

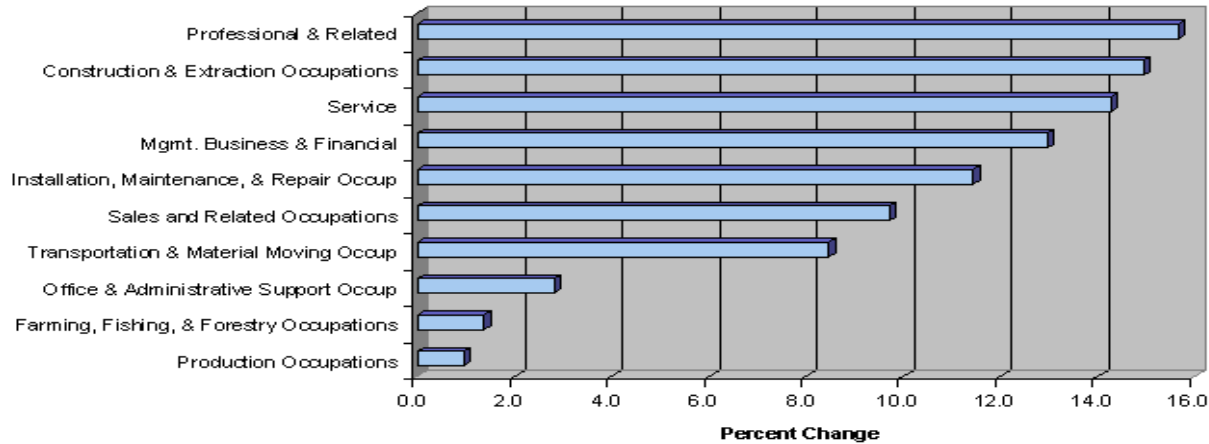
**U.P. CONSTRUCTION TRADES REGIONAL SKILL ALLIANCE**  
***BUILDING THE WORKFORCE OF TOMORROW***

An alarm is being sounded regarding the shortage of men and women in the construction trades in the Upper Peninsula is due to worker retirements, lack of career awareness for emerging workers, upcoming construction projects, and the need for safety certifications to ensure the competitiveness of the Upper Peninsula construction industry workforce.

The Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Growth, Bureau of Labor Market Information & Strategic Initiatives projects that the Upper Peninsula will need 227 workers each year to replace a retiring workforce and meet the demands of economic growth. Of the 227 workers needed, 70% or 149 are needed just to cover replacement workers for retirees and others leaving the trades. The graph below illustrates the construction and extraction occupations as the second fastest growing occupational group

**A sampling of industry related occupations reveals:**

**Michigan Employment Growth Rate, 2002-2012, by Major Occupational Group**



OCCUPATION	<u>EMPLOYMENT</u>		<u>CHANGE</u>			<u>ANNUAL AVERAGE OPENINGS</u>		
	2002	2012	Level	%	Total	Growth	Replacement	% Replacement
Carpenters	2,275	2,490	215	9.5	59	22	37	62.7%
Highway Maintenance Workers	995	1,075	80	7.6	22	8	14	63.6%
Construction Laborers	635	705	70	10.8	15	7	9	60.0%
First-Line Sup/Mgrs: Construction/Extract	865	930	65	7.2	21	6	15	71.4%
Electricians	335	390	55	16.7	12	6	7	58.3%
Operating Engineer/Other Constr Equip Oper	535	575	40	8.1	18	4	14	77.7%
Pipelayers	140	160	20	13.7	5	2	3	60.0%
Plumbers, Pipefitters, & Steamfitters	275	295	20	6.9	8	2	6	75.0%