

## EASTERN WORKFORCE BOARD

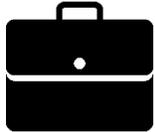


### Education and Employment (2018 Data)



Over **317,000** Eastern citizens  
(8% OK total pop., 2017)

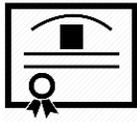
**199,818** residents of typical working age  
(15-64 years old)



**51.8%** labor force participation  
(57.9% OK, 60.2% US – 2016)

**4.8%** unemployment rate  
(4.0% OK, 4.1% US – February 2018)

**3.8%** proj. working age pop. *decrease* by 2028



**51.3%** of residents have a high school degree or less  
(45.7% OK; 41.9% US)

**17.9%** of residents have a Bachelor's degree or higher  
(23.8% OK, 29.5% US)



**18%** Credential Gap projected by 2028

**43,600** more people will need some college or industry credentials



**4,912** square miles



**44.3%** of Eastern residents remain in area for employment  
(2017)



**2** CareerTechs with **5** locations



**5** colleges & universities

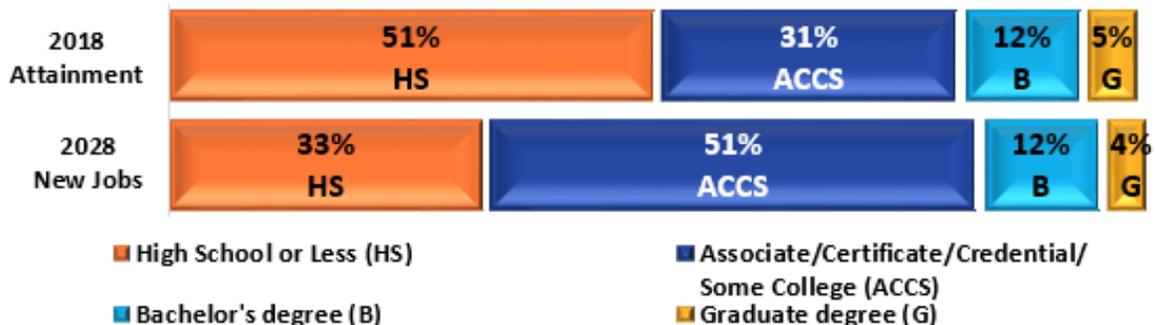


**63** K-12 school districts



**7** One-stop centers  
(1 comprehensive, 2 affiliate, 4 specialized)

### Eastern Oklahoma Workforce Development Area Workforce Gap



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### **Overarching Vision based on EWB Local Plan**

Promote comprehensive workforce solutions that result in quality workforce improvement, reduced welfare dependency, increase economic self-sufficiency, meeting the skill requirements of employers, and enhancing productivity and competitiveness.

### **Key EWB Workforce Development Issues + proposed solutions**

- **Skills gap deficiency (hard and soft skills)** – collaboration between local businesses and K-12 education institutions to hold forums with parents and students to discuss the direct impact of education and training to employment opportunities in the area
- **Supportive services for the communities at large** – provide financial literacy as well as other tools to employers through business services
- **Streamlined One Stop for Business Services** – increased communication through a single source of contact for all organizations and business participants
- **Perception of the Workforce System** – increased communication, partnering and educating business and industry partners on the workforce system

*From Eastern Local Plan (2017)*

Ecosystem Comparison Eastern Oklahoma Workforce Development Area				
Ecosystem	Estimated Net Job Growth (2016-2025)	Ecosystem Growth Rate (2016-2025)	Average Annual Earnings	Comments
Aerospace and Defense	234	8.7%	\$50,756	
Agriculture and Bioscience	-10	0.0%	\$46,223	
Energy	317	16.2%	\$53,230	Second highest growth rate.
Information and Financial Services	255	9.1%	\$59,694	Second highest average earnings.
Transportation and Distribution	324	9.5%	\$59,315	
Construction	1,448	13.9%	\$42,781	Most new jobs created.
Education	595	6.1%	\$51,536	
Health Care	1,002	7.6%	\$45,598	Second in new job creation.
Manufacturing	988	29.0%	\$65,371	Highest growth rate. Highest average earnings.

References:

Eastern Oklahoma Workforce Area Labor Market Briefing, June 2017  
 Eastern Workforce Development Area Snapshot, May 2018  
 Eastern Workforce Investment Board Local Workforce Development Plan, July 2017