Minnesota’s Forgotten Middle

Middle-skill jobs, which require education beyond high school but not a four-year degree, make up the largest part of America’s and Minnesota’s labor market. Key industries in Minnesota are unable to find enough sufficiently trained workers to fill these jobs.

### Demand for Middle-Skill Jobs is Strong
Fifty percent of all jobs in 2015 were middle-skill.

**Jobs by Skill Level, Minnesota, 2015**

- High-Skill: 16%
- Middle-Skill: 34%
- Low-Skill: 50%


### Demand for Middle-Skill Jobs Will Remain Strong
Between 2014-2024, 46 percent of job openings will be middle-skill.

**Job Openings by Skill Level, Minnesota, 2014-2024**

- High-Skill: 21%
- Middle-Skill: 33%
- Low-Skill: 46%

*Source: NSC analysis of long-term occupational projections from state labor/employment agency.*

### A Middle-Skill Gap
Middle-skill jobs account for 50 percent of Minnesota’s labor market, but only 45 percent of the state’s workers are trained to the middle-skill level.

**Jobs and Workers by Skill Level, Minnesota, 2015**