



# Career Opportunities with a Degree in ...

## Economics

### Your skills and the employment market

What do economists do? They analyse financial information and the current environment to forecast future trends. They do this by studying data and statistics and using their understanding of economic relationships to spot trends, carrying out considerable amounts of research and collecting large amounts of information.

A degree in economics prepares you for this role and provides you with a wide array of both subject-specific and transferable skills. Graduating in Economics can lead to working for a variety of employers, including governments, private companies and non-governmental associations (NGOs). All economics graduates do not go on to work as economists, however, the skills you develop (some listed below) are highly sought after by most employers.

- Critical and analytical thinking.
- Oral and written communication.
- Time / task management.
- Numerical and computing skills.
- Problem solving / decision making skills.
- Logical argument skills.
- Research skills.
- Business / political awareness.

### Possible Career Opportunities

Economist	Actuary	Accountant
Product Control Manager	Executive Officer – Civil Service	Economic Researcher
Risk Assessor	Social Researcher	Insurance Agent
Business Journalist	Financial Analyst	Claims Adjuster
Commodity Trader	Statistician	Insurance Underwriter
Logistics Analyst	Stockbroker	Teacher

*Note: Further qualifications may be needed for certain positions. This list is a sample of positions available.*

Up to 40% of graduate employment opportunities are open to graduates of all disciplines. In most cases, however you will need further postgraduate study or professional training.

### Deciding on your Career

Choosing a career after university can be extremely difficult and any long-term decisions should not be made lightly. While some people have already planned a career even before arriving at university, others will have only a vague idea of what they intend to do, or perhaps even no idea at all.

Pick up our *Exploring your Options*, and *Researching Careers Information Online* FAQs and ask for details on completing an interest test.

There are also links to psychometric tests at: <http://www.nuigalway.ie/career-development-centre/servicesforstudents/explore/careerinteresttests/>

### Sample Job Advertisements

Some jobs that may suit students / graduates (these jobs are not currently available and are shown here for illustration purposes only):

**Economist/ Researcher**, Sherry FitzGerald Group. Analysing trends in the Irish commercial and residential property market. MA in Economics, or related subject; Strong quantitative skills; Confident and decisive; Positive and concise communicator; Strong team player; Highly self-motivated, seeks and takes responsibility; Adaptable and well organised; Capable of working under pressure to strict deadlines

**Graduate Economists**, Irish Government Economic and Evaluation Service (IGEES). crucial role in contributing to policy and strategy formulation across a number of Government Departments, covering the spectrum of economic, financial, international, environmental and social issues. Qualification in Economics or an Economic discipline; An in-depth knowledge of macro and/or microeconomics and current economic issues; Strong qualitative, quantitative and analytical skills; Good communication and interpersonal skills.

**Graduates**, Enterprise Division, Forfas. MA Economics; ability to research and tailor information from many sources; interest in trends/policies in national / international enterprise development; good writing / oral communication skills; computer literacy and good numerical, analytical and quantitative skills.

**Research Assistant**, Goodbody Stockbrokers. Economics analysis and support, report writing, communication to public and media. Presentation skills, disciplined approach to work, analytical skills, ability to work to deadlines and prioritise workloads, interest and ability to write and produce research reports.

## Further study opportunities

Some of the courses chosen by Economics graduates in the past at NUI Galway were:

- MSc Health Economics
- MEconSc Economic & Environmental Modelling
- MEconSc International Finance
- LL.B. Degree
- Master of Information Technology
- MEconSc Natural Resource Economics
- Professional Masters in Education
- MA Economic Policy Evaluation & Planning
- MA Production & Direction
- HDip Economic Science
- MSc Information Systems Management
- MSc International Management

Some of the other courses that Economics graduates undertook were:

- Prof Masters in Primary Teaching, Mary Imm
- Master European Economic & Public Affairs, UCD
- Masters in Computational Finance, UL
- MA in Development and Globalisation, UCC
- MSc Business Economics, Queens University Belfast
- Masters in Econometrics, Melbourne Univ Australia
- Master International Business, Strathclyde Uni

[www.nuigalway.ie/conversion](http://www.nuigalway.ie/conversion) covers conversion courses at NUI Galway. The website [www.postgradireland.com](http://www.postgradireland.com) contains useful information on postgraduate courses in Ireland, [www.prospects.ac.uk](http://www.prospects.ac.uk) is an excellent site for researching opportunities in the UK and <https://ec.europa.eu/ploteus/> covers the EU.

Read our FAQ on *Postgraduate Courses* for more.

## What past graduates have done

It is always interesting to know what fellow graduates have done after obtaining their degree at NUI Galway. This has been taken from our annual survey of graduates.

- Account Executive, Avvio
- Trader, Davy Stockbrokers
- FSG Specialist, AIB
- Trainee Accountant, RBK
- Management Consultant, Insurance
- Analyst-Graduate Program, Bank of Ireland-Dublin
- Legal / Business Affairs Assistant, MNG Films
- Plans Finance Administration, Invesco Dublin
- Bank Official-Credit Card Section, AIB-Dublin
- Internship in PR, NCB Music Production, Dublin
- Fund Accountant - State Street
- Fund Manager, Luxembourg
- Assistant Economist, IPA - Dublin
- Shareholder Administrator, Investors Trust Dublin
- Fund Accountant, Merrill Lynch Dublin
- Trading, Financial Company in Dublin

## Resources in the Careers Information Room

Our Job Sector files contain a range of information about working in a specific sector – from job descriptions to professional associations. At the back of each (where possible) are advertised jobs so that you can look through requirements of previously advertised jobs.

There are also resources to help with your job search including reference books on taking psychometric tests, going for interview, writing a CV or personal statement... and much more.

Drop into our Information Room and we will be happy to help you.



## Useful websites

We have found that the following websites contain relevant and interesting information for students with a degree in Economics.

- [www.economics.nuigalway.ie](http://www.economics.nuigalway.ie)
- [www.esri.ie](http://www.esri.ie)

Europe

- European Economic Association [www.eeassoc.org/](http://www.eeassoc.org/)
- [www.insidecareers.co.uk/professions/banking/](http://www.insidecareers.co.uk/professions/banking/)
- Economist Jobs [www.economistjobs.co.uk/](http://www.economistjobs.co.uk/)

Abroad

- Int. Economic Association <http://www.iea-world.org/>
- American Economic Association [www.aeaweb.org/](http://www.aeaweb.org/)
- Overseas Development Institute [www.odi.org.uk](http://www.odi.org.uk)
- UN [www.un.org/en/development/desa](http://www.un.org/en/development/desa)
- Economics Jobs [www.econ-jobs.com/](http://www.econ-jobs.com/)
- EconCareers [www.econcareers.com/](http://www.econcareers.com/)

General student/graduate websites

- [www.gradireland.com](http://www.gradireland.com)
- Prospects UK Economics profile <https://www.prospects.ac.uk/careers-advice/what-can-i-do-with-my-degree/economics>
- [www.jobs.ac.uk](http://www.jobs.ac.uk) [academic jobs, fellowships etc]

There are many social media sites and groups helping people who are looking for work. Search LinkedIn, Twitter, Facebook to find people, companies and discussion groups to follow. Or use query sites such as [www.twitjobsearch.com](http://www.twitjobsearch.com), [www.google.ie/alerts](http://www.google.ie/alerts) to search for latest news items. Read our *Using Social Media* FAQ for more tips.