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The 2005 labor force: growing, but slowly

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The labor force is projected to grow at a slower rate than the pace in 1994; however, labor force participation growth varies widely by race and Hispanic origin group. This article describes the demographic labor force projections, made by BLS for 136 age, sex, race, or Hispanic origin groups composing the future labor force.¹ Changes in the labor force are explored because of labor force participation rate or population changes. This article also examines dynamics of the changes resulting from persons entering, leaving, or staying in the labor force; factors leading to changes in the composition of the labor force. Finally, this article reviews the demographic consequences of projected changes in the composition of the labor force.

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Footnotes

¹ The race and Hispanic origin categories correspond to those promulgated the U.S. Office of Management and Budget, Directive No. 15, 1978. For a discussion of these categories, see Juanita Tamayo Lott, "Do United States Racial/Ethnic Categories Still Fit?" *Population Today*, January 1993, pp. 6-7, 9.

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