The SREB Region's Economic Outlook

The Potential Impact of Automation and AI

SREB | Southern Regional
Education Board

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The SREB Region's Economic Outlook

Most of the 50 million workers in the region will be **affected by automation** in the coming decades

If state and business leaders do not act

18 million

workers and their children could be unemployable or stuck in low-wage jobs: **an endless cycle of poverty**

This multigenerational cycle, combined with rising workforce skill demands, means more workers of all educational attainment levels will be:

unemployed or underemployed

earning incomes below the poverty level

reliant on state services

Just 5% of jobs are completely automatable, but **44%** of all work activities have automation potential. In the **top 5 industries** the potential is often greater:

86%	63%	42%	69%	64%
Production	Transportation	Sales	Food Preparation & Serving	Office & Administrative

Note: The top five industries employ the most people.

37% workers **highly vulnerable** to rising workforce skill demands

59% vulnerable workers employed in the top 5 industries in 2016
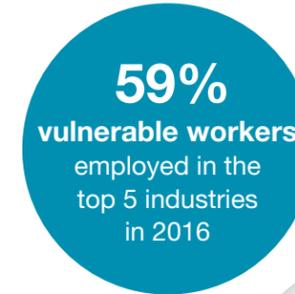
Business & industry will need increasing numbers of workers with middle & high skills

Are students prepared?

Parents today: 25 to 44 year-olds

37% had a high school credential or less in 2017

Of 8th graders whose parents had no education after high school

36% were **below Basic** on NAEP **reading** and

48% were **below Basic** on NAEP **math**

These percentages were just

22% **32%**

for students whose parents had some education beyond high school

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This infographic is the companion piece for SREB's brief *The SREB Region's Economic Outlook: The Potential Impact of Automation and AI*, one of several follow-up pieces to SREB's report *Unprepared and Unaware: Upskilling the Workforce for a Decade of Uncertainty*. For more information, contact Meagan Crowe at meagan.crowe@SREB.org or visit SREB.org/Workforce.