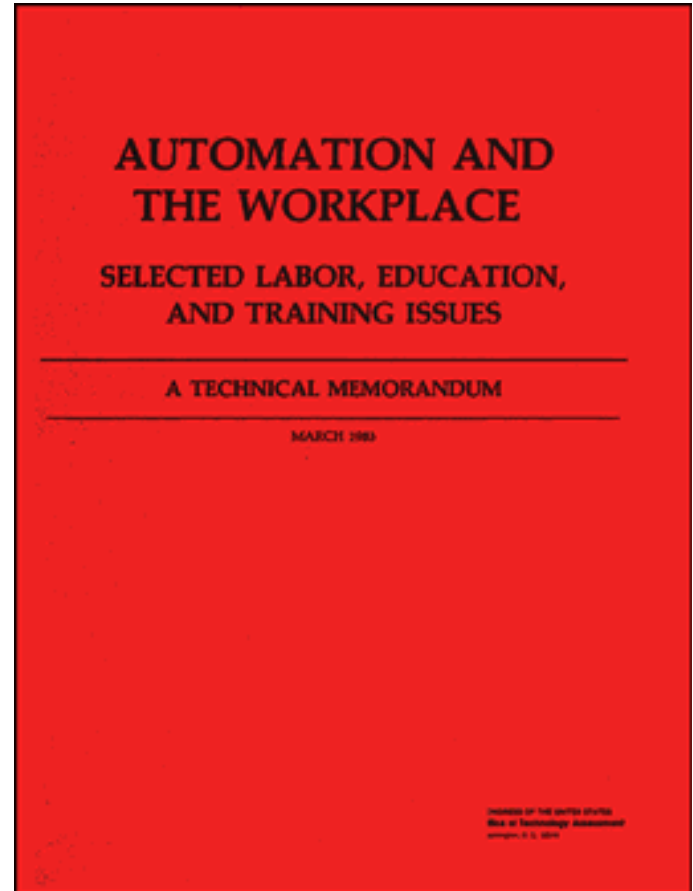


*Automation and the Workplace: Selected
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Preface

This Technical Memorandum is an interim product of OTA's assessment, "Computerized Factory Automation: Employment, Education, and the Workplace." The assessment is examining the nature and development of automation technologies (such as robotics, computer-aided design and manufacturing, and automated materials handling, storage, and retrieval). The assessment is also evaluating the structure and competitive conduct of industries producing and using programmable automation technologies. Finally, the implications of the production and use of programmable automation for labor and for education and training activities are being examined. The Joint Economic Committee, the Senate Committee on Labor and Human Resources, the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, and the Subcommittee on Labor Standards of the House Committee on Education and Labor requested the assessment.

This Technical Memorandum discusses procedures for evaluating potential employment change associated with automation, and outlines associated problems. It also provides descriptions of the nature and modes of delivery of education, training, and retraining for persons holding *or* seeking employment in manufacturing industries. The material draws in part on the products of a July 1982 OTA workshop on labor markets and industrial relations and an August 1982 survey commissioned by OTA of education, training, and retraining activities and trends.

OTA is grateful for the assistance of the assessment advisory panel, the Labor Markets and Industrial Relations Workshop participants, the contractors, and the many others who provided advice and information. However, OTA assumes full responsibility for this technical memorandum, which does not necessarily represent the views of individual members of the advisory panel.



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● Contributed papers appear in app. C.