

# LINKING ECONOMICS WITH CAREERS

2019/20

Economists work in many sectors, but are particularly sought after in business, finance and government. They use their analytical skills and expert knowledge to predict trends in national economies, financial markets and business sectors. Their strong numeracy skills also mean they're suited to roles as actuaries, investment bankers and wealth managers. Here we look at where your students' economics skills and knowledge will be in demand.

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## What workplace skills does economics develop?



**Data analysis** is a fast-growing field, with the use of 'Big Data' now crucial for many large firms. Businesses of all kinds need skilled professionals who can make sense of the data they collect.

**Problem solving:** As an automotive engineer you could be searching for a way to increase the range of electric vehicles; or as a medical researcher you'll spend your time looking for treatments or cures for a variety of conditions.

**And one you might not have thought of...**

**Adaptability:** Workplaces are changing and being able to change with them is important. Police officers need to adapt to different situations each day. Or if you work as a management consultant you'll have to adapt your working style to suit different businesses.

## What jobs can you get with economics?



**Statisticians** analyse data to help find solutions to problems. Choose a degree in statistics, economics, maths, geography or psychology; or apply for an apprenticeship as a data analyst.

**Financial risk analysts** assess the potential financial risks facing a business. Choose a degree in economics, risk management, accountancy, finance or mathematics.

**Policy officers** conduct research and provide advice on a range of issues. Apply for a degree in economics, public administration and social policy, or politics and internal relations; or take an apprenticeship as a policy officer.

## Apply for an apprenticeship... or go to university?



### Apprenticeships

Apprenticeships for students who want to pursue an economics career include: investment operations administrator, assistant accountant, internal audit practitioner, actuarial

### University

Over half of economics graduates in 2017 (57%) went into work as business, finance or HR professionals. Their jobs included gas and oil analyst, anti-money laundering assistant and health economics data analyst. Around 10% of economics graduates moved

technician, financial services administrator, junior management consultant or paraplanner.

into a career in marketing, PR or sales.

## What did economics do for them?

"Studying economics teaches you how businesses, governments and individuals make decisions. In audit, that knowledge helps you to understand the organisation you are auditing, plus the bigger picture on how they operate."

—**Adelin, assistant auditor, National Audit Office.** [Read the full interview here.](#)



"Economics was the main bridge between A-level and my current apprenticeship role. My understanding of the economy sheds light on the reasons behind some of the actions we take at work. For example, I understand why and how inflation affects government bonds (gilts)."

—**Finley, operations investment analyst, Aon**



"I use the skills and knowledge learnt from studying economics quite a lot at work, particularly when considering customer relationships, risk management and profit / loss."

—**Sarah, degree business apprentice**

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