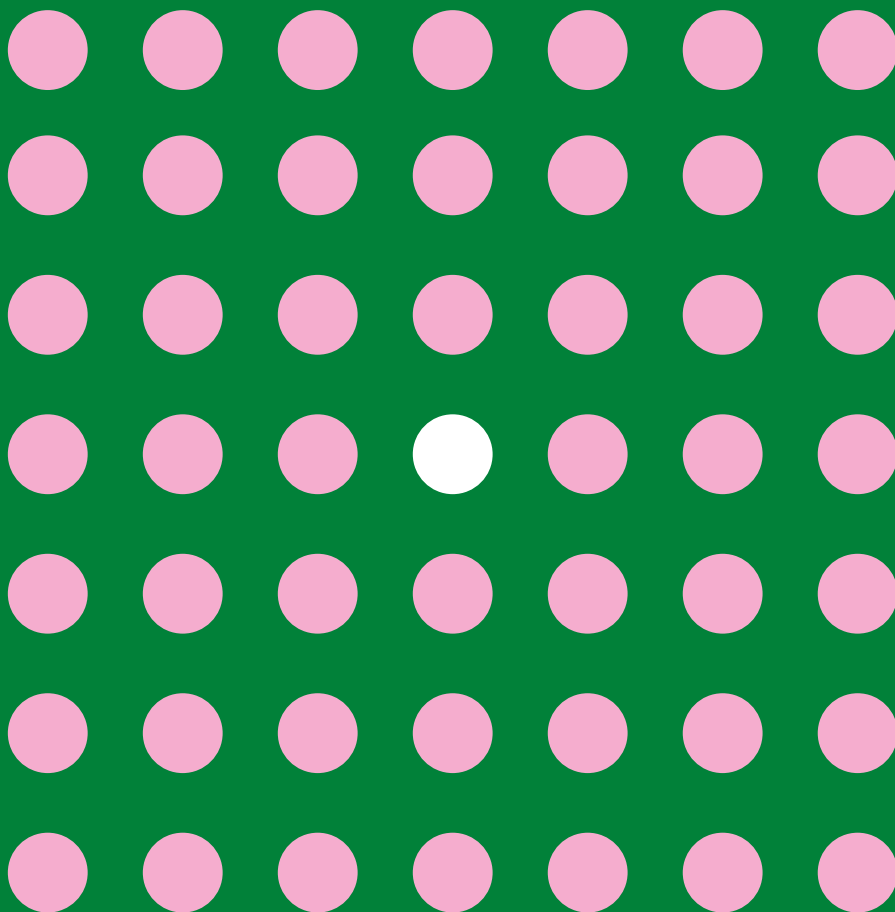Office for
National Statistics

Graduate Statistician Careers

Our statistics are in the media just about every day and are used across government for policy making, the evaluation of government performance, and in informing public debate.

Why join us?

This is an exciting time to join the Office for National Statistics (ONS). We are expanding our professional community and looking to recruit graduate analysts. Join us in meeting the challenge of collecting, analysing and disseminating statistics about the UK's economy, society and population.

ONS is a stimulating place to work. We are the UK's largest independent producer of official statistics and the recognised National Statistical Institute.

As our statistics are used to challenge policy and are central to much of government economic policy, assessment and debate, you could be working closely with analysts in other government departments, such as HM Treasury and the Bank of England.

We are excited to add Darlington to our existing sites of Newport, Titchfield and London, as we invest in talent from across the whole of the UK.

Why be an statistician?

From the economic future of the country to the provision of public services, statistics are vital to every imaginable area of our lives. Government statisticians work across a range of government department, agencies and other public bodies laying a pivotal role in government decision making.

At ONS, you will join a team of data experts who collect, process and analyse the data underpinning our society and economy.

The role will require you to apply your statistical skills to innovate and solve problems in data management and analysis.

As a statistical officer at ONS you will work on a variety of projects such as:

- developing statistical tools for future data collection
- identifying customer needs and ensuring data delivery is fit for purpose
- interpreting statistical analysis for policy development
- leading on producing statistical publications

You can expect to see your analysis hitting the headlines on a regular basis and being used by decision-makers in government and industry at the highest level.

Benefits of working at ONS

As an employer we are dedicated to looking after the interests of our staff. As well as a competitive salary, you'll enjoy:

- career development and progression opportunities
- generous holiday allowance of 25 days annual leave plus public holidays
- good work-life balance including flexible working arrangements
- strong ethos of equality, diversity and well-being
- up to three days paid leave per year for voluntary opportunities
- maternity, paternity, adoption or shared parental leave
- Civil Service Pension
- use of onsite facilities including canteen and gym
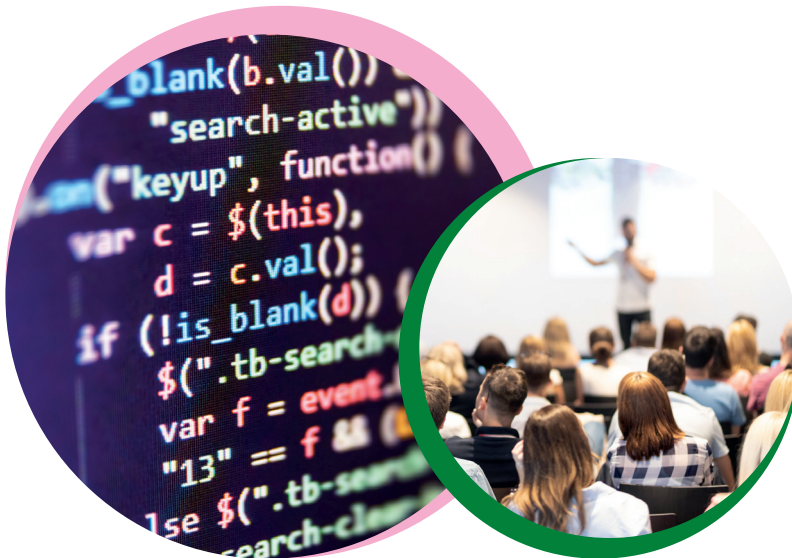- free onsite car parking in Newport and Titchfield
- cycle to work scheme

Learning and development

We are committed to developing the skills of our staff and have tailored a learning and development programme that supports continuous professional development.

It includes:

- three-day residential course covering aspects of data collection, analysis and dissemination
- raining in technical areas
- training in programming
- continuous professional development through a statistical and data science learning curriculum
- professional development support

Statistician entry routes

There are a number of routes that university students can take to start their careers in the ONS.

Graduate Statistician

ONS operates a regular, direct graduate Statistician recruitment scheme. You will work closely alongside experience colleagues to help develop the skills and experience you need to progress through your career.

Recruitment is advertised via:
www.civilservicejobs.service.gov.uk

Government Statistical Service — Fast Stream Statistician

The Fast Stream is the Civil Service-wide development programme for individuals with the potential to become the future leaders of the Civil Service. This means that you can expect to become a Principal Statistician within three to five years, at which point you should be aiming to reach the ranks of the Senior Civil Service.

A typical Fast Streamer will move between departments every 12 to 18 months, to develop their skills and project experience.

You can find out more about fast stream and the application process via: **www.faststream.gov.uk**

Eligibility

To apply for the direct graduate statistician recruitment scheme, you'll need to be working towards or have completed one of the following:

A first or second class honours degree in a numerate subject (2:2 minimum for Statistical Officer) containing at least 25% taught statistical content such as Statistics, Mathematics, Economics, Sciences, Business Studies, Psychology, Geography, Data Science or similar.

A higher degree, such as an MSc or PhD, in a subject containing formal statistical training like Statistics, Mathematics, Economics, Sciences, Business Studies, Data Science, Psychology, Geography or similar.

Worked in a statistical/data science field for a minimum of two years and are able to demonstrate continuous professional development (via a CPD Log Book) in statistics/data science at the same level as a foundation degree/HND (Level 5).

Achieved or on track to achieve a level 4 apprenticeship including at least 2 years in a statistical/data analysis field in government and are able to demonstrate continuous professional development in statistics/data analysis (via a CPD log book signed off by a manager or mentor who are members of the statistical profession).

Please note candidates may apply in their final year of study whilst they are still awaiting their qualification result.

Fast stream eligibility

To apply for the fast stream scheme, you'll need to be working towards have completed one of the following:

- a minimum of a 2:1 honours degree in a subject containing formal statistical training, such as; Statistics, Mathematics, Economics, Psychology, Sciences and Geography

Student Placement Schemes

Every year GSS offers the chance for undergraduate students to work at the heart of Government through paid analytical placements. This is an exciting opportunity to gain professional and technical skills whilst working on some of the most interesting and pertinent problems currently facing the country.

GSS provides either a three-month summer placement or a year-long placement.

You can find out more information on student placement schemes and eligibility criteria via: **www.gss.civilservice.gov.uk**

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After graduating from Cardiff University with a degree in Psychology, I joined the ONS as a statistician. I've now been with the department for two years and recently moved to a new role in the Health Analysis and Life Event division. This area works with data on a wide variety of topics, ranging from health themes such as cancer, lifestyles and life expectancies, to analysis of life events such as births, baby names, and marriages. My main work so far has involved calculating and explaining statistics on drug-related deaths and suicides. Alongside this I've been given time to build my skills beyond 'traditional' statistics, by completing data science projects. One part of this involved creating a dashboard app to disseminate key health stats to policy makers across government.

The best thing about working in Health Analysis is that it's really easy to see the impact and importance of the work we do, as it's clearly relevant to all people. The work is also varied because, while we have some planned publications, many pieces of analysis are born out of ad-hoc queries from the public, academics, and media- so each day involved different analysis and learning about new topics.

Danielle Cornish
Statistician

To find out more information on what we do as an organisation you can visit our website: **www.ons.gov.uk**

If you would like to know more about joining us, contact the recruitment team: **ons.resourcing@ons.gov.uk**

Our graduate job vacancies are advertised via: **www.civilservicejobs.service.gov.uk** and on social media: **in Office for National Statistics** **@ONSrecruitment**