

Labour market information tells you about the local or national demand there is for different skills and from different industries. It is a mechanism that matches potential employers of people (the demand for labour) with people who are available for work (the labour supply). Labour markets operate at local, regional, national and, increasingly, at international levels, reflecting how economies operate.

The supply of and demand for labour is constantly changing. Labour market information is compiled to track and record those changes, and to predict changes that might happen.

Labour market information is gathered from a wide variety of sources including: Government departments – e.g. unemployment figures, levels of imports and exports; The National Census – e.g. people's ages, occupations, etc; Learning and Skills Councils (LSCs) – e.g. levels and types of training in demand, skills shortages, etc; Sector Skills Councils representing particular industrial sectors, Chambers of Commerce – e.g. wages surveys, business activity surveys; Business Link – e.g. new business start-ups educational performance data – e.g. achievement and attainment tables, exam entries and results, progression data; local government – e.g. inward investments – success rates for attracting new or relocating business to the area; External IAG providers such as Connexions – e.g. employment activity surveys, education leavers' destinations and tracking information.

Labour market information is interpreted by many organisations to produce reports and forecasts on a wide range of topics, for example: National Government Departments – e.g. statistics on skills shortages and training needs; predicted staffing shortfalls in occupations like medicine and teaching; external IAG providers – e.g. reports on destinations of school leavers.

Information is provided about:

- Skills, career pathways and progression routes in the local labour market;
- Job applications and interviews;
- Educational institutions, courses, qualifications, entry requirements and costs;
- Professional bodies;
- Employment sectors, employers, jobs, salaries and employment trends;
- Jobs, training and apprenticeships;
- Job demands and working life;
- Financial planning.

When pursuing a career, it's important to have realistic expectations of how much you'll be paid, where you'll be based and how competitive it is to find a job in that industry.

Looking at labour market information while you're still at school can help you narrow down your career options. For example, you might rule out a job because you realise there aren't many opportunities in your local area, or because you don't want to work the hours it requires. Alternatively, you might decide to reconsider a career in science, technology or engineering when you find out that STEM graduates can earn 25% more than graduates from other subjects! In the next five to ten years the job market will change – there will be many more jobs in some industries than others.

Labour market information can help you to make sure you have the right skills for the jobs of the future.

Use the following sites below to explore job roles and industry information:

<https://www.lmiforall.org.uk/> can help access basic data on different jobs which is helpful as a starting point for a broad but generalised picture of careers.

**Careerometer widget** allows you to enter jobs into cards and it shows you the averages wages and working hours.

<https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/> - **Nomis** is your one-stop shop for labour market information. The summary pages provide key trend data about a local area

<https://sacu-student.com/> Sacu offers a great independent & impartial source of careers information and a range of tools that will allow you to explore courses, careers, labour market information and much much more.

<https://icould.com/explore/> provides career inspiration and information for young people. It shows what is possible in work and offers different ways to think about careers through free access to over 1000 personal video stories, detailed job information, plus practical tips, insight and advice.

<https://targetcareers.co.uk/> helps school leavers make decisions about their future. Explore options for careers, university or apprenticeships and get help applying successfully.

<http://careerslondon.org/LMI-London> LMI for London split into sectors

<https://data.london.gov.uk/labour-market-indicators/> Indicators of demand in London

<https://careers.startprofile.com/page/home-page> -

**click here to find out the following questions:**

What do people actually do in this job?

How many people work in this job?

How much do people get paid in this job?

What qualifications do I need to do this job?

What skills or qualities do I need?

What are the typical working hours for this job?

What percentage of men / women work in this job?

Where can this job / industry take me in the future?