

Job Forecast Is Best In a Decade

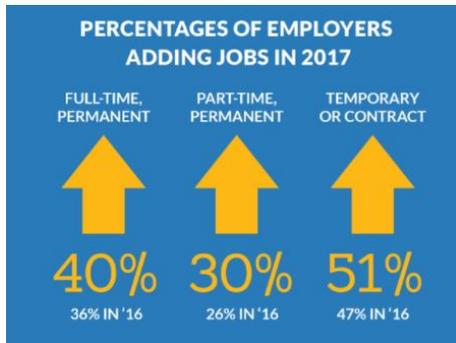


January 11, 2017 – The hiring outlook for 2017 is the best the U.S. has seen in a decade with two in five employers (40 percent) planning to hire full-time, permanent employees over the next 12 months, according to [CareerBuilder](#)’s annual job forecast. Three in 10 expect to hire part-time, permanent staff while half of all employers anticipate adding temporary or contract workers.

The national survey, conducted online by Harris Poll on behalf of CareerBuilder, also indicates that employers will offer better wages, place emphasis on candidates’ soft skills and reach out to candidates via texts to invite them for job interviews. It included a representative sample of 2,391 hiring managers and human resource professionals across industry.

“Three in four employers reported that they are in a better financial position than they were a year ago, which is instilling more confidence in adding people to their payrolls,” said Matt Ferguson, chief executive officer of CareerBuilder. “Following a divisive election season, employers are entering the New Year with a watchful, yet optimistic approach.”

“One of the key challenges for employers will be bridging the [talent gaps](#) within their own organizations by either offering better wages or by helping to reskill and upskill workers,” Mr. Ferguson continued.



The amount of employers planning to hire full time, permanent staff in 2017 increased four percentage points from 36 percent in 2016 to 40 percent in 2017. Employers in information technology were the most likely to say they were adding new employees at 56 percent, a notable 12 percentage point gain over the prior year.

Eight percent of employers across industries expect a decline in staff levels in 2017, an improvement from 10 percent last year. Forty four percent anticipated no change while nine percent were unsure.

In terms of part time employment, 30 percent of employers expect to increase their number of part time, permanent employees in 2017, up from 26 percent last year.

The demand for temporary labor will continue to be strong as employers strive to have more flexibility in their staff levels. Fifty one percent of employers plan to hire temporary or contract workers in 2017, an increase from 47 percent last year. Sixty three percent of employers plan to transition some temporary or contract workers into permanent roles in 2017, up from 58 percent last year.

The use of temporary / contract workers in the ‘gig’ economy is a new approach to business structure and employment. It has been on the rise with companies utilizing these types of workers to fill positions during a time where talent shortages seem widespread.