North Carolina’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 North Carolina’s labor market. Key industries in North Carolina are unable to find enough sufficiently trained workers to fill these jobs.

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

Demand for Middle-Skill Jobs Will Remain Strong
Between 2014-2024, 50 percent of job openings will be middle-skill.

A Middle-Skill Gap
Middle-skill jobs account for 55 percent of North Carolina’s labor market, but only 44 percent of the state’s workers are trained to the middle-skill level.


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