

## Annual Report of the Careers Service Syndicate for 1998–99: Summary

### I Some highlights

- Prospects for Cambridge first-degree graduates were again excellent in 1999. 54% went straight into permanent employment or directly related training, 24% into some form of further study, and less than 4% were known to be still seeking employment or further study.
- The changes in the pattern of destinations are again relatively small this year but with small drops in the numbers entering the financial field.
- New courses and workshops were introduced to help contract research and other University staff – a major area of need.

### II Graduate destinations

Prospects for Cambridge graduates remain excellent. 54% entered permanent employment in the UK (1998: 57%). Fewer than 4% of the first-degree graduates whose destinations were known were recorded in the ‘still seeking’ category by the end of February 2000.

The destinations of 84% of first-degree graduates and 90% of higher-degree graduates were known. The graph shows trends in some destination categories of Cambridge first-degree graduates, including those from four-year Master’s courses (M.Eng., M.Sci.).

The proportion of graduates taking ‘time out’ after graduating, which had fallen over the last few years to 7%, rose to 8% – perhaps because more students are putting off deciding on, and applying for, longer-term jobs as a result of the amount of time pressure on them.

In 1999, the proportion of graduates going on to further study, academic or vocational, was 25% – the same as in 1998. Within this there was a rise in higher degrees, especially amongst men, and a fall in other types of course.

The proportion of 1999 graduates going to posts in the public sector dropped very slightly overall, but the proportion going into teacher training or teaching posts rose appreciably. Homerton (whose graduates are counted separately) produced more entrants to teaching than in 1998. A total of 560 graduates from the Faculty of Education entered teaching upon completion of undergraduate or postgraduate courses.

The number going into banking and securities, chartered accountancy, and the legal profession all fell slightly. Alternative areas of interest such as e-commerce may account for some of the fall, and also for the fact that the numbers entering industry at first-degree level rose.

The numbers entering management consultancy rose slightly, reflecting the considerable buoyancy in this area. The intake into computer consultancy was static but recruitment of men to the various cultural categories decreased by 1%.

32% of the Master’s-degree graduates continued with further study but this was a marked fall on the previous year – probably accounted for by the difficulty of finding money and high levels of debt. 33% entered employment in the UK or abroad (1998: 35%). The proportion still seeking work or courses rose to the same level as for undergraduates but the numbers were very small – 29 people. Many of the others were overseas students returning home. Of the Ph.D.s, 76% went into employment in the UK or abroad. Within this, there was a slight rise in overseas employment, whilst UK employment fell. This probably reflects the increasing proportion of Ph.D. students from overseas.

Table 1 gives statistical details of the first destinations of Cambridge first-degree graduates in 1999. Table 2 gives statistical details for men and women separately. Tables 3 and 4 give information about graduates with Master’s degrees and research degrees respectively. Statistics for Homerton graduates appear in Table 5 which gives details of all education graduates.

### III Careers Service activities

The full Report discusses two topics of current interest: the Service’s contribution to the wider mission of the University and Colleges and developments in its use of IT and information management. The Report also describes the wide variety of activities organized by the Service. A list of major events is given in the full Report.

A Banking Event was introduced in October 1999. 145 employers and over 3,600 students attended the successful Careers Information Fair in November 1999. The Law Event in January 2000 was run over two days to fit in all 74 organizations wishing to attend. In February 2000 we ran, in conjunction with Cambridge University Students Union, another successful ‘One World Works – not just for profit’ event, attended by around 1,000 students.

Despite (or perhaps because of) our very active website, the demand for students for paper-based publications remains high. Our in-house printing facility produced similar quantities of booklets and vacancy lists to last year. Our new publication, *CVs and Cover Letters*, has been a great success amongst students and it is now in its fourth reprint. In December 1999, we distributed our *Careers Service Guide*, written by the Careers Advisers, to all penultimate-year students. We also assisted CUSU to publish their *Oxbridge Careers Handbook* in conjunction, for the first time, with Oxford University Students Union.

The development of the Service’s website has been a major area of activity. Since its launch three years ago, the hit rate has increased from 1,500 a week to around 12,000 a week in the Lent Term 2000. In one particular week of that term a new record of 24,000 hits was reached. The site has also grown from about thirty pages to the current figure of around 3,000.

The provision of assistance to short-term contract research staff of the University – a major area of need – was addressed. Four workshops were run over the Michaelmas and Lent Terms designed specifically for researchers and other short-term contract staff. 58 people participated and post course appraisals showed the workshops to have been very effective.

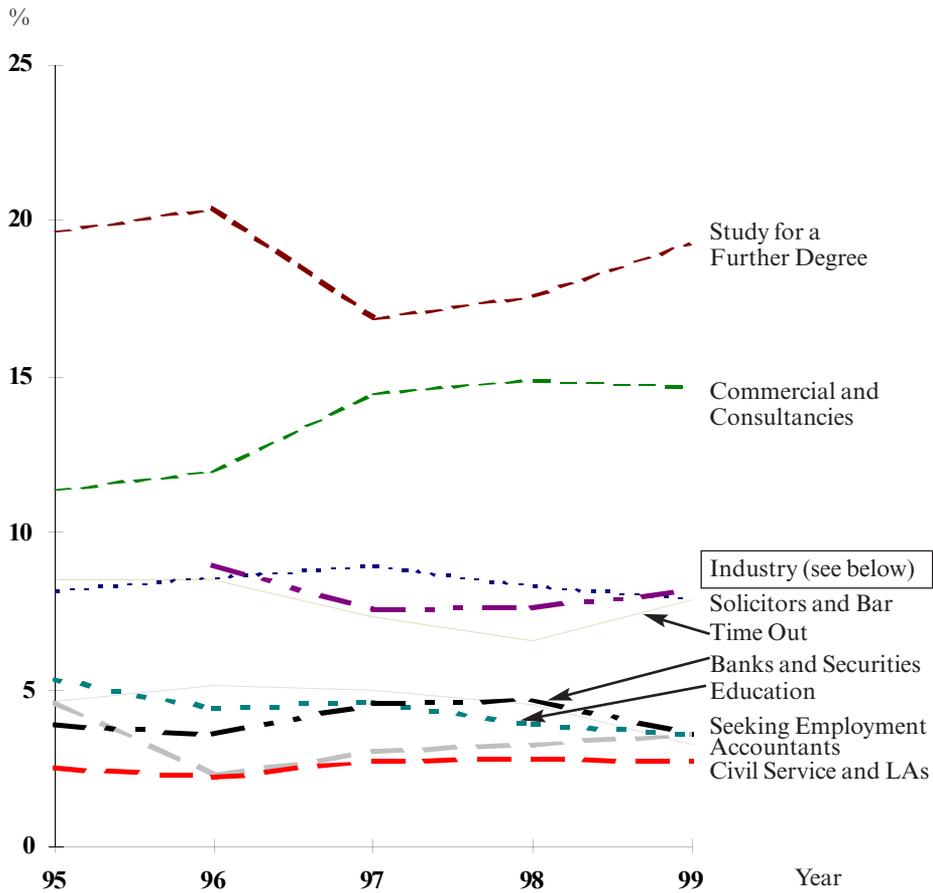
The Careers Service Supporters’ Club continued to bring benefits to the Service: membership in April 2000 was 120.

The number of Michaelmas Term employer presentations rose again to 173, but the number of visits to interview in the Lent Term continued to decline to 51 (70 in 1999), resuming a trend which has been evident for some years. There was a small decrease in the number of new employers approaching the Service for the first time in 1999–2000, but the figure is still double that of 1994. Start-up businesses, often alumni-led, feature highly.

*Copies of the full Report may be obtained from the Director, Cambridge University Careers Service, Stuart House, Mill Lane, Cambridge, CB2 1XE.*

GRAPH: TRENDS IN SOME DESTINATION CATEGORIES

*All Cambridge First-Degree Graduates*



*Note on Industry*

As a result of the introduction of the four-year course, very few engineers graduated in 1995 and the entry to industry was therefore significantly lower than normal. The graph therefore starts again from 1996 when normal output was resumed.

TABLE 1

**Statistical Detail Summary – All Cambridge First-Degree Graduates 1999**

	<b>TOTAL</b>		
Total graduating in 1999 <sup>(1)</sup>	<b>2870</b>		
Total not replying to enquiries	<b>457</b>		
<i>Total of known destinations</i>	<b><u>2413</u></b>	(84%)	
who went into:			
		<i>% of total of known destinations</i> <sup>(2)</sup>	<i>Change in % points since 1998</i> <sup>(2)</sup>
Study for further degree by research	<b>225</b>	9%	(-4)
Study for further taught degree	<b>241</b>	10%	(+5)
Other further study (certs., dips., etc.) <sup>(3)</sup>	<b>129</b>	5%	(-2)
Still seeking employment at February 2000	<b>88</b>	4%	(+1)
Others not going into permanent employment	<b>296</b>	12%	(+2)
Employment abroad	<b>131</b>	5%	(-1)
<i>Permanent UK employment</i> <sup>(4)</sup>	<b><u>1303</u></b>	<b><u>54%</u></b>	<b><u>(-3)</u></b>
who went into the following areas:			
<i>Professions (financial and legal)</i>	<b>380</b>	<b><u>16%</u></b>	<b><u>(-2)</u></b>
Solicitors and Barristers	<b>193</b>	8%	(0)
Chartered Accountants	<b>77</b>	3%	(-1)
Banks and Securities	<b>88</b>	4%	(-1)
Actuaries and Insurance	<b>22</b>	1%	(0)
<i>Public Sector (including Education and Health)</i>	<b>311</b>	<b><u>13%</u></b>	<b><u>(-1)</u></b>
Health (including Medics and Vets)	<b>148</b>	6%	(0)
Education <sup>(5)</sup>	<b>87</b>	4%	(0)
Civil Service, Local Authorities, and Social work	<b>65</b>	3%	(0)
Uniformed services	<b>11</b>	neg.	(-1)
<i>Commercial and Consultancies</i>	<b>355</b>	<b><u>15%</u></b>	<b><u>(0)</u></b>
Management Consultants	<b>109</b>	5%	(+1)
Cultural categories <sup>(6)</sup>	<b>71</b>	3%	(0)
Computer Consultants	<b>70</b>	3%	(0)
Other commercial categories <sup>(7)</sup>	<b>105</b>	4%	(-1)
<i>Industry</i>	<b>197</b>	<b><u>8%</u></b>	<b><u>(0)</u></b>
Manufacturing Industry	<b>170</b>	7%	(0)
Utilities and service industries	<b>27</b>	1%	(0)
<i>Others</i>	<b><u>60</u></b>	<b><u>2%</u></b>	<b><u>(0)</u></b>

**FOOTNOTES**

(1) 'Total graduating in 1999' **excludes** pre-clinical medical and veterinary students and Homerton B.Eds. Clinical medical and veterinary students are **included**.

(2) Because of rounding off, % figures do not necessarily all add up to 100%.

(3) 'Other further study and training' includes graduates studying Maths, Pt III, and Diplomas such as that in Computer Science or the ACDMM. They go into employment later.

(4) 'Permanent employment in UK' here includes trainee solicitors, trainee barristers, and trainee teachers (P.G.C.E.). These groups are technically not in employment and are recorded nationally under 'Other study and training'.

(5) 'Education' includes those studying for a P.G.C.E. and going direct into schools, but excludes B.Eds.

(6) 'Cultural categories' include those who went to book, newspaper, and magazine publishers, radio, television, sport, and other entertainment.

(7) 'Other commercial categories' include those who went to advertising and market research agencies, retailers, and chartered surveyors.

TABLE 2

**Cambridge First-Degree Graduates 1999: Men and Women Compared**

	MEN			WOMEN		
Total graduating in 1999 <sup>(1)</sup>	<b>1612</b>			<b>1258</b>		
Total not replying to enquiries	<b>278</b>			<b>179</b>		
Total of known destination who went into:	<b>1334</b>	(83%)		<b>1079</b>	(86%)	
		<i>Change in % points since 1998<sup>(2)</sup></i>			<i>Change in % points since 1998<sup>(2)</sup></i>	
Study for further degree by research	<b>138</b>	10%	(-4)	<b>87</b>	8%	(-3)
Study for further (taught) degree	<b>146</b>	11%	(+7)	<b>95</b>	9%	(+4)
Other further study (certs. and dips.) <sup>(3)</sup>	<b>73</b>	5%	(-3)	<b>56</b>	5%	(-1)
Still seeking employment at February 2000	<b>47</b>	4%	(0)	<b>41</b>	4%	(+2)
Others not going into permanent employment	<b>155</b>	12%	(+3)	<b>141</b>	13%	(+2)
Employment abroad	<b>67</b>	5%	(0)	<b>64</b>	6%	(-1)
Permanent UK employment <sup>(4)</sup> who went to:	<b>708</b>	<u>53%</u>	<u>(-3)</u>	<b>595</b>	<u>55%</u>	<u>(-2)</u>
<i>Professions (financial and legal)</i>	<b>218</b>	<u>16%</u>	<u>(-3)</u>	<b>162</b>	<u>15%</u>	<u>(-3)</u>
Solicitors and Barristers	<b>92</b>	7%	(0)	<b>101</b>	9%	(-1)
Chartered Accountants	<b>50</b>	4%	(0)	<b>27</b>	3%	(-2)
Banks and Securities	<b>59</b>	4%	(-3)	<b>29</b>	3%	(0)
Actuaries and Insurance	<b>17</b>	1%	(0)	<b>5</b>	neg.	(0)
<i>Public Sector (including Education and Health)</i>	<b>140</b>	<u>10%</u>	<u>(-1)</u>	<b>171</b>	<u>16%</u>	<u>(0)</u>
Health (including Medics and Vets)	<b>77</b>	6%	(+1)	<b>71</b>	7%	(0)
Education <sup>(5)</sup>	<b>28</b>	2%	(-1)	<b>59</b>	5%	(0)
Civil Service, Local Authorities, and Social work	<b>25</b>	2%	(0)	<b>40</b>	4%	(0)
Uniformed services	<b>10</b>	1%	(0)	<b>1</b>	neg.	(0)
<i>Commercial and Consultancies</i>	<b>197</b>	<u>15%</u>	<u>(0)</u>	<b>158</b>	<u>15%</u>	<u>(+1)</u>
Management Consultants	<b>76</b>	6%	(+1)	<b>33</b>	3%	(0)
Computer Consultants	<b>60</b>	5%	(+1)	<b>10</b>	1%	(+1)
Cultural categories <sup>(6)</sup>	<b>30</b>	2%	(-1)	<b>41</b>	4%	(0)
Other commercial categories <sup>(7)</sup>	<b>31</b>	2%	(-1)	<b>74</b>	7%	(0)
<i>Industry</i>	<b>120</b>	<u>9%</u>	<u>(-1)</u>	<b>77</b>	<u>7%</u>	<u>(+1)</u>
Manufacturing Industry	<b>104</b>	8%	(-1)	<b>66</b>	6%	(+1)
Utilities and service industries	<b>16</b>	1%	(0)	<b>11</b>	1%	(+1)
<i>Other</i>	<b>33</b>	<u>2%</u>	<u>(0)</u>	<b>27</b>	<u>3%</u>	<u>(0)</u>

## FOOTNOTES

(1) 'Total graduating in 1999' **excludes** pre-clinical medical and veterinary students and Homerton B.Eds. Clinical medical and veterinary students are **included**.

(2) Because of rounding off, % figures do not necessarily all add up to 100%.

(3) 'Other further study and training' includes graduates studying Maths, Pt III, and Diplomas such as that in Computer Science or the ACDMM. They go into employment later.

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(5) 'Education' includes those studying for a P.G.C.E. and going direct into schools, but excludes B.Eds.

(6) 'Cultural categories' include those who went to book, newspaper, and magazine publishers, radio, television, sport, and other entertainment.

(7) 'Other commercial categories' include those who went to advertising and market research agencies, retailers, and chartered surveyors.

TABLE 3

*Statistical Detail Summary – Cambridge Master's-Degree Graduates 1999*

	<b>TOTAL</b>		
Total Completing	<b>881</b>		
Total not replying to enquiries	<b>76</b>		
<i>Total of known destinations</i>			
who went into:	<b>805</b>	91%	
		<i>% of known destination</i>	<i>Change in % points since 1998</i>
Study for further degree by research	222	28%	(-8)
Study for further taught degree	13	2%	(0)
Other further study (certs., dips., etc.)	18	2%	(0)
Still seeking employment at February 2000	29	4%	(+3)
Others not going into permanent employment	252	31%	(+7)
Employment abroad	147	18%	(+1)
<i>Permanent UK employment or equivalent</i>			
who went into:	<b>124</b>	<b>15%</b>	<b>(-3)</b>
<i>Professions (financial and legal)</i>	<b>26</b>	<b>3%</b>	<b>(-2)</b>
Solicitors and Barristers	18	2%	(-2)
Chartered Accountants	3	<i>neg.</i>	(0)
Banks and Securities	5	1%	(0)
Actuaries and Insurance	0	0%	(0)
<i>Public Sector (including Education and Health)</i>	<b>35</b>	<b>4%</b>	<b>(0)</b>
Health (including Medics and Vets)	3	<i>neg.</i>	(0)
Education	14	2%	(0)
Civil Service, Local Authorities, and Social work	10	1%	(0)
Uniformed Services	8	1%	(0)
<i>Commercial and Consultancies</i>	<b>36</b>	<b>5%</b>	<b>(0)</b>
Cultural categories	10	1%	(0)
Management Consultancies	10	1%	(-1)
Computer Consultancies	9	1%	(0)
Other commercial categories	7	1%	(0)
<i>Industry</i>	<b>13</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>(0)</b>
Manufacturing industry	12	2%	(0)
Utilities and service industries	1	<i>neg.</i>	(0)
<i>Others</i>	<b>14</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>(+1)</b>

TABLE 4

**Statistical Detail Summary – Cambridge Ph.D.- Degree Graduates 1999**

<b>TOTAL</b>			
Total Completing	<b>868</b>		
Total not replying to enquiries	<b>94</b>		
<i>Total of known destinations</i>			
who went into:	<b>774</b>	90%	
		<i>% of known destination</i>	<i>Change in % points since 1998</i>
Study for further degree	7	1%	(-1)
Other further study (certs., dips., etc.)	25	3%	(+1)
Still seeking employment at February 2000	23	3%	(+2)
Others not going into permanent employment	130	17%	(+1)
Employment abroad	211	27%	(+1)
<i>Permanent UK employment or equivalent</i>			
who went into:	<b>378</b>	<b>49%</b>	<b>(-4)</b>
<i>Professions (financial and legal)</i>	<b>21</b>	<b>3%</b>	<b>(0)</b>
Solicitors and Barristers	2	<i>neg.</i>	(0)
Chartered Accountants	7	1%	(0)
Banks and Securities	11	1%	(-1)
Actuaries and Insurance	1	<i>neg.</i>	(0)
<i>Public Sector (including Education and Health)</i>	<b>209</b>	<b>27%</b>	<b>(-1)</b>
Health (including Medics and Vets)	13	2%	(0)
Education	184	24%	(-1)
Civil Service, Local Authorities, and Social work	12	2%	(+1)
Uniformed Services	0	0%	(0)
<i>Commercial and Consultancies</i>	<b>60</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>(+1)</b>
Cultural categories	9	1%	(0)
Management Consultancies	15	2%	(-1)
Computer Consultancies	21	3%	(+1)
Other commercial categories	15	2%	(+1)
<i>Industry</i>	<b>69</b>	<b>9%</b>	<b>(-4)</b>
Manufacturing industry	63	8%	(-4)
Utilities and service industries	6	1%	(0)
<i>Others</i>	<b>19</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>(+0)</b>

TABLE 5

**Education Graduates 1999**

	<b>Homerton</b>				<b>University</b>		<b>All</b>	
	B.Ed.	%	P.G.C.E.	%	P.G.C.E.	%	Total	%
Total Completing in 1999	163		376		159		698	
Total not replying to enquiries	3	2	5	1	9	6	17	2
Total of known destination who went into:	160	98	371	99	150	94	681	98
Further study	13	8	7	2	2	1	22	3
Still seeking employment at February 2000	10	6	32	9	12	8	54	8
Not available for employment	3	2	5	1	3	2	11	2
Employment abroad	2	1	11	3	2	1	15	2
Employment in UK	132	83	316	85	131	87	579	85
of whom in Education	119	90	314	99	127	97	560	97