

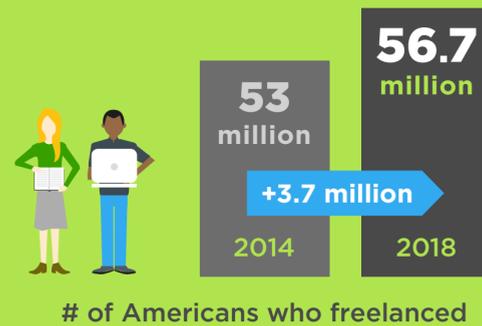
FREELANCING IN AMERICA

2018

This study, conducted by an independent research firm and commissioned in partnership by Upwork and Freelancers Union, surveyed more than 6,000 U.S. workers. In its fifth year, findings show Americans are spending more than 1 billion hours per week freelancing. Beyond quantifying the amount of freelancing happening, new insights delve into why people are increasingly choosing to work this way.



56.7 million Americans freelanced this year



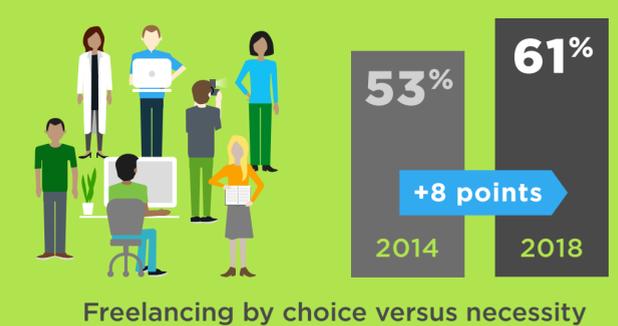
of Americans who freelanced

Americans are spending more time freelancing



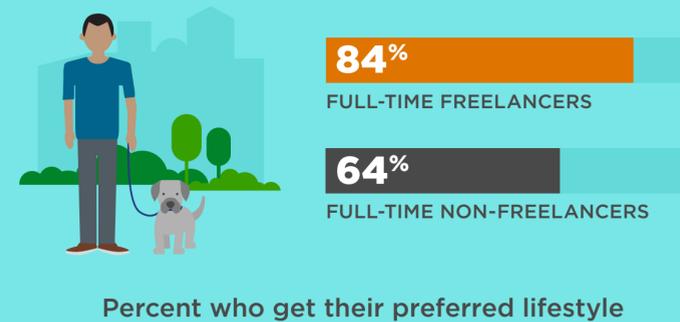
Hours spent on freelance work per week

More people are choosing to freelance



Freelancing by choice versus necessity

Nearly everyone prioritizes lifestyle over earnings

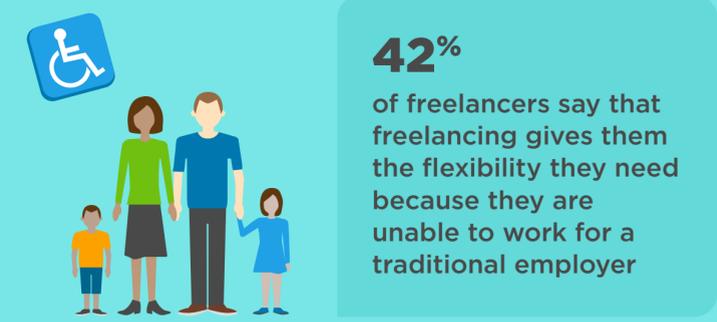


Percent who get their preferred lifestyle

Freelance lifestyles bring some anxiety but better balance



Freelancing provides more opportunities

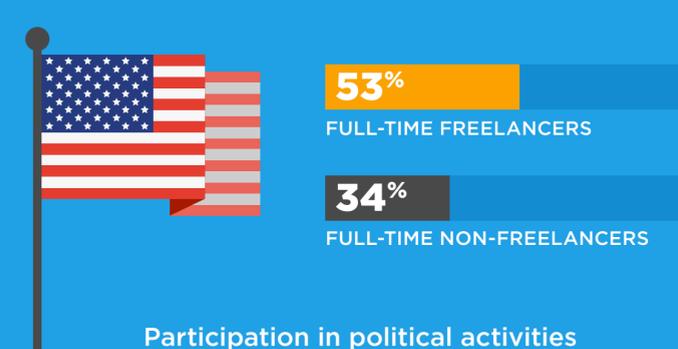


Freelancers value skills training over a formal education



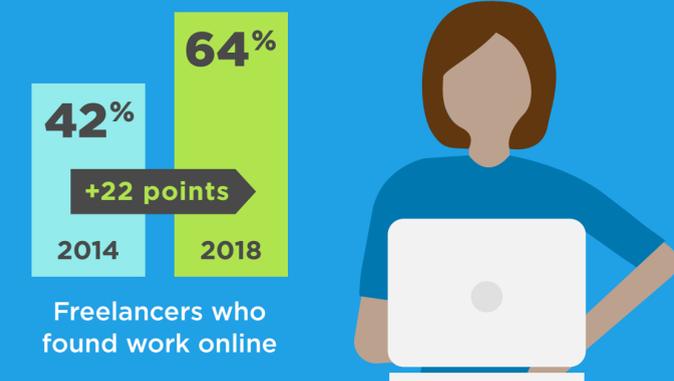
Type of education more useful to the work freelancers with at least a 4-year college degree do now

Freelancers are more politically active



Participation in political activities

Tech is enabling freelancing



Freelancers who found work online

Freelancers are becoming more optimistic about freelancing's future

