

Production Controller or Manager

Production controllers or managers are in charge of the staff and activities involved in the production of goods in a factory. They ensure production lines run smoothly and efficiently.

The Work

You could be:

- planning production targets and budgets with customers, managers and the head of production
- working out the time, staff, machinery and materials needed for each job
- checking that production is kept going and orders are completed on time
- dealing with any problems that arise
- consulting with a number of other staff such as managers, buyers, quality controllers, technicians and suppliers
- ensuring and safety regulations are followed at all times
- supervising and inspecting the work of assembly or production workers and packers
- writing reports, keeping records and dealing with budgets and cost control.

Pay

The figures below are only a guide. Actual pay rates vary widely, depending on:

- where you work
- the size of the company or organisation you work for
- the demand for the job.

An assistant production manager would earn around £20,000 to £26,000 a year. Starting salaries for production managers are usually between around £30,000 to £35,000. Senior managers can earn between £40,000 to £50,000 a year.

Conditions

- You will work in a factory and in the factory offices.
- You may need to wear protective clothing for reasons of hygiene and because of heat, cold, dirt and noise.
- You might have to work shifts, including weekends.
- As you will have to meet production targets and deadlines, work can be stressful.

Getting In

There are several ways to get in.

- You may start as a management trainee with a degree (SCQF Level 9-10) in a technical, engineering, scientific or mathematical subject. Sometimes a degree in management is acceptable.
- You may get straight into a job as assistant production manager if you have a suitable degree and a

postgraduate (SCQF Level 11) management qualification. Entry to a degree usually needs 3-5 Highers.

- Some industries may employ you if you have a suitable HNC (SCQF Level 7) or HND (SCQF Level 8). Entry to these courses needs 1-2 Highers.
- You may start as a production worker or supervisor and work up to this level of job, possibly through doing relevant SVQs or other qualifications.
- You might get in through a Modern Apprenticeship in Management.

What Does It Take

You should be able to:

- work well with other staff at all levels
- lead and motivate staff
- be assertive
- plan and organise staff and processes
- work to deadlines
- delegate tasks
- make decisions under pressure
- understand technical processes.

You should have:

- excellent communication skills
- good project management skills
- maths and IT skills
- good problem solving skills.

Training

- You would probably do an in-house induction course and on the job training.
- You might do a part time college course in management or technical subjects, possibly leading to SVQs. For example, there are SVQs in Management at SCQF Levels 7, 9 and 11.
- You might also want to study for the Institute of Operations Management (IOM) Manufacturing Production and Operations at Levels 2 or 3 or Manufacturing Production and Operations Management at Levels 5 or 6. [See their website for more details.](#)

Getting On

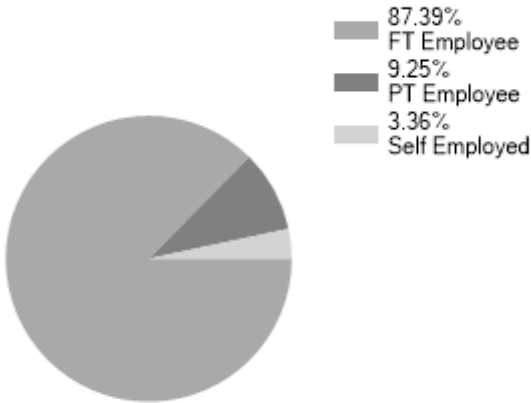
With experience, you may move on to:

- senior posts in different areas of the company
- general management.

Contacts

Statistics

Employment Status UK %

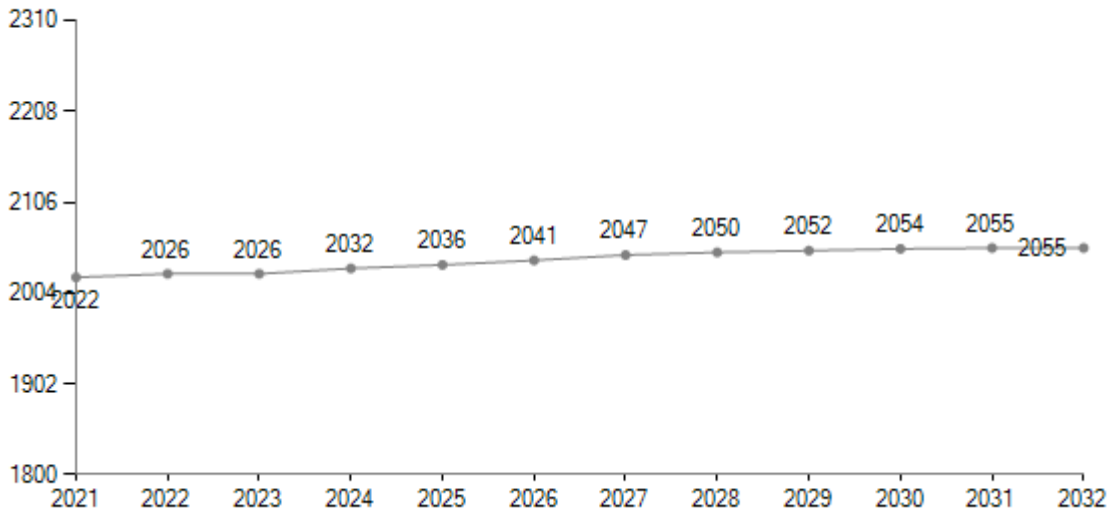


Past Unemployment - Scotland

No Claimant statistics available for Scotland.

LMI data powered by [LMI for All](#)

Predicted Employment in Scotland



LMI data powered by [Lightcast](#)