



# Research Perspectives on Transportation Jobs & Automation Impacts

BROOKINGS

**Joseph Kane**

Brookings Metropolitan Policy Program  
jkane@brookings.edu

**December 5, 2018**

*Photo source: Unsplash*

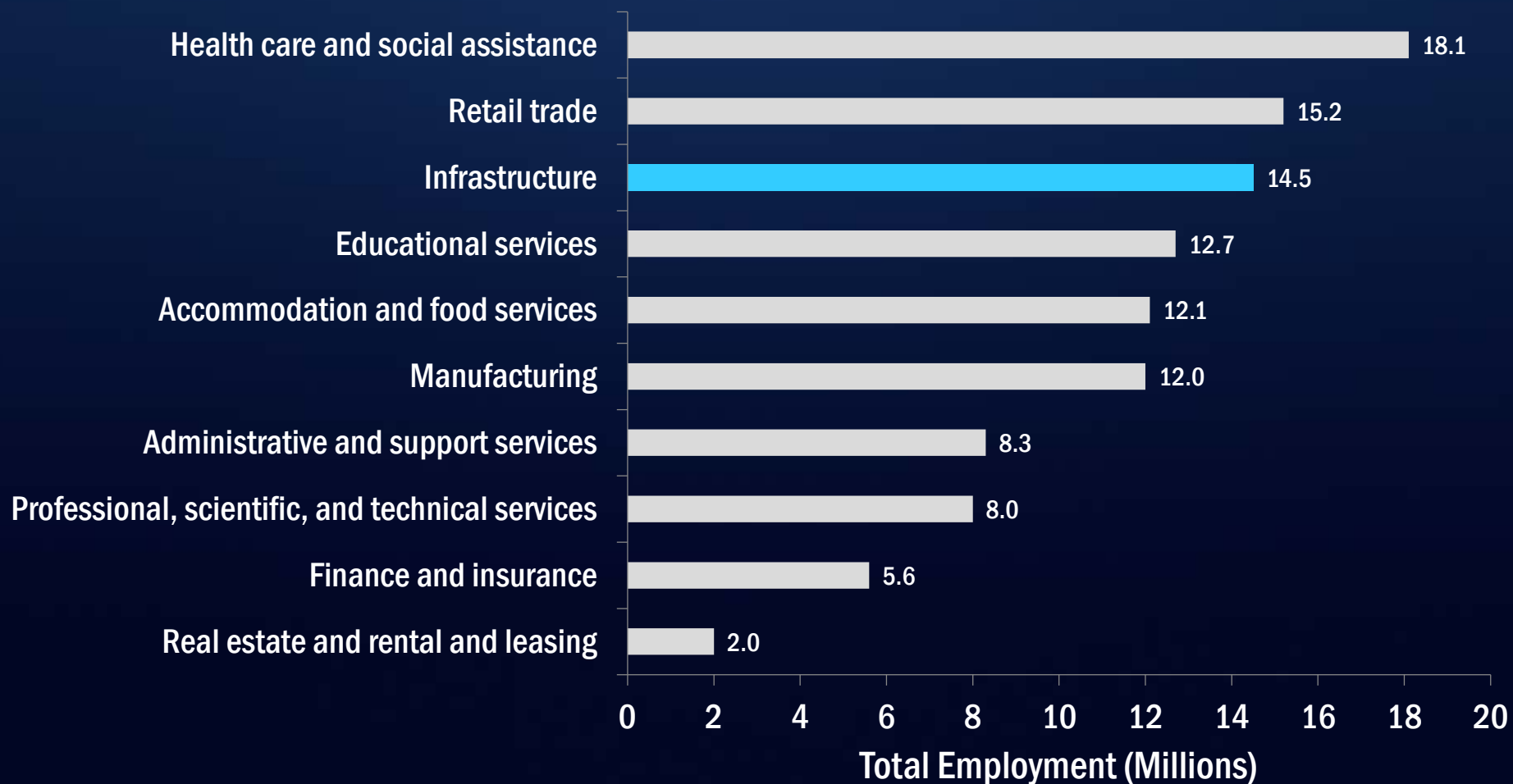
# Who are infrastructure workers?

The infrastructure workforce captures the wide range of workers who are directly involved in the **construction, operation, design, and governance** of the country's various infrastructure systems



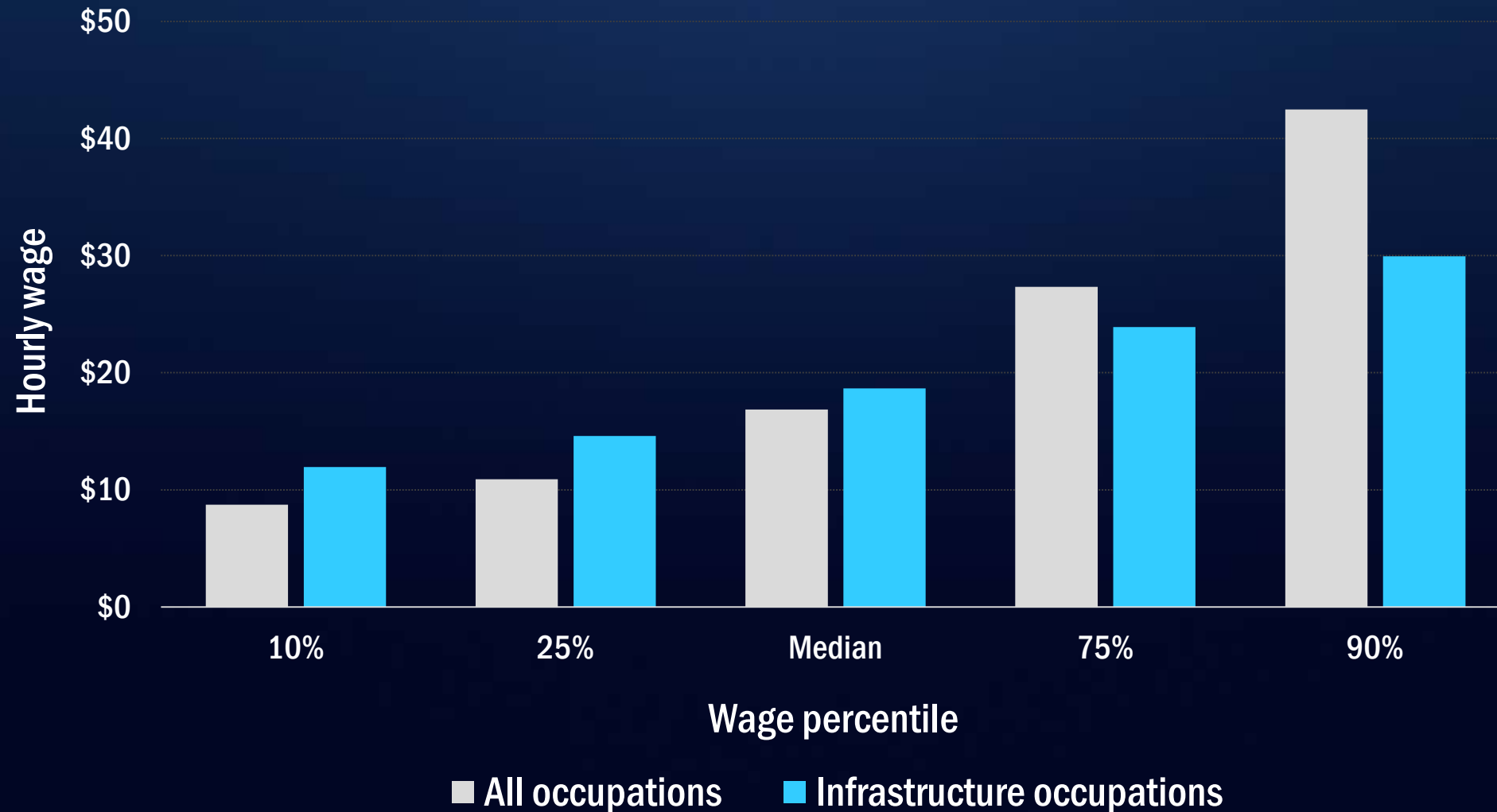
# Infrastructure workers account for 11 percent of all workers nationally

## Employment in infrastructure vs. other sectors



# Infrastructure occupations pay higher wages, particularly at the 10<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> percentile

## Wages, infrastructure occupations and all occupations





# Infrastructure workers often need less formal education and rely more on work experience and on-the-job training

**12%**

Share of infrastructure workers with a bachelor's degree or higher

**80%**

Share of infrastructure workers with short- to long-term on-the-job training



Workers in “digital mobility” refer to all those workers involved in the full lifecycle of AVs and other transportation technologies.

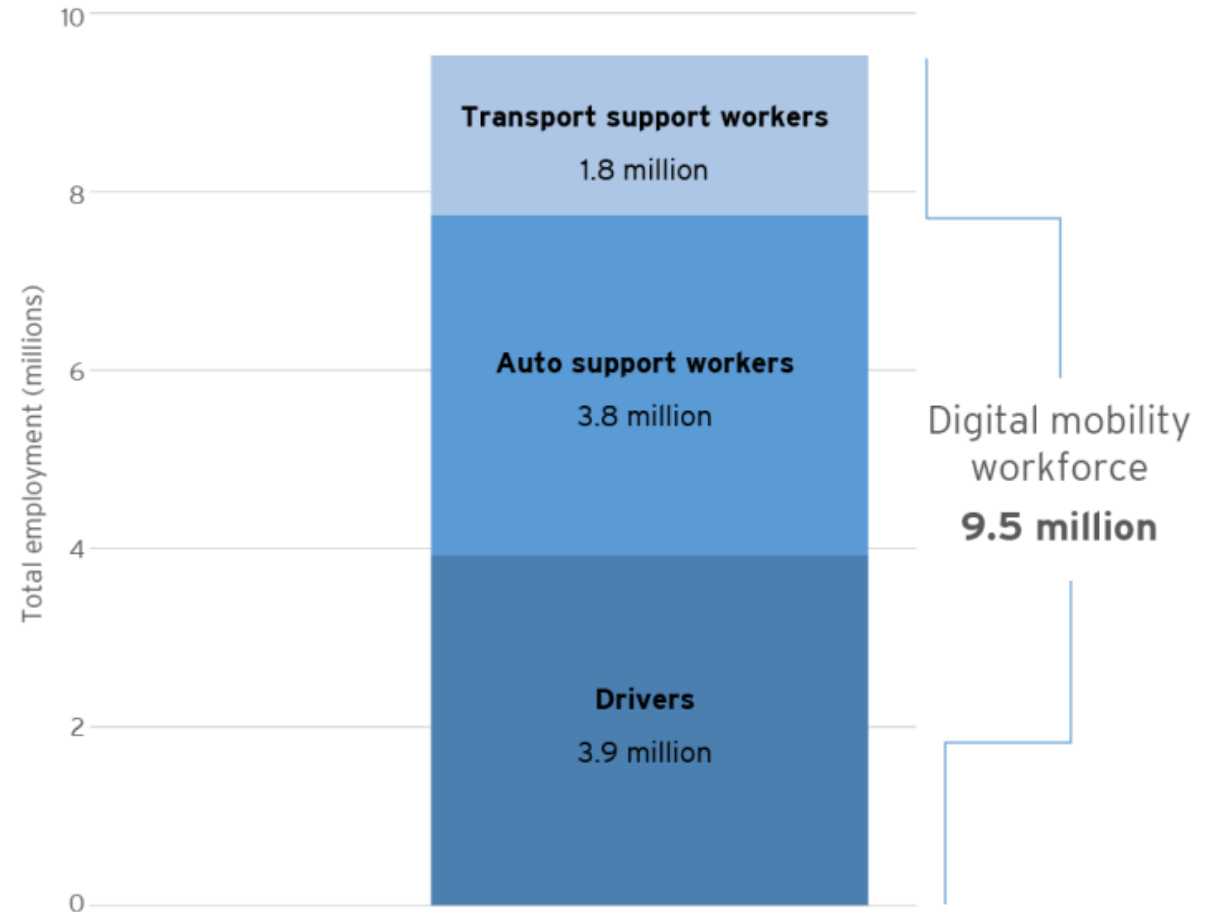
# Workers in digital mobility include 9.5 million workers across 329 occupations



Photo source: Unsplash

FIGURE 1

Workers in digital mobility by occupation category  
2017



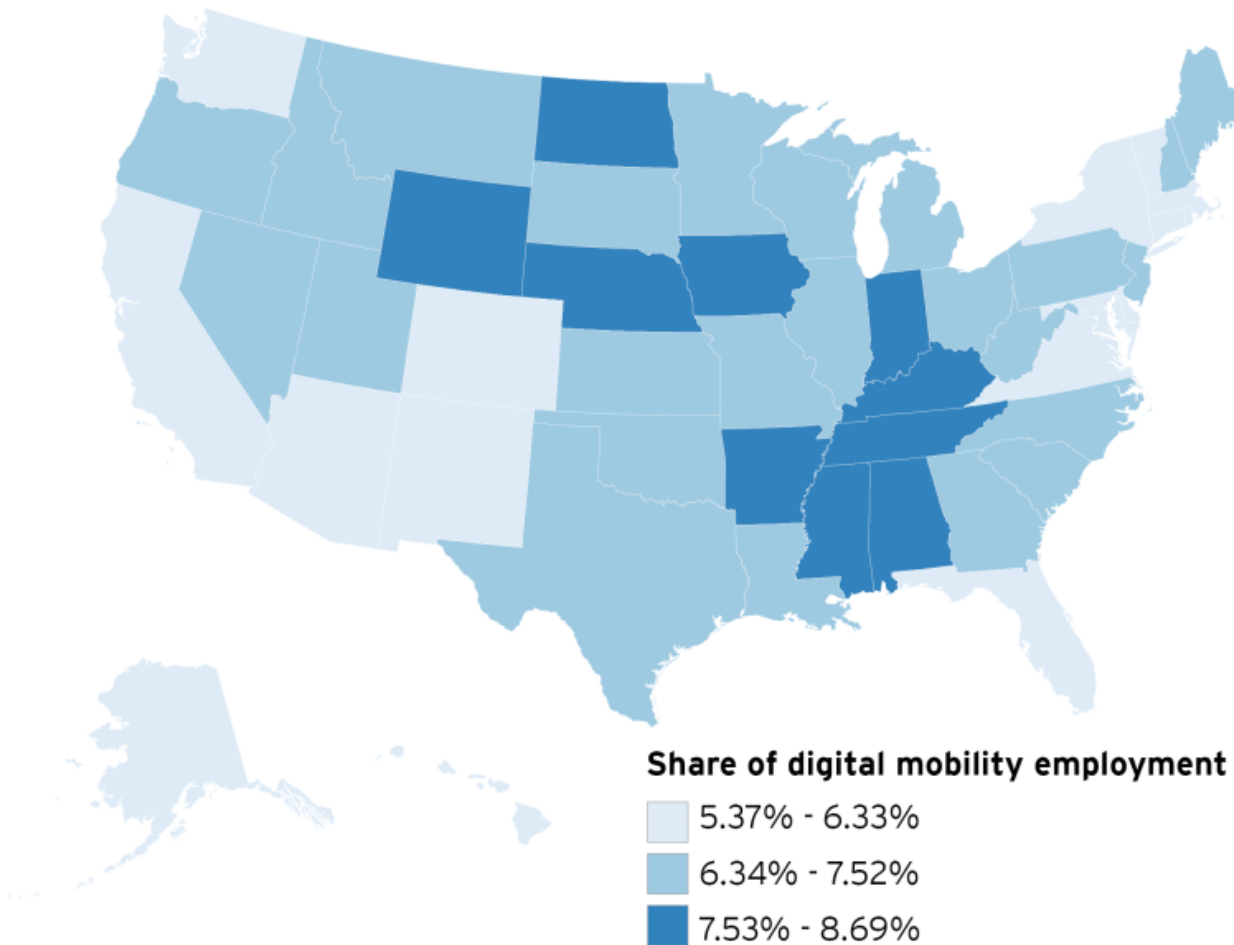
Source: Brookings analysis of BLS Occupational Employment Statistics



# Digital mobility workers are concentrated in transportation and manufacturing hubs

MAP 1

Share of digital mobility workers by state, 2017



Source: Brookings analysis of BLS Occupational Employment Statistics



Photo source: Unsplash

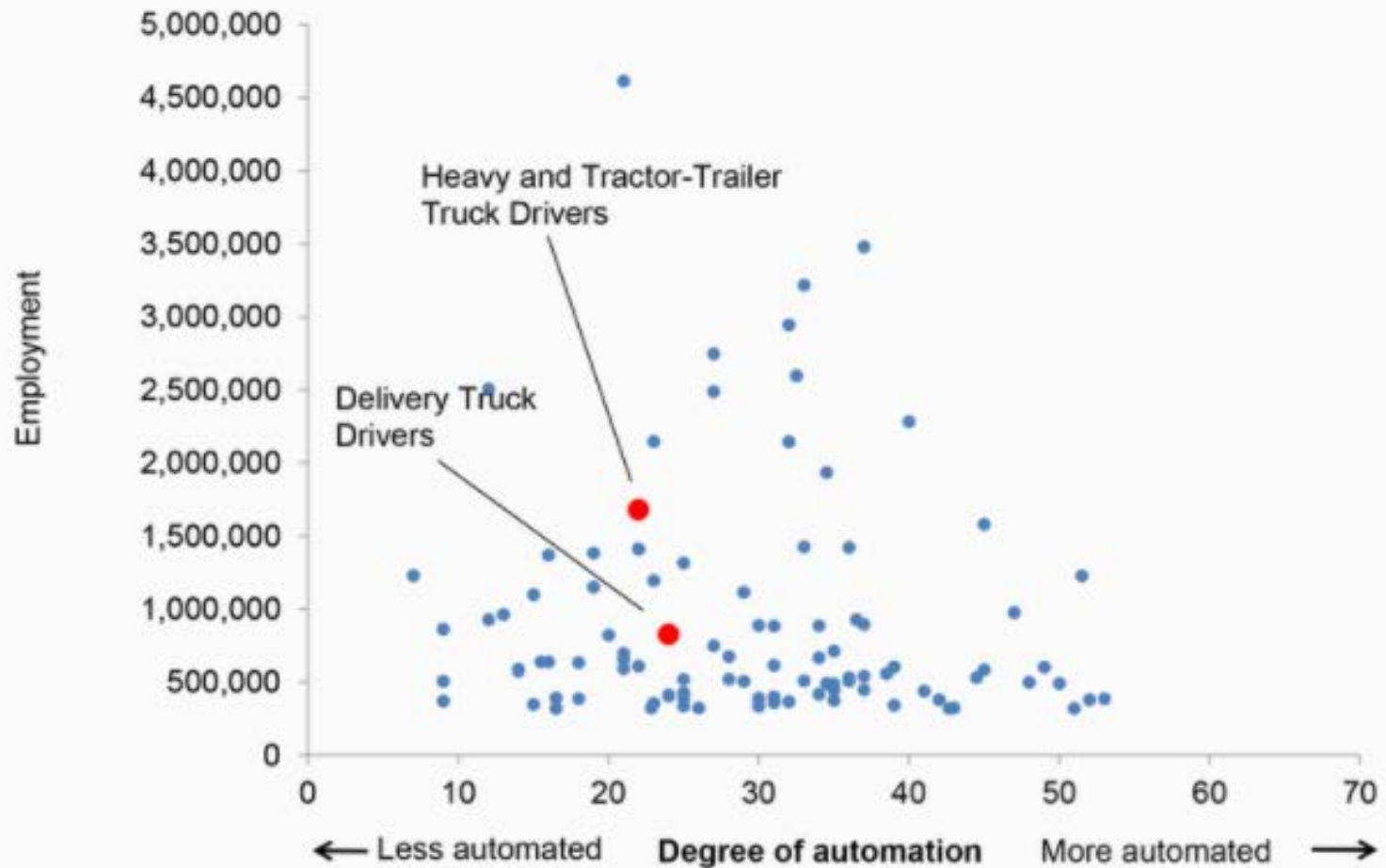


# Need to think about skills, training, and varying degrees of automation



Photo source: Unsplash

### Degree of automation for the 100 largest occupations, by employment, 2015



Source: Brookings analysis of O\*NET and BLS Occupational Employment Statistics data



# Research Perspectives on Transportation Jobs & Automation Impacts

BROOKINGS

**Joseph Kane**

Brookings Metropolitan Policy Program  
jkane@brookings.edu

**December 5, 2018**

*Photo source: Unsplash*