

Calvine High School

Career/Vocational Education

The Labor Market Today

Go to: <http://www.bls.gov/opub/working/home.htm>

Click on **START HERE**

The labor force is growing more slowly

In your opinion, why is the labor force is growing more slowly?

Which years had the highest growth of labor force growth?

Which had the lowest?

The labor force is getting older

What is labor force median age?

What is the labor force median age projected for in 2008, or when you're fully in the labor market?

More women are working today than in the past

In your opinion, why are more women working today than in the past?

Fill in blanks.

About _____ percent of all women are in the labor force, compared with nearly 75 percent of all men. (The participation rate is the share of the population 16 years and older working or seeking work.)

The long-term increase in the female labor force largely reflects the _____ among mothers.

The slow long-term decline in work activity among men reflects, in part, the trend to _____.

Women now account for 47 percent of the labor force, up from _____ percent in 1975.

DID YOU KNOW?

Among married-couple families where both the wife and the husband work, about _____ of the wives earn more than their husbands.

Minorities are the fastest growing part of the labor force

Explain why minorities are the fastest growing part of the labor force.

Which ethnic group has the highest percent change in the labor force projected for 2008? The lowest?

Explain why immigrants are found at the high and low ends of the education scale.

What labor force group is highest for immigrants? Lowest?

What labor force group is highest for non-minorities? Lowest?

Education pays

What group has the highest weekly earnings?

What group has the lowest weekly earnings?

Which group has the highest unemployment rate?

Which group has the lowest unemployment rate?

Explain the above findings on earnings and unemployment.

Some jobs with above-average earnings do not require a bachelor's degree, but most require substantial training (fill in the blank)

Short-term on-the-job training (OJT): Workers develop the skills needed after a _____ or up to 1 month of on-the-job experience or instruction.

Moderate-term on-the-job training: Workers develop the skills needed after 1 to 12 months of combined on-the-job experience and _____.

Long-term on-the-job training: Jobs require more than 12 months of on-the-job training or combined _____ and _____.

Postsecondary vocational training: Jobs require completion of vocational school training and may require passing an _____ after completing the training.

Associate degree: Completion of the degree program requires at least _____ of full-time academic work.

What occupation listed on the chart would interest you as a potential worker. Explain.

Workers with computer skills are in demand

Of the 10 fastest growing occupations, the top 5 are computer-related. What are they? Circle the one that possibly interests you the most?

The ten occupations that will generate the most jobs range widely in their skill requirements

Pick two of the ten listed occupations and explain why you would take interest in those professions.

Benefits account for more than one-quarter of total compensation

Explain what the components of compensation are.

Retirement plans are changing

What are your retirement plans?

Do you feel you should have to pay into a retirement fund at such a young age? Explain.

Workers will be supporting more Social Security recipients

The Social Security Administration expects that before the middle of the 21st century there will be only _____ workers for every Social Security beneficiary; as recently as 1960 there were five workers for every beneficiary.

Of the 45 million people receiving Social Security payments in 2000, about 29 million were retired workers. The remainder were _____ of retirees, spouses and children of _____ workers, and disabled persons under age 65.

What does this mean to you?

The trend in years spent with an employer is down for men and up for women

How does this chart adequately/inadequately explain this trend?

The temporary help industry has grown rapidly

Name several help industry occupations.

Look at the chart, which 2 years experienced the greatest growth?

The most common alternative employment arrangement is independent contractor

What is an independent contractor?

What percent of the labor market do independent contractors make up?

What is the percent of on call workers?

Most mothers work

Why do mothers work?

Do you feel that mothers should work, or stay home with their children?
Explain your answer.

In 2000 what child age group has the most mothers working?

Married couples are working longer

Who works the most hours, married with or without children? Why?

The average commuting time for workers who drive to work is 20 minutes each way. About one worker in eight spends 40 minutes or more driving to work. Compute how much time each worker spends in a year commuting to and from work.

The workplace is becoming safer

Which occupations experience the most time away from work due to injuries? Explain why.