# Minnesota — The State of Tech Talent

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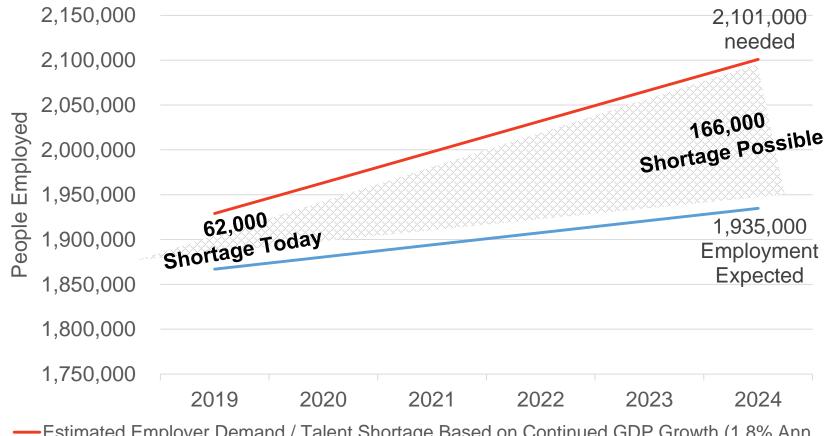






### **Our Region's Talent Shortage**

Possible Talent Shortage in the Minneapolis-Saint Paul 7-County Metro Area, 2019-2024 (Q2)



- Estimated Employer Demand / Talent Shortage Based on Continued GDP Growth (1.8% Ann. Employment Growth)
- Expected Employment in Tight Market based on DEED EO (0.7% Ann. Employment Growth)

#### Why?

#### **Insufficient Labor Pool**

- Not enough eligible workers to maintain economic growth
- Geographic mismatch of talent and opportunities
- Misalignment between supply and demand at the skills level

#### **Inefficient Labor Market**

- Persistent employment disparities
- Low job satisfaction and high turnover
- Ineffective means of finding talent

inspire > hire > retain

# Increasing Difficulty Recruiting IT Talent

**Metro Employment 2019Q2:** 78,092

**Unemployment:** 1.5% (about 1,145 IT professionals)

**Job Postings in 2019Q2:** 40,857 (+10% from prior year)

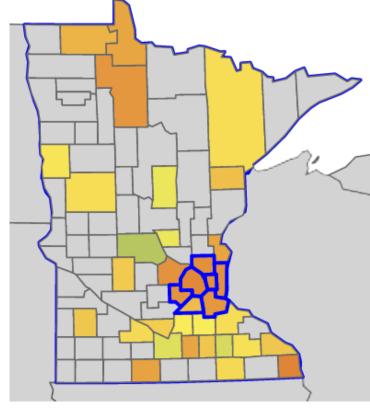
**Average Annual Wages (2018):** \$94,800

**Location Quotient: 1.36** 

#### 10,500 POSSIBLE TALENT SHORTAGE BY 2024Q2

Potential Candidates in the workforce: 91,000 Direct Employers currently competing: 1,482 Open Jobs posted by Direct Employers: 9,053





### **Greatest Challenges of the Tech Sector**

#### High Labor Shortage

• An estimated 20,000 Information Technology professionals short statewide by 2022, concentrated around metro areas but also growing into rural communities

#### High Talent Misalignment

- Educational requirements of positions do not match local talent skills
- Rapid upskilling and reskilling is required to keep pace with sector innovation

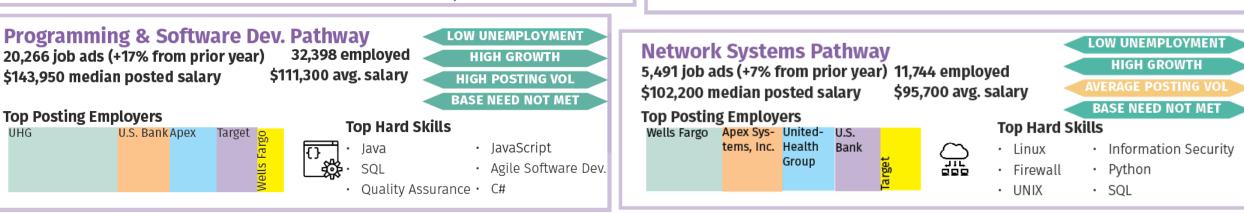
#### Low Sector Diversity

- Educational disparities are extreme
- Employers continue to use old recruitment practices and talent sources

# IT Pathways in Minneapolis-Saint Paul

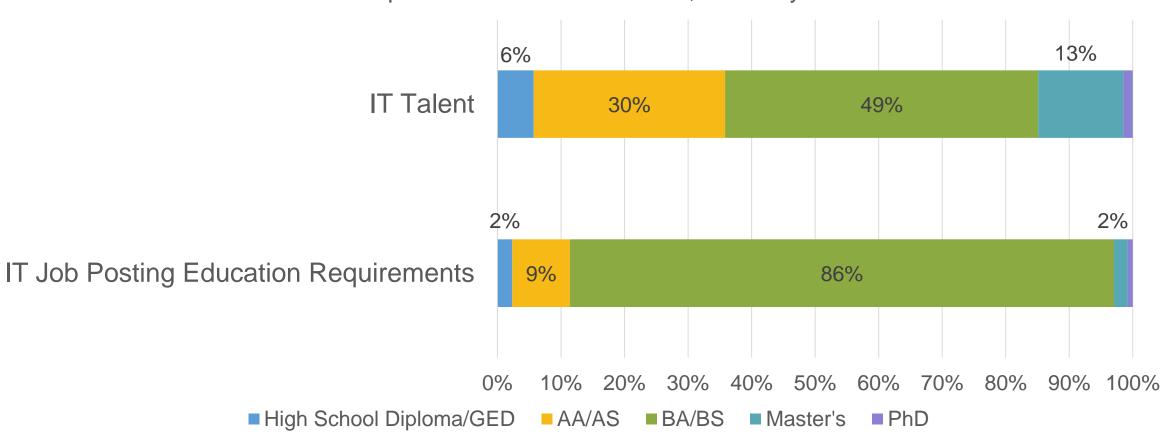
10,500 POSSIBLE TALENT SHORTAGE BY 2024Q2





# **Educational Misalignment in IT**

Educational Attainment and Job Requirements, Minneapolis-Saint Paul Metro Area, February 2020



# Digital Skills Are More Important Than Ever

71%

of U.S. jobs require mid- or high-level digital skills.<sup>1</sup>

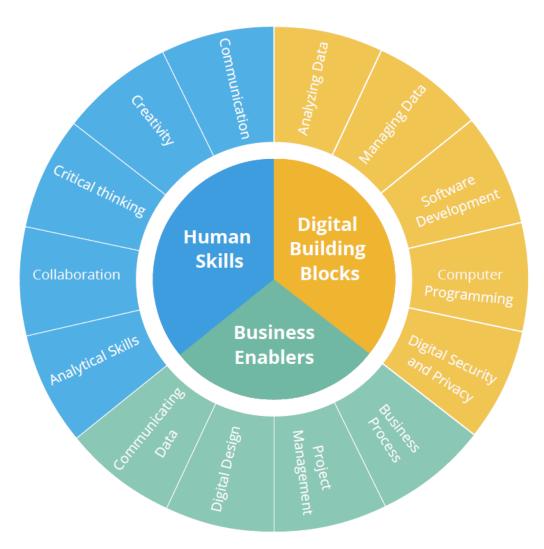
44%

of youth believe they are adequately prepared for the workforce.<sup>2</sup>

1 - XQ Institute, 2017.

#### **Tech: The New Essential Skills**

The New Foundational Skills for the Digital Economy



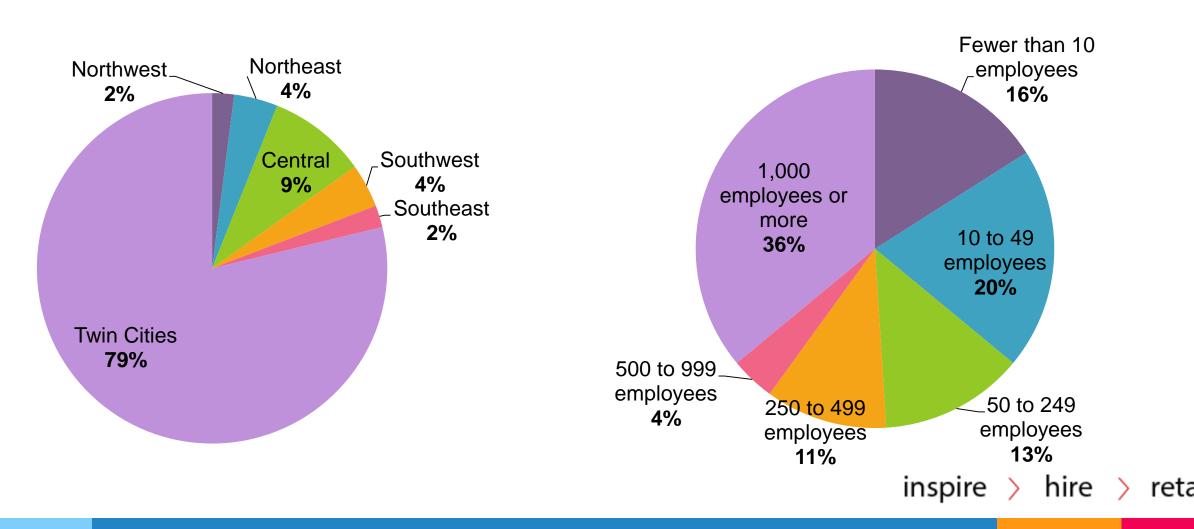
#### **These New Foundational Skills:**

- Earn significantly more.
- Increase in value as careers advance.
- Span a continuum of ability levels, from baseline to expert
- Can be developed.

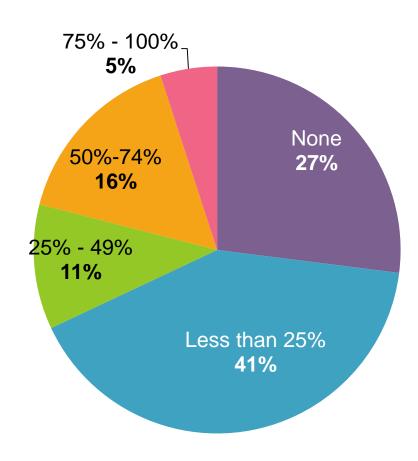
#### **Top Certifications on the Rise**

- Project Management Professional
- ✓ Certified Information Systems Security Professional
- Cisco Certifications (Network Associate most popular)
- Q/A Software Testing
- ✓ Certified Scrum Master
- ✓ ITIL v3 Foundations Certification
- ✓ Business Process Management Programming Languages
- ✓ Microsoft Certified Systems Engineer
- ✓ CompTIA A+ Certification

Profile of 91 Respondents to December 2019 Survey



Q: What percentage of tech talent in your organization is considered "contract employees"?

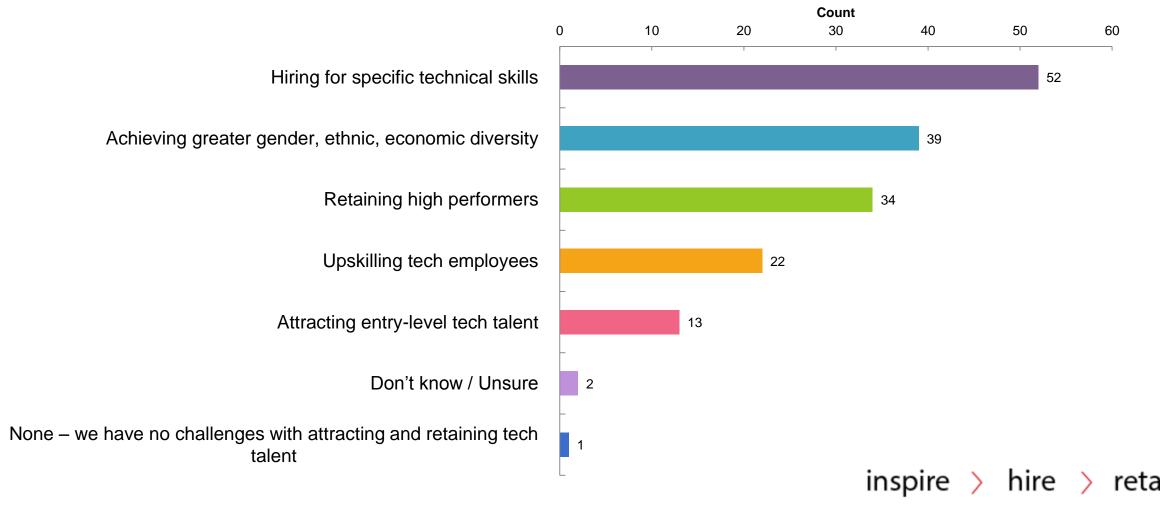


Q: On a scale of 1-5, how difficult is it for your organization to find tech talent for the following categories?

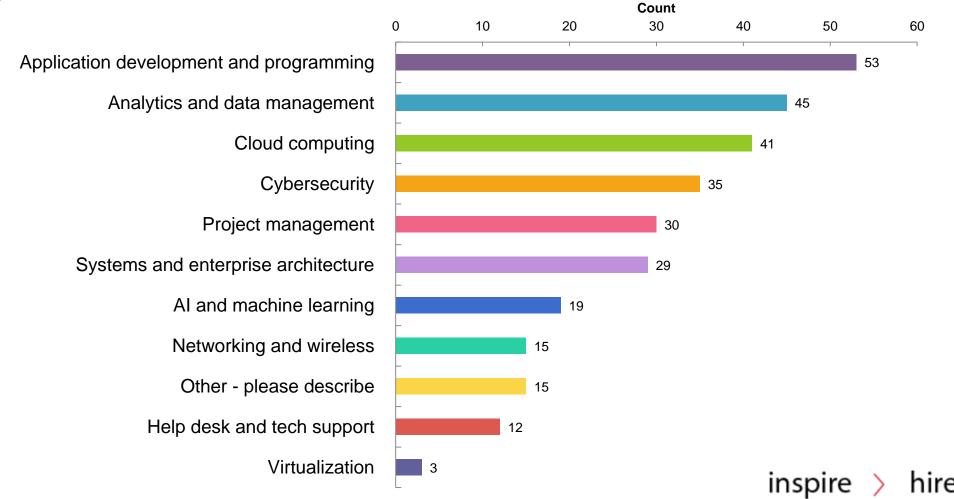
(1= Not Difficult, 5= Very Difficult)

Category of Job	1	2	3	4	5
Entry-Level (0 - 2 years of experience)	37%	32%	18%	8%	5%
Mid-Level (3 - 7 years of experience)	2%	11%	31%	33%	23%
Experienced (8+ years of experience)	2%	4%	15%	26%	52%

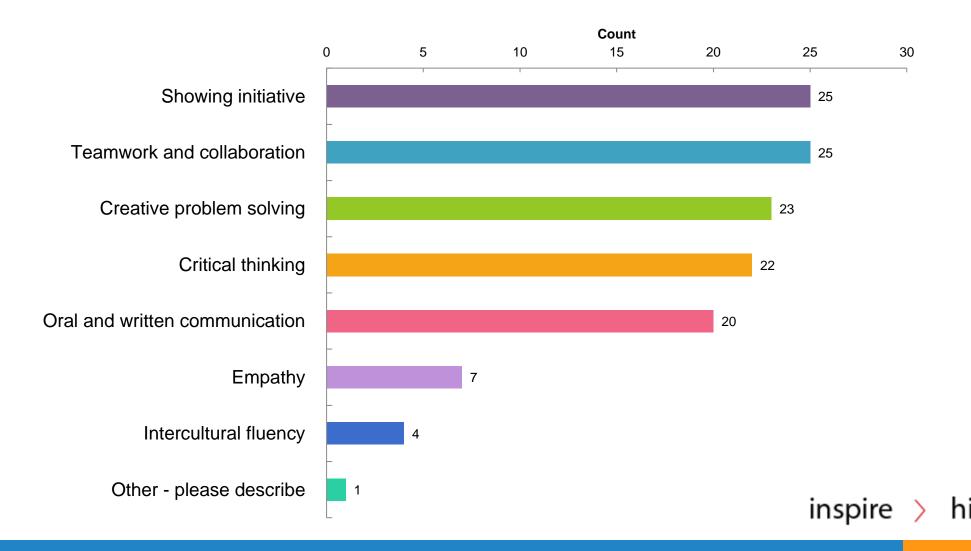
Q: What are the most significant challenges for your organization in attracting and retaining tech talent?



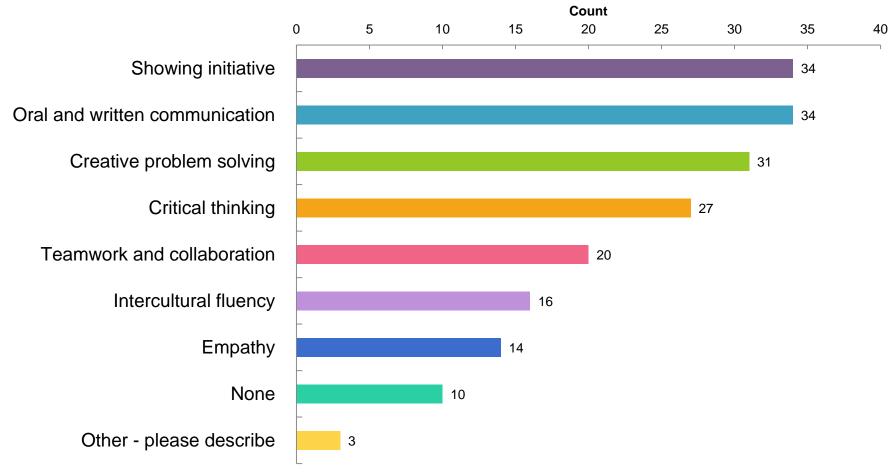
Q: What are the most desired technical skills you're currently looking for in tech job applicants?



Q: What are the top soft skills your organization looks for in a job applicant?



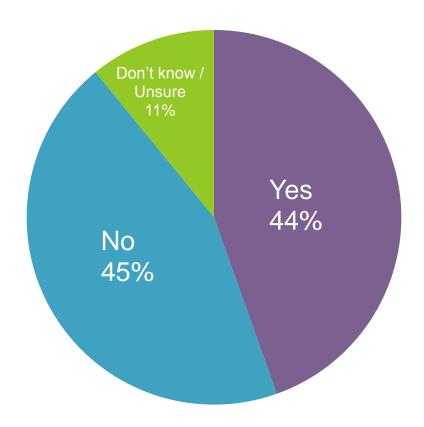
Q: What soft skills do you find tech job applicants are lacking?



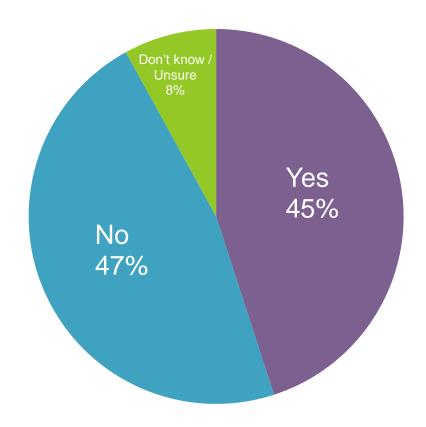
Q: In 2020, do you expect the number of full-time tech employees in the listed categories below to increase, decrease, or stay the same?

Category	Increase	Stay the Same	Decrease
Entry level (0-2 years of experience)	47%	49%	4%
Mid-level (3-7 years of experience)	55%	42%	2%
Experienced (8 or more years)	46%	46%	7%
Women	61%	38%	1%
People of color	64%	35%	1%

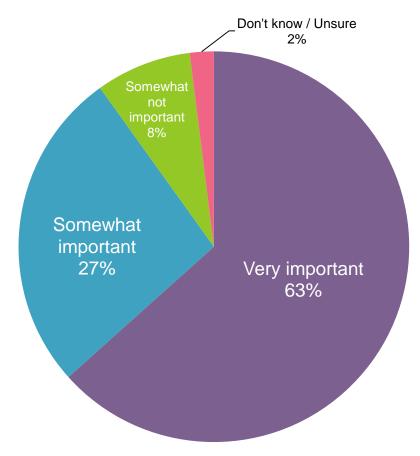
Q: Does your organization have an overall tech talent **recruiting** strategy and plan?



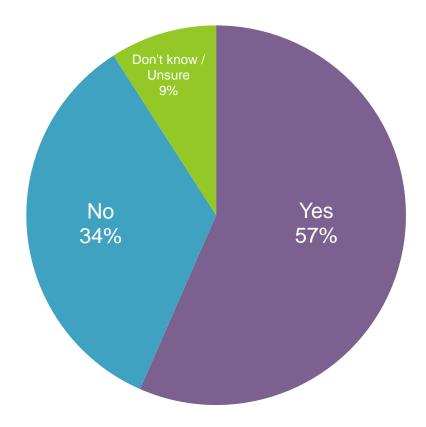
Q: Does your organization have an overall tech talent **retention** strategy and plan?



Q: How important is it for your organization to increase the diversity and inclusive hiring for tech talent within the next year?



Q: Is your organization currently engaged in any initiatives focused on diversity, equity, and inclusion?



### Summary

- Tech talent supply/demand imbalance in Minnesota caused by insufficient labor pool and inefficient labor market
- Forecasted shortage of 10,500 IT professionals in 7 county metro area by Q2 2024
- Companies need to think differently about sourcing, developing, and retaining tech talent
- Job-seekers need to acquire and develop the foundational skills needed to succeed in a digital economy
- With shared goals, focused efforts, and innovative thinking, we can build the strong and inclusive talent pipeline we all aspire to see

# Thank You!





