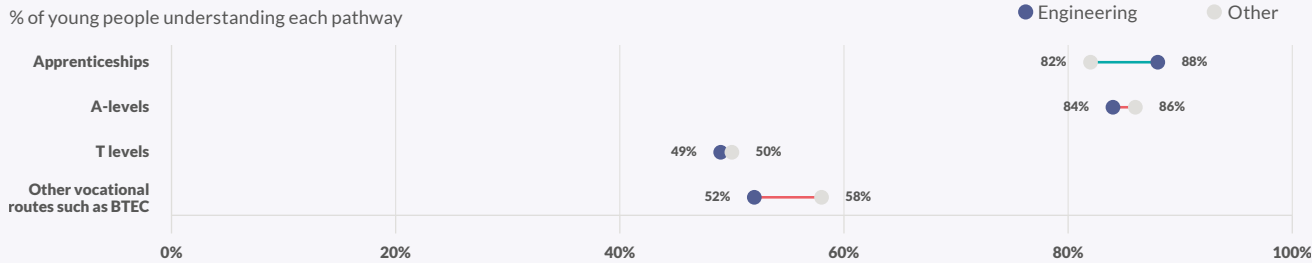


# Engineering sector

**Fig. 1: Young people interested in Engineering careers are more likely to understand Apprenticeships**



Source: Futures Skills Questionnaire data, end of July 2025 (Year 11 responding to the industry/career question, N=26,842)

## Sector demand landscape

- [6.3 million people in engineering and related occupations \(19% of the workforce\)](#).
- 124,000 new engineers and technicians needed annually to meet growth, with [1 million engineer](#) shortfall estimated by 2030.
- [Sector shortages](#) are driven by skills shortages, and soon-retiring workforce, as well as the impact of new technologies.
- [Engineering-related apprenticeships starts decreased in recent years](#).
- The pipeline into engineering remains constrained by low female participation ([only 15.7% of the workforce](#)) and underrepresentation of minority ethnic groups (12.4%).

## Young people's profile

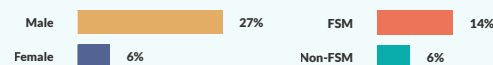
Engineering remains the most popular career choice among Year 11 learners (16%) with the most popular roles including:

- Construction/Building (32%)
- Manufacturing (32%)
- Research/Science (22%)

While young people drawn to the sector show strengths in Problem Solving (+9%pts), they lag on **Leadership** (-6%pts) and **Listening** (-5%pts), potentially limiting progression into team-based technical roles.

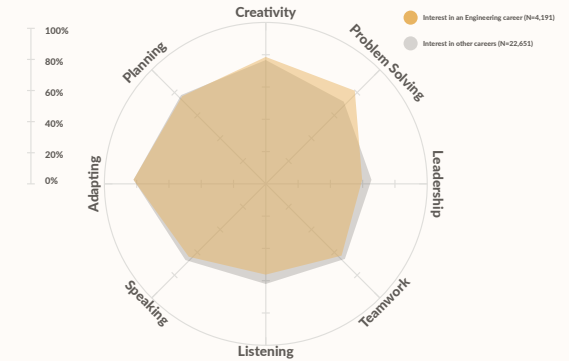
Those interested in a career in Engineering are 6%pts more likely to understand **apprenticeships** than their peers, but slightly less likely to understand all other routes.

**Gender:** **Economic disadvantage:**



**Fig. 2: They are more likely to excel in Problem Solving, but fewer are confident in Leadership and Listening**

% of learners responding positively to



Source: Futures Skills Questionnaire data, end of July 2025 (Year 11 responding to the industry/career question, N=26,842) responding to the industry/career question, N=26,842)

**Fig. 3: Interest in the Engineering sector varies by region**

% Year 11 learners expressing interest in the Engineering sector, by region

