Salary Trends Report 2025

Your guide to salaries and benefits in the UK, based on the analysis of 17.4 million job ads.



What to expect from our Salary Trends Report

This report is your go-to guide for benchmarking salaries and benefits in 2025, based on insights from 17.4 million job ads and 3,000 UK workers. It's designed to give recruitment and talent leaders a head start to shape their hiring strategies for the months ahead.

So, what's driving talent in 2025?

The competition for talent is set to intensify. 31% of workers plan to look for a new job in 2025, with higher pay being their top motivator. In fact, 72% of candidates cite salary as the most important factor when choosing a role, making salary benchmarking essential for employers to stay competitive.

However, pay alone isn't enough to win talent – **66**% of workers say they'd skip a pay rise for their most desired benefit: flexible working hours. Pay transparency is also critical, with **74**% of jobseekers saying they won't apply for jobs lacking salary information.

From an industry perspective, wage pressures are set to continue in 2025, driven by ongoing skills shortages and increases to the National Minimum Wage. These same factors shaped pay rises in HR, Legal, Healthcare, Accounting, Customer Service, and Retail last year. In contrast, pay in Technology, Banking & Finance and Consulting stagnated as demand normalised.

Despite rising wages, salary satisfaction dipped to **63**% in the past year, reflecting the strain on staff amid a slowdown in hiring. However, businesses need to manage workload pressures, bridge skills gaps, and support employee wellbeing in 2025 for better productivity. Positively, benefit satisfaction reached **76**% – suggesting investment by businesses are improving employee experience.

Finding the right candidates will support businesses in successfully navigating 2025. For this, addressing skills gaps, offering competitive and transparent compensation, and enhancing flexibility and benefits can help them meet evolving worker needs and build a future-ready workforce.

Contents

- 4 Candidate expectations in 2025
- 5 Salaries at a glance
- 7 Methodology
- 8 Salaries by city and region
- 9 Top 10 highest paying industries
- 10 Top 10 most desired vs. advertised benefits
- 11 Most advertised roles by industry
- 13 Industries in detail
- 14 Accounting
- 16 Administration
- 18 Banking and Finance
- 20 Construction
- 22 Consulting
- 24 Customer Service
- 26 Education
- 28 Engineering
- 30 Healthcare
- 32 Hospitality
- 34 Human Resources
- 36 Insurance
- 38 Legal
- 40 Logistics and Transport
- 42 Manufacturing
- 44 Marketing
- 46 Property
- 48 Retail
- 50 Sales
- 52 Skilled Trades
- 54 Social Care
- 56 Technology
- 58 Travel



Candidate expectations in 2025

Salary and benefits

4.5% is the average pay rise workers expect (*up from 3.7% in 2023)

28%
of workers will look
for a new job if they
don't receive their
desired pay rise

66%
would overlook a pay rise to receive their most desired benefit



Financial goals

of workers will look for a new job in 2025 for a higher salary
worry about their finances due to the cost of living
increase in pay would make workers consider a new job offer

The top financial goals for workers: 1 Saving for retirement (32%) 2 Covering day-to-day expenses (22%) 3 Ensuring a comfortable standard of living (21%)

Decision factors beyond salary and benefits Good work-life balance Job security Flexible working options Convenient location Positive work culture 27%

Salaries at a glance

£35,648

Gross median salary

Median salary

The median is the middle value in a dataset and as opposed to the average, it excludes extreme values. We use gross median salary by industry, city and region in our report as this gives a more accurate picture of the typical salary and is a better indicator of overall income distribution.

Disclaimer: All salary figures used in this report come from advertised salary data



Average salary growth over the past 5 years



Salary and benefit satisfaction in 2024

% change from 2023





Databaseand methodology

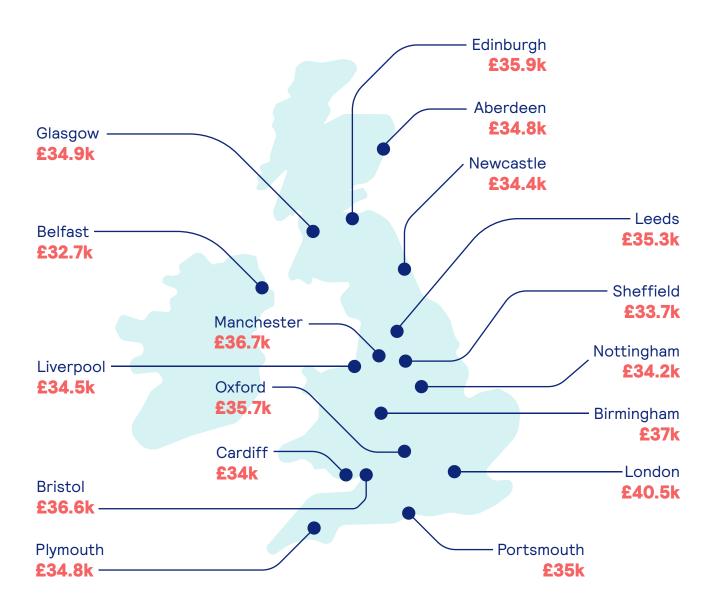
Data for our UK Salary Trends Report 2025 comes from OTT; an inhouse tool built by The Stepstone Group to analyse job postings and related information such as advertised salaries, region and skills. We analysed 17.4 million UK job ads, focussing exclusively on Q3 data from 2019 to 2024. This 5-year analysis spans 23 industries, providing a clear view of how salaries and benefits have shifted from year to year.

Our analysis includes the advertised gross median salary per industry, plus the gross median salary for 17 key UK cities: Aberdeen, Belfast, Birmingham, Bristol, Cardiff, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Leeds, Liverpool, London, Manchester, Newcastle, Nottingham, Oxford, Plymouth, Portsmouth and Sheffield.

To provide further insight into worker sentiment, we conducted a survey of 3,000 UK workers between 18 November and 2 December 2024. The survey sample was weighted to be representative of the UK workforce by age, gender and region. To ensure a robust analysis of industry-specific trends, the sample was boosted to include at least 100 respondents for each of the 23 industries.



Salary by city and region



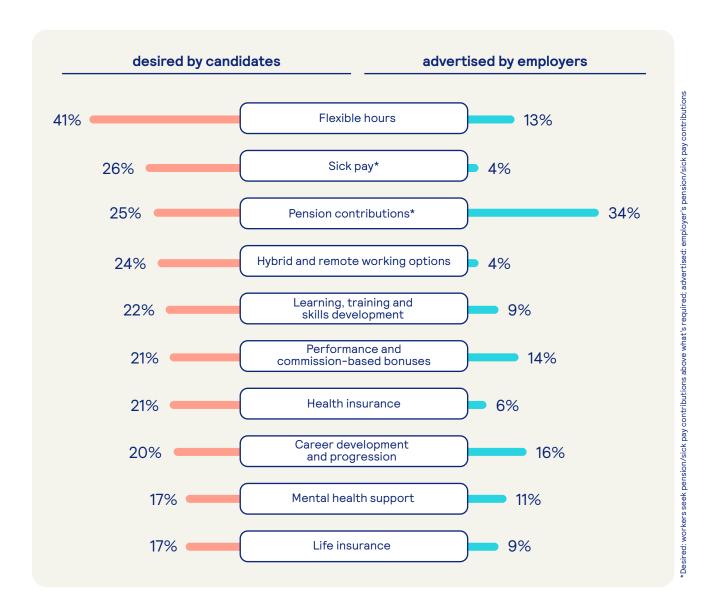


Top 10 highest paying industries

Technology	£46,206
Construction	£45,447
Banking & Finance	£43,540
Legal	£43,319
Engineering	£42,869
Healthcare	£39,897
Consulting	£39,222
Accounting	£38,017
Human Resources	£37,281
Marketing	£37,213



Top 10 desired vs. advertised benefits



Benefits on the rise



Most advertised roles



Industry	Role	Salary range
Accounting	Accounts assistant	£26,210- £28,614
Administration	Administrator	£25,016- £26,232
Banking & Finance	Finance manager	£48,813-£53,905
Construction	Site manager	£56,871- £61,952
Consulting	Practitioner	£33,040- £36,539
Customer Service	Customer assistant	£25,339- £25,714
Education	Teaching assistant	£22,454- £24,998
Engineering	Maintenance engineer	£42,415- £44,733
Healthcare	Registered nurse	£42,295- £46,711
Hospitality	Chef	£26,492- £28,419
Human Resources	HR advisor	£34,203-£37,201
Insurance	Claims handler	£25,744- £28,344
Legal	Paralegal	£26,970-£30,567
Logistics & Transport	Warehouse operative	£25,649-£27,825
Manufacturing	Production operative	£25,483- £27,288
Marketing	Marketing executive	£29,050- £32,091
Property	Property manager	£31,777- £35,338
Retail	Store manager	£32,919-£35,032
Sales	Sales assistant	£23,465- £25,203
Skilled Trades	Vehicle technician	£35,390- £39,499
Social Care	Community payback supervisor	£25,729- £31,214
Technology	Net developer	£51,027- £63,007
Travel	Crew member	£23,208- £24,326

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Make your job ads stand out to the talent you want to attract with **Premium Job**, complete with visual media.

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Find the best-fit candidates

Receive matching top talent you need, using the largest **CV Database** on the market.

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Reach young talent

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Drive relevant applications

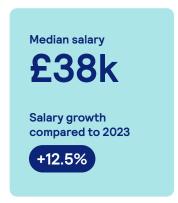
Advertise your jobs with a fully branded email with **Eshot**, sent directly to the inboxes of up to 100,000 relevant people.

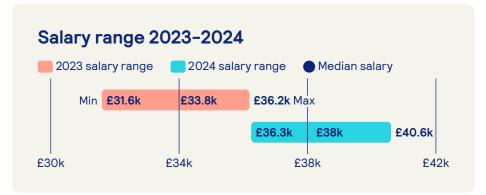
Find out more

Industries in detail

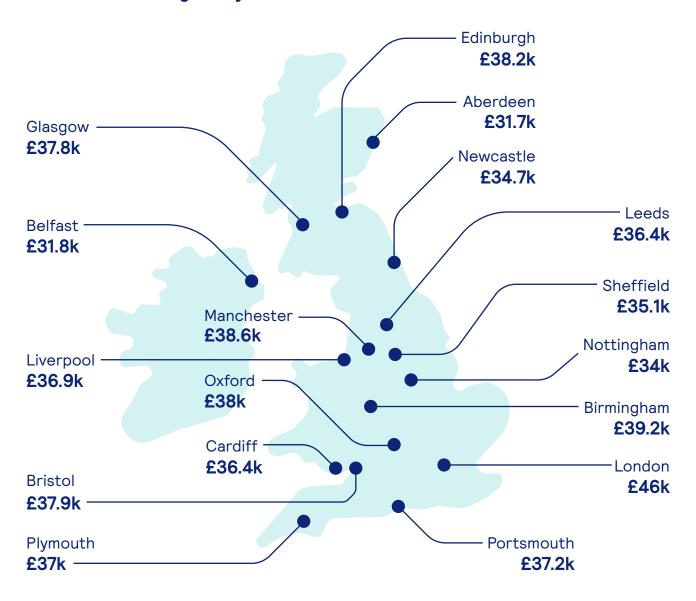


Accounting





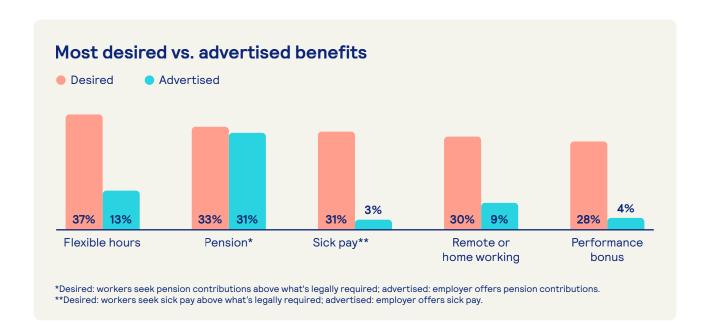
Median accounting salary in UK cities



78% are satisfied with their salary

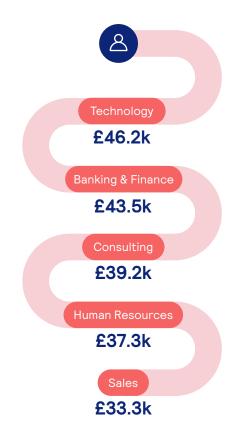


81% are satisfied with their benefits



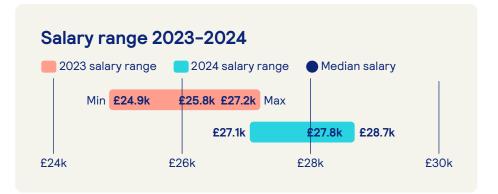
Top 5 most advertised roles

Salary range Financial controller £61.7k - £67.6k Management accountant £42.5k - £47.5k Bookkeeper £28k - £31.6k Credit controller £27.5k - £29.8k Accounts assistant £26.2k - £28.6k £20k £30k £70k £40k £50k £60k

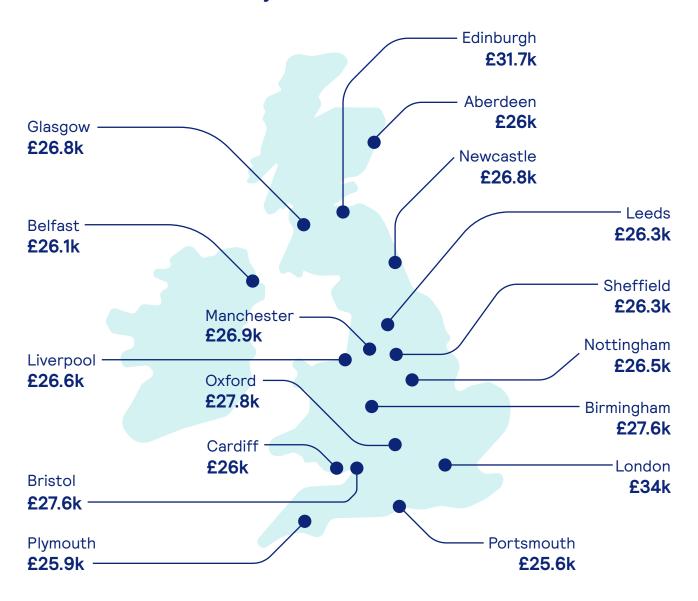


Administration





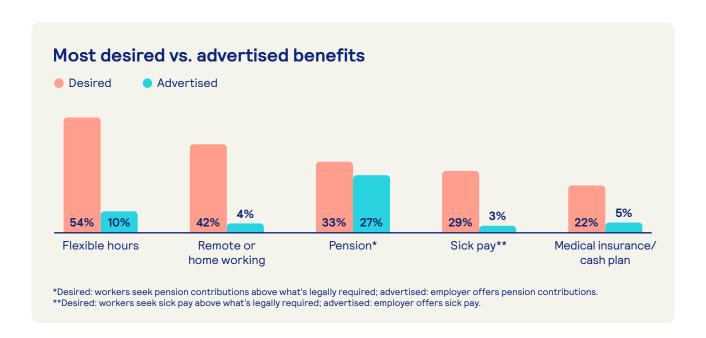
Median administration salary in UK cities



56% are satisfied with their salary

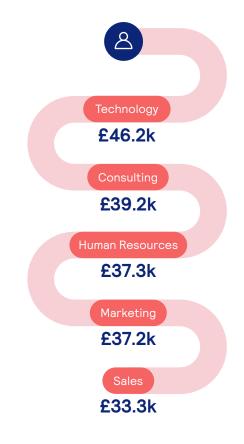


69%
are satisfied with
their benefits



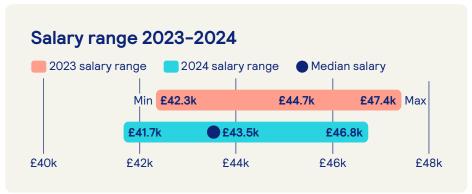
Top 5 most advertised roles



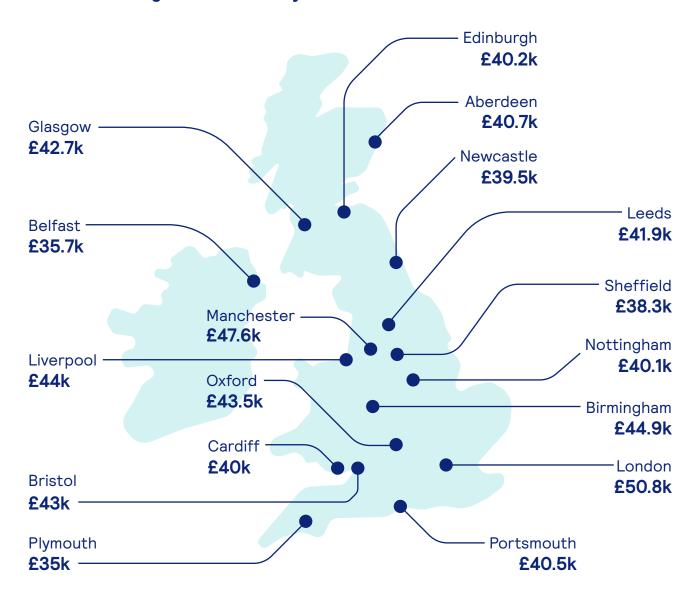


Banking & Finance





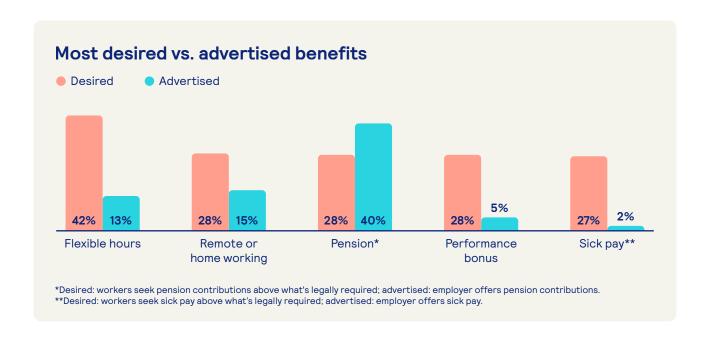
Median banking & finance salary in UK cities



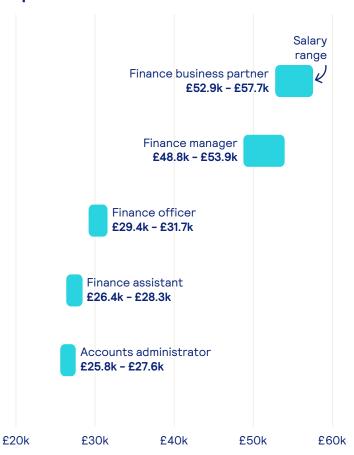
72% are satisfied with their salary



83% are satisfied with their benefits



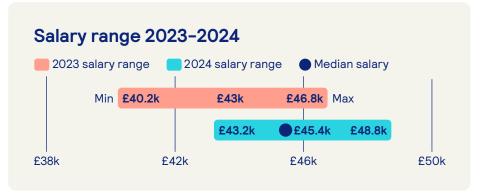
Top 5 most advertised roles



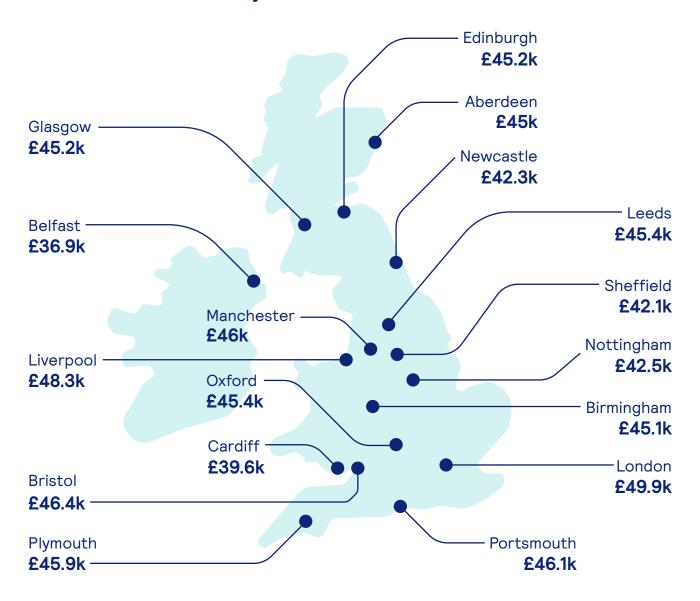


Construction





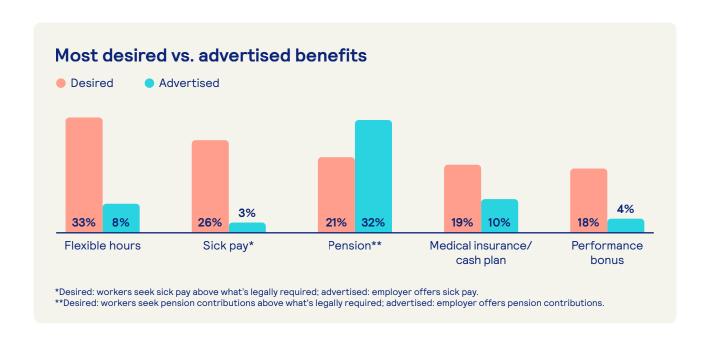
Median construction salary in UK cities



68% are satisfied with their salary

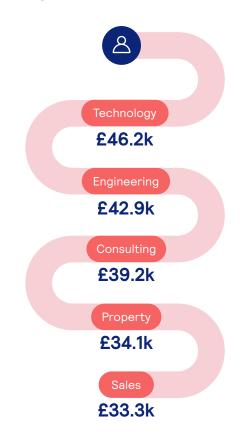


81% are satisfied with their benefits



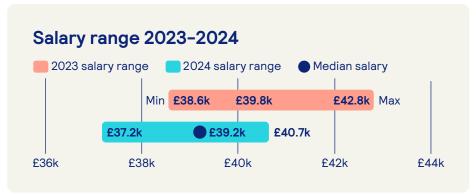
Top 5 most advertised roles



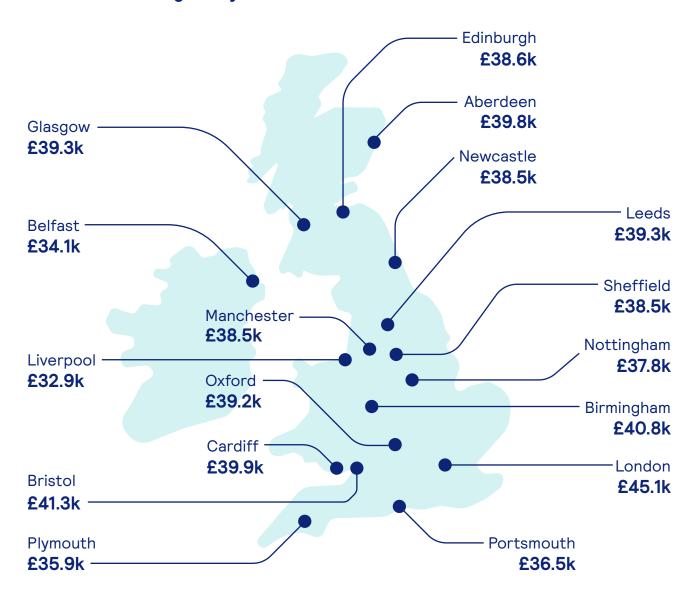


Consulting





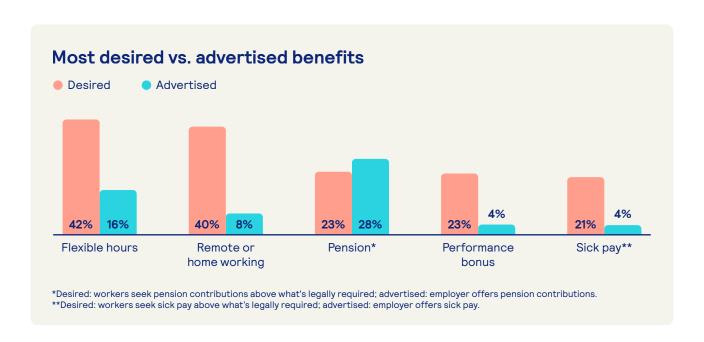
Median consulting salary in UK cities



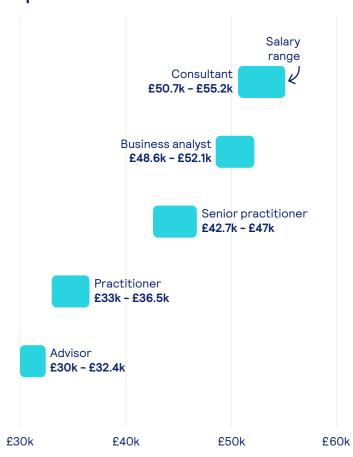
66% are satisfied with their salary

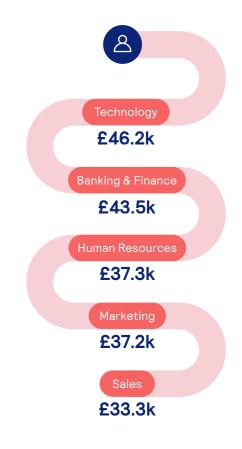


73%
are satisfied with
their benefits



Top 5 most advertised roles



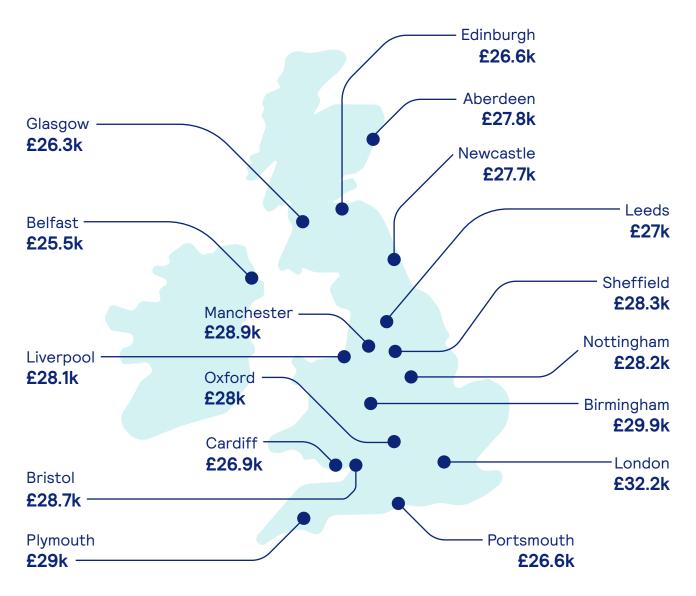


Customer Service





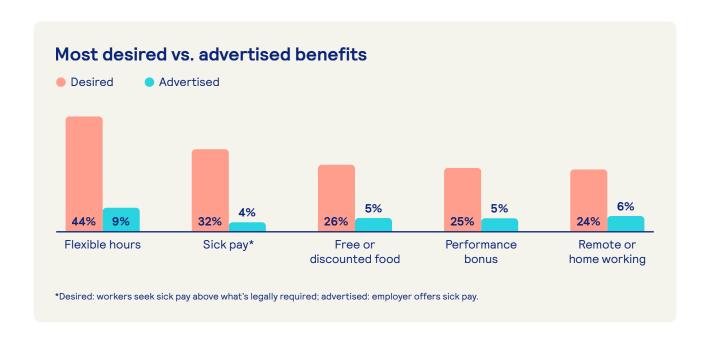
Median customer service salary in UK cities



54% are satisfied with their salary

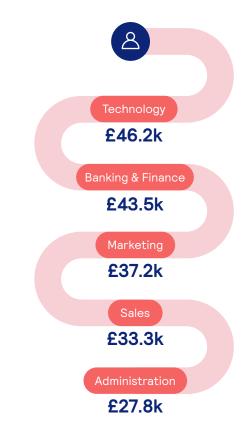


71%
are satisfied with
their benefits



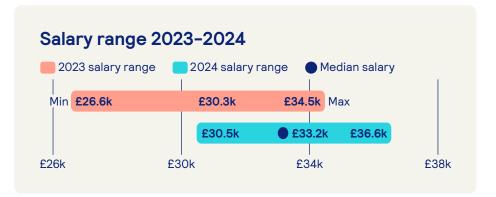
Top 5 most advertised roles

Salary range Service advisor £29.4k - £32.6k Customer assistant £25.3k - £25.7k Customer advisor £25k - £25.3k Customer service advisor £24.7k - £25.5k Customer service assistant £23.3k - £24.4k £20k £25k £30k £35k £40k

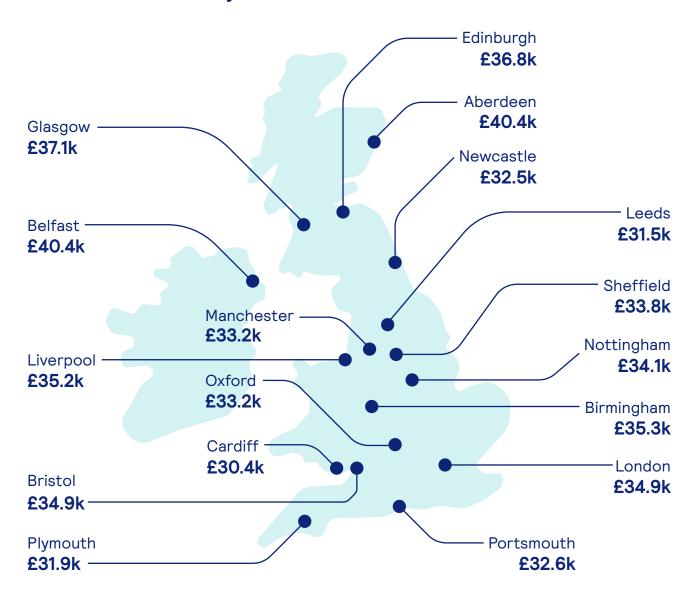


Education





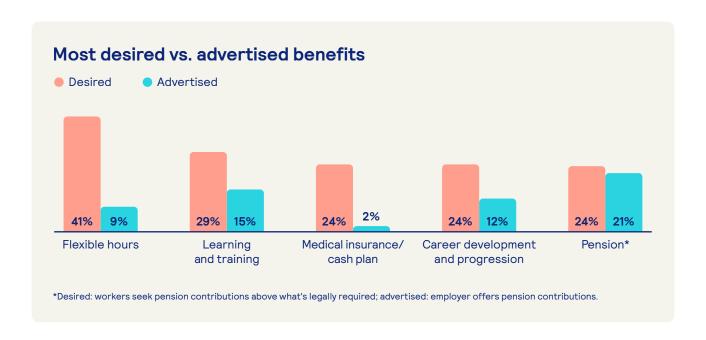
Median education salary in UK cities



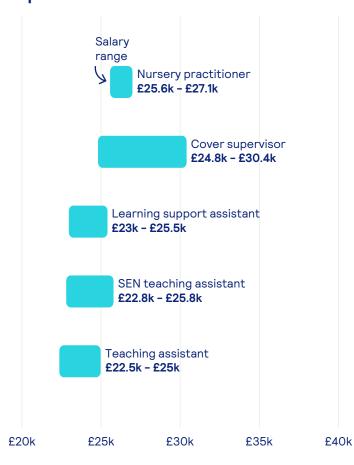
60% are satisfied with their salary

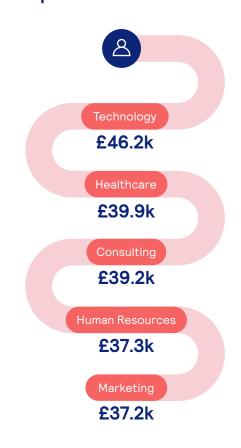


73%
are satisfied with
their benefits



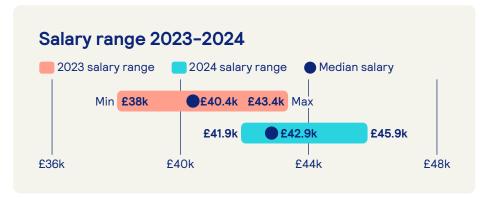
Top 5 most advertised roles



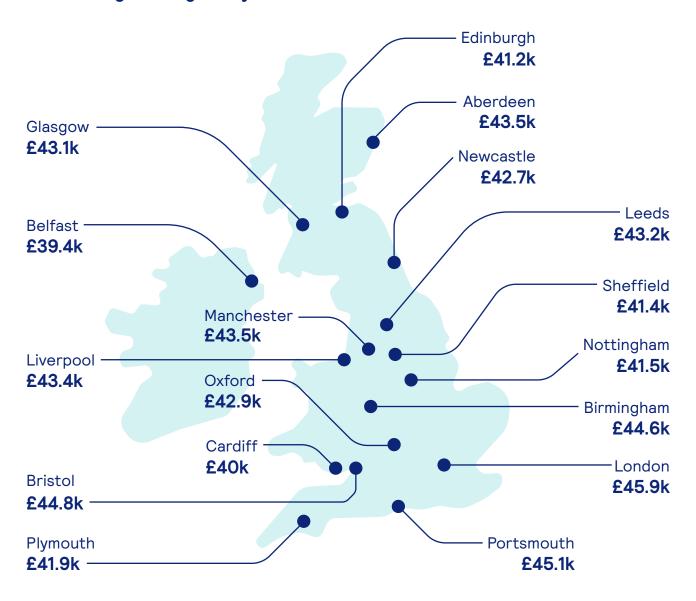


Engineering





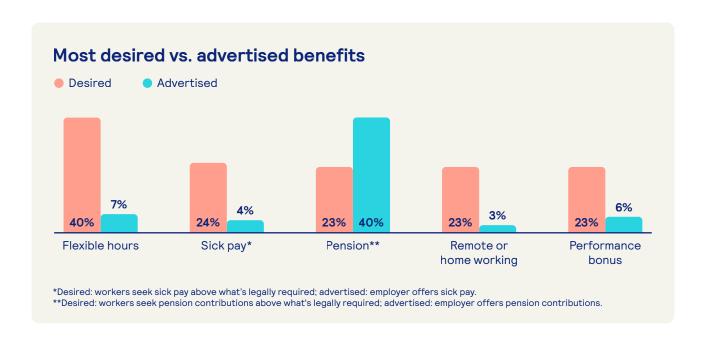
Median engineering salary in UK cities



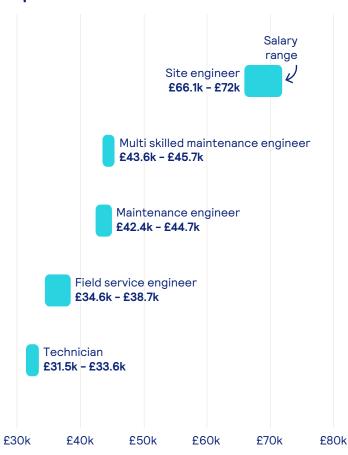
67% are satisfied with their salary



86%
are satisfied with
their benefits



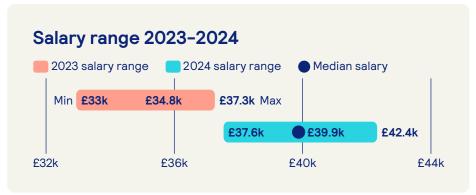
Top 5 most advertised roles



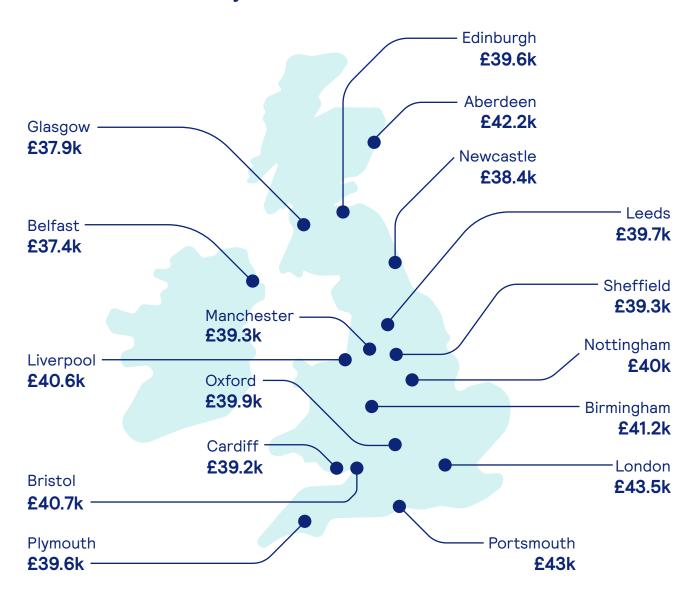


Healthcare





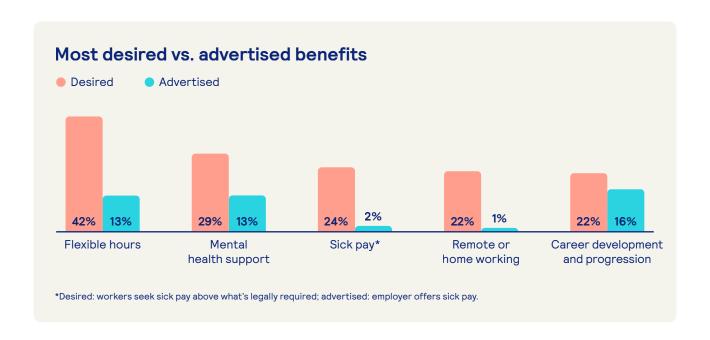
Median healthcare salary in UK cities



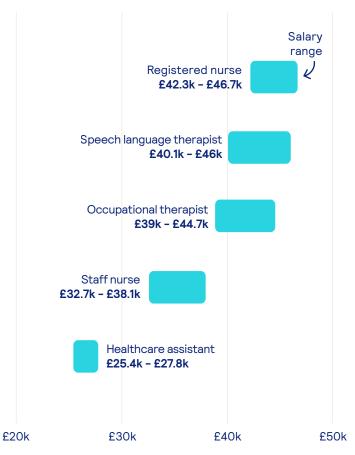
53% are satisfied with their salary

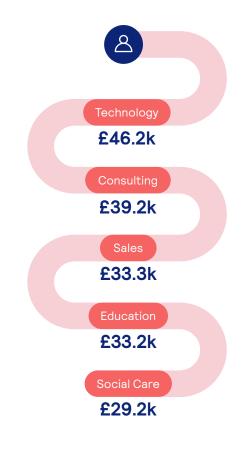


65% are satisfied with their benefits



Top 5 most advertised roles



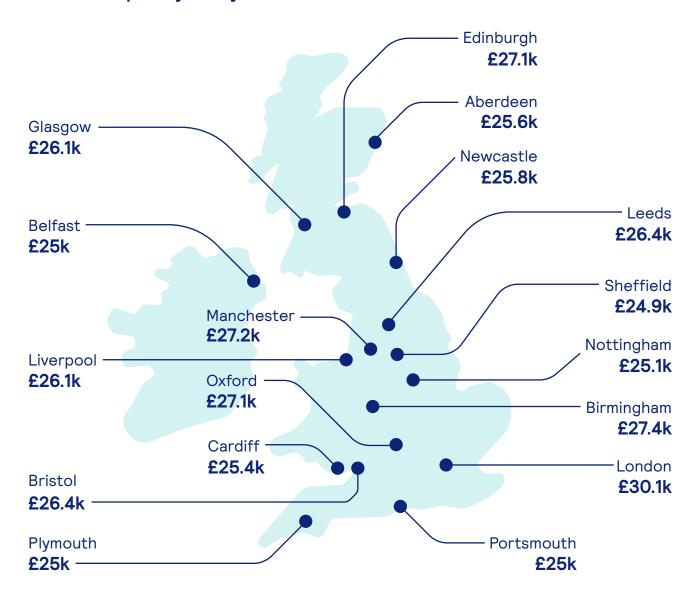


Hospitality





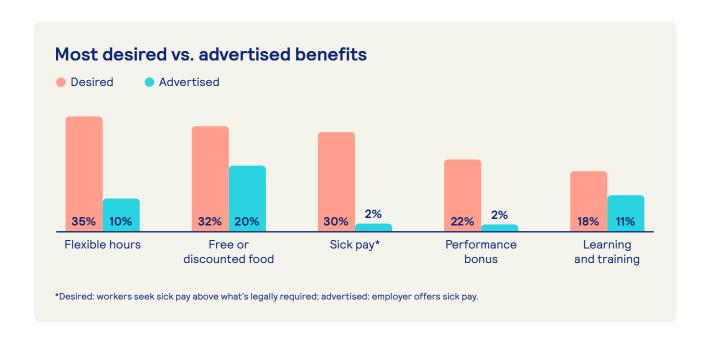
Median hospitality salary in UK cities



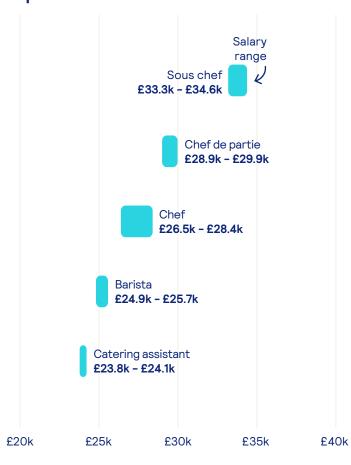
56% are satisfied with their salary



69% are satisfied with their benefits



Top 5 most advertised roles



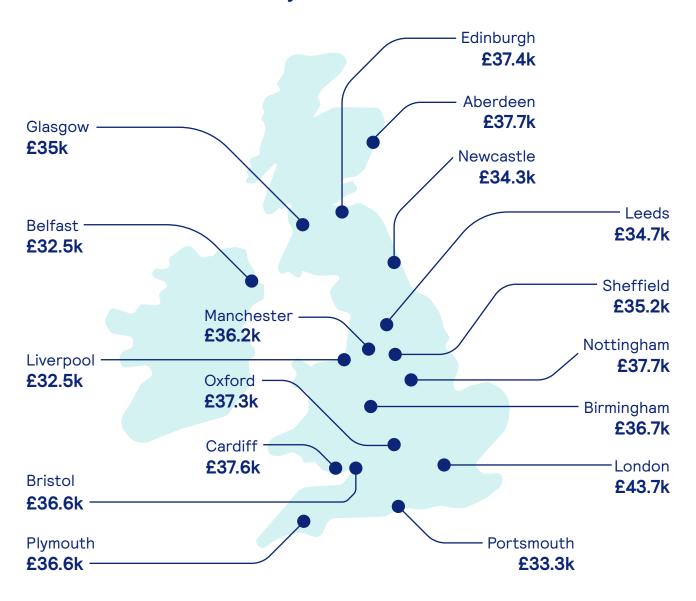


Human Resources





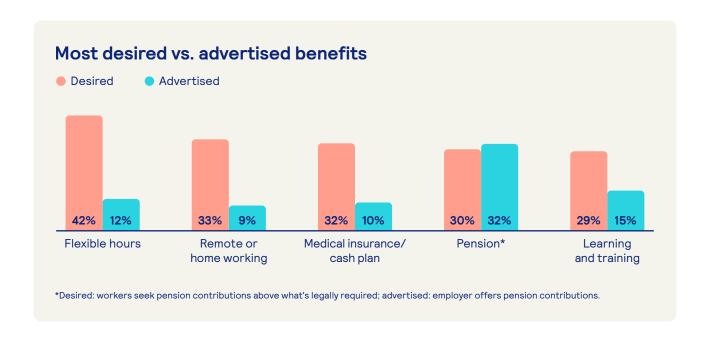
Median human resources salary in UK cities



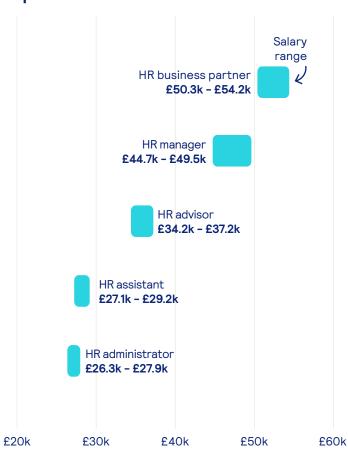
74% are satisfied with their salary



85% are satisfied with their benefits



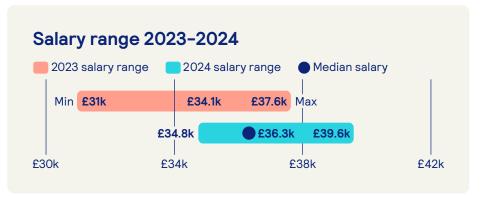
Top 5 most advertised roles



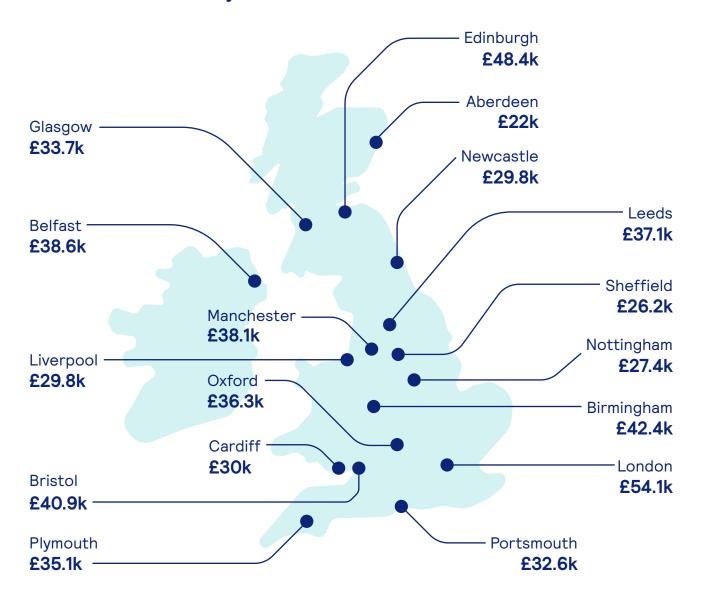


Insurance





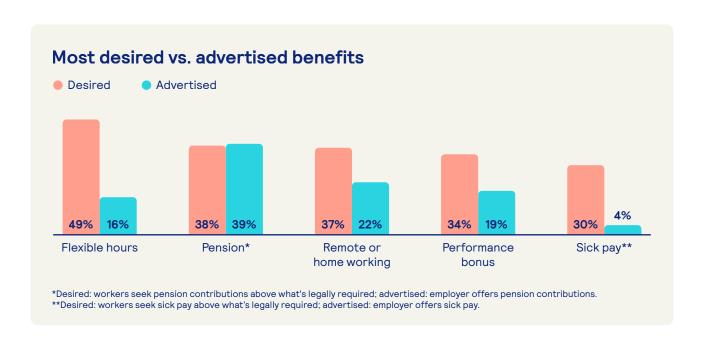
Median insurance salary in UK cities



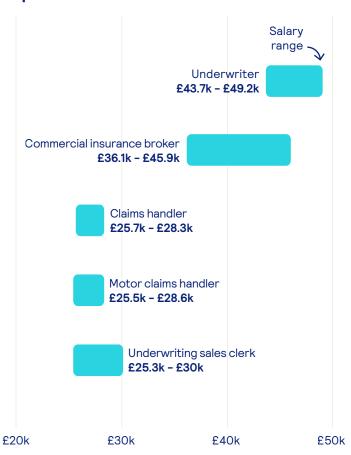
71% are satisfied with their salary

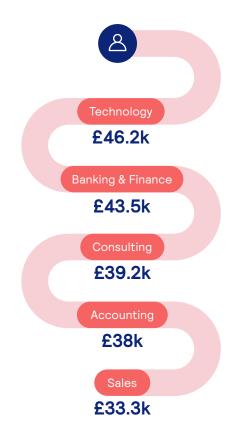


82% are satisfied with their benefits



Top 5 most advertised roles



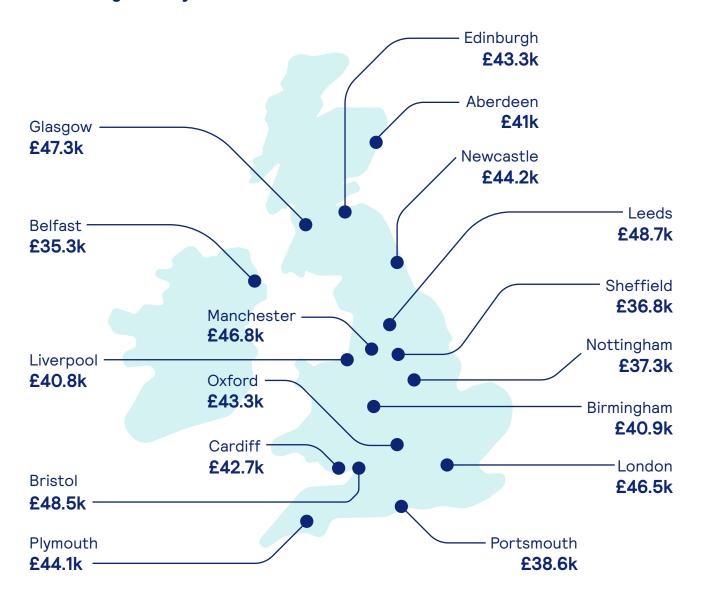


Legal





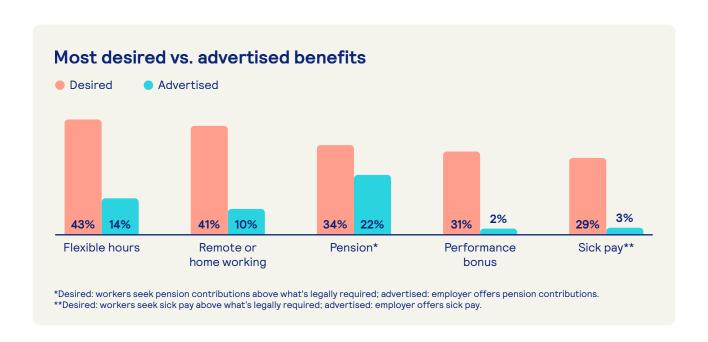
Median legal salary in UK cities



64% are satisfied with their salary

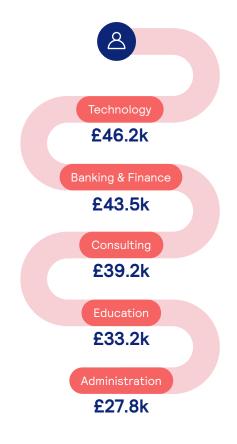


76%are satisfied
with their benefits



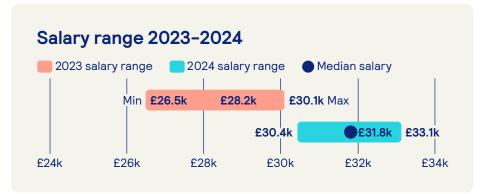
Top 5 most advertised roles



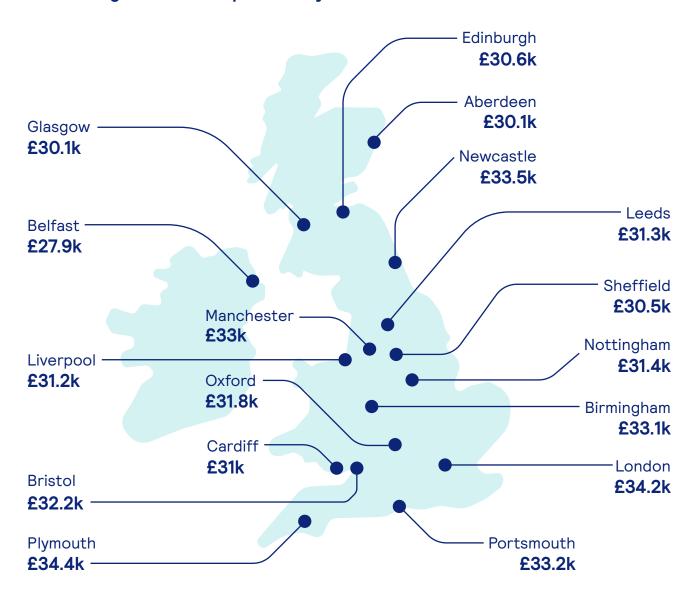


Logistics & Transport





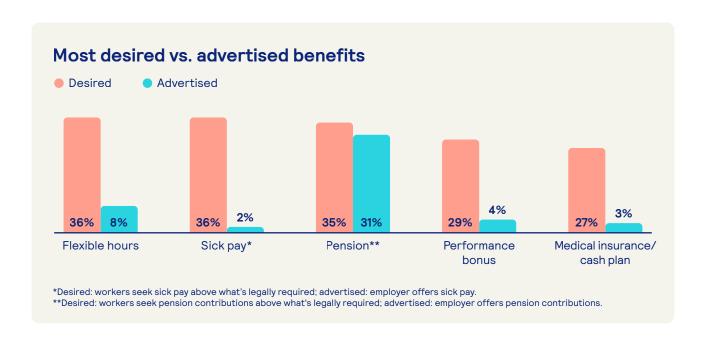
Median logistics & transport salary in UK cities



69% are satisfied with their salary

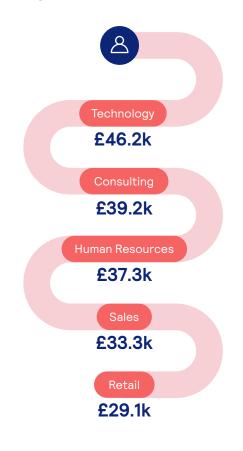


70%
are satisfied
with their benefits



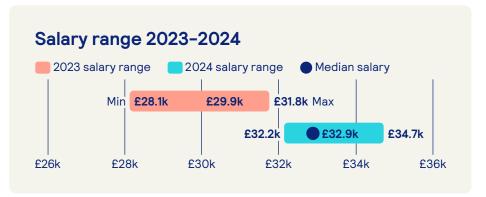
Top 5 most advertised roles



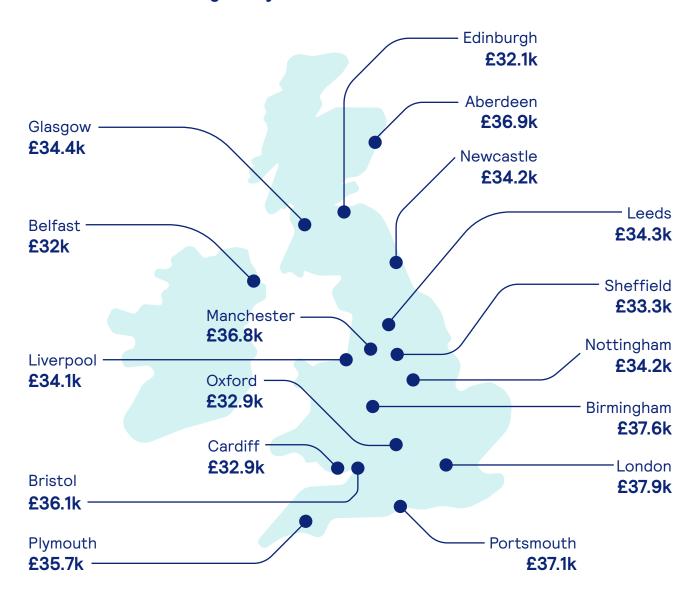


Manufacturing





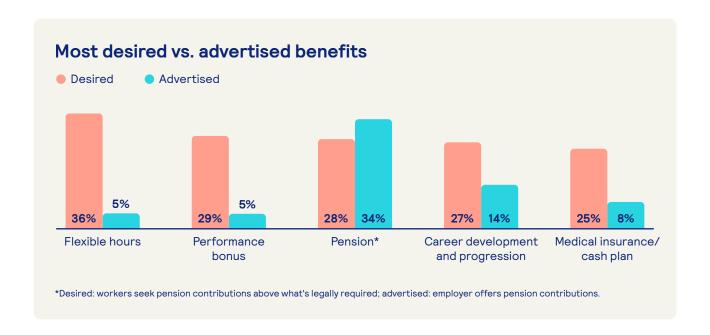
Median manufacturing salary in UK cities



75% are satisfied with their salary

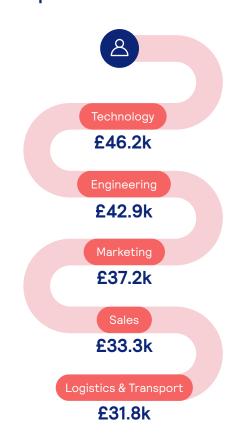


87% are satisfied with their benefits



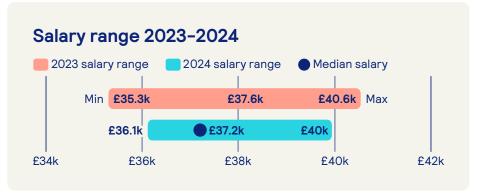
Top 5 most advertised roles



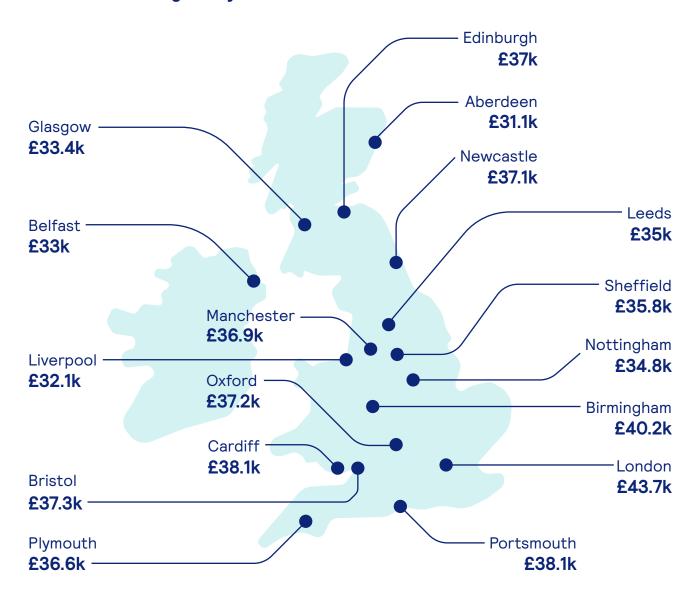


Marketing





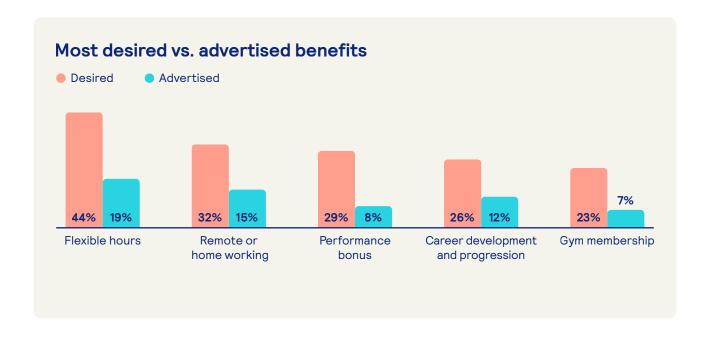
Median marketing salary in UK cities



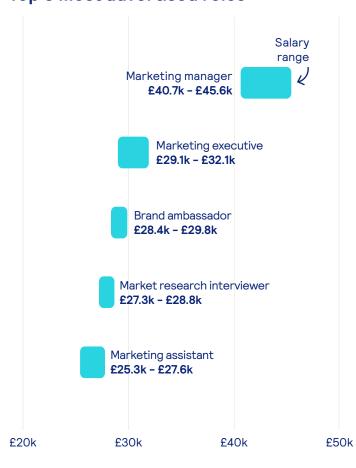
67% are satisfied with their salary

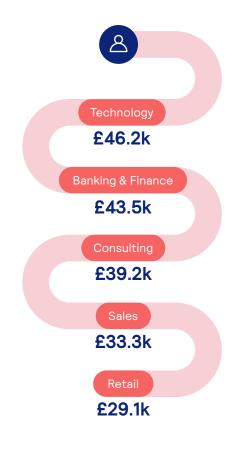


78%are satisfied
with their benefits



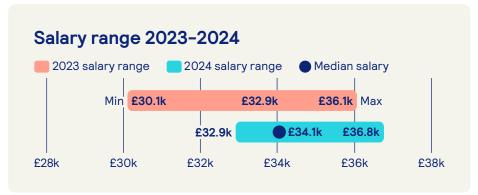
Top 5 most advertised roles



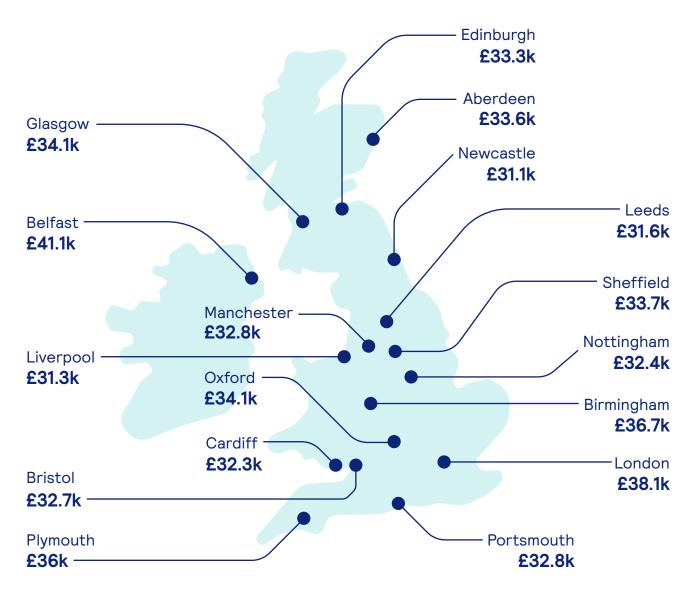


Property





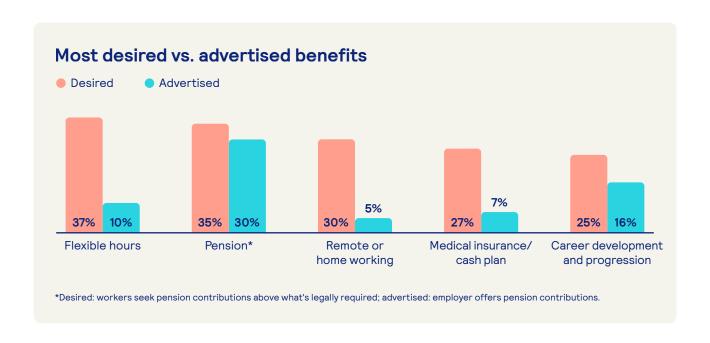
Median property salary in UK cities



65% are satisfied with their salary

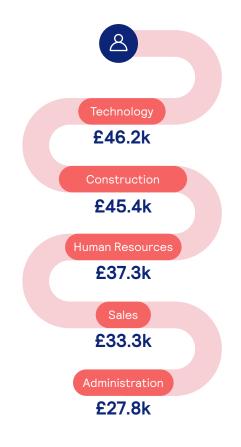


79% are satisfied with their benefits



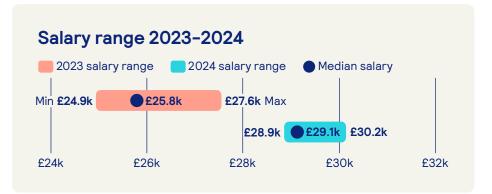
Top 5 most advertised roles

Salary range Facilities manager Ų £42k - £44.8k Property manager £31.8k - £35.3k Lettings negotiator £25.9k - £33.7k Property administrator £25.6k - £27.6k Facilities assistant £24.9k - £25.7k £20k £30k £40k £50k

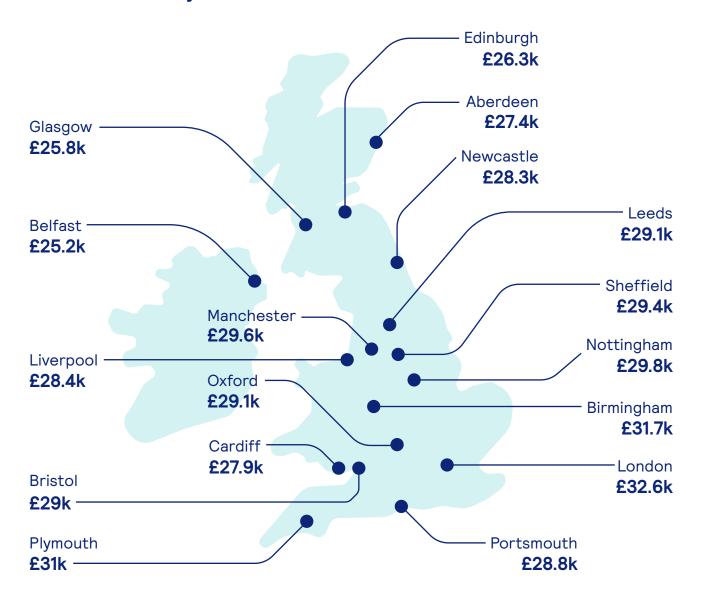


Retail





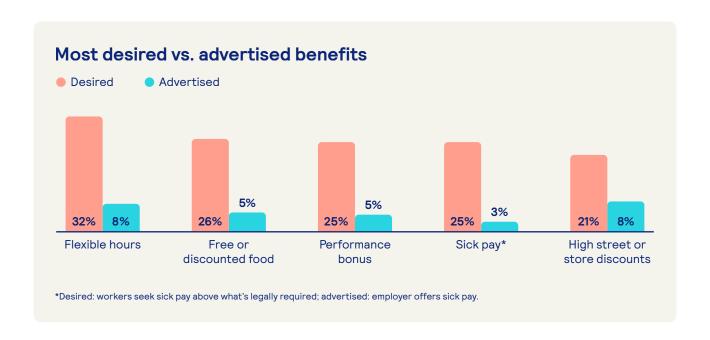
Median retail salary in UK cities



67% are satisfied with their salary

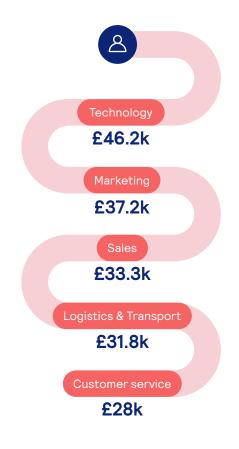


75%are satisfied
with their benefits

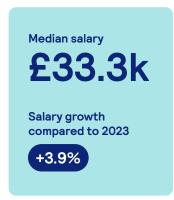


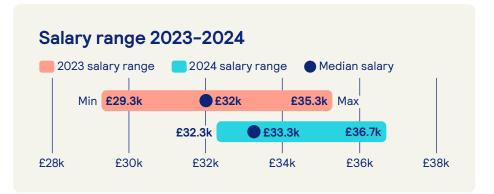
Top 5 most advertised roles

Salary range Store manager £32.9k - £35k Retail manager £30.5k - £32.5k Retail supervisor £26.6k - £26.7k Shop supervisor £26.2k - £26.4k Retail assistant £25.3k - £26k £20k £25k £30k £35k £40k

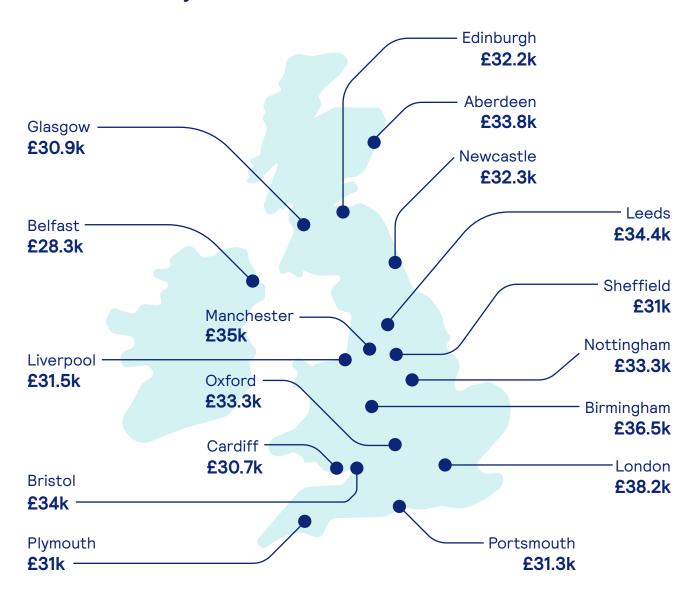


Sales





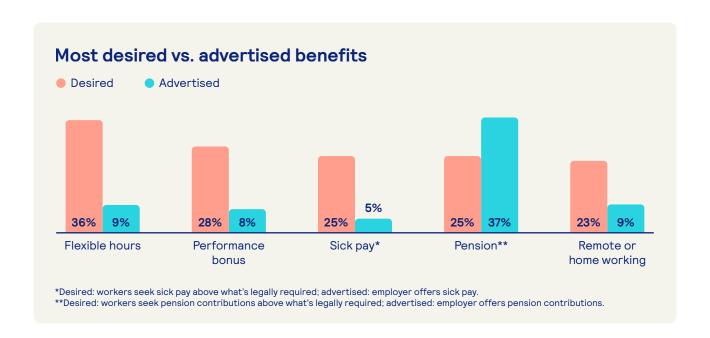
Median sales salary in UK cities



52% are satisfied with their salary

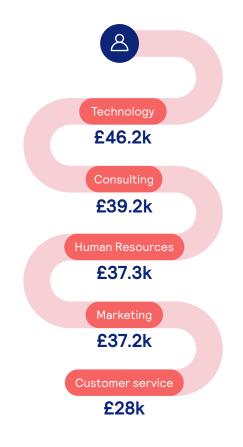


67% are satisfied with their benefits



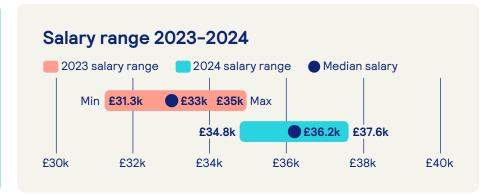
Top 5 most advertised roles



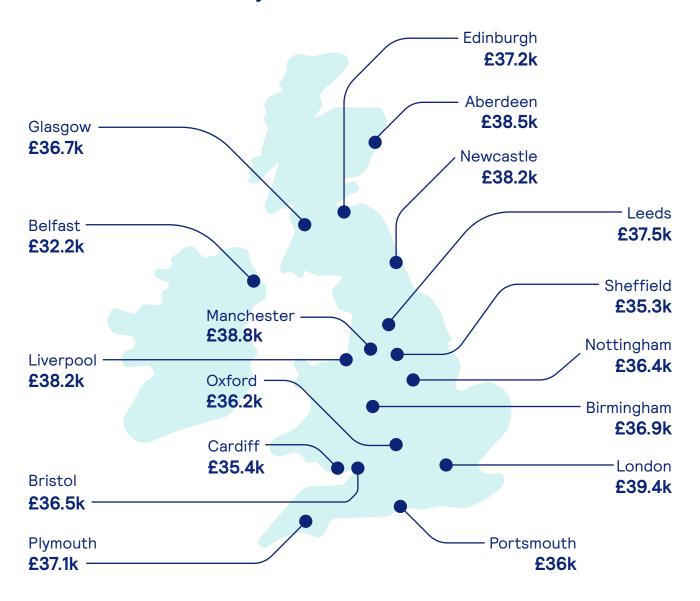


Skilled Trades





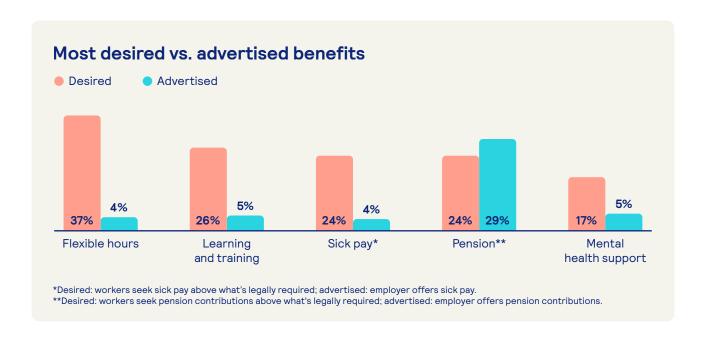
Median skilled trades salary in UK cities



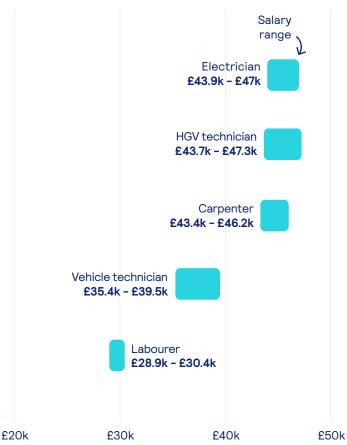
59% are satisfied with their salary

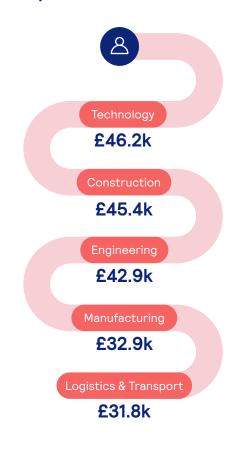


71%
are satisfied
with their benefits



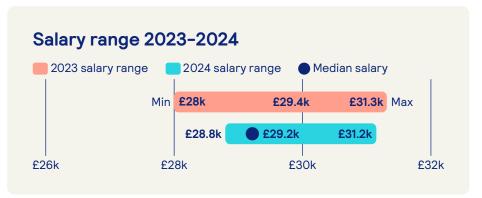
Top 5 most advertised roles



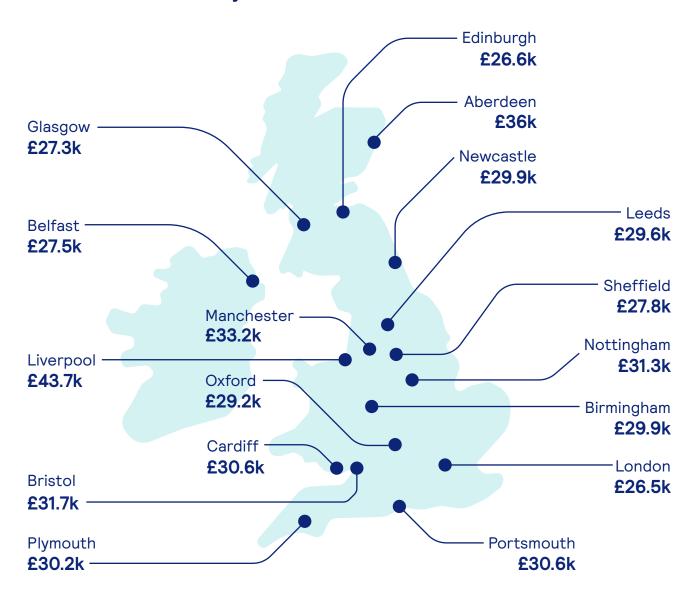


Social Care





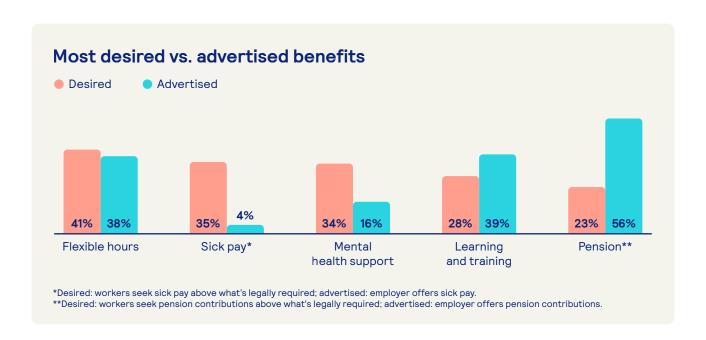
Median social care salary in UK cities



52% are satisfied with their salary

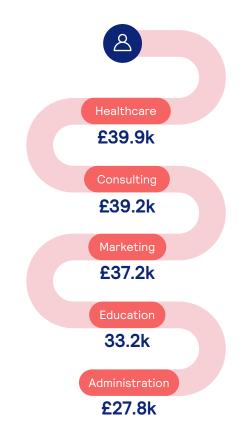


71%
are satisfied with
their benefits

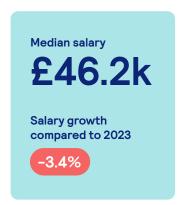


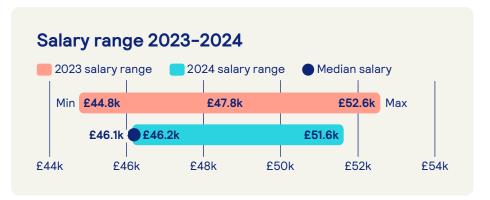
Top 5 most advertised roles

Salary range Social worker £51.1k - £54.6k Senior care assistant £26.9k - £27.6k Support worker £25.8k - £27k Community payback supervisor £25.7k - £31.2k Care assistant £25.6k - £26.8k £20k £30k £40k £50k £60k

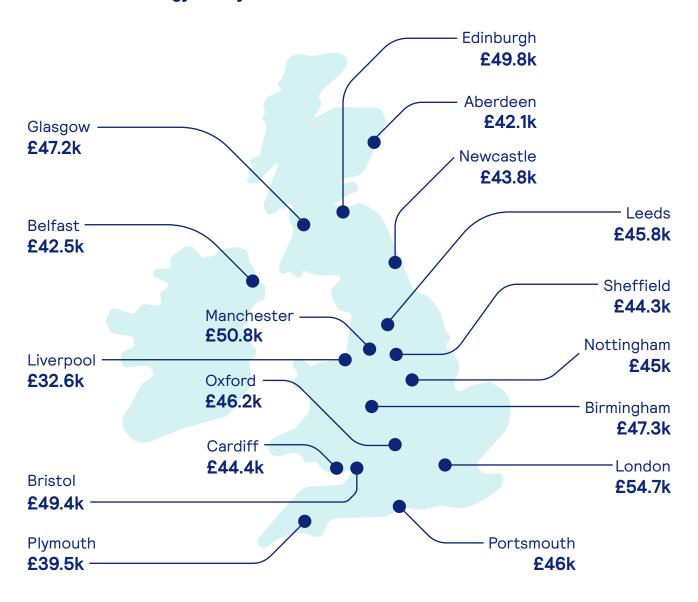


Technology





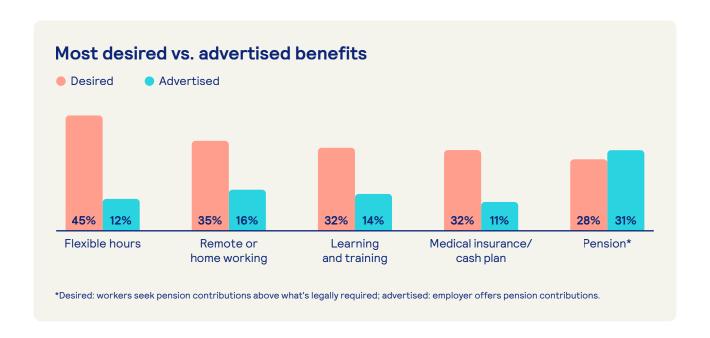
Median technology salary in UK cities



77% are satisfied with their salary

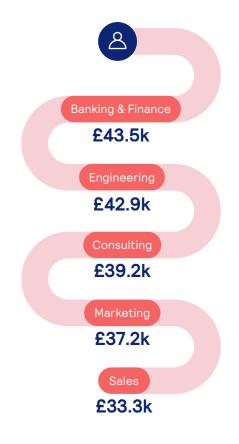


86% are satisfied with their benefits



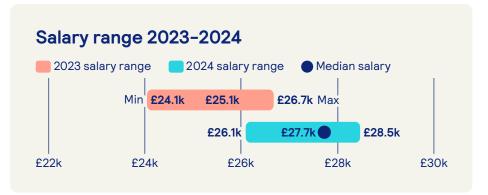
Top 5 most advertised roles

Salary range Data engineer £53.6k - £58.5k Software engineer £52.1k - £58.4k .NET developer £51k - £63k Software developer £42.9k - £48.9k IT support engineer £30.5k - £33.8k £30k £40k £50k £60k £70k

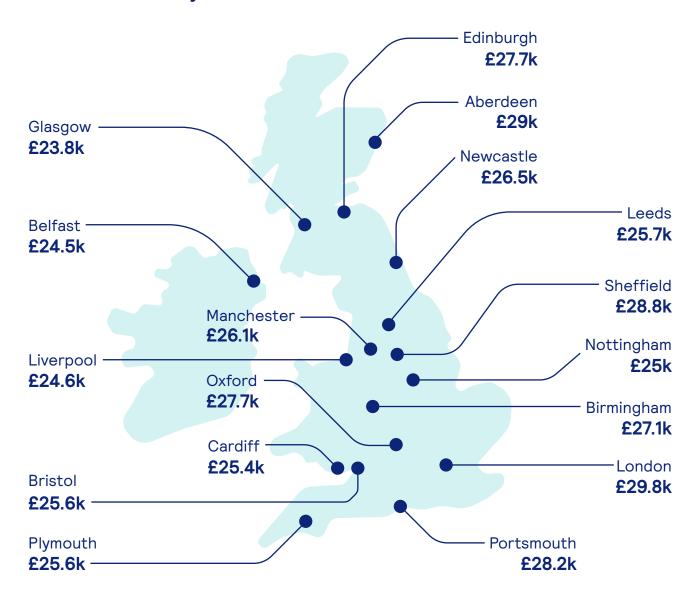


Travel





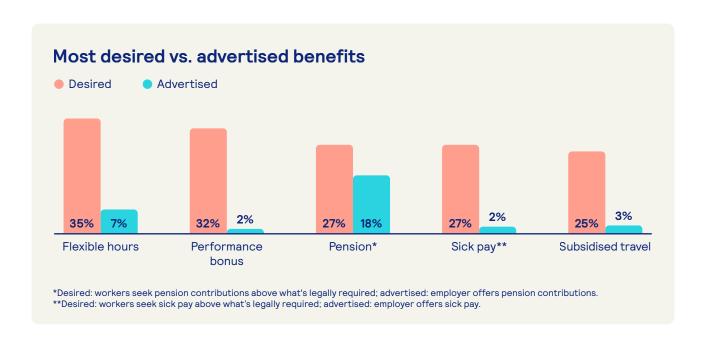
Median travel salary in UK cities



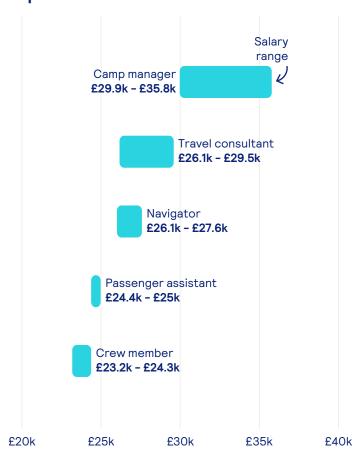
58% are satisfied with their salary



73%
are satisfied with
their benefits



Top 5 most advertised roles





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