



CHICAGO'S UBER & LYFT DRIVERS ARE PAID LESS THAN MINIMUM WAGE

According to an analysis of Chicago area rideshare data from 2021, Uber and Lyft drivers earn less than minimum wage on average, and would see their hourly earnings increase by as much as 66% if they were classified as employees instead of as independent contractors.

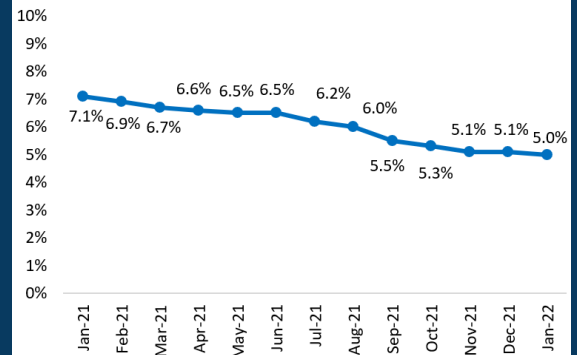
The new report conducted by ILEPI and the Project for Middle Class Renewal (PMCR) at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, [*Improving Labor Standards for Uber and Lyft Drivers in Chicago: Classifying Drivers as Employees Would Deliver Superior Outcomes*](#), finds that classifying drivers as employees would bring higher incomes and better employee benefits to workers while also increasing tax revenue in Illinois.

The average Chicago-area driver earns \$13 an hour in W-2 equivalent wages. Classifying these workers as employees would result in higher incomes of at least \$15 an hour (Chicago's minimum wage) for nearly 30,000 drivers, which would generate \$20 million more in state, federal, and payroll tax revenues each year while also adding more than \$23 million per year to the state's workers' compensation and unemployment insurance systems.

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ILLINOIS ECONOMIC INDICATORS

Illinois Unemployment Rate, Past 12 Months



Jobs added (rank), Jan-21 to Jan-22 = **256,100 jobs (5)**

State unemployment rate (rank), Jan-22 = **5.0% (41)**

Average private sector wage (rank), Jan-22 = **\$32.70 (14)**

Private sector wage growth from Jan-21 to Jan-22 (rank) = **+6.8% (27)**

Illinois Flash Index (as of Feb-22) = **105.7**

ILEPI'S FUNDRAISER RECAP



ILEPI's 5th Annual Fundraiser was a huge success. We are incredibly thankful to our sponsors, Board of Directors, and our Keynote Speakers: Speaker Welch, President Harmon, Leader Durkin, and Leader McConchie! Here's to another great year, because of all of you!

ESSENTIAL AND FRONTLINE INDUSTRIES SEE BOOST IN WORKER WAGES WITH FAIR WORKWEEK LAWS

As face-to-face and essential industries continue struggling to attract and retain sufficient numbers of qualified workers, a new study, [Implementing a Fair Workweek Law in Illinois: Protecting Frontline Workers from Unpredictable Schedules](#), found that Oregon's Fair Workweek law has succeeded in boosting wages, job stability, and employee retention in the retail, food service, and hospitality industries.

A fair workweek law typically provides as many as five standard protections to workers in covered industries. These include providing a set number of days advance notice of work schedules, ensuring employers offer additional hours to existing employees before hiring new workers, compensating employees for last-minute changes or reductions in work schedules, protecting an employee's right to request schedule changes

PREVAILING WAGES ON SERVICE CONTRACTS CREATE BETTER JOBS FOR CUSTODIANS

Prevailing wage laws boost incomes for custodians by 6%-10%, with even stronger gains for People of Color employed in similar service occupations according to a new report, [The Impact of Service Contract Prevailing Wage Laws in the United States and Illinois: Effects on the Labor Market Outcomes of Custodial Workers](#).

By turning more low-wage jobs into living-wage jobs, research shows that prevailing wages often have the added benefit of offsetting higher worker earnings with reductions in employee turnover costs borne by businesses and government assistance costs borne by taxpayers.



without fear of retaliation, and guaranteeing employees a minimum amount of rest time in-between shifts.

The City of Chicago has a similar ordinance to Oregon's and in 2021, legislation was introduced in Illinois (HB 3285) that would have extended the Chicago ordinance statewide. About 1.6 million workers would be covered if Illinois had such a law, and frontline workers would see an increase in hours and wages at work with less stress, while employers would have less employee turnover and higher workforce retention rates.

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