A HIDDEN WORKFORCE: BREAKING DOWN BARRIERS TO ENTRY
“Help Wanted: Too Many Jobs and Not Enough Workers in Most States...”
NATIONAL WORKFORCE & EDUCATION ISSUES

- 88 million adults have only a high school education or less, and/or low English proficiency.
- 30 million adults do not even have a high school diploma, yet all colleges and 63% of all US jobs require education beyond high school.
- 20% of adults with a high school diploma have only beginning literacy skills.
- 28 million adults lack the digital literacy skills to operate a computer well, yet most of these individuals work with computers on their job.
- 66% of US adults scored at the lowest levels in solving technology problems.
- The US ranks 21st in numeracy and 16th in literacy out of 24 countries in a recent PIAAC study.
The Challenge...

Low-skilled adults are:

- 2x more likely to be unemployed
- 3x as likely to be in poverty
- 4x as likely to be in poor health
- 8x as likely to be incarcerated

43 million working age Americans lack the skills needed for many of the nation's fastest growing and highest paying jobs.

7 million job openings in America could be left unfilled due to a lack of skilled workers.
Adult Education provides numeracy, literacy, high school equivalency, digital literacy, work readiness training, and wrap around services to more than 1.5 million adult learners nationwide.
Displaced Homemakers 21,781
Homeless/Runaways 18,189
Foster Care/Aged Out 6,450
Single Parents 113,58
Migrant Farm Workers 10,742
Long Term Unemployed 65,117
English Language Learners 943,061

Low Income Adults 321,426
Ex Offenders 92,877
Exhausting TANF 6,098
Learning Disabilities 63,845
AGE OF LEARNERS SERVED IN WIOA TITLE II ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAMS

- Majority of our adult learners are unemployed or the working poor
- Majority of our adult learners are parents

- 16-18: 123,476 (8%)
- 19-24: 272,512 (19%)
- 25-44: 706,560 (50%)
- 45-54: 194,752 (14%)
- 55-59: 58,111 (4%)
- 60+: 71,928 (5%)
WIOA TITLE II ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAMS BY STATE
Return on Investment
$2.5 billion in tax revenue and reduced expenses for every 400,000 adults who earn a high school diploma.
-- Savings of $6,250 per person!

$200 billion estimated value to our economy in reduced costs for public support programs for low literacy adults

47% of GED recipients go on to higher education and have a 90% rate of persistence.
Visit our six time award winning “Educate and Elevate” national public awareness campaign to view our adult learner success stories!

www.educateandelevate.org
55,000 adult educators and administrators serve 1.5 million adult learners

- 100+ partners at the national, state, and local level
- National conference for 2,500 adult educators and administrators
- Virtual conference for 1,500 plus 10,000 session downloads
- 50+ webinars annually for 22,000+ participants
- Peer reviewed research to practice journal published biannually
- 350+ annual communications to our members
- 500 face to face visits with legislators
- 118,000+ legislative connections
- Award $50,000 annually to our members
Digital US is a national coalition that will ensure that ALL of US have foundational digital skills to thrive in work and life by 2030. Together we will:

- **Prioritize Digital Skills** - Make closing digital divides for all a national priority
- **Collaborate & Innovate** - Align and scale effective practices, and identify and design innovative solutions to address gaps
- **Shape Policy** - Move policy makers and funders to advance needed interventions and incentives

JoinDigitalUS.org
Convener of Partners

amazon

NAPA

AUTO PARTS

SkillsUSA

Google

COABE

educate...

Elevate

Adult Education