



TARGET GRADUATE TRENDS SURVEY 2006/2007

Analysis of the built environment sector over the last six years.

The TARGET *Graduate Trends Survey* is based on the data supplied to the TARGET *by sector* series by graduate recruiting organisations.

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Introduction

This report into trends in graduate recruitment in the built environment sector over the last six years has been compiled from forms completed by graduate recruiters advertising in the last six issues of TARGET *Civil & Structural Engineering*, TARGET *Construction & Building Services* and TARGET *Quantity Surveying & Building Surveying*.

GTI is the market leader in terms of the number of employer advertisers in each of our TARGET *by sector* titles so we are confident that the findings are the best representation of the graduate recruitment situation within each of the sectors.

Nine sectors have been analysed in the TARGET *Graduate Trends Survey 2006/2007*. These are: engineering, IT, law (solicitors and barristers), banking and investment, finance, management consulting, the built environment and property.

The organisations involved

Almost 100 built environment recruiters completed forms this year to provide us with the data to complete the survey.

We asked them to estimate their current and future vacancies, the number of applications received and the starting salary for graduates.

We also asked them to comment on selection methods, benefits packages and work experience.

The TARGET *Graduate Trends Survey* is the largest and most comprehensive graduate survey in the UK.

Analysis of built environment statistics



Headlines for the built environment sector

- The average number of graduate vacancies per organisation rose to 49 this year, from 43 last year.
- The built environment sector continues to be optimistic and anticipates a further increase in the coming year, predicting an average of 55 vacancies per organisation.
- The sector's popularity is growing considerably – built environment recruiters received an average of 1,018 applications, a massive increase from last year's 857.
- Good news for graduates – starting salaries have increased from £21,227 to £22,625.
- After a significant drop last year, the number of organisations offering work experience has remained stable at 82 per cent.

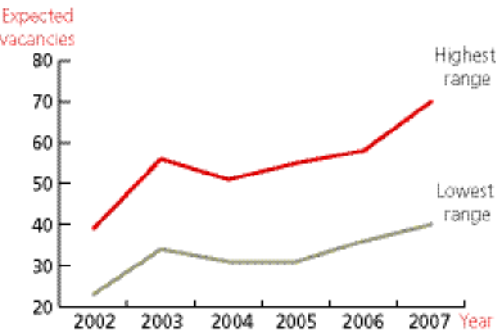
Average number of graduate vacancies



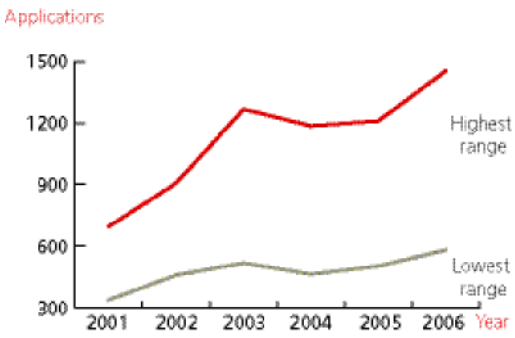
The data used in this section comes from organisations advertising in TARGET *Civil & Structural Engineering*, TARGET *Construction & Building Services* and TARGET *Quantity Surveying & Building Surveying*.

Please note that average figures were used for this analysis, ie the middle figure between the lowest and the highest range. Some of the data was collected in ranges, eg for vacancies the response options were 0–5, 6–10, 11–20 etc. On the graphs the lowest range uses the smaller figure and the highest range uses the upper figure. Unless otherwise stated, the headline findings use the average figure.

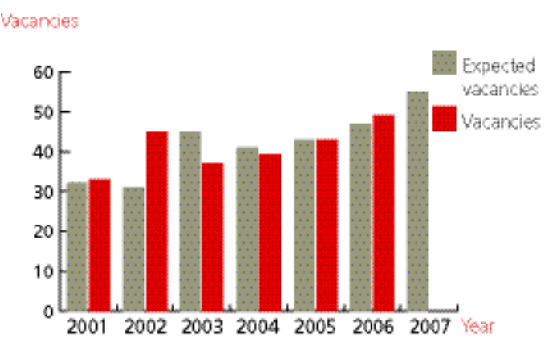
Average number of expected graduate vacancies



Average number of applications received by built environment employers



Comparison of the average number of expected vacancies versus actual vacancies



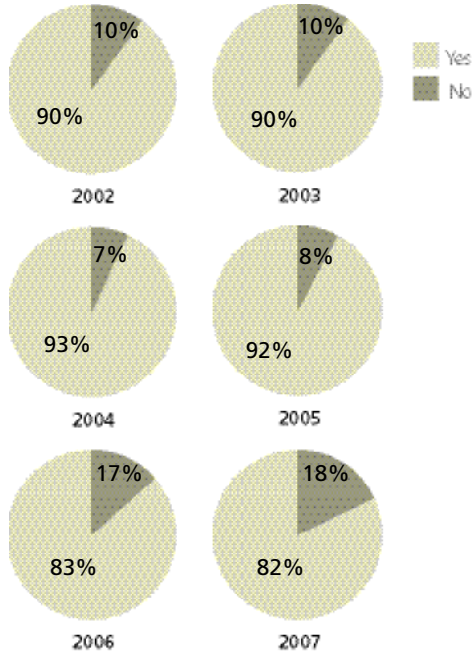
Analysis of built environment statistics



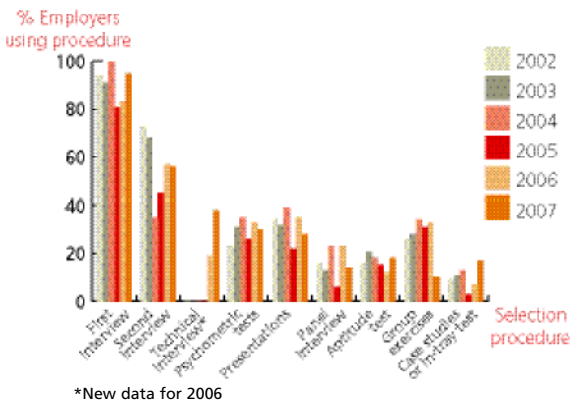
Average graduate starting salaries

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
High	£20,126	£20,952	£20,903	£23,472	£21,853	£23,464
Low	£16,126	£16,952	£16,903	£19,472	£20,600	£21,786

Percentage of employers offering work experience

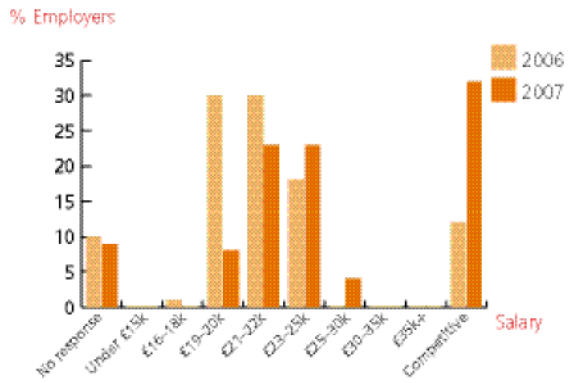
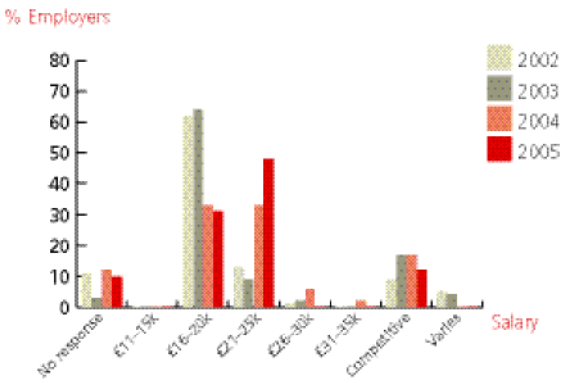


Selection procedures favoured by employers in the built environment



*New data for 2006

Salaries offered



Due to the inflation of average salaries over the years, this year's survey sees new salary bands in this graph, with the highest band now classed at £35,000 or more. The lower bands have also been divided into further categories to make them more specific: for instance, the previous £16-20K salary has now been split into two new bands, £16-18K and £19-20K.