

Median salaries by field of employment	Base (n)	Median salary	Lower quartile	Upper quartile
Chloralkali	4	£84,000	£55,500	£167,800
Electricity generation	13	£67,500	£55,000	£86,600
Hospital	18	£64,500	£29,800	£83,600
IT/computer software	13	£62,800	£49,000	£102,000
Pharmaceuticals	593	£58,900★	£40,000	£85,000
Agrochemicals	51	£57,000	£41,900	£75,000
Other manufacturing industry	207	£53,000	£36,000	£75,000
Coatings/paints/inks	64	£52,000★	£35,000	£77,500
Petrochemicals	104	£51,800	£39,400	£80,000
Engineering	72	£51,400	£40,000	£66,400
Nuclear industry	146	£51,100	£38,000	£65,000
Specialised organics	49	£49,300	£41,300	£79,000
Biotechnologies	64	£49,100	£36,200	£90,000
Cosmetics/toiletries	49	£48,000	£33,300	£60,000
Food and beverage	72	£47,100	£29,500	£72,100
Plastics/rubbers	65	£47,000	£30,900	£69,000
Other service-based industry	136	£47,000	£32,000	£87,400
Inorganics	44	£46,000	£35,000	£67,400
Soaps/detergents	39	£46,000	£34,000	£64,000
Central government	132	£45,300	£34,000	£61,300
Local government (excluding teaching)	28	£44,700	£30,500	£61,000
Research association/centre	156	£42,500★	£32,800	£61,500
Synthetic fibres	4	£41,000	£33,000	£61,000
University	1100	£40,800	£30,500	£61,000
Dyes/pigments	13	£40,000	£19,500	£53,900
School	242	£40,000★	£30,000	£47,800
Other higher education institution	44	£39,900	£20,200	£54,300
Building and construction	27	£39,700	£27,000	£65,000
Environmental products/services	87	£39,000	£27,000	£50,000
Water industry	95	£37,200	£26,800	£50,000
Publishing	69	£32,000	£26,300	£40,000
Other	312	£30,000	£9,500	£48,700
FE/sixth form college	24	£29,500	£21,000	£35,100
Industrial gases	11	£29,000	£27,000	£110,000
Fertilisers	3	£27,900	£20,300	£43,000

We have included all fields mentioned in the survey, but where the sample sizes are low (less than 30) we advise caution when judging the significance of the conclusions, and advise members to further investigate the salaries offered for jobs in those sectors.

Management offers higher pay

The types of work that require more experience and greater responsibility offer higher financial reward.

Chart 14: Salary medians by type of work ▼

