

# new york minute

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## Comparing Millennials to Baby Boomers in New York State

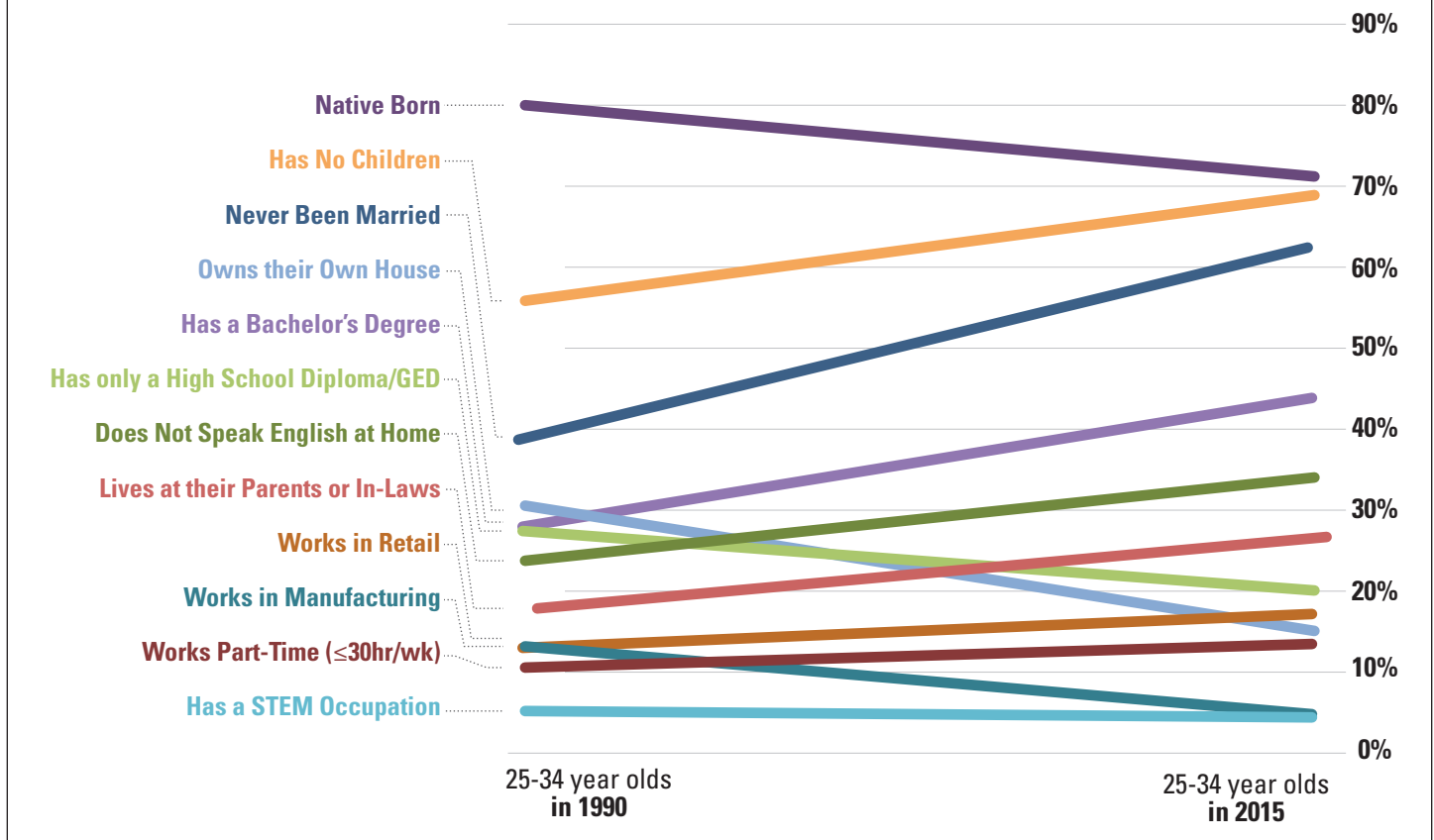
By Robin Blakely-Armitage and Elizabeth Womack, Cornell University

Much has been written about how Millennials differ from previous generations, especially with regards to social media, consumption patterns, social mores, technology and more. The term Millennial generally refers to the demographic cohort born in years ranging from the early 1980s to the late 1990s. Using 2015 data from the U.S. Census Bureau for New York State, we compare Millennials to younger Baby Boomers, a cohort aged 25-34 years old in 1990. We discover significant differences. Millennial New Yorkers are much

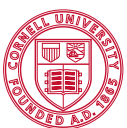
less likely to have ever been married, have children, own their own house, speak English at home, or be native born compared to Baby Boomers. Contrasted with Baby Boomers, Millennials are much *more* likely to have attained a bachelor's degree, live with their parents or in-laws, and work in a non-manufacturing job. For more on this topic, including data on the beliefs, attitudes and values of young adults, see: <https://www.census.gov/content/dam/Census/library/publications/2017/demo/p20-579.pdf>

### Characteristics of 25-34 year olds in NYS (1990, 2015)

SOURCE: 1990 Decennial Census and 2015 American Community Survey, U.S. Census Bureau



**Additional Resources:** <https://www.nytimes.com/2014/08/17/fashion/the-millennials-are-generation-nice.html>;  
<https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2017/12/04/where-millennials-come-from>



Cornell University

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