Engineering in higher education

### ENGINEERING OVERALL

Increase in students between 2009/10 and 2020/21:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject Group</th>
<th>Increase (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Engineering and technology</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other subjects</td>
<td>5.2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Engineering and technology is the fifth most popular subject group (when looking at all levels combined), and the most popular for postgraduate research students.

### ENGINEERING SUBJECTS

**Most popular subject of study within engineering and technology degrees:**

- **Undergraduates:**
  - Mechanical Engineering (chosen by 22.5%)
- **Postgraduates:**
  - Electronic and Electrical Engineering (chosen 19.4% for taught and 19.6% for research)

### CHARACTERISTICS OF ENGINEERING STUDENTS

#### GENDER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>First degree female undergraduates:</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Engineering and technology</td>
<td>18.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All subjects</td>
<td>56.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Female postgraduates:</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Engineering and technology (taught)</td>
<td>25.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engineering and technology (research)</td>
<td>27.8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The number of female undergraduates varies by subject:

- Chemical, process and energy engineering: 29.1%
- Production and manufacturing engineering: 11.4%

DISABILITY

First degree undergraduates with a known disability:

- Engineering and technology: 10.5%
- All subjects: 15.1%

Postgraduates with a known disability:

- Engineering and technology (taught courses): 4.2%
- Engineering and technology (research courses): 7.3%

ETHNICITY

- Asian: 18%
- Black: 8.1%
- Mixed: 4.9%
- Other: 2.9%
- White: 66.1%

SOCIAL MOBILITY

Background of engineering and technology first degree undergraduates:

- From areas with lowest HE participation (quintile 1):
  - From European Union: 6.3% (vs 5.7% for all subjects combined)
  - From the Rest of the World: 21% (vs 11.3% for all subjects combined)

ENGINEERING GRADUATES

- Engineering and technology graduates in paid employment 15 months after graduation:
  - 2017/2018: 74.3%
  - 2019/2020: 71.8%*

- Engineering and technology graduates who were unemployed:
  - 2017/2018: 5.9%
  - 2019/2020: 8.2%*

*likely due to Covid-19