

Graduate Outcomes 2019/20 and 2020/21

Full-time UK domiciled first degree graduates - 15 months after Bath

The University of Bath has an excellent record of graduate employment, featuring in the top ten for graduate prospects in three major national league tables*. Across all subjects, 92% of Bath 2020/21 graduates who are employed in the UK are in high skilled employment, compared to 74% nationally#. Hundreds of employers of all sizes and from all industries each year advertise vacancies, deliver presentations or network with our students; we are in the top 15 universities targeted by employers†.

The information shown here is from the Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA) Graduate Outcomes survey for 2019/20 and 2020/21 leavers combined. It is the biggest UK annual social survey and captures the perspectives and current status of recent graduates, 15 months after leaving university.

Social Work and Applied Social Studies combines theory with practical learning through professional placements. Students develop a sound theoretical knowledge of social sciences as well as developing social work specific knowledge, values and skills. Graduates from this course can apply to register as social workers and begin their career within the sector. But the skills they gain such as problem-solving, conflict management, communication and time management make them attractive to employers in other settings too.

Courses included:

- Social Work and Applied Social Studies BSc

Response rate	
Total in 2019/20 and 2020/21 cohorts	55 [§]
% response rate	65%

[§]Number rounded to the nearest multiple of five

Graduate outcomes by activity

Activity summary	
Employment	86%
Voluntary/unpaid work	-
Employment and further study	3%
Further study	-
Other: travel, caring, retired	3%
Unemployed [§]	8%
Total	100%

Note: Percentages may not total 100% due to rounding. Activity defined using HESA XACTIVITY: takes account of all activities and most important activity.

[§]Unemployed includes those due to start work or study.

*6th in the Times and The Sunday Times Good University Guide 2024, 4th in the Complete University Guide 2024, and 4th in the Guardian University Guide 2024

#Compared with [all Universities UK members](#).

†The Graduate Market in 2024, High Fliers Research.

Industries and employers

Most graduates from the Social Work and Applied Social Studies course go on to work in the social work sector. They mostly enter the public sector in local government, although some also work for the NHS, charities and in the private care sector.

The most frequent of the industry categories are:

- Public administration and defence
- Human health and social work activities

Examples of employers for the 2019/20 and 2020/21 cohorts:

- Bath and North East Somerset Recovery Team
- NHS
- Preferred Living
- Shining Stars Fostering Agency
- Wiltshire Council

Occupations and job titles

Social Work graduates mostly go on to work as social workers. They work in different areas of social work, for example mental health, adoption and children's social worker. Some go onto related professions such as working in housing or drugs and alcohol recovery.

The vast majority of our UK employed Social Work and Applied Social Studies graduates are in high skilled employment.

High skilled employment includes these three categories:

- Managers, directors and senior officials
- Professional occupations
- Associate professional and technical occupations

Examples of job titles for the 2019/20 and 2020/21 cohorts:

- Adult Social Worker
- Child Protection Social Worker
- Mental Health Social Worker
- Supervising Social Worker
- Youth Support Worker

More information

Find out what Bath graduates from other courses do: go.bath.ac.uk/graduate-outcomes.

More information is available about how Careers supports current and prospective students, as well as graduates from Bath: bath.ac.uk/careers.