American Community Survey (ACS)
Why We Ask: Class of Worker

We ask about whether a person was a private employee, government employee, self-employed, or working without pay in a family business to produce statistics about class of worker. These statistics are used to understand more about the type of ownership of employing organizations, to plan and measure education, employment, career development and job training programs, and to measure compliance with antidiscrimination policies.

Examples of Federal Uses
- Required to support cooperative agricultural extension work.
- Used to enforce nondiscrimination provisions in employment by private employers, government agencies, and labor organizations. Used in federal affirmative employment programs, to identify under-representation in job categories, including veterans and people with disabilities.
- Used to help make other federal surveys more accurate, including those that produce the nation's official labor market estimates.

Examples of Other Uses
State and local agencies use these statistics to identify the percentage of people employed full-time, and the percentage of residents who work in each community year-round.