More than half of the population 16 years of age and over works full time.

- More than half of the 226 million persons in the civilian noninstitutional working-age population in 2005 were employed full time. An additional 11 percent were working part time, with a large majority of these workers preferring a part-time schedule.

- Of the third of the population not in the labor force (neither working nor looking for work), a relatively small number (1.5 million) were classified as "marginally attached" workers—persons who want to work, are available for work, and had looked for a job in the past year but are not currently looking either because they are discouraged about job prospects or because certain conditions, like family responsibilities, impede their entry into the job market.

- The vast majority of persons not in the labor force do not want to work.