

Top 20 highest paying jobs near you

What is the key to a higher salary? It may be a combination of what you know and where you live. We've looked at the highest paying roles by location on SEEK this year and compared the states and territories to identify which spot offers the biggest pay packet.

Construction grows in the Top End whilst Information Architects continue to be in high demand

The Northern Territory is home to some of the biggest salaries in Australia. Quality Assurance & Control roles in the territory's Construction industry recorded the highest average annual salary in Australia at \$144,121.

Joe Barrios, Construction Recruitment Specialist at Denovo, says there is a shortage of talent for these roles and therefore companies in the Northern Territory may be recruiting from other states. "This tends to push salaries higher," he says. "People expect a higher salary when moving to a different location, especially to the more remote parts of the country."

Information & Communication Technology Architects took out the number two and three spots in Australia, with Victorians in the role earning slightly more (\$141,687) than their New South Wales counterparts (\$139,883).

Mark Nielsen, Chief Executive Officer – APAC at Talent International, says Information Architects analyse an organisation's IT needs and they are attracting high salaries due to digital transformation. "The transformation process is affecting every business," he says. "As Victoria and NSW have the strongest economies in the country, they have greater demand for Information Architects and this is driving up salaries."

Discover the highest paying jobs near you

1
Information & Communication Technology
Architects
\$139,883

2
Legal
Generalists - In-house
\$135,264

3
Information & Communication Technology
Management
\$134,639

4
Engineering
Management
\$134,479

5
Accounting
Financial Managers & Controllers
\$131,993

6
Mining, Resources & Energy
Management
\$130,697

7
Construction
Project Management
\$130,207

8
Accounting
Strategy & Planning
\$129,238

9
Accounting
Company Secretaries
\$128,641

10
Construction
Management
\$128,073

11
Legal
Construction Law
\$127,484

12
Information & Communication Technology
Security
\$127,235

13
 Consulting & Strategy
 Management & Change Consulting
 \$126,016

14
 Insurance & Superannuation
 Management
 \$124,480

15
 Information & Communication Technology
 Programme & Project Management
 \$123,875

16
 Information & Communication Technology
 Product Management & Development
 \$123,292

17
 Real Estate & Property
 Retail & Property Development
 \$122,570

18
 Construction
 Foreperson/Supervisors
 \$122,547

19
 Information & Communication Technology
 Team Leaders
 \$122,210

20
 Engineering
 Project Management
 \$121,665

Rank

Industry

Role type

2018 salary

Source: SEEK Salary Report, July 2017 - June 2018 vs July 2016 - June 2017

1
 Accounting
 Strategy & Planning
 \$133,437

2
Information & Communication Technology
Architects
\$130,185

3
Engineering
Management
\$127,343

4
Engineering
Supervisors
\$127,000

5
Construction
Project Management
\$126,559

6
Construction
Management
\$124,770

7
Manufacturing, Transport & Logistics
Import/Export & Customs
\$123,333

8
Information & Communication Technology
Management
\$122,956

9
Mining, Resources & Energy
Power Generation & Distribution
\$122,857

10
Consulting & Strategy
Corporate Development
\$121,666

11
Information & Communication Technology
Product Management & Development
\$121,406

12
Information & Communication Technology
Sales - Pre & Post
\$120,807

13
Engineering
Project Management
\$118,633

14
 Consulting & Strategy
 Strategy & Planning
 \$118,448

15
 Construction
 Foreperson/Supervisors
 \$118,419

16
 Banking & Financial Services
 Management
 \$117,625

17
 Mining, Resources & Energy
 Management
 \$116,875

18
 Information & Communication Technology
 Team Leaders
 \$116,636

19
 Real Estate & Property
 Retail & Property Development
 \$116,355

20
 Legal
 Corporate & Commercial Law
 \$116,200

Rank

Industry

Role type

2018 salary

Source: SEEK Salary Report, July 2017 - June 2018 vs July 2016 - June 2017

1
 Construction
 Quality Assurance & Control
 \$144,121

2
 Engineering
 Field Engineering
 \$139,000

3

Engineering

Water & Waste Engineering

\$138,333

4

Mining, Resources & Energy

Management

\$132,410

5

Construction

Foreperson/Supervisors

\$132,219

6

Construction

Contracts Management

\$131,287

7

Engineering

Project Engineering

\$129,642

8

Mining, Resources & Energy

Oil & Gas - Engineering & Maintenance

\$126,764

9

Mining, Resources & Energy

Mining - Engineering & Maintenance

\$126,180

10

Education & Training

Management - Schools

\$126,041

11

Construction

Health, Safety & Environment

\$124,269

12

Mining, Resources & Energy

Mining - Operations

\$123,702

13

Mining, Resources & Energy

Analysis & Reporting

\$123,125

14

Engineering

Project Management

\$122,580

15
Engineering
Management
\$121,607
16
Accounting
Cost Accounting
\$121,071
17
Mining, Resources & Energy
Oil & Gas - Operations
\$120,916
18
Construction
Planning & Scheduling
\$120,735
19
Mining, Resources & Energy
Mining - Drill & Blast
\$120,468
20
Human Resources & Recruitment
Management - Internal
\$120,370

Rank

Industry

Role type

2018 salary

Source: SEEK Salary Report, July 2017 - June 2018 vs July 2016 - June 2017

1
Engineering
Management
\$134,955
2
Information & Communication Technology
Architects
\$130,543
3
Mining, Resources & Energy
Management
\$130,323

4

Mining, Resources & Energy
Analysis & Reporting
\$129,986

5

Insurance & Superannuation
Management
\$129,005

6

Information & Communication Technology
Management
\$127,624

7

Mining, Resources & Energy
Oil & Gas - Exploration & Geoscience
\$125,781

8

Mining, Resources & Energy
Mining - Engineering & Maintenance
\$125,097

9

Accounting
Strategy & Planning
\$125,071

10

Engineering
Project Management
\$124,667

11

Mining, Resources & Energy
Oil & Gas - Engineering & Maintenance
\$124,177

12

Legal
Construction Law
\$122,694

13

Mining, Resources & Energy
Mining - Exploration & Geoscience
\$122,385

14

Mining, Resources & Energy
Surveying
\$122,045

15

Construction
Project Management
\$120,819

16
Mining, Resources & Energy
Mining - Operations
\$120,514
17
Banking & Financial Services
Corporate Finance & Investment Banking
\$120,411
18
Healthcare & Medical
Medical Specialists
\$120,345
19
Construction
Management
\$120,071
20
Mining, Resources & Energy
Power Generation & Distribution
\$119,977

Rank

Industry

Role type

2018 salary

Source: SEEK Salary Report, July 2017 - June 2018 vs July 2016 - June 2017

1
Mining, Resources & Energy
Management
\$136,126
2
Engineering
Management
\$130,931
3
Information & Communication Technology
Management
\$126,948
4
Legal
Generalists - In-house
\$124,406

5
Information & Communication Technology
Architects
\$123,912

6
Mining, Resources & Energy
Mining - Engineering & Maintenance
\$123,832

7
Construction
Management
\$121,608

8
Engineering
Systems Engineering
\$121,308

9
Legal
Construction Law
\$117,708

10
Engineering
Supervisors
\$117,500

11
Education & Training
Management - Schools
\$117,318

12
Mining, Resources & Energy
Analysis & Reporting
\$116,937

13
Accounting
Financial Managers & Controllers
\$114,213

14
Construction
Project Management
\$113,666

15
Human Resources & Recruitment
Management - Internal
\$113,302

16
Education & Training
Teaching - Tertiary
\$113,133

17
Mining, Resources & Energy
Mining - Operations
\$112,514
18
Banking & Financial Services
Management
\$112,448
19
Consulting & Strategy
Corporate Development
\$112,083
20
Accounting
Management
\$111,902
Rank

Industry

Role type

2018 salary

Source: SEEK Salary Report, July 2017 - June 2018 vs July 2016 - June 2017

1
Engineering
Management
\$133,541
2
Legal
Generalists - In-house
\$129,583
3
Mining, Resources & Energy
Mining - Drill & Blast
\$129,000
4
Information & Communication Technology
Programme & Project Management
\$125,208
5
Mining, Resources & Energy
Management
\$123,437

6

Healthcare & Medical

Medical Specialists

\$122,500

7

Engineering

Project Management

\$118,828

8

Education & Training

Teaching - Tertiary

\$115,320

9

Education & Training

Management - Universities

\$113,854

10

Information & Communication Technology

Sales - Pre & Post

\$113,333

11

Human Resources & Recruitment

Organisational Development

\$112,954

12

Information & Communication Technology

Security

\$112,321

13

Mining, Resources & Energy

Mining - Engineering & Maintenance

\$111,500

14

Legal

Corporate & Commercial Law

\$110,666

15

Engineering

Project Engineering

\$109,196

16

Construction

Management

\$108,800

17

Healthcare & Medical

Sales

\$108,560

18
Education & Training
Management - Schools
\$108,175
19
Human Resources & Recruitment
Management - Internal
\$108,166
20
Consulting & Strategy
Policy
\$107,500
Rank

Industry

Role type

2018 salary

Source: SEEK Salary Report, July 2017 - June 2018 vs July 2016 - June 2017

1
Information & Communication Technology
Architects
\$141,687
2
Information & Communication Technology
Management
\$134,835
3
Engineering
Management
\$133,211
4
Construction
Management
\$129,416
5
Accounting
Strategy & Planning
\$129,198
6
Mining, Resources & Energy
Management
\$127,735

7

Accounting

Financial Managers & Controllers

\$126,421

8

Information & Communication Technology

Security

\$125,317

9

Insurance & Superannuation

Management

\$124,013

10

Legal

Generalists - In-house

\$123,786

11

Legal

Tax Law

\$122,172

12

Information & Communication Technology

Team Leaders

\$122,128

13

Information & Communication Technology

Programme & Project Management

\$122,126

14

Information & Communication Technology

Product Management & Development

\$121,299

15

Consulting & Strategy

Corporate Development

\$121,176

16

Legal

Construction Law

\$121,110

17

Engineering

Systems Engineering

\$120,925

18

Legal

Industrial Relations & Employment Law

\$120,894

19
Construction
Project Management
\$120,806
20
Consulting & Strategy
Management & Change Consulting
\$120,605

Rank

Industry

Role type

2018 salary

Source: SEEK Salary Report, July 2017 - June 2018 vs July 2016 - June 2017

1
Engineering
Management
\$137,719
2
Insurance & Superannuation
Management
\$137,205
3
Legal
Generalists - In-house
\$136,004
4
Mining, Resources & Energy
Management
\$133,686
5
Information & Communication Technology
Architects
\$133,611
6
Legal
Corporate & Commercial Law
\$127,706
7
Information & Communication Technology
Management
\$127,298

8

Legal

Construction Law

\$126,685

9

Legal

Banking & Finance Law

\$125,978

10

Accounting

Financial Managers & Controllers

\$124,001

11

Mining, Resources & Energy

Mining - Engineering & Maintenance

\$122,323

12

Engineering

Project Management

\$122,206

13

Legal

Insurance & Superannuation Law

\$122,133

14

Mining, Resources & Energy

Oil & Gas - Engineering & Maintenance

\$121,250

15

Construction

Management

\$120,446

16

Real Estate & Property

Retail & Property Development

\$120,352

17

Construction

Project Management

\$119,985

18

Education & Training

Management - Schools

\$119,722

19

Engineering

Project Engineering

\$119,334

20
Consulting & Strategy
Management & Change Consulting
\$118,991
Rank

Industry

Role type

2018 salary

Source: SEEK Salary Report, July 2017 - June 2018 vs July 2016 - June 2017

Engineering goes north

Field Engineering in the Northern Territory is the fourth highest paying job in the country (\$139,000). Dale Young, Executive Consultant, Engineering and Operations at Six Degrees, says these roles often require on-site work at remote locations and this may explain the higher salary. "Field engineers want work-life balance, just like most other people, however their role often requires travelling to multiple sites or to those in remote or rural locations," he says. "Higher salaries are often used as an incentive or to compensate for the travel. The Northern Territory has many remote sites, so I'm not surprised that Field Engineers in this location are seeing salaries at the higher level."

Water & Waste Engineering roles in Northern Territory came in at fifth place (\$138,333). "These roles typically target infrastructure projects in the area of waste management," says Young. "While employers are willing to offer more to entice talent to remote areas, it should also be noted that cities like Darwin are growing and the territory's mining and resources industry is also looking up. New infrastructure is required to support both of these growth factors."

Salary trends across the country

In good news for job seekers across the country, salaries increased in every state and territory, however, some showed greater movement than others.

Tasmania led the way for growth with a rise of 3.8%. Despite this, the average advertised salary in the Apple Isle was the lowest in the country at \$74,103 and Nielsen notes that growth may be coming off a relatively low base. "The market in Tasmania is

quite small, so even small rises in salaries will make an impact across the board,” he says.

The ACT recorded the lowest growth at 0.6% but the highest average advertised salary of \$86,230. Nielsen says this may be due to the high proportion of public sector workers, who in many cases earn more than those in the private sector.

South Australia saw a 3.7% lift (\$78,538), Queensland rose by 2.9% (\$80,923) and salaries in the Northern Territory were up by 2.7% (\$83,043). In Western Australia, pay packets grew by 3.4% (\$85,481). “Mining is making a comeback in the state,” says Young. “This may account for a lift in salaries.”

Meanwhile, the largest employment markets of Victoria and New South Wales experienced a 2.7% (\$83,185) and 2.5% (\$85,532) lift respectively.

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Where you live and what roles are in demand may influence how much you earn, but salary growth across Australia may be a promising sign, no matter where you are.

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