

BRING BACK THE TRADES RESEARCH RESULTS 2026

Construction | Plumbers | Electricians | Carpenters | Mechanics | HVAC | Welders



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BRING BACK THE TRADES

- Founded in 2017, formalized as a nonprofit 501(c)(3) in 2019
- Mission: Raise awareness & respect for the opportunities in the skilled trades
- Scholarships for trade students - throughout the year & at events
- Educate on the viability of the trades (speak with teachers, parents, others)
- Skills Expos to raise awareness via experiences; reduce the stigma
- Connect educators, civic leaders and industry
- Research to educate and advocate for the trades opportunities

THANK YOU TO OUR RESEARCH SPONSOR



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WHERE WE STARTED

For every 5 tradespeople retiring, there are only 2 coming in from the next generation



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WE WANTED TO LEARN MORE

**Which Trades Will Have the Most Need?
Does the Need Vary by State/Region?**



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WE SECURED EXPERT RESEARCH TEAMS



**University of
New Hampshire**



**PARKER
STRATEGY
GROUP**

WHERE THE DATA COMES FROM

U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics data for 7 Selected Trades

Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics (Baseline and Median Wages)
Occupational Outlook Handbook (Projections by 2030)



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WHAT IS THE METHODOLOGY?

IMPLAN

Impacts are based on jobs and median salary (Baseline and Gap)



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WHAT WE LEARNED – FAST FACTS



PROJECTED JOB OPENINGS SELECTED TRADES (THROUGH 2030)

Construction **976,980**

Electricians **411,400**

Carpenters **425,345**

Mechanics **207,065**

Plumbers **243,790**

Welders **242,425**

HVAC **192,365**

25% OF TRADES
JOBS WITHIN THESE
7 TRADES WILL BE
OPEN BY 2030



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WHAT WE LEARNED

NATIONAL



PROJECTED SKILLED WORKER GAP NATIONALLY

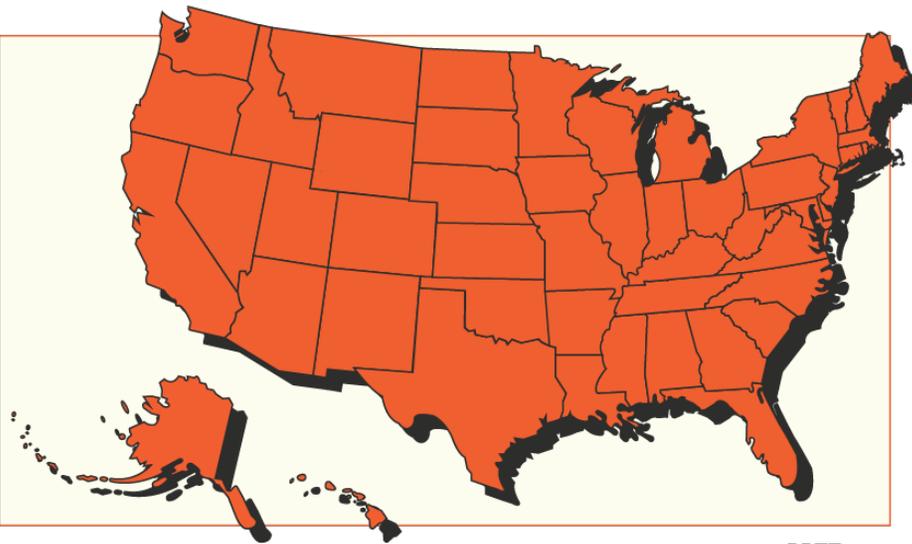
By 2030

\$325.6B

Lost in
GDP Impact

1.4M

Trade Jobs
Unfilled Nationally



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WHAT WE LEARNED

NATIONAL

	Current Impact (2024)	Current People in Trades (2024)	↓	↓	↓	↓
			Total GDP Lost	Trades Jobs Not Filled	Total Jobs Lost Throughout the Economy	Total Tax Revenue Lost (Local, State, and Federal)
Projected Annual Loss to the Economy by 2030						
NEW ENGLAND	\$45.9B	178,640	\$11.1B	41,784	88,794	\$2.4B
MIDDLE ATLANTIC	\$159.3B	622,550	\$23.9B	91,600	193,137	\$5.2B
EAST NORTH CENTRAL	\$191.9B	768,640	\$41B	158,632	322,457	\$9B
WEST NORTH CENTRAL	\$99.2B	417,360	\$22.9B	95,027	192,344	\$5B
SOUTH ATLANTIC	\$229.8B	1,134,341	\$60.4B	292,663	548,818	\$13.2B
EAST SOUTH CENTRAL	\$68.2B	335,260	\$17.9B	85,975	161,699	\$3.9B
WEST SOUTH CENTRAL	\$148B	753,510	\$43.6B	216,264	401,328	\$9.6B
MOUNTAIN	\$111.9B	508,100	\$37.9B	169,477	330,269	\$8.3B
PACIFIC	\$242.9B	875,700	\$66.9B	238,744	522,323	\$14.7B
NATIONAL TOTAL	\$1.3T	5.6M	\$325.6B	1.4M	2.8M	\$71.3B

Source: Parker Strategy Group

Numbers in this report are subject to rounding and may not perfectly sum.

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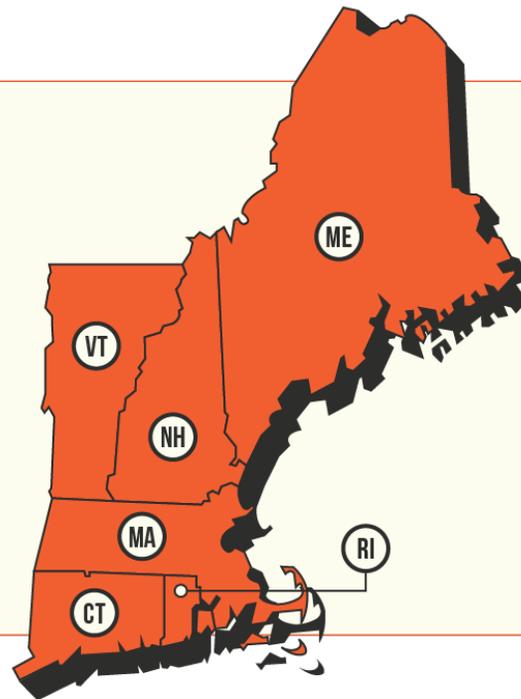
WHAT WE LEARNED

NEW ENGLAND



PROJECTED SKILLED WORKER GAP IN NEW ENGLAND

By 2030
\$11.1B
Lost in
GDP Impact
41,784
Trade Jobs
Unfilled in
the New
England Region



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WHAT WE LEARNED

NEW ENGLAND

	Current Impact (2024)	Current People in Trades (2024)	↓	↓	↓	↓
			Total GDP Lost	Trades Jobs Not Filled	Total Jobs Lost Throughout the Economy	Total Tax Revenue Lost (Local, State, and Federal)
Projected Annual Loss to the Economy by 2030						
CT CONNECTICUT	\$13.5B	51,550	\$3.8B	14,426	30,746	\$843.1M
ME MAINE	\$6.9B	29,490	\$525.7M	2,219	4,448	\$115.2M
MA MASSACHUSETTS	\$12B	41,110	\$3.4B	11,580	26,184	\$754.4M
NH NEW HAMPSHIRE	\$5.2B	21,990	\$1.3B	5,366	10,744	\$277.8M
RI RHODE ISLAND	\$5B	19,710	\$1.3B	5,112	10,600	\$283.5M
VT VERMONT	\$3.4B	14,970	\$705.1M	3,081	6,072	\$154.5M
REGION TOTAL	\$45.9B	178,640	\$11.1B	41,784	88,794	\$2.4B

Source: Parker Strategy Group

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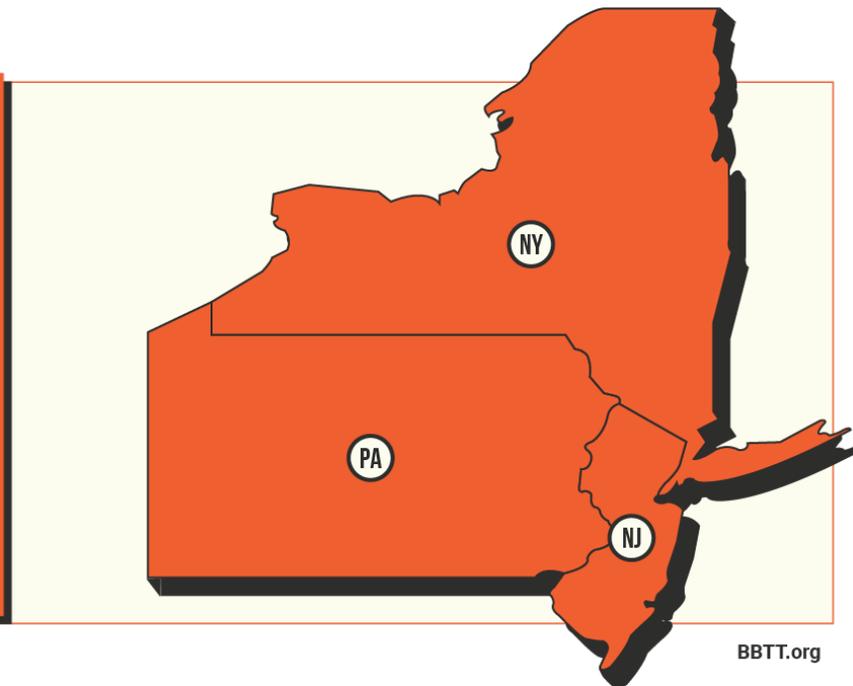
WHAT WE LEARNED

MID ATLANTIC



PROJECTED SKILLED WORKER GAP IN MIDDLE ATLANTIC

By 2030
\$23.9B
Lost in
GDP Impact
91,600
Trade Jobs
Unfilled in
the Middle
Atlantic Region



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WHAT WE LEARNED

MID ATLANTIC

	Current Impact (2024)	Current People in Trades (2024)	↓	↓	↓	↓
			Total GDP Lost	Trades Jobs Not Filled	Total Jobs Lost Throughout the Economy	Total Tax Revenue Lost (Local, State, and Federal)
Projected Annual Loss to the Economy by 2030						
NJ NEW JERSEY	\$34.4B	126,810	\$7.6B	27,430	59,532	\$1.7B
NY NEW YORK	\$77.2B	289,520	\$7B	24,717	54,446	\$1.5B
PA PENNSYLVANIA	\$47.6B	206,220	\$9.4B	39,453	79,159	\$2.1B
REGION TOTAL	\$159.3B	622,550	\$23.9B	91,600	193,137	\$5.2B

Source: Parker Strategy Group Numbers in this report are subject to rounding and may not perfectly sum. BBTT.org



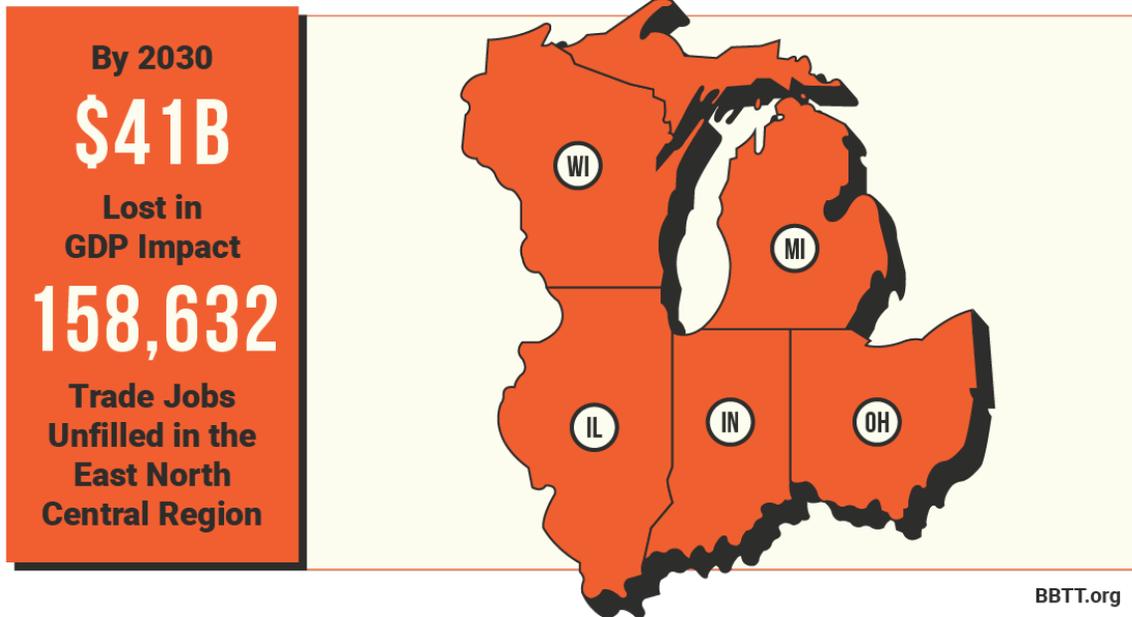
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WHAT WE LEARNED

EAST NORTH CENTRAL



PROJECTED SKILLED WORKER GAP IN EAST NORTH CENTRAL



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WHAT WE LEARNED

EAST NORTH CENTRAL

		Current Impact (2024)	Current People in Trades (2024)	↓	↓	↓	↓
				Total GDP Lost	Trades Jobs Not Filled	Total Jobs Lost Throughout the Economy	Total Tax Revenue Lost (Local, State, and Federal)
Projected Annual Loss to the Economy by 2030							
IL	ILLINOIS	\$49.1B	165,300	\$10.9B	35,542	81,864	\$2.4B
IN	INDIANA	\$30.3B	130,580	\$5.7B	23,975	48,210	\$1.3B
MI	MICHIGAN	\$41.2B	170,040	\$6.9B	27,102	56,178	\$1.5B
OH	OHIO	\$42B	184,640	\$8.9B	37,934	75,700	\$2B
WI	WISCONSIN	\$29.2B	118,080	\$8.6B	34,079	70,505	\$1.9B
REGION TOTAL		\$191.9B	768,640	\$41B	158,632	322,457	\$9B

Source: Parker Strategy Group

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WHAT WE LEARNED

WEST NORTH CENTRAL



PROJECTED SKILLED WORKER GAP IN WEST NORTH CENTRAL

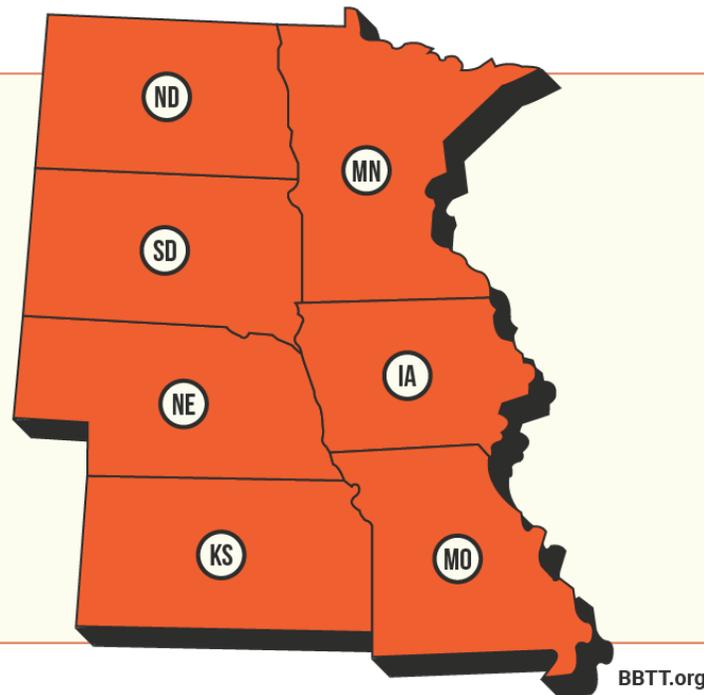
By 2030

\$22.9B

Lost in
GDP Impact

95,027

Trade Jobs
Unfilled in the
West North
Central Region



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WHAT WE LEARNED

WEST NORTH CENTRAL

		Current Impact (2024)	Current People in Trades (2024)	↓	↓	↓	↓
				Total GDP Lost	Trades Jobs Not Filled	Total Jobs Lost Throughout the Economy	Total Tax Revenue Lost (Local, State, and Federal)
Projected Annual Loss to the Economy by 2030							
IA	IOWA	\$15.1B	67,630	\$4.4B	19,183	37,638	\$953.4M
KS	KANSAS	\$11.9B	55,040	\$2.7B	11,834	23,107	\$582.4M
MN	MINNESOTA	\$30.2B	112,380	\$6.1B	22,033	48,076	\$1.3B
MO	MISSOURI	\$23.7B	98,880	\$5B	20,305	41,304	\$1.1B
NE	NEBRASKA	\$9.7B	44,470	\$2.4B	10,600	20,657	\$519.5M
ND	NORTH DAKOTA	\$4.4B	18,460	\$1.3B	5,545	11,156	\$289.9M
SD	SOUTH DAKOTA	\$4.2B	20,500	\$1.2B	5,527	10,406	\$252.1M
REGION TOTAL		\$99.2B	417,360	\$22.9B	95,027	192,344	\$5B

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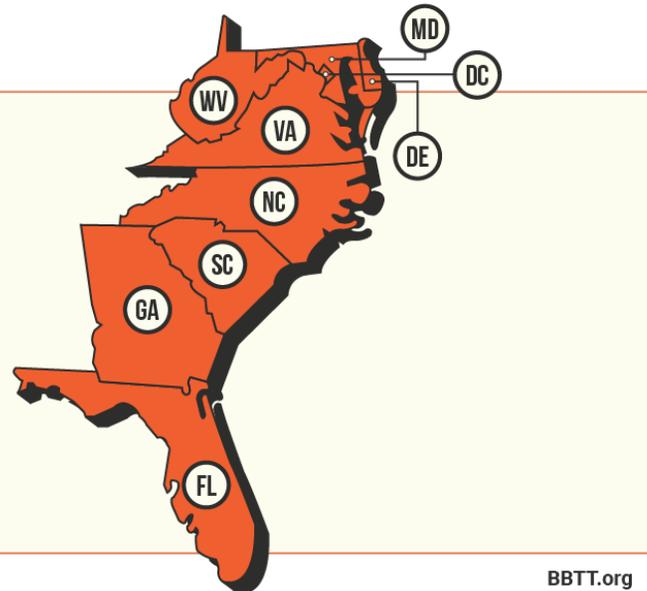
WHAT WE LEARNED

SOUTH ATLANTIC



PROJECTED SKILLED WORKER GAP IN SOUTH ATLANTIC

By 2030
\$60.4B
Lost in
GDP Impact
292,663
Trade Jobs
Unfilled in
the South
Atlantic Region



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WHAT WE LEARNED

SOUTH ATLANTIC

		Current Impact (2024)	Current People in Trades (2024)	↓	↓	↓	↓
				Total GDP Lost	Trades Jobs Not Filled	Total Jobs Lost Throughout the Economy	Total Tax Revenue Lost (Local, State, and Federal)
Projected Annual Loss to the Economy by 2030							
DE	DELAWARE	\$3.3B	14,270	\$783.3M	3,297	6,619	\$171.7M
DC	DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA	\$9.4B	35,221	\$2.4B	8,751	19,010	\$530M
FL	FLORIDA	\$72.5B	380,040	\$21.2B	109,431	199,294	\$4.6B
GA	GEORGIA	\$26.8B	133,940	\$9B	43,954	82,335	\$2B
MD	MARYLAND	\$22.8B	100,210	\$5.6B	24,179	48,128	\$1.2B
NC	NORTH CAROLINA	\$39.4B	201,340	\$9.8B	48,946	90,462	\$2.1B
SC	SOUTH CAROLINA	\$17.6B	88,230	\$4B	19,394	36,501	\$883.8M
VA	VIRGINIA	\$32.1B	150,320	\$6.3B	28,647	55,288	\$1.4B
WV	WEST VIRGINIA	\$6B	30,770	\$1.2B	6,064	11,181	\$264.4M
REGION TOTAL		\$229.8B	1,134,341	\$60.4B	292,663	548,818	\$13.2B

Source: Parker Strategy Group

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WHAT WE LEARNED

EAST SOUTH CENTRAL



PROJECTED SKILLED WORKER GAP IN EAST SOUTH CENTRAL

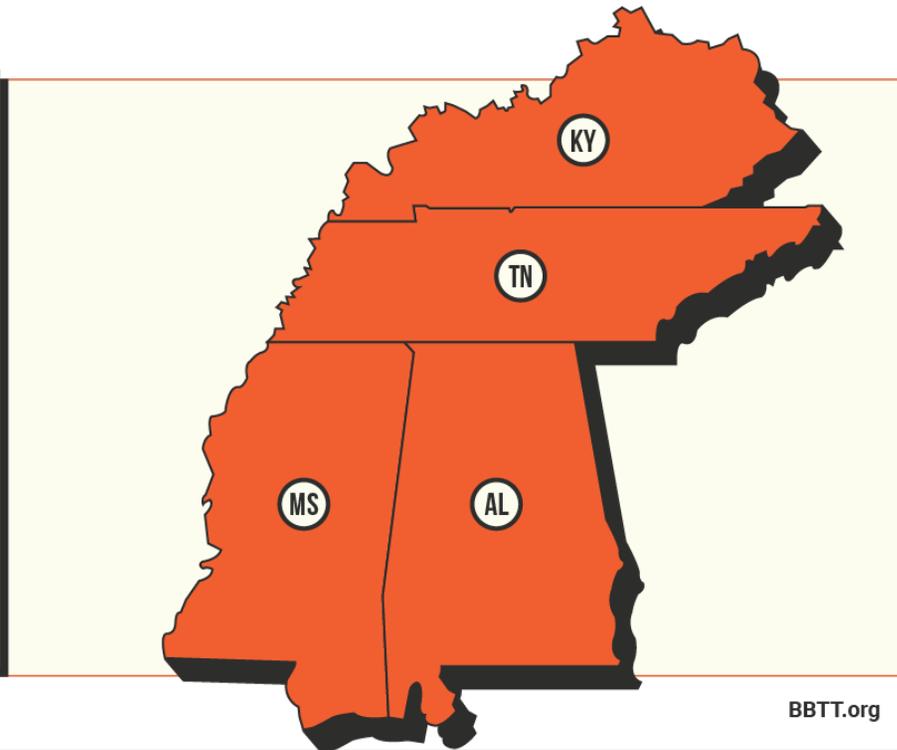
By 2030

\$17.9B

Lost in
GDP Impact

85,975

Trade Jobs
Unfilled in the
East South
Central Region



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WHAT WE LEARNED

EAST SOUTH CENTRAL

		Current Impact (2024)	Current People in Trades (2024)	↓ Total GDP Lost	↓ Trades Jobs Not Filled	↓ Total Jobs Lost Throughout the Economy	↓ Total Tax Revenue Lost (Local, State, and Federal)
Projected Annual Loss to the Economy by 2030							
AL	ALABAMA	\$18.4B	95,720	\$4.1B	20,409	37,941	\$905.7M
KY	KENTUCKY	\$15.6B	71,010	\$3.2B	14,076	27,580	\$697.6M
MS	MISSISSIPPI	\$8.5B	43,350	\$2.8B	13,768	25,469	\$604.5M
TN	TENNESSEE	\$25.8B	125,180	\$7.8B	37,722	70,710	\$1.7B
REGION TOTAL		\$68.2B	335,260	\$17.9B	85,975	161,699	\$3.9B

Source: Parker Strategy Group Numbers in this report are subject to rounding and may not perfectly sum. **BBTT.org**



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WHAT WE LEARNED

WEST SOUTH CENTRAL



PROJECTED SKILLED WORKER GAP IN WEST SOUTH CENTRAL

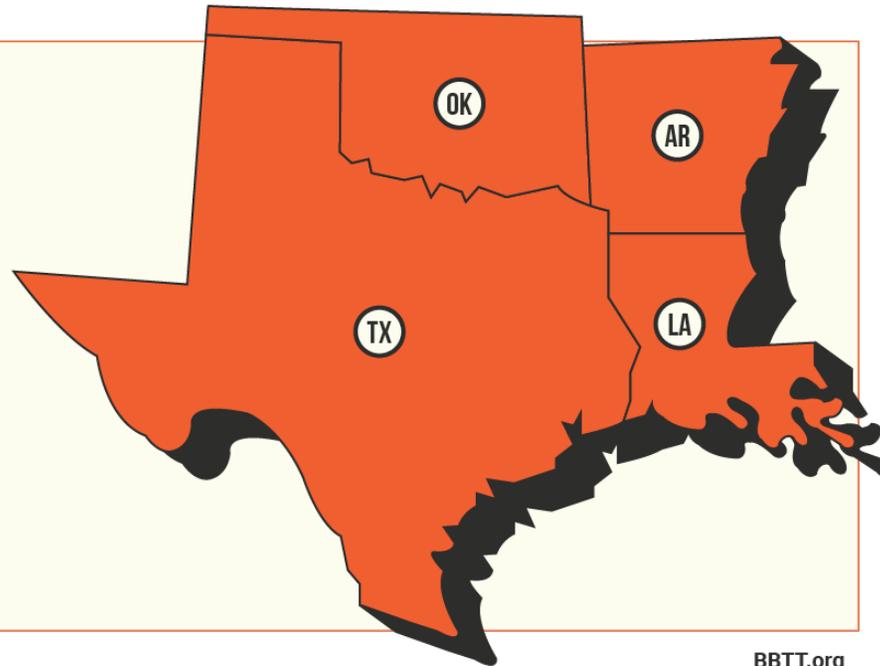
By 2030

\$43.6B

Lost in
GDP Impact

216,264

Trade Jobs
Unfilled in the
West South
Central Region



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WHAT WE LEARNED

WEST SOUTH CENTRAL

	Current Impact (2024)	Current People in Trades (2024)	↓	↓	↓	↓
			Total GDP Lost	Trades Jobs Not Filled	Total Jobs Lost Throughout the Economy	Total Tax Revenue Lost (Local, State, and Federal)
Projected Annual Loss to the Economy by 2030						
AR ARKANSAS	\$9.5B	50,950	\$2.3B	11,776	21,338	\$494M
LA LOUISIANA	\$20.5B	98,120	\$6B	27,747	53,150	\$1.3B
OK OKLAHOMA	\$13.4B	65,500	\$3B	14,616	27,457	\$663.4M
TX TEXAS	\$104.5B	538,940	\$32.4B	162,125	299,383	\$7.1B
REGION TOTAL	\$148B	753,510	\$43.6B	216,264	401,328	\$9.6B

Source: Parker Strategy Group

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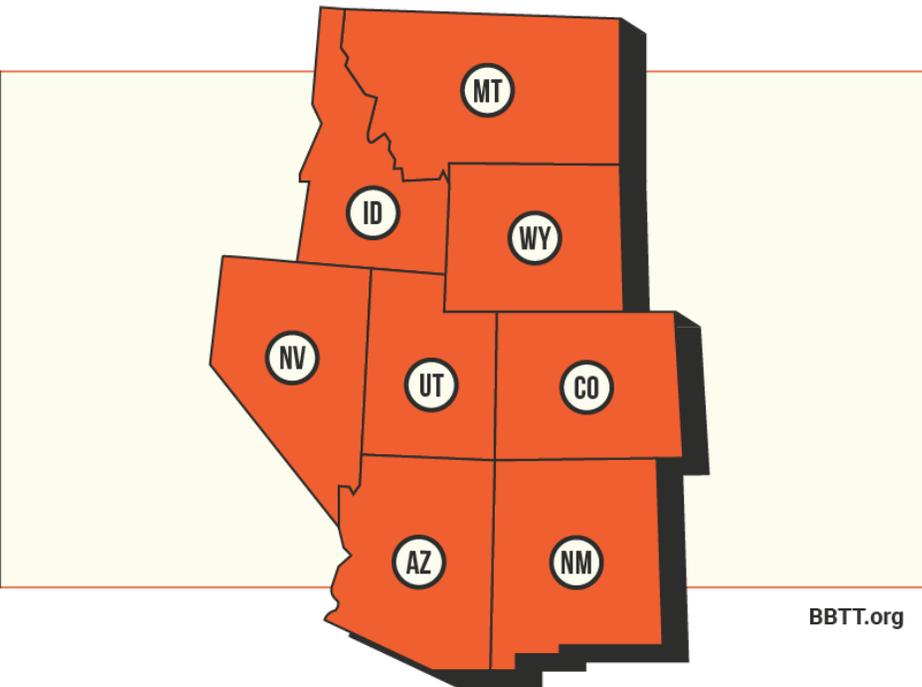
WHAT WE LEARNED

MOUNTAIN



PROJECTED SKILLED WORKER GAP IN MOUNTAIN

By 2030
\$37.9B
Lost in
GDP Impact
169,477
Trade Jobs
Unfilled in the
Mountain Region



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WHAT WE LEARNED

MOUNTAIN

		Current Impact (2024)	Current People in Trades (2024)	↓	↓	↓	↓
				Total GDP Lost	Trades Jobs Not Filled	Total Jobs Lost Throughout the Economy	Total Tax Revenue Lost (Local, State, and Federal)
Projected Annual Loss to the Economy by 2030							
AZ	ARIZONA	\$26B	120,520	\$7.1B	31,965	62,194	\$12.6B
CO	COLORADO	\$27.4B	119,780	\$8.2B	35,213	70,013	\$1.8B
ID	IDAHO	\$10B	48,730	\$4.1B	19,890	37,394	\$904.3M
MT	MONTANA	\$5.5B	23,300	\$2.1B	8,776	17,775	\$464.9M
NV	NEVADA	\$13.5B	57,770	\$3.6B	15,130	30,294	\$783.4M
NM	NEW MEXICO	\$7.3B	37,630	\$2.1B	10,682	19,684	\$465.1M
UT	UTAH	\$17.9B	83,080	\$9.2B	41,858	80,802	\$2B
WY	WYOMING	\$4.1B	17,290	\$1.4B	5,963	12,113	\$317.7M
REGION TOTAL		\$111.9B	508,100	\$37.9B	169,477	330,269	\$8.3B

Source: Parker Strategy Group

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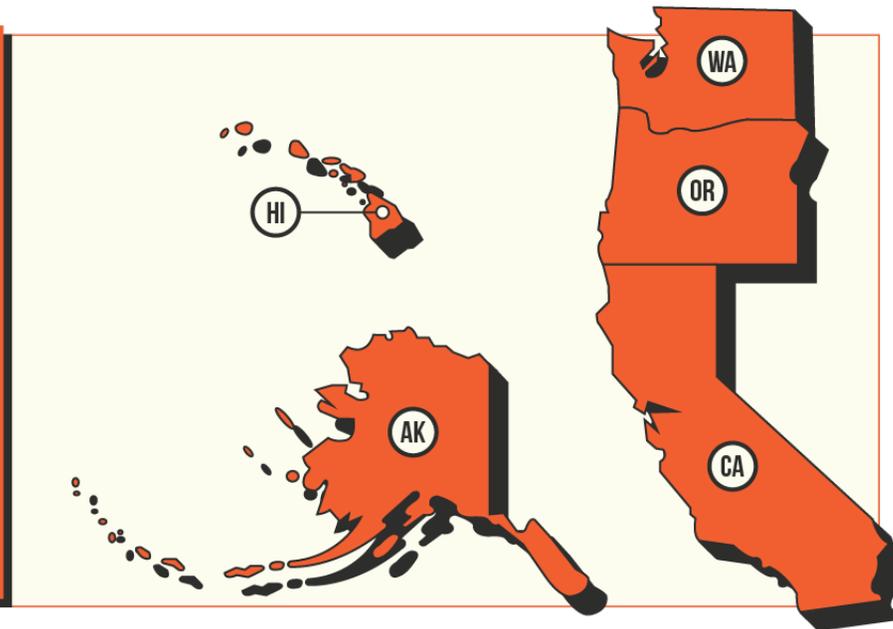
WHAT WE LEARNED

PACIFIC



PROJECTED SKILLED WORKER GAP IN PACIFIC

By 2030
\$66.9B
Lost in
GDP Impact
238,744
Trade Jobs
Unfilled in the
Pacific Region



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WHAT WE LEARNED

PACIFIC

		Current Impact (2024)	Current People in Trades (2024)	 Total GDP Lost	 Trades Jobs Not Filled	 Total Jobs Lost Throughout the Economy	 Total Tax Revenue Lost (Local, State, and Federal)
Projected Annual Loss to the Economy by 2030							
AK	ALASKA	\$3.2B	11,720	\$844.8M	2,950	6,533	\$185.1M
CA	CALIFORNIA	\$158.5B	574,100	\$41.9B	150,968	328,895	\$9.2B
HI	HAWAII	\$6.7B	21,930	\$1.7B	5,449	12,545	\$366.6M
OR	OREGON	\$21.4B	80,100	\$6.8B	24,327	53,272	\$1.5B
WA	WASHINGTON	\$53.1B	187,850	\$15.6B	55,050	121,078	\$3.4B
REGION TOTAL		\$242.9B	875,700	\$66.9B	238,744	522,323	\$14.7B

Source: Parker Strategy Group

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QUESTIONS?

We have some questions already submitted, but if you have any more or new questions, drop them in the Zoom chat!



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BRING BACK THE TRADES

Research Results 2026

Construction | Plumbers | Electricians | Carpenters | Mechanics | HVAC | Welders



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