

# Construction

## Worcestershire

**National  
Careers  
Service**  
Helping you take  
the next step

The West Midlands is expected to see the highest growth rate in construction activities over the next five years and will need **3,820** new workers each year across the region by 2023.<sup>1</sup>

Construction includes infrastructure, such as road and rail links, and housebuilding.

### Worcestershire overview

The Worcestershire area accounts for 11% of the West Midlands' construction workforce (over 23,000 workers including self-employed) and 14% of all construction firms in the West Midlands.<sup>2</sup>

47% of those working in construction in Worcestershire are **self-employed**, which is higher than across the UK and West Midlands.<sup>2</sup>

Over half of the workforce is located within Worcester, Wychavon and Wyre Forest areas.<sup>2</sup>



Most construction jobs in Worcestershire are in **electrical, plumbing** and other **construction installation activities, architectural and engineering** activities, **building completion and finishing**, and construction of **residential and non-residential buildings**.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Construction Skills Network, <sup>2</sup>CITB, <sup>3</sup>BRES

### Future trends

Public housing is now expected to overtake infrastructure projects in terms of growth within the sector over the next five years.



The most 'in demand' jobs over the next five years are predicted to be **construction process managers, construction professional and technical staff** and wood trades and interior fit-out (**carpenters and joiners**); **electricians** and **plumbers** are also in demand.

Like other sectors, new technologies are changing work in construction. Visual modelling, low carbon construction, material advances and off-site manufacturing mean that employers are particularly looking for people with **advanced digital and ICT skills** to develop and manage systems, procedures and other changes in working practice.



Future growth areas for the construction industry include **low carbon** and **sustainable construction, building information modelling technologies (BIM)** and **developing new construction materials**. Building new, energy efficient buildings is essential for achieving UK climate change targets.

#### Local employers include:

Vinci Construction, Spellar Metcalfe, Bovis Homes, Stepnell, Buzz Electrical



## Job roles in construction include:

Architect • Architectural technologist • Bricklayer • Builders' merchant • Building control officer • Building site inspector • Building surveyor • Building technician • Carpenter • Carpet fitter and floor layer • Cavity insulation installer • Civil engineer • Construction contracts manager • Construction labourer • Construction manager • Construction plant mechanic • Construction plant operator • Construction site supervisor • Crane driver • Electrician • Engineering construction craftworker • Glazier • Painter and decorator • Pipe fitter • Plasterer • Plumber • Quantity surveyor • Refrigeration and air-conditioning installer • Road worker • Roofer • Scaffolder • Shopfitter • Steel erector • Steel fixer • Stonemason • Structural engineer • Thermal insulation engineer • Tiler • Welder • Window fitter • Wood machinist

## Skills and qualities

In construction, employers are particularly looking for:

Technical and practical skills • **Communication** • Attention to detail • **Teamwork and interpersonal skills** • Reliable • **Confidence in working with numbers** • Ability to manage own time and prioritise tasks • **Leadership and management skills** • ICT and digital skills • **Health and safety awareness** • Project management skills • **Ability to solve problems and analyse figures**

## What could you earn?

Architect **£27,500 - £90,000**

Bricklayer **£15,000 - £35,000**

Carpenter **£16,000 - £40,000**

Civil engineer **£24,000 - £80,000**

Construction manager **£27,000 - £70,000**

Electrician **£18,000 - £42,000**

Plasterer **£14,000 - £30,000**

## Find out more

[www.goconstruct.org](http://www.goconstruct.org)

[www.the-nhtg.org.uk](http://www.the-nhtg.org.uk)

[www.architecture.com](http://www.architecture.com)

<http://www.skills4worcestershireshire.co.uk/>

## Routes into this sector

Ways to get into this sector will vary depending on the job role.

**Apply directly** for some roles that don't ask for specific qualifications or ask for GCSEs – basic IT skills may help. An agency job may also be a good way in.

Choose a **college course** at level 3 (A level equivalent) or level 4 to add to your qualifications.

**An apprenticeship** could be a good route in – from **bricklayer** (intermediate apprenticeship) and **building service design technician** (advanced apprenticeship) to **quantity surveyor** (degree apprenticeship). Always check the requirements for each individual apprenticeship.

For some roles, employers will look for someone who has a **university degree** but also check to see if a degree apprenticeship route is an option for a graduate-level job.

**Work your way up** to roles such as supervisor or manager by training on the job.

For more job profiles and careers information visit the National Careers Service website: <https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk> or call 0800 100 900



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