

# Incarcerated Adults in the United States:

## Prior to Incarceration

### Recidivism

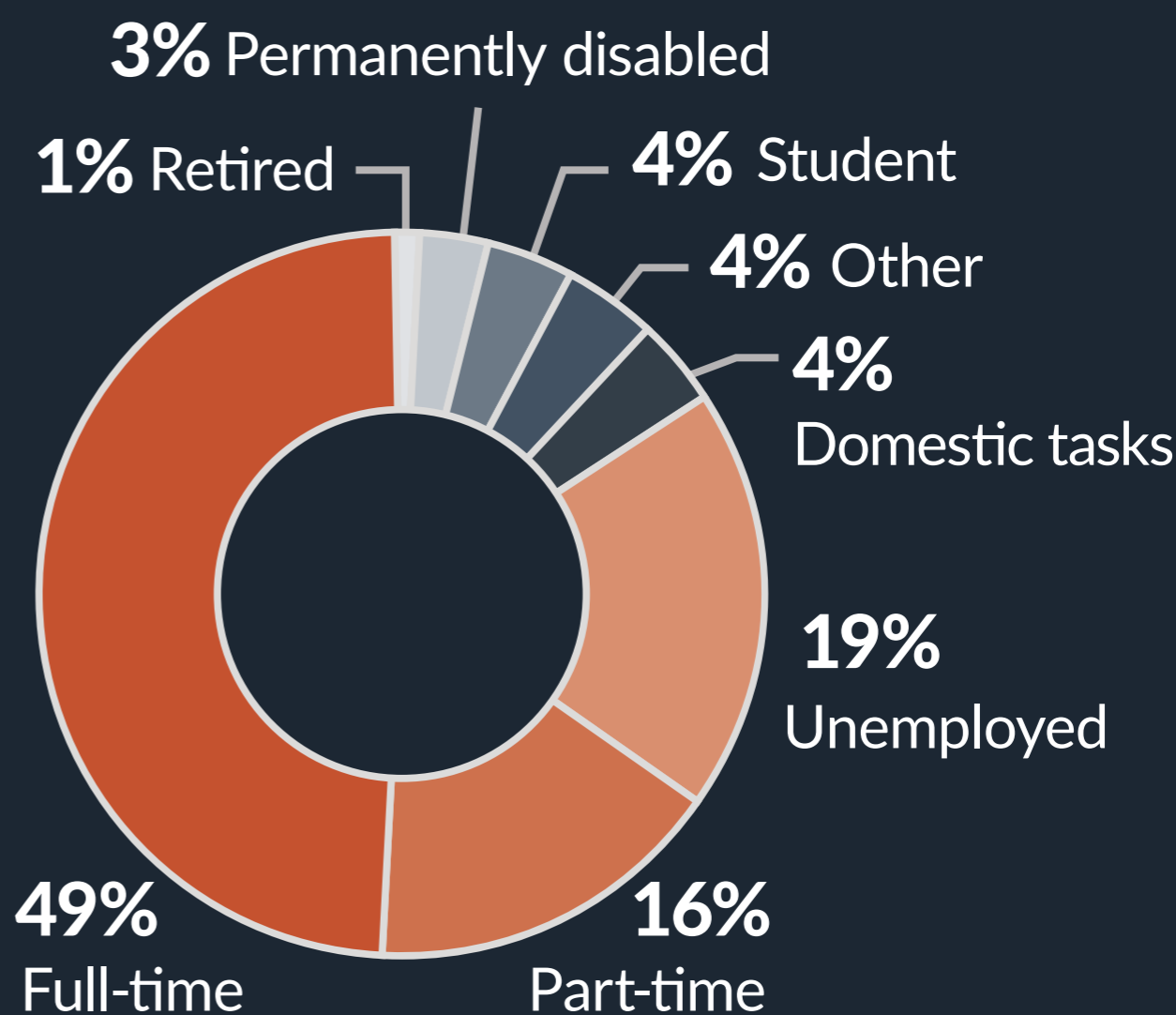
In 2014, **73%** of incarcerated adults were **previously incarcerated**.



### Previous Employment

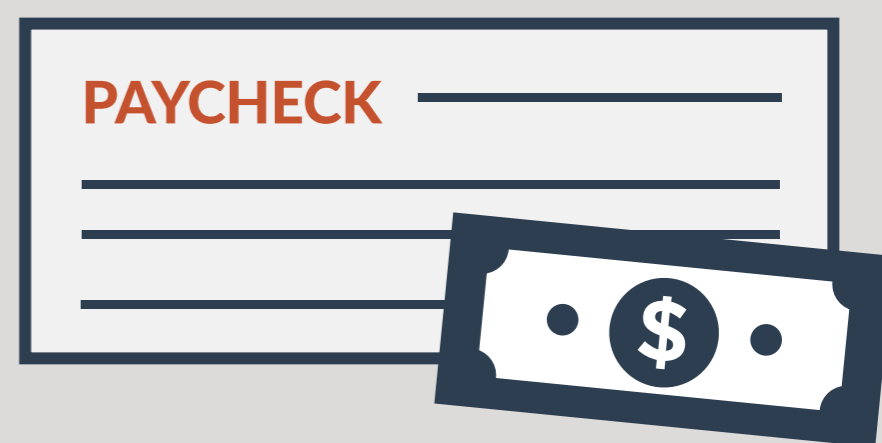


Prior to their most recent incarceration, **nearly half of incarcerated adults were employed full-time.**<sup>1</sup>



### Income Sources Prior to Incarceration

The **majority of incarcerated adults made money from paid jobs** prior to incarceration.<sup>2</sup>



**68%** Paid jobs

**27%** Family or friends

**23%** Illegal sources

**8%** Social Security or other pension(s)

**8%** Welfare or charity

**6%** Other

**4%** Educational scholarship or grant

**3%** Unemployment insurance or workman's compensation

<sup>1</sup> Numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number; not all categories are shown.

<sup>2</sup> Numbers may sum to more than 100 percent because respondents could select more than one category.

SOURCES: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, U.S. Program for the International Assessment of Adult Competencies (PIAAC), U.S. National Supplement: Prison Study 2014, U.S. PIAAC 2012/2014.

Rampey, B., Keiper, S., Mohadjer, L., Krenzke, T., Li, J., Thornton, N., & Hogan, J. (2016, November). *Highlights from the U.S. PIAAC Survey of Incarcerated Adults: Their skills, work experience, education, and training: Program for the International Assessment of Adult Competencies, 2014* (NCES 2016-040). Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics. Retrieved from <https://nces.ed.gov/pubs2016/2016040.pdf>