

# 2011 Survey of Connecticut's Manufacturing Workforce

Sponsored by

**COLLEGE OF  
TECHNOLOGY**  
Connecticut  
Community  
Colleges



 **J.H. COHN** LLP  
*Accountants and Consultants since 1919*

[www.nextgenmfg.org](http://www.nextgenmfg.org)

# Connecticut and Manufacturing

- 4,826 manufacturing establishments
- 167,900 manufacturing employees
  - 10.4% of private sector payroll
- 18<sup>th</sup> most intensive manufacturing state
- Manufacturing accounts for about 11.4% of Connecticut GSP

# Demographics and Manufacturing

- 7<sup>th</sup> oldest state, median age over 40
- Median age of a Connecticut manufacturing employee: 47 years old
- CT DOL projects the number of retirement age residents will increase 72% by 2030, while individuals 30-65 will decrease by 4%

# About the survey

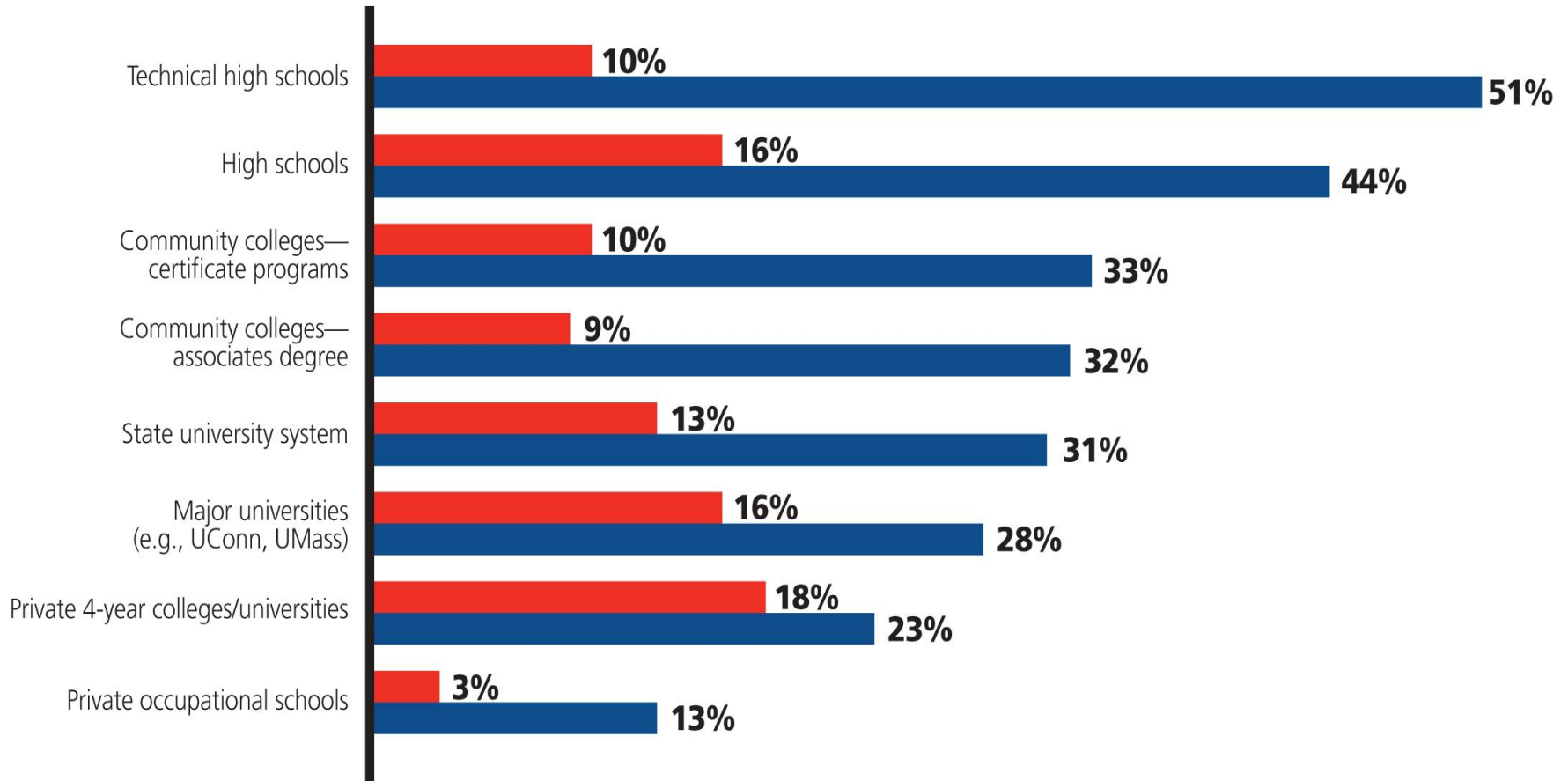
- Collaboration between the Connecticut Community Colleges' of Technology's Regional Center for Next Generation Manufacturing, J.H. Cohn and CBIA
- Topics included: workforce challenges, satisfaction levels, skill sets, needs, and demographics

# About the survey respondents

- Conducted in mid-April and early May 2011
- 273 manufacturers responded; 23% response rate
- Mostly small to mid-size companies represented
  - 60% employ fewer than 50 employees
- Cross-section of manufacturers
  - Respondents included: metals, aerospace, machinery, plastics/rubber, computer and electronics and many more.
- More than half have annual revenues over \$5 million

# WHERE ARE CONNECTICUT MANUFACTURERS FINDING WORKERS?

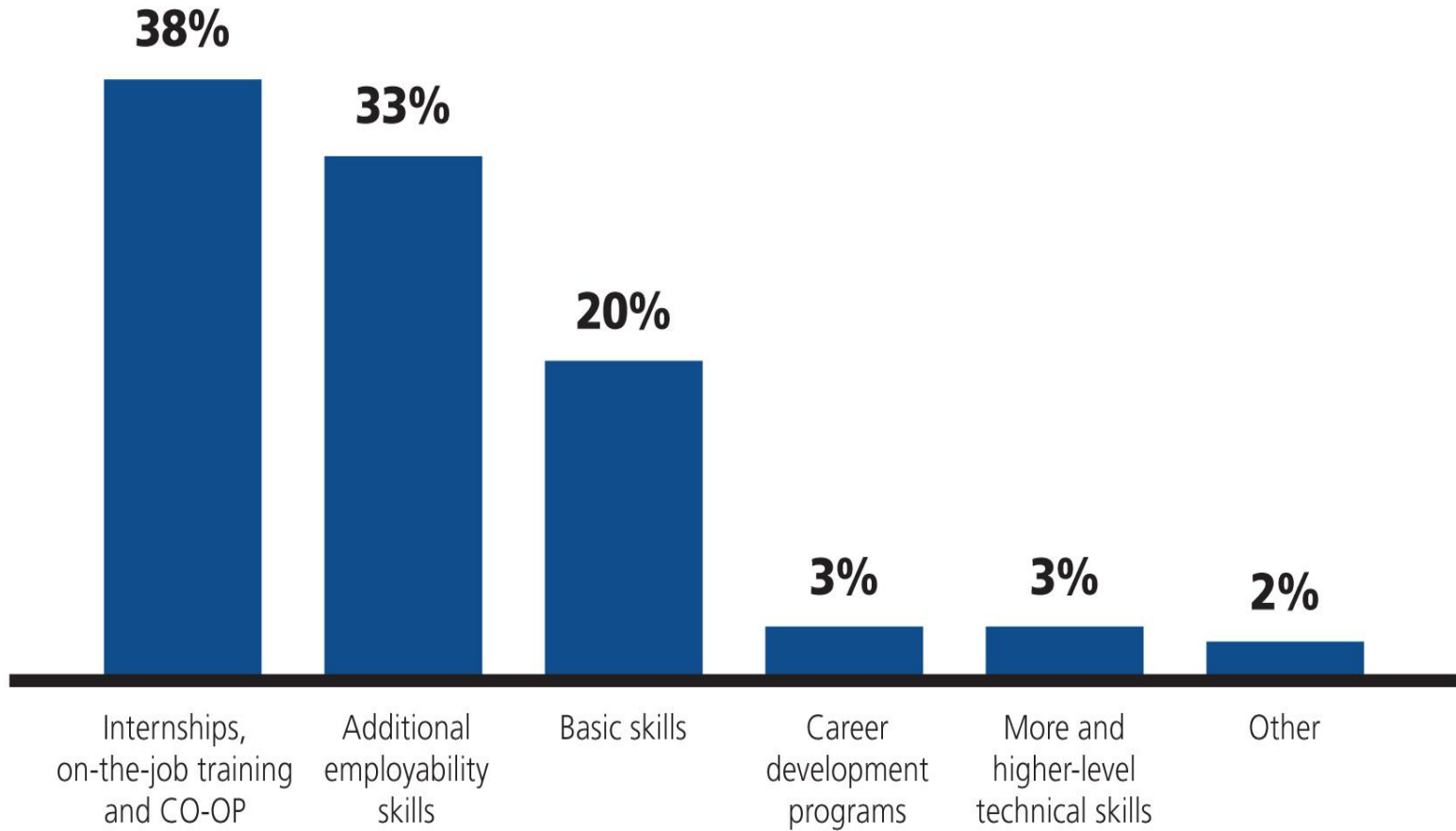
■ Institutions out of state ■ Institutions in Connecticut



# Satisfaction with graduates

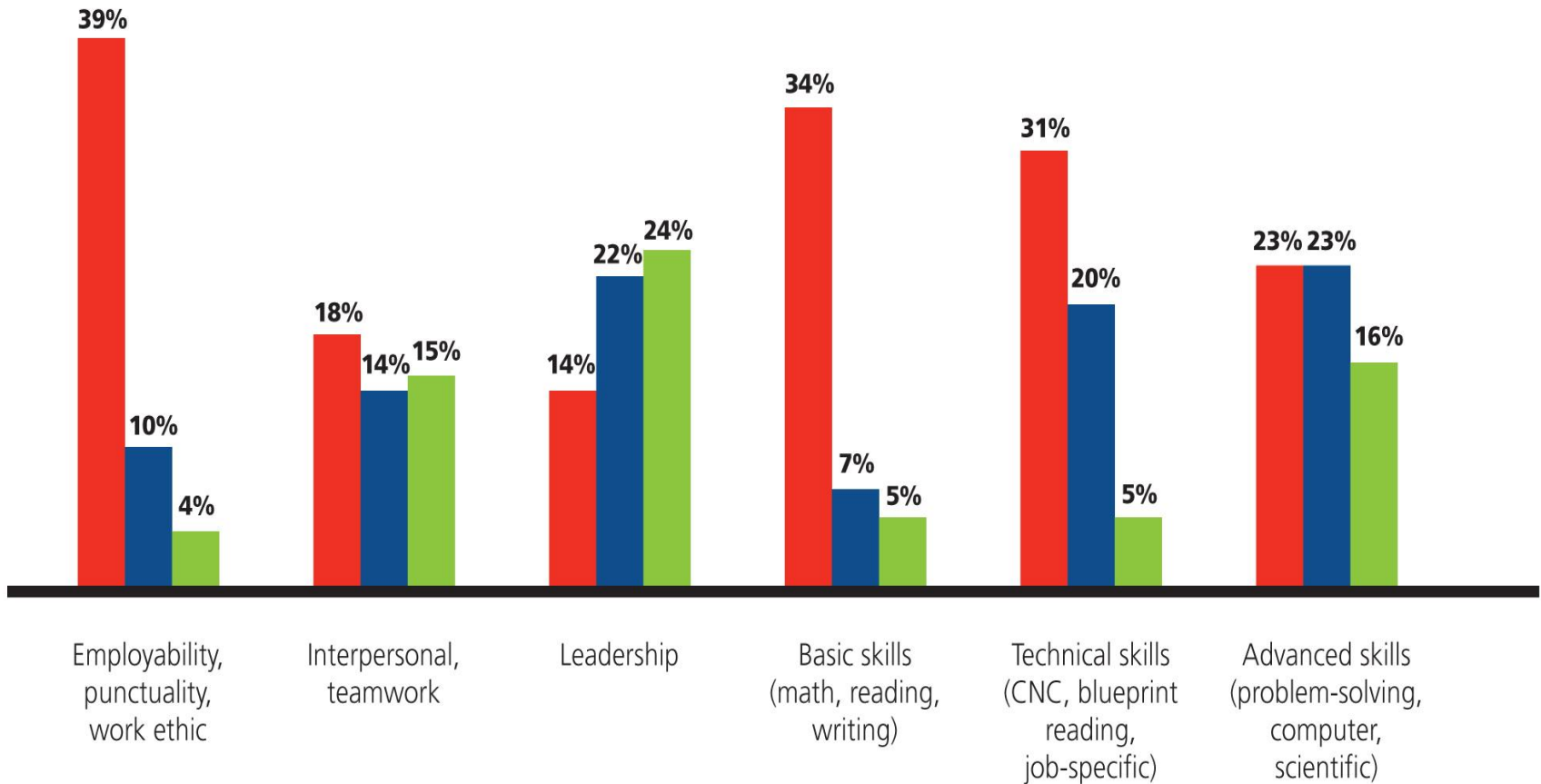
- Private 4-year colleges/universities: 80%
- State university system: 78%
- Private occupational colleges: 77%
- Community colleges (associates degree): 76%
- Major universities (e.g., Uconn, Umass): 74%
- Community colleges (certificate program): 71%

# IMPROVING THE JOB READINESS OF COMMUNITY COLLEGE GRADUATES

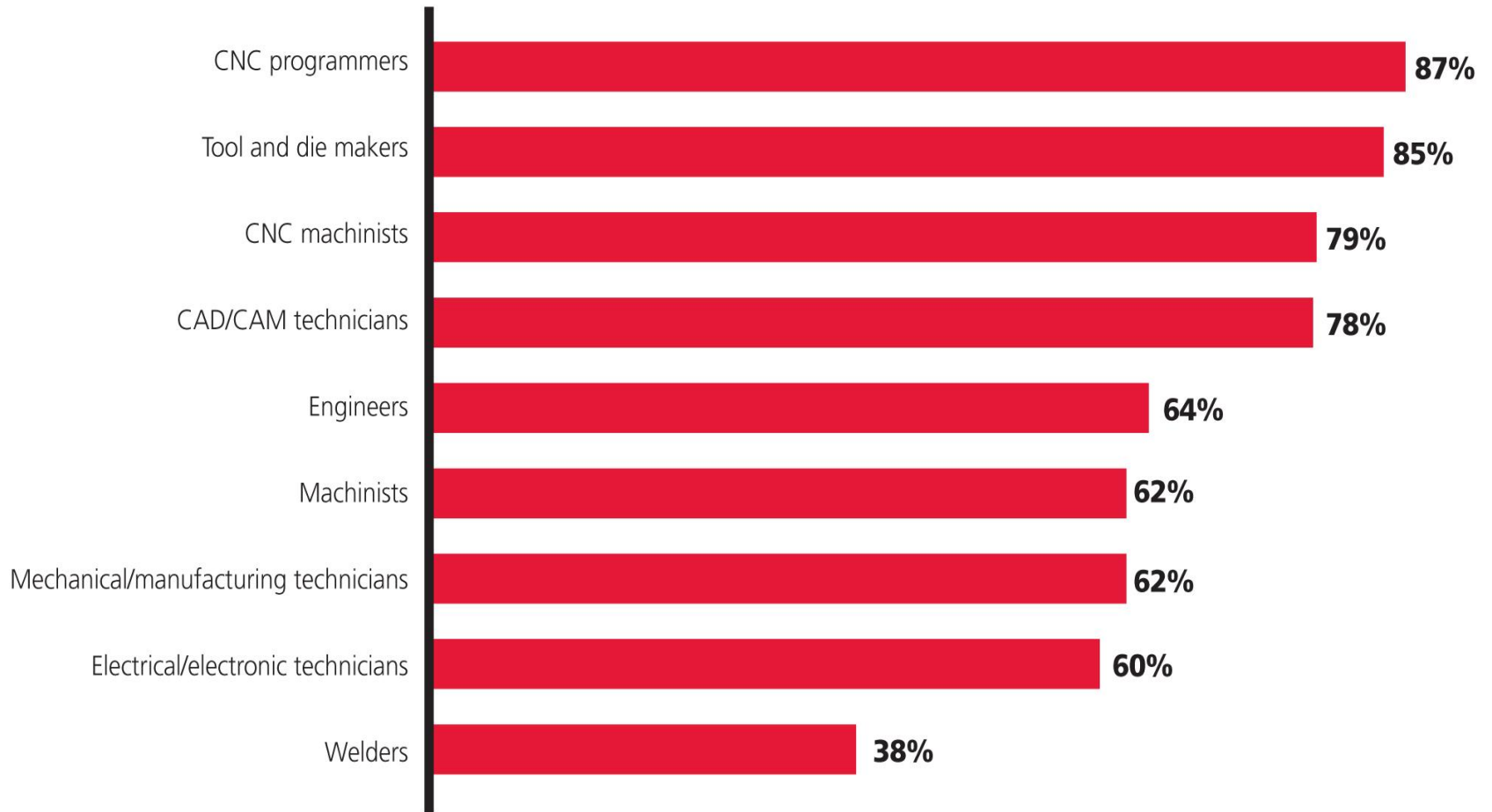


# WHAT SKILL SETS ARE MANUFACTURING WORKERS MISSING?

■ Entry-level ■ Mid-level ■ Management

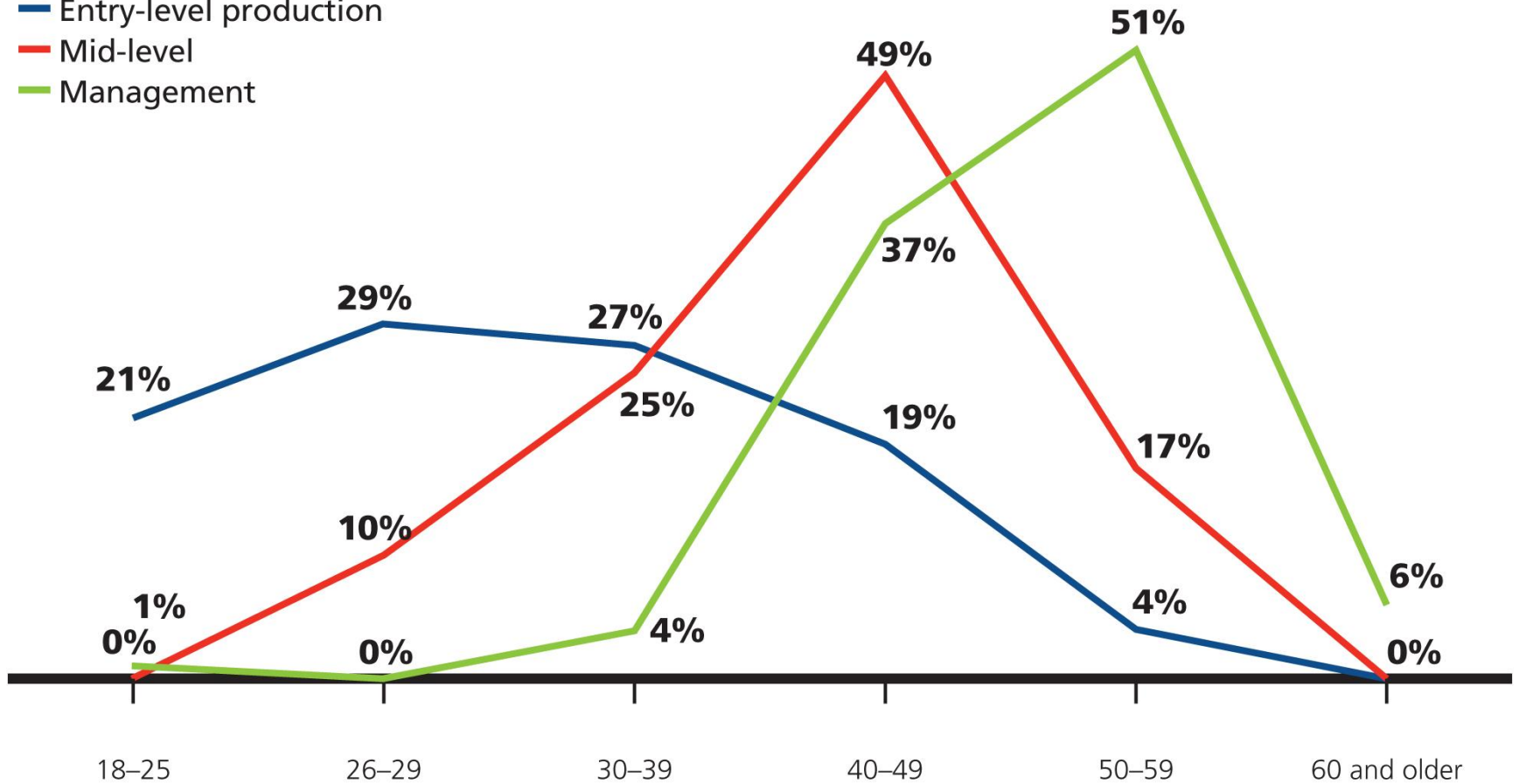


## RATED MOST DIFFICULT POSITIONS TO FILL



## ESTIMATED AVERAGE AGE OF WORKERS BY CAREER LEVEL

- Entry-level production
- Mid-level
- Management



# Additional findings

- Significant demand for specific trainings
  - Top responses include: blueprint reading, critical-thinking/problem solving, quality, CNC machining, CNC programming
- Number of retirements expected to increase
  - From 2% in 2011 to 7% in 2015/16
- Respondents expect growth over the next several years
  - From 3% in 2011 to 6% in 2015/16
- National credentials, certifications largely unknown but could offer employees a competitive advantage

Thank you again to our survey  
sponsors.

**COLLEGE OF  
TECHNOLOGY**  
Connecticut  
Community  
Colleges



[www.nextgenmfg.org](http://www.nextgenmfg.org)

 **J.H. COHN** LLP  
*Accountants and Consultants since 1919*