

# Overview of National and Maryland Adult Learning Needs

Workforce Creation and Adult Education  
Transition Council

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# Comparing Maryland to the Nation

## U.S. Picture

- Only 10% of the demand for adult basic education and ESL is met nationally each year. (CAEL)
- 15% of the U.S. population is not prepared to enter a post-secondary or training program. (CAEL)
- 59%-75% of the incarcerated population are high school dropouts. (DOJ)
- East Coast average spending per student (2003) \$477 (MSDE)
- Projected increase in occupations requiring post-secondary training or college degree – U.S. 21.4% (2002-2012) (CAEL)

## Sources:

- 2008 CAEL Adult Learning in Focus
- 2005 MSDE – *Stepping Up to the Future*
- 2003 Harlow, C.W., Education and Corrections Population Statistics, DOJ

## Maryland Picture

- Only 3-5% of the demand for adult basic education and ESL is met in Maryland each year. (MSDE)
- 20% of Maryland's population is not prepared to enter a post-secondary or training program. (CAEL)
- 60% of the incarcerated population are high school dropout. (MSDE)
- Maryland average spending per student (2003) \$77 (MSDE)
- Projected increase in occupations requiring post-secondary training or college degree – MD 23.4% (2002-2012) (CAEL)

## Sources:

- 2008 CAEL Adult Learning in Focus
- 2005 MSDE – *Stepping Up to the Future*

# “Middle Jobs” are Growing

- Middle jobs are jobs that pay family sustaining wages.
- Middle jobs typically require some level of post-secondary training or certificate.
- In 2006, 48% of American jobs were at the middle skill level.
- By 2012, 21<sup>0</sup>% more jobs are going to be in middle skill occupations.
- Between 2004 and 2014, 45<sup>0</sup>% of all job opening are going to be in middle skill occupations.

- Holzer and Lerman, 2007 America's Forgotten Middle Jobs