



COLORADO

**UNPRECEDENTED OPPORTUNITY:
MEETING COLORADO'S WORKFORCE DEMANDS OF NEW CLEAN
ENERGY, MANUFACTURING, AND INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENTS**

The historic investments of three federal laws—the Inflation Reduction Act, the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, and the CHIPS and Science Act—will create tens of thousands of new jobs in Colorado. But, not enough has been invested in education and training to equip

workers with the skills they need to succeed. Here are the key facts from a study commissioned by National Skills Coalition and BlueGreen Alliance and conducted by the University of Massachusetts—Amherst Political Economy Research Institute.

31,000 Total jobs per year expected to be generated in Colorado by investments from the Inflation Reduction Act, the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, and the CHIPS and Science Act programs over their lifetime.

1 IN 3 Ratio of jobs created by these three investments that are expected to occur in the construction and manufacturing sectors, representing 7,000 and 3,000 Colorado jobs annually, respectively.

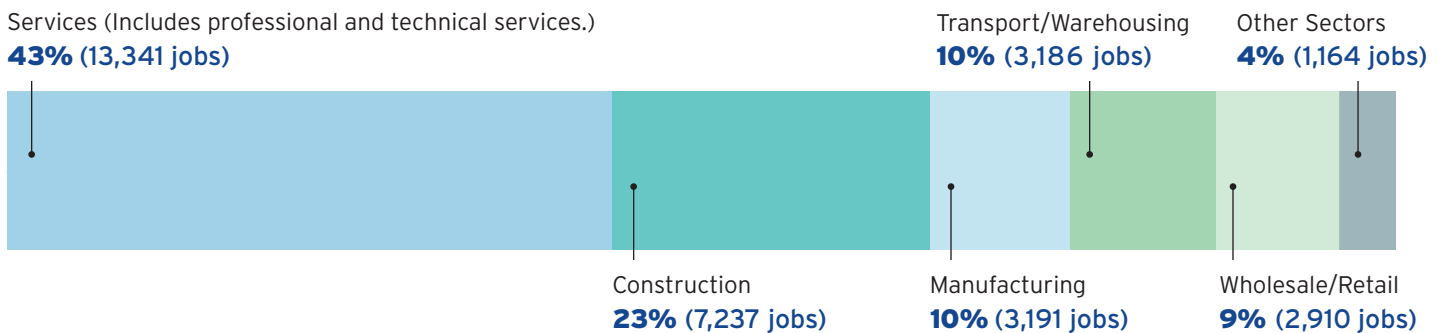
62% Percentage of jobs directly created by these three investments available to workers without a bachelor's degree.

\$28.10/hr Median hourly wage of jobs directly created by these three investments—that's 4% higher than the median hourly wage of \$27 for the entire Colorado workforce.

22% Percentage of women workers in the job categories covered by these three investments compared to 46% in Colorado's workforce overall.

30% Percentage of people of color in the job categories covered by these investments, nearly identical to the 29% in Colorado's workforce overall.

31,000 Jobs Created in Major Sectors Each Year in Colorado through BIL, IRA, and CHIPS





WHAT SHOULD WE DO?

These historic investments will transform Colorado's physical landscape and create tens of thousands of jobs. This is a once-in-a-generation opportunity to strengthen the backbone of our economy – the blue collar, middle-class jobs that require skills training. The job opportunities created by these investments are a tremendous opportunity for workers in fields and occupations that require education or training past high school, but not a four-year degree. But to realize the possibilities, Colorado must build a diverse, multi-generational infrastructure and clean energy workforce.

Read the full data brief from the National Skills Coalition and BlueGreen Alliance at nationalskillscoalition.org.

Specifically, Colorado should:

- **Invest in additional industry partnerships and local hiring initiatives**, to support recruitment, retention, and career advancement for people of color and women in infrastructure and clean energy sectors.
- **Provide economic support and break down barriers that hinder access to training**, including economic supports for childcare and transportation that are key to expanding access and inclusion in skills training.
- **Elevate job quality** by advancing policies and strategies that help workers advance to higher-skill and higher-paid occupations, and boost health coverage and retirement benefits, among other job quality supports.

WHAT KIND OF NEW JOBS WILL BE CREATED BY THESE NEW INVESTMENTS?

New jobs include a wide variety of frontline and managerial roles, in the field as well as in the office. Some examples include:

- Bookkeeping clerks and financial managers
- Computer support specialists
- Construction laborers and managers
- Customer service representatives
- Driver/sales workers and truck drivers
- Electricians
- Precision instrument and equipment repairers
- Production, planning, and expediting clerks
- Telecommunications line installers and repairers



NATIONAL SKILLS COALITION

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The National Skills Coalition fights for inclusive, high-quality skills training so that people have access to a better life, and local businesses see sustained growth. We engage in analysis and technical assistance, organizing, advocacy, and communications to improve state and federal skills policies. Learn more at nationalskillscoalition.org and follow us [@skillscoalition](https://twitter.com/skillscoalition).



BLUEGREEN ALLIANCE

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The BlueGreen Alliance unites labor unions and environmental organizations to solve today's environmental challenges in ways that create and maintain quality jobs and build a clean, thriving, and equitable economy. Learn more at bluegreenalliance.org and follow us [@BGAlliance](https://twitter.com/BGAlliance).