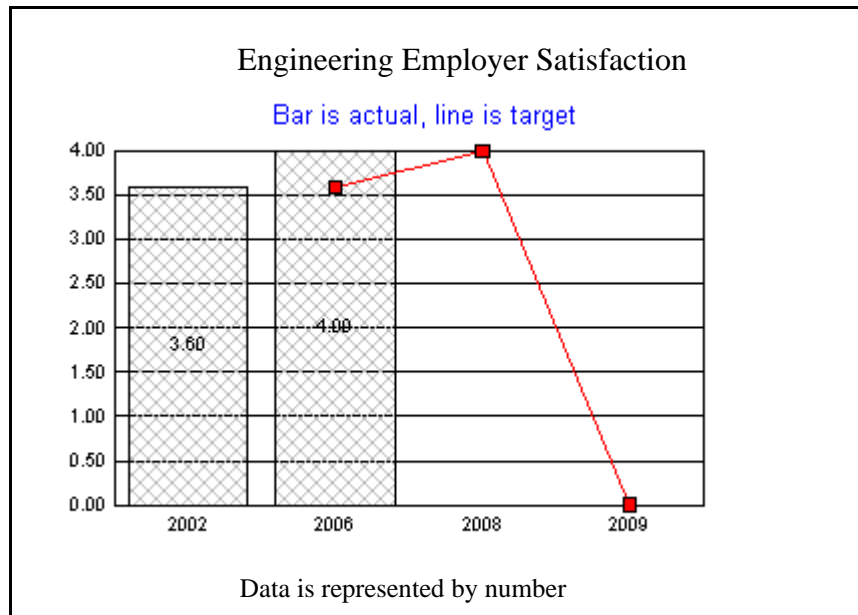


KPM #5	ENGINEERING EMPLOYER SATISFACTION - Average rating of overall quality of engineering/computer science graduates by Oregon employers (5-pt scale).	2003
Goal	Quality: Increase quality of existing programs - customers' views	
Oregon Context	Academic excellence; Meeting Oregon's workforce needs; OBM26 - College completion	
Data Source	OUS Strategic Programs and Planning, Survey of Oregon engineering-related employers	
Owner	OUS Strategic Programs and Planning, Charles Triplett (503) 725-5717	



1. OUR STRATEGY

Improve engineering education by better aligning curriculum and research with Oregon’s workforce demands.

2. ABOUT THE TARGETS

Targets for 2008 are based on 2006 data. Earlier data are not comparable and the 2008 survey is not complete at this time.

3. HOW WE ARE DOING

In 2006, 84% of the employers surveyed rated OUS engineering graduates 4 or 5 in overall quality, with a mean rating of 4.0. Graduates scored high in general technical skills (87.1%) and science and mathematics (73.8%).

4. HOW WE COMPARE

There are no national norms to compare against.

5. FACTORS AFFECTING RESULTS

The 2002 and 2006 surveys were administered to different groups of employers, making the data difficult to compare. 2008 survey methodology is consistent with the 2006 survey and is currently underway. Identifying a consistent, sustainable survey group is challenging and makes data collection and analysis problematic. OUS is requesting to delete this measure.

6. WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE

Surveyed employers rate OUS engineering graduates high in technical, science, and math skills but lower in presentation and writing skills. Providing opportunities for engineering students to improve their presentation and writing skills will help them transition more smoothly into the workplace. Internships (reported in KPM #17) provide additional opportunities for students to gain workplace experience and hone transition skills.

7. ABOUT THE DATA

2002 data was collected through an online survey of members of the Engineering Education Roundtable (EER), a now defunct group of professionals responsible for hiring and/or managing employees in technical or engineering fields. The 2006 and 2008 (in process) surveys are administered through an online survey tool sent to Oregon employers affiliated with either the Oregon Business Association or the Associated Oregon Industries.

OUS has requested to delete this measure due to the difficulty in administering consistent surveys through outside associations, as well as concerns about low response rates and validity. Campuses collect similar data through college and department advisory groups and are able to be responsive

to the information. At a system level, the aggregated data presented here is problematic and not reliable enough for policy decisions.