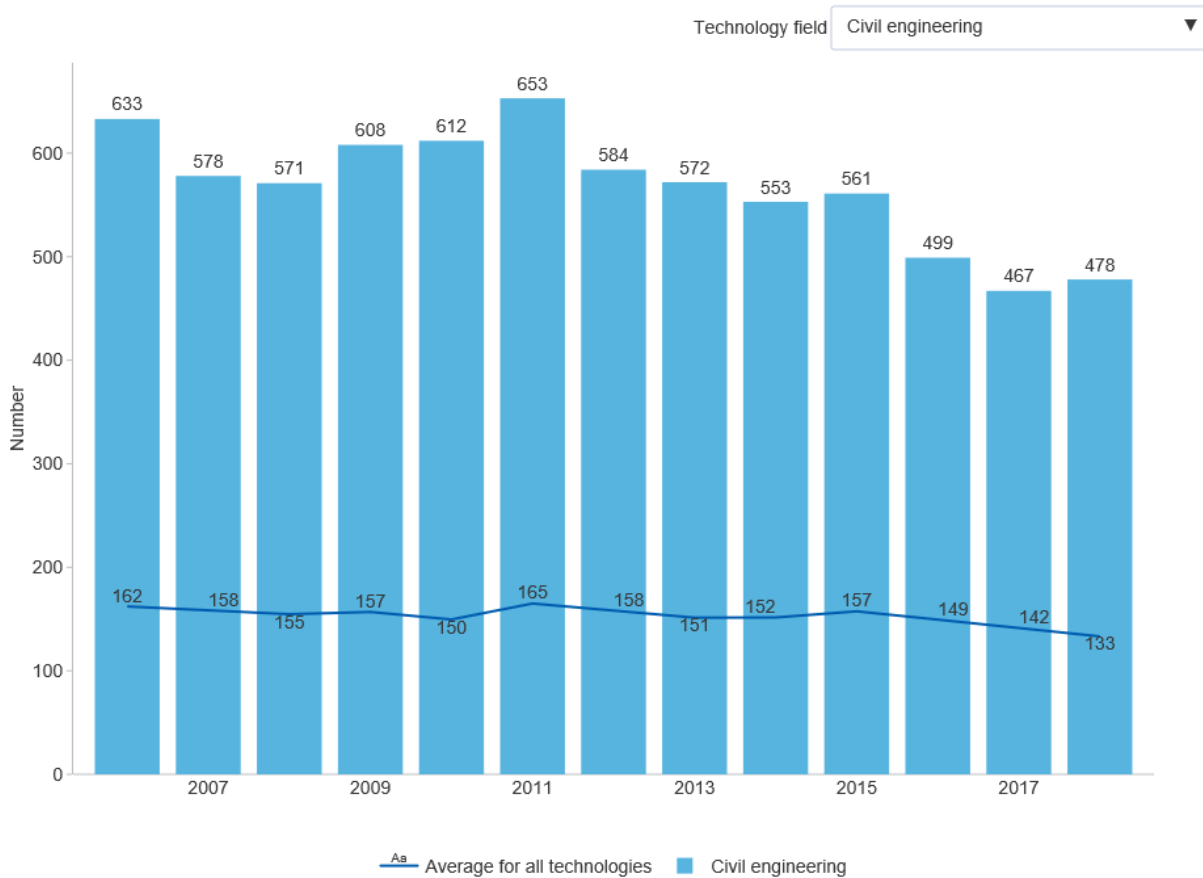


5.3.5 Patent family filings involving Australian applicants by technology field

Applications filed in different jurisdictions but claiming the same priority make up a patent family. The European Patent Office data shows that patent family filings were most concentrated in the *Civil engineering* field with 478 patent families, followed by the *Medical technology* field with 334 patent families filed in 2018. Significant positive growth has occurred in patent families over the last 10 years relating to *Materials, metallurgy* (56 per cent), *Food technology* (48 per cent) and *Computer technology* (16 per cent). A large number of technological fields have also seen significant declines, such as *Textile and paper machines* (63 per cent), *Machine tools* (60 per cent) and *Thermal processes and apparatus* (47 per cent).¹

Figure: Patent family filings involving Australian applicants, by technology field, number, latest 2018



¹ European Patent Office (2020) *PATSTAT 2020: Autumn edition* (<https://www.epo.org/searching-for-patents/business/patstat.html>)