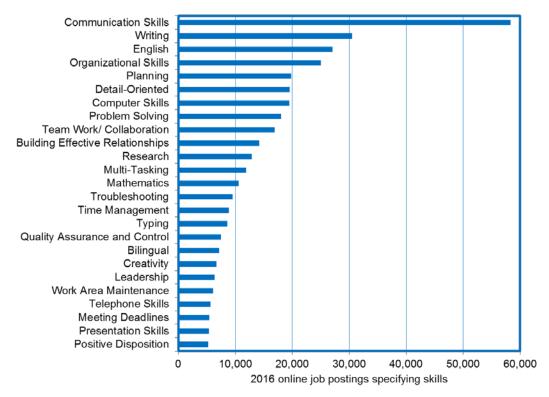
RESEARCH NOTES Research & Analysis Bureau Nevada's Premier Source of Workforce & Economic Information and Analysis

Baseline Skills in Demand Chelsea Walburg, Economist

Note: 2017:01 January 3, 2017

Communication/Organizational-Related Skills are the Most In-Demand Baseline/Soft Skills



- Evidence suggests Nevada employers are facing challenges with finding employees who possess
 "soft skills". Soft skills are those which encompass a person's "character traits". Whereas hard
 skills can be learned and perfected over time, soft skills are more difficult to acquire and change,
 as they are usually an ingrained part of a person's personality. For example, soft skills are traits
 akin to the ability to problem solve, work in a team, be creative, or simply maintain a positive
 disposition.
- Utilizing information from Nevada's Silver State Solutions Initiative, we can examine baseline skills in-demand. Baseline skills are a combination of the aforementioned soft skills, and basic hard skills (writing, computer skills, language skills, etc.).
- Of the top 25 baseline skills, communication skills are the most requested during 2016, listed in more than 58,000 online job postings.
- Writing, English, and organizational skills were also in high demand, each with 25,000 or more ads requesting applicants possess these baseline skills.

