

Youth Perspectives on STEM Education, Career Choices, & Influencers in Atlantic Canada: Supplemental

During the survey, students were asked the question “What Do Engineers Do?” The following table includes the top 5 answers.

What Do Engineers Do?			
Theme	Atlantic Canada (%)	Nova Scotia (%)	Examples
Build Things	54	54	<p>“They work on things and fix them”</p> <p>Used phrases like: build, fix, make things work including a trains, metal, machines, structures, cars, ships, planes</p>
Design Things	27	31	<p>“Design buildings to be safe”</p> <p>Used phrases like: invent, design, create, plans</p>
Don’t Know	12	10	<p>“I don’t know nor do I care”</p>
Math/Science	9	9	<p>“Engineers use science and math to design materials and structures”</p> <p>Used phrases like: math, science, technology, electricity, code programs</p>
Make the World Better	5	6	<p>“Engineers design structures and solve problems”</p> <p>Used phrases like: make society better, do awesome things, work with other people, solves problems</p>

Percentage from the entire sample: n=1,448

Significant Gender Differences:

- **More boys** (58%) said engineers build things over girls (50%)
- **More girls** (12%) said engineers do Math/Science than boys (5%)



Tamara A. Franz-Odendaal, Karen Blotnicky, Frederick French & Philip Joy (2016) Youth Perspectives on STEM Education, Career Choices, & Influencers in Atlantic Canada.

For a copy of the executive report, please contact WISEatlantic at: WISEatlantic@msvu.ca