



THE MARINE

SECTOR IN CORNWALL & THE ISLES OF SCILLY



Make informed decisions about your career path by learning about key labour market sectors in Cornwall & the Isles of Scilly.

CIOS LEP



Introduction to the marine sector

The marine sector is made up Ports, shipping, marine engineering and manufacturing, marine business services, leisure marine, technology and research businesses as well as fishing. Marine jobs can be found across Cornwall, but Falmouth is a key hub for the sector. A&P Falmouth (a major ship repair company that also provides servicing contracts for naval vessels) together with world-class Superyacht designers and manufacturers and a number of internationally renowned boat builders.

Employees with a range of specialisms are needed in the marine industry. This is to keep the marine industry world-leading and ensure investment and opportunity is available in the region.

The marine sector makes up 1% of the Cornish economy and the mean average salary is £31,995. Nationally the maritime sector supports over 1 million jobs and adds £46.1 billion to the UK economy. Specialist roles that are likely to require a degree level qualification, for example biochemists and engineers, attract higher salaries.

Apprenticeships are available in specialist skilled areas such as boat building, marine engineering and general, transferable areas such as project management. Most roles in the marine industry expect employees to have GCSEs in Maths and English.

The marine sector is a traditional sector and has been male dominated, but this is changing. In 2005 around 87% of the Cornwall marine sector were male, but the sector has proactively worked to address this imbalance and recently achieved a 78 – 22% split.

THE MARINE
SECTOR SECTOR
MAKES UP



OF THE CORNISH
ECONOMY

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Not all vacancies are directly linked to the marine sector but may well support it in some way.

Current outlook

There are 15,057 people employed in Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly with an additional 1,020 volunteers, some of whom are paid. These workers are spread across 805 businesses, with small and medium sized employers being a particularly important part of the marine sector. The overwhelming majority (92%) of the roles in the marine sector are full-time.

Jobs are typically in one of three sub-sectors: leisure and tourism (e.g. boat hire, cruise ships, leisure fishing or water sports), commercial (e.g. boat building and repairs, commercial diving, marine engineering and construction or tidal energy) or support services (e.g. marine law and finance, coastguards, and marine supplies and accommodation).

The areas with the highest employment are manufacture, repair and maintenance of ships and boats, followed by building of pleasure boats and marine fishing.

£26,500
Average salary for
Boat and ship
builders

Salaries in the marine sector

Occupation Title	Median Salary (UK-wide)
Beach lifeguard	£21,000
Boat and ship builder	£26,500
Carpenter and joiner	£27,500
Chef	£31,500
Coastguard	£40,000
Commercial Diving	£50,000
Deck hand	£22,250
Ecologist	£33,500
Harbour Master	£52,500
Marine architect	£40,000
Marine electrician	£26,500
Marine surveyor	£40,000
Painter & finisher	£21,057
Skipper	£40,000
Superyacht crew	£39,000
Watersports instructor	£26,000
Welder and fabricator	£24,000
Yacht broker	£45,000

Average salaries were calculated as the mid-point of a range supplied by Marine Resources

Proportion of jobs in the national marine sector and demand over the last year in Cornwall

Key:
Demand for these occupations in Cornwall & the Isles of Scilly

Number of Job Posting in 12 months¹

The current top occupations in this sector nationwide

Number in employment (UK-wide)



Number of employees recruited over the year by the top marine recruiters in Cornwall

Key:

X Number of Job Postings in 12 months²

* = equal



Other marine employers include



- A&P Falmouth
- Falfish
- Flushing Ferry Limited
- Fugro Geoservices
- Marineco Limited
- Mit International
- Omni Engineering Ltd
- Padstow Harbour Commissioners
- Pendennis
- Penzance Drydock
- Rustler Yachts
- Tamar Crossings
- Tugdock
- W Stevenson & Sons.

¹ Burning Glass Data from March 31 2021 to April 1 2022

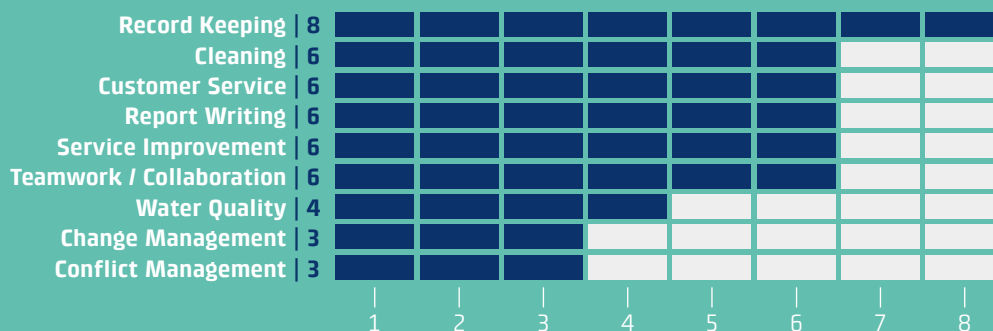
Skills



Detailed record keeping helps a business to be more efficient by keeping track of financial, customer and product information.

Employer demand for specialist skills in the marine sector in Cornwall

Job adverts listing this skill



Microsoft Office skills are necessary for many roles – free tutorials are available online to help update skills.

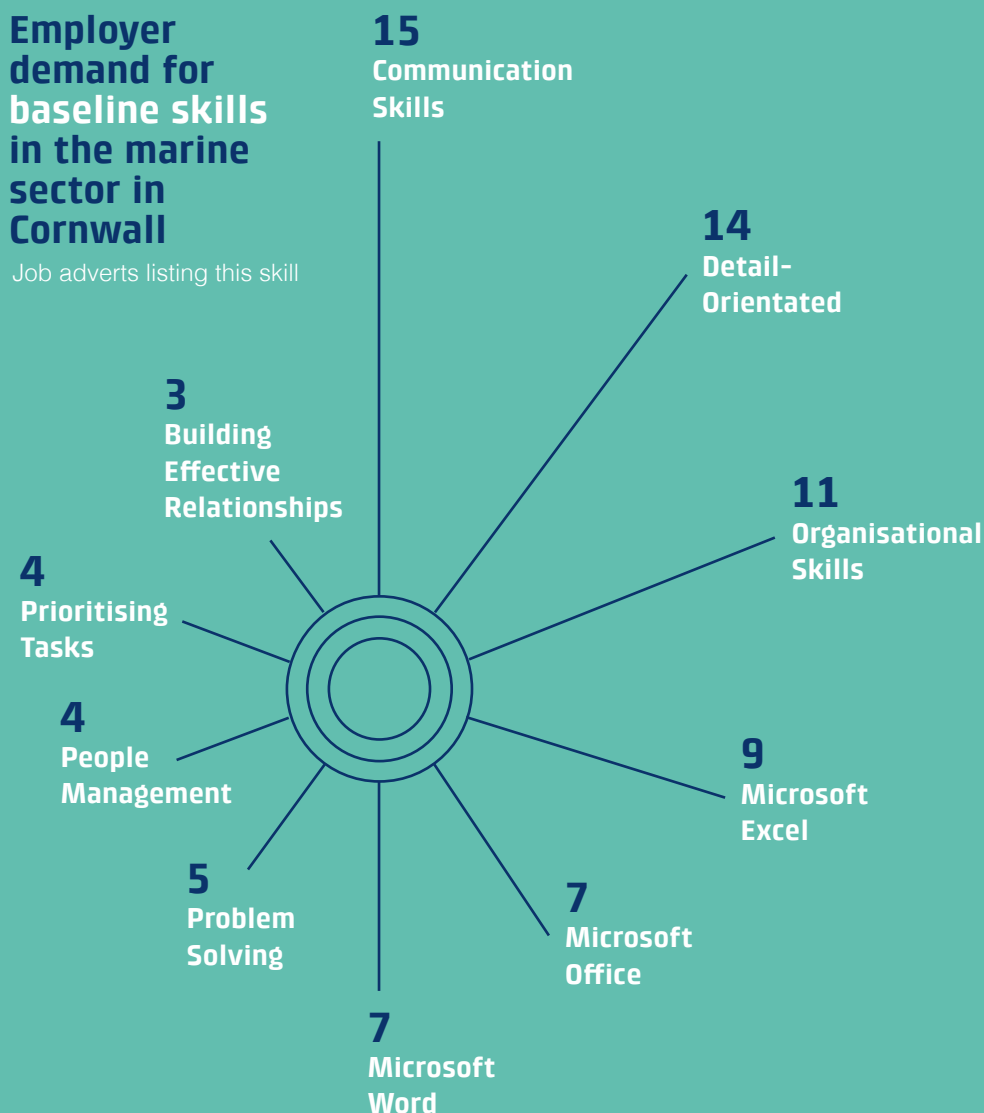
Employer demand for IT skills in the marine sector in Cornwall

Job adverts listing this skill



Employer demand for baseline skills in the marine sector in Cornwall

Job adverts listing this skill





Useful things to know

Approaching employers directly can be helpful, especially if looking for an apprenticeship.

Many vacancies are 'hidden' – that is, not advertised through the usual channels. They might appear on social media or are often made available to workers who are known to the company. Having a good network – and reputation - is therefore really important if self-employed or in a small business.

There are hundreds of small, medium and international marine companies operating in Cornwall & the Isles of Scilly, as well as world class research institutions.



Future outlook

Globally and locally there is significant concern about protecting the biodiversity of the marine environment and understanding the ecosystems and the impact of climate change and pollution on them. There is also a growing industry in offshore energy technology, and an increase in the technology used to support all aspects of the wider industry. This creates opportunities for new roles and the adaptation of existing roles.

The sector will continue to take advantage of technological developments that increase the efficiency and sustainability of equipment, harness the power of the ocean and collect and analyse data.

Automation

Automation and other drivers will change the way in which the marine industry works. The transportation of goods and people, the management of ports, engineering and scientific projects and the leisure marine industry will all see a move towards 'smart shipping'.² Automation, digitisation and autonomous systems will all form a part of this shift. Many of these changes will take decades to completely change the industry but their impact is being felt now.

Most of these technological changes are likely to increase productivity in the sector rather than reduce the number of jobs. The jobs where there is a low risk of automation such as biological scientists, biochemists and engineers will still see an impact from improvements in technology. These and many other jobs will see the skills that they use changing.

All this means it is important for those entering the marine sector to continue to develop skills and engage with new technologies.

² https://londoneconomics.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/LE-DfT_SmartShipping-Final-Report.pdf



Routes into the marine sector:

1. Direct employment into a job in the marine sector and receive training on the job. The **Find a job service** (<https://www.gov.uk/find-a-job>) can help you with your search for jobs and send alerts when new jobs become available.
2. Apply for an apprenticeship or traineeship with an employer. The **Find an apprenticeship service** (<https://www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship>) can help you with your search, send alerts when new apprenticeships become available and has advice on how to apply.
3. Undertake a relevant College course, or new T-Level qualifications are available for 16-18 year olds.
4. Graduates can enter the workforce after attaining a relevant degree.
5. Work experience can be a great way to find out what it's like working in the marine sector and gain valuable skills for your CV.

For further support:

Cornwall Marine Network – Helping marine businesses in Cornwall

(<https://cornwallmarine.net>)

Falmouth Marine School | Passionate about the sea

(<https://www.falmouthmarineschool.ac.uk>)

Seafood Cornwall Training » Committed to the Cornish fishing industry

(<https://www.seafoodcornwalltraining.co.uk>)

Careers in the Marine Industry - British Marine

(<https://britishmarine.co.uk/Careers-and-Training>)

Career Paths – Seafish

(<https://www.seafish.org/safety-and-training/careers-in-the-uk-seafood-industry/career-paths>)

Marine Careers (<https://www.imarest.org>)

Contact the Cornwall & Isles of Scilly People Hub, they can help if you are:

- unemployed and wondering what options are open to you
- out of work and looking to retrain or develop new skills
- recently redundant and want to get back into work or training

Call - 0333 0150699 (Monday–Friday, 9am–4pm)

Visit – www.peoplehub.info

Email – hello@peoplehub.info

The National Careers Service provides free careers advice and guidance to individuals from the age of 14. Visit 'Get the Jump' for 14-19 year olds and the National Careers Service website for adults.

Get the Jump: explore your education and training choices |

National Careers Service (<https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/explore-your-education-and-training-choices>)

Careers advice - job profiles, information and resources |

National Careers Service (<https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk>)



Cornwall Marine Network (CMN) is the main business support network in the Marine sector. CMN provides skills and training, digital marketing, innovation and productivity support to 351 member businesses who collectively represent around 90% of the Cornwall marine economy.

CMN owns the Cornwall Marine Academy which offers careers advice to young people, improves their employability skills and uses member businesses to provide vocational work experiences. CMA was recognised with the Maritime UK Future Skills national award in 2019 for supporting young people into the local marine sector.