

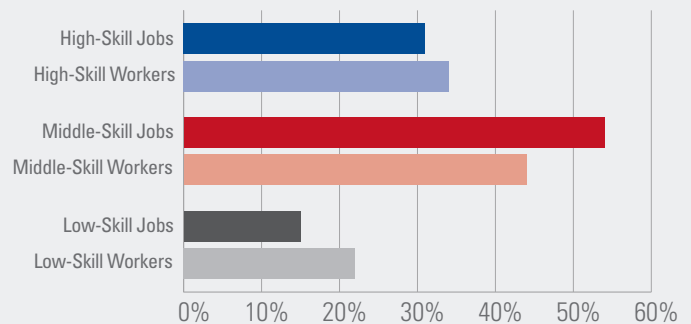
Congress should invest in foundational skills

The U.S. has a middle-skill gap

Though the economy is improving, employers still struggle to find skilled workers to fill their open positions, particularly for middle-skill jobs requiring more than a high school diploma but not a four-year degree.

Source: NSC analysis of Bureau of Labor Statistics Occupational Employment Statistics by State, May 2012 and American Community Survey data, 2012.

Middle-skill jobs are going unfilled
Jobs and Workers by Skill Level, United States, 2012

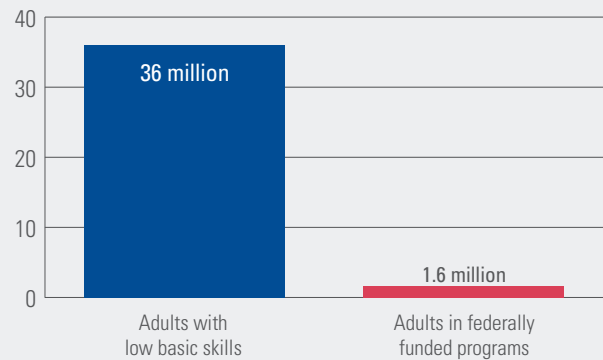


36 million lack the foundational skills to succeed in middle-skill training, jobs

36 million US adults — including 24 million currently in the workforce — lack the foundational literacy and numeracy skills to enter middle-skill training and obtain well-paying jobs. This contributes to income inequality and hurts business productivity. But we're only serving a fraction of the need in federally-funded adult education programs.

Source: U.S. Department of Education, Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education, National Reporting System, PY 2013-2014 and Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), Time for the U.S. to Reskill?, 2013.

36 million adults have low basic skills, but federal funds reach only a fraction



The U.S. performs poorly compared to other OECD countries
Ranking by Country – 2013

We're falling behind our competition

A recent study showed the US tied for 8th out of 13 Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) countries in literacy and 11th out of 13 in math. We can't afford to fall further behind — Congress must prioritize foundational skills now.

Source: Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), Time for the U.S. to Reskill?, 2013.

	Math
1	Japan
2	Finland
3	Netherlands
4	Germany
5	Australia
6	Canada
7	South Korea
8	United Kingdom
9	Poland
10	France
11	UNITED STATES
12	Italy
13	Spain

	Literacy
1	Japan
2	Finland
3	Netherlands
4	Australia
5	Canada
6	United Kingdom
7	South Korea
8	Germany / UNITED STATES
9	Poland
10	France
11	Spain
12	Italy

Please support greater, more effective investments in foundational skills.