

Australia's booming industries: Engineering

Large-scale infrastructure investment has signalled a boom time for jobs in the engineering sector. It was one of the fastest-growing industries on SEEK in 2017 with job opportunities rising 26.7% and more than 12,000 new roles were recorded for the year.

Managing Consultant of Civil/Structural Engineering at Hudson, Oliver Thompson, explains in addition to large-scale infrastructure the demand for engineers extends beyond project work.

“Engineers are now highly regarded for not just their technical skills, but also their ability to get involved in business development opportunities. An adaptive personality and a proactive nature will give a technical engineer a huge competitive advantage in the current market,” he says.

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A look across the country:

Major infrastructure projects along the eastern seaboard including the Victorian Government's Metro Tunnel and Sydney's WestConnex, which is the [largest](#) transport infrastructure project in the country, are driving much of the growth in Engineering job opportunities.



The roles driving job growth:

Making the biggest contribution to the overall growth in job opportunities were roles advertised in Civil/Structural Engineering with 5.8% growth year-on-year, this was followed by Electrical/Electronic Engineering and Project Engineering with 4.4% and 3.0% respectively.

“There is exponential demand for civil engineering talent, specifically in Victoria and New South Wales,” says Thompson.

“Huge civil infrastructure projects and commercial or residential developments are also

benefiting other areas of engineering, with the likes of electrical, building services and mechanical engineers also becoming highly in-demand skill sets.”

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Trending roles in Engineering:

While it didn't make the top 10 list for growth in job opportunities, with 55.9% growth in the number of applications year-on-year, Materials Handling Engineering saw the biggest growth in interest from job seekers.

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What employers want:

Employers advertising engineering roles on SEEK are not only looking for technical skills, they're also looking for individuals with other key business skills. Common keywords included in job ads for engineers include:

- Project management
- Design experience
- Communication skills
- Analysis

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