BROADHURST
Financial Advisors, Inc.

A Smaller Piece of the Pie

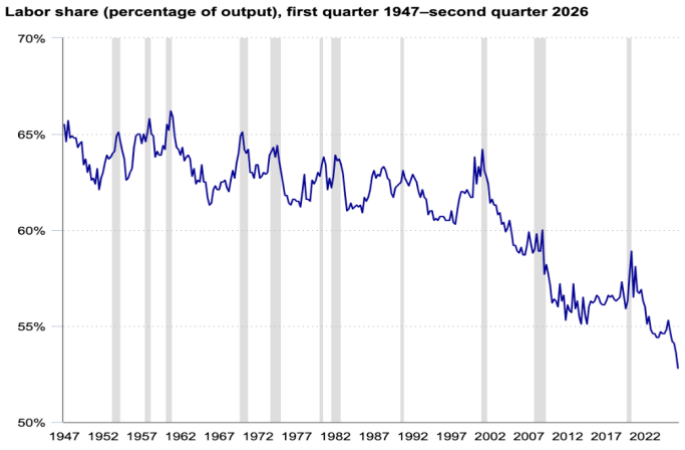
November 13, 2026

We keep reading vague reports that American workers don't feel like they're keeping up with the robust economy, and that workers today (and especially tomorrow) are not able to experience the living standards that their parents did.

But have you ever seen tangible evidence that this is true?

The latest report from the Bureau of Labor Statistics includes an eye-opening chart that maps, since 1947, the percentage of total 'production' (think corporate revenues) paid to the workers employed by corporations. In other words, how much do corporations and shareholders get to keep of the money they take in, vs. how much is paid out to the workers?

The chart shows that from 1947 through 2005, the workers' share of the pie ranged from 60% to 65%. But, as you can see on the graph, that percentage has been in steep decline for the past 20 years, and now stands at roughly 47%—and is dropping like a stone. And, yes, the workers' figure counts wages, salaries, benefits, pensions and other earnings.



This would seem to validate the idea that workers today are less well-off than their parents, and more corporate work and industrial production becomes automated. But the most eye-opening part of the graph is the last few years, where the workers' share of the pie seems to be falling off a cliff. This period coincides with the advent of AI in the business ecology. Could there be a correlation?

Source:

https://www.bls.gov/opub/ted/2026/labor-share-at-its-lowest-level-52-8-percent-in-second-quarter-2026.htm

If you have any questions about this article or want to discuss your family finances, investment portfolio, or financial planning advice, please call on me anytime at my number (215) 325-1595 or you can click here to schedule a meeting.

Please feel free to forward this article and offer to anyone you know who might have financial questions or need some unbiased advice. Most financial advice is sales advice. In stark contrast, we are fee-only (non-commissioned) fiduciary advisors. We just provide truthful, unbiased advice to our clients.



Jeffrey Broadhurst
MBA, CFA, CFP
Broadhurst Financial Advisors, Inc.

PRIVACY NOTICE*

This message is intended only for the individual or entity to which it is addressed and may contain information that is privileged, confidential, or exempt from disclosure under applicable federal or state law. You are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution, or copying of this communication, except in accordance with its intended purpose, is strictly prohibited.

Our physical and mail address:
1911 West Point Pike
P.O. Box 301
West Point, PA 19486-0301

Contact us:
Phone: (215) 325-1595
Email: jeff@broadhurstfinancial.com