



## **CAREER OF THE WEEK: Data Scientist**

### **What does a data scientist do?**

Data scientists use computer software, artificial intelligence and machine learning to pull together data, and build models and algorithms to create insight into it for businesses. They require specialised knowledge and an in-depth understanding of computer programming languages such as Java, C# and Python.

Data science is an exciting and expanding career pathway. With the arrival of 'big data' there is a growing need for data scientists.

If you have an analytical mind, strong numerical skills and an interest in computer programming, then you may want to consider a job as a data scientist.

### **What can I expect to earn as a data scientist?**

Starting salaries are usually between £25,000 and £30,000 per year. With experience, this can rise to between £40,000 and £70,000 per year. Lead Data Scientists can earn over £100,000 per year.

### **What subjects should I study to become a data scientist?**

Data scientists have usually studied subjects like mathematics, statistics, computer science, physics, psychology or engineering. Any experience of coding, analysis and data manipulation software packages like R, SQL, Python, Power BI or Excel will also be very useful.

### **How can I start my career as a data scientist?**

Most employers will require a data scientist to have a degree or postgraduate qualification in a relevant subject such as data science, computer science, mathematics or statistics. Graduates with a degree in another subject may be able to start a career in data science by completing a [one-year postgraduate conversion course](#) in data science.

You may be able to get into data science by completing a degree apprenticeship like the data scientist integrated degree apprenticeship, the artificial intelligence (AI) data specialist higher apprenticeship or the digital and technology solutions specialist degree apprenticeship.

It may also be possible to start a career in data science by working in an entry-level job that involves working with data and then working your way up to a data scientist position. You will need to undertake work-based qualifications or teach yourself through online learning, like the National Careers Service [Skills Tool Kit](#).

To research local education and training opportunities that could lead to a career as a data scientist, visit our partner website [www.logonmoveon.co.uk](http://www.logonmoveon.co.uk)

### **Useful websites to find out more about a career as a data scientist:**

Data Scientist <https://rss.org.uk/jobs-careers/career-development/types-of-job/data-scientist/>

National Careers Service <https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/job-profiles/data-scientist>

The Royal Statistical Society <https://rss.org.uk/>

Institute of Analytics <https://ioaglobal.org/>

Institute of Coding <https://instituteofcoding.org/>

