

APP-BASED DRIVING OFFERS THE FLEXIBILITY WOMEN NEED



Women drivers statewide are asking to work with legislative leaders in the coming months to shape a better future for app-based rideshare and delivery drivers statewide. **88% of surveyed Massachusetts women would support a solution that allows drivers to remain independent while gaining access to new benefits.**¹

A study published in a US Department of Labor Statistics journal explained that women “desire [flexible] benefits as they pursue careers and families.” The same study found that flexible hours increased female workers’ productivity and wages.² Another study found that women returning to the labor force after maternity leave “are willing to sacrifice a significant fraction of their wage” to “enjoy a flexible work schedule.”³

Some politicians want to reclassify app-based drivers as employees, which would take away what drivers love most: flexibility and control of their own schedules – benefits that are especially valuable to women drivers.

Who Are Women Drivers?

Women who drive for app-based platforms are moms, caretakers, students, retirees, and small business owners. A full **two-thirds** of female drivers do other work besides driving. **Half** of women drivers have a child under the age of 18 at home. Most (**65%** of surveyed women) do not have college degree and **half** identify with people of color. An overwhelming majority of women surveyed (**86%**) said they would recommend app-based driving to friends and family.⁴



¹ Beacon Research, Massachusetts App-Based Rideshare and Delivery Driver Survey, May 2021.

² Bonnie Sue Gariety and Sherrill Shaffer (2001) “Wage differentials associated with flextime,” Monthly Labor Review 124:68-75, at p. 74.

³ Christina Felfe (2012) “The Willingness to Pay for Job Amenities: Evidence from Mothers’ Return to Work,” ILR Review 65(2):472-454, at p. 472.

⁴ Beacon Research, Massachusetts App-Based Rideshare and Delivery Driver Survey, March 2022.

Women Drivers Value The Flexibility Of App-Based Work

Why do so many women say they would recommend this work to family and friends? 100% of women surveyed indicated that being able to control their own schedule is “a major reason” why they chose to be app-based drivers.⁵ 79% say covering gaps in their incomes is a “major reason” why they drive.⁶ A full 90% describe their earnings as either “important for meeting basic needs” or “essential”.⁷



“The flexibility means so much to me. During the day I can help my family, get college work done, and run errands. Then I get to drive at night.”

Raya D., Springfield, drives with Lyft



Women Drivers Want To Be Represented and Heard At The Table As Legislative Leaders Convene To Discuss A Solution For Drivers.

88% of women would support a solution that allows drivers to remain independent while gaining access to new benefits -- at no out-of-pocket cost to drivers.⁹



“I want the flexibility and I'm not the only driver that feels this way.”

Patty H., drives with Uber



JOIN US TO SECURE DRIVER FLEXIBILITY AND NEW BENEFITS.

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<https://independentmass.org>

