

Challenges America Faces in Changing to a Service-Sector Economy

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News Editor

Students often complain about how they will never use what they learn in school. After all, calculating the velocity of a vertical spin hardly seems to have any real-world applications. What they do not realize, however, is that as America is sending manufacturing jobs overseas, their education becomes increasingly vital to the future or their careers.

There continues to be much debate over outsourcing. Supporters say that it is good for the U.S. economy, while opponents argue otherwise.

As manufacturing jobs are being outsourced, proponents say that this is the first step towards transforming America's economy to encourage service-sector jobs.

There are three industrial sectors that jobs fall into: services, manufacturing and retail trade. Each sector requires a different set of skills, but the service sector overall requires the highest level of skills.

As suggested by the name, the basic characteristic of this sector is that people offer their knowl-

edge to improve productivity, performance, potential and sustainability. In simpler terms, it is the production of services instead of end products. Examples of service

sector employment include jobs in government, education, legal services and public health.

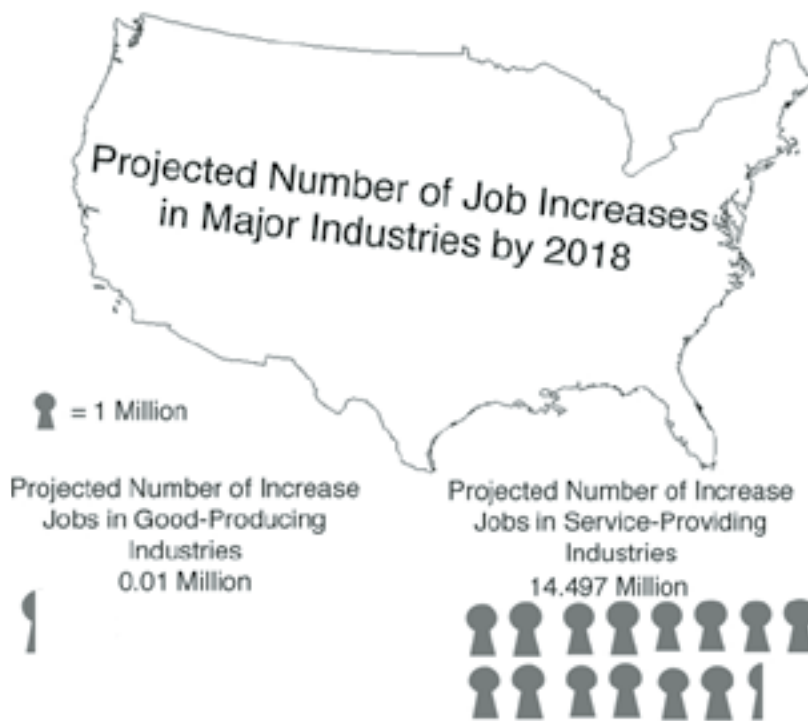
"The service sector is the delivery of services; there are so many things that

make people indispensable," American Government and Economics teacher Johnnie Lau said.

Economists have developed a

theory of progression that states that a country's economy begins with a heavy reliance on agriculture and mining. As it progresses, it then shifts toward the develop-

As an economy makes the transition from one



ment of manufacturing. In the final stage of progression, the country moves towards a more service-based economy.

economy will necessarily become only a service-sector economy. Currently, America predominantly focuses on services rather than



phase to another, a radical restructuring of its labor force is typically observed, which can be very difficult for workers to transition. In order for them to adapt to the changing working conditions, they have to acquire a new set of skills.

However, this is not to say that America's economy will necessarily become only a service-sector economy. Currently, America predominantly focuses on services rather than

manufacturing. However, there are still jobs in various fields that people can enter after high school and college.

"Our economy is ever revolving," Lau said. "We are going to need a little bit of [every sector], but service is going to be more valuable. We have to find opportunities to flourish in today's economy."

In order to make this transition, it is crucial for America's future, the youth who will soon grow up to enter the workforce, to be well-educated, particularly in the fields of math and science.

"Our economy is connected to individual initiative and taking advantage of opportunities," Lau said.

MOOR graphics by SHARON TRANG and SHARON XU

New Green Academy Project Benefits Local Program

JOYCE LAM
Editor in Chief

There is a vast variety of organizations that students can become involved with at Alhambra High School. Green Academy is one of those organizations. Their aim is to increase student awareness of eco-friendly methods to minimize waste.

Green Academy is comprised of sophomores, juniors and seniors. They work together on various projects during the course of the school year. These projects are used throughout the campus and in programs within the school.

According to adviser Carlos Sanchez, who is also AHS' wood shop instructor, students are recruited as freshmen. However, they officially enter the program as sophomores, since enrollment is limited to sophomores and above.

These students typical-

ly become involved with Green Academy after taking the "Exploring Technology" class, which is also taught by Sanchez.

"The students in Green Academy take classes to-

gether from tenth through twelfth grade, as a model of a school within a school. They are cohorted so they can learn together and be

greater support for [one another]," Sanchez said. The academy is currently involved with a district program called Learning Independence for Transition (LIFT). LIFT is Alhambra

ages 18 to 22.

"This program teaches functional living skills, mobility, safety, work experience and community-based instruction." LIFT coordinator Kathleen Doyle said. "The LIFT curriculum encompasses a variety of lessons for independent living including functional reading, math, social skills, domestic skills, vocational skills, housing options, healthy lifestyle and self-advocacy."

For their latest project, Green Academy will be teaming up with LIFT to build raised beds for an organic garden. The Rotary Club of Alhambra has also offered the LIFT program a generous grant to build an organic garden on the site.

"Working with LIFT is a good introduction to the kinds of projects that we can possibly [be involved with] in the future," senior Green Academy member Michelle Ma said.



TURNING OVER A NEW LEAF Green Academy builds raised garden beds for AUSD's new LIFT program.

PHOTO courtesy of CARLOS SANCHEZ

ly become involved with Green Academy after taking the "Exploring Technology" class, which is also taught by Sanchez.

Unified School District's new transition program designed to meet the unique needs of students with disabilities, who range from



Tomato Sauce Now Deemed Nutritionally Equal to Vegetables

MICHELLE PAULINO
Staff Writer

Raymond Tran said.

Nutrition facts posted by Washington Post writer Sarah Kliff reveal that within the last month, Congress has received criticism regarding their recent decision to recognize pizza as a vegetable.

However, the bill, which was passed in November, deems one-eighth of a cup or two tablespoons of tomato paste as half a serving of vegetables.

With this knowledge in mind, pizza has the potential to count as a serving of vegetables, given that it contains the appropriate amount of tomato paste. Pizza as a food, however, is not considered a vegetable.

"As a dancer, I feel like this decision in Congress is bad because now schools will take advantage [since Congress can opt for the cheaper pizza choice] instead of giving us more variety," sophomore

one-eighth of a cup of tomato paste is relatively equal to half a cup of raw apples.

However, there are apparent differences between the tomato paste's extreme amount of sodium and immature improved calcium and potassium levels compared to the amounts found in half a cup of raw apples.

With this law, pizza manufacturers can produce pizza claiming to have half a serving of vegetables that schools can buy and serve rather than actual vegetables, which may cost more in the market.

"It's kind of gross [that] the government [can] be selfish [and] buy tomato sauce [rather] than actual healthy food," junior Brandy Miranda said.



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