Best Jobs in America for an Engineer

According to Glassdoor

Evan Keeton

Now's not a bad time to be an engineer! Glassdoor recently released 2018's Best Jobs list; engineering jobs took up over 20% of the spaces. 11 of the 50 best jobs in America are currently available to engineers, with an average ranking of about 18. What's more, these fields make their workers on average \$95,000-100,000, which combined with total openings above 57,000 makes a pretty good deal.

In sheer quantity of job opportunities, Software Engineering takes the cake—29,187 opportunities (more than half) exist in the "Software Engineering" field, and the total availability in fields related to software engineering are nearly 36,500. These fields comprise 4 out of the 11 total engineering professions. All four of these jobs, Software Engineering, Site Reliability Engineering, Data Engineering, and DevOps Engineering all have above-average salaries of over \$100,000. Though Software Engineering has the most availability, Site Reliability Engineering has the highest of all base salaries at \$120,000. With DevOps taking the #2 overall spot in Glassdoor's list, leaving Data Engineering behind in #33, it is clear that a variety of good options exist for engineers interested in software.

Interestingly, a couple of these fields are not related to a specific type of engineering, but a specific process that must be involved in engineering. For example, Reliability Engineering is the process of, obviously, improving a product's reliability—reducing its likelihood of failure. Front End Engineering, similarly, is the reduction of the likelihood of engineering failure; FEE as it is called deals with planning a project in a way that controls costs and makes certain the feasibility of the design project. These two fields have some of the lowest job opportunities—1,222 openings in Reliability Engineering and 747 in Front End Engineering—but salaries nearly average for a Top-50 engineering job, at 100,000 and 92,000 respectively.

Another exciting statistic for engineers is this: Engineering jobs are on average higher rated than others. Within the top ten jobs, there are three jobs—DevOps, Electrical, and Manufacturing Engineering—or 30% of the top ten jobs are for engineers. This same number holds in the top twenty—6 jobs—suggesting that a low amount of comparatively "poor" jobs (professions in the low end of the top 50) are applicable to engineers. In fact, within the bottom 50% of Glassdoor's list, only three engineer-related professions can be found, that being just 12% of the group. All things considered, then, the prospective engineer has a wide variety of good options in the coming future.