**Facts and figures**

According to the British Printing Industries Federation (BPIF) the UK’s printing industry is the world’s fifth largest producer of printed products with a turnover of more than £13.8 billion (behind the US, Japan, China and Germany). There are around 8400 companies with some 116,000 employees in the UK. The organisation also says that printed material contributes almost £700 million to the UK’s balance of trade.

The print market by product sector is led by advertising literature, stationery and general commercial print; this is followed by newspapers, magazines and books, then security print, printed packaging, printing on to non paper substrates and other print.

The graphic arts is not just about print though. The industry is also made up from companies such as graphic designers, creative agencies, book publishers, stationers, newspaper and magazine publishers, papermakers, packaging producers and converters, sign makers, textile printers, ceramics printers, and more. You can find out the different job options available in the ‘possible careers in the graphic arts’ reference sheet.

