Spotlight on

Construction

Contents

Welsh Construction is on the up!
What can I earn?
Wales needs more
Getting in
What jobs can I do?
Skills in Demand
Employment hotspots
What about the future?
Meet the employers

Welsh Construction is on the up!

In the next few years, the Construction industry in Wales is expected to grow faster than in any other part of the UK.

Work in the Construction industry and you could be building new homes and new schools, or repairing roads and rail networks. You could even be involved in the construction of major industrial developments in Wales.

There are a wide variety of jobs at all levels from skilled crafts like Carpenters and Plasterers to design and management roles like Civil Engineers, Architects and Town Planners.

The Welsh Construction industry is expected to grow 6% a year until 2019; twice the rate of the UK (CITB, 2015-2019)

1 in 4 UK construction jobs expected to be filled by females by 2020 (Randstad Construction, Property & Engineering 2015)

51% of construction jobs are skilled crafts like plumbing or carpentry (Welsh Government, 2014)

3 out of 5 construction workers in Wales are self-employed (Welsh Government, 2014)

8% of the total Welsh workforce are employed in Construction (Welsh Government, 2014)

Wales needs more...

Surveyors, Painters and Decorators,
Architects, Carpenters and Joiners,
Civil Engineers, Electrical and Electronic Trades,
Bricklayers, Project Managers, Plasterers,
Draughtpersons, Construction Supervisors,
Plumbing and Heating Engineers.
What jobs can I do?

Some of the Construction jobs you could do:

- Architect
- Architectural Technician
- Bricklayer
- Building Control Officer
- Building Services Engineering Technician
- Building Surveyor
- Cabinet Maker
- Carpenter
- Cavity Wall Insulation Technician
- Ceiling Fixer
- Civil Engineer
- Damp-proofer
- Demolition Operative
- Dry Liner
- Electrician
- Glazier
- Labourer
- Painter and Decorator
- Plasterer
- Plumber
- Quantity Surveyor
- Roofer
- Scaffolder
- Site Manager
- Steeplejack
- Stonemason
- Structural Engineer
- Town Planner
- Wall and Floor Tiler
- Wood Machinist

Employment Hotspots

Cardiff has the **largest** population in Wales and **highest** actual number of Construction jobs.

Across Wales, construction jobs account for between **5%** and **11%** of the total workforce in each county.

**Powys** has the **highest** proportion at **11%**, and **Newport** the **lowest** at **5%**.
### Meet the Employers

These are some of the construction employers in Wales:

- **Kronospan**
  Manufacturer of Wood Panels, Chirk, Wrexham.

- **PAR Homes**
  House Builders, Llandrindod Wells.

- **Lloyd & Gravell Ltd**
  Construction company, Llanelli.

- **M2 Construction**
  Construction Services, Swansea.

- **Redrow plc**
  Housebuilder, Elwoe, Flintshire.

- **JCB Wrexham**
  Manufacturer of large construction equipment, Wrexham.

- **Lakesmere**
  Building Envelope Specialists, Newport.

- **Charnwood Group**
  Construction and Development, Cardiff.

### What can I earn?

Salaries can vary depending on your experience, the employer and where you live. Higher salaries can be awarded for more senior positions. Salaries also vary for self-employed workers.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Job</th>
<th>Salary Range (£)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Labourer</td>
<td>£13,000 - £26,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ceiling Fixer</td>
<td>£13,000 - £34,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Demolition Operative</td>
<td>£14,000 - £30,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wood Machinist</td>
<td>£14,000 - £24,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Painter and Decorator</td>
<td>£16,000 - £26,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plasterer/Dry Liner</td>
<td>£16,000 - £29,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stonemason</td>
<td>£17,000 - £27,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carpenter</td>
<td>£17,000 - £28,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction Plant Operator</td>
<td>£17,000 - £31,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bricklayer</td>
<td>£18,000 - £27,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Road Worker</td>
<td>£18,000 - £29,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Architectural Technician</td>
<td>£18,000 - £31,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gas Service Technician</td>
<td>£18,000 - £31,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plumber</td>
<td>£18,000 - £34,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scaffolder</td>
<td>£18,000 - £34,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Architect/Senior Architect</td>
<td>£18,000 - £50,000+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electrician</td>
<td>£19,000 - £31,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building Surveyor/Senior Building Surveyor</td>
<td>£21,000 - £60,000+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building Control Officer/Senior Building Control Officer</td>
<td>£22,000 - £40,000+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fuel and Energy Engineer</td>
<td>£22,000 - £43,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Structural Engineer/Senior Structural Engineer</td>
<td>£22,000 - £50,000+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Civil Engineer/Senior Civil Engineer</td>
<td>£23,000 - £50,000+</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Cascaid, 2014
Getting In

Most construction jobs involve practical or manual work. A career in Construction maybe for you if you are interested in:

- Physical work and working with your hands
- Working with tools and machinery
- Working as part of a team
- Following plans and specifications accurately
- Problem solving
- Making calculations, and preparing estimates of costs and materials.

The normal route into skilled crafts is through an Apprenticeship where you train on the job. There are over 30 different construction apprenticeship routes at different levels.

For a professional occupation like Civil Engineering, Site Manager or Architect you will normally need a degree level qualification or equivalent.

Find out how to get into different Construction and Building jobs.

Get experience!

Get as much work experience as you can. Lack of general work experience is one of the top 3 reasons employers give for not employing someone.

Look at I need experience.

18% of construction workers have the equivalent of a Level 4 qualification or above.

For example, a Higher National Certificate (HNC)

Skills in demand

The Construction industry is one of the first industries to be affected by how the economy and the housing market is doing. As the economy grows, the demand for construction skills at all levels will increase.

The demand for skills is also affected by new regulations and new building technologies.

Keep up to date with the latest regulations and sustainable building technologies CITB.

New in the sector...

- Increases in off-site manufacture mean demand for construction manufacturing skills and Project Managers.
- Building Information Modelling (BIM) is a new approach to creating a virtual model of the project before its actual construction.
- Environmental initiatives like the Green Deal mean demand for accredited Renewable Energy Installers of ‘green’ energy systems like solar and thermal energy.
**Do I need Welsh Language skills?**

If you work in Wales, being able to speak and write in both Welsh and English can give you an advantage in the workplace. Particularly if you are working in Welsh speaking areas and need to communicate with people as part of your job.

**In the Construction industry**

- **11%** of the construction workforce is Welsh speaking (Census 2011)
- **25%** of construction employers say Welsh Language skills are ‘very’ or ‘fairly’ important (Welsh Government 2014)

**What about the future?**

After a tough few years, the Construction industry in Wales is expected to grow at twice the rate of the UK as a whole up to 2019. Expected increases in employment will always be affected by the latest developments in new projects planned for Wales.

Demand for professional occupations like Civil Engineers, Surveyors and Architects are expected to be greater than demand for the main skilled crafts.

Fastest growing construction jobs in Wales, shown in percentage of growth:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Occupation</th>
<th>Percentage of Growth</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Civil Engineers</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Town Planners</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Architects and Surveyors</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction Project Managers</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction and building trades supervisors</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plumbers and Heating and Ventilation Engineers</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Draughtspersons and Architectural Technicians</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carpenters, Joiners and Interior Fitters</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building and Civil Engineering Technicians</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Floorers and Tilers</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roofers</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plasterers, Painters and Decorators</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Working Futures 2012-2022