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What's a millennial?

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There are 78 million millennials in the U.S.

Born between 1977 and 1996, they are the second-largest generation in America, behind the baby boomers.

Because millennials were largely raised in the suburbs by the baby boomers, they seek walkable, urban neighborhoods, said Laurie Volk, a research analyst and principal in **Zimmerman/Volk Associates Inc.**

Millennials:

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- Are mostly single.
- If female, are waiting until the average age of 26 to get married, compared with age 21 for their mothers.
- Are more social than their baby boomer parents and seek restaurants and entertainment venues near their homes, amid walkable neighborhoods.
- Are very mobile and will choose where they want to live and then find a job there.
- Tend to be renters, although they are more inclined to buy than previous generations because they've seen the run-up in home prices.
- Are very creative and entrepreneurial.

- Value authenticity and prefer urban — not suburban — construction in inner cities and historic architecture.

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