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'Nobody knows. That's the beauty of it': UPS driver says he makes \$40 an hour, sparking debate

Braden Bjella - Aug 26

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Several UPS drivers have gone viral after discussing their wages, which users online claim are higher than they would expect.




UPS driver speaking in truck (l) UPS driver speaking in truck (c) UPS driver speaking in truck (r)  
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UPS.

"Nobody knows," Mykol says in his video. "That's the beauty of it."

In Danny's stitch, he goes on to explain that he discovered the high wages of UPS drivers after  speaking with one outside of his building several years ago.

"He pulls out his pay stub, and I seen the six figure number and I said, 'Say less,'" Danny recounts.

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UPS drivers enjoy higher wages and considerable benefits due in large part to their union membership, which allows them to collectively bargain for things like wages and benefits.

"UPS has 86,000 U.S. drivers, all represented by one of the country's largest unions, the International Brotherhood of Teamsters," [NBC News](#) explained in 2006.

To back this up, Danny claims in comments that, while drivers can start at around \$20 per hour, that number escalates to "41.47 straight time" with an "overtime rate a little over 62 an hour." He claims this is a "4-year union pay progression."

Additionally, UPS drivers enjoy benefits not seen by other drivers in the delivery industry. The same NBC News article noted that that job provides "a good income and benefits such as health care, a pension, stock options and long vacations."

"This is a very good job," industry analyst Art Hatfield of investment bank and brokerage Morgan Keegan told NBC. "It has all the kind of benefits associated with the U.S. manufacturing sector 20 years ago."

Furthermore, while many union skeptics claim that unionization will hurt a company's bottom line, data shows that the unionized workers of UPS proved advantageous during the onset of the pandemic and resultant worker shortages.

"Even while paying union workers almost twice what FedEx Ground drivers make, UPS earns a return on invested capital that's more than double its rival's," [Bloomberg](#) writer Thomas Black noted in November 2021. "In the last full year, UPS and FedEx each had sales of about \$84 billion; UPS banked \$7.7 billion of operating income, while FedEx earned \$5.9 billion. Investors have taken note: UPS shares have risen 27% this year; FedEx's have dropped 9%."

There are still issues with working at UPS. A TikTok user recently [went viral](#) after noting that UPS does not offer air conditioning in its delivery trucks, which can reach 140 degrees in summer. Furthermore, workers have signaled that issues like driver surveillance, excessive overtime, and inadequate pay for part-time workers will be discussed during its next round of contract negotiations, per [Insider](#).

In comments, users expressed surprise at the high pay.

"Not me switching directly to Google 'How to become a UPS driver?'" one user wrote.

"It's so nice to see companies actually paying their employees what they deserve," another added. "That's hard work day in and day out!!"

Other users were quick to note that, while the pay is high, the work is difficult.

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"You definitely make bank driving for them but the few drivers I know are married to their job," a commenter shared. "It's perfect for someone without a family."

"Your back will let you know if it was worth it in a few years," a second said.

The Daily Dot reached out to Danny via TikTok comment, Mykol via Instagram DM, and UPS via email.


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The post '[Nobody knows. That's the beauty of it': UPS driver says he makes \\$40 an hour, sparking debate](#) appeared first on [The Daily Dot](#).

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Gautam Varier - 40m ago

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Nick Van Exel, who was a teammate of Kobe Bryant on the Los Angeles Lakers, recounted how he once lent Kobe tapes of Michael Jordan but never got them back.



Kobe Bryant's Former Teammate Nick Van Exel Recounts How He Once Lent Kobe VHS Tapes Of Michael Jordan But He Never Got Them Back  
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It is a very well-known fact at this point that Kobe Bryant was somewhat obsessed with Michael Jordan. Kobe grew up idolizing Jordan, as did so many, and he copied a lot of his mannerisms on the court. Also, being the competitor that he was, Bryant desperately wanted to get the better of his idol whenever they faced off on the court.

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In what was to be their last ever meeting in 2003 when MJ was on the Wizards, Kobe famously dropped 55 on him as a nice farewell gift and some saw it as a passing of the torch moment between the two. Kobe would go on to eclipse MJ on the all-time scoring list and is widely regarded as the player who resembles Jordan the most on the court.

## Nick Van Exel Recounts How He Once Lent Kobe Bryant Tapes Of Michael Jordan But He Never Got Them Back

A big reason for that resemblance is not only the mannerisms on the court but also the fact that Kobe used to study Jordan's game all the time when he was starting off in the league. [He improved his defense by studying a photo of MJ from 1998](#) which shows just how closely he would observe every facet of Jordan's game. Nick Van Exel was teammates with Bryant from 1996 to 1998 and he recounted during an episode of the "Legacy: The True Story of the LA Lakers" docuseries just how obsessed Kobe was with MJ.

"Everything that MJ did Kobe did like the chewing of the gum, the walking, the moves, the footwork. I used have VHS tapes back in the day full of highlights of Michael Jordan. Kobe asked to borrow them and I have never seen those tapes again. He would just laugh, 'No, mother\*\*\*\*\* I want my tapes.'"

Bryant likely spent hours studying those tapes and it's not surprising that Van Exel never saw them again. It was that obsession that helped Bryant hit greater heights and while he wouldn't surpass MJ, he got close enough to the point where you will find people who feel that Kobe was greater than his idol.

'Nobody knows. That's the beauty of it': UPS driver says he makes \$40 an hour, sparking debate while they were so similar, Phil Jackson, who coached both of them and won a total of 11 titles in the process, [once spoke about leadership being the biggest difference between the two](#). Jackson felt that MJ was much better at controlling the emotional climate of the team while Kobe was lacking a bit when it came to that.

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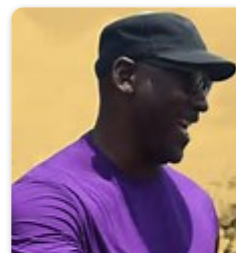
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