

Careers Opportunities - South East Midlands Logistics and Supply Chain

What is it?

Logistics is management of the movement and supply of things. The stages and organisations involved in moving goods from raw materials, via manufacturing processes, to the delivery of finished product to companies and consumers is called the supply chain.

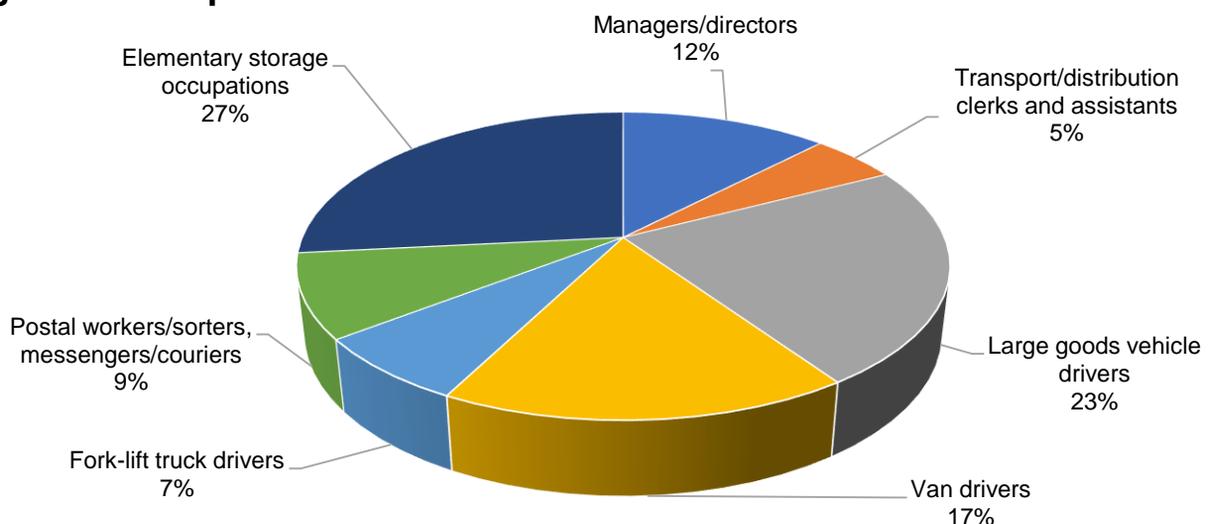
The UK's logistics sector contributes an estimated £100bn to the economy. Employment within the sector is around 2.5 million people in the UK, about 8% of the workforce and growing faster than most other sectors.

Given our area's strategic location, we have several nationally important distribution centres including [Daventry International Rail Freight Terminal](#), [Brackmills](#) (Northampton), Magna Park (Milton Keynes), [Midlands logistics Park](#) (Corby), alongside proposals for new rail freight hubs.

The sector is modernising and employing new technologies to meet rising demand and supply challenges, especially automation. There is an increasing demand for skilled employees in electrical and mechanical engineering, IT and analytics.

See how important logistics is to us [here](#).

Logistics Occupations



Myth busting

- ▶ “its all about trucks and sheds” – No it's not. The occupations within logistics include management, customer service, IT, accountancy, personnel, automation, sales and marketing.
- ▶ “It's for men only” - Women account for 22% of the logistics workforce in the UK and it is increasing
- ▶ “It is a low skilled, low paid industry” - Over 50% of the occupations in the sector in the South East Midlands are either professional or skilled roles earning high salaries.



Prospects for the future

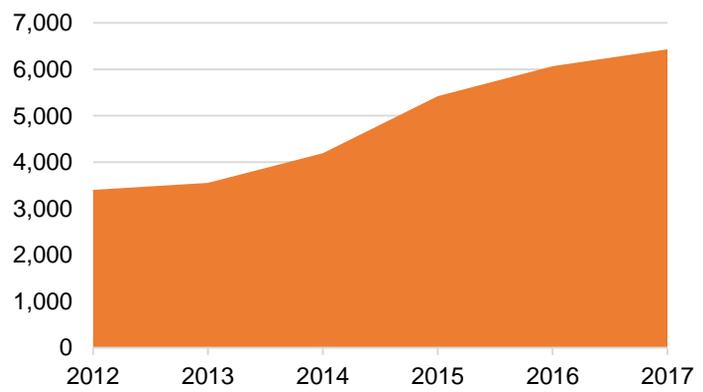
With the increase in e-commerce, the logistics sector is growing fast with jobs available for people with the right skills, training and attitudes.

The number of logistics sector businesses based in the South East Midlands increased by over 3000 from 2012 to 2017, 2,925 were micro businesses (less than 9 employees).

Over 97% of the employers are small or micro businesses

Business Size (Employees)	Proportion
Micro (0 to 9)	88.7%
Small (10 to 49)	7.6%
Medium (50 to 249)	3.0%
Large (250+)	0.7%

Number of Business Units in Logistics (South East Midlands)



Over 310,000 people are employed in the logistics sector in East of England and East Midlands and this number increased by 39,300 from 2012 to 2017. See examples of careers in logistics [here](#).

Examples of large logistics businesses based in the South East Midlands:

[Amazon](#)

[C.M. Downton](#)

[C. Butt](#)

[Cygna Logistics](#)

[Dachser](#)

[DHL](#)

[DPD](#)

[Eddie Stobart](#)

[John Lewis Distribution](#)

[Knights of Old](#)

[Kuehne + Nagel](#)

[Maxim Logistics](#)

[Mini Clipper](#)

[P.C. Howard](#)

[Panic Transport](#)

[Wincanton](#)

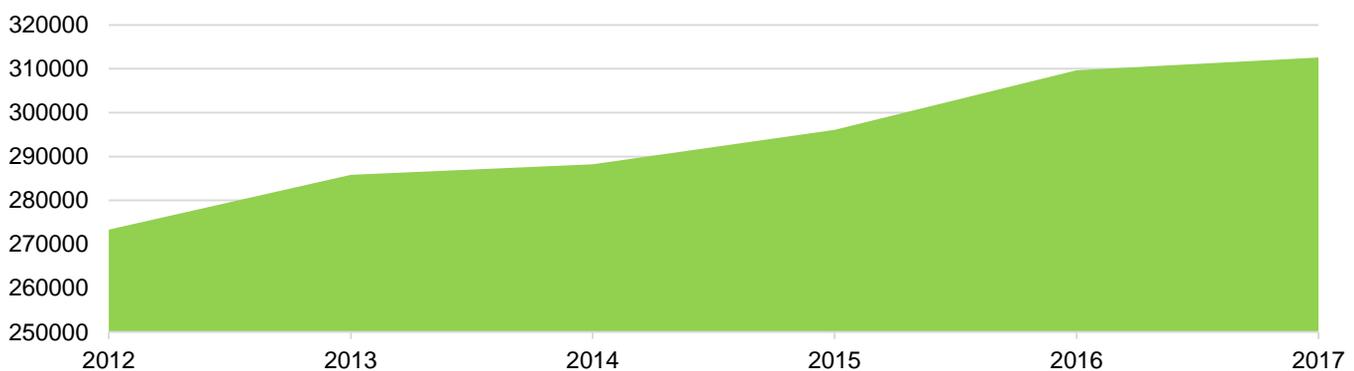
[XPO Transport Solutions](#)

[Yusen Logistics](#)

The [Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport](#) are located in Corby.

The [Royal Logistics Corp](#) offers great opportunities for a career both in the Army and later in civilian life.

Number of jobs in the Logistics Sector (East and East Midlands)



Prospects for the future

The impact of automated solutions and digital technology on the logistics sector will increase in the future. This is already influencing the type of jobs and skills that employers require.

Brexit is and high demand in Europe has magnified a shortage of Heavy Goods Vehicle drivers. New apprenticeships have been introduced to help address this skills shortage.

The increase of online shopping, the way we now request delivery when we want it and products/services specific will require the logistics sector to work differently, using technology and data to become more efficient and responsive.

Current increases in shortages of applicants include:

- ▶ Automation and robotics engineers
- ▶ Digital and advanced IT specialists
- ▶ Accountants
- ▶ Legal specialists
- ▶ Purchasing and procurement specialists (buyers)
- ▶ Planners and data analysts
- ▶ Heavy and light goods vehicle drivers

Find out more about what career opportunities and earning potential the logistics sector can provide at [Careers in Logistics](#) and [Prospects](#).

The opportunities within the logistics sector are increasing with employers stating that they have low number of applicants generally and a low number with the required skills compared to other sectors. Employers place emphasis people having the right attitude, motivation and personality.

81%

of businesses are confident of
growth in the next 3 years

(Industry Survey 2017/18 Freight Trade Association)

How do I get there?

What skills do I need?

Qualification on their own will not be sufficient to secure a job. Employers also look for:

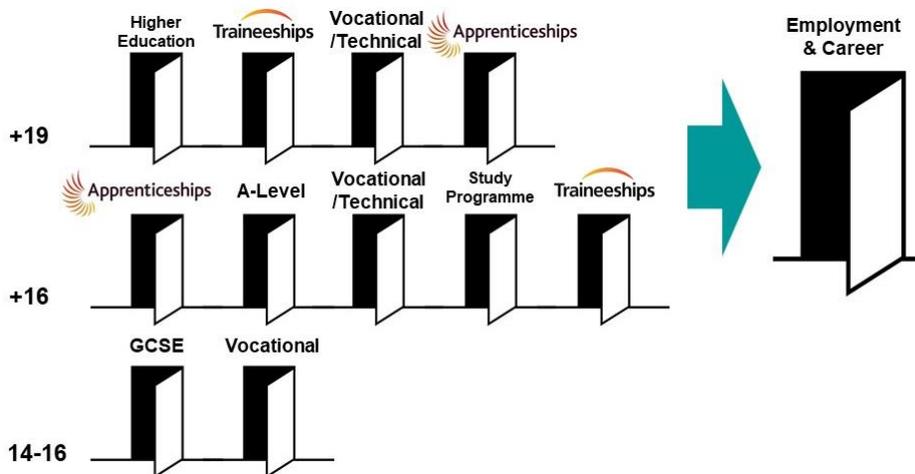
- ▶ **Core competencies** - communication, confidence, initiative, planning and organisational, problem solving, resilience, teamwork and basic digital literacy (Excel spreadsheets, Word processing)
- ▶ **Basic skills** - maths and English
- ▶ **Key employability skills** - those specific to a job, technical/practical skills and customer service
- ▶ **Experience** - gain some work experience whilst in education, this may included volunteering

Have a look at [Life Skills](#) to help prepare you for making the first step into a career.

How do I get there?

Pathways

There are many pathways into a career in logistics including the traditional academic routes.



Local further and higher education providers and courses:

► Further Education

[Barnfield College](#)

[Bedford College](#)

[Central Bedfordshire College](#)

[Milton Keynes College](#)

[Moulton College](#)

[Northampton College](#)

[Tresham College](#)

► **Apprenticeships** - Apprenticeships combine practical training in a job with study. Find out more [here](#). To search for and become an apprentice, start [here](#). For lorry driving apprenticeships look [here](#).

► **Traineeship** - Traineeships are designed help young people who want to get an apprenticeship or job but don't yet have appropriate skills or experience. More information can be found [here](#).

► Higher Education

[University of Bedfordshire](#)

[University of Northampton](#)

[The Open University](#)

Useful websites and social media

- [Prospects – Logistics and Transport](#) Information on jobs, work experience and pathways
- [Youth Employment](#) Careers in logistics and pathways
- [NOVUS](#) Business Degree supported by the logistics sector
- [Careers Helpline for Teenagers](#)