

## Most common

The most prevalent job in America is home health or personal care aide, numbering nearly 4 million workers, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Retail sales is number two, followed by fast food and counter workers. About 3.8 million people fill those positions.

Cashiers come in at number 6, followed by laborers, stockers and customer service representatives.

Restaurant wait staff, with 2.3 million workers, is 11th most common job. Restaurant cooks rank number 20.

## Working and caring

The predominance of home caregiver jobs is the tip of the iceberg. More than 63 million Americans provide care for an adult family member, and most of them have regular paid jobs as well, according to AARP.

Caregiving responsibilities create challenges for both employees and employers. The average caregiver spends about six hours a day caring for aging loved ones, according to New York Life Group Benefit Solutions.

Even if caregiving doesn't necessitate taking time off from work, the demands can strain focus and energy on the job. Companies can see productivity suffer.

The federal Family and Medical Leave Act provides up to 12 weeks of unpaid leave per year to care for immediate family members. However, the law applies only to employers with 50 or more workers, recognizing the hardships even un-

paid leave could cause small businesses. Staffing scheduling could be disrupted and small firms may not have multiple employees with the skills to fill in for time off.

Arizona's Fair Wages and Healthy Families Act (FWHFA) applies to virtually all Arizona employers. Employees earn paid medical leave at the rate of one hour of paid medical leave for every 30 hours of service. The time off may be used for health conditions of the employee or their family members.

Workers in businesses with less than 15 employees may only accrue or use 24 hours of earned paid sick time per year. Workers in larger firms may accrue or use 40 hours of earned paid sick time each year.



## Get rich secret

Want to get rich? Get old. That's the conclusion of the

"Growing Wealth with Age in America" research.

The data suggests that aging has historically been one of the most dependable routes to wealth. Baby boomers hold an outsized portion of national wealth, \$85.4 trillion.

The analysts attribute extended stock market and housing prices growth to boosting the finances of Americans who bought homes and invested early in life.

## Holding steady

Americans' credit card balances rose by \$44 billion in the fourth quarter of 2025 to a record high of \$1.28 trillion.

However, credit bureau Equifax noted that the average card balance of \$1,890 was just about what it was a year before, despite 2.7% inflation.