



Hyped Levels of Millennial Concerns Excessive – New Research

Since our new book on Millennials was released in the summer, we have been greeted by some observers who moan and mumble, “Those Millennials simply get too much ink.”

Well, one of the reasons that Millennials receive “too much ink” is that people on both sides of the Can-Am border are convinced that they are such an unfortunate generation.

- They allegedly are living in unprecedented rough times when living is exorbitantly expensive, job prospects are dim, owning a house is an impossible dream, and – on an individual level – characteristics like loneliness, depression, anxiety, and fear are all at all-time high levels.
- No less than 65% of Canadians agree that “Young people starting out today have it harder than past generations,” including 75% of Millennials.

Next Tuesday, November 12th, we will release a short note, showing that there is considerable hope on the horizon – that with the passage of time, most of these problems are going to be resolved for the vast majority of young individuals.

In preparation for that release, **we want everyone to get a look at how personal issues tend to be resolved as Canadians get older.** Contrary to popular perception, Pre-Boomers, for example, are considerably less likely than younger Canadians, including Millennials, to be concerned about a lot of things, including the future and getting older. And they are no more likely to express concern about health.

There’s hope on the horizon for Millennials!

Table 2.1 Major Personal Concerns of Millennials and Other Adults
% Indicating Areas Concern Them Personally “A Great Deal” or “Quite a Bit”

	ALL	Millennials 1986–plus (18–29)	Xers 1966–1985 (30–49)	Boomers 1946–1965 (50–69)	Pre-Boomers Pre-1946 (70-plus)
The future	55	71	54	49	53
Health	48	43	49	49	47
Lack of money	47	64	54	40	28
Never seem to have enough time	44	63	53	31	25
Feeling that they should be getting more out of life	44	62	49	36	24

Important note: In this and other tables, shading indicates differences in the cohorts or other variables involved of 10 percentage points or more, a difference we view as substantively significant.

Source: Reginald W. Bibby, Joel Thiessen, and Monetta Bailey.
The Millennial Mosaic, Toronto: Dundurn, 2019:46, 48.

Table 2.2 Moderate Personal Concerns of Millennials and Other Adults

% Indicating Areas Concern Them Personally “A Great Deal” or “Quite a Bit”

	ALL	Millennials 1986–plus (18–29)	Xers 1966–1985 (30–49)	Boomers 1946–1965 (50–69)	Pre-Boomers Pre-1946 (70-plus)
Getting older	36	37	35	37	31
Your height or weight	35	40	37	32	29
The purpose of life	33	44	35	27	28
Concerns your children	33	12	35	37	47
Your looks	32	46	33	25	25
So many things changing	32	42	34	27	29
Loneliness	28	45	28	23	19
Depression	28	36	34	24	15
Your sexual life	28	31	36	23	16
Boredom	25	35	25	21	20
Inferiority feelings	24	37	28	18	10
Your marriage/relationship	19	18	22	17	16

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