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MILLENNIALS

Born from about 1982 to 2004, they started entering the workforce just as jobs went south

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RETAILERS IN 2017 FACE AN INCREASINGLY FRAGMENTED MARKET, FROM BABY BOOMERS TO GEN THE BIGGEST UNKNOWN: CAN MILLENNIALS TAKE UP THE SHOPPING SLACK AS BOOMERS AGE? **GENERATION X** 

The one-time slackers, born from 1965 to 1982, are all grown up (with bills and kids to prove it)



America's largest generation after boomers is health-conscious (yoga pants!) and loves to share, to the delight of Zipcar and Airbnb. Almost 80 percent would choose to spend more on experiences than material possessions. Their ownership-free lives are in part necessitated by loads of college debt. Still, more than half

want to own homes.

They may not spend on themselves, but they care for older parents and raise teens, so the 60 million Gen Xers shop a lot. "It's gone from keeping up with the Joneses to keeping up with the Joneses' kids," says branding consultant Laura Ries. When they do splurge, it's often at stores like Home Depot or Pottery Barn to spruce up their houses.

Retail

# 1 PERCENTERS

Their Champagne wishes and caviar dreams came true!

### **BABY BOOMERS**

Born from 1946 to 1964, they're finally aging out of their prime consumption years

# DINKS

Dual income, no kids couples, an offshoot of the 1980s yuppies, are still around—and shopping



What Great Recession? The rich continue to spend big on luxe cars, yachts, and private jets, while less-affluent consumers have yet to feel the recovery. Demand for ultra-high-end wines, popular with this group, also is expected to rise. The 1 Percenters are likely cutting back in one area: Spending on collectibles is expected to decline.

The 76 million people born in the years after World War II were a retail marketer's dream. Although they've aged and their outlays are shifting to health care, they still have substantial spending power. Boomers buy about two-thirds of the new cars sold annually, as well as half the computers and a third of the movie theater tickets.

Dinks are living the good life.
They have second homes, more lavish vacations, pricey hobbies, and ample cash for treatments at the spa. The mix may change as they age. "A bigger piece of spending could go to charity," says Denise Dahlhoff, research director at the Wharton School's Jay H. Baker Retailing Center.