



## Internet Association Sharing Economy Members Provide Flexible Jobs For Workers

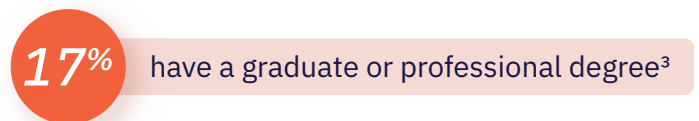
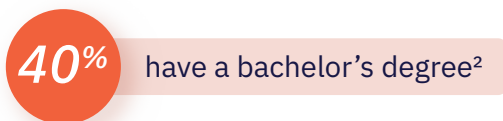
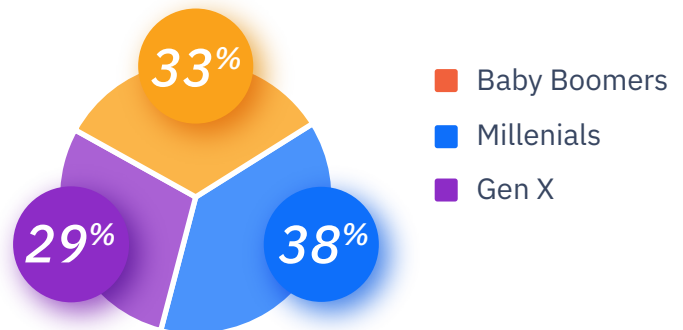
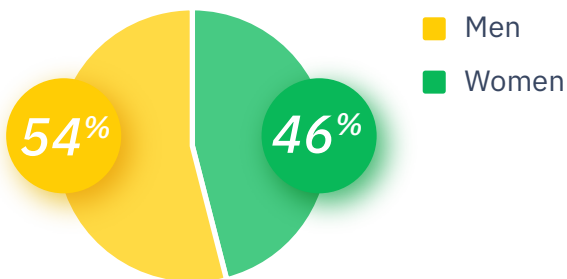
The sharing economy brings unprecedented benefits to on-demand workers. Any small business, freelancer, contractor, cleaning service, or handyperson who has been able to expand their market, find new clients, build their businesses, or just use their skills to earn some extra money through internet-enabled platforms can speak to the transformational nature of this new economy.



### Did You Know?

**There are 24 Million Online Income Positions in the U.S.**  
according to IA's True Size Of The Online Labor Force report

### Who Are Independent Contractors?<sup>1</sup>



### Workers Turn To The Sharing Economy To Earn Supplemental Income

- Only 14 percent of workers stated that they would prefer traditional employment but are working on-demand platforms as their primary income.<sup>4</sup>
  - This mirrors IA research, which shows that sharing economy participation is correlated with cost of living, poverty, and GDP per capita.*
- IA also found no correlation between a state's unemployment rate and the prevalence of sharing economy workers in that state.

<sup>1 2 3</sup> <https://s29814.pcdn.co/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/MBO-SOI-2019.pdf>

<sup>4</sup> [http://www3.weforum.org/docs/WEF\\_The\\_Promise\\_of\\_Platform\\_Work.pdf](http://www3.weforum.org/docs/WEF_The_Promise_of_Platform_Work.pdf)



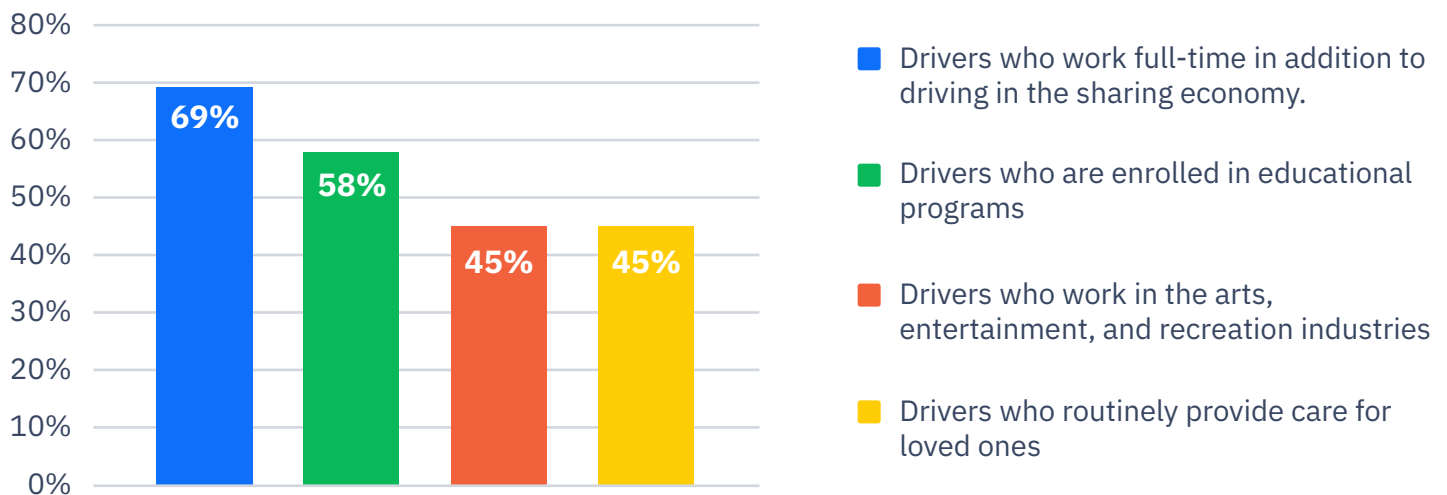
**The sharing economy provides individuals a high level of autonomy, flexibility, and variety to choose when, how, and where they can earn income.** Research shows that individuals enjoy a less traditional type of work arrangement, in which they work fewer hours and have more time for their personal life.



### Did You Know?

- 85% of independent workers want to continue on-demand work<sup>5</sup>
- 81% of drivers say that flexibility is important because they like to set their own schedule<sup>6</sup>
- 93% of drivers say a flexible schedule is very or extremely important to them<sup>7</sup>

## Drivers Who Say Flexibility Is Important To Them<sup>8</sup>



## Current Worker Reclassification Legislation Threatens The Unique Worker Arrangement Of The Sharing Economy At The Expense Of Workers

- Reclassifying sharing economy workers as freelance workers would increase the labor costs of sharing economy companies by about 30 percent and hinder the flexibility that sharing economy companies and workers rely on.<sup>9</sup>
- The introduction of AB5 has put many Californians out of work, including independent contractors who worked in journalism, musicians, truckers, and therapists.<sup>10</sup>

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.metlife.com/employee-benefit-trends/ebts-gig-economy-2019/>

<sup>6 7 8</sup> <https://www.lyftimpact.com/stats/national>

<sup>9</sup> <https://qz.com/1643263/the-cost-to-uber-and-lyft-if-drivers-were-employees/>

<sup>10</sup> <https://www.northbaybusinessjournal.com/northbay/solanocounty/10693528-181/california-ab5-employment-law>

### About Internet Association

Internet Association represents over 40 of the world's leading internet companies. IA's mission is to foster innovation, promote economic growth, and empower people through the free and open internet. For more information, visit [www.internetassociation.org](http://www.internetassociation.org)