



Infrastructure Workforce Demand Overview

The Challenge

Nationally, as many as 15 million new or maintained jobs may be needed to support the \$1.2 trillion in new federal funding from the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), also known as the Bipartisan infrastructure Law. In Georgia, there is risk of a vast shortage of qualified, skilled workers to fill the anticipated jobs impacting the state's ability to complete infrastructure projects. The shortage is caused by funding for new projects, coupled with insufficient training and recruitment paths, aging workers nearing retirement, and large numbers of existing workers leaving their jobs and/or sectors altogether.

Background

593,000 infrastructure-related jobs currently in Georgia.

388,000 jobs would need to be replaced or maintained due to retirements, career changes and normal demand over the next five years.

43,000 additional IIJA-related jobs in metro Atlanta would be needed each year, beginning in 2022 and continuing through 2026.

75% of infrastructure jobs would only need a high school diploma with some form of short-term training or six months to two-year training.

Top 10 Occupations Needed

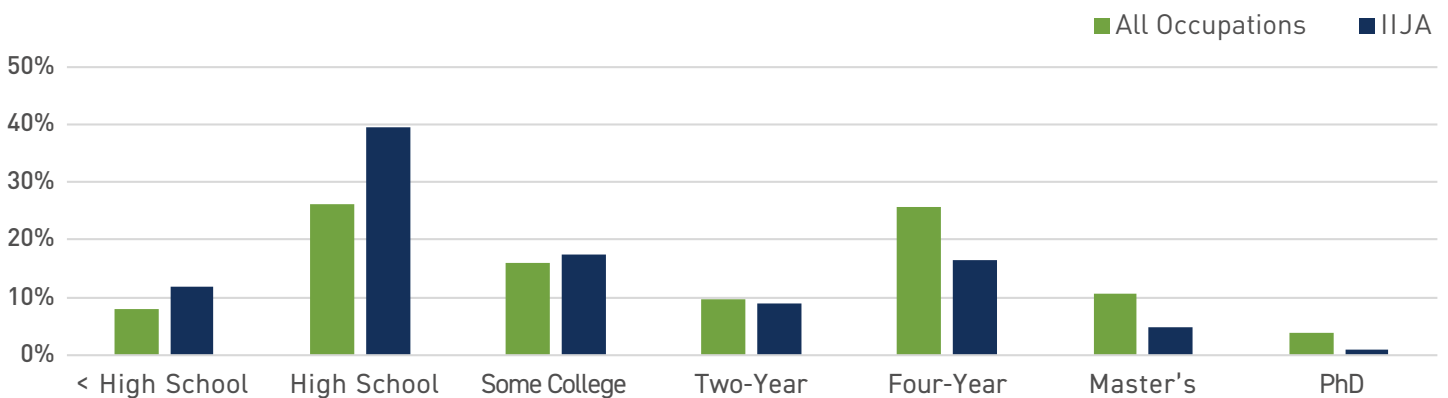
1. Laborers and Freight, Stock & Material Movers
2. Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers
3. Light Truck or Delivery Services Drivers
4. Packers and Packagers
5. Electricians
6. Shipping, Receiving & Traffic Clerks
7. Industrial Truck & Tractor Operators
8. Bus Drivers, School or Special Client
9. Plumbers, Pipefitters & Steamfitters
10. Taxi Drivers & Chauffeurs

Where are the Workers in Georgia?

High School	Postsecondary	Training Providers
Career, Technical and Agricultural Education (CTAE) programs in middle and high schools enroll around 665,000 students. About 148,000 students are enrolled in Architecture and Construction; Transportation, Distribution and Logistics; Energy and STEM programs.	Statewide, 30,000 “awards” (certificates, two-year, four-year, and postgraduate degrees) are earned in the infrastructure jobs cluster.	There are roughly 350 eligible training programs that offer WIOA-funded (Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act) training in these infrastructure job fields. About 1,200 participants enrolled statewide in these training programs in 2021.

Educational Requirements for Infrastructure Jobs

Educational Attainment Levels for Infrastructure Jobs



About half of the workers in these IIJA occupations have a high school diploma or less, which removes a key barrier to entry to obtaining these jobs.

Sources & Notes

- Georgetown University's Center on Education and The Workforce (https://cewgeorgetown.wpenginepowered.com/wp-content/uploads/cew-15_million_infrastructure_jobs-fr.pdf)
- JobsEQ (Chmura)
- GA Department of Education, CTAE Annual Report, 2020-2021 (<https://ctaedelivers.org/2020-2021-annual-report-executive-summary>)
- Atlanta Regional Worksource Board
- ARC uses REMI, an econometric model we use to develop population and employment forecasts. Since so much of IIJA is discretionary, it is impossible to develop exact estimates of economic impact. For this, we added \$3B to exogenous demand each year for the transportation and ground transit industries in REMI to produce the 43,000 new or maintained jobs.