

WHO EMPLOYS CHEMISTRY GRADUATES?

The majority of first degree chemistry graduates from universities enter home employment in industry or commerce. The major employers of the graduates working in science-based industries are in the oil, mining, chemical and allied industries. Of those first degree graduates entering commerce the majority work in accountancy.

Between 1993 and 1994 there was an upturn in the numbers of first degree graduates entering employment in both industry and commerce.

Fewer higher degree graduates enter commerce, with a larger number entering the educational sector. A substantial number are on postdoctoral fellowships.

The differing numbers of known destinations mean that it is not possible to compare old university and new university statistics directly.

The criteria for collecting data changed in 1995 with data now combined for all higher education institutions. As a result data for 1995-2001 cannot be compared directly with previous years.

The criteria for collecting data altered again in 2003. The definitions of occupation and subject area changed and part-time students were, for the first time, included in the required population. Furthermore, when publishing data HESA now use a full-time equivalent (FTE) approach whereby students graduating with 'joint' degrees (e.g. chemistry with French) are not counted as individuals, but rather apportioned between their two subjects.

As a result data from 2003 onwards cannot be compared directly with previous years. The figures include all graduates that studied in the UK, i.e. UK-domiciled and overseas students.

Employer Categories of First Degree Old University Chemistry Graduates

	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994
Total in home employment	947	807	761	647	600	625	769
Public service	86	82	78	76	55	47	66
Education	24	29	23	32	31	27	35
Industry	515	422	386	329	291	313	365
Commerce	286	241	239	170	182	197	253

Employer Categories of First Degree New University Chemistry Graduates

	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993
Total in home employment	264	269	270	203	162	139	167
Public service	22	14	26	10	14	16	3
Education	16	10	8	9	8	2	4
Industry	167	199	207	147	134	115	153
Commerce	47	40	31	25	12	14	31

Employer Categories of First Degree University Chemistry Graduates

	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
Total in home employment	1265	1183	1278	1148	1180	1025
Public service	91	87	104	86	110	110
Education	32	34	48	35	40	50
Industry	595	542	510	485	490	405
Commerce	467	435	505	480	475	390

Employer Categories of First Degree University Chemistry Graduates who Entered Employment

	2003	2004	2005	2006
Total in known employment	1235	1185	985	925
Public service	140	130	105	75
Education	115	110	90	80
Industry	430	410	360	345
Commerce	445	455	365	355

Employer Categories of Higher Degree Old University Chemistry Graduates

	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994
Total in home employment	413	399	455	435	458	380	439
Public service	37	33	49	44	48	35	48
Education	79	60	83	82	96	103	126
Industry	264	267	275	278	269	200	224
Commerce	21	23	36	19	29	27	33

Employer Categories of Higher Degree University Chemistry Graduates

	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
Total in home employment	565	596	481	483	370	310
Public Service	39	39	25	32	25	25
Education	153	165	103	130	105	100
Industry	228	236	216	193	145	110
Commerce	121	133	114	116	90	60

Employer Categories of Higher Degree University Chemistry Graduates

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
Total of known destinations	611	714	747	782	649	650	485	395
Employment	483	560	620	644	525	530	395	315
Study or training	107	115	93	106	99	90	70	50
Unemployed	33	30	28	24	17	20	10	20

Employer Categories of Higher Degree University Chemistry Graduates who Entered Employment

	2003	2004	2005	2006
Total in known employment	535	510	470	440
Public service	45	45	25	30
Education	155	175	180	155
Industry	180	155	130	120
Commerce	140	120	120	120

N.B. The data for 2007 is not yet available but will be added as soon as it is released.