



March 9, 2016

# Open Construction Jobs Rise in February, But the News Is Not All Bad

CONSTRUCTION

BY SCHNEIDER DOWNS PROFESSIONAL

The shortage in skilled laborers has long been and continues to be a big concern facing the construction industry. While many parts of the country have experienced employment growth in the construction industry, there are many other regions that have not.

According to the Associated General Contractors of America (AGC), from February 2015 to February 2016, almost two-thirds of metropolitan areas, approximately 250, experienced an increase in employment. This compares favorably to the 52 metro areas that remained unchanged and the 72 metro areas that experienced a decline. In spite of the growth in many metro areas, the employment news isn't all positive. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the number of open jobs in the construction sector increased by 193,000 in February 2016, which represents the single largest one-month increase since July 2007.

Much of the decrease in construction jobs can be tied to energy. States known for energy production such as North Dakota, Alaska, Wyoming, West Virginia and Pennsylvania experienced largest declines in construction employment. While the energy sector is expected to bounce back, a prolonged downturn could have longer-lasting and much more significant impact on the construction industry in these areas.

[Read the Our Thoughts On blog for other construction industry articles](#) and [visit our Construction Industry Group Services page](#) to learn more about the services that we offer.

## You've heard our thoughts... We'd like to hear yours

The Schneider Downs Our Thoughts On blog exists to create a dialogue on issues that are important to organizations and individuals. While we enjoy sharing our ideas and insights, we're especially interested in what you may have to say. If you have a question or a comment about this article – or any article from the Our Thoughts On blog – we hope you'll share it with us. After all, a dialogue is an exchange of ideas, and we'd like to hear from you. Email us at [contactSD@schneiderdowns.com](mailto:contactSD@schneiderdowns.com).

Material discussed is meant for informational purposes only, and it is not to be construed as investment, tax, or legal advice. Please note that individual situations can vary. Therefore, this information should be relied upon when coordinated with individual professional advice.

© 2024 Schneider Downs. All rights-reserved. All content on this site is property of Schneider Downs unless otherwise noted and should not be used without [written permission](#).