Resource Materials for Workforce Development and 21st Century Skills

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Available at: https://works.bepress.com/ocan/105/
Achieve, Inc.

*Closing the Expectations Gap.* Achieve helps states raise academic standards and achievement so that all students graduate ready for college, work and citizenship. The survey updates the efforts of all 50 states to align their high school standards, graduation requirements, assessments, and accountability systems with the demands of college and work and finds that at least 48 states are now actively engaged in reform efforts of some kind. There's more momentum in the states now than at any time since education reform became a national priority with the release of *A Nation at Risk* in 1983. [www.achieve.org](http://www.achieve.org)

Association for Career and Technical Education, the National Association of State Directors of Career Technical Education Consortium, and the Partnership for 21st Skills

*Up to the Challenge* ([October 2010](#)) This report highlights the demand for skills in the global economy, as well as the ways in which educators can meet this demand by drawing on both career and technical education (CTE) and 21st-century skills. According to the report, fusing the four Cs (critical thinking and problem solving, collaboration, communication, and creativity and innovation) and CTE can make college- and career-readiness a reality for every student. The paper highlights the importance of rigorous academics, 21st-century skills, and CTE strategies as important ways to bridge the gap between academic, employability, and technical skills. [ACTE Reports](#)

The Center for Community Solutions

NE Ohio-based organization that provides strategic leadership and organizes community resources to improve health, social, and economic conditions through demographic research, nonpartisan policy analysis and advocacy, and communication. *New Approaches to Ohio Economic and Workforce Development* ([April 2012](#))

The Conference Board

*Are They Really Ready to Work?* Report based on a detailed survey of 431 human resource officials that was conducted by The Conference Board, Corporate Voices for Working Families, the Partnership for 21st Century Skills, and the Society for Human Resource Management. Its objective was to examine employers' views on the readiness of new entrants to the U.S. workforce-recently hired graduates from high schools, two-year colleges or technical schools, and four-year colleges. October 2006. Also review: Business & Education Conference: Key topics: Investing in the Future, Future workforce development needs, Investments in education which are critical to economic competitiveness around the world and to advancing the international marketplace, Educational partnerships as a key to future corporate leadership. [www.conference-board.org](http://www.conference-board.org)

The Council on Competitiveness

Comprised of CEOs, university presidents, and labor leaders working to ensure U.S. prosperity. A non-partisan and non-governmental organization that addresses America’s long-term competitiveness challenges. They also generate innovative public policy solutions and measure U.S. performance in the global marketplace to identify key obstacles and opportunities. Latest report: *"Make" An American Manufacturing Movement* ([December 2011](#)). One of the five challenges facing the U.S. includes the ability to harness the power and potential of American talent to win the future skills race. Various solutions enter around the preparation of the next generation of innovators, researchers and highly-skilled workers. [www.compete.org](http://www.compete.org)
**Educational Testing Service**

*America's Perfect Storm: Three Forces Changing Our Nation's Future* (2007) This report looks at the convergence of three powerful sociological and economical forces that are changing our nation's future: substantial disparities in skill levels (reading and math), seismic economic changes (widening wage gaps), sweeping demographic shifts (less education, lower skills). There is little chance that economic opportunities will improve among key segments of our population if we follow our current path. *The Mission of the High School: A New Consensus of the Purposes of Public Education?* (2011) This report provides a perspective on a variety of issues that need to be addressed as the mission of the high school is being transformed to prepare all students for college and careers. [www.ets.org](http://www.ets.org)

**Georgetown University Center on Education and the Workforce**

An independent, nonprofit research and policy institute that studies the link between education, career qualifications, and workforce demands. Specifically, the Center conducts research, engagement, and outreach to policymakers and practitioners. Anthony Carnevale, Director. *Hard Times: Not all College Degrees are Created Equal* (2012) Main findings: Choice of college major substantially affects employment prospects and earnings; People who make technology are better off than people who use technology; In general, majors that are linked to occupations have better employment prospects than majors focused on general skills. But, some occupation specific majors, such as Architecture, were hurt by the recession and fared worse than general skills majors; for many, pursuing a graduate degree may be the best option until the economy recovers. But, not all graduate degrees outperform all BA’s on employment. *Help Wanted: Projections of Job and Education Requirements Through 2018* (June 2010) Another excellent report that contains detailed data. [http://cew.georgetown.edu](http://cew.georgetown.edu)

**The John J. Heldrich Center for Workforce Development**

Based at Rutgers University this research and policy center, founded in 1997, is dedicated to raising the effectiveness of the American workplace by strengthening workforce education, placement and training programs and policies and has earned a reputation as one of the nation’s leading research centers for workforce development. *The State of the U.S. Workforce System: Time for a Realignement or Revolution?* (2012) Examines the history, trends, and challenges of the U.S. workforce system. [http://www.h-eldrich.rutgers.edu](http://www.h-eldrich.rutgers.edu)

**INFOhio’s 21st Century Learning Commons**

Contains 21st century teaching and learning resources. The Learning Commons is designed to help educators embrace new learning methods and opportunities that include essential skills for today’s students such as critical thinking and problem solving, communication, collaboration, creativity and innovation. [http://learningcommons.infohio.org](http://learningcommons.infohio.org)

**McKinsey Global Institute - McKinsey and Company**

*An Economy That Works: Job Creation and America's Future.* (June 2011) Report that analyzes the causes of slow job creation in the period before the recession and during the recovery and the implications of these forces for future job growth. The research projects how the US labor force will evolve over the next ten years and creates different scenarios for job growth based on extensive analysis of sector trends. The central finding is that a return to full employment will occur in only the most optimistic job-growth scenario. This will require not only a robust economic recovery but also a concerted effort to address other factors that impede employment, including growing gaps in skill and education.
National Academies of Science
*Rising Above the Gathering Storm. Revisited (September 2010).* Report by the Committee on Prospering in the Global Economy of the 21st Century: [www.nap.edu](http://www.nap.edu)

**National Association of Manufacturers**
Manufacturing Institute/Center for Workforce Success and Deloitte Consulting LLP (Deloitte Consulting Report: *Boiling point? The Skills Gap in American Manufacturing* (2011) Looks at: What impact is the skills gap having on company performance? How is the skills gap evolving in the face of continued economic and competitive challenges? Which manufacturing jobs are being affected the most? Also review *A Manufacturing Renaissance* (2011): What does the future of talent look like? What upcoming trends are companies preparing for today? How fast are these changes happening? [www.nam.org](http://www.nam.org)

**The National Governors Association**
*Innovation America, and A Call to Action: Why America Must Innovate.* (2007) *Creating a College and Career Readiness Accountability Model for High Schools* (2012) The (NGA) is the collective voice of the nation’s governors and one of Washington, D.C.’s, most respected public policy organizations. NGA provides governors and their senior staff members with services that range from representing states on Capitol Hill and before the Administration on key federal issues to developing policy reports on innovative state programs and hosting networking seminars for state government executive branch officials. [www.nga.org](http://www.nga.org)

**National Skills Coalition**
Organizes broad-based coalitions seeking to raise the skills of America’s workers across a range of industries. We advocate for public policies that invest in what works, as informed by our members’ real-world expertise. And we communicate these goals to an American public seeking a vision for a strong U.S. economy that allows everyone to be part of its success. Sponsors annual Skills Summit. [http://www.nationalskillscoalition.org](http://www.nationalskillscoalition.org)

**New Commission on the Skills of the American Workforce**
*Tough Choices or Tough Times* Report by group comprised of former Cabinet secretaries, governors, college presidents, and business, civic and labor leaders, is part of the National Center on Education and the Economy. The report calls for the biggest changes in the American education system in a century -- a complete overhaul by 2021. [www.skillscommission.org](http://www.skillscommission.org)

**The Ohio Workforce Coalition**
The coalition includes leaders from education and training institutions, economic and workforce development organizations, business and industry, labor unions, and human service providers to promote public policies that build the skills of Ohio’s adult workers. Their three main objectives: build the skills of adult workers, meet the skill needs of employers, and strengthen the workforce system. [http://ohioworkforcecoalition.org](http://ohioworkforcecoalition.org)

**Partnership for 21st Century Skills**
*Route 21,* an online, one-stop shop for 21st century skills-related information, resources and tools. This organization is one of the key resources available for 21st century skills. [http://www.p21.org](http://www.p21.org)
Policy Matters Ohio
A non-profit, nonpartisan policy research organization founded in January 2000 to broaden the debate about economic policy in Ohio. Their mission is to create a more prosperous, equitable, sustainable and inclusive Ohio, through research, media work and policy advocacy.  
http://www.policymattersohio.org

Rand Corporation
*The 21st Century at Work- Forces Shaping the Future Workforce and Workplace in the United States (2004).* Report looks at the trend of globalization and how it will affect the United States' economy and those of other countries. Reviews the key forces in the economy today and their implications for the future workforce and workplace, including the size, composition, and skills of the workforce; the nature of work and workplace arrangements; and worker compensation.  www.rand.org

21st Century Skills Ohio
Resources and information on and about 21st century skills in Ohio. Also - news and updates from ODE.  http://21stohio.org

U.S. Chamber of Commerce
Institute for a Competitive Workforce (ICW) - Hosts annual *Education and Workforce Summit.* The Summit brings together more than 300 leaders in business, education, and workforce development to discuss issues which are vital to America's global competitiveness.  *Life in the 21st Century Workforce: A National Perspective* (2011)  www.uschamber.com

Workforce3 One
An e-learning, knowledge-sharing resource sponsored by the U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration that offers workforce professionals, employers, economic development, and education professionals a dynamic network featuring innovative workforce solutions. Online learning events, resource information, and tools help organizations learn how to develop strategies that enable individuals and businesses to be successful in the 21st century economy.  
https://www.workforce3one.org/page/home

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