THE WORLD OF WORK IS CHANGING

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THE NEW FARMING TECH REVOLUTION AGRICULTURE IS BEING DIGITIZED The agricultural industry has radically transformed as technology and artificial intelligence has advanced. Rapid advancements in these areas have expanded scale, speed, and productivity of

farm equipment, leading to more efficient cultivation of more land. Seed, irrigation, and fertilizers also have vastly improved, helping farmers increase yields.

In the case of farming, some researchers, business people and <u>politicians</u> think the effects of AI and other advanced technologies are so great they are spurring a "fourth agricultural revolution".



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Over the past 80 years there has been a drastic shift in rural and urban populations. It went from:

RURAL-70%	URBAN-30%
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RURAL—15%	URBAN-85%

As new farming technology replaced workers, there was an exodus from the countryside which has led to a farm labor shortage. Farmers have moved to a technological approach in farming due to necessity. This is the New Industrial/Technical Revolution in Farming.

The fourth agricultural revolution, much like the <u>fourth industrial revolution</u>, refers to the anticipated changes from new technologies, particularly the <u>use of AI</u> to make smarter planning decisions and power autonomous robots. Such intelligent machines could be used for growing and picking crops, weeding, milking livestock and distributing agrochemicals <u>via drone</u>. Other farming-specific technologies include new types of <u>gene editing</u> to develop higher yielding, disease-resistant crops; <u>vertical farms</u>; and <u>synthetic lab-grown meat</u>.



Robotic milking of cows provides a good example. In our research, a farmer told us that using robots had improved his work-life balance and allowed a disabled farm worker to avoid dexterous tasks on the farm. But they had also created a "different kind of stress" due to the resulting information overload and the perception that the farmer needed to be monitoring data 24/7.

But existing farm workers at risk of being replaced by a machine or whose skills are unsuited to a new style of farming will inevitably be less excited by the prospect of change. And they <u>may</u> <u>not enjoy</u> being forced to spend less time working outside, becoming increasingly reliant on machines instead of their own knowledge.

Digital Nomads, Gig Workers and Camper Force - The New Nomad Groups of Workers

The days of having a career all the way through retirement is ending. The dawn of a new age of workers has been accelerated by the Covid Pandemic.

This is the new "plug-n-play' labor, Nomad groups and Gig workers.

THE DIGITAL REVOLUTION

The Digital Nomads have transformed the world of work. This group of workers adapt and work anywhere around the world. It requires a computer and internet connection. This generation of workers believes experience is more valuable than possessions. Here are some advantages and disadvantages of being a Digital Nomad.

ADVANTAGES

- FREEDOM: True economic social freedom; however, this freedom crosses over multiple barriers including time and space.
- NO GLASS CEILING: You can go as high as you push yourself.
- AMAZING CLIENTS: not limited to clients in your current demographic. The nomads get to choose what clients they want to work with. No bad bosses or coworkers, no office drama, and no office politics.
- WORK ANYWHERE/ANYTIME: They take ownership over their schedule; they travel to a wide variety of places because they aren't stuck to an office or location.
- OWNERSHIP: it's about you!

DISADVANTAGES

- GOVERNMENT DON'T' UNDERSTAND THE ROLE OR WHAT THEY DO: taxes can be challenging because income is often from foreign entities. Visas can also be a challenge.
- NO SICK DAYS: yes, you do have ownership of your schedule but there is nobody to pick up the slack when you are down. Clients don't always care if your sick they want to know their product/content is being created. Have to find a way to take personal days
- FINDING CLIENTS: good clients, that will pay well and on time. There is no legal recourse for you if they don't. It can impact your trust in the industry.
- YOU WILL WORK HARDER THAN YOU EVER HAVE: it's about finding your strengths, passion, focus and maximizing those to grow your business. Also, understanding and really grasping the fear of failure.

THE RV NOMADS

This is the new generation of workers that have made the choice to go this route out of necessity or adventure.

What is it?

Amazon CamperForce is **for mobile RVers to work seasonal assignments at Amazon facilities during heaving ordering times**. They are looking for hard workers who are flexible and have their own RV.

The two seasons for work are:

Holiday Season: from September to the end of December Return Season: from end of December to mid-February

Jobs/Tasks: Are receiving, stowing, shipping and picking.

Below are the regions the Amazon Kamper jobs are located.



TRAVELING EXPENSES

These "kampers" also receive a stipend for their stay at the campgrounds. "Amazon will pay each CamperForce employee \$120.00 per week (CampPay) to contribute towards campground expenses. If you have a travel partner who is also working at Amazon, they'll receive the weekly \$120.00 stipend as well."

THE PAY

The pay is still \$15 per hour. Work weeks are typically four ten-hour shifts with a possible mandatory fifth day. Of course, overtime pay applies. Employees may have the opportunity to pick up additional shifts as well. Shift differential may be available at select facilities.

BONUS

The assignment completion bonus is \$.50 for each regular h our worked and \$1 for each overtime hour worked. To receive the bonus, you must complete the entire season you were hired for also, the assignment completion bonus is paid after your assignment ends.

- Medical and prescription coverage available after 90 days
- Overtime pay
- 401(k)
- Referral bonus

<u>WHY?</u>

One couple said they are just ordinary people who turned in their 9-5 jobs, sold their house and downsized to an RV (mobile tiny house) and made the conscious decision to stop embracing things and start embracing life. These are the people that made it a choice and not from financial desperation. They are part of a movement of people ditching "sticks and bricks" homes that have long embodied the American Dream and embracing a life of travel, minimal belongings and working when they want.

Another couple experience the unfortunate effect of the Pandemic layoffs. They were forced to find a way to survive since everything they had planned for retirement had been suddenly taken away. They packed up and moved in their newly purchased RV, also downsizing, and hit the road. They find work in the non-Amazon seasons by being **A Camp Host (or campground host).** This is an RVer who lives on-site and provides services to the campground's guests to ensure they have an enjoyable stay.

Last year was a record for RV sales, according to the data firm Statistical Surveys. More than 10.5 million households own at least one RV, a jump from 2005 when 7.5 million households had RVs, according to RVIA.

A million Americans live full-time in RVs, according to the RV Industry Association

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THE GIG WORKERS

Most modern nomads need jobs to fund their travels. Jessica Meinhofer works remotely as a government contractor, simply logging in from the RV. Others pick up "gig work" cleaning campsites, harvesting on farms or in vineyards, or filling in as security guards. People learn about gigs by word of mouth, or Facebook groups like <u>Workampers</u> with more than 30,000 members.

What is a Gig Worker?

Gig workers are independent contractors or freelancers who typically do short-term work for multiple clients. The work may be project-based, hourly or part-time, and can either be an ongoing contract or a temporary position.

To earn enough money to make a living, gig workers typically take on multiple jobs or gigs at a time. Some do freelance or contract work on the side of their traditional jobs to make extra money or gain skills in another field.

THE STATISTICS

- **36% of U.S. workers** participate in the gig economy through either their primary or secondary jobs.
- 40% of US-based workers generate a large part of their income via the gig economy.
- The gig economy is expanding 3 times faster than the US workforce as a whole.
- Recent forecasts put the number of freelancers in US at more than 86 million by 2027.
- 12% of the US workforce started taking freelance jobs during the pandemic.
- 78% of gig workers say they are happier than those working traditional jobs.
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- About 59% of male gig workers and 74% of female gig workers and freelancers say they enjoy the flexibility this type of work offers.
- 41% of postgraduates freelance.
- More than 1 in 10 workers use gig work as a primary source of income
- 53% of young adults in the US say they use smart phones to find jobs

55% of gig workers also maintain regular jobs.	
Source: PYMNTS	

THE IRS

While employers receive W-2 tax forms, gig workers are given a 1099-NEC form come tax season and are typically responsible for paying self-employment taxes to the Internal Revenue Service.

THE APPS

Qwick

For all the food industry gurus out there, Qwick is the best gig economy app for you. Qwick is an on-demand hospitality and event industry staffing service company that connects Professionals to flexible shifts with businesses in need of staff. Individuals looking to work as bartenders, line cooks, or banquet servers can find their next shift with Qwick.

The best part about Qwick is the incredible flexibility and freedom the app offers. With this platform,



you choose the shifts you want. When and where are up to you, and you have the option to accept the positions that work for your needed income. Set your own hours doing jobs you enjoy at the touch of a button.

Currently, Qwick's services are available in Arizona, Illinois, New York, Texas, California, Florida, and Georgia. However, this fast-growing company is bound to be offering shifts at a location near you soon enough. As a certified Great Place to Work, we're sure you'll enjoy working with Qwick!

Handy

If you're all about home improvement, Handy is the best gig app for you. Handy focuses their gig app on home-cleaning and handyman services. With a flexible work schedule, you can manage your time and work as many hours as you please. Sign up on their site, let them know what type of work you're looking for, and start making some hard-earned money. With Handy's convenient tracking system, you can build credit using the app for anyone interested in renting a home or car.

Top professionals can make roughly \$1,000 a week with Handy's high-paying rates. It's important to note, however, that professionals are considered independent contractors and are responsible for any cleaning or hardware supplies a job may require. Be sure to budget for what you'll need when accepting each opening. As a Forbes 30 Under 30 recipient, you can trust the services of Handy.

TaskRabbit

TaskRabbit is the perfect gig app for any professionals looking to pick up odd jobs for extra cash. TaskRabbit lets you pick from various tasks like assembling a table or planting flowers to keep you busy throughout the day. Becoming a Tasker is easy with their quick online registration. Once you've got your account, you can begin raking in positive reviews and increasing your prices as your skills grow.

With TaskRabbit, clients reach out to you. While this can be great for Taskers with glowing reviews and a wide range of skills, it can be a bit difficult to get started on the app. However, for dedicated employees, TaskRabbit offers the opportunity to grow brand awareness and expand your clientele at your fingertips. Each task also comes with its own price range, meaning you'll know exactly how much you'll be getting paid before accepting.

Thumbtack

Named one of the World's Most Innovative Companies by Fast Company, Thumbtack is another gig economy app that offers a wide variety of jobs that you can complete. Living in a state that sees a high average of snowfall each year? Get paid to snowplow someone's driveway. Have a passion for renovations? Earn some extra cash by completing some interior painting. With Thumbtack, there's a job for every skill.

Signing up with Thumbtack is as easy as 1-2-3. Create a profile, customize your settings to fit your skills, and wait for customer leads to appear. While the bidding process is relatively simple, one of the biggest challenges professionals face is the time-consuming process of going back-and-forth with customers. Since there may be multiple bids on a project, you may have to constantly lower your bid and wait to hear if you've been chosen.

Uber

If you enjoy driving around your town while helping people get to their destination safely, Uber is the gig economy app for you. As long as you don't mind passing a background check and have a car that meets Uber's standards, you can be a driver for the highly popular rideshare app.

Uber offers you the option to set your schedule, so you can work whatever times fit your lifestyle. Payment depends on when, where, and how long you drive, but the entire process is done through your phone, so you can rest assured you'll receive payment. The app service is available across the United States, and even in other countries, so you have the opportunity to work from anywhere.

LYFT

Similar to Uber, LYFT is a rideshare app that offers you the opportunity to taxi people from location to location. LYFT makes it easy to earn extra cash with Peak Hours that offer more money for rides. Payment is based on the time and distance of your ride, plus any additional tips you make from the ride.

When it comes to any rideshare app, there's always concern about the wear and tear on your car. With LYFT, you have the opportunity to use one of their LYFT Driver Centers that offers at-home repairs to damage done by drives. Ranked 4th on the LinkedIn Top Companies – Startups list, the rideshare app is an excellent addition to your income.

GrubHub

Of all the most popular food delivery apps, GrubHub commonly pays the most. The delivery app features a payout option that shows you exactly how much you'll make when you choose to take an order, including the tip. With this option available, it's easy to find the orders in your area that will work best with the income you're looking to bring home.

To become a driver with GrubHub, you'll need a car, a valid I.D., car insurance, and a smartphone. If you meet those four qualifications, you're all set to become a driver! Simply sign up, wait for the approval, and begin delivering. GrubHub lets you set your own hours as well, so you can make deliveries at any time. The major downfall to an app like this is the wear and tear that comes with the additional miles on your car.

DoorDash

If you're looking for a food delivery service app that offers a decent amount of tips and bonus pay, we suggest checking out DoorDash. Like GrubHub, this food delivery app shows you the full amount you'll make before you accept the job. You also have the opportunity to see just how close or far the order is, so you create a schedule that works with your location and schedule.

Registration for this app takes less than 5 minutes, and you can start orders as soon as you've been approved. In select cities, you may even have the opportunity to DoorDash on a bike if you're unable to use a car. DoorDash around your hometown or make some extra cash as you visit different cities across the country.

UberEats

Like the food delivery apps before it, UberEats gives you the option to become a delivery driver in your city. Don't have a car? No worries, UberEats offers the chance to deliver on your scooter or bike as well.

If you choose to use a car or scooter, you'll need to submit a valid driver's license and some form of vehicle insurance to be approved.

UberEats lets you earn extra cash as you drive around your favorite town. The innovative app offers driving suggestions to make navigating to restaurants and customers' homes smooth and simple. Track your earnings using the app and earn cash daily or weekly.

Fiverr

Trusted by Facebook and Google, Fiverr is one of the best gig economy apps for Professionals looking to grow their skills. Simply post your specialty on the app and wait for clients to contact you. Fiverr offers opportunities for jobs in areas such as graphic design, social media management, and programming. Simply sign up, post your gig with the skills you're offering, and let clients find you. You may have to compete against some strong contenders at the start, but you'll be a top Professional before you know it.

This gig app offers a wide variety of job opportunities that can help you to grow in your career. However, for Professionals just starting, the starting pay is \$5 per project. As you accept more positions and receive glowing reviews for all your hard work, you'll have the chance to set your own pay rates and increase your project income.

Upwork

Upwork is home to one of the largest networks of trusted Professionals. The app offers plenty of openings for skills like content writing, web development, and graphic design. Upwork is the perfect option for individuals looking to work from home via their computer. Every opening on Upwork is done online. Create a free account, show off your skills and experience on your profile, and start working.

With such a well-known platform, there's bound to be plenty of competition. It can be frustrating when you're just starting as a freelancer but try not to worry too much. Soon enough, you'll be raking in high reviews and outranking your toughest competitors. Upwork stands out in the freelance world because it provides you the option to work temporarily, be hired for recurring projects, or even find a full-time position.

THE PROS OF GIG WORK

- You will be your own boss. Gig workers only have to answer to themselves and the work they take on.
- You can work a flexible schedule. Working as a contractor or freelancer allows you more freedom than you would get with a 9-to-5 job. For instance, you can go grocery shopping in the middle of the day, take a long lunch break or work around your children's school and activity schedules, as long as you deliver to your clients on time.
- You decide which jobs to accept. Gig workers have the ability to take on only the jobs they want to and decline any project that doesn't suit their interests or desired pay.
- You can focus on your own passions. With more flexibility as a gig worker, you're able to start your own side hustle or find time to pursue your passion projects.

THE CONS OF GIG WORK

- You'll owe self-employment taxes. One of the biggest challenges gig workers face is setting aside enough of their earnings to cover taxes like FICA and Social Security that are normally covered by a corporate employer.
- Clients can drop at any time. Freelance clients can come and go, with or without warning, and you may find yourself losing a sizable chunk of your income if one of them drops out.
- You'll need to work hard to brand yourself and build a client base. Because gig work isn't always steady, you'll constantly need to be marketing yourself and looking for new projects to sustain your income.
- You're typically not eligible for employer-sponsored benefits. Unless you have a particularly generous client, you will likely not be eligible for any kind of employer-sponsored health insurance, retirement savings plan or other benefits as a <u>1099</u> worker.

3 Gig Economy Statistics You Must Know





3 Countries with the Highest Gig Work Participation Among Workers Source: ADP Research Institute

