



## Advising

### AGRICULTURAL ECONOMIST

#### ALSO CALLED

- Economist
- Agribusiness consultant
- Resource economist



#### WHAT'S THE JOB ABOUT?

- **Rural borrowing and lending**  
Banking, merchant banking, financial advising and management, loans, investments, a counting
- **Merchandising of farm inputs and outputs**  
Marketing, futures trading, importing and exporting, consumer behaviour
- **Food and fibre production and processing**  
Managing farm businesses, family properties, large corporate farming enterprises and food or fibre processing works
- **Resource management**  
Environmental analysis and management, assessment of enterprise viability, sustainable production
- **Rural politics, advocacy and law**  
Undertaking research and consulting on domestic and international agricultural issues
- **Education**  
Teaching agricultural economics/agribusiness in secondary schools, technical colleges, agricultural colleges or universities



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### WORK CONDITIONS

- The private sector employs agricultural economists in farming enterprises, commercial firms, banks, pastoral houses and primary production organisations.
- The public sector employs agricultural economists in departments such as ABARE (Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics) and DPI (Department of Primary Industries).
- Developing networks in government, private industry and farmer organisations is important.
- Opportunities exist to travel both within Australia and overseas to work and attend conferences.
- Work is often available with development and aid organisations.

### EXPERIENCE AND RELATED TRAINING

- To be employed as an agricultural economist you must have a degree in Agricultural Economics, Agribusiness or equivalent.
- Specialisation usually occurs through postgraduate studies, research and experience.





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Career path	Training Requirements
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agricultural Economist</li> </ul> <p>You work in one or more of the above fields in the public or private sector.</p>	<p>TERTIARY EDUCATION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Degree in Agribusiness</li> <li>• Degree in Agricultural Economics (or equivalent)</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agribusiness Consultant</li> </ul> <p>Experience in the public or private sector and post graduate study/research can lead to openings as a private, contracted or salaried consultant.</p>	<p>TERTIARY EDUCATION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Post graduate degree (Masters /PhD) in a field related to agribusiness/agricultural economics.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Senior Management</li> </ul> <p>Executive positions are available in both the public and private sector.</p>	<p>There are a number of pathways requiring particular qualifications and experience.</p>
<p>Career paths in private industry, research organisations, the public sector and universities will depend on experience, published research and service.</p>	

## Related Jobs

- Agriculture teacher
- Exporter
- Extension officer
- Farm advisor/consultant
- Farm manager
- Farmer
- Financial dealer and broker
- Marketing officer
- Rural business owner/manager
- Rural financial counsellor
- Stock and station agent



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