

Table 539. Percent of Workers Participating in Retirement Benefits by Worker Characteristics: 2005 to 2008

[Based on National Compensation Survey, a sample survey of 10,370 private industry establishments of all sizes, representing over 105 million workers; see Appendix III. Survey covers all 50 states and the District of Columbia. For a definition of defined benefit and defined contribution, see headnote, Table 540. See also Table 640]

Characteristic	Total ¹				Defined benefit				Defined contribution			
	2005	2006	2007	2008	2005	2006	2007	2008	2005	2006	2007	2008
Total	50	51	51	51	21	20	20	20	42	43	43	43
White-collar occupations. . .	61	60	69	68	24	22	28	28	53	53	60	60
Blue-collar occupations. . . .	51	52	51	52	26	25	25	25	38	40	40	41
Service occupations.	22	24	25	25	7	7	7	8	18	20	20	20
Full-time	60	60	60	60	25	23	23	24	50	51	50	51
Part-time	19	21	23	23	9	8	9	10	14	16	18	18
Union	85	80	81	80	72	68	67	67	43	44	41	42
Nonunion.	46	47	47	48	15	14	15	15	41	43	43	43

¹ Total is less than the sum of the individual retirement items because many employees participated in both types of plans.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, *Employee Benefits in Private Industry in the United States, March 2008, Summary 03-08*. See also <http://www.bls.gov/ncs/ebs/benefits/2008/ownership_private.htm>.