



# Pennsylvania

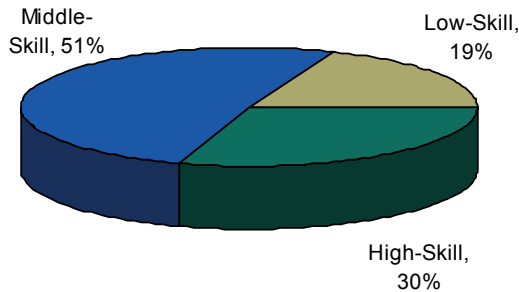
## Growing Pennsylvania’s Economy by Investing in the Forgotten Middle

Middle-skill jobs, which require more than high-school, but less than a four-year degree, make up the largest part of America’s and Pennsylvania’s labor market. All too often, key industries in Pennsylvania are unable to find enough sufficiently trained workers to fill these jobs. As a result, job creation and economic growth are stifled. We can’t afford that—particularly now—in Pennsylvania.

Years ago, our nation established a number of workforce development programs to meet this demand by preparing Pennsylvania’s workers for middle-skill jobs. But since then, our federal education and training policies have largely forgotten about these jobs, and investments in the programs that prepare middle-skill workers have plummeted. As a result, in Pennsylvania too many workers struggle to find decent jobs and too many employers struggle to find skilled employees. Our federal policymakers—including Pennsylvania’s congressional delegation—must address the investment shortfall in the forgotten middle of the labor market. Pennsylvania simply can’t afford the lost jobs and productivity that complacency brings.

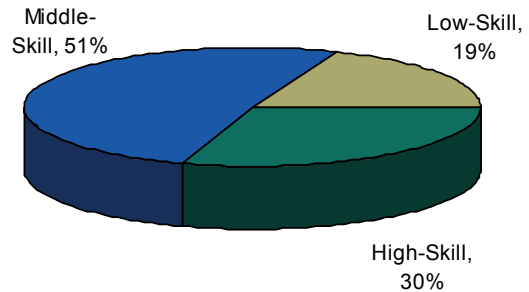
### Demand for Middle-Skill Jobs is Strong, Will Remain Strong in Pennsylvania

**Pennsylvania Jobs by Skill Level, 2004**



Source: Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry

**Pennsylvania Jobs by Skill Level, 2014**



Source: Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry

### Middle-Skill Jobs are the Backbone of Pennsylvania’s Economy

Middle-skill jobs are key to our nation's health, its infrastructure and its economic growth. Many of these jobs cannot be outsourced: from the care of our sick and elderly, to the repair of our computerized cars, to the running and maintenance of our factories' advanced machinery, to the construction of our nation's bridges and buildings. Middle-skill jobs can provide good wages and career paths for America’s and Pennsylvania’s workers.

Examples of High-Demand Middle-Skill Jobs in Pennsylvania	Industry	2006 Median Annual Earnings*
Registered Nurses	Healthcare	\$55,800
Truck Drivers, Heavy and Tractor-Trailer	Trucking	\$35,500
General Maintenance and Repair Workers	Installation, Maintenance, and Repair	\$32,700
Executive Secretaries and Administrative Assistants	Administrative	\$35,400
Automotive Mechanics	Installation, Maintenance, and Repair	\$33,000

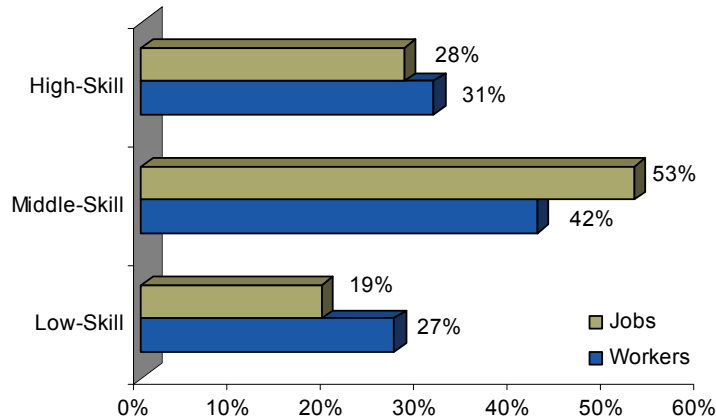
\* 2006 median annual earnings for all occupations in Pennsylvania = \$29,806



## Pennsylvania's Skills Mismatch: A Middle-Skills Gap

In 2007, about 53% of Pennsylvania's jobs were in middle-skill occupations. But only 42% of the state's workers likely have the appropriate training for these jobs.

**Pennsylvania Jobs and Workers by Skill Level, 2007**

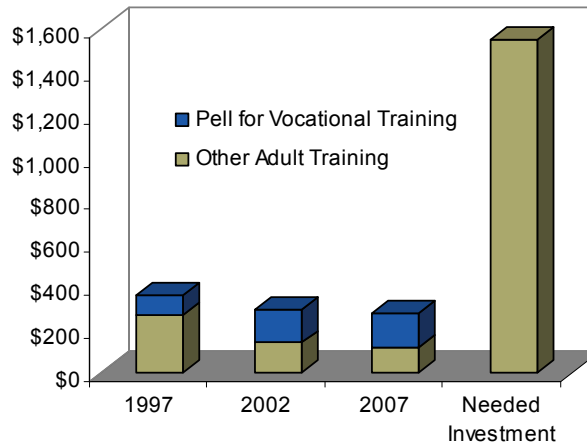


Sources: Pennsylvania Dept. of Labor and Industry & US Bureau of the Census

## Pennsylvania's Competitiveness Requires Federal Investments in Training for Middle-Skill Jobs

To maintain a strong economy, Pennsylvania must address its middle-skills gap by investing in a skilled workforce. Training just another 5% of Pennsylvania's workforce for middle-skill jobs would require a new investment, beyond existing state and federal programs, of at least \$1.3 billion or 4.6 times Pennsylvania's current federal funding for all job training, adult education, vocational education, and financial aid for community college students.

**Pennsylvania's Middle-Skills Investment Gap**



Sources: US Department of Labor and US Department of Education