

Contingent and Alternative Employment Arrangements, May 2017



Gig economy

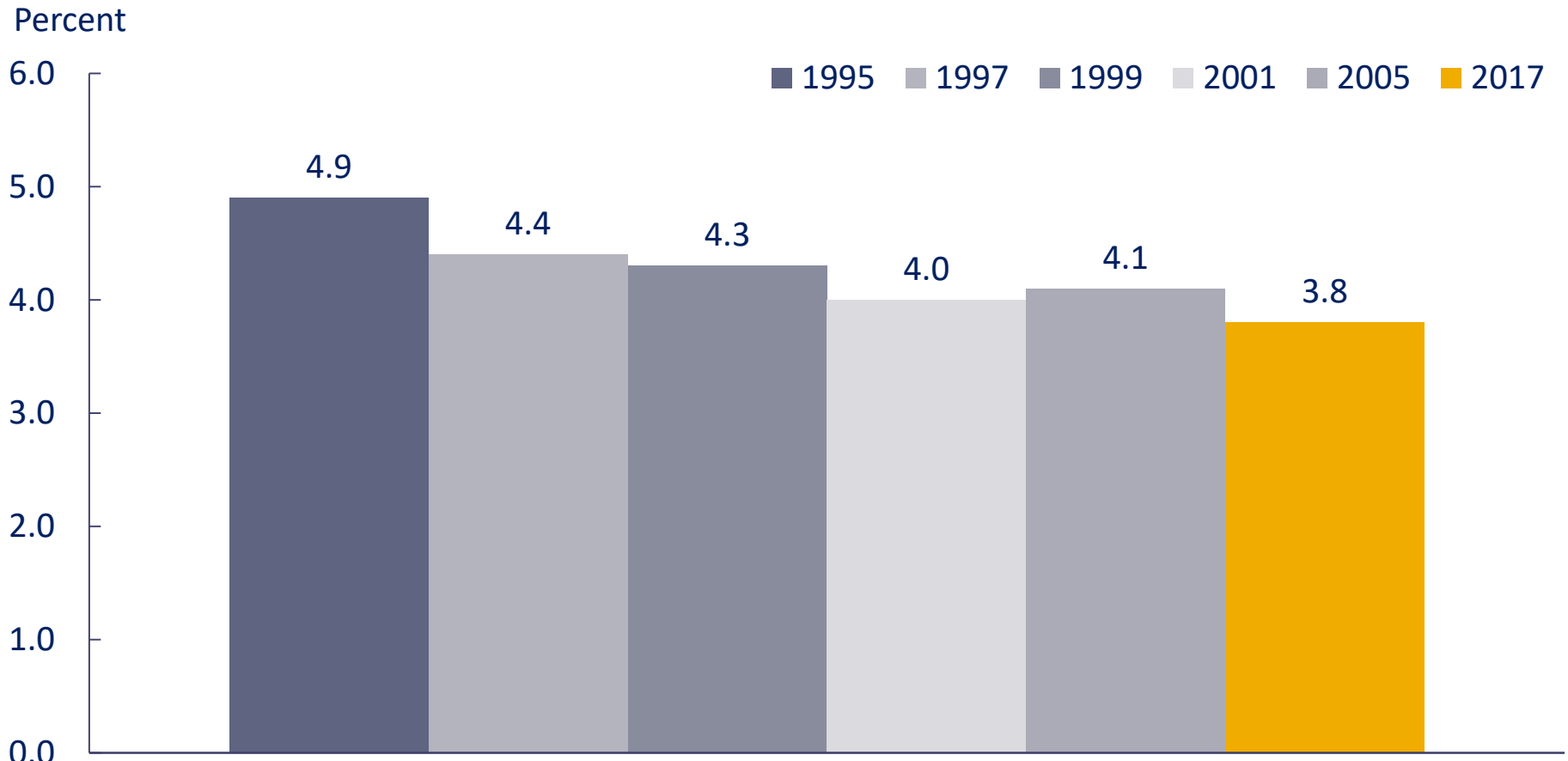
- No official BLS definition of “gig economy” or “gig workers”
- Researchers use many different definitions
 - ▶ Many include contingent workers
 - ▶ Some include those in alternative work arrangements
- CWS data allow researchers to use own definition of “gig”

Contingent Worker Supplement (CWS), May 2017

- Collected information on whether workers had:
 - ▶ Contingent jobs—jobs that are temporary or not expected to last
 - ▶ Alternative employment arrangements
 - Independent contractors
 - On-call workers
 - Temporary help agency workers
 - Contract company workers
- Similar supplements were conducted in February of 1995, 1997, 1999, 2001, and 2005
- Data refer to sole or main job of employed people



Contingent workers as a percent of total employed, February 1995-2005 and May 2017



Contingent workers - those who do not expect their jobs to last

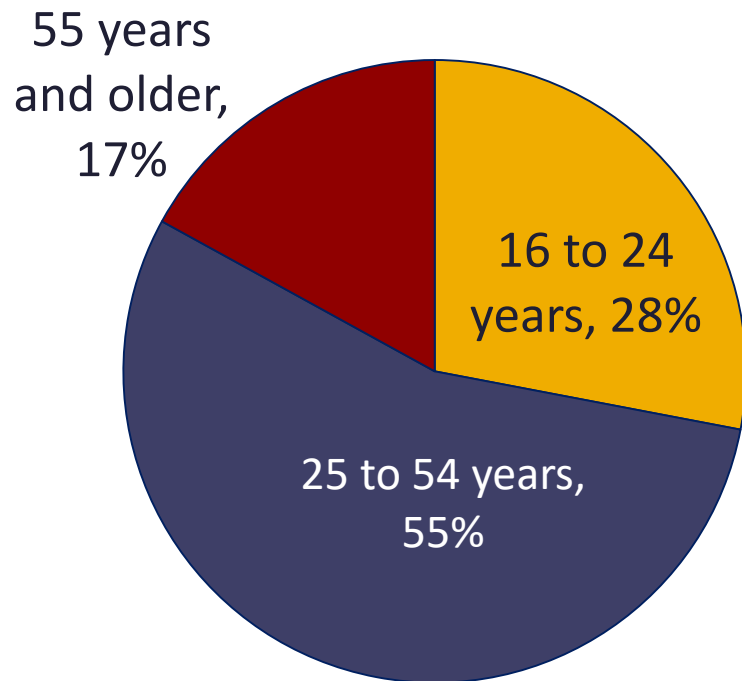
Source: Contingent Worker Supplements, Current Population Survey

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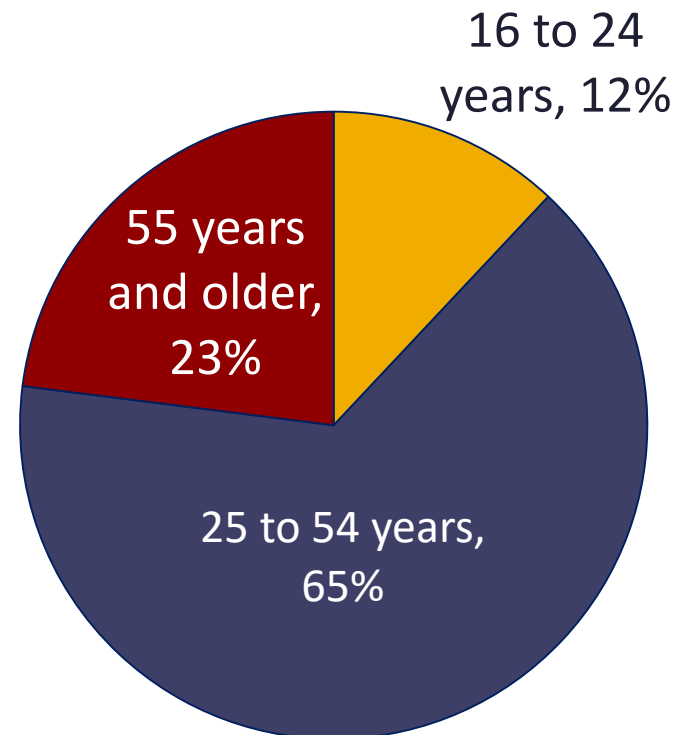


Age distribution of contingent and noncontingent workers, May 2017

Contingent workers



Noncontingent workers

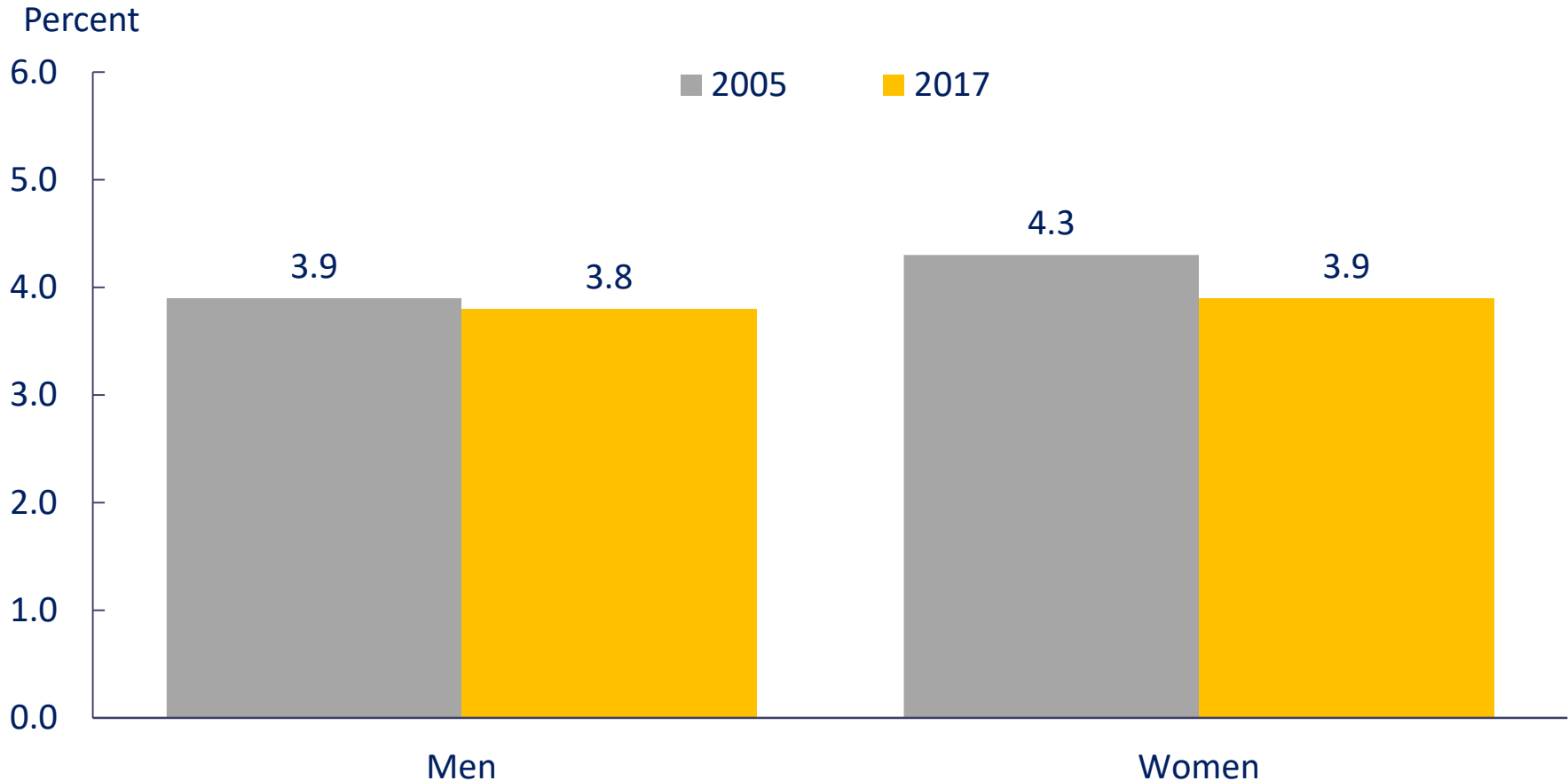


Source: May 2017 Contingent Worker Supplement, Current Population Survey

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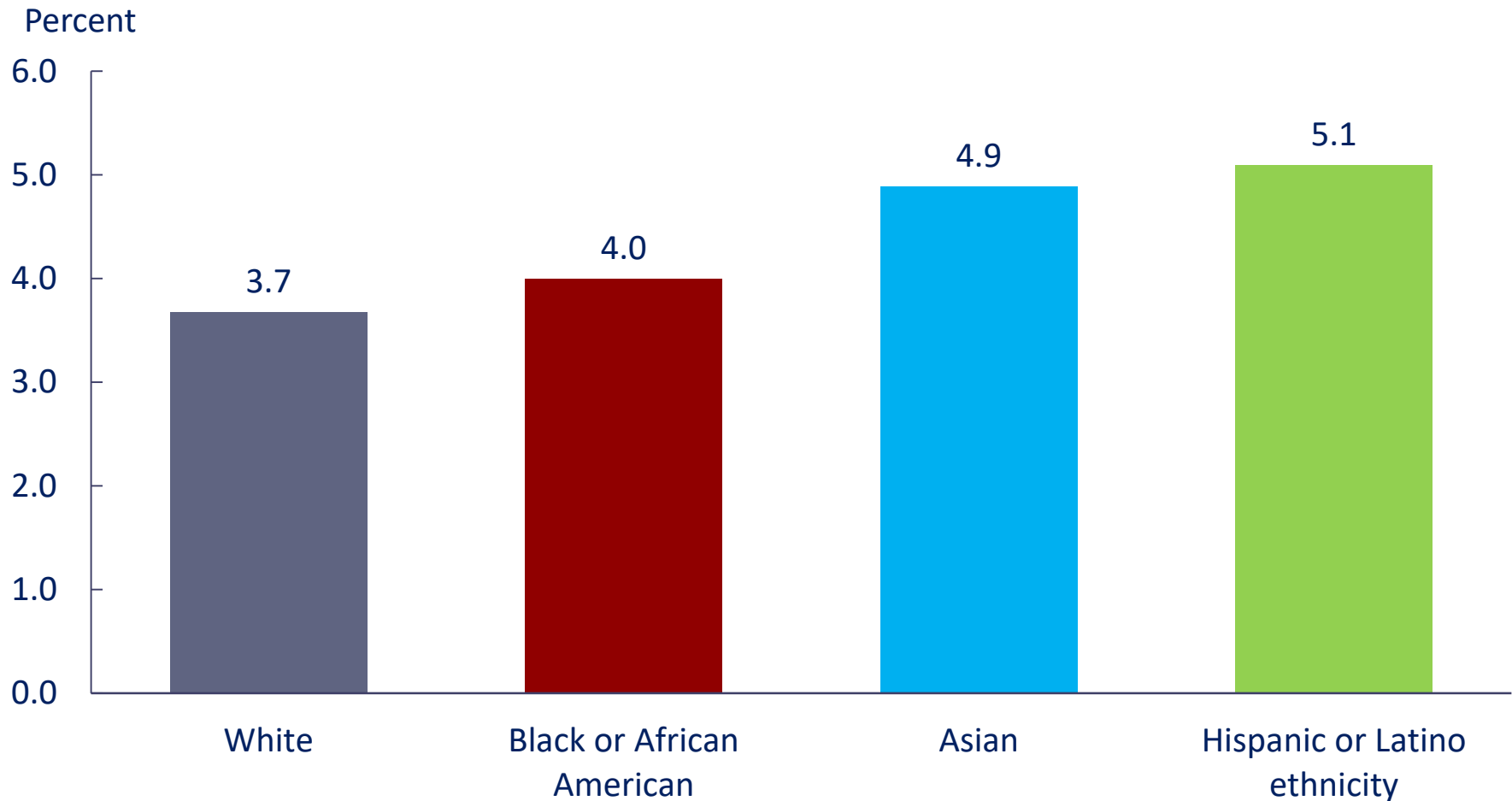
Contingent workers as a percent of total employed by sex, February 2005 & May 2017



Source: February 2005 and May 2017 Contingent Worker Supplements, Current Population Survey



Contingent workers as a percent of total employed by race and ethnicity, May 2017



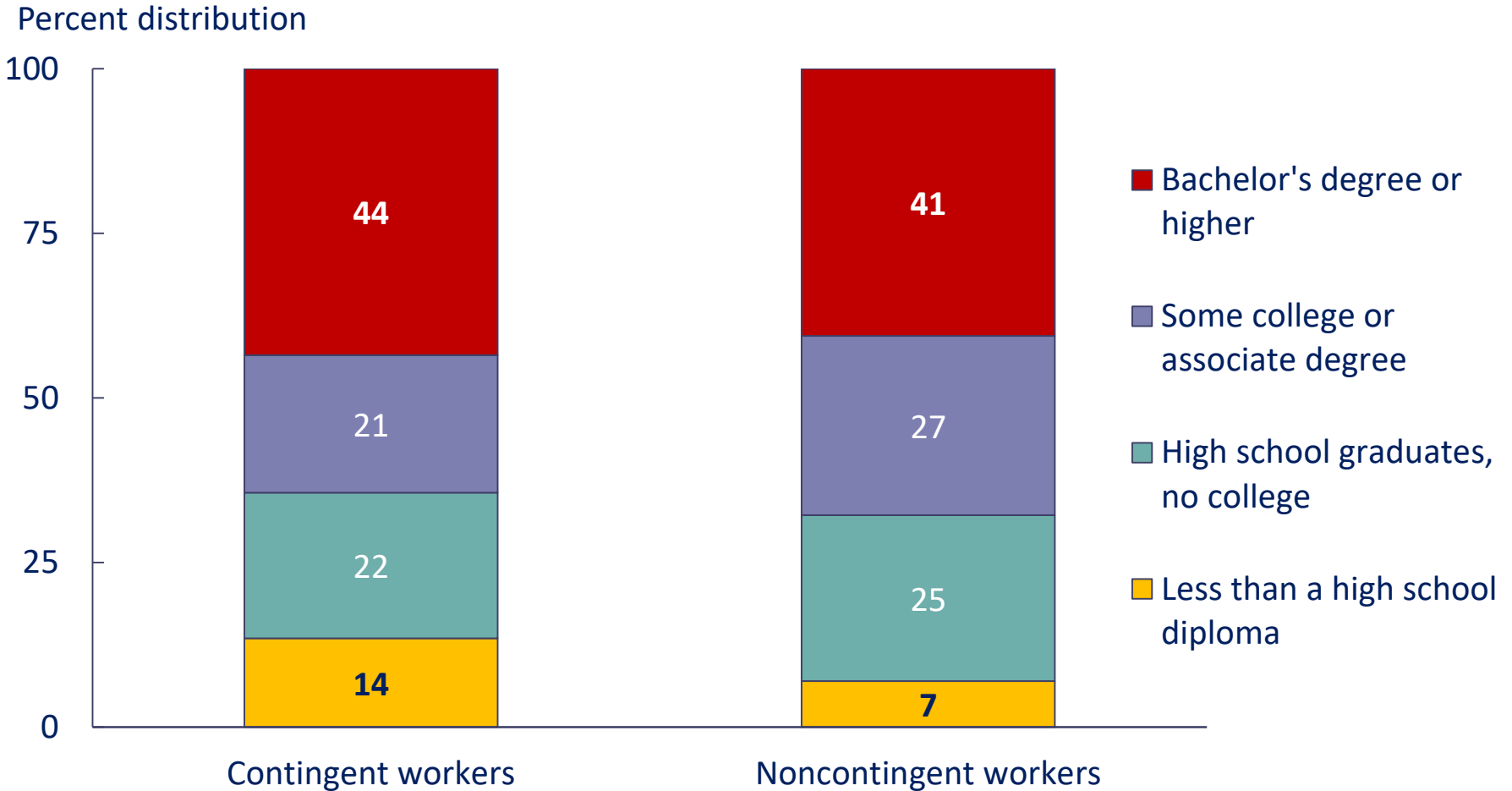
Note: Persons of Hispanic or Latino ethnicity may be of any race.

Source: May 2017 Contingent Worker Supplement, Current Population Survey

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Educational attainment of contingent and noncontingent workers, age 25 to 64, May 2017



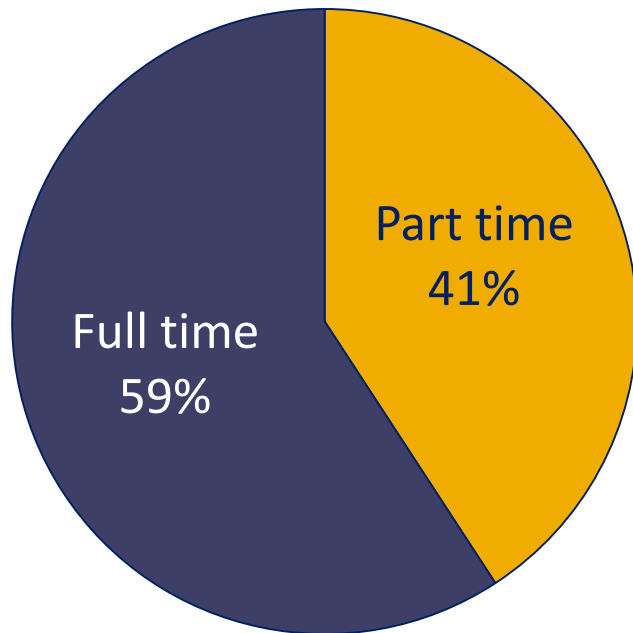
Source: May 2017 Contingent Worker Supplement, Current Population Survey

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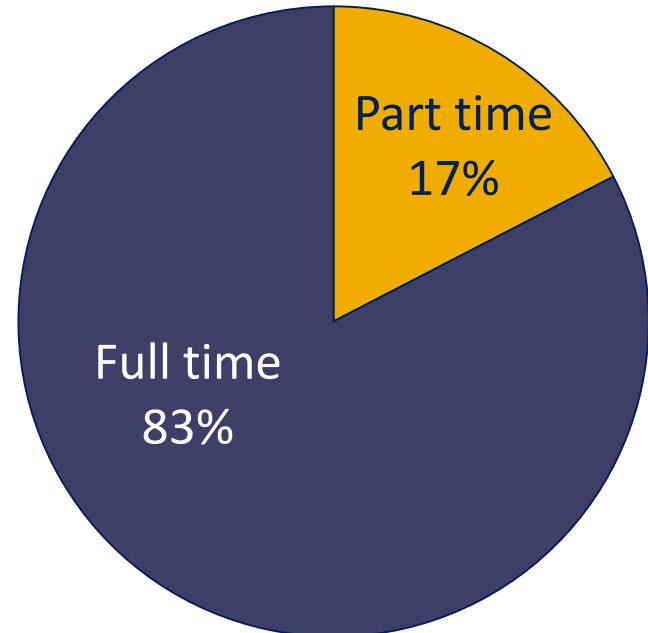


Full- and part-time status of contingent and noncontingent workers, May 2017

Contingent workers



Noncontingent workers

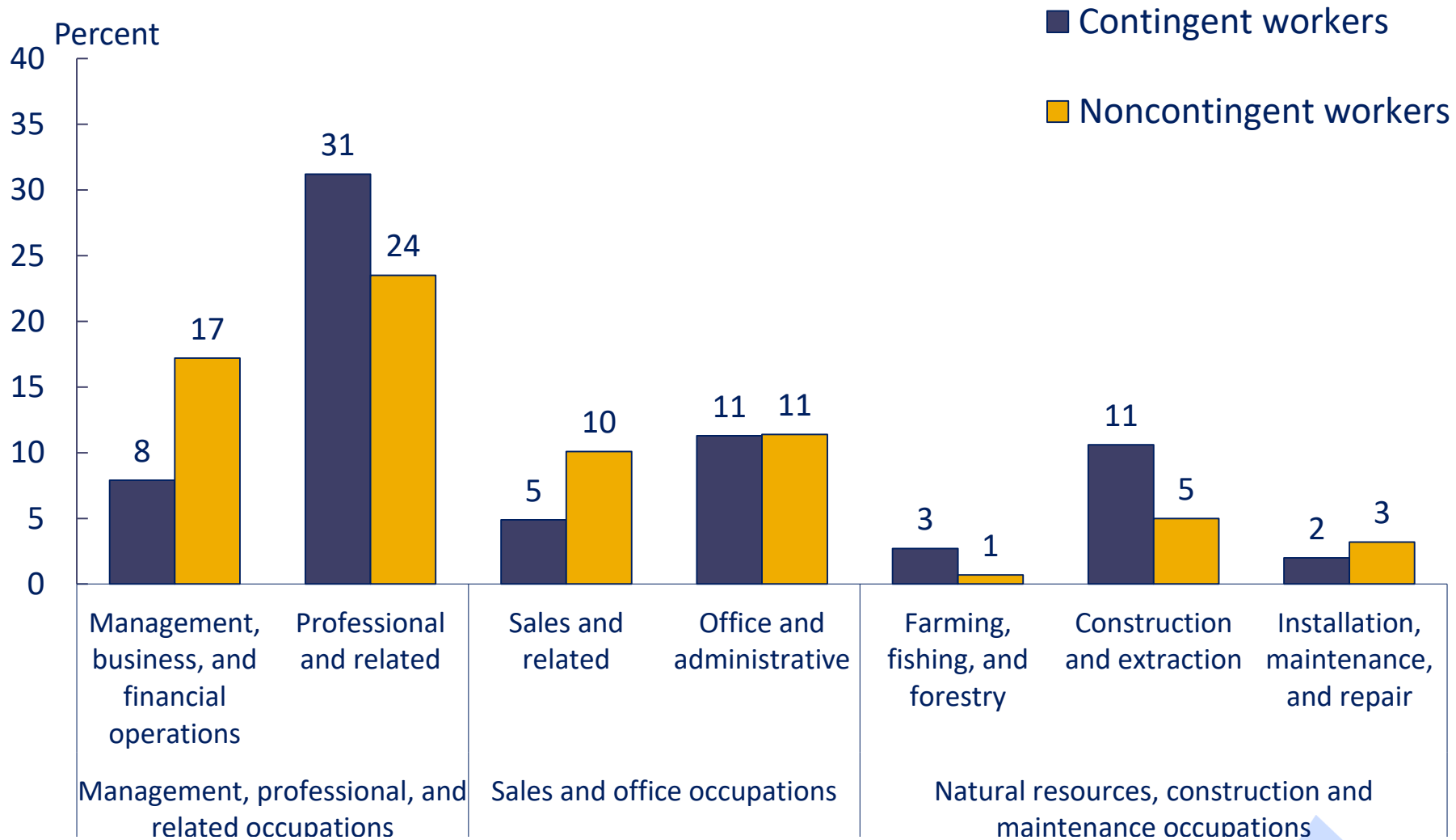


Source: May 2017 Contingent Worker Supplement, Current Population Survey

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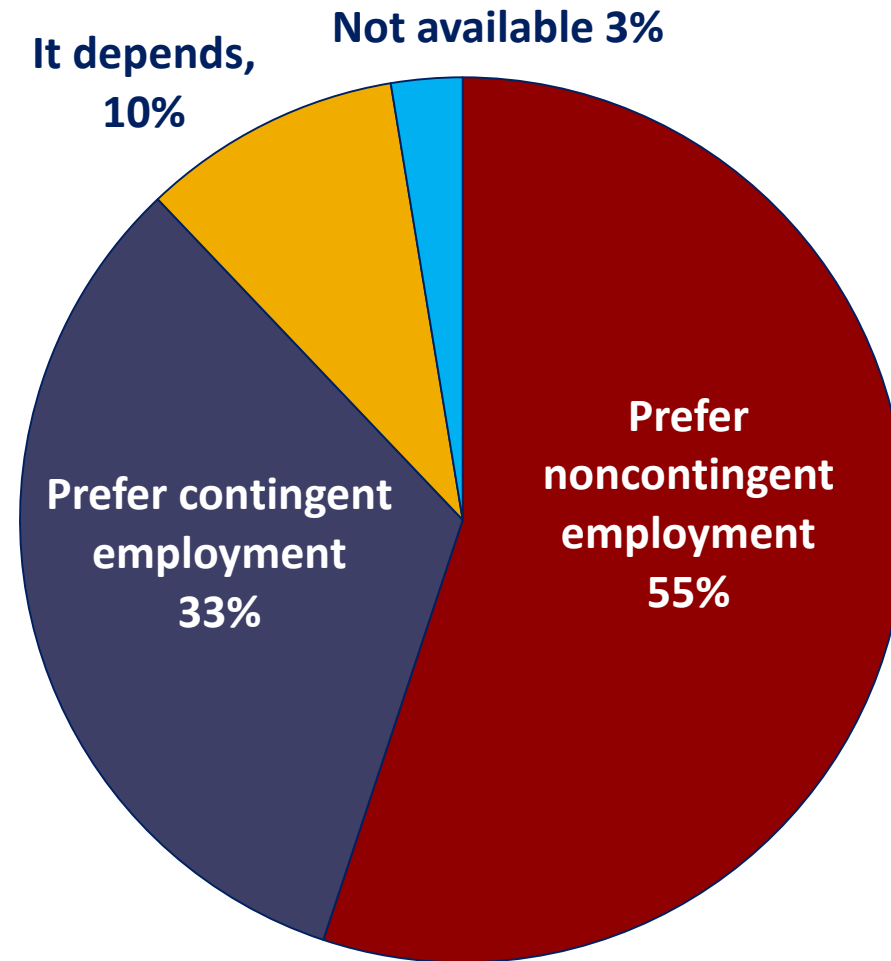
Selected occupations of contingent and noncontingent workers May 2017



Source: May 2017 Contingent Worker Supplements, Current Population Survey



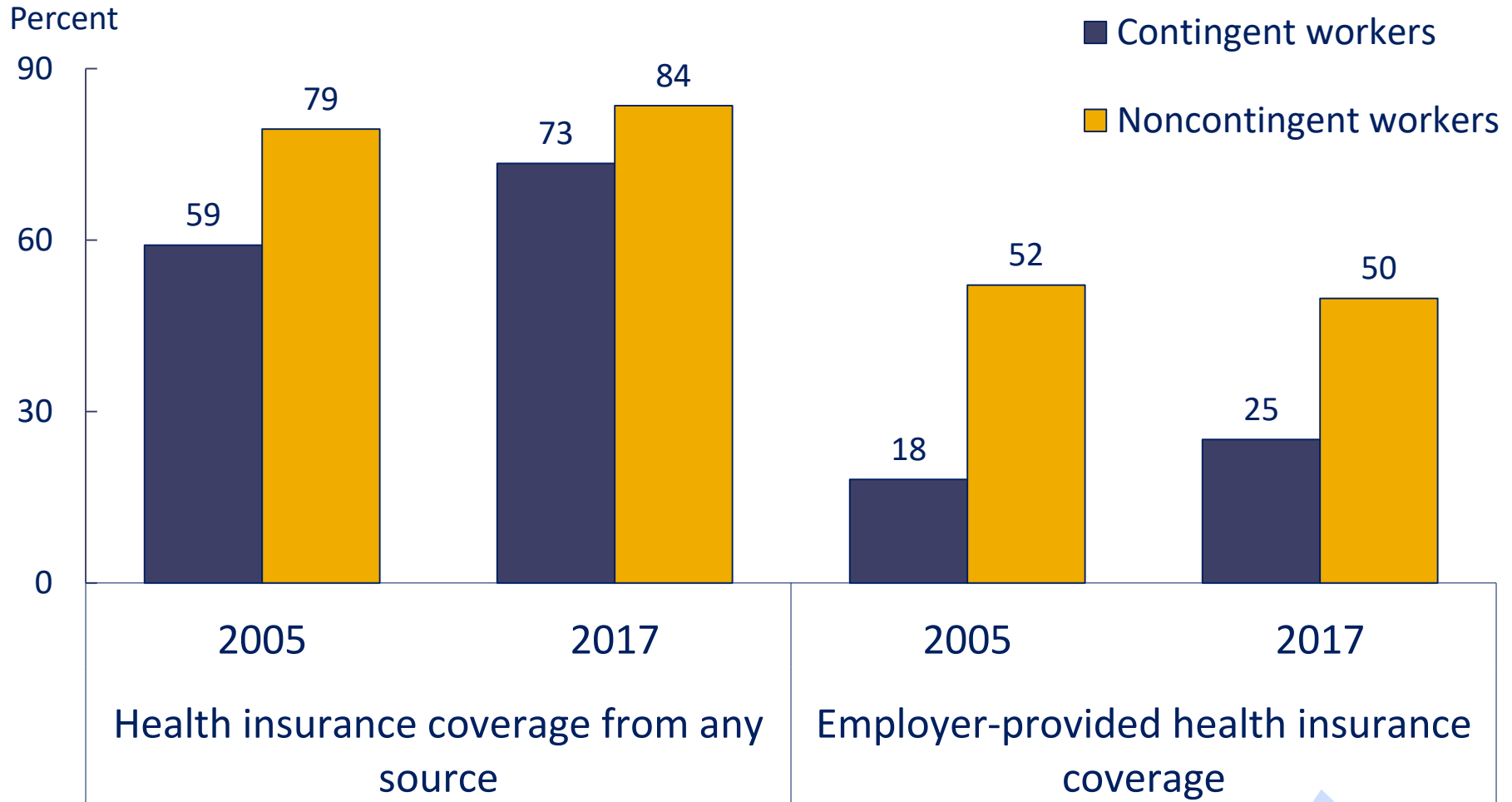
Contingent workers by their preference for contingent or noncontingent work, May 2017



Source: May 2017 Contingent Worker Supplement, Current Population Survey



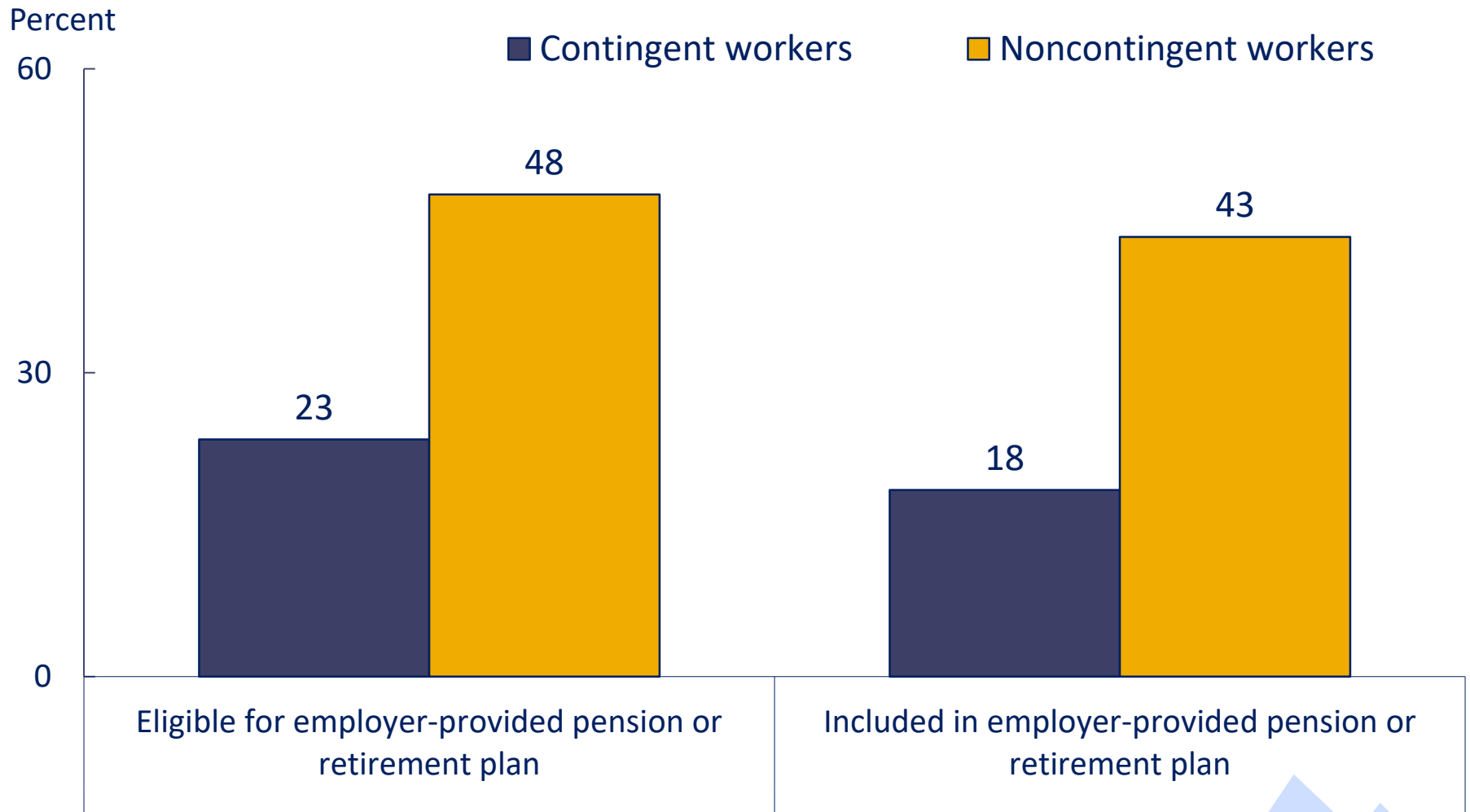
Percent of contingent and noncontingent workers with health insurance coverage, February 2005 and May 2017



Source: February 2005 and May 2017 Contingent Worker Supplements, Current Population Survey



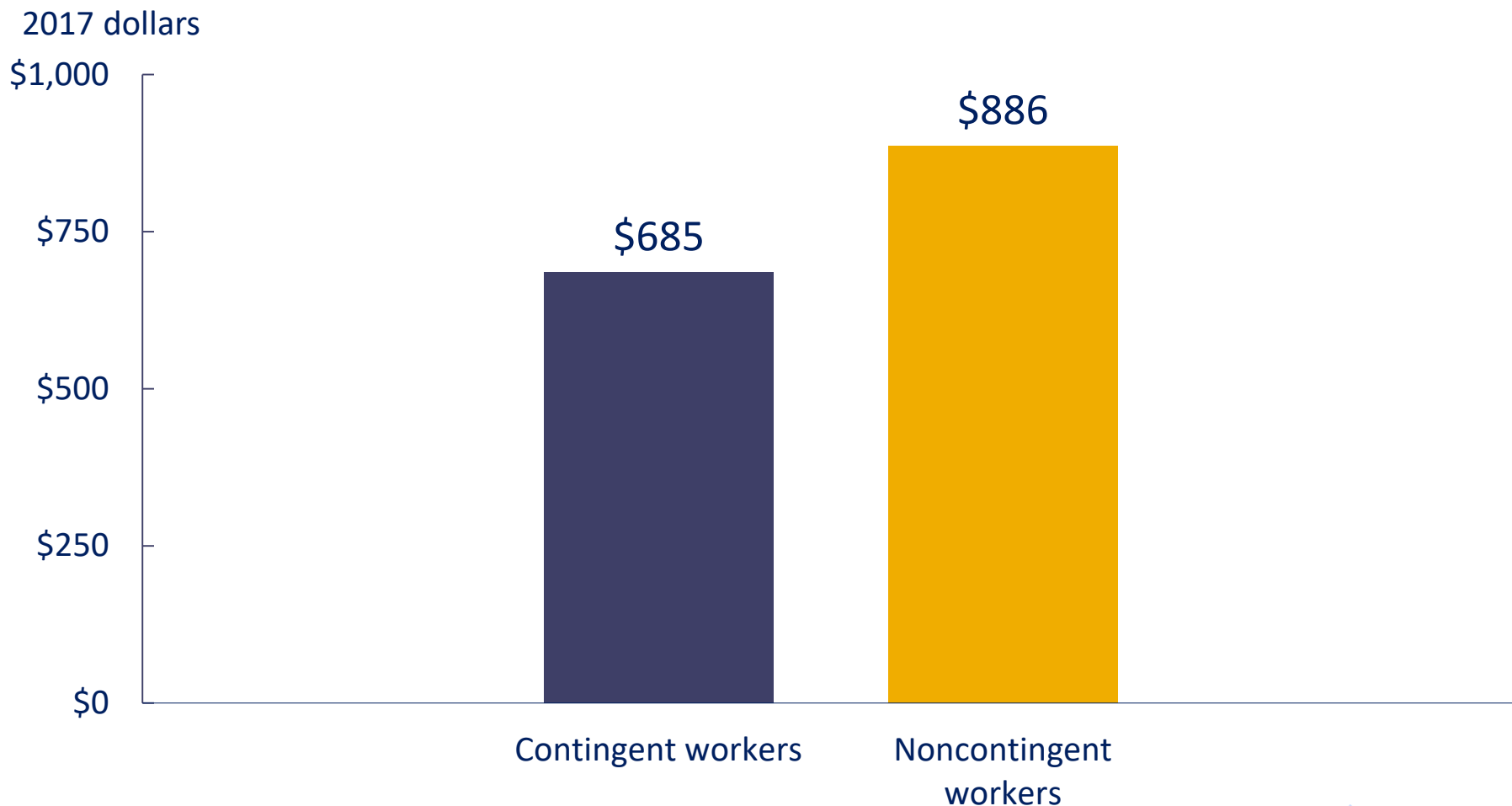
Percent of contingent and noncontingent workers eligible for employer-provided pension or retirement plans, May 2017



Source: May 2017 Contingent Worker Supplement, Current Population Survey



Median usual weekly earnings of full-time contingent and noncontingent workers, May 2017



Source: May 2017 Contingent Worker Supplement, Current Population Survey

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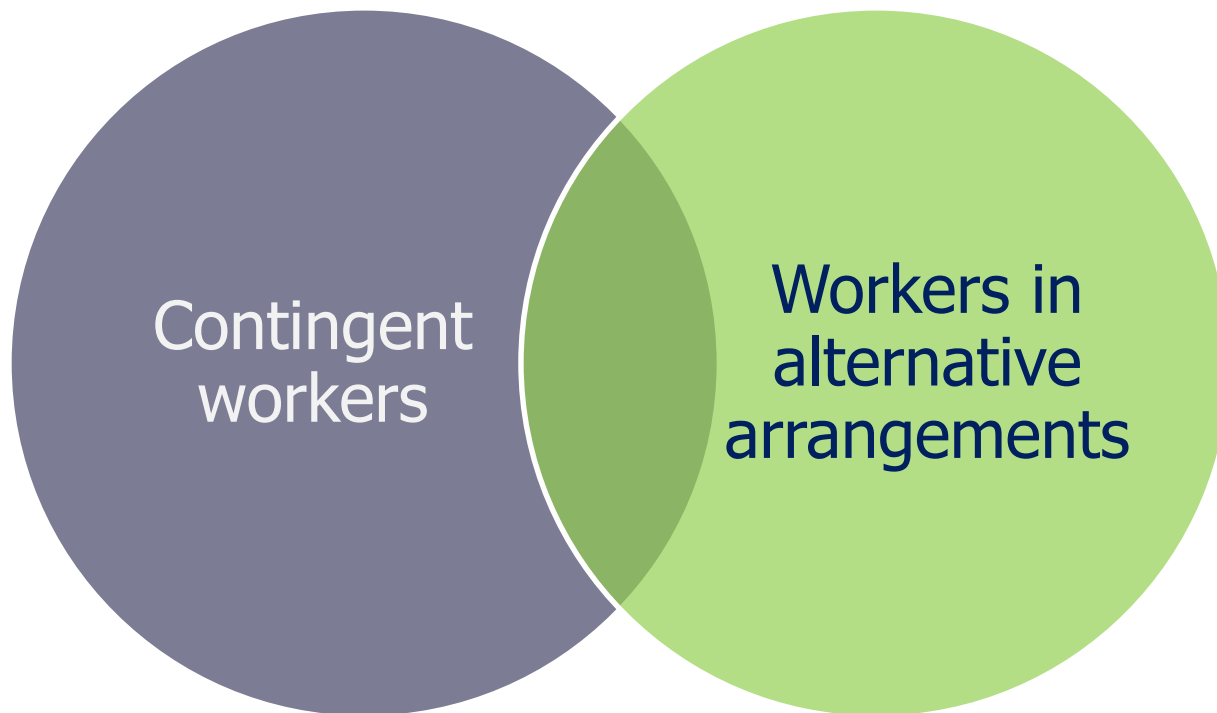


Four alternative employment arrangements

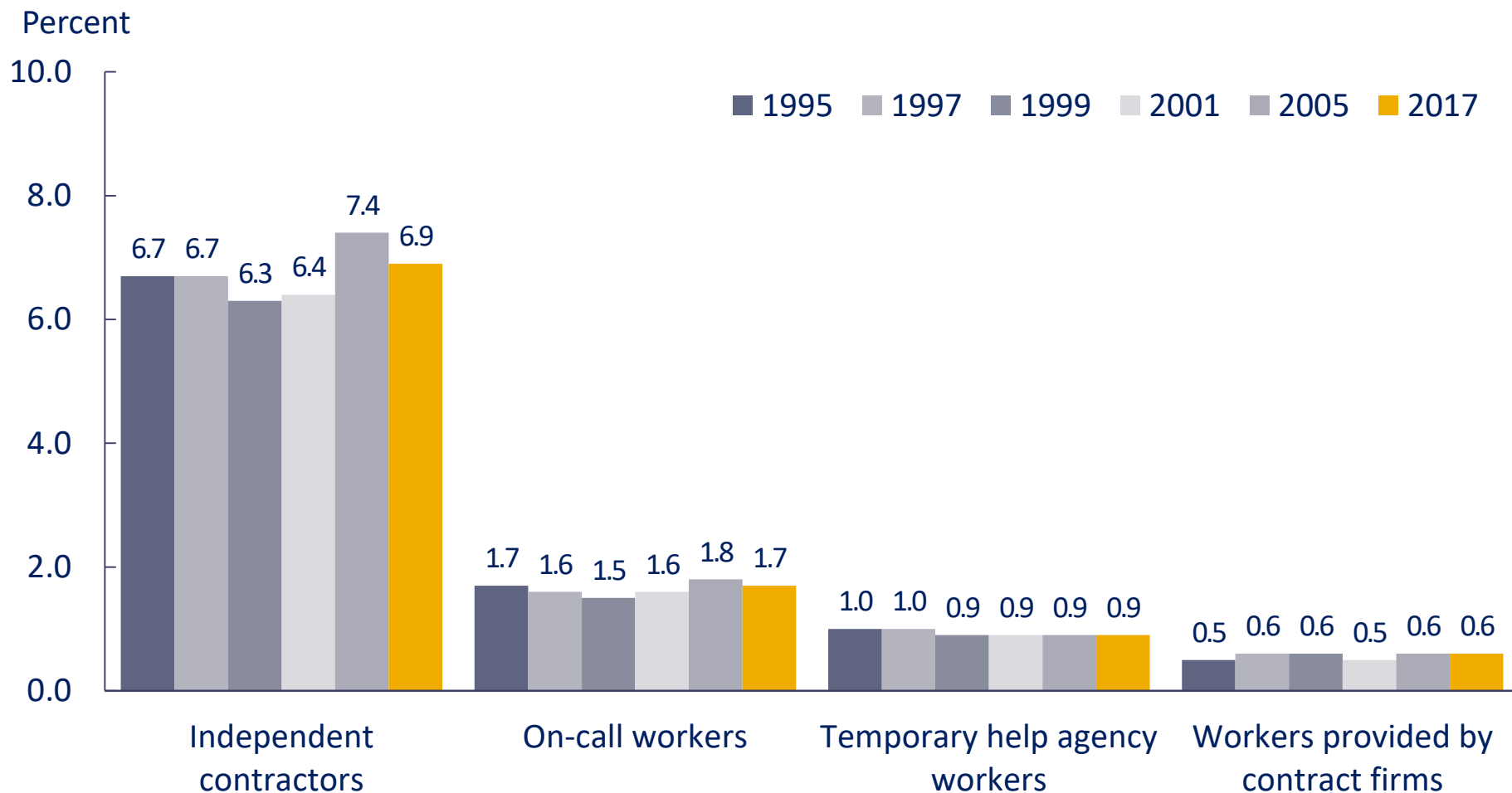
1. Independent contractors
2. On-call workers
3. Temporary help agency workers
4. Workers provided by contract firms



Contingent work and alternative employment arrangements



Workers in alternative arrangements as a percent of total employed, February 1995-2005 and May 2017

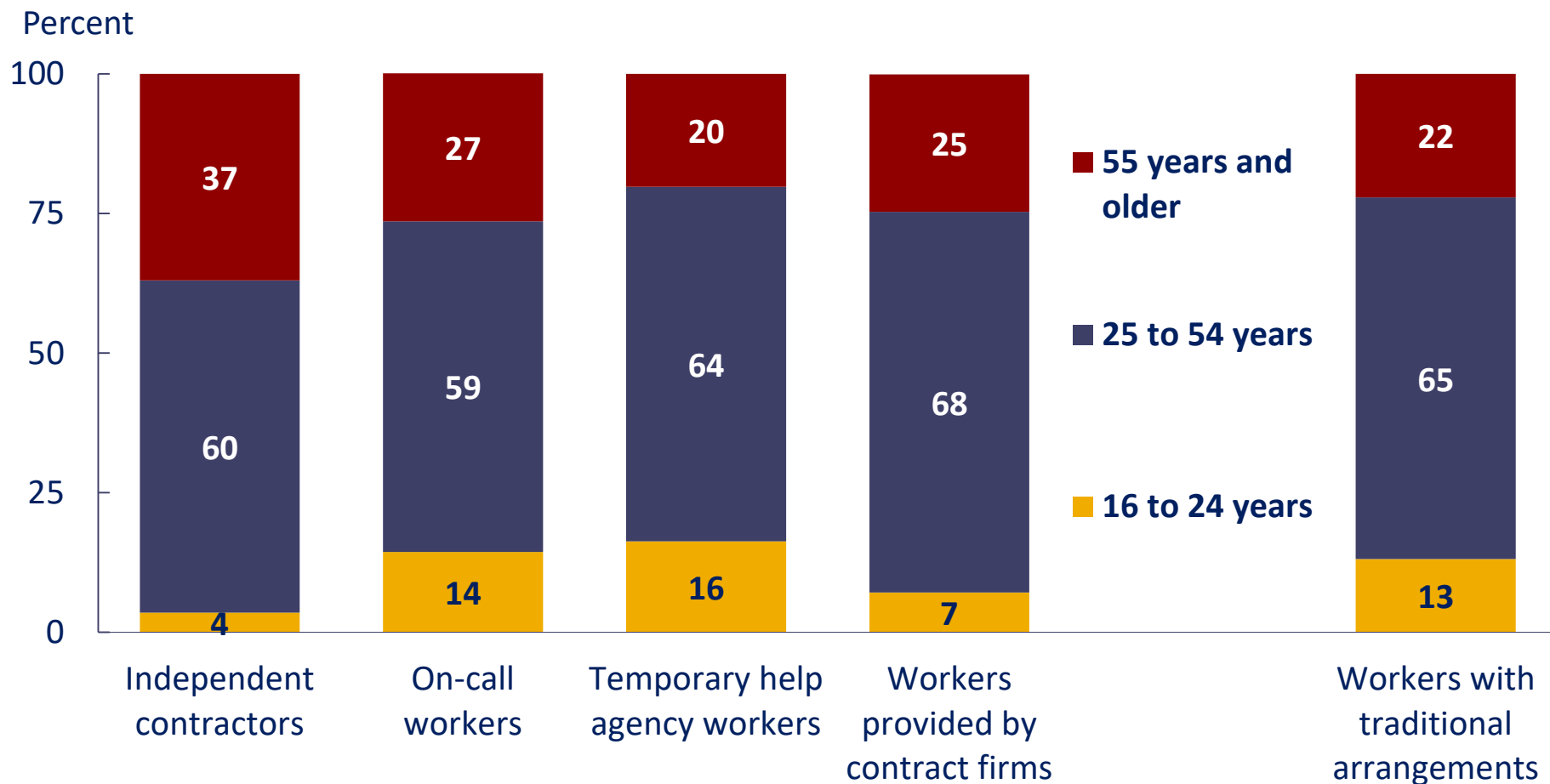


Source: Contingent Worker Supplements, Current Population Survey

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Age distribution of workers in alternative and traditional employment arrangements, May 2017



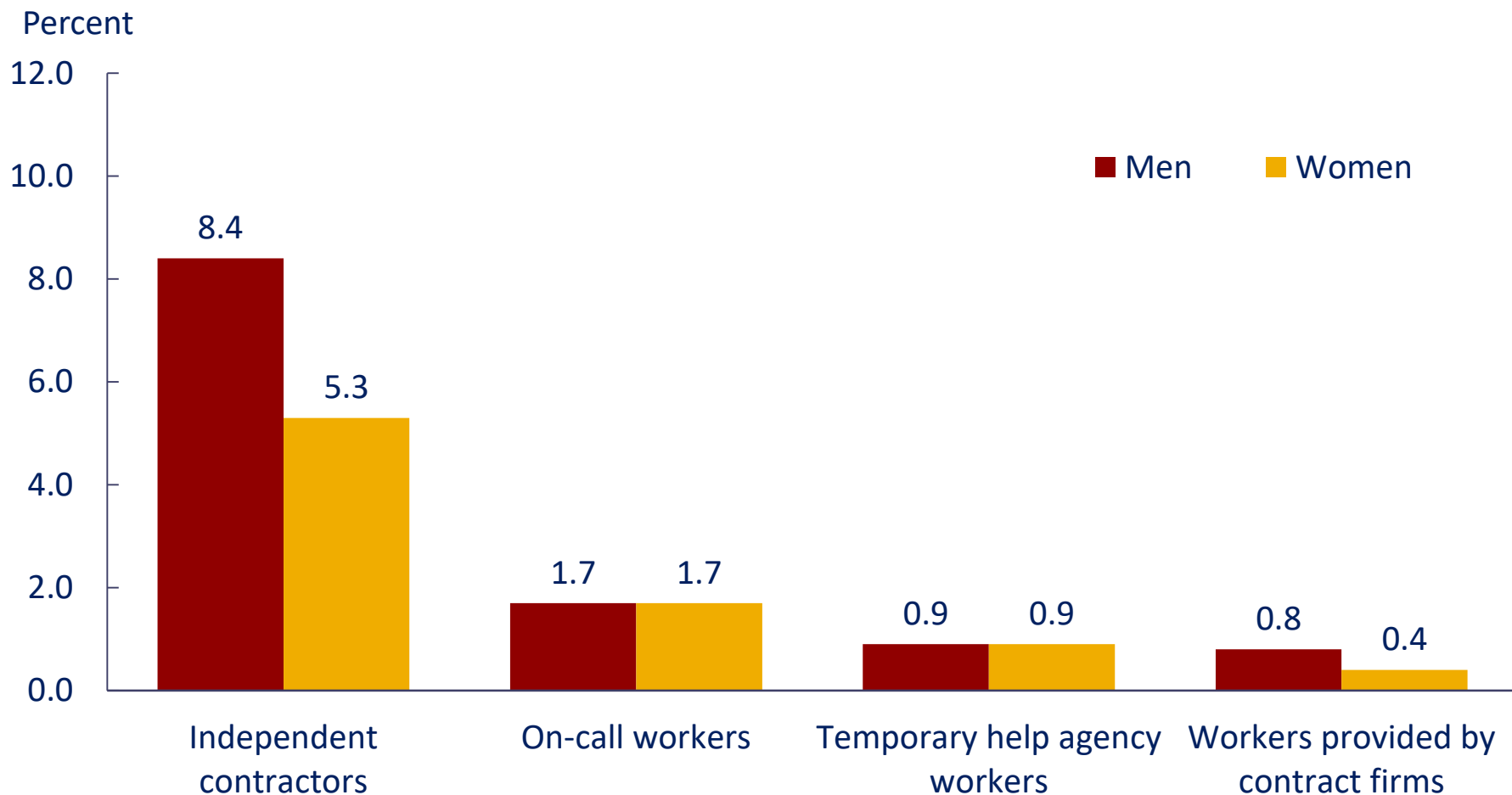
Note: Data may not sum to totals due to rounding.

Source: May 2017 Contingent Worker Supplement, Current Population Survey

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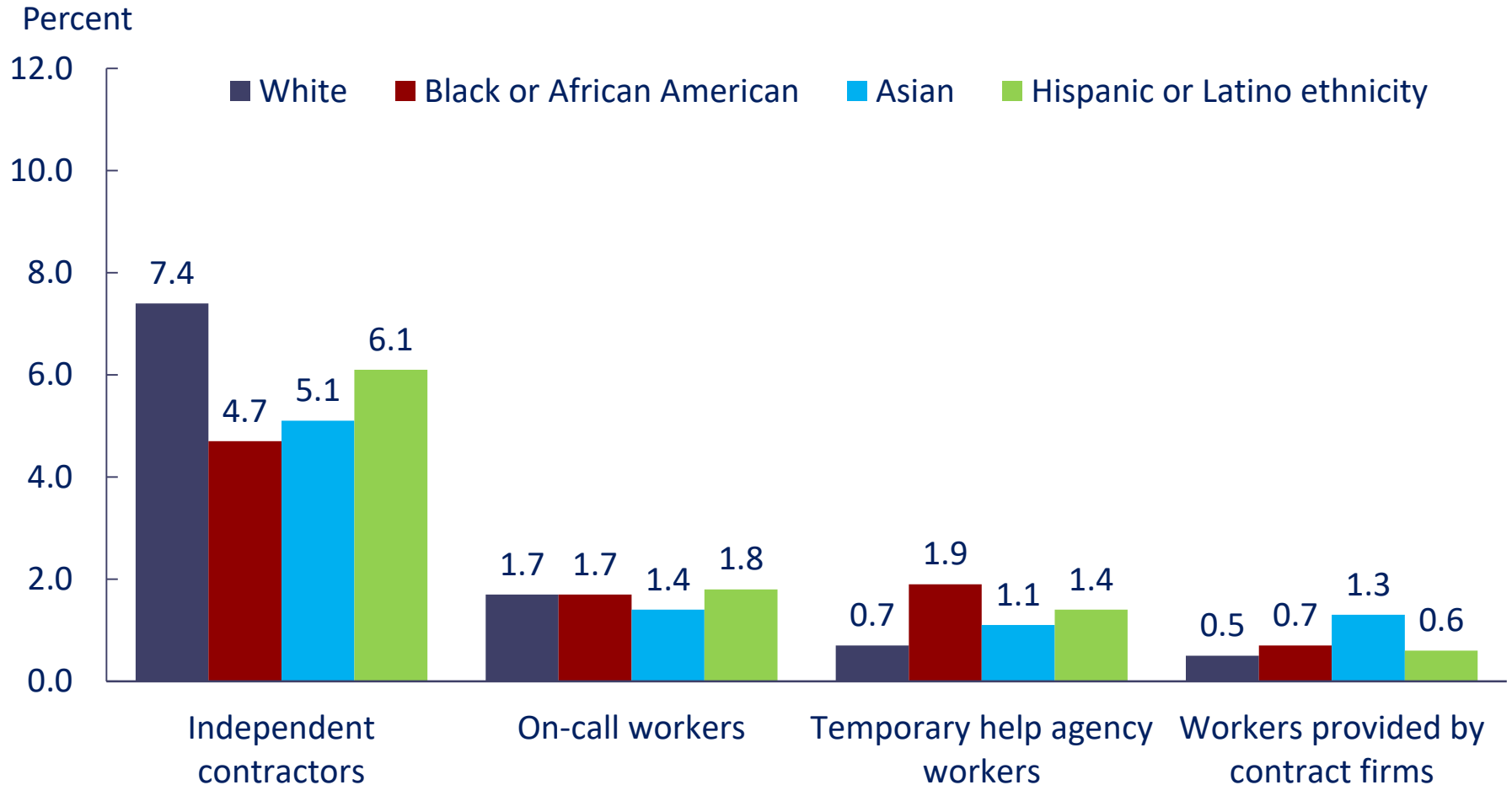
Workers in alternative arrangements as a percent of total employed by gender, May 2017



Source: May 2017 Contingent Worker Supplement, Current Population Survey



Workers in alternative arrangements as a percent of total employed by race and ethnicity, May 2017



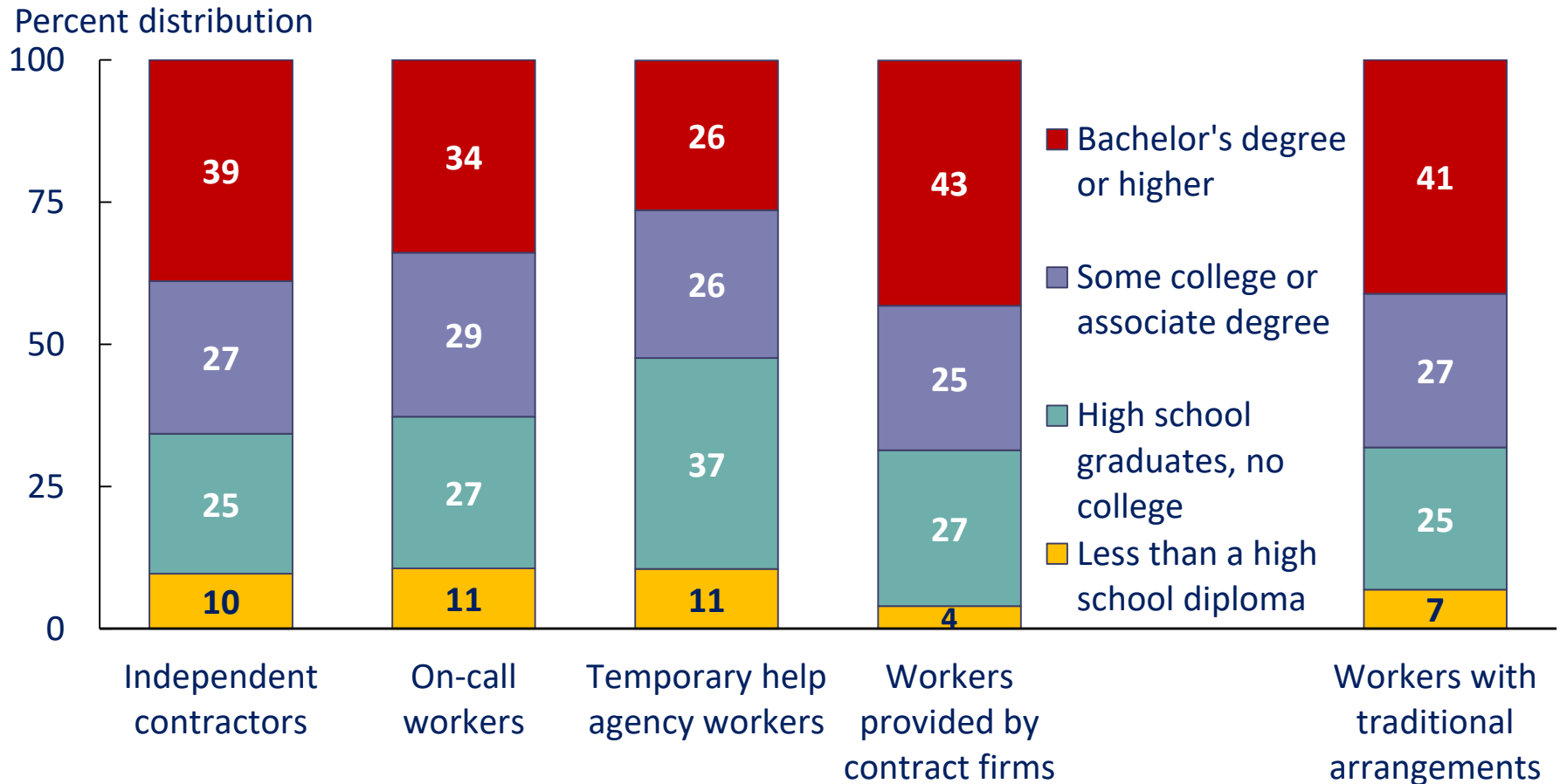
Note: Persons of Hispanic or Latino ethnicity may be of any race.

Source: May 2017 Contingent Worker Supplement, Current Population Survey

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Educational attainment of workers in alternative and traditional arrangements, age 25 to 64, May 2017



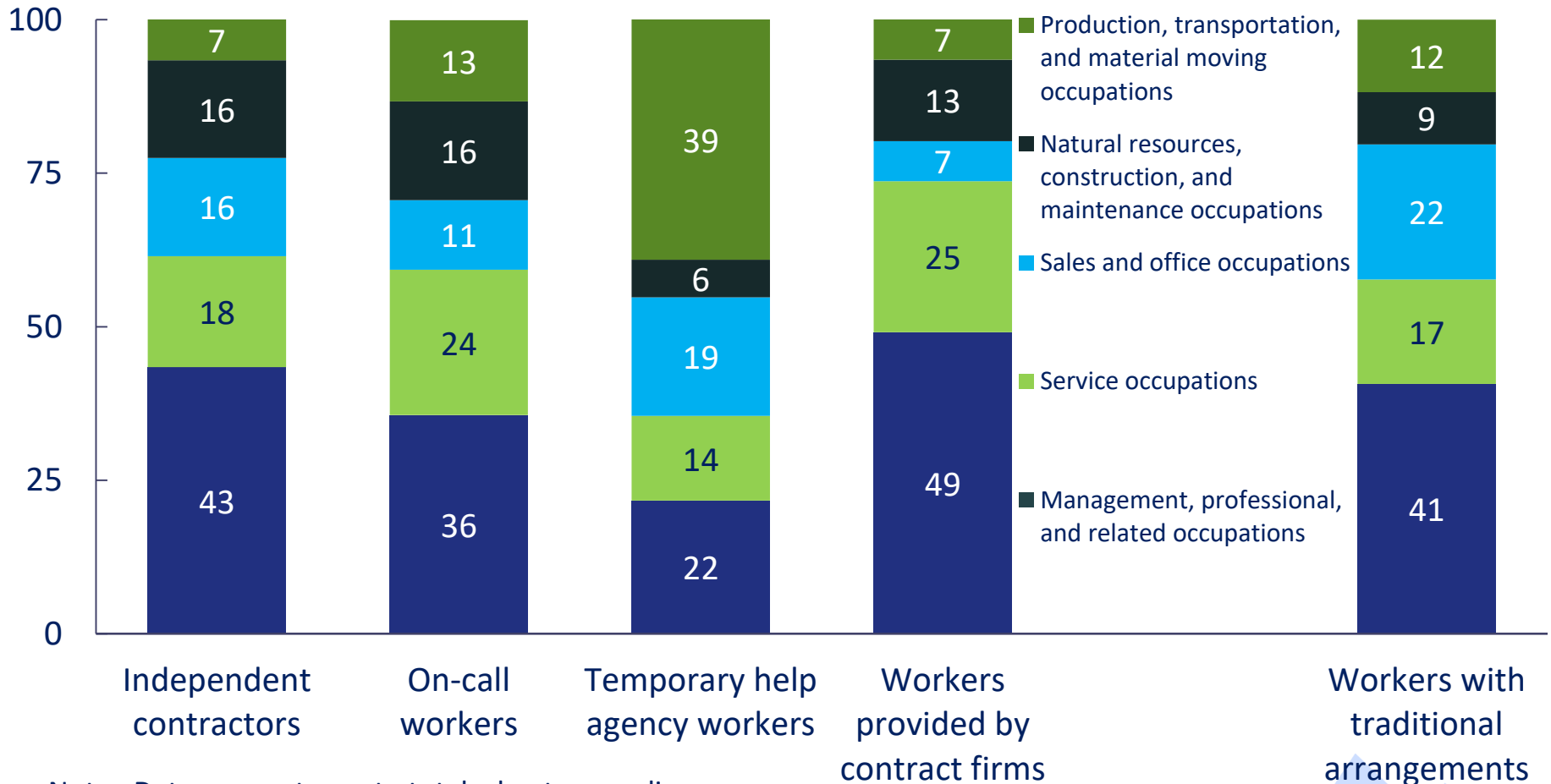
Note: Data may not sum to totals due to rounding.

Source: May 2017 Contingent Worker Supplement, Current Population Survey



Occupation of workers in alternative and traditional arrangements, May 2017

Percent distribution



Note: Data may not sum to totals due to rounding.

Source: May 2017 Contingent Worker Supplement, Current Population Survey



Occupations of workers in alternative arrangements compared to traditional arrangements

Independent contractors

Management, business and
financial occupations;
Sales and related;
Construction and extraction

Temporary help agency workers

Production, transportation and
material moving

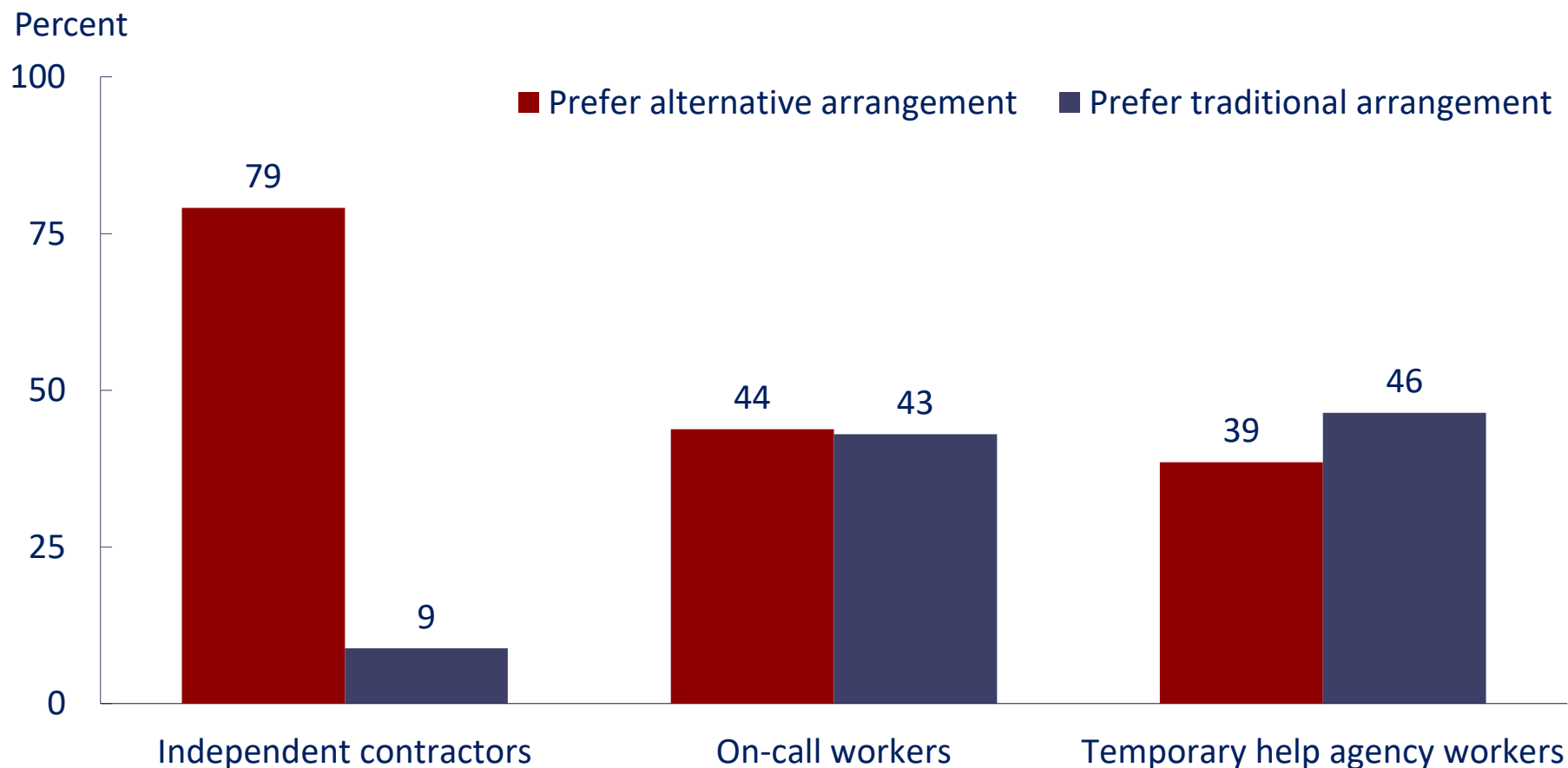
On-call workers

Professional and related;
Service;
Construction and extraction;
Transportation and material
moving

Contract company workers

Professional and related;
Service

Workers in alternative arrangements by their preference for a traditional work arrangement, May 2017

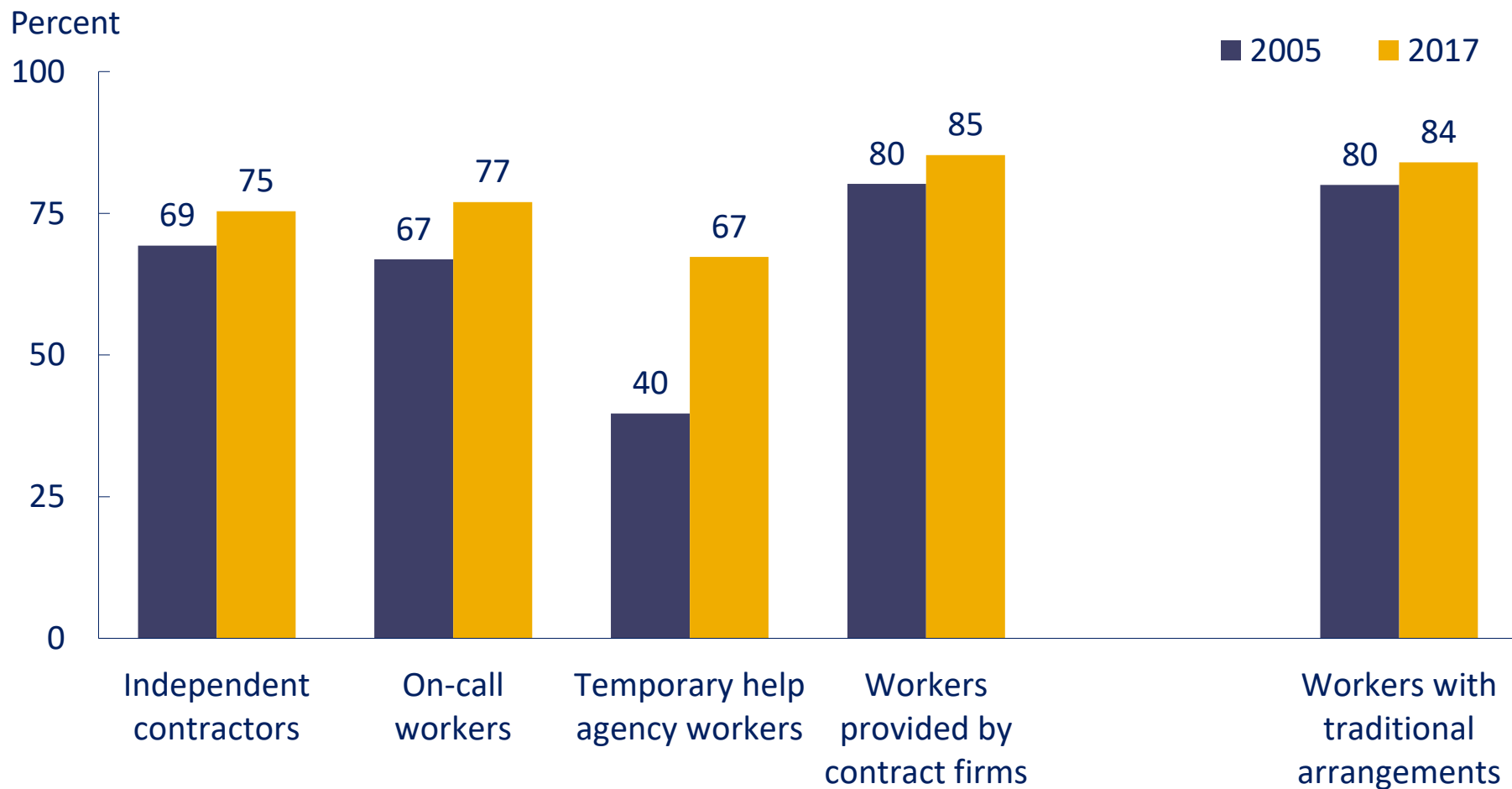


Note: Data are not shown for those answering “It depends” or who did not respond. Workers provided by contract firms were not asked about their preference for a traditional arrangement.

Source: May 2017 Contingent Worker Supplement, Current Population Survey



Percent of workers in alternative and traditional arrangements with health insurance coverage, February 2005 and May 2017

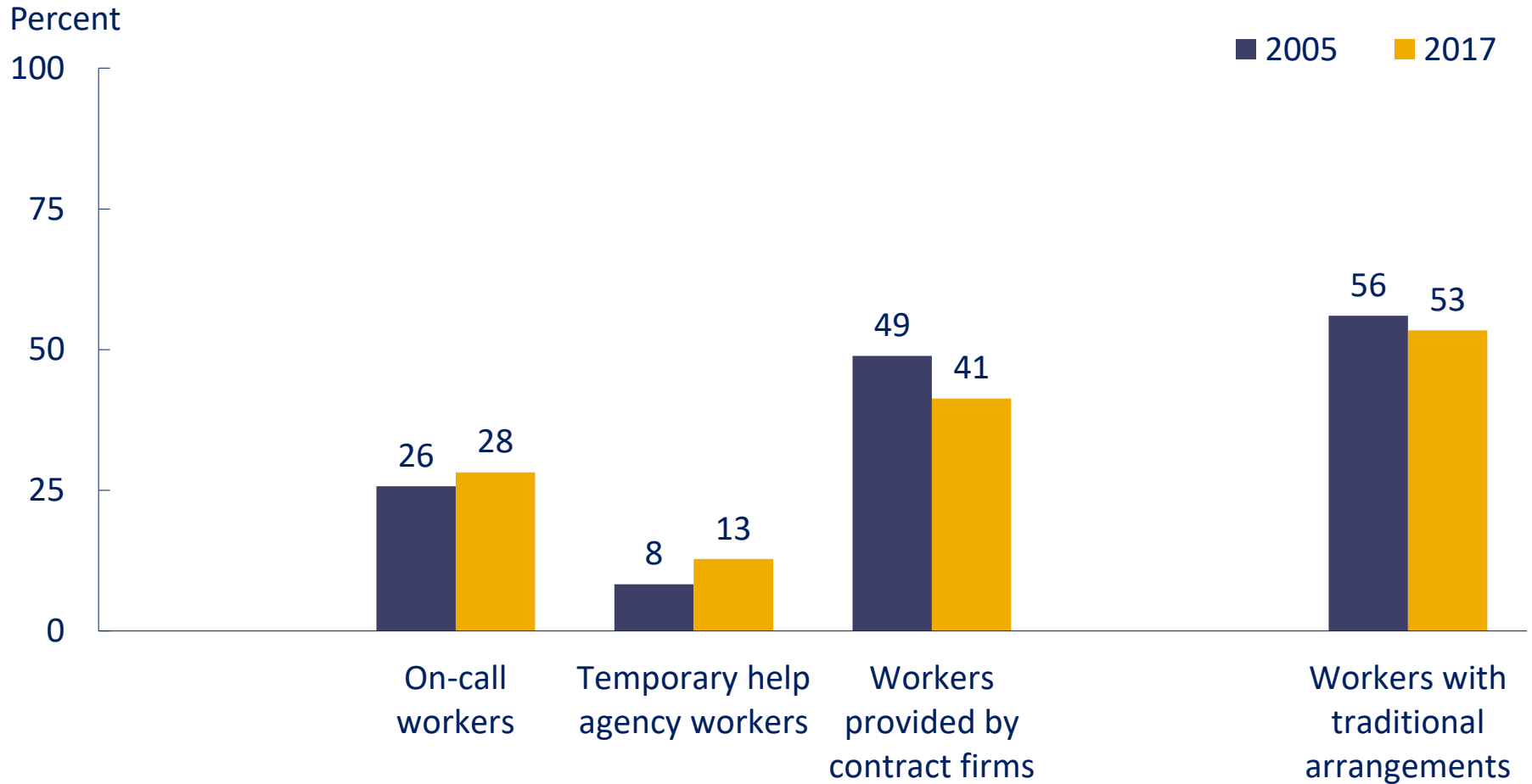


Source: February 2005 and May 2017 Contingent Worker Supplements, Current Population Survey

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Percent of workers in select alternative and traditional arrangements with employer-provided health insurance, February 2005 and May 2017



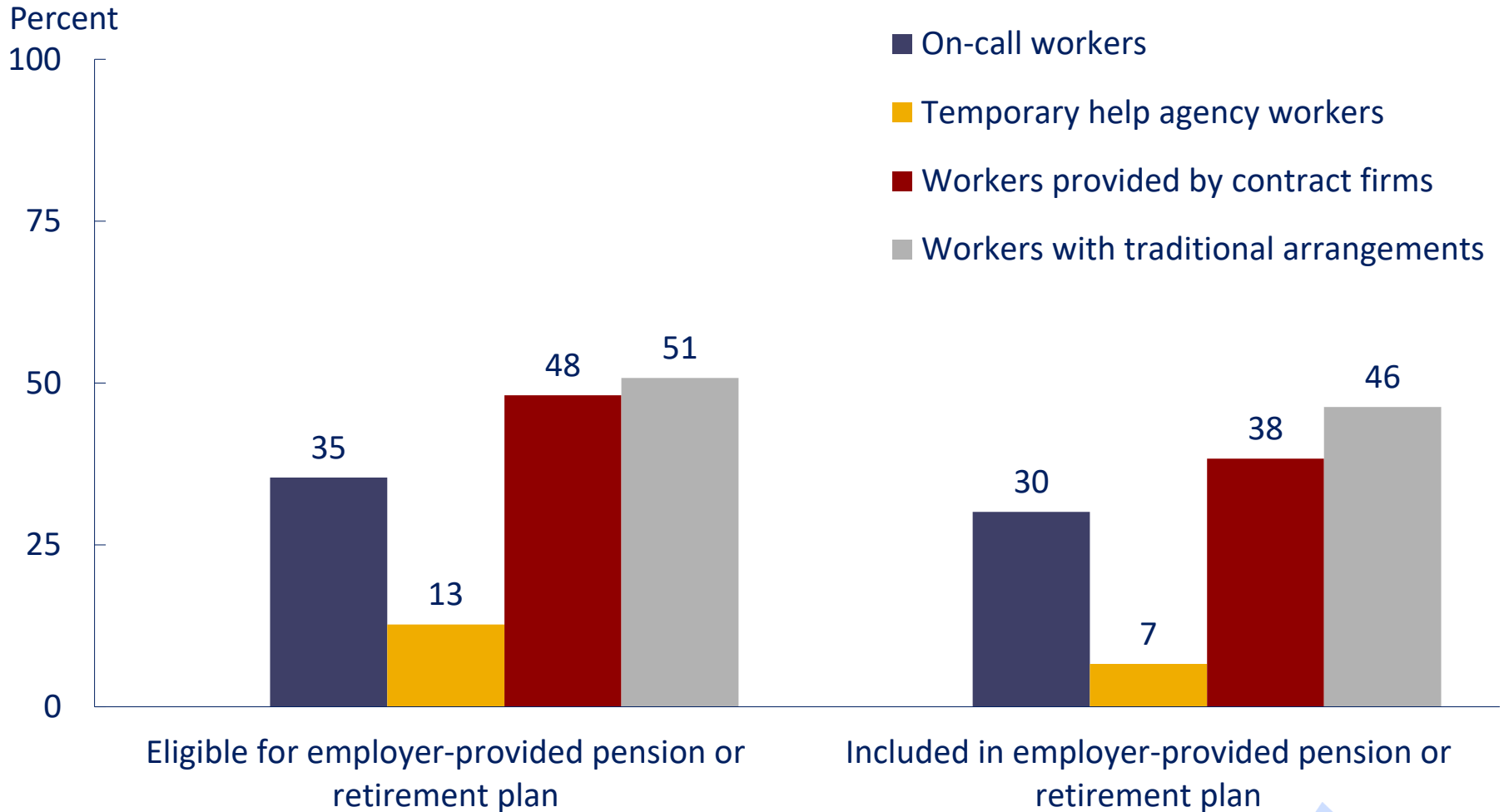
Note: Estimates for employer-provided health insurance were not tabulated for independent contractors.

Source: February 2005 and May 2017 Contingent Worker Supplements, Current Population Survey

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Percent of workers in select alternative and traditional arrangements eligible for employer-provided pension or retirement plans, May 2017



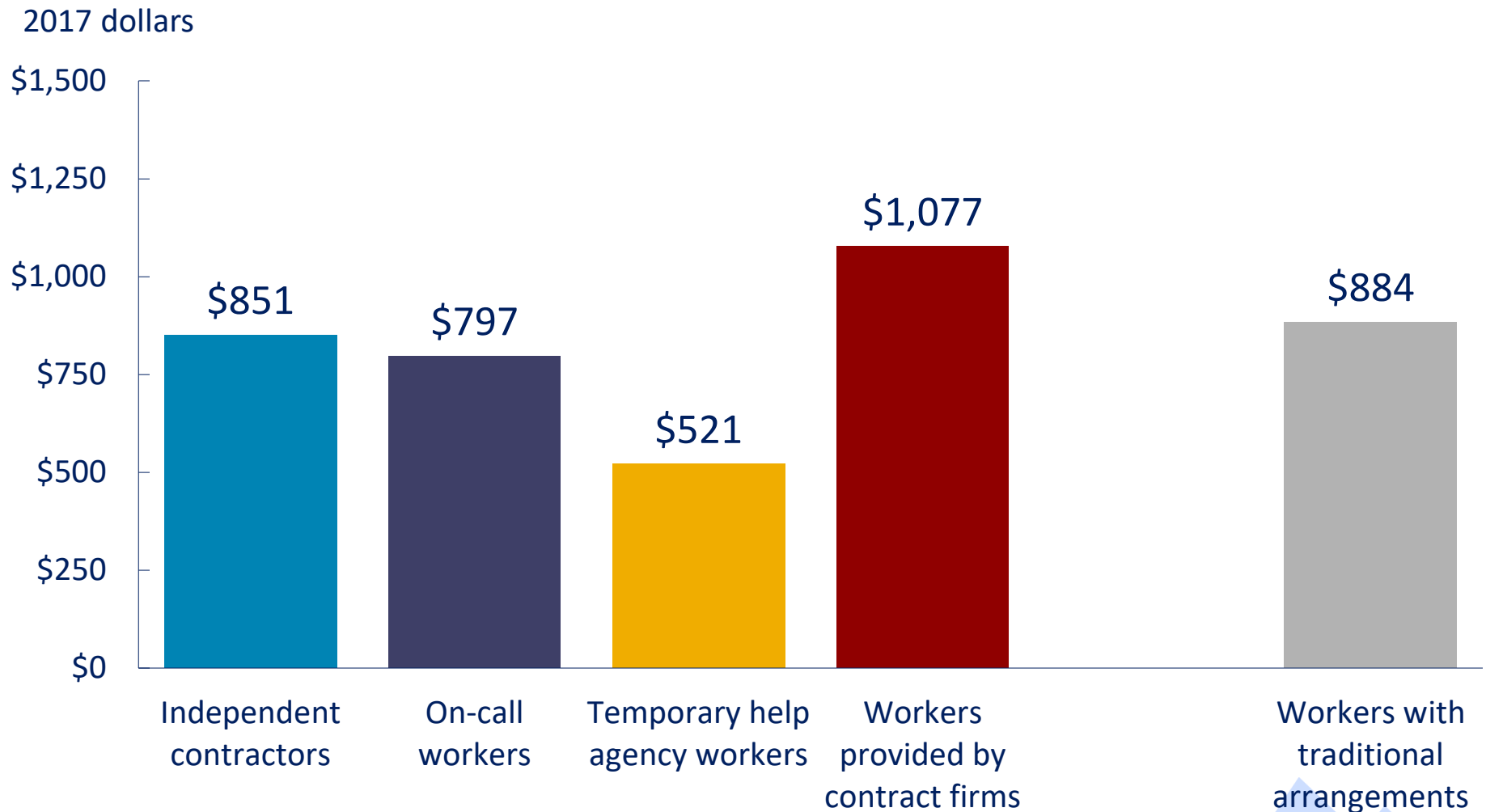
Note: These data were not collected for independent contractors.

Source: May 2017 Contingent Worker Supplement, Current Population Survey

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Median weekly earnings of full-time workers in alternative and traditional arrangements, May 2017



Source: May 2017 Contingent Worker Supplement, Current Population Survey



4 new questions

- Designed to identify people who found short tasks or jobs through a website or mobile app and were paid through same website or app
- These data will measure **electronically-mediated employment**, not necessarily the “gig economy”
- BLS evaluating data, results will be published by September 30, 2018



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