



*Your Career with
an Arts Degree*

Careers in Economics



Economics graduates and the employment market

What do Economists do? Some familiar roles are the economists who attempt to monitor and explain ‘big picture’ events in the national and global economies. Both public and private sectors value that expertise, and ongoing economic challenges have led to particular demands for graduates literate in economics. In addition, economics graduates work in other areas, right across the spectrum, including for example for health care providers and policy makers, in energy and environmental industries, and in the education and labour market policy domains. Most generally, employers value the economics graduate’s analytical abilities, and their capacity to manage and interpret data. Graduating in Economics can lead to working for a variety of employers, including governments, private companies and non-governmental organisations (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.

- Ability to think critically and analytically
- Oral and written communication skills
- Time / task management skills
- Numerical and computing skills
- Problem solving / decision making skills
- Produce logical arguments supported by evidence

- Research skills
- Business / political awareness
- IT, information retrieval and presentation skills
- Research skills and Teamwork skills

Source: “Degrees of Skill: Student Employability Profiles”
The Higher Education Academy.



Typical jobs for Economics graduates...

Economics graduates find employment in diverse fields. Here are some of the most popular career destinations for our Economics graduates.

*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.

Career Destinations of our Economics Graduates

It is useful to know what fellow graduates have done after obtaining their degree at NUI Galway. The following are some of the roles our Economics graduates took up after graduation:

- Recruitment Consultant, Recruiter, Dublin
- Brand Manager, Brown Thomas Galway
- Analyst-Graduate Program, Bank of Ireland, Dublin
- Legal and Business Affairs Assistant, Parallel Film Productions Ltd, MNG Films
- Plans Finance Administration, Invesco Dublin
- Bank Official, Credit Card Section, AIB, Dublin
- Internship in PR, NCB Music Production, Dublin
- Fund Accountant, International Fund Services - State Street
- Fund Manager, Luxembourg
- PR Assistant, Ernst & Young Dublin
- Assistant Economist, IPA, Dublin
- Shareholder Administrator, Investors Trust Dublin
- Fund Accountant, Merrill Lynch Dublin
- Trading, Financial Company in Dublin
- Trainee Accountant, Funds, PricewaterhouseCooper

Source: NUI Galway First Destinations Survey

Sample job adverts for Economics Graduates

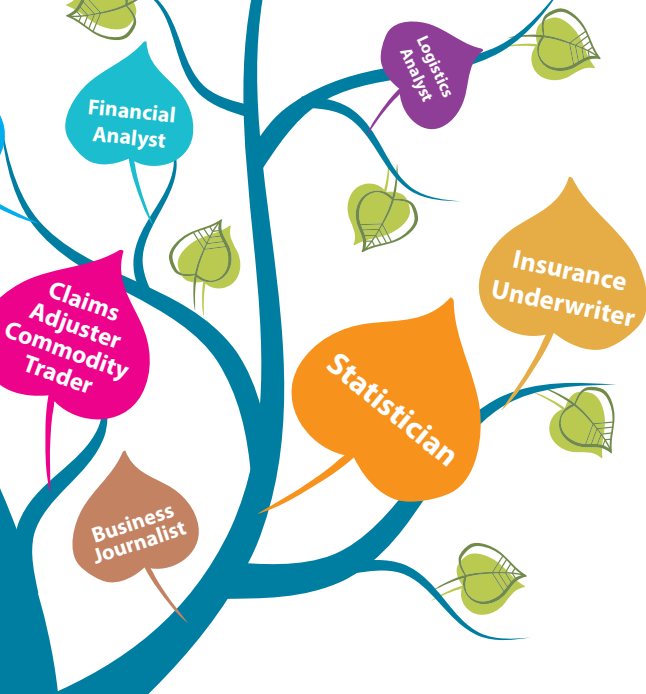
Some jobs that may suit students / graduates (these jobs are not currently available and are shown here for illustration purposes only):

Graduates, Enterprise Division Forfas. Requires: MA in 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; understanding of wider issues concerning science, technology, innovation desirable.

Senior Regulation Analyst Airtricity. Requires an honours degree in economics, engineering or equivalent experience. Creative approach to analysis and problem solving, proven ability to communicate clearly and concisely, excellent interpersonal and presentation skills. Highly motivated with a self starter attitude with the ability to multi task, work under pressure and meet deadlines.

Economist/Equity Markets Dublin. 2.1 Honours degree interest in planning and economic development; ability to communicate ideas; excellent numeric, analytical and report writing skills; ability to produce detailed, accurate work / working to deadlines; computer skills..

Research Assistant Goodbody Stockbrokers. Will be involved in economic analysis and support, report writing, communication to public and media. Needs 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.



What Postgraduate Courses do Economics Graduates do?

For certain career choices, employers may look for candidates with further qualifications and training. Our Economics graduates frequently choose one of the following postgraduate programmes at NUI Galway:

- MSc (Health Economics)
- MA / MEconSc (Economic & Environmental Modelling)
- MEconSc (International Finance)
- Higher Diploma (Business Studies)
- LL.B. Degree
- MA (Economic Policy Evaluation & Planning)
- PGDip / MA (Production & Direction)
- Higher Diploma Economic Science
- MSc (Information Systems Management)
- MSc (International Management)



Other postgraduate programmes undertaken by previous Economics graduates include:

- MA (Health Economics), UCC
- MSc International Business, DIT
- Master European Economic & Public Affairs, UCD
- Masters in Computational Finance, UL
- MA (Development and Globalisation), UCC
- MSc Business Economics, Queens University Belfast
- Masters in Finance, Dublin City University
- Masters in Econometrics, Melbourne Univ Australia
- Master International Business, Strathclyde University

For information on studying in Ireland and studying abroad with useful links for many countries worldwide visit: www.nuigalway.ie/careers

www.postgradireland.com also has useful information on postgraduate courses in Ireland,

www.prospects.ac.uk is an excellent site for researching opportunities in the UK and <http://ec.europa.eu/ploteus/> covers the EU.

What our students say...

Tom McDonnell,
BA Economics, Legal Science



What subjects was your degree in?
Economics, Legal Science

Do you have any postgraduate qualification?
MA (Applied Economics), PhD

What is your current role?
Policy analyst with TASC, which is 'think-tank' in Dublin, providing analysis and advice across a wide range of policy issues, many of which directly concern the evolving economic situation in Ireland.

How did studying Arts benefit your career?
From the outset, the Arts experience encourages you to appreciate a range of diverse subjects, and to explore them in depth, and critically. Apart from a core knowledge of economics and other disciplines, this willingness to challenge received wisdom and 'look behind' the surface is vital in doing policy work in the 'real world.'

Where can I find out more?

The following websites contain relevant, interesting information on career opportunities with a degree in Economics:

www.nuigalway.ie/economics
www.esri.ie

EUROPE

European Economic Association www.eeassoc.org/
www.insidecareers.co.uk/professions/banking/
Economist Jobs www.economistjobs.co.uk/

ABROAD

International Economic Association www.iea-world.com/
American Economic Association www.aeaweb.org/
Overseas Development Institute www.odi.org.uk
UN www.un.org/en/development/desa
Economics Jobs www.econ-jobs.com/
EconCareers www.econcareers.com/

GENERAL STUDENT / GRADUATE WEBSITES

Career Development Centre, degree opportunities: www.nuigalway.ie/careers/students/degreeopp.html
Gradireland www.gradireland.com
Prospects UK Economics profile www.prospects.ac.uk/options_economics_your_skills.htm
www.jobs.ac.uk [academic jobs, fellowships etc UK, Europe and worldwide]