Blackrock UK
- **Credit Analyst**, a financial services company
- **Assistant Economist**, the Government
- **Insurance Adviser**, an insurance company
- **Assurance Associate**, PwC
- **Statistician**, Office for National Statistics
- **Trainee Accountant**, Ernst & Young
- **Transport Planner**, a city council
- **Data Analyst**, a consulting company
- **Organisation Analyst**, an international bank
- **Tax Consultant**, Ernst & Young
- **Accountant**, PwC
- **Economist**, DWP
- **Market Analyst**, Financial Services Company
- **Financial Analyst**, Goldman Sachs
- **Business Analyst**, HSBC
- **Events Coordinator**, a London museum
- **IT consultant**, Logica
- **Software Designer**, a software company
- **Production Assistant**, a production company
- **Journalist**, a national newspaper
- **Researcher**, the Government
- **Administrator**, a charity
Geography graduates from 2011

Survey response

1185 Female
1000 Male
2185 Total responses
2555 All graduates
85.4 % response

a 53.4% In UK employment
b 3.4% In overseas employment
c 8.1% Working and studying
d 13.8% Studying in the UK for a higher degree
   MSc Spatial Regeneration
   MSc Geographical Information Science
   MSc Environmental Management
   MSc Urban Planning
   MSc Environmental Management and Sustainable Development
   MSc Geographic Information and Climate Change
   MSc Engineering
   MA Disasters, Adaptation and Development
e 3.7% Studying in the UK for a teaching qualification
   PGCE Primary
   PGCE Geography
f 2.6% Undertaking other further study or training in the UK
   Event and Wedding Planning, a highstreet retailer
   Sea Preparation Course, a cruise line
g 0.4% Undertaking other further study or training overseas
h 6.4% Believed to be unemployed
i 5.4% Not available for employment, study or training
j 2.9% Other

DISCIPLINES INCLUDED

AGRICULTURAL GEOGRAPHY
CULTURAL GEOGRAPHY
ECONOMIC GEOGRAPHY
HISTORICAL GEOGRAPHY
HUMAN AND SOCIAL GEOGRAPHY
HUMAN AND SOCIAL GEOGRAPHY BY AREA
HUMAN AND SOCIAL GEOGRAPHY BY TOPIC
HUMAN AND SOCIAL GEOGRAPHY NOT ELSEWHERE CLASSIFIED
HUMAN AND SOCIAL GEOGRAPHY OF AFRICA
HUMAN AND SOCIAL GEOGRAPHY OF ARCTIC/ANTARCTIC
HUMAN AND SOCIAL GEOGRAPHY OF ASIA
HUMAN AND SOCIAL GEOGRAPHY OF AUSTRALASIA
HUMAN AND SOCIAL GEOGRAPHY OF EUROPE
HUMAN AND SOCIAL GEOGRAPHY OF THE AMERICAS
POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY
TRANSPORT GEOGRAPHY
URBAN GEOGRAPHY
Geography graduates from 2011

Type of work for those in employment

Graduates who are in employment either full-time, part-time, voluntary/unpaid or working and studying in the UK

- 19.0% Retail, Catering, Waiting and Bar Staff
- 17.1% Business and Financial Professionals and Associate Professionals
- 12.1% Commercial, Industrial and Public Sector Managers
- 11.6% Other Occupations
- 11.5% Marketing, Sales and Advertising Professionals
- 10.9% Other Clerical and Secretarial Occupations
- 11.6% Other Occupations
- 11.5% Marketing, Sales and Advertising Professionals
- 4.8% Other Professionals, Associate Professional and Technical Occupations
- 3.9% Education Professionals
- 2.6% Social & Welfare Professionals
- 2.1% Numerical Clerks and Cashiers
- 2.0% Arts, Design, Culture and Sports Professional
- 0.7% Information Technology Professionals
- 0.4% Unknown Occupations
- 0.4% Legal Professionals
- 0.3% Health Professionals and Associate Professionals
- 0.3% Engineering Professional
- 0.1% Scientific Research, Analysis & Development Professionals

Examples of 2011 Geography graduates: job titles and employers  (6 months after graduation)

- Recruitment Consultant, a recruitment agency; Estate Agent, an estate agency; Market Researcher, a research company; Marketing Officer, a pharmaceutical company; Accounts Manager, an advertising agency; PR Officer, the Government
- Business Development Manager, an oil distributor; Trainee Operations Manager, GIST Ltd; Hospitality Manager, a hotel
- Teacher, a secondary school; Classroom Assistant, a private school; Primary Teacher, a primary school; Teaching Assistant, a primary school
- Business Consultant, Accenture; Junior Analyst, an underwriting agency; Insurance Broker, an insurance company
- Web & Graphic Designer, self-employed; Reporter, a media company; Sports Coach, a leisure centre; Media Researcher, BBC
- Housing Officer, a housing association
- Conservation worker, a conservation charity; Building Technician, Construction Company; Geologist, BP; Environmental officer, Environment Agency; Conservation officer, Wildlife Trust
- Finance Assistant, a secondary school
- Marketing Assistant, a financial company; Database Administrator, NHS Hospital
- Barman, a pub; Customer Assistant, Tesco; Sales Assistant, Marks and Spencer; Waiter, Pizza Hut
- Lifeguard, a charity; Warehouse Worker, IKEA; Gallery Assistant, a leisure park; Nursing Auxiliary, NHS Hospital
Law graduates from 2011

Survey response

6850 Female
3925 Male
10775 Total responses
13405 All graduates
80.4 % response

a 40.3% In UK employment
b 1.4% In overseas employment
c 12.5% Working and studying
d 6.3% Studying in the UK for a higher degree
   PhD Law
   MSc Software Development
   MSc Business Analysis and Consulting
   MSc International Events Management
   MA Conflict Studies and Human Rights
   MA Intellectual Property Law
   LLM Oil and Gas Law
   LLM International Commercial Law
   LLM Human Rights Law
e 0.4% Studying in the UK for a teaching qualification
   PGCE Primary
f 22.4% Undertaking other further study or training in the UK
   PG Dip HR Management
   Diploma in Professional Legal Practice
   Legal Practice Certificate
   HND Drama
   Bar Training Course
   NCTJ Dipl. Journalism
g 0.6% Undertaking other further study or training overseas
h 7.5% Believed to be unemployed
i 3.2% Not available for employment, study or training
j 5.4% Other

DISCIPLINES INCLUDED

BUSINESS AND COMMERCIAL LAW
COMPARATIVE LAW
CONTRACT LAW
CRIMINAL LAW
ENGLISH LAW
EUROPEAN UNION LAW
JURISPRUDENCE
LAW
LAW BY AREA
LAW BY AREA NOT ELSEWHERE CLASSIFIED
LAW BY TOPIC
LAW BY TOPIC NOT ELSEWHERE CLASSIFIED
LAW NOT ELSEWHERE CLASSIFIED
LEGAL PRACTICE
MEDICAL LAW
NORTHERN IRISH LAW
OTHERS IN LAW
PRIVATE LAW
PROPERTY LAW
PUBLIC INTERNATIONAL LAW
PUBLIC LAW
SCOTTISH LAW
TORTS
UK LEGAL SYSTEMS
WELSH LAW
Law graduates from 2011

Type of work for those in employment
Gradsuates who are in employment either full-time, part-time, voluntary/unpaid or working and studying in the UK

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Occupation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>22.1%</td>
<td>Retail, Catering, Waiting and Bar Staff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15.3%</td>
<td>Legal Professionals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.9%</td>
<td>Other Clerical and Secretarial Occupations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.0%</td>
<td>Other Occupations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.6%</td>
<td>Business and financial Professionals and Associate Profesionals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.7%</td>
<td>Commercial, Industrial and Public Sector Managers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.5%</td>
<td>Marketing, Sales and Advertising Professionals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.6%</td>
<td>Social &amp; Welfare Professionals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.8%</td>
<td>Numerical Clerks and Cashiers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.1%</td>
<td>Other Professionals, Associate Professional adn Technical Occupations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.4%</td>
<td>Education Professionals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.2%</td>
<td>Arts, Design, Culture and Sports Professional</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.6%</td>
<td>Information Technology Professionals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.5%</td>
<td>Health Professionals and Associate Professionals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.3%</td>
<td>Unknown Occupations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.3%</td>
<td>Engineering Professional</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>Scientific Research, Analysis &amp; Development Professionals</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

EXAMPLES OF 2011 LAW GRADUATES: JOB TITLES AND EMPLOYERS (6 months after graduation)

- Media Planner, a digital marketing company; Recruitment Consultant, Reeds Recruitment
- Employee Relations Manager, Barclays Plc; Royal Naval Officer
- Lecturer, a university; TEFL Teacher, British Council
- Data Analyst, Barclays Plc; Financial Analyst, Investment Bank; Accountant, PwC; Tax Adviser, Deloitte; Business Analyst, a national bank; Trainee Actuary, a bank
- Web Developer, a financial company; Web Developer, self-employed; Computer Analyst, Investment Bank
- Musician, self-employed; Freelance Journalist
- Paralegal, a solicitors; Trainee Solicitor, a law firm; Legal Adviser, a solicitors; Legal Consultant, Peninsula; Litigation Fee Earner, a solicitors; Articled Student (Pupillage), a law firm; Legal Adviser, Citizens’ Advice Bureau; Legal Executive, a London law firm
- Support Worker, a housing association; Housing Officer, a local council
- Legal Research Consultant, a legal services firm; Social Science Researcher, International NGO
- Secretary, a solicitors; Legal Assistant, an immigration specialist law firm; Legal Secretary, law firm; Case Handler, a solicitors
- Furniture Restorer, self-employed; Trainee Officer, British Army
Politics graduates from 2011

Survey response

1720 Female
2390 Male
4110 Total responses
5170 All graduates
79.4 % response

a 49.9% In UK employment
b 3.5% In overseas employment
c 8.4% Working and studying
d 14.7% Studying in the UK for a higher degree
   MSc Politics and Public Policy
   MSc Politics
   MSc Computing Science
   MA International Relations
   MA Modern History
   MA War and Society
   MA Spanish, Portuguese and Latin American Studies
   MA Professional Media Practice
e 1.1% Studying in the UK for a teaching qualification
   PGCE Primary
   PGDE Modern Studies
f 4.0% Undertaking other further study or training in the UK
   ACCA
g 1.0% Undertaking other further study or training overseas
h 9.4% Believed to be unemployed
i 3.9% Not available for employment, study or training
j 4.2% Other

DISCIPLINES INCLUDED

ANARCHISM
AUTOCRACY
COMMONWEALTH POLITICS
COMPARATIVE POLITICS
CONSERVATISM
DEMOCRACY
ENVIRONMENTALISM
EUROPEAN UNION POLITICS
FASCISM
FEMINISM
INTERNATIONAL CONSTITUTIONAL STUDIES
INTERNATIONAL POLITICS
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
LIBERALISM
NATIONALISM
OLIGARCHY
PLUTOCRACY
POLITICAL SYSTEMS
POLITICAL THEORIES
POLITICS

POLITICS NOT ELSEWHERE CLASSIFIED
POLITICS OF A SPECIFIC COUNTRY/REGION
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION
SOCIALISM
STRATEGIC STUDIES
UK CONSTITUTIONAL STUDIES
UK GOVERNMENT/PARLIAMENTARY STUDIES
WAR & PEACE STUDIES
Politics graduates from 2011

Type of work for those in employment
Gradsuates who are in employment either full-time, part-time, voluntary/unpaid or working and studying in the UK

- 16.9% Retail, Catering, Waiting and Bar Staff
- 15.2% Business And Financial Professionals and Associate Professionals
- 14.0% Commercial, Industrial and Public Sector Managers
- 11.9% Other Clerical and Secretarial Occupations
- 11.4% Marketing, Sales and Advertising Professionals
- 11.4% Other Occupations
- 5.2% Other Professionals, Associate Professional and Technical Occupations
- 3.7% Arts, Design, Culture and Sports Professional
- 2.8% Social & Welfare Professionals
- 2.1% Education Professionals
- 1.6% Numerical Clerks and Cashiers
- 1.4% Information Technology Professionals
- 1.2% Legal Professionals
- 0.5% Unknown Occupations
- 0.2% Health Professionals and Associate Professionals
- 0.1% Engineering Professional
- 0.1% Scientific Research, Analysis & Development Professionals

Examples of 2011 Politics graduates: Job titles and employers (6 months after graduation)

Advertising Sales Executive, a publishing company; Recruitment Consultant, Reeds Recruitment; PR Officer, a public relations agency; Marketing Officer, a political party; International Sales Consultant, a media company

Civil Servant, DEFRA; Manager, a local butcher; Customer Service Manager, a financial services company; Manager, Toys R Us; Deputy Manager, a local supermarket; Account Manager, an estate agents

Information Officer, a homecare association; Accountant, PwC; Business Analyst, a financial services company; Mortgage Adviser, a financial management company; Mergers and Acquisitions Adviser, a financial advisers

Helpdesk Technician, a university
Education Officer, a museum
Legal Investigator, a solicitors
Political Researcher, a public affairs agency; Social Researcher, a health agency; Researcher, House of Commons

Counter Clerk, a bank
Clerical Officer, a local council; Administrator, a pest control company; Admin Clerk, a hospital library

Sales Assistant, Boots; Customer Assistant, Sainsburys; Barista, Starbucks

Care Assistant, a residential home
Psychology graduates from 2011

Survey response

8400 Female
1840 Male
10235 Total responses
12455 All graduates
82.2% response

a 56.4% In UK employment
b 1.1% In overseas employment
c 10.5% Working and studying
d 10.4% Studying in the UK for a higher degree
   PhD Psychology
   PhD Education
   MSc Speech and Language Therapy
   MSc DNA Profiling
   MA Clinical Counselling
   MA Brain Imaging
   MA Organisational Psychology
   MA Publishing
   MA Chinese Language and Culture
e 2.1% Studying in the UK for a teaching qualification
   PGCE Primary
   PGCE Secondary
f 3.2% Undertaking other further study or training in the UK
   PG Dip Social Work
   PG Dip in Human Resources Management
   Graduate Diploma in Law
   BSc Dentistry
   Foundation Diploma in Art and Design
   British Sign Language Level 2
   Counselling Skills Course
   Graduate Entry Nursing
g 0.1% Undertaking other further study or training overseas
h 7.8% Believed to be unemployed
i 3.8% Not available for employment, study or training
j 4.6% Other

DISCIPLINES INCLUDED

APPLIED PSYCHOLOGY  EXPERIMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY  PSYCHOLOGY NOT ELSEWHERE CLASSIFIED
CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY  HEALTH PSYCHOLOGY  PSYCHOMETRICS
COGNITIVE PSYCHOLOGY  NEUROPSYCHOLOGY  SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY
DEVELOPMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY  OCCUPATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY
EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY  PSYCHOLOGY
Psychology graduates from 2011

Type of work for those in employment

Graduates who are in employment either full-time, part-time, voluntary/unpaid or working and studying in the UK

- 24.4% Other Occupations
- 20.3% Retail, Catering, Waiting and Bar Staff
- 12.3% Social & Welfare Professionals
- 9.5% Other Clerical and Secretarial Occupations
- 7.9% Commercial, Industrial and Public Sector Managers
- 6.3% Business and Financial Professionals and Associate Professionals
- 5.0% Marketing, Sales and Advertising Professionals
- 3.6% Education Professionals
- 3.2% Other Professionals, Associate Professional and Technical Occupations
- 2.5% Health Professionals and Associate Professionals
- 1.9% Numerical Clerks and Cashiers
- 1.3% Arts, Design, Culture and Sports Professionals
- 0.8% Information Technology Professionals
- 0.3% Scientific Research, Analysis & Development Professionals
- 0.3% Legal Professionals
- 0.3% Unknown Occupations
- 0.2% Engineering Professionals

Examples of 2011 Psychology Graduates: Job Titles and Employers (6 months after graduation)

- Advertising Officer, an advertising agency; Marketing Executive, a health magazine; Recruitment Consultant, an international recruiter
- Director, a theatre arts company; Management Trainee, Enterprise Rent-A-Car
- Clinical Psychologist, NHS; Psychotherapist, NHS; Assistant Psychologist, NHS; Nursing Auxiliary, NHS
- Educational Assistant, a primary school; Teaching Assistant, a grammar school
- Insurance Technician, Capita; Conference and Events Assistant, a hotel
- Web Developer, an IT company; IT Service Desk Analyst, a retirement consultancy
- Outdoor Activities Instructor, a leisure company
- Neuro Rehabilitation Support Worker, a supported living company; Learning Support Worker, an arts college; Graduate Mental Health Worker, NHS; Support Worker, an autistic society; Trainee Mental Health Worker, a hospital trust;
- Clinical Support Worker, a hospital
- Researcher, a university; Research Associate, a university
- Administrator, a temping agency; HR Administrator, a wine merchants; Medical Secretary, NHS; CRM Administrator, a borough council
- Bookseller, Waterstones; Customer Assistant, Tesco
- Psychiatric Carer, a care agency; Care Assistant, a residential care home; Care Assistant, a mental health charity;
- Residential Care Home Assistant, a local council; Stables Worker, a riding school
# Sociology graduates from 2011

## Survey response

- **Total responses**: 6480
- **78.2% response rate**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>In UK employment</td>
<td>60.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In overseas employment</td>
<td>1.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Working and studying</td>
<td>7.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Studying in the UK for a higher degree</td>
<td>6.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PhD Sociology</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MPhil Latin American Studies</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MRes Research Methods</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MSc Sociological Research</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MSc Information Technology</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MA Social Work</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MA International Development</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MA Politics</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MA Youth and Community Work</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Studying in the UK for a teaching qualification</td>
<td>2.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PGDip Education (Secondary)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PGCE Primary</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Undertaking other further study or training in the UK</td>
<td>3.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PGDip Social Work</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Undertaking other further study or training overseas</td>
<td>0.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Believed to be unemployed</td>
<td>8.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not available for employment, study or training</td>
<td>3.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>5.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Disciplines Included

- **Applied Sociology**
- **Disability in Society**
- **Ethnic Studies**
- **Gender Studies**
- **Men’s Studies**
- **Political Sociology**
- **Religion in Society**
- **Social Hierarchy**
- **Social Theory**
- **Socio-Economics**
- **Sociology**
- **Sociology Not Elsewhere Classified**
- **Sociology of Science and Technology**
- **Women’s Studies**
Sociology graduates from 2011

Type of work for those in employment
Graduates who are in employment either full-time, part-time, voluntary/unpaid or working and studying in the UK

- 24.5% Retail, Catering, Waiting and Bar Staff
- 21.8% Other Occupations
- 12.2% Other Clerical and Secretarial Occupations
- 9.7% Commercial, Industrial and Public Sector Managers
- 7.7% Social & Welfare Professionals
- 7.3% Business and Financial Professionals and Associate Professionals
- 5.5% Marketing, Sales and Advertising Professionals
- 2.5% Education Professionals
- 2.4% Other Professionals, Associate Professional and Technical Occupations
- 2.4% Numerical Clerks and Cashiers
- 1.8% Arts, Design, Culture and Sports Professional
- 0.7% Health Professionals and Associate Professionals
- 0.7% Legal Professionals
- 0.5% Information Technology Professionals
- 0.3% Unknown Occupations
- 0.1% Scientific Research, Analysis & Development Professionals
- 0.1% Engineering Professionals

EXAMPLES OF 2011 SOCIOLOGY GRADUATES: JOB TITLES AND EMPLOYERS (6 months after graduation)

- Transport Manager, a travel company; Trainee Property Manager, a property management company
- Trainee Teacher, a college; Teaching Assistant, a primary school; Student Support Worker, a university; Student Advocate, a university
- Events Co-ordinator, a hotel; Finance Auditor, a financial services company; Performance Analyst, United Utilities
- Mental Health Coach, a charity; Learning Support Assistant, a council; Support Worker, a homecare company
- Administrative Assistant, a university
- Bar Server, a hotel; Sales Assistant, Next
- Postman, Royal Mail; Call Centre Agent
Arts, creative arts and humanities degrees offer a whole spectrum of different opportunities for graduates. The creative industries play an important part in the UK economy and are projected to grow at more than twice the national average over the next few years. Portfolio careers, where people will undertake a variety of projects and employment rather than one sole activity, are a mainstay of the creative industries, especially earlier in the career paths of these graduates. This often leads to high percentages going into work in clerical, hospitality and catering professions early in their careers to supplement professional preparation.

Destinations and types of work

Art and design – First degree art and design graduates in 2010/11 enjoyed high levels of employment (72.0% were in employment or working and studying) compared to the other degrees in the arts, creative arts and humanities. These graduates are more likely to work self-employed or freelance with 14.4% of those in employment working for themselves. They are less likely to proceed to further study than the other arts, creative arts and humanities degrees, with the exception of media studies. Over a third of arts and design graduates in employment in the UK (34.5%) secured work in arts, design, culture and sports professions, with the most common job titles including artist, graphic artist, and clothing designer. A number of arts and design graduates will be building up creative businesses and creating portfolios which is often supplemented by roles in retail, catering or clerical work. 30.7% of 2010/11 arts and design graduates were working in these roles six months after graduation.

English – Graduates with an English degree traditionally progress to a wide variety of destinations, and the 2010/11 cohort is no different. A fifth (20.0%) of English graduates were in further study immediately after graduation, with types of study ranging from things like teacher training to professional qualifications and further postgraduate study. Of the 2010/11 English cohort, 62.5% reported being in some kind of employment or working and studying. The most common types of work that English graduates in employment in the UK were doing include marketing, sales and advertising (9.4%), commercial, industrial and public sector management (7.7%), arts, design, culture and sports professions (8.3%), education professions (6.8%), and business and finance professions and associate professions (5.9%).

History – History graduates from 2010/11 were the most likely to enter further study among the arts, creative arts and humanities graduates with 21.2% undertaking some kind of further study. The subject of further study varies widely and includes subjects ranging from politics, history and law to journalism, information management and education. Of the 50.4% of history graduates who reported being in employment or working and studying in the UK, 10.9% went into business and finance professions and associate professions and 10.1% went into commercial, industrial or public sector management. These results were both higher than the education professions and arts, design, culture and sports professions combined, which only made up 7.4% of those in employment. Of the 2010/11 history cohort, 9.1% reported being unemployed, which is slightly higher than last year and marginally above the national average.

Media studies – Graduates with a media studies degree have a high employment rate with 71.8% in employment or working and studying. They also have the highest average unemployment rate among the arts, creative arts and humanities degrees at 12.3% however this has decreased from 14.1% for 2009/10 graduates. Media studies graduates are less likely to continue on to further study than the English, history and languages graduates. Of those in employment, a number of media studies graduates took roles in arts, design, culture and sports professions (17.8%) and marketing, sales and advertising professions (10.3%).

Languages – Graduate employers report placing considerable value on graduates who have studied languages. Language degrees lead to the highest rate of employment or further study overseas (11.7%) which is more than five times the national average of university graduates (2.3%). A large number of graduates (35.5%) take up roles in business and finance, marketing and communications and management occupations. Education and arts and cultural roles accounted for 13.0% of employment amongst graduates. Language graduates are the least likely to be unemployed among the arts and humanities degrees (8.8%) as well as being the least likely to be working in retail and catering roles (17.9%).

Performing arts – Of the first degree graduates from 2010/11 who completed performing arts degrees, 70.9% reported being in employment or working and studying six months after they graduated. These graduates take up a wide range of roles both inside and outside the performing arts sector. This year 23.2% of graduates in employment in the UK reported working in arts, design, culture and sports professions which is a slight decrease from 2009/10 performing arts graduates (23.7%). Becoming a performer isn’t the only route into work in the performance sector; there are a wide range of roles which require skills and knowledge gained through a performing arts degree such as, management, technical professions and production staff. Education continues to be a common destination after these degrees with 9.9% of 2010/11 performing arts graduates in employment taking up positions as education professionals; more graduates move into education from these degrees than from any other in the arts, creative arts and humanities. The unemployment rate stands at 9.1% for these degree holders, which is slightly higher than the national average (8.6%).

References

2. More information about portfolio careers is available at: www.creative-choices.co.uk
4. For a list of jobs and case studies about the roles in the performance sector and other creative sectors go to: www.creative-choices.co.uk.
Further reading
AGCAS Options Series:
www.prospects.ac.uk/options_with_your_subjects.htm
AGCAS Occupational Profiles:
www.prospects.ac.uk/types_of_jobs.htm

Useful publications
Benn’s media Directory UK Volume 2012
Careers in Media and Film: The essential Guide Georgina
Gregory Sage, 2008
Careers Using Languages, Edda Ostarhild, Kogan Page
Careers with an Arts or Humanities Degree, Philip Schofield,
Lifetime Publishing.
Contacts 2010, Kate Poynton (Ed) Spotlight 2009
What Can I Do With… an Arts Degree? Gillian Sharp and Beryl
Dixon, Trotman

Useful websites
www.ccskills.org.uk - Creative & Cultural Skills
www.cilt.org.uk - The National Centre for Languages
www.design-council.org.uk - Design Council
www.fashionunited.co.uk - Jobs in the fashion industry
www.intute.ac.uk/artsandhumanities - database of relevant websites
www.ism.org - The Incorporated Society of Musicians
www.ncdt.org.uk - National Council for Drama Training
www.skillset.org/careers - Sector Skills Council for Creative Media

Case studies
Steph
Job Title: Performing Arts Teacher
Subject studied: Drama
After university, I moved to Worcester where I found a job as an
arts technician within a school. The hours were varied at first so
to supplement this I worked backstage at local theatres and for
professional touring companies in the area. Eventually the hours
as an arts technician were increased and it became full-time.
After two years, the school recommended I apply for the Graduate
Teacher Programme which I completed last June. I am now a
qualified teacher working in a specialist performing arts school.
Studying performing arts at university prepared me for a variety
careers due to the variety in the course.

Angela
Job Title: Editor
Subject studied: Modern and medieval languages (French and
German)
During my languages degree I spent my year abroad in Berlin doing
an internship at an educational publishers in the languages
department (working on English course books for vocational
schools). After completing my degree I spent six months at home
for family reasons and then began looking for jobs in the publishing
field and started some freelance work with publishers to bridge the
gap and add to my experience. I got in contact again with the
people I had worked with on my year abroad and I was offered a
job as maternity cover for an editor in the English for adult learners
department. After the 15 month placement, I began a permanent
contract as editor back in the vocational area. I have now been
here in Berlin for four and a half years. I edit and project manage
English course books for vocational schools ranging from ‘general’
English courses for 15 to 19 year olds to course books in technical,
business and social areas for apprenticeships. This involves all
areas of making a book from finding authors and advisers, editing
and proof reading books to organising layouts, pictures etc. I like
the variety and the fact that I get to learn new things all the time.

Ruth
Job Title: Freelance Artist
Subject studied: Fine art
I have spent time temping and working in part-time skilled and
unskilled jobs to keep my studio going. I still take on temporary
admin work and work as an artist alongside. This enables me
to go abroad for temporary art events/workshops and to fulfil
residencies, exhibitions, workshops, curating self-led projects
and occasional lecturing work. Gradually the amount of time spent
working in the art world is increasing and the time spent
in unskilled jobs is decreasing accordingly. I would advise
prospective fine arts students that if the fine art course you apply to
doesn’t offer a business/work module then incorporate this yourself
as part of your studies. To those who have graduated, if you love
what you do just keep going, eventually the work should build up.
Network everywhere and with everyone - visit frequently private
views at galleries, events, lectures and keep in contact with those
whose work influences yours.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Numbers graduating (survey respondents)</th>
<th>Entering employment</th>
<th>Entering further study/training</th>
<th>Working and studying</th>
<th>Unemployed at time of survey</th>
<th>Other</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Art and design</td>
<td>13335</td>
<td>66.0%</td>
<td>6.0%</td>
<td>5.9%</td>
<td>11.6%</td>
<td>10.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>9195</td>
<td>53.2%</td>
<td>20.0%</td>
<td>9.3%</td>
<td>9.0%</td>
<td>8.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>History</td>
<td>8635</td>
<td>52.7%</td>
<td>21.2%</td>
<td>8.6%</td>
<td>9.1%</td>
<td>8.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Media studies</td>
<td>4855</td>
<td>67.9%</td>
<td>6.1%</td>
<td>3.9%</td>
<td>12.3%</td>
<td>9.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Languages</td>
<td>6855</td>
<td>55.5%</td>
<td>20.5%</td>
<td>8.0%</td>
<td>8.8%</td>
<td>7.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Performing arts</td>
<td>9155</td>
<td>63.6%</td>
<td>12.4%</td>
<td>7.3%</td>
<td>9.1%</td>
<td>7.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All subjects</td>
<td><strong>244680</strong></td>
<td><strong>61.8%</strong></td>
<td><strong>13.1%</strong></td>
<td><strong>8.4%</strong></td>
<td><strong>8.6%</strong></td>
<td><strong>8.2%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 1. Destinations of first degree arts, creative arts and humanities graduates from 2010/11, six months after graduation
Art and design graduates from 2011

Survey response

8930 Female
4405 Male
13335 Total responses
16255 All graduates
82.0 % response

a 64.3% In UK employment
b 1.8% In overseas employment
c 5.9% Working and studying
d 3.3% Studying in the UK for a higher degree
   MA Fine Art
   MA Graphic Design
   MA Textiles
   MA Contemporary Curating
e 0.8% Studying in the UK for a teaching qualification
   PGCE Secondary Art and Design
   PGCE Primary
f 1.9% Undertaking other further study or training in the UK
   PGDip Scenic Art
g 0.1% Undertaking other further study or training overseas
h 11.6% Believed to be unemployed
i 3.8% Not available for employment, study or training
j 6.6% Other

DISCIPLINES INCLUDED

CERAMICS DESIGN
CLOTHING/FASHION DESIGN
DESIGN STUDIES
FURNITURE DESIGN
GRAPHIC DESIGN
ILLUSTRATION
INDUSTRIAL/PRODUCT DESIGN
INTERACTIVE AND ELECTRONIC DESIGN
INTERIOR DESIGN
MULTIMEDIA DESIGN
TEXTILE DESIGN
TYPOGRAPHY
VISUAL COMMUNICATION
DESIGN STUDIES NOT ELSEWHERE CLASSIFIED
BOOK CONSERVATION
CALLIGRAPHY
CONTEMPORARY FINE ARTS
DECORATIVE ARTS
DRAWING
FINE ART CONSERVATION
FINE ART PRACTISE
FINE ART RESTORATIONS
FINE ART THEORY
PAINTING
PRINTMAKING
SCULPTURE
FINE ART NOT ELSEWHERE CLASSIFIED
Art and design graduates from 2011

Type of work for those in employment

Graduates who are in employment either full-time, part-time, voluntary/unpaid or working and studying in the UK

- 34.5% Arts, Design, Culture and Sports Professional
- 25.1% Retail, Catering, Waiting and Bar Staff
- 13.0% Other Occupations
- 5.6% Other Clerical and Secretarial Occupations
- 5.6% Commercial, Industrial and Public Sector Managers
- 5.4% Marketing, Sales and Advertising Professionals
- 2.2% Other Professionals, Associate Professional and Technical Occupations
- 1.9% Education Professionals
- 1.8% Business and Financial Professionals and Associate Professionals
- 1.2% Information Technology Professionals
- 1.2% Engineering Professionals
- 0.9% Numerical Clerks and Cashiers
- 0.9% Social & Welfare Professionals
- 0.4% Health Professionals and Associate Professionals
- 0.2% Unknown Occupations
- 0.1% Legal Professionals
- 0.0% Scientific Research, Analysis & Development Professionals

Examples of 2011 art and design graduates: Job titles and employers (6 months after graduation)

- Marketing Officer, an art company; Marketing Assistant, a stage entertainment company; Sales Assistant, an auction house
- Event Planner and Sales Assistant, a bridal store
- Gallery Manager, Art Gallery; Office Auction Manager, an auctioneers
- Design Engineer, a design and manufacturing company
- Underwriter, a retail company
- Games Tester, Sega
- Freelance Photographer; Interior Designer, a commercial premises design company; Set Designer, a London theatre; Artist, self-employed: Assistant Editor, a publishing company; Presentation Artist, an interior design company; Designer, a design and management company; Product Designer, a homewares supplier
- Community Worker, a county council; Occupational Therapist, a hospital
- Supervisor, a book store
- Junior Visual Merchandiser, a retail store
English graduates from 2011

Survey response

6835 Female
2360 Male
9195 Total responses
11365 All graduates
80.9 % response

a  50.6% In UK employment
b  2.5% In overseas employment
c  9.3% Working and studying
d  10.8% Studying in the UK for a higher degree
   PhD English
   MSc Psychology
   MA Gothic Studies
   MA Journalism
   MA History
e  4.6% Studying in the UK for a teaching qualification
   PGCE Secondary English
   PGCE Drama and Media
   PGCE Primary
f  4.3% Undertaking other further study or training in the UK
   PGDip Speech and Language Therapy
   Graduate Diploma Law
g  0.3% Undertaking other further study or training overseas
h  9.0% Believed to be unemployed
i  4.0% Not available for employment, study or training
j  4.6% Other

DISCIPLINES INCLUDED

ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE
ENGLISH LANGUAGE
ENGLISH LITERATURE
ENGLISH LITERATURE BY AUTHOR
ENGLISH LITERATURE BY PERIOD
ENGLISH LITERATURE BY TOPIC
ENGLISH LITERATURE WRITTEN AS A SECOND LANGUAGE
ENGLISH STUDIES
ENGLISH STUDIES NOT ELSEWHERE CLASSIFIED
English graduates from 2011

Type of work for those in employment

Graduates who are in employment either full-time, part-time, voluntary/unpaid or working and studying in the UK

- 23.6% Retail, Catering, Waiting and Bar Staff
- 16.3% Other Occupations
- 12.1% Other Clerical and Secretarial Occupations
- 9.4% Marketing, Sales and Advertising Professionals
- 8.3% Arts, Design, Culture and Sports Professional
- 7.7% Commercial, Industrial and Public Sector Managers
- 6.8% Education Professionals
- 5.9% Business and Financial Professionals and Associate Professionals
- 3.7% Social & Welfare Professionals
- 2.0% Other Professionals, Associate Professional and Technical Occupations
- 1.7% Numerical Clerks and Cashiers
- 0.9% Information Technology Professionals
- 0.6% Health Professionals and Associate Professionals
- 0.5% Unknown Occupations
- 0.3% Legal Professionals
- 0.2% Engineering Professionals
- 0.0% Scientific Research, Analysis & Development Professionals

EXAMPLES OF 2011 ENGLISH GRADUATES: JOB TITLES AND EMPLOYERS (6 months after graduation)

- PR Account Representative, a communications consultancy firm; Copy Writer, The Idea Lab
- Civil Servant, Home Office; Managing Director, a business support company; Publicity and Marketing Manager, a leisure activities company
- Creative Writing Teacher, a university; English Teacher, Teach First; Language Assistant, a county council
- Insurance Broker, an insurance company; Trainee Management Consultant, a management consultancy company; Business Support Analyst, a business outsourcing company; Communications Assistant, Tata Steel
- Junior Service Desk Analyst, NHS; Olympic Sports Professional, Team Great Britain; Editorial Designer; Television Production Assistant, a broadcasting company; Editorial Assistant, International Bar Association
- Trainee Solicitor, a law firm
- Careers Adviser, a university; Policy Adviser, the Government
- Senior Box Office Assistant, a theatre
History graduates from 2011

Survey response

- **4420** Female
- **4210** Male
- **8635** Total responses
- **10395** All graduates
- **83.0%** response

a. **50.4%** In UK employment
b. **2.3%** In overseas employment
c. **8.6%** Working and studying
d. **13.7%** Studying in the UK for a higher degree
   - PhD History
   - MA War, Culture and History
   - MA War Studies
   - MA Journalism
   - MA Information and Library Management
e. **2.4%** Studying in the UK for a teaching qualification
   - PGCE Secondary History
f. **4.6%** Undertaking other further study or training in the UK
   - LLB Law
   - Graduate Diploma in Law
g. **0.5%** Undertaking other further study or training overseas
h. **9.1%** Believed to be unemployed
i. **4.3%** Not available for employment, study or training
j. **4.2%** Other

**DISCIPLINES INCLUDED**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>African History</th>
<th>Family History</th>
<th>Medieval History</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>American History</td>
<td>French History</td>
<td>Military History</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ancient History</td>
<td>German History</td>
<td>Modern History</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian History</td>
<td>History by Area</td>
<td>New Zealand History</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australasian History</td>
<td>History by Area Not Elsewhere Classified</td>
<td>North African History</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australian History</td>
<td>History by Period</td>
<td>Oral History</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>British History</td>
<td>History by Period Not Elsewhere Classified</td>
<td>Russian History</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Byzantine History</td>
<td>History by Topic</td>
<td>Scottish History</td>
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<td>Canadian History</td>
<td>History by Topic Not Elsewhere Classified</td>
<td>Social History</td>
</tr>
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<td>Central African History</td>
<td>Iberian History</td>
<td>South American History</td>
</tr>
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<td>Central American History</td>
<td>Indian History</td>
<td>South East Asian History</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chinese History</td>
<td>Intellectual History</td>
<td>Southern African History</td>
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<td>Economic History</td>
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<td>Welsh History</td>
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<td>Italian History</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>European History</td>
<td>Local History</td>
<td>World History</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## History graduates from 2011

### Type of work for those in employment

Graduates who are in employment either full-time, part-time, voluntary/unpaid or working and studying in the UK.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Work</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Retail, Catering, Waiting and Bar Staff</td>
<td>23.7%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other Occupations</td>
<td>15.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Clerical and Secretarial Occupations</td>
<td>12.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business and Financial Professionals and Associate Professionals</td>
<td>10.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commercial, Industrial and Public Sector Managers</td>
<td>10.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marketing, Sales and Advertising Professionals</td>
<td>8.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Professionals, Associate Professional and Technical Occupations</td>
<td>4.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arts, Design, Culture and Sports Professional</td>
<td>3.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education Professionals</td>
<td>3.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social &amp; Welfare Professionals</td>
<td>2.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Numerical Clerks and Cashiers</td>
<td>1.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information Technology Professionals</td>
<td>1.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legal Professionals</td>
<td>0.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Professionals and Associate Professionals</td>
<td>0.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unknown Occupations</td>
<td>0.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engineering Professionals</td>
<td>0.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scientific Research, Analysis &amp; Development Professionals</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### EXAMPLES OF 2011 HISTORY GRADUATES: JOB TITLES AND EMPLOYERS (6 months after graduation)

- PR and Communications Officer, a charity; Marketing Executive, a publishing company.
- Graduate Management Trainee, Admiral Insurance; Visitor Operations Site Manager, English Heritage; Army Officer, British Army.
- History Lecturer, a university.
- Trainee Chartered Accountant, a chartered accountants; Financial Controller, a sports governing body; Recruitment Consultant, a specialist recruiter; Analyst, Bank of England.
- IT Technician, a county council.
- Minster Host, York Minster; Historic Home Team Officer, National Trust; Researcher, a publishing company.
- Mental Health Community Officer, a local authority.
- Banking Services Researcher, a financial advisers; Archivist, British Library.
- Personal Assistant, a foreign embassy; Legal Secretary, a law firm; Database Administrator, a communications company; Information Assistant, a university library.
- Labourer, a building company; Museum Facilitator, a museum.
Media studies graduates from 2011

Survey response

2500 Female
2355 Male
4855 Total responses
6195 All graduates
78.4% response

a 66.5% In UK employment
b 1.3% In overseas employment
c 3.9% Working and studying
d 3.7% Studying in the UK for a higher degree
   MA Global Cinema
   MA Cultural Studies
e 0.7% Studying in the UK for a teaching qualification
   PGCE Secondary
f 1.6% Undertaking other further study or training in the UK
   PGDip Journalism
g 0.1% Undertaking other further study or training overseas
h 12.3% Believed to be unemployed
i 3.2% Not available for employment, study or training
j 6.7% Other

DISCIPLINES INCLUDED

- BROADCASTING
- COMMUNICATION AND MEDIA STUDIES
- CULTURE, MEDIA AND COMMUNICATION
- ELECTRONIC MEDIA STUDIES
- FILM AND CULTURAL STUDIES
- FILM AND MEDIA STUDIES
- FILM PRODUCTION

- FILM STUDIES
- MEDIA AND COMMUNICATION STUDIES
- MEDIA AND CULTURAL STUDIES
- MEDIA PRACTISES
- MEDIA PRODUCTION
- MEDIA STUDIES
- MEDIA STUDIES NOT ELSEWHERE CLASSIFIED

- MEDIA TECHNOLOGY
- PAPER-BASED MEDIA STUDIES
- RADIO PRODUCTION
- RADIO STUDIES
- SCREEN PRODUCTION
- TELEVISION PRODUCTION
- TELEVISION STUDIES
Media studies graduates from 2011

Type of work for those in employment

Graduates who are in employment either full-time, part-time, voluntary/unpaid or working and studying in the UK

- 28.6% Retail, Catering, Waiting and Bar Staff
- 17.8% Arts, Design, Culture and Sports Professional
- 14.2% Other Occupations
- 10.3% Marketing, Sales and Advertising Professionals
- 8.8% Other Clerical and Secretarial Occupations
- 7.6% Commercial, Industrial and Public Sector Managers
- 4.0% Business and Financial Professionals and Associate Professionals
- 2.0% Information Technology Professionals
- 1.5% Education Professionals
- 1.4% Numerical Clerks and Cashiers
- 1.3% Social & Welfare Professionals
- 1.1% Other Professionals, Associate Professional and Technical Occupations
- 0.4% Health Professionals and Associate Professionals
- 0.4% Engineering Professionals
- 0.3% Unknown Occupations
- 0.1% Legal Professionals
- 0.0% Scientific Research, Analysis & Development Professionals

Examples of 2011 Media Studies graduates: Job titles and employers

(6 months after graduation)

- Digital Marketing Officer, a media consultancy; Sales Representative, a medical products company; Public Relations Officer, a PR company;
- Restaurant Manager, a restaurant; Office Manager, a retail company; Recruitment Manager, a business consultancy firm
- Teaching Assistant, a secondary school; Literacy Co-ordinator, a school
- Lettings Officer, an estate agent; Events Coordinator, Prince’s Trust
- Website Designer, an IT company
- Station Producer, QMG Radio; Radio Production Assistant, BBC; Runner, a television production company; Media Producer, a production company;
- Camera Assistant, an independent production company; Researcher, a broadcasting company; Editorial Assistant, an internet company
- Marketing Assistant, a shopping centre
- Personal Assistant, a retailer
Languages graduates from 2011

Survey response

4730 Female
2125 Male
6855 Total responses
8420 All graduates
81.4% response

a  44.9% In UK employment
b  10.6% In overseas employment
c  8.0% Working and studying
d  10.1% Studying in the UK for a higher degree
    MA Translation with Language Technology
    MA Interpretation
    MA Professional Media Practice
e  4.3% Studying in the UK for a teaching qualification
    PGCE Secondary Welsh
f  5.0% Undertaking other further study or training
    in the UK
    Japanese Language
g  1.1% Undertaking other further study or training
    overseas
h  8.8% Believed to be unemployed
i  4.0% Not available for employment, study or training
j  3.2% Other

DISCIPLINES INCLUDED
AFRICAN LANGUAGE STUDIES
AFRICAN STUDIES
AKKADIAN
ANCIENT CELTIC STUDIES
ANCIENT EGYPTIAN
ANCIENT LANGUAGE STUDIES
ANCIENT LANGUAGE STUDIES NOT ELSEWHERE CLASSIFIED
APPLIED LINGUISTICS
ARAMAIC
AUSTRALASIAN LANGUAGE STUDIES
AUSTRALASIAN STUDIES
BRYTHONIC GROUP OF LANGUAGES
CELTIC STUDIES
CHINESE STUDIES
CHURCH LATIN
CLASSICAL ARABIC
CLASSICAL CHURCH GREEK
CLASSICAL GREEK STUDIES
CLASSICAL STUDIES
COMPARATIVE LITERARY STUDIES
COMPARATIVE LITERARY STUDIES NOT ELSEWHERE CLASSIFIED
COPTIC
CORNISH
EASTERN, ASIATIC, AFRICAN, AMERICAN AND AUSTRALASIAN LANGUAGES, LITERATURE AND RELATED SUBJECTS
EUROPEAN LANGUAGES, LITERATURE AND RELATED SUBJECTS NOT ELSEWHERE CLASSIFIED
FRENCH STUDIES
Goidelic Group of Languages
HEBREW
HISTORICAL LINGUISTICS
IRISH GAELIC
IRISH GAELIC LITERATURE
ITALIAN STUDIES
JAPANESE STUDIES
LANGUAGES NOT ELSEWHERE CLASSIFIED
LATE GREEK
LATIN AMERICAN LANGUAGE STUDIES
LATIN AMERICAN LITERATURE STUDIES
LATIN AMERICAN SOCIETY AND CULTURE STUDIES
LATIN LANGUAGE
LATIN LITERATURE
LATIN LITERATURE IN TRANSLATION
LATIN STUDIES
LATIN STUDIES NOT ELSEWHERE CLASSIFIED
LINGUISTICS
LINGUISTICS NOT ELSEWHERE CLASSIFIED
LITERATURE IN ITS ORIGINAL LANGUAGE
LITERATURE IN TRANSLATION
MANX
MEDIEVAL LATIN
MODERN CELTIC STUDIES
MODERN MIDDLE EASTERN STUDIES
OTHER LANGUAGES
OTHER LITERATURE
OTHER SOCIETIES AND CULTURES
OTHERS IN LINGUISTICS, CLASSICS AND RELATED SUBJECTS
PHONETICS
PHONETICS AND PHONOLOGY
PHONOLOGY
Languages graduates from 2011

Type of work for those in employment

Graduates who are in employment either full-time, part-time, voluntary/unpaid or working and studying in the UK

- 17.9% Retail, Catering, Waiting and Bar Staff
- 13.6% Business and Financial Professionals and Associate Professionals
- 11.7% Marketing, Sales and Advertising Professionals
- 11.4% Other Clerical and Secretarial Occupations
- 11.2% Other Occupations
- 10.2% Commercial, Industrial and Public Sector Managers
- 7.2% Arts, Design, Culture and Sports Professional
- 5.8% Education Professionals
- 2.9% Other Professionals, Associate Professional and Technical Occupations
- 2.7% Social & Welfare Professionals
- 2.1% Numerical Clerks and Cashiers
- 1.6% Information Technology Professionals
- 0.5% Legal Professionals
- 0.5% Unknown Occupations
- 0.4% Health Professionals and Associate Professionals
- 0.2% Engineering Professionals
- 0.1% Scientific Research, Analysis & Development Professionals

EXAMPLES OF 2011 LANGUAGES GRADUATES: JOB TITLES AND EMPLOYERS

(6 months after graduation)

- Sales Lead Associate, Thyssen Krupp; Account Handler, a PR company; Marketing Executive, a biscuit manufacturer
- Business Development Manager, a financial company; Graduate Management Trainee, Waitrose
- French Teacher, a private language school
- Tax Associate, PWC; Export Agent, Grupo Mercantis; Analyst, BskyB; Multi-Lingual Support Officer, Bloomberg
- Audit Associate, Ernst & Young
- IT Assistant, a financial company
- Screen Writer, BBC; Radio Broadcaster, an international radio broadcaster; Publishing Assistant, a publishing company; Runner, BBC
- Swedish Translator, a translation company; Political Risk Consultant, an international consultancy firm; Research Associate, an energy consultancy; Researcher, a charity
- Bilingual Executive PA, a global investment firm
- Co-ordinator of International Relations, a city council; Pastry Chef, a restaurant
Performing arts graduates from 2011

Survey response

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Discipline</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>In UK employment</td>
<td>61.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In overseas employment</td>
<td>1.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Working and studying</td>
<td>7.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Studying in the UK for a higher degree</td>
<td>6.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Music</td>
<td>MMus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Journalism</td>
<td>MA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Studying in the UK for a teaching qualification</td>
<td>2.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secondary Music</td>
<td>PGCE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primary</td>
<td>PGCE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Undertaking other further study or training in the UK</td>
<td>3.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>British Ballet Organisation</td>
<td>Diploma in Dance Teaching</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Undertaking other further study or training overseas</td>
<td>0.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Believed to be unemployed</td>
<td>9.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not available for employment, study or training</td>
<td>2.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>5.1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

DISCIPLINES INCLUDED

- Acting
- Body Awareness
- Choreography
- Dance
- Dance Not Elsewhere Classified
- Directing for Theatre
- Drama
- Drama Not Elsewhere Classified
- History of Dance
- History of Music
- Music
- Music Not Elsewhere Classified
- Musical Instrument History
- Musician/ship: Performance Studies
- Musicology
- Producing for Theatre
- Stage Design
- Stage Management
- Theatre Design
- Theatre Studies
- Theatrical Make-Up
- Theatrical Wardrobe Design
- Types of Dance
- Types of Music
Performing arts graduates from 2011

Type of work for those in employment

Graduates who are in employment either full-time, part-time, voluntary/unpaid or working and studying in the UK

- 25.7% Retail, Catering, Waiting and Bar Staff
- 23.2% Arts, Design, Culture and Sports Professional
- 15.7% Other Occupations
- 9.9% Education Professionals
- 7.1% Other Clerical and Secretarial Occupations
- 5.9% Commercial, Industrial and Public Sector Managers
- 3.9% Marketing, Sales and Advertising Professionals
- 3.1% Business and Financial Professionals and Associate Professionals
- 2.1% Social & Welfare Professionals
- 0.9% Numerical Clerks and Cashiers
- 0.9% Other Professionals, Associate Professional and Technical Occupations
- 0.6% Information Technology Professionals
- 0.4% Health Professionals and Associate Professionals
- 0.3% Engineering Professionals
- 0.2% Unknown Occupations
- 0.1% Legal Professionals
- 0.0% Scientific Research, Analysis & Development Professionals

EXAMPLES OF 2011 PERFORMING ARTS GRADUATES: JOB TITLES AND EMPLOYERS
(6 months after graduation)

Marketing and Publicity Assistant, a national orchestra
Theatre Manager, a London theatre
Dance Teacher, a specialist dance school; Music Teacher, self-employed; Teaching Assistant, a secondary school
Commercial Affairs Coordinator, Universal Music Group
Actor, in a feature film; Freelance Set Designer; Subscriptions Officer, a symphony orchestra; Assistant Stage Manager, a dance company; Choral Scholar, a city cathedral; Activities Entertainer, a cruise liner; Artistic Director, a theatre company
Youth Worker, a borough council; Art Therapist
Cabin crew, an international airline
For each of the last three years, around 9% of the total undergraduate population have studied marketing, accountancy, business or management studies. 69.3% of these students studied business or management studies, with accountancy accounting for 17.9% and marketing 12.8% of 2010/11 graduates studying in this subject area.

**Destinations**

Figures in Table 1 are taken from the Destinations of Leavers from Higher Education (DHLE) survey 2010/11 and shows the destinations of first degree graduates from this cohort.

**Accountancy**

The proportion of accountancy graduates who were working and studying was 21.4%, more than two and a half times higher than the proportion of graduates from all subjects. This makes the combined percentage of accountancy graduates entering employment and working and studying six months after graduation 73.0%, up for the second year running.

The proportion entering further study or training continued to fall (down to 7.4%, significantly less than the 2008/09 figure of 10.2%). It could be that individuals have decided it is better to have the flexibility to apply for jobs and attend interviews rather than the financial and time-related costs of further study.

**Business and management**

Combining the proportion of business and management studies graduates entering employment and working and studying leads to 74.3% in employment six months after graduation, which is an increase for the second year running.

10.1% were believed to be unemployed at the time of the survey, up from 9.7% last year, which continues the trend of a higher proportion of unemployed business and management graduates compared with graduates from all subjects (8.6%).

The area where business and management graduates are significantly different from the whole cohort of 2010/11 graduates is in the proportion of those entering further study or training: 6.6% compared to 13.1%. One of the reasons for this may be that the careers that these graduates tend to follow do not usually require higher degrees as employers often recognise professional qualifications earned alongside working instead.

**Marketing**

Marketing graduates reported the highest employment rate (71.1%) of the business and administrative studies cohort. Similarly, they had the highest proportion of graduates entering employment and working and studying combined (75.3%) for the third year running.

The biggest difference between marketing and graduates from all subjects is the proportion of those entering further study or training. Only 3.8% reported this route compared to 13.1% of all graduates. This is the second year in a row that this figure has fallen; there may be a feeling amongst the cohort that further study is not sufficiently helpful to justify the cost.

**Types of work**

**Accountancy**

Over 60% of accountancy graduates are in degree-related roles six months after graduation, and this has remained the same over the last few years. It seems reasonable to conclude that studying accountancy is positively viewed by accountancy recruiters.

One of the largest non-finance types of work that accountancy graduates went into is retail, catering, waiting and bar staff at 12.1%. Whilst some of these graduates will have made positive choices to gain experience in the retail and hospitality sector, it could be inferred that many more are seeking to earn a wage whilst they continue their career search.

**Business and management**

The types of work that these graduates are in six months after graduation can be grouped into two main areas; the professions and the service industry.

Over 50% of graduates in employment in the UK were working as commercial, industrial and public sector managers, business and finance professionals and associate professionals and marketing, sales and advertising professionals. These three areas are very closely linked with the degree subject matter, and the last few years have seen a steady increase in the proportion of these graduates securing roles in these areas – 49.0% in 2008/09, 53.8% in 2009/10 and 55.1% in 2010/11.

The service industry welcomed 23.6% of the graduates into roles as retail, catering, waiting and bar staff and other clerical and secretarial occupations. These roles can be seen as entry level positions in business, so these graduates, either through choice or circumstance, are gaining skills and experience ready for the roles many envisaged working in when embarking on their degrees.

**Marketing**

There is a continuing trend for marketing graduates securing positions as marketing, sales and advertising professionals six months after graduation; 36.5% in 2010/11 compared to 30.5% in 2008/09. This is perhaps counter-intuitive as vacancies for these types of jobs are often hit during a recession but graduates who studied marketing may be better placed to gain these roles over graduates from other subjects as they already have knowledge, skills and experience in these areas from their time at university.

A further 24.2% found roles as commercial, industrial and public sector managers and business and finance professionals and associate professionals. It may be that some marketing graduates experience other parts of business that interest them and so may go into other business and finance roles.

**Salaries**

The average salaries presented here are taken from the DLHE survey. The average salary for first degree graduates in full-time employment in the UK increased a little on last year to £19,935.
The average salary for accountancy graduates is lower than the figure for all graduates at £19,250. The Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (ICAEW)\(^1\) states that its members pay a starting salary between £14,500 and £25,500 to new graduate trainees. The average salary for both management and business studies graduates increased by 2.6% and 2.0% respectively to £20,895 and £20,065. Marketing graduates showed a decrease in average salary to £18,560 compared to 2009/10 graduates, despite an increasing proportion reporting a ‘professional’ role. The Chartered Institute of Marketing report that entry level roles such as marketing administrator can typically expect to earn £18,000 to £21,000\(^2\).

References


Further reading

AGCAS Options Series – www.prospects.ac.uk/options_with_your_subject.htm:
- Accountancy and Finance
- Business Studies
- Marketing

Prospects Job Sectors - www.prospects.ac.uk/sectors.htm
- Marketing, Advertising and PR
- Business and Management
- Banking and Finance

Business (Ferguson's Careers in Focus) by Ferguson (2010)

Useful websites

www.cim.co.uk – The Chartered Institute of Marketing
www.managers.org.uk – Chartered Management Institute
www.cimaglobal.com – Chartered Institute of Management Accountants
www.icaew.co.uk – Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales

Table 1. Destinations of first degree business and administrative studies graduates from 2010/11, six months after graduation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Numbers graduating (survey respondents)</th>
<th>Entering employment</th>
<th>Entering further study/training</th>
<th>Working and studying</th>
<th>Unemployed at time of survey</th>
<th>Other</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accountancy</td>
<td>3820</td>
<td>51.6%</td>
<td>7.4%</td>
<td>21.4%</td>
<td>11.5%</td>
<td>8.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business and management studies</td>
<td>14785</td>
<td>66.6%</td>
<td>6.6%</td>
<td>7.7%</td>
<td>10.1%</td>
<td>9.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marketing</td>
<td>2730</td>
<td>71.1%</td>
<td>3.8%</td>
<td>4.2%</td>
<td>9.8%</td>
<td>11.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All subjects</td>
<td>244680</td>
<td>61.8%</td>
<td>13.1%</td>
<td>8.4%</td>
<td>8.6%</td>
<td>8.2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: DfE 2010/11

Case studies

Jake
Job title: Trainee Accountant
Subject studied: Accountancy
After I graduated I moved to North Wales with my girlfriend where she was undertaking a Masters degree and I worked for six months as a bar manager whilst looking for jobs in accounting. After six months I found a job in the finance team of a medium-sized business who sold camping gear and accessories. After a year, we moved back down south to get better career prospects and I got a job in the finance department at B&Q head office. The company will be supporting me through the professional qualifications to become a chartered accountant.

Callum
Job title: Market Analyst
Subject studied: Management studies
After graduating from the university in 2003 I completed a diploma in psychology full-time at another university. On completion, I took a role as a management consultant at PricewaterhouseCoopers which I did for a year before joining a smaller management consultancy firm. Two years later I joined a firm of recruiters to complete my training as an occupational psychologist. In 2009 I took a six month interim role as a consultant at a large airways company and qualified as a chartered occupational psychologist. In September 2009, I joined my current employer where I work as a marketing analyst. I would advise other students and graduates not to be too fixed on one particular type of job or industry. It's easy to move onto something else with a couple of year's experience.

John
Job title: Product Manager
Subject studied: Business and management
After I graduated I moved out of home so I needed a job to pay the rent. I stayed in my first job for around six months while I looked for a marketing role. I then joined a small family business in a product management role. I spent 18 months working for them before I moved to a new role with a multi-national technology company. I joined the firm as an assistant product manager but after 18 months I was promoted to product manager. After another year with the company I decided to move to a competitor to manage a bigger brand with a bigger budget. I currently manage the biggest camera brand in the UK and work with colleagues and retailers around the world to devise campaigns and make sure retailers are promoting the right mix of products.
Accounting graduates from 2011

Survey response

1655 Female
2165 Male
3820 Total responses
4695 All graduates
81.3% response

a 50.6% In UK employment
b 1.0% In overseas employment
c 21.4% Working and studying
d 3.9% Studying in the UK for a higher degree
   MSc Accounting and Finance
   MA Management
e 0.3% Studying in the UK for a teaching qualification
f 3.2% Undertaking other further study or training in the UK
   CTA
   ACA
g 0.1% Undertaking other further study or training overseas
h 11.5% Believed to be unemployed
i 3.3% Not available for employment, study or training
j 4.8% Other

DISCIPLINES INCLUDED
ACCOUNTANCY
ACCOUNTING
ACCOUNTING NOT ELSEWHERE CLASSIFIED
ACCOUNTING THEORY
AUDITING OF ACCOUNTS
BOOK-KEEPING
COST AND MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTANCY
FINANCIAL REPORTING
PUBLIC ACCOUNTANCY
Accounting graduates from 2011

Type of work for those in employment

Graduates who are in employment either full-time, part-time, voluntary/unpaid or working and studying in the UK

- 46.6% Business and Financial Professionals and Associate Professionals
- 14.2% Numerical Clerks and Cashiers
- 12.1% Retail, Catering, Waiting and Bar Staff
- 8.4% Commercial, Industrial and Public Sector Managers
- 6.0% Other Clerical and Secretarial Occupations
- 6.0% Other Occupations
- 2.6% Marketing, Sales and Advertising Professionals
- 0.9% Information Technology Professionals
- 0.7% Arts, Design, Culture and Sports Professional
- 0.5% Education Professionals
- 0.4% Other Professionals, Associate Professional and Technical Occupations
- 0.4% Social & Welfare Professionals
- 0.4% Health Professionals and Associate Professionals
- 0.3% Engineering Professionals
- 0.3% Unknown Occupations
- 0.2% Legal Professionals
- 0.0% Scientific Research, Analysis & Development Professionals

Examples of 2011 Accounting Graduates: Job Titles and Employers (6 months after graduation)

- Estate Agent, an estate agency
- Branch Manager, Nationwide; Retail Manager, Marks and Spencer; Trainee Kitchen Manager, Harvester; Assistant Manager, Greggs
- Apprentice, an engineering firm
- Teacher, a secondary school
- Tax Advisor, PwC; Accountant, RSM Tenon; Underwriter, Domestic & General; Trainee Actuary, Towers Watson; Research Assistant, Jones Lang LaSalle; Trainee Management Accountant, HMV
- IT Consultant, Deloitte
- Purchase Ledger Assistant, a manufacturing firm; Purchase Ledger Clerk, Audi; Finance Assistant, a school
- Receptionist, a communications company; Admin Clerk, a solicitors
- General Sales Assistant, Matalan; Sales Assistant, Boots
**Business and management studies graduates from 2011**

**Survey response**

7075 Female  
7710 Male  
14785 Total responses  
18470 All graduates  
80.1% response

- **a** 64.5% In UK employment  
- **b** 2.1% In overseas employment  
- **c** 7.7% Working and studying  
- **d** 4.3% Studying in the UK for a higher degree  
  - MSc Management  
  - MA Human Resources  
  - MA E-Business  
- **e** 0.5% Studying in the UK for a teaching qualification  
- **f** 1.6% Undertaking other further study or training in the UK  
  - ACA  
  - CIMA  
  - Graduate Diploma in Law  
- **g** 0.2% Undertaking other further study or training overseas  
- **h** 10.1% Believed to be unemployed  
- **i** 3.4% Not available for employment, study or training  
- **j** 5.7% Other

### DISCIPLINES INCLUDED

- BUSINESS STUDIES  
- BUSINESS STUDIES NOT ELSEWHERE CLASSIFIED  
- CHANGE MANAGEMENT  
- CREATIVE MANAGEMENT  
- DOMESTIC MANAGEMENT  
- EUROPEAN BUSINESS STUDIES  
- HOTEL AND CATERING  
- INSTITUTIONAL MANAGEMENT  
- INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS STUDIES  
- LAND AND PROPERTY MANAGEMENT  
- LAND MANAGEMENT  
- MANAGEMENT AND ORGANISATION OF EDUCATION  
- MANAGEMENT STUDIES  
- MANAGEMENT STUDIES NOT ELSEWHERE CLASSIFIED  
- MANAGEMENT TECHNIQUES  
- ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT  
- PROJECT MANAGEMENT  
- PROPERTY MANAGEMENT  
- RECREATION/LEISURE MANAGEMENT  
- RETAIL MANAGEMENT  
- STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT  
- VALUATION AND AUCTIONEERING
Business and management studies graduates from 2011

Type of work for those in employment
Graduates who are in employment either full-time, part-time, voluntary/unpaid or working and studying in the UK

- 21.6% Commercial, Industrial and Public Sector Managers
- 19.9% Business and Financial Professionals and Associate Professionals
- 14.0% Retail, Catering, Waiting and Bar Staff
- 13.6% Marketing, Sales and Advertising Professionals
- 9.6% Other Clerical and Secretarial Occupations
- 8.4% Other Occupations
- 3.4% Numerical Clerks and Cashiers
- 2.4% Other Professionals, Associate Professional and Technical Occupations
- 2.1% Information Technology Professionals
- 1.4% Arts, Design, Culture and Sports Professional
- 0.9% Social & Welfare Professionals
- 0.9% Education Professionals
- 0.8% Engineering Professionals
- 0.3% Legal Professionals
- 0.3% Health Professionals and Associate Professionals
- 0.2% Unknown Occupations
- 0.1% Scientific Research, Analysis & Development Professionals

Examples of 2011 Business and Management Studies Graduates: Job Titles and Employers (6 months after graduation)

- Sales and Marketing Executive, Virgin Active Health Clubs; Estate Agent, Foxtons; Junior Buyer, SAKS Fifth Avenue
- Graduate Management Trainee, BT; Management Trainee, Lloyds Banking Group; Graduate Trainee, BAE Systems; Operations and Training Manager, Ministry of Defence; Manager, Zizzi; Department Manager, Decathlon; Shop Floor Manager, Staples; HR Manager, Thales Corporate Services
- Tutor, a private college; Secondary School Teacher, Teach First; Learning Support Assistant, a primary school
- Financial Analyst, JP Morgan; Management Consultant, Accenture; Accountant, PWC; Recruitment Consultant, Hays; IT Consultant, IBM
- Interior Designer, self-employed; Media Assistant, a media firm; Coach, a cricket club
- Paralegal, Pinsent Masons
- Policy Associate, NGO; Assistant Surveyor, Gerald Eve LLP; Project Analyst, a logistics company; Traffic Planner, Eddie Stobart
- Marketing Assistant, a heating firm;
- Personal Assistant, an airline; Head Office Assistant, a restaurant chain
- Sales and Retail Consultant, Arcadia Group; Waitress, Toby Carvery
- Officer, RAF; Private Security Operator, a security company; President of Student’s Union, a university;
Marketing graduates from 2011

Survey response

- 1600 Female
- 1135 Male
- 2730 Total responses
- 3370 All graduates
- 81.1% response

a 69.3% In UK employment
b 1.8% In overseas employment
c 4.2% Working and studying
d 2.8% Studying in the UK for a higher degree
   - MSc Psychology
   - MA Marketing and Communication
   - MA Business and Management
e 0.1% Studying in the UK for a teaching qualification
f 0.8% Undertaking other further study or training in the UK
g 0.1% Undertaking other further study or training overseas
h 9.8% Believed to be unemployed
i 4.8% Not available for employment, study or training
j 6.3% Other

DISCIPLINES INCLUDED

- ADVERTISING
- CORPORATE IMAGE
- DISTRIBUTION
- INTERNATIONAL MARKETING
- MARKET RESEARCH
- MARKETING
- MARKETING NOT ELSEWHERE CLASSIFIED
- PROMOTION AND ADVERTISING
- SALES MANAGEMENT
- SPONSORSHIP
Marketing graduates from 2011

Type of work for those in employment
Graduates who are in employment either full-time, part-time, voluntary/unpaid or working and studying in the UK

- 36.5% Marketing, Sales and Advertising Professionals
- 16.3% Commercial, Industrial and Public Sector Managers
- 15.3% Retail, Catering, Waiting and Bar Staff
- 8.3% Other Clerical and Secretarial Occupations
- 7.9% Business and Financial Professionals and Associate Professionals
- 7.4% Other Occupations
- 2.8% Arts, Design, Culture and Sports Professional
- 2.2% Numerical Clerks and Cashiers
- 1.1% Information Technology Professionals
- 0.8% Other Professionals, Associate Professional and Technical Occupations
- 0.4% Social & Welfare Professionals
- 0.3% Education Professionals
- 0.2% Unknown Occupations
- 0.2% Engineering Professionals
- 0.1% Legal Professionals
- 0.1% Health Professionals and Associate Professionals
- 0.0% Scientific Research, Analysis & Development Professionals

Examples of 2011 Marketing graduates: Job titles and employers (6 months after graduation)

Advertising and Marketing, self-employed
Management Trainee, Lloyds Banking Group; Managing Director, a cafe; Account Manager, a search engine optimisation company;
Sales and Marketing Manager, a systems training company; Communication Director, an educational charity;
Graduate Commercial Manager, Marks and Spencer
Web Master, a TV Company
Project Manager, ASDA
Marketing Assistant, a cosmetics company
Administrator, Dyson
Teaching Assistant, a school; Cleaner, a golf club
Foundation degree written by Mary Macfarlane

Foundation degrees or Fds are university-level qualifications which combine academic study with work-based learning. They were introduced in 2000 and are designed in partnership with employers, but validated and awarded by universities.

A full-time Foundation degree is usually two years long, and designed to be slightly different in character from a traditional three-year honours degree, with an emphasis on subjects which are directly relevant to specific sectors. Fd students often spend some time in the workplace and some time in university, making it easier to find work in that sector at the end of the course.

As well as meeting skills shortages, Foundation degrees are designed to make higher education more accessible to people from lower-income backgrounds and mature students who are already in work, with students who are in work often supported by their employers. Many Fds can be studied flexibly, with students combining part-time or distance-learning study with work. Of the 23,860 who graduated in 2010/11, 15,205 had studied full-time and 8655 part-time. Entry qualifications are also relevant and important work experience is taken into account when applying for Fd courses.

After completing a Fd, you are entitled to progress on to honours degree level (usually going into the final year), but you do not have to: the Fd is a stand-alone, recognised degree in its own right, which allows graduates to use letters after their name such as FdA, FdSc or FdEng. Although Foundation degrees count as higher education, around 56% are delivered by further education colleges rather than universities.

Fds have grown significantly since their introduction in 2001 and there are now over 3100 Fd courses available. The numbers studying for a Foundation degree have also grown substantially over the ten years since they were introduced, with 13,010 UK students graduating in 2007/08, 16,225 in 2008/09, 22,085 in 2009/10 and 23,860 in 2010/11.

Destinations
Destinations in this section are based on respondents to the 2010/11 Destinations of Leavers from Higher Education (DLHE) survey, which identifies destinations six months after graduation. Of the 23,860 UK-domiciled Foundation degree graduates in 2010/11, 83.3% (19,870) responded to the survey.

Only 2.8% of Fd graduates were unemployed, well below the average figure for all first degree graduates in 2010/11 (8.6%), although slightly up from the Fd graduates in 2009/10 (2.5%). This small increase is also in line with the overall figures for unemployment, up from 8.5% in 2009/10 to 8.6% in 2010/11.

Over half (55.2%) of Fd graduates who responded to the survey were engaged in some form of further study six months following graduation, either as a sole activity (30.4%) or combined with work (24.8%). The overwhelming majority of those studying were working towards a first degree in the UK (28.8%). As in 2008/09 and 2009/10, studying to first degree level is slightly more popular amongst those who studied full-time than those who studied part-time: 61.7% of those who had studied full-time continued to study, compared to 43.0% of those who had studied part-time.

Types of work
Six months after graduation, 60.9% of Fd graduates had progressed into employment either as a primary activity (36.1%) or combined with study (24.8%).

The types of occupations that 2010/11 Fd graduates went into mirror the previous year’s survey. As Fds are vocational, Fd graduates often seek and achieve employment opportunities related to their subject, although some may take the transferrable skills they have developed during their degree and move into new occupational areas.

The DLHE survey is conducted six months after graduation and therefore only gives a picture of graduates’ first destinations. The Longitudinal DLHE survey follows up a smaller group of 2006/07 graduates three and a half years after graduating, and shows that 88% of Fd graduates who responded were in employment after three and a half years. This means that a high percentage of those who went into further study straight after their Foundation degree in 2006/07 were successful in finding work after completing their courses.

Foundation degree graduates from 2010/11 completed courses in a wide range of subject areas including education, design studies, social work, engineering, materials technology, computer science, sports science, nursing, agriculture and other subjects allied to medicine.

Among both full-time and part-time Foundation degree entrants, academic studies in education was the most common subject area, studied by 15.7% of the cohort. Design studies was the second most popular choice for full-time students, but social work was the second most popular for part-time students and across the whole cohort.

In August 2010, a new study by the (QAA) noted that Foundation “programmes had been developed in new and innovative disciplines such as Sport Coaching Rugby, Child and Adolescent Mental Health, and Marine Operations Programmes”, and that “[t]he development of Foundation Degrees has strengthened links with employers, ... demonstrated by nearly 50 cases of good practice in employer engagement and work-based learning reported”.

References
2. Foundation Destinations, published by HECSU, February 2012 http://viewer.zmags.com/publication/b55ab1bc#/b55ab1bc/1
3. QAA Information bulletin 2010: Integrated quality and enhancement review (IQER) Foundation degrees  
www.qaa.ac.uk/Publications/InformationAndGuidance/Documents/IBFoundationDegrees.pdf

Further reading  
www.prospects.ac.uk/links/yourFoundation  
Written by a higher education careers adviser, this provides detailed information about employment and study options with a Foundation Degree.

What is a Foundation degree?  
www.higherlearningatwork.org/?page_id=20  

Useful websites  
www.higherlearningatwork.org/ – lots of information about Foundation degrees

Case studies  

Mark  
Job Title: Aeronautical Manufacturing Engineer  
Subject studied: Mechanical engineering  
I hadn’t studied A-levels and therefore required a Foundation degree in engineering to access my chosen degree. I worked on a placement between my second and final years for a renowned aeronautical company. I successfully acquired sponsorship towards my top-up year to get a first degree on the grounds that I returned for a minimum of two years on the graduate scheme. I’m currently working across the business as a graduate manufacturing engineer. I’m very happy with the role I have, the company I work for and the future prospects available to me. My current role demands both project based and day-to-day support across the various departments I am placed with. I work on the graduate committee board also, dealing with graduate forums, shop floor tours, socials and training etc. I am currently an ambassador for STEMNET and work with a local group of secondary school pupils on the Engineering Education Scheme. I continue to learn every day with the valued support from my colleagues. I am lucky in the knowledge that I enjoy my job and have a future within the company.

Sam  
Job Title: Production Controller  
Subject studied: Fine art  
After my Foundation degree I went to a University in London where I completed my BA in English literature. Whilst there I gained work experience at a magazine publishers and book publishers. After graduating I stayed in London and started working at a small publisher in the sales department. This wasn’t really what I wanted to do but I needed to find work straight away. About six months later I got on to a graduate training scheme with a bigger publisher where I stayed for a year and a half. A colleague from my first job let me know about an opening at his new company in the department I was interested in. I went in for interviews and I have been in my current position as a production controller for two years. My role involves working out the specs of books, overseeing the printing and production processes, print buying and budgeting.

Carol  
Job Title: Special Needs Coordinator  
Subject studied: Education  
After completing the Foundation degree I completed a top-up year for a BA honours degree. I then completed a registered teacher program at a college in Birmingham. I worked full-time throughout my study as a teaching assistant and learning mentor at a school. I had wonderful support from the school, headteacher and senior management team and the school took the responsibility of shared work-based training alongside the college. I completed my NQT year and have now taken on the role as a special needs co-ordinator.

Jan  
Job Title: Graphic Designer  
Subject studied: Graphic design  
After studying for a Foundation degree in art, I did a top-up year to get a BA in graphic design. After graduation I started looking for work and getting my website and portfolio ready. I took on a three month internship at a social design company and currently I am working part-time casually at a book publisher whilst also volunteering as a design ambassador for the design council and I also volunteer as a creative director of a digital magazine. I also work one day a week at WHSmith which is something I have carried on from studying.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Numbers graduating (survey respondents)</th>
<th>Entering employment</th>
<th>Entering further study/training</th>
<th>Working and studying</th>
<th>Unemployed at time of survey</th>
<th>Other</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Full-time FDs</td>
<td>12985</td>
<td>29.4%</td>
<td>41.8%</td>
<td>19.9%</td>
<td>3.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Part-time FDs</td>
<td>6885</td>
<td>48.6%</td>
<td>8.8%</td>
<td>34.2%</td>
<td>1.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All FDs</td>
<td>19870</td>
<td>36.1%</td>
<td>30.4%</td>
<td>24.8%</td>
<td>2.8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: DLHE 2010/11
Foundation degrees graduates from 2011

Survey response

12165 Female
7705 Male
19870 Total responses
23860 All graduates
83.3 % response

a 35.6% In UK employment
b 0.4% In overseas employment
c 24.8% Working and studying
d 28.8% Studying in the UK for a first degree
  BEng Electrical and Electronic Engineering
  BSc Customer Marketing
  BSc Housing Practice
  BSc Integrated Therapies
  BA Events Management
e 1.5% Undertaking other further study or training in the UK
  MSc Sustainable Waste Management
f 0.0% Undertaking other further study or training overseas
g 2.8% Believed to be unemployed
h 1.4% Not available for employment, study or training
i 4.6% Other

TOP TEN MOST POPULAR SUBJECTS FOR FOUNDATION DEGREE QUALIFIERS FROM 2011
% as total number of Foundation degree qualifiers Source: DHLE 2010/11

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ACADEMIC STUDIES IN EDUCATION</td>
<td>15.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOCIAL WORK</td>
<td>7.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DESIGN STUDIES</td>
<td>5.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NURSING</td>
<td>4.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BUSINESS STUDIES</td>
<td>4.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MANAGEMENT STUDIES</td>
<td>3.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPORTS SCIENCE</td>
<td>3.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HOSPITALITY, LEISURE, TOURISM AND TRANSPORT</td>
<td>3.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OTHERS IN SUBJECTS ALLIED TO MEDICINE</td>
<td>2.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMPUTER SCIENCE</td>
<td>3.1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Foundation degrees graduates from 2011

Type of work for those in employment
Graduates who are in employment either full-time, part-time, voluntary/unpaid or working and studying in the UK

- 31.3% Other Occupations
- 15.2% Commercial, Industrial and Public Sector Managers
- 9.2% Retail, Catering, Waiting and Bar Staff
- 9.0% Health Professionals and Associate Professionals
- 8.1% Social & Welfare Professionals
- 6.0% Education Professionals
- 4.6% Other Professionals, Associate Professional and Technical Occupations
- 4.4% Arts, Design, Culture and Sports Professional
- 3.7% Engineering Professionals
- 3.4% Other Clerical and Secretarial Occupations
- 1.6% Business and Financial Professionals and Associate Professionals
- 1.5% Information Technology Professionals
- 1.1% Marketing, Sales and Advertising Professionals
- 0.6% Numerical Clerks and Cashiers
- 0.2% Scientific Research, Analysis & Development Professionals
- 0.1% Legal Professionals
- 0.1% Unknown Occupations

Examples of 2011 Foundation Degrees Graduates: Job Titles and Employers
(6 months after graduation)

- Conference and Events Assistant
- Trainee Engineer, Hawker Softeners
- Physio Assistant, NHS; Paramedic, an ambulance service
- Special Needs Assistant, a secondary school; Deputy Manager, a nursery
- Implementation Consultant, Kantar
- Freelance Musician; Studio Producer, a recording studio; Community Sports Coach, a county council
- Housing Officer, a housing trust; Street Services Officer, a local council; Young Carers Support and Development Worker, a charity
- Maintenance Joiner, a construction company; Police Officer, the police; Medic Aircraftsmen, Royal Air Force
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