

Choosing a Sector



11 NOVEMBER 2016



What is a sector

An industry or an area / field of work

There are thousands of different sectors

- Work at many different levels
- For examples see Standard Industry Classification (SIC) Codes
- Look at news websites and job pages for ideas

Many people feel "trapped" in their sector

- Tend to get a job based on previous experience
- Easier to move around when young

New sectors emerge all the time

It is never too late to change



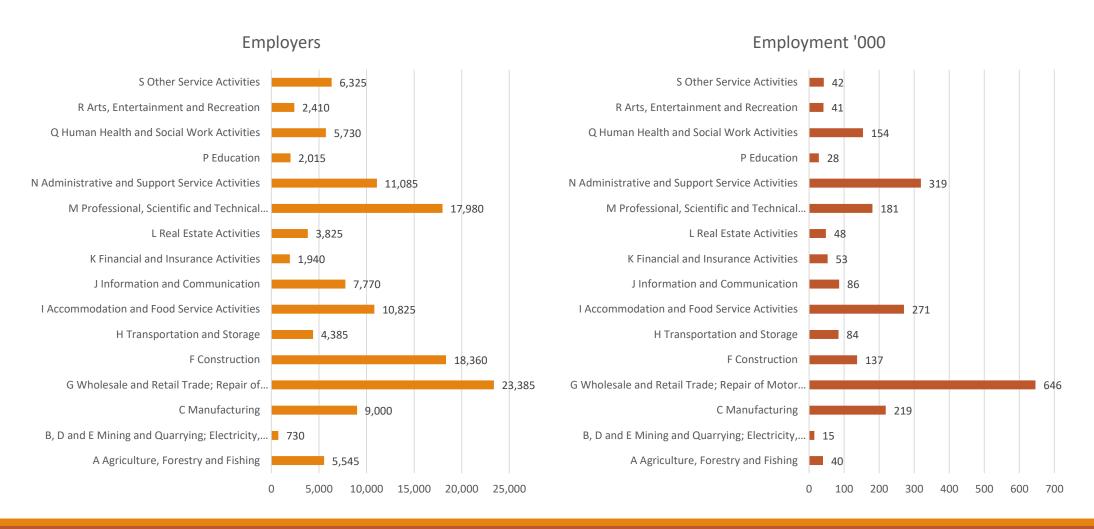
Different views of sectors

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Employment in East of England





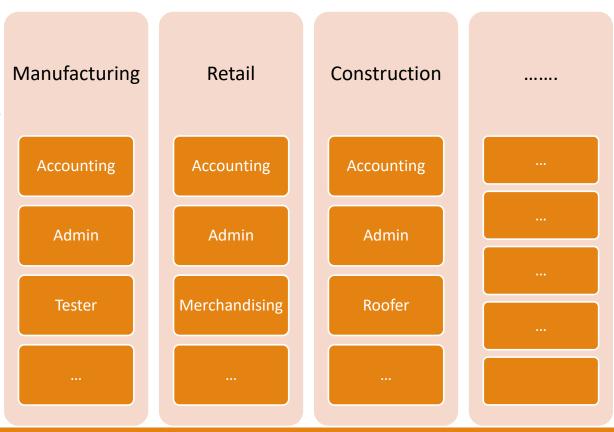
Sectors and Job Roles

Some jobs roles exist in similar forms in many sectors

- Admin
- Accounts
- Marketing

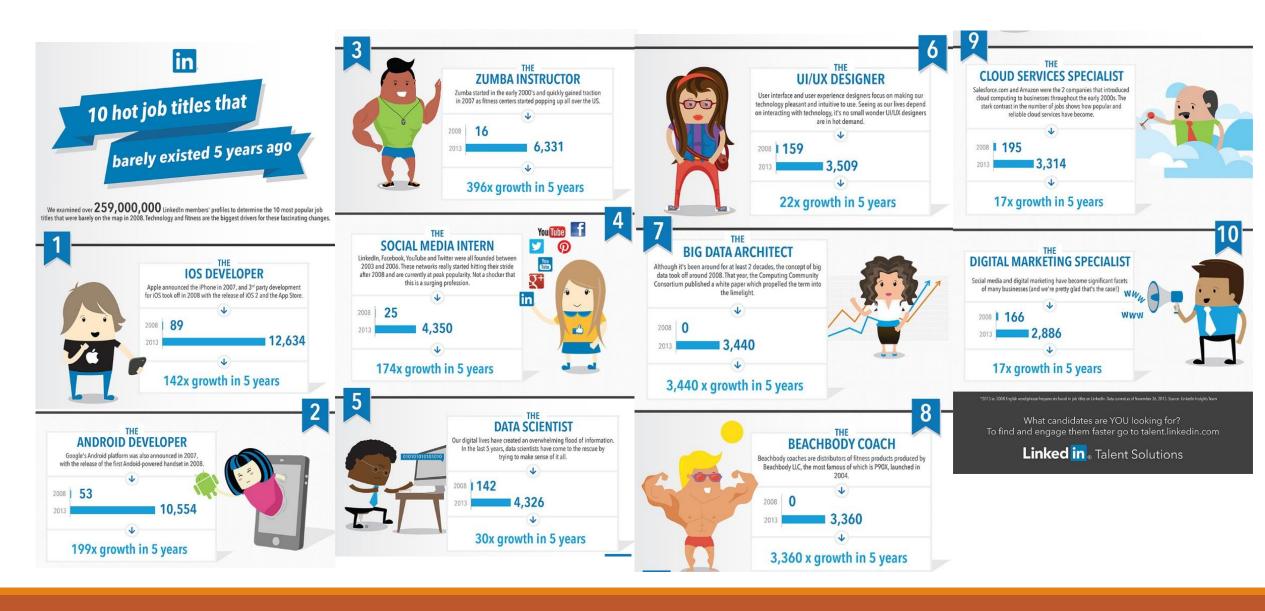
Some are very specific to a sector

- Roofer
- Teacher



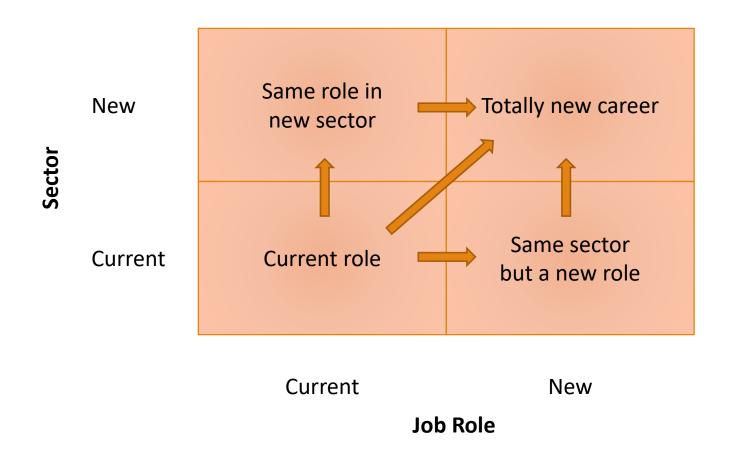
Some New Job Roles







Moving to a New Sector





Moving to a New Sector example

New
Finance for a sixth form college

Current
Finance in manufacturing

Finance in manufacturing

Teaching in a sixth form college

Training in manufacturing

Current

New

Job Role



Exercise to find possible new sectors

First Phase: Generate a large list

- Aiming for about 20
- Similar to brainstorming expand your thinking
- Don't worry if you confuse sector and job role
- Put it down even if you are thinking "yes, but...."

Second Phase: Prioritising

- Aiming to get to a manageable list
- Explore combinations to generate more/better ideas

Third Phase Investigation

- Find out what is involved in the target sectors
- Speak to people

Exercise to find possible new sectors:



Generate a list: Remembering

Dream jobs you had as a child – what sectors did they suggest?

The most enjoyable subjects you have studied

Sectors where you have had some work experience

Sectors that appeal to you when you see them in documentaries or articles

Jobs done by family or friends that you find fascinating

Advertised jobs that appealed even if you did not apply for them

Exercise to find possible new sectors:



Generate a list: Imagining

What jobs have you ever imagined doing?

If you could do someone else's job for a day what would it be?

If all jobs paid the same what would you choose?

Who are your role models or champions – what sectors are they in?

If you won the lottery and didn't have to work what would you do for nothing?

What do other people suggest?

Exercise to find possible new sectors:



Prioritising/Exploring

Pick out 20 from the generation sheet and write each on a small card

Combine ones that seem similar eg design, product design

Split these 20 cards into 2 columns

- Sectors I would like some contact with in the next 12 months
- Sectors that I found interesting but don't need to be part of my work in the next 12 months

Look at the first column and pick your top 10

Look carefully at your top 10

Refine any that are a bit broad/vague eg management or admin

Exercise to find possible new sectors: Prioritising/Exploring



Spend some time looking at your choices

Try arranging them in a 3x3 grid

Think about what could happen at the intersection of two sectors

	Sport	Writing	Finance
Gardening	Heritage restoration	Author of gardening books	Estate management
Safety Management	Performance advisor	Journalist on Health and Safety	Insurance assessor
Geology	Trekking organiser in remote areas	Blogger on rock collections	Mining investment analyst

Exercise to find possible new sectors: Investigating



Research and investigation is the key step

Find out about your sectors of interest

- Entry routes
- Qualifications and training needed
- Skills needed
- Possible target employers

Talk to people actually working in these areas

• Find out what the day to day reality of working in the sector is like

Go back and have another look

The list is not fixed – it's a work in progress