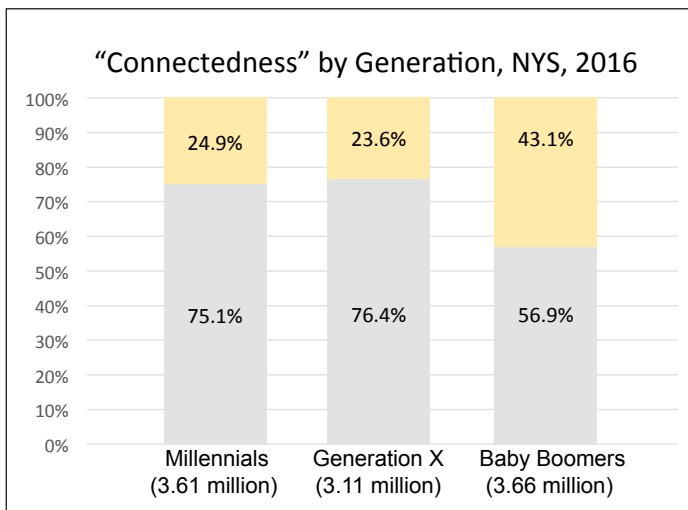


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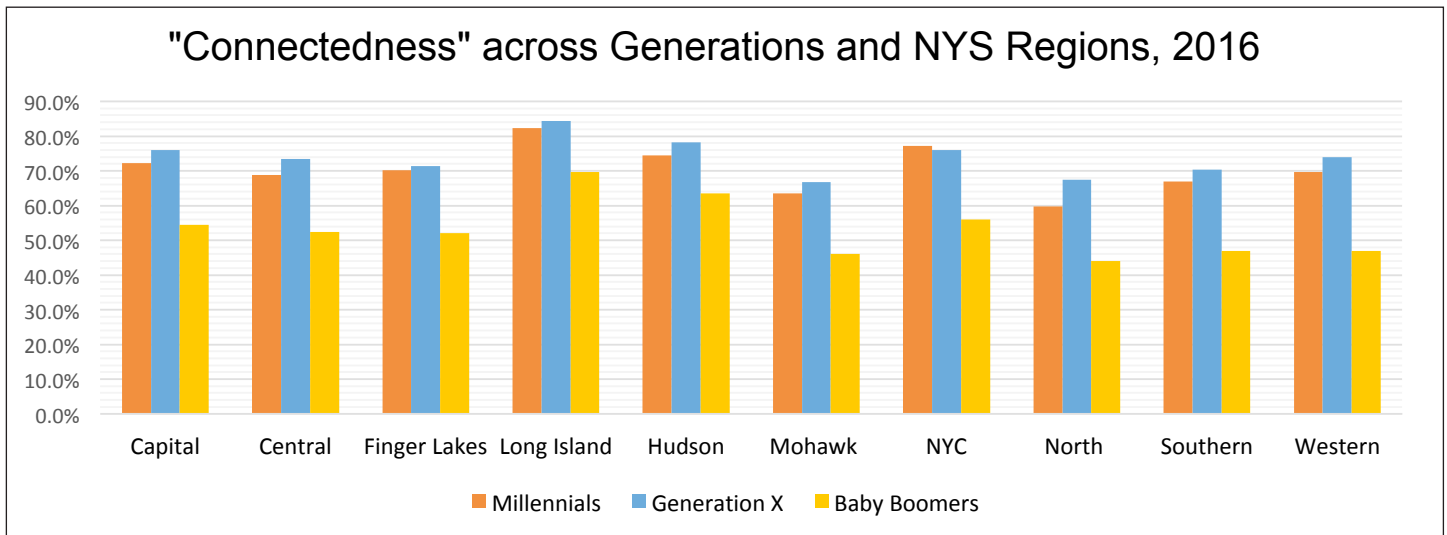
Which Generation is more "Connected"? A Regional Snapshot of New Yorkers

By Robin Blakely-Armitage and Elizabeth Jade Womack, Cornell University



One of the more striking generational contrasts today is how technology is used by people of different age groups. However, the ability and choice to be technologically connected impacts technology use. We analyzed 2016 American Community Survey data for New York State to compare cross-generational *connectedness to technology*, defined as meeting the following three criteria: 1) having a smartphone, 2) having a laptop, and 3) having access to the internet. Overall, Generation X (age 36-51) is the most connected generation, followed closely by Millennials (age 19-35). Slightly more than half of New York's Baby Boomers (age 52+) are connected.

Connectedness also varies regionally across New York State. Using Economic Development Zones to delineate regions, we find that the highest levels of connectedness for all three generations analyzed are in Long Island, whereas the lowest levels are in the Northern region of the state.



Additional Resources:

- Generations and Age Publications, Pew Research Center, <http://www.pewinternet.org/topics/generations-and-age/>
- From Gen X to Y and Z: Technology and the Generation Gap, By Suren Ramasubbu Huffington Post 6/24/15 https://www.huffingtonpost.com/suren-ramasubbu/from-gen-x-to-y-and-z-tec_b_7645410.html
- The Tech Evolution and How We All Fit In, Brain Boxol, 8/21/17, <https://blog.brainboxol.com/index.php/2017/08/21/the-tech-evolution-and-how-we-all-fit-in-infographic/>
- Tech Adoption Climbs Among Older Adults, 5/17/17, Pew Research Center <http://www.pewinternet.org/2017/05/17/tech-adoption-climbs-among-older-adults/>



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