

ENGINEERS IN INDUSTRY

1. QUESTION: In what industries do engineers work?

Engineers work in every industry in the Australian economy. In the 2011 census, the number of engineers employed in each of 19 broad industry groupings is shown in the following Table:

The Distribution of Engineering Employment, Broad Industries, 2011

Labour Force Status	Employed Labour Force		
	Men	Women	Total
INDUSTRY			
Agriculture	1634	159	1793
Mining	12230	1313	13543
Manufacturing	36933	3915	40848
Electricity, Gas, Water & Waste Services	9955	1131	11086
Construction	19492	1413	20905
Wholesale Trade	10486	1243	11729
Retail Trade	6938	1540	8478
Accommodation & Food Services	3581	862	4443
Transport, Postal & Warehousing	15149	1204	16353
Information Media & Telecommunication	7411	843	8254
Financial & Insurance Services	4841	1055	5896
Rental, Hiring, & Real Estate Services	1770	233	2003
Professional, Scientific & Technical Services	53721	6933	60654
Administrative & Support Services	3762	724	4486
Public Administration & Safety	16701	2242	18943
Education & Training	8010	1812	9822
Health Care & Social Assistance	3112	1429	4541
Arts & Recreation Services	1088	198	1286
Other Services	4230	422	4652
Inadequately described & not stated	4279	521	4800
ALL INDUSTRIES	225323	29192	254515

Source: ABS, Population Census 2011; Compiled using TableBuilder Pro

Since the 2006 census, the employment of engineers increased by 30.8%, equivalent to compound growth of 5.5% per year:

- The largest numerical increase, 18,249 or 43.0%, occurred in the Professional, Scientific & Technical Services industry and was equivalent to compound growth of 7.4% per year. This industry is also the largest employer of engineers.
- The largest proportional increase, 83.9%, occurred in the Mining industry and was equivalent to compound growth of 13.0% per year. As the Table shows, mining employment was the 6th largest.
- As was the case in 2006, engineers are employed in every industry and increased in all except Agriculture and Accommodation and Food Services.

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

- Look at the Report, Engineers in Industry; The Size, Growth and Character of Employment in Australia, April 2013, at www.engineersaustralia.org.au/
- or send an email to policy@engineersaustralia.org.au and ask your question.