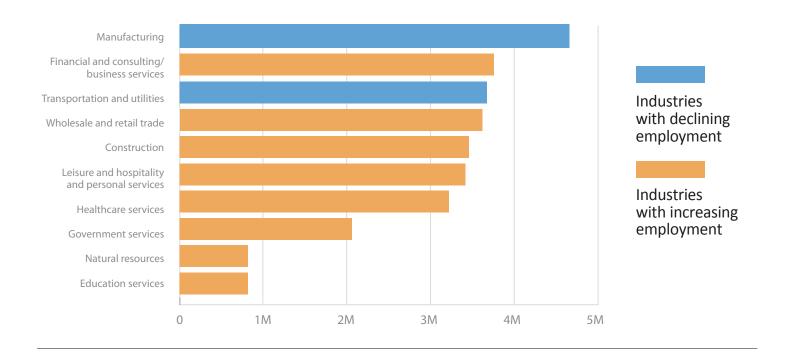


VOL. 5 / ISSUE 18 November 2017

High-paying occupations

There are about 30 million jobs that pay good salaries for workers without a bachelor's degree.



Source: Georgetown University Center on Education and the Workforce, "Good Jobs That Pay Without a BA," July 2017



Data definition: Good jobs are defined as jobs that pay \$35,000 (\$17 per hour for a full-time job) as the minimum earning for those under age 45, and \$45,000 (\$22 per hour for a full-time job) for workers age 45 and older.

There are about 30 million good jobs in the U.S. that don't require a bachelor's degree but do require some postsecondary education. Between 1991 and 2015, the number of good jobs requiring high school diplomas decreased by more than 1 million, but the number of good jobs for associate-degree holders increased by more than 3 million during the same period of time. Out of the 30 million good jobs that do not require a bachelor's degree, about 6 million of them pay \$35,000 to \$45,000; another 8 million pay \$45,000 to \$55,000, and additional 16 million of them pay \$55,000 or more. Most of the good jobs exist in large states with high population density, such as California, Texas, Florida, New York and Illinois. Good jobs primarily exist in the healthcare, finance and information technology industries. A study by Georgetown University's Center on Education and the Workforce shows that, even though the number of manufacturing and transportation-related jobs have been declining, these jobs remain among the industries with the highest number of good jobs.

For more information, contact Kent Phillippe, associate vice president for research and student success at the American Association of Community Colleges, at (202) 416-4505 or kphillippe@aacc.nche.edu, or Rahel Tekle, AACC research associate, at (202) 416-4508 or rtekle@aacc.nche.edu.