

[EconSouth January–April 2014](#)

“The Economic Plight of Millennials,” by Mark Carter, a senior research analyst in the Atlanta Fed’s research department

Discussion questions

1. How has the Great Recession affected the decision making of millennials? Which two decisions have been particularly affected?
2. How does the unemployment rate for millennials compare to the overall unemployment rate?
3. Do millennials find education important? How have they contributed to the student debt crisis? Does student loan debt affect the ability to get other loans such as home loans?
4. What three factors are contributing to the shortfall in household formation for millennials?
5. Have college degrees become more valuable in recent decades? How do the median incomes of millennials compare to that of previous generations?

Related links

[“Adulthood, Delayed: What Has the Recession Done to Millennials?”](#) Derek Thompson, the *Atlantic*, February 14, 2012

This article focuses on how the millennials differ from other generations and proposes answers to why they are different.

[“The Cheapest Generation,”](#) Derek Thompson and Jordan Weissmann, *Atlantic*, August 22, 2012.

Why aren’t the millennials spending? What does that mean for the economy? The authors analyze data on millennial spending habits and argue the positives of frugal living.

[“Do Millennials Stand a Chance in the Real World?”](#) Annie Lowrey, the *New York Times* magazine, March 26, 2013

This article highlights the economic woes of the millennials and how coming of age in the Great Recession has affected their lives.

[“Latest Oxford Economics Research Debunks Five Millennial Myths,”](#) Susan Galer, *Forbes*, September 14, 2014.

Article points out findings from an Oxford Economics report that shows that many of the common stereotypes about the millennials are false.

[“Many life milestones are out of millennials’ reach,”](#) Catherine Rampell, the *Washington Post*, September 15, 2014

This article highlights the job market struggles of the millennials and how these struggles are delaying their decisions to marry and buy a home.

[Millennials](#), Pew Research Center