

Employability and geography

Extract from prospects careers site at [http://www.prospects.ac.uk/options geography career areas.htm](http://www.prospects.ac.uk/options_geography_career_areas.htm)

This is a good website and worth exploring. No longer has the capacity to save document as a PDF so please refer to website for full details.

Geography : Career areas

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In 2009, 45% of geography graduates had entered full-time paid work, with a further 9% entering part-time paid work, combining work with further study, or undertaking voluntary work.

Many geography graduates enter subject-related career areas. Depending on how much relevant work experience (paid or voluntary) you have built up during your degree, you could also try for environment-related careers in sustainability-related work, pollution control or nature conservation as well as media and communications work, such as public relations.

In addition to subject-related jobs, geographers are successful in entering a wide variety of professions. These jobs are not likely to specify that geography is necessary, but most require the broad skills developed by geographers during your degree, which will make you attractive to employers. During your final year or after your degree, you could apply to go directly into jobs including:

- graduate management training schemes in industry and commerce such as logistics, IT, finance, human resources, market research, retail, property and surveying;

- public sector careers, including the civil service, local government, health, housing, the armed forces or the police.

Many organisations are interested in the analytical and research skills developed by geographers during their degrees. For example, The Ministry of Defence (MOD) employs geography graduates as research analysts, and the Police Service offers civilian careers in intelligence analysis and research. Companies also recruit geography graduates as trainee account executives, with responsibility for developing knowledge of their clients' accounts and understanding their research needs.

Where are the jobs?

Examples of employers include local government, the armed forces, private companies, environmental consultancies, environmental protection agencies, utilities, charities, information systems organisations, education authorities, further and higher education institutions, commerce, industry, transport, tourism and the civil service. Geography graduates have excellent transferable skills, which also attract employers from the business, law and finance sectors.

For further information on some of the above employers see:

- [Environment and agriculture](#);
- [Government and public administration](#);
- [Charity and development work](#).

See [industry insights](#) for further information on possibilities in other employment areas.

Statistics are collected every year by the Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA) to show what HE students do immediately after graduation. These can be a useful guide but, in reality, with the data being collected within just six months of graduation, many graduates are travelling, waiting to start a course, paying off debts, getting work experience or still deciding what they want to do. For further information about some of the areas of employment commonly entered by graduates of any degree discipline, check out [what do graduates do?](#) and [your degree...what next?](#)