

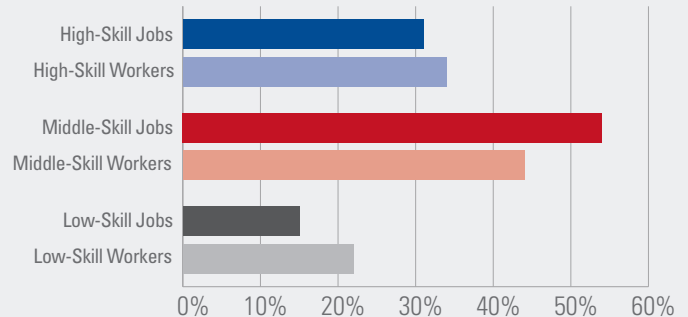
# Congress should invest in workforce education and training programs

## The U.S. has a middle-skill gap

Middle-skill jobs — jobs that require more than a high school diploma but not a four-year degree — make up 54% of jobs in the U.S. economy. But only 44% of U.S. workers are trained at the middle-skill level.

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



## Congress already agrees on the best ways to close the gap

In 2014, Congress passed the bi-partisan Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, which supports better alignment of federal workforce programs and demand-driven strategies such as sector partnerships, career pathways and apprenticeships.

## Workforce development is a bipartisan issue

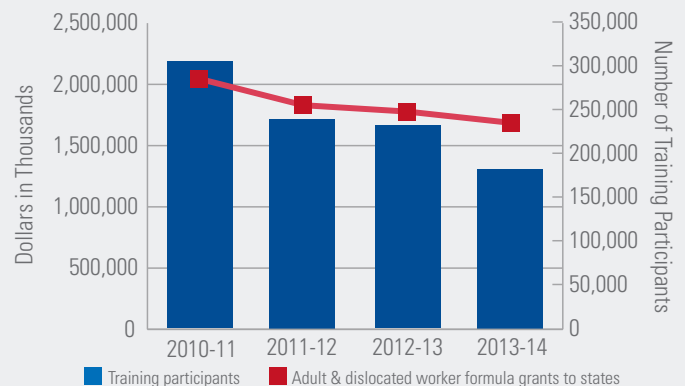
WIOA passed the House and Senate with overwhelming approval

WIOA VOTE	
House	Senate
415 Yeas	95 Yeas
6 Nays	3 Nays

## Federal funding isn't keeping pace with demand.

Despite bipartisan support, federal funding in key workforce and education programming has declined by \$400 million since 2010. The number of individuals in training has declined as a result. We need to restore these investments in skills to build our economy and create economic opportunity.

**Funding is declining, and so is the number of individuals trained**  
WIA Title I



**Fund workforce and CTE state grants** at authorized levels in Fiscal Year 2017.

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**NATIONAL SKILLS COALITION**  
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