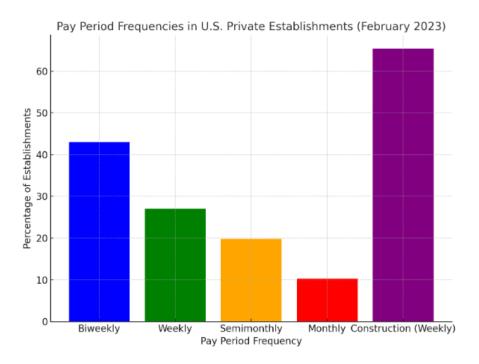
A Better Way for Companies to Address Pay Timelines: Improving Wage Payment Systems

Many companies still follow traditional pay schedules which may not align with the financial needs of workers, especially in today's fast-paced and fluctuating economy. There is increasing recognition that improving the frequency, timeliness, and transparency of pay could benefit both employers and employees.

In many industries, employees are paid on fixed schedules—bi-weekly, semimonthly, or monthly. However, **this frequency can often lead to financial strain for workers, especially those with limited financial flexibility.** Data from a <u>2023</u> <u>survey by Joblist</u> revealed that **78% of U.S. workers struggle to make ends meet between pay periods,** with over half indicating that their financial situation would be 'severely impacted' if their paycheck were delayed by even a single week.

In February 2023, the <u>U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics</u>, (BLS) reported that 43.0% of private establishments in the U.S. used a biweekly pay schedule, making it the most common salary cycle. Weekly pay periods followed closely at 27.0%, while semi-monthly schedules accounted for 19.8%, and only 10.3% of establishments paid employees monthly. Notably, in industries such as construction, 65.4% of businesses opted for weekly pay periods, reflecting a preference for more frequent schedules. These figures highlight significant variations in earnings intervals, which may not always meet employees' immediate financial needs in today's fast-paced economic environment.



Traditional pay schedules can cause significant stress for employees:

- 1. **Financial Uncertainty**: The gap between pay periods can make it difficult for workers to manage expenses, particularly in the face of unexpected bills or emergencies.
- 2. **Inefficiency for Employers**: Many companies continue to rely on manual processes leading to errors, delays, and administrative costs.
- 3. Retention Issues: Research from <u>ADP</u> revealed that employees who face delays in compensation are 80% more likely to leave their employer within the next year. Financial stress and dissatisfaction with pay practices are linked to lower morale and higher turnover rates.

Why Companies Should Rethink Pay Schedules

Today, workers juggle multiple responsibilities that spill over into various financial commitments. This reality demands greater flexibility in payment systems, something traditional models cannot provide, leading to **unnecessary stress**. The solution lies in revolutionizing how employers handle payments, offering employees greater financial autonomy and employers more agility. Below are key reasons why companies should embrace this new approach:

- The Gig Economy Trend: With the rise of temporary and freelance work, research shows that 52% of gig workers prefer to receive their salary weekly or even daily, rather than adhering to traditional pay cycles. For companies in industries with a high percentage of temporary work, offering flexible compensation alternatives could be a key strategy to attract quality freelance talent.
- Reduced Staff Members Turnover: Employers that offer flexible compensation options often attract and retain top talent, especially younger individuals facing greater financial insecurity. By addressing employees' financial concerns in real time, employers create a more stable and committed workforce, resulting in lower turnover rates and higher overall productivity.
- **Employee Engagement:** According to <u>Gallup</u>, staff members who are satisfied with their compensation and benefits are 2.5 times more likely to be engaged at work. On-demand payment systems, by alleviating financial stress, help create a more motivated and engaged workforce.
- **Impact of Financial Stress:** 52% of Americans report that money negatively affects their mental health, a significant increase from 42% last year. Among them, 82% attribute their stress to economic factors like inflation and rising prices. Additionally, 56% of those suffering from financial anxiety worry about

money at least once a week, highlighting the growing mental cost of economic uncertainty. This creates a scenario where both employers and employees can benefit (<u>Bankrate, 2023</u>).



A Win-Win story for Employers and Employees

In today's fast-paced economy, the timing of compensation transfers affects both employees' financial wellbeing and employer retention. Flexible pay options can reduce financial stress, lower turnover, and boost productivity. **Here's how more frequent pay schedules benefit both sides:**

- **Reduced Financial Stress**: Paying employees more frequently—such as on a weekly or daily basis—helps alleviate financial strain, boosting overall wellbeing, reducing anxiety, and enhancing workplace productivity.
- Lower Turnover and Higher Satisfaction: Companies offering pay-ondemand services see a 15-20% reduction in turnover and a notable increase in employee satisfaction, according to Finances Online.
- **Boosting Financial Inclusion:** More frequent access to wages promotes financial inclusion, particularly benefiting low-wage workers who are most affected by financial instability.
- Alleviating Financial Strain: A Forbes report found that 46% of hourly workers and 37% of salaried employees in the U.S. live paycheck to paycheck. Offering wages more often—on a daily or weekly basis—can help ease this financial pressure.

- **Increased Productivity:** Employees who don't have to worry about when they will be paid are more focused and engaged at work. PwC's survey revealed that those with more frequent payment options are 30% more likely to report higher job satisfaction and engagement.
- **Competitive Edge:** Providing flexible pay schedules can give companies an advantage in attracting and retaining top talent, especially as employees increasingly prioritize financial flexibility in their benefits packages.

Let's Redefine the Future of Wage Payment Systems

The standard compensation structure no longer aligns with the evolving financial realities of today's workforce. Transitioning to more flexible, timely pay solutions not only empowers employees by alleviating financial stress but also strengthens businesses by enhancing retention, productivity, and overall satisfaction. Modern technology has made it easier than ever for companies to implement innovative pay solutions without burdening administrative resources.

For companies aiming to remain competitive, adopting flexible pay schedules isn't just an operational adjustment—it's a strategic imperative. By bridging the gap between outdated pay practices and the pressing financial needs of their workforce, businesses can cultivate a thriving, engaged, and loyal team. The time to act is now—revolutionize your approach to wage payments and lead the way to a more prosperous future for all.

For more information on how Veep can enhance your employee benefits and retention strategies, feel free to contact us and request a demo by clicking <u>here</u>. .