

FREELANCING IN AMERICA

2016

In its third year, "Freelancing in
America" is the most comprehensive
study of the independent workforce.
Commissioned by Freelancers Union
and Upwork, this study analyzes the
size of the growing freelance
economy and provides insights into
the lives of independent workers. This
year, we examined the potential
impact of freelancer voters on the
2016 presidential election.





55 million Americans are freelancing

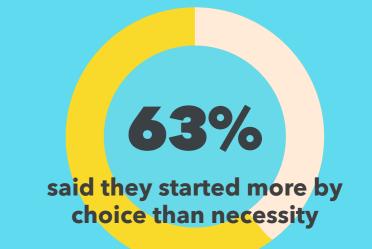
That's 35% of the US workforce



Freelancers contribute an estimated \$1 TRILLION annually in freelance earnings to our economy



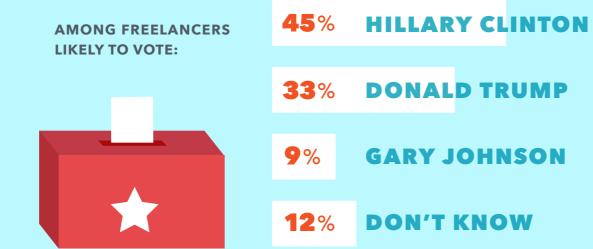
More people are choosing freelancing:







of freelancers say they are likely to vote in the 2016 election



70%

of freelancers said we need more discussion of how to empower the independent workforce



All workers should have access to health and retirement benefits regardless of their employment status.

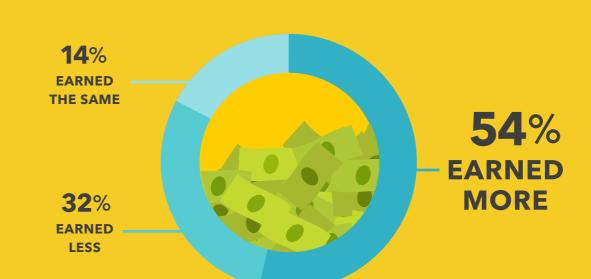
Freelancers need stronger protections to ensure that clients pay.

Freelancers should have a strong voice in deciding issues about their work.

Technology's role:

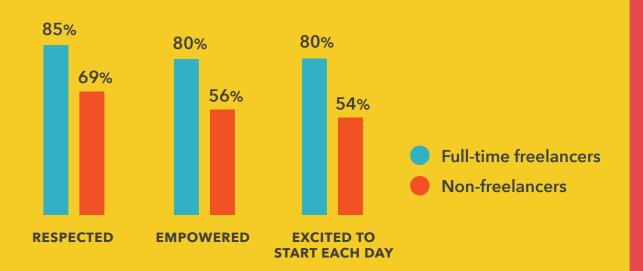


The majority of freelancers who left a full-time job made more within a year



79% said freelancing is better than working a traditional job

Freelancers are significantly more likely to feel respected, empowered, and excited to start each day



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