



Young Adults Then and Now

Explore how the people age 18 to 34 have changed over the last four decades

[Explore!](#)

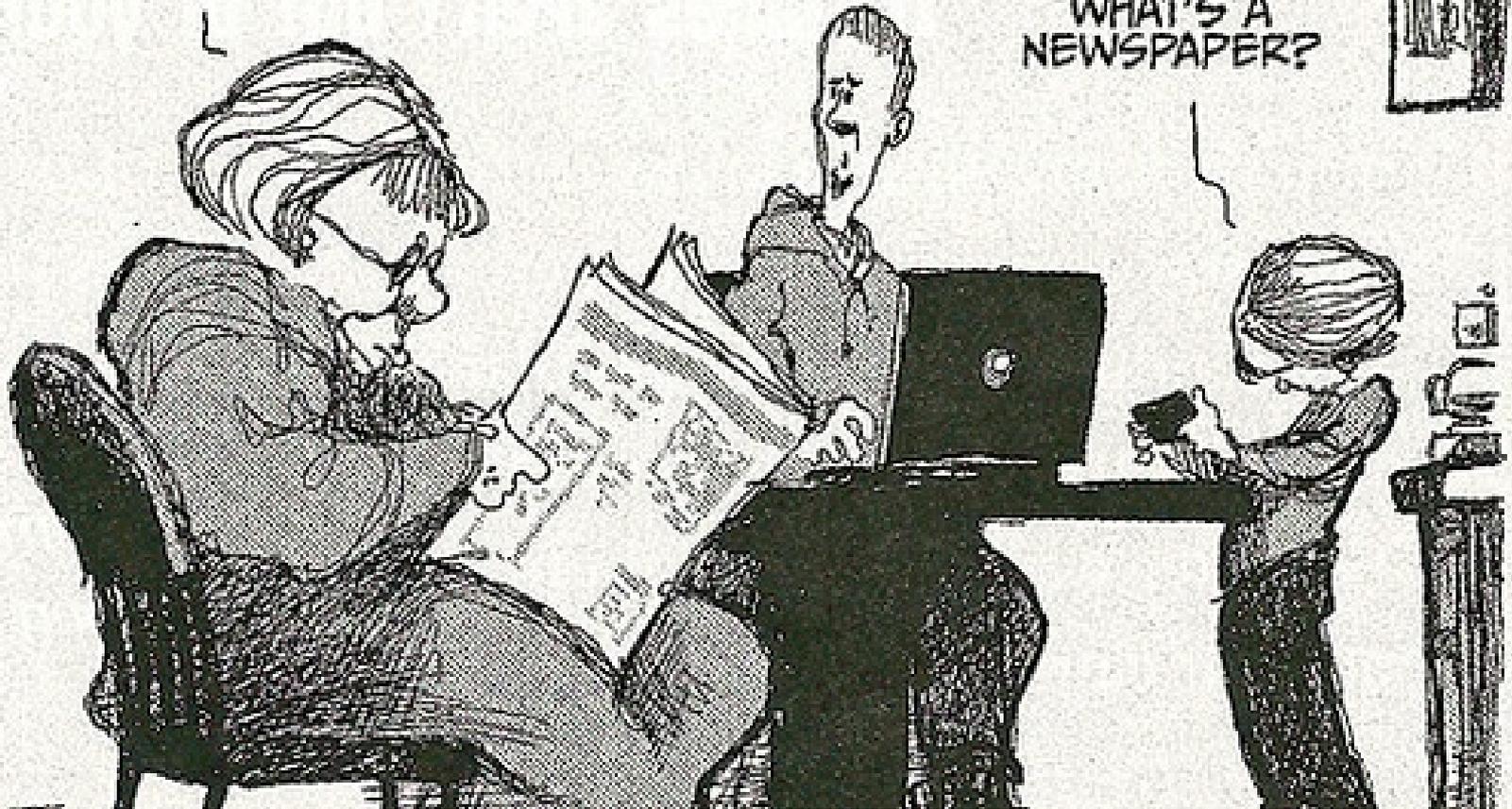
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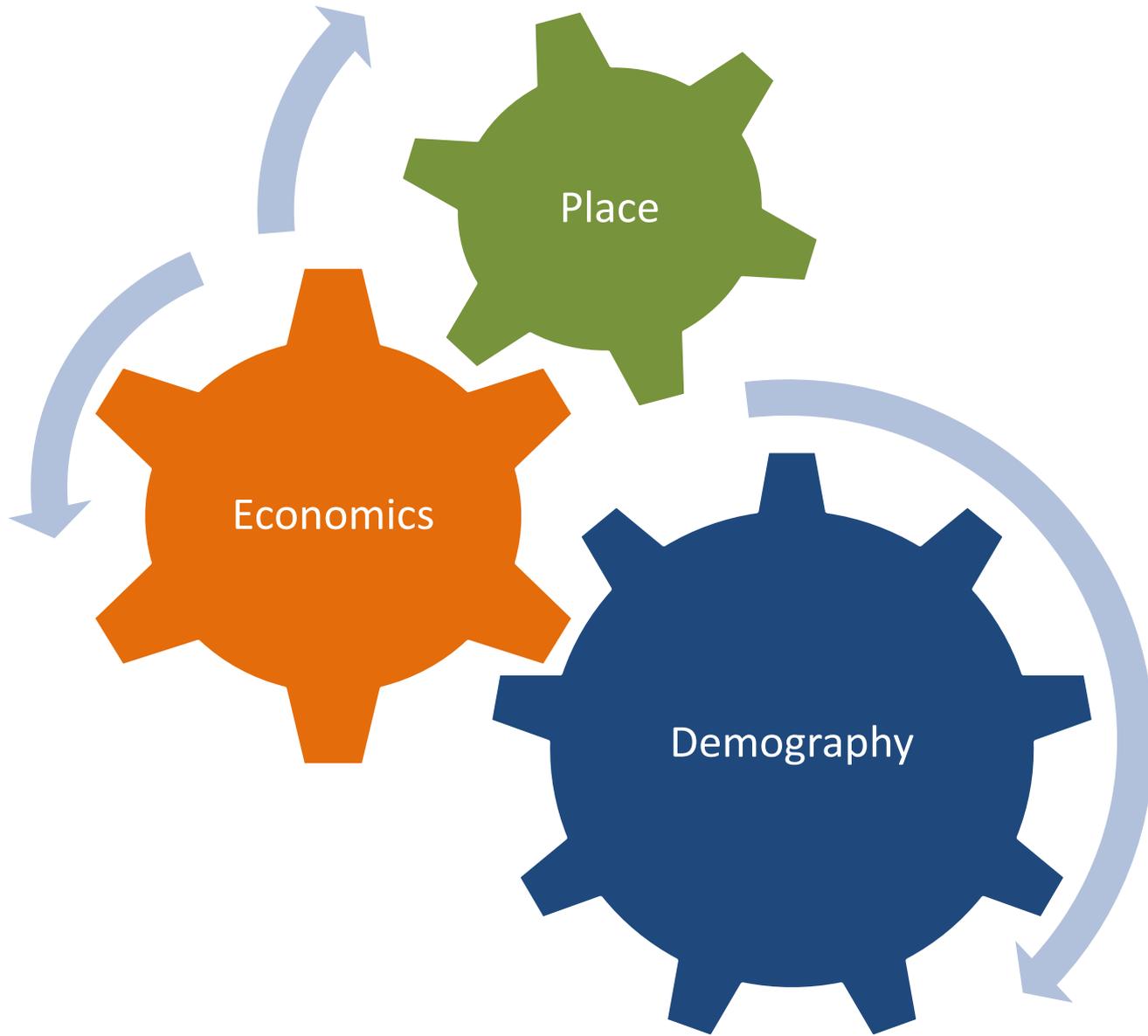
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THE NEWSPAPER
SAYS THEY MAY
STOP DELIVERING
LETTERS ON
SATURDAY.

WHAT'S
A LETTER?

WHAT'S A
NEWSPAPER?

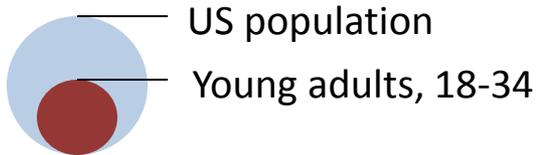




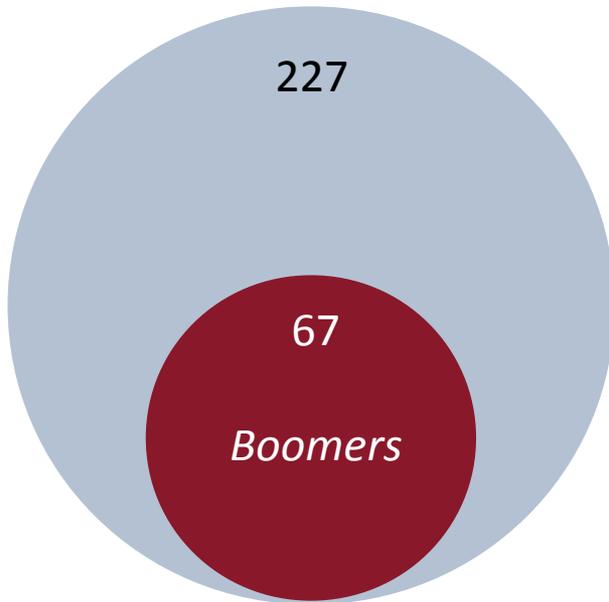
The biggest generation?

While the US population is growing, the share of young adults is shrinking

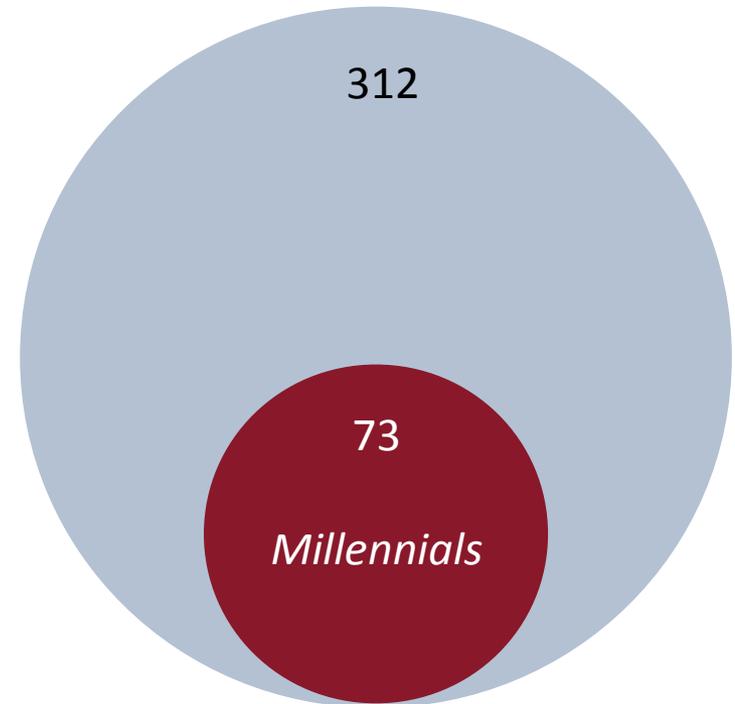
In millions:



In 1980



In 2009-2013

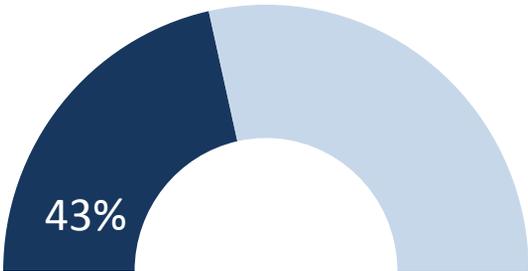


Changing face of the nation

Percent of the young adult (18–34) population

1980

2009–2013



Minority



Foreign born

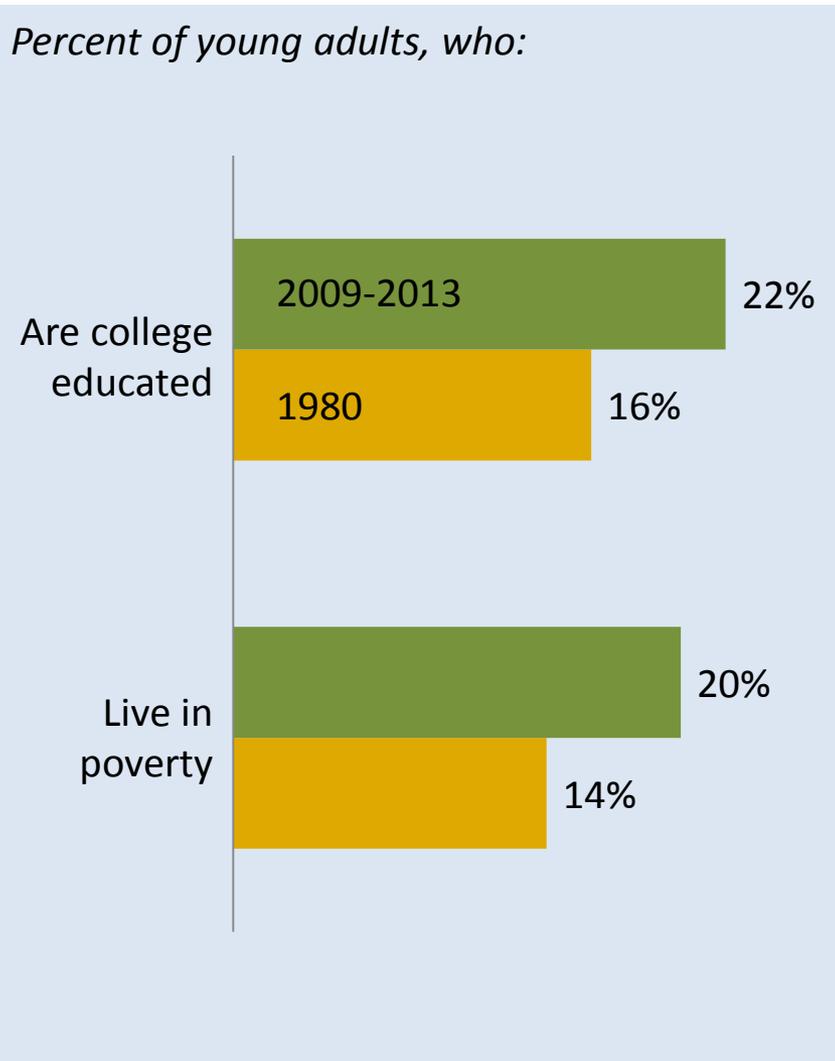


Speak language other than English at home

Source: US Census Bureau, decennial census 1980 and American Community Survey 2009–2013

Better off than their parents?

Today's young adults are better educated, but fare worse economically

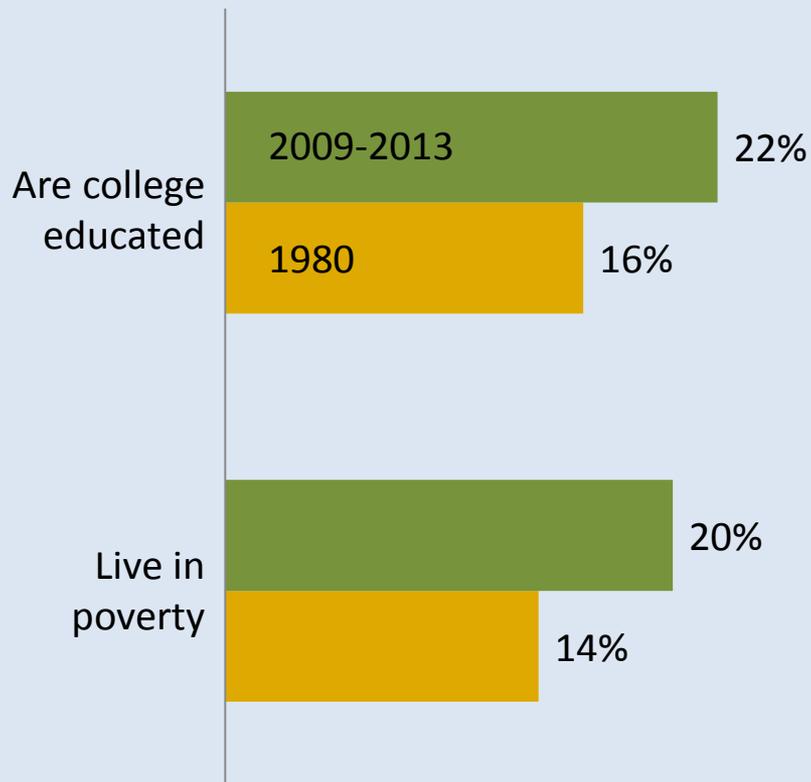


Source: US Census Bureau, decennial census 1980 and American Community Survey 2009–2013

Better off than their parents?

Today's young adults are better educated, but fare worse economically

Percent of young adults, who:



*Change in earnings vs. 1980
(per year, full-time workers)*



Source: US Census Bureau, decennial census 1980 and American Community Survey 2009–2013