This sector profile focuses on the key roles for graduates working as a surveyor. In addition to this career opportunity there are a number of other property related roles. Have a look at the [Prospects Property and Construction Sector](#) link for more information on roles such as Housing, Historic Building Management, Planning and others.

Surveyors manage, purchase, sell, or lease land and property. They also value and survey property and can do this within commercial, residential or rural property sectors.

Commercial surveyors will handle property used by businesses, such as shopping centres, convenience stores, office blocks and hotels. Many roles are with larger firms whose clients are usually institutions, such as pension companies, and fund management companies. Commercial firms typically have main offices in larger cities and commercial centres.

Residential surveyors deal with property that is used for living in including housing developments, individual homes and apartment blocks. Student accommodation is sometimes treated as residential; other times, rural. Clients tend to be high-net-worth individuals and family trusts.

Rural surveyors are concerned with all aspects of countryside property including country estates, farms and land. Firms are often rural specialists that deal with commercial and residential property within rural areas. Rural specialist firms tend to be smaller or regional, and therefore take on fewer graduates than the larger firms in other markets and are less likely to have an official graduate scheme.

Planning and development surveyors advise on all aspects of planning and development in both the public and private sectors. Taking into account a range of complex economic, social and environmental factors they provide their clients with critical information to help them make informed choices about investment.

Roles in each sector require a slightly different skill set but generally property tends to attract students who want a commercially focussed role that involves working directly with clients. Rural property roles will tend to attract those who want to work in the countryside and have an interest in sustainability. The job market is currently buoyant particularly for residential and commercial roles.

**Key Resources**

**Target Jobs: Property**

A key resource to understand how the property market works and what jobs are open to graduates. Start here if you are not sure about the options

**RICS Royal Institute Chartered Surveyors**

The professional institute giving details of training and useful careers news. Includes the RICS Careers Guide which has many links to potential employers. The Institute also has a [recruitment site](#)

**RICS Recruit**

A key section of the RICS website focussing on job options

**Property Week Jobs**

A weekly magazine focusing on the property market which includes job options

Access this page and more industries at [reading.ac.uk/careers/resources](reading.ac.uk/careers/resources)
Why Become a Planning and Development Surveyor

A useful guide to working as a planning and development surveyor and how to get in

Estates Gazette

Key source of current events and news on the property market

You may also be interested in...

- Accountancy and Financial Services
- Architecture and Construction
- Banking, Investment and Insurance
- The Environment