

# Most future Ohio jobs will require college

Two of 3 jobs will need more than a high school degree by 2020.

By Meagan Pant  
Staff Writer

Expecting a wave of baby boomer retirements, experts estimate more than 2 million jobs will open in Ohio during the next decade, and the majority of them will require an education beyond high school, according to a study released today by the Georgetown University Center on Education and the Workforce.

Ohio's future mirrors a nationwide trend: the number of openings that call for a high school diploma or less will continue to shrink to 36 percent by 2020, down from 72 percent in the 1970s, according to the report, "Recovery: Job Growth and Education Requirements through 2020."

"More and more jobs are requiring more and more post secondary training," said co-author Nicole Smith. "The jobs themselves are becoming more complex."

For Ohio, "notwithstanding economic and political

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Trish Kane of Bellefontaine graduated in 2012 from a court reporting program offered by Clark State Community College. She works at the Montgomery County Domestic Relations Court. CHRIS STEWART / STAFF

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PHOTO GALLERY: To see a photo gallery of the projected top 10 jobs by 2020, log onto [MyDaytonDailyNews.com](http://MyDaytonDailyNews.com).

# 35.5% now have degrees

## Jobs

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shocks," there will be 1.3 million openings in the next decade due to baby boomer retirements. Another 715,000 new jobs will be created. And 64 percent of all positions will require education beyond high school by 2020, which could be a college certificate, associate degree or something more advanced, Georgetown reports.

For now, just 35.5 percent of working-age Ohioans hold a college degree, leaving the state with a sizable skills gap, according to the Lumina Foundation, a nonprofit focused on higher education. And Ohio is not on track to close that gap. The number of college-educated residents is growing at a crawl, gaining just 0.6 percent in three years, and is on pace to reach 42.1 percent by 2025, reports Lumina, which last year awarded Ohio a \$500,000 grant to increase the number of transfer students with associate degrees.

### 'Not all degrees are created equal'

Not just any college degree will match with what employers want, as Georgetown has warned in the past: "Not all degrees are created equal."

"Choice of major determines likelihood of unemployment. For instance, the unemployment rate for recent college graduates in nursing was the lowest at 4.8 percent, while recent graduates in information systems, concentrated in clerical functions, were the hardest hit with an unemployment rate of 14.7 percent," the center said.

Finding the right education is important today

because employers are less willing to do on-the-job training, Smith said. While attending college in the past meant a graduate demonstrated that he or she was trainable and ready to learn specific skills from an employer today, "for the most part, industries and businesses don't want to do that."

"They expect that you leave your institution ready to hit the ground running," Smith said. "It has really pushed the burden to the individual and pushed the burden back to the schools to ensure that when you graduate, you're as close as possible to what they're (the business is) looking for."

At the same time, jobs have become more complex, Smith said. So, in the past, an aspiring auto mechanic would have become an apprentice and learned on the job; today, they attend college for more formal training on using the computers that operate and test vehicles, she said.

By 2020, 35 percent of jobs nationwide will require a bachelor's degree and 30 percent some college or an associate degree. At the current rate Americans are earning degrees, the country will fall short of the needed college-educated workers by 5 million, the study says.

Ohio's own data from its job posting website, OhioMeansJobs.com, shows a similar trend, said Ben Johnson, deputy director of the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services. Of the nearly 200,000 postings, 49 percent required at least some higher education.

Most of Ohio's growth will be in mining quarrying and oil and gas extraction (34 percent); health care and social assistance (28 percent); and professional, scientific and technical services (26 percent), according to Georgetown.

### Jobs through education

Trish Kane said she decided to earn a degree af-

ter finding she qualified only for jobs that paid just above minimum wage through a temp agency. The Bellefontaine resident said she had a few college classes on her resume, but "never finished, and that doesn't really amount to anything."

"I didn't have any training to go back and do anything except a minimum wage job," said Kane, 37. So she researched court reporting as a career and began pursuing a degree from Clark State Community College's fully online program in 2008, shortly after her children entered second grade. She graduated in August 2012 and had a job by Septem-

ber as a freelancer. Now she works full-time with the Montgomery County Domestic Relations Court, she said. Her field has a median pay of \$22.93 per hour, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

"It helped with so many things. All of the obvious of health benefits and a steady income," she said of her new career. "I wouldn't have been able to find a job this quickly without some kind of degree."

Kristy McKinney, 40, of Fairborn, knew she needed a degree to pursue a career in nursing. The Oregon native, who already held a sociology and psy-

chology degree, earned an associate and then a bachelor's degree in nursing in 2012 from Kettering College and now works as an emergency room nurse at Kettering Medical Center. Registered nursing offers a median pay of \$31.10 per hour, according to the bureau.

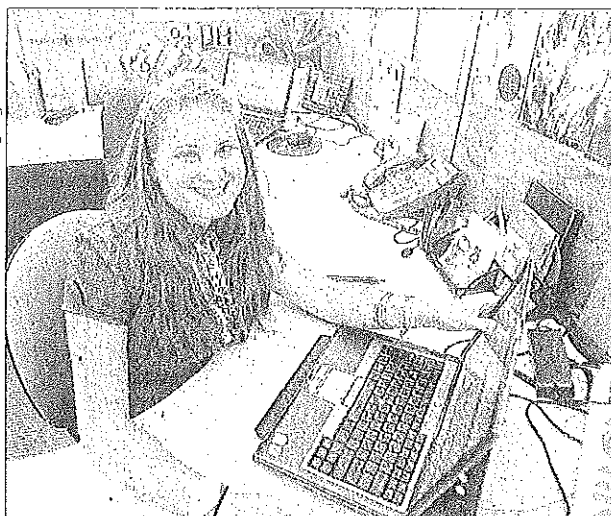
"I wanted a degree in nursing so I could help people and serve," the former Air Force medic said. "I'm so pleased. I wouldn't change anything."

Having educated residents is also important to the city and the region to keep the jobs they have and recruit new employers, said Tom Lasley, ex-

ecutive director of Learn to Earn Dayton, a nonprofit of educators and business leaders aiming to raise the educational attainment of people in the area.

"If you look around the country, all the large cities are concerned about the amount of intellectual capital that they have and whether there's a good match between the intellectual capital and the jobs they now have in place or the jobs they want," he said.

"The capacity for economic development is tied to intellectual capital within a community," he said.



Nicole Chrostowski (left), a customer care consultant at Sunglass Hut in Mason, and Kristy McKinney, a nurse at Kettering Medical Center, have found that their skills have value in the current economy. STAFF PHOTOS BY GREG LYNCH AND JIM WITMER

## OHIO JOB OPENINGS 2010-2020 (IN THOUSANDS)

Occupation	Less than high school	High school diploma	Some college/no degree	Associate degree	Bachelor's degree	Master's degree or better
Managerial and Professional Office	3	32	42	22	101	51
STEM	0	7	13	10	37	16
Social Sciences	0	0	0	0	3	5
Community Services and Arts	0	6	9	7	42	18
Education	1	7	6	4	30	62
Healthcare Professional and Technical	0	9	14	32	28	30
Healthcare Support	6	31	27	13	4	1
Food and Personal Services	38	143	81	28	30	4
Sales and Office Support	16	158	155	54	110	17
Blue Collar	47	231	95	28	21	2
Total	112	623	441	196	406	206

SOURCE: GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY CENTER ON EDUCATION AND THE WORKFORCE