

## ENGINEERING QUALIFICATIONS AND ENGINEERING WORK

### 1. QUESTION: Does everyone with engineering qualifications work as an engineer?

The supply of people with engineering qualifications (see FAQ 2) are divided between three labour market destinations:

- The demand for people with engineering qualifications to practice as engineers.
- The demand for people with engineering qualifications in areas of employment that do not involve engineering.
- Unemployment.

In 2006, the supply of engineers was 200,615, 179,448 men and 21,167 women, and was divided as follows:

- The largest group was employed as practicing engineers; 112,286 men, 9,972 women and 122,258 overall.
- A large number were employed in areas not involving engineering; 62,205 men, 10,107 women and 72,312 overall.
- A small proportion were unemployed and looking for work; 4,957 men, 1,088 women and 6,045 overall.

In 2011, the supply of engineers was 263,890, 232,802 men and 31,088 women, and was divided as follows:

- The number employed as practicing engineers increased to 163,912, 148,000 men and 15,912 women.
- The number employed in areas not involving engineering increased to 90,603, 77,323 men and 13,280 women.
- The number unemployed increased to 9,375, 7,479 men and 1,157 women.

If you need further details about this answer two options are available. Either

- Look at the Policy Note “Changes in the Australian Engineering Labour Market”, November 2012 at [www.engineersaustralia.org.au/](http://www.engineersaustralia.org.au/)
- or send an email to [policy@engineersaustralia.org.au](mailto:policy@engineersaustralia.org.au) and ask your question.