

WHAT DO CHEMISTRY GRADUATES DO?

The majority of chemistry graduates enter the field of scientific and engineering research, and support services. Higher degree graduates work almost exclusively in this area.

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.

Type of Work 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
Scientific/Engineering Research & Support Services	381	326	319	299	246	277	302
Buying/Marketing/Selling	130	150	128	69	74	68	115
Financial work	230	179	158	114	93	90	107

Type of Work 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
Scientific/Engineering Research & Support Services	148	170	157	131	120	94	108
Buying/Marketing/Selling	41	38	45	23	14	17	21
Financial work	18	16	14	10	1	3	2

Type of Work of First Degree University Chemistry Graduates

	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
Total in home employment	1265	1183	1278	1148	1180	1025
Managers and administrators	152	143	154	133	135	95
Professional	548	486	467	456	480	415
Associate professional/Technical	240	216	246	233	230	180
Sales	94	91	90	86	90	80

Type of Work of First Degree University Chemistry Graduates

	2003	2004	2005	2006
Total of known work type	1235	1185	985	925
Administrative and secretarial	170	135	105	90
Associate professional/Technical	295	270	270	275
Elementary occupations*	60	55	45	40
Managers and senior officials	85	80	70	60
Personal service occupations**	25	20	35	25
Process, plant and machine operatives	25	20	15	5
Professional	450	475	370	365
Sales and customer services	115	115	75	60
Skilled trades	10	10	5	5

*This group covers occupations which require knowledge and experience necessary to perform mostly routine and technical tasks. Most of these do not require formal educational qualifications, but usually have a short period of experience-related learning. Examples include: labourers, couriers, cleaners, caretakers, porters, office juniors, etc.

**This group covers the caring personal service occupations (i.e. those related to healthcare, childcare and animal care), leisure personal services (e.g. sports and leisure assistants, travel agents, travel and tour guides), and other personal services such as hairdressers and beauticians.

Type of Work 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
Scientific/Engineering Research & Support Services	306	301	331	333	364	284	331
Financial work	8	10	5	6	6	7	14
Teaching/Lecturing	30	20	33	20	23	26	24

Type of Work of Higher Degree University Chemistry Graduates

	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
Total in home employment	565	596	481	483	370	310
Managers and administrators	42	42	35	40	30	25
Professional	429	463	350	348	285	235
Associate professional/Technical	59	50	63	78	40	30
Sales	11	16	7	4	5	5

Type of Work of Higher Degree University Chemistry Graduates

	2003	2004	2005	2006
Total of known work type	535	510	470	440
Administrative and secretarial	15	15	10	20
Associate professional/Technical	60	60	65	50
Elementary occupations*	10	5	-	-
Managers and senior officials	35	25	20	15
Personal service occupations**	0	5	-	-
Process, plant and machine operatives	5	5	-	-
Professional	405	390	360	345
Sales and customer services	5	10	10	10
Skilled trades	0	0	0	-

*This group covers occupations which require knowledge and experience necessary to perform mostly routine and technical tasks. Most of these do not require formal educational qualifications, but usually have a short period of experience-related learning. Examples include: labourers, couriers, cleaners, caretakers, porters, office juniors, etc.

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