

Construction

Construction is a huge industry. It includes site preparation, design, costing and building complete structures or extensions; civil engineering (*buildings, bridges, tunnels, pipelines, roads, airfields, sports facilities, water projects*); installation and completion (*joinery, wiring, insulation, plumbing, plastering, painting and glazing*). Women and ethnic groups are massively under-represented in the construction industry (80% of workforce is male).

This leaflet provides information on careers locally and nationally, training and qualifications and a rough idea of what you might earn

“ The
Construction
Industry – great
prospects, great
future ”

Jobs in Construction

There are more than 2 million workers within the construction sector which represents 7% of the total employment in the UK. There is a very high number of self-employed workers, about 4 in every 10. Over 90% of companies within the construction sector employ less than 10 people.

The construction industry is not just about bricklayers, carpenters and the other craft trades and it is not just about work based on site. There is a wealth of opportunities if you are hard working, willing to train, become highly skilled and qualified in your job.

Here are just a few of the jobs you can find in the construction industry:

Quantity Surveyor	Plant Operator
Contract/Project Manager	Demolition
Business Development Manager	Site Manager
Electrician	Scaffolding
Estimator	Window/Door Installation
Design Co-ordinator	Plasterer
Resident Liaison Co-ordinator	Plumber
Landscaping	Roofing

Work in Norfolk:

Large construction and civil engineering companies operating in Norfolk include R. G. Carter Ltd, Lovell Partnerships Ltd, Mansell Construction Services Ltd and May Guerney Ltd.

The larger construction companies often sub-contract work out to many smaller companies who have different areas of expertise e.g. plasterers, plumbers, electricians, roofers, demolition workers.

Examples of Future Projects in Norfolk:

All of these could affect demand for construction staff:

- Great Yarmouth Outer Harbour and container terminal
- A sea-going marina and 900 homes in King's Lynn by 2011
- The new specialist school being built in King's Lynn
- The redevelopment of the College of West Anglia and City College Norwich
- 78,700 additional houses are to be built in Norfolk by 2021

Outside Norfolk, the 2012 Olympics will require a lot of construction workers from all trades.

What would I earn?

Many of the larger construction companies base their salaries on the Construction Industry Joint Council (CIJC) Working Rule Agreement guidelines (which can be found on the internet).

In the first year of training an apprentice can expect to earn £157.95 per week rising to £379.08 on completion of NVQ Level 2 (June 2007).

Fully qualified & experienced	Average annual salary
Quantity Surveyor	£28,000 - £40,000
Estimator	£25,000 - £29,000
Plant Operator	£19,000
Bricklayer	£17,000 - £21,000
Scaffolder	£ 15,000 - £22,000
Roofer	£16,500 - £21,000
Electrician	£17,000 - £25,000
Contract/Project Manager	£25,000 - £40,000
Architect	£37,000+
Plumber	£19,000+

MORE INFORMATION

www.bconstructive.co.uk - all about careers and training in construction. Good place to start
www.ciob.org.uk - building management
www.ice.org.uk/education - civil engineering
www.rics.org - careers in surveying

The Future

- There is a growing demand for more generalist, multi-skilled workers who have the ability to undertake a range of tasks covering a number of specialisms.
- Communication skills, project skills, people skills, ICT skills and financial management skills will be increasingly sought after.
- The construction of housing and other public work has increased alongside repair, maintenance and improvement.
- Up to 2015 demand for construction staff is expected to remain stable. In the South East it could be heavily effected by the work needed for the 2012 Olympics which could lead to greater demand for some skilled jobs.