THE PERFECT STORM

How Millennials will Save the World



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Say "Hi Lauren"



Lauren graduated from college in 2004.



Lauren is...

- ✓ Smart
- ✓ Motivated
- ✓ Educated



But, Lauren is also...

A MILLENNIAL!!!

(gasp)



In 2024, Millennials are between 28 and 43 years old.



That means Lauren might also be...

- ✓ Lazy
- ✓ Entitled
- ✓ A Job Hopper



Lauren's First Interview

- She interviewed back
- She asked about vacation and PTO
- She asked about her supervisor and her coworkers
- She asked about the maternity and paternity policy (even though she is not in a serious relationship)



This annoyed Lauren's Boomer hiring manager, but she still got the job because she is smart, motivated, and educated.



When Lauren got the job...

- She took her vacation
- She asked for constant feedback
- She challenged management decisions (including the lack of a paternity policy)



She also kicked butt. Despite her strange, Millennial ways, she was good at her job because she is smart, motivated, and educated.



After a really long time to Lauren (10 months), she got tired of her Boomer boss not listening to her, so she quit. She didn't have anything lined up, but thought she would find something quickly.



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Unfortunately, it took Lauren longer to find a job than she thought. Her parent's helped her.



Lauren hustled...

- ✓ She sold refinished furniture on eBay
- She took on some clients as a personal trainer



After an eternity (3 months), Lauren found a new job!



Her new job was like her old one. She didn't get feedback. She got tired of helping her Boomer boss with his email. But... it's a job.



And her new employer helps her to get her Master's Degree!



Then the Great Recession hits and Lauren (and a lot of her friends) get laid off.



She hustles again. She doesn't get help from her parents this time. She survives and eventually finds another job...



Let's pause Lauren's story for a bit...

DISCUSSION

Do you know Lauren? Are YOU Lauren? Does Lauren work for you?

What are your thoughts about Lauren?

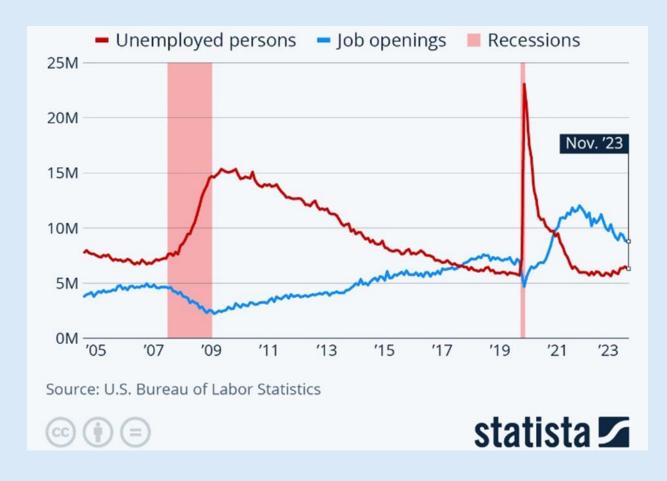
The First Storm

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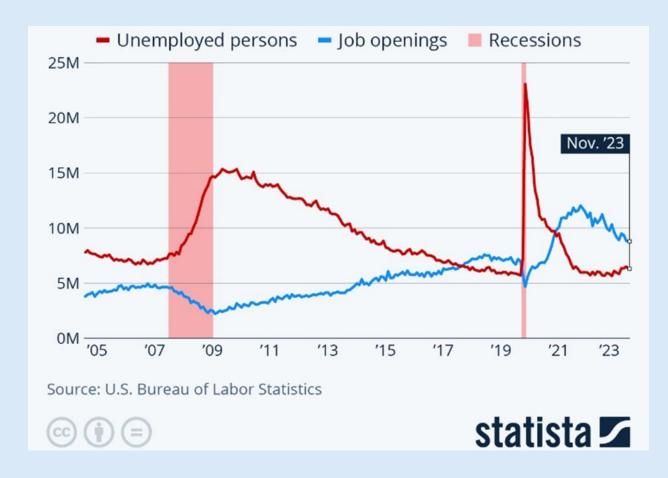
In 2004, my Dad gave me a strange warning: "Later in your career, there will be a significant workforce shortage"



There are 2 lines in economics that aren't supposed to cross. Because of low birth rates in the US for many years, those lines crossed in 2018.

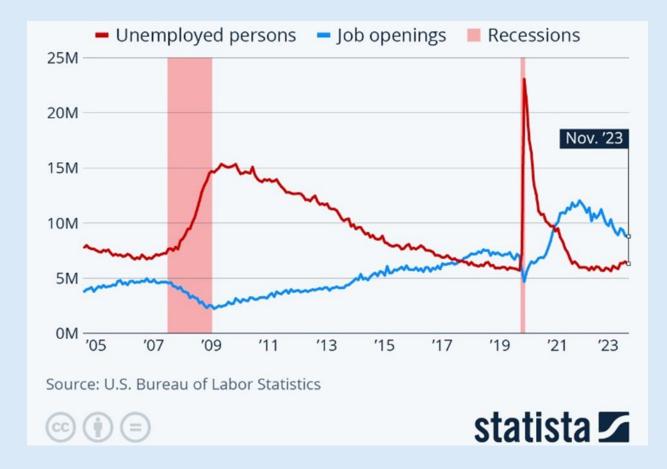


Except for a short blip during the pandemic, there are more job openings than unemployed people.



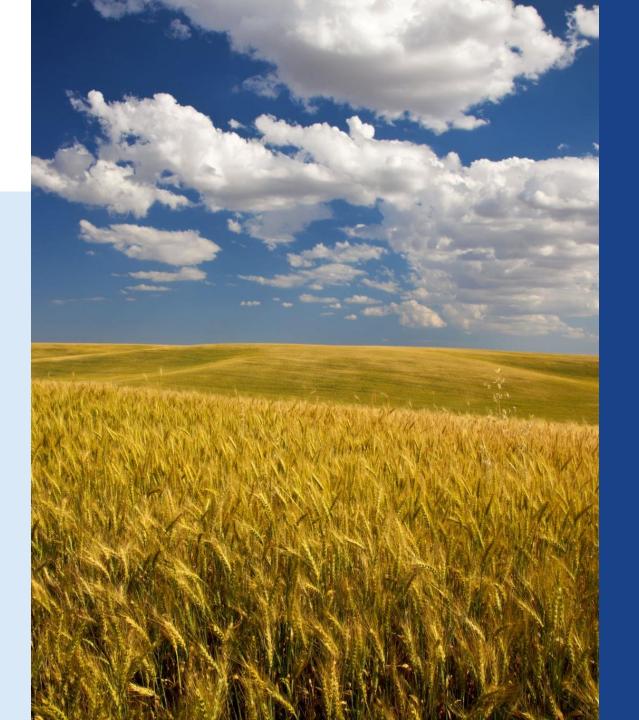
PUNCH LINE

There aren't enough people to fill open jobs in the US.

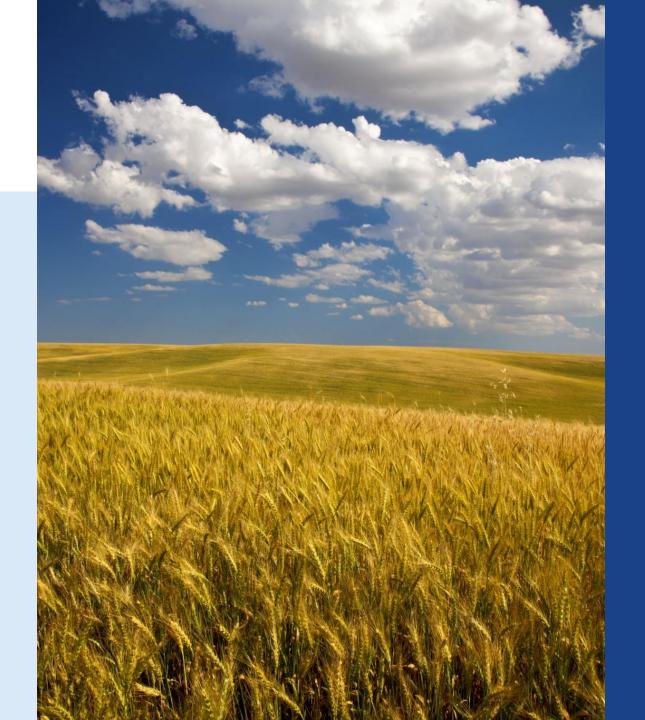


Employers had what employees wanted... a job.

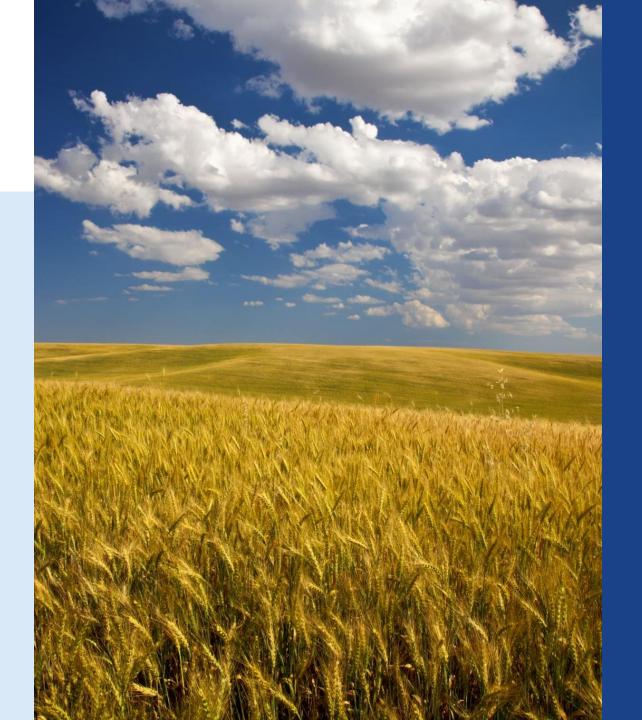
This led to some bad habits.



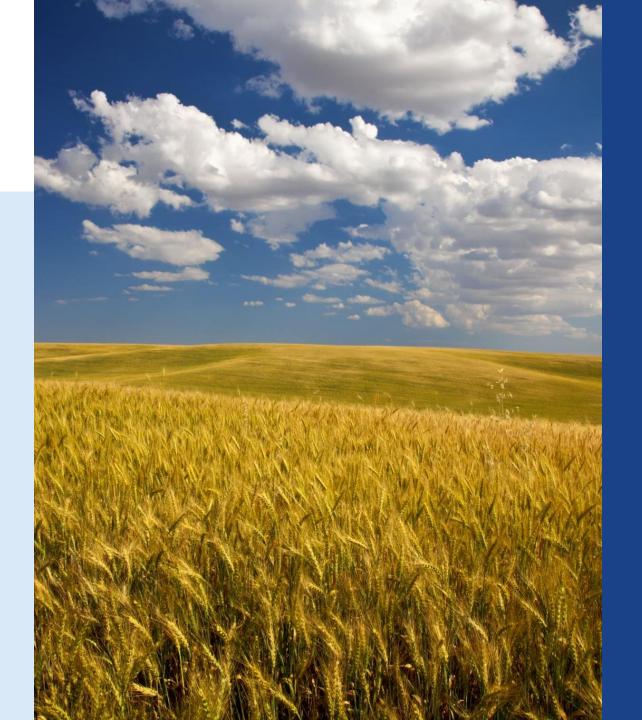
When we interviewed people, sometimes we didn't inform those who didn't get the job that they were no longer a candidate.



We could get by with high turnover. We heard about the costs, but didn't really take it seriously.



We openly complained about the younger generations (the Millennials and Gen Z). We still do... and Lauren notices.



Interview candidates interview us and often don't tell us when they accept another position.



Candidates talk to our own employees to find out if we are good employers. If they don't like what they here, they don't apply.



Note: In the US, 1 out of 3 employees are engaged.

The rest are disengaged or toxic.



Employees are starting to openly complain about the Boomers.

They have different values and are asserting those values.



AFTER 2018

And that's not all.

But, before we get to that, let's check in with Lauren.



Today, we can look at Lauren's career and see she has been promoted several times.



She is just one level away from being an executive. However, the mostly Boomer executive team still doesn't see her as an equal.

She is still a Millennial!



They don't share information with her. They aren't teaching her how to be an executive.



Recently, the COO has announced his retirement.

More executives are expected to retire soon.



Lauren applies for the job, but the executives don't think Lauren is ready for it. They launch an external search. They find nobody.



DISCUSSION

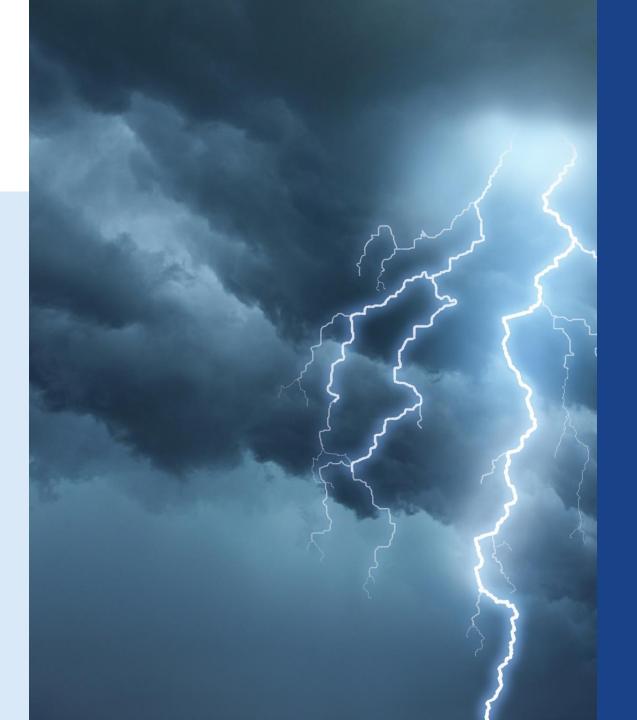
Do you have one or more key employees who are retiring in the next few years?

What impact will that make on your practice?

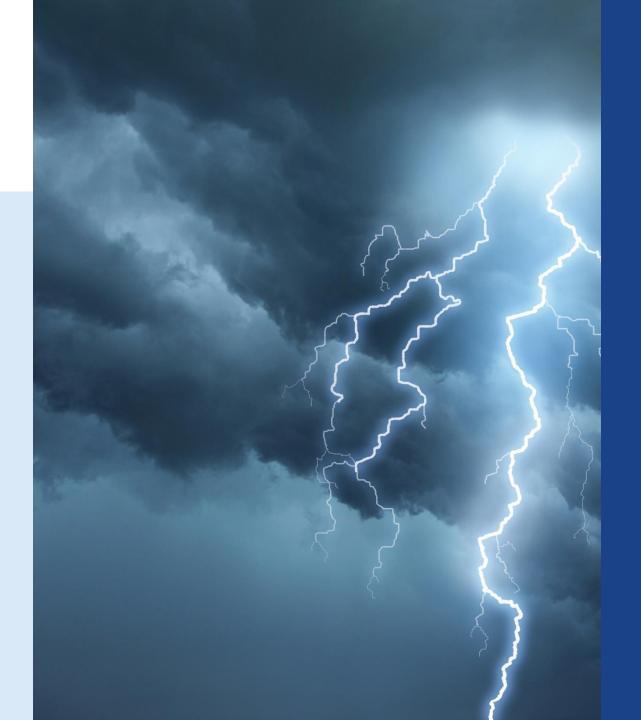
The Second Storm

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In 2024, Boomers range in age from 60 to 78.



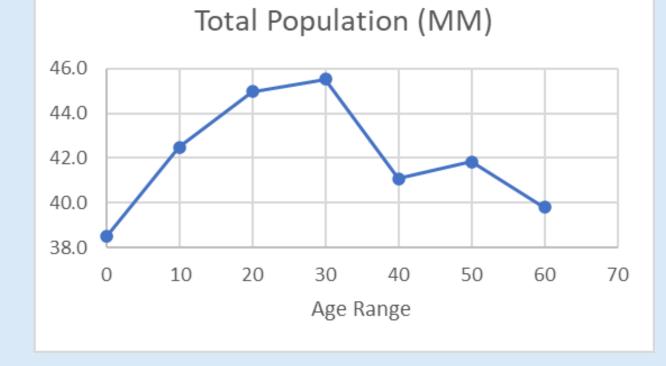
Some are sticking around longer than expected for multiple reasons (finances, no successor, doing nothing is boring)



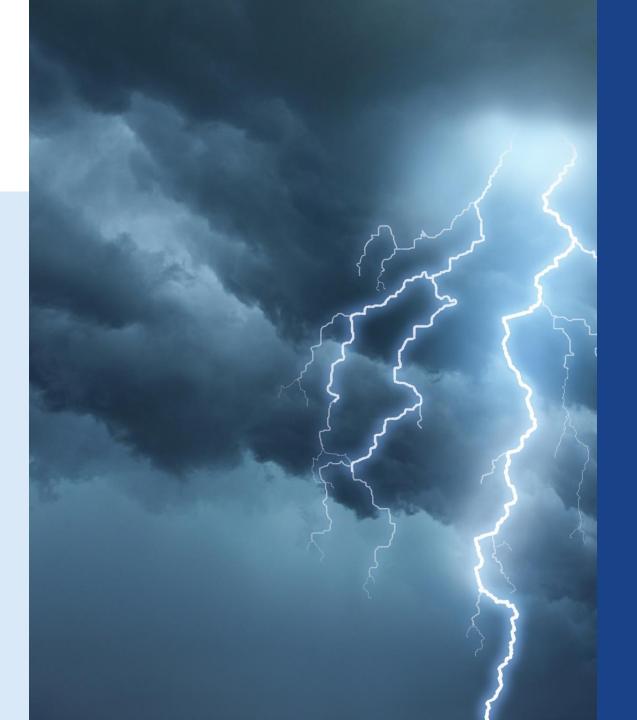
Many have retired and moved to Florida where they literally live in communities that don't allow Millennials or younger after 9PM.



There aren't enough Gen X people to take their place.



This means that many Boomers will be replaced by Millennials



Lauren got the COO job! (applause)



Lauren is very different from her Boomer predecessors.



Lauren doesn't value people that work a lot, she values people that work well.



Lauren doesn't value bureaucracy. She values transparency.



Lauren likes to make decisions based on input from trusted relationships



Lauren wants her company to thrive, but also to have a Mission as well as a positive impact on the community and the World.



Lauren is not afraid of technology and sees it as an accelerator.



Lauren wants the people in her company to find purpose and passion in their work.



Lauren is excited in the new role, but she is also apprehensive...



She is smart, motivated, and educated... and also inexperienced for an executive role.



DISCUSSION

Do you think Lauren will do a good job?

Where do you think she will be successful? Where do you think she might struggle?

The Collision of 2 Storms

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JUMBO SHRIMP...

In Forrest Gump, Forrest takes his shrimp boat out to sea just as a storm hits...



JUMBO SHRIMP...

His competitors keep doing things the same way... and their boats are destroyed at the docks by the storm.



JUMBO SHRIMP...

Forrest rides out the storm. It's hard.

When they get back, they become "bigger than Davy Crockett".



The Perfect Storm is not coming... It's HERE.



8.1MM Job Openings6.5MM UnemployedPeople



As of Sept 2023, 60% of Boomers have Fully Retired



The impact of the Perfect Storm is already happening.

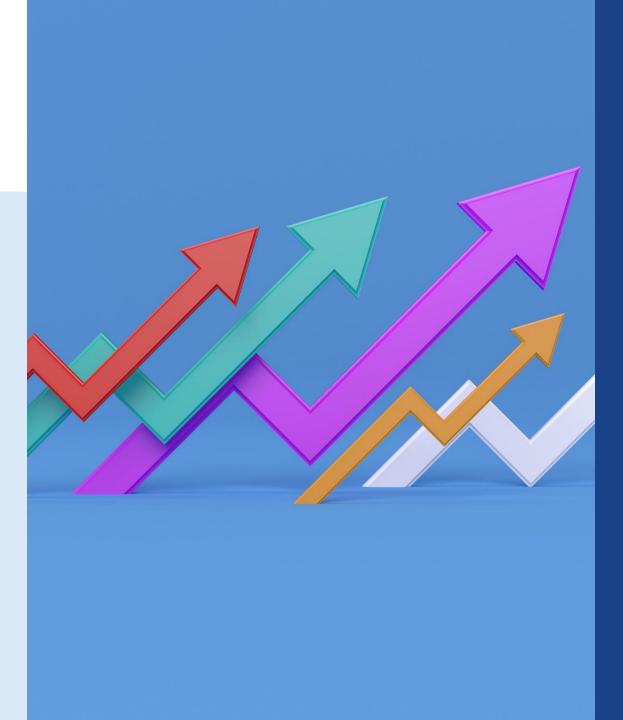


Businesses are closing due to lack of staff

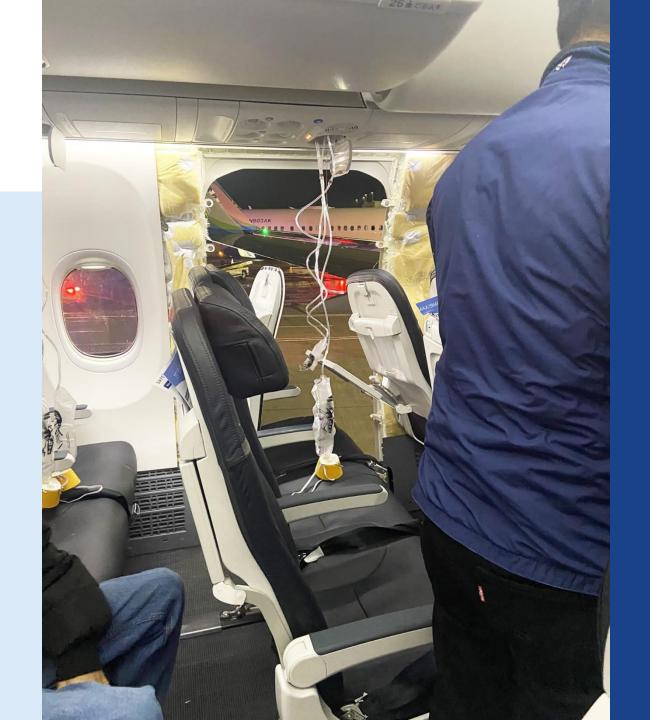


Labor salaries (costs) are up 23% since 2019

(source: Center for American Progress)

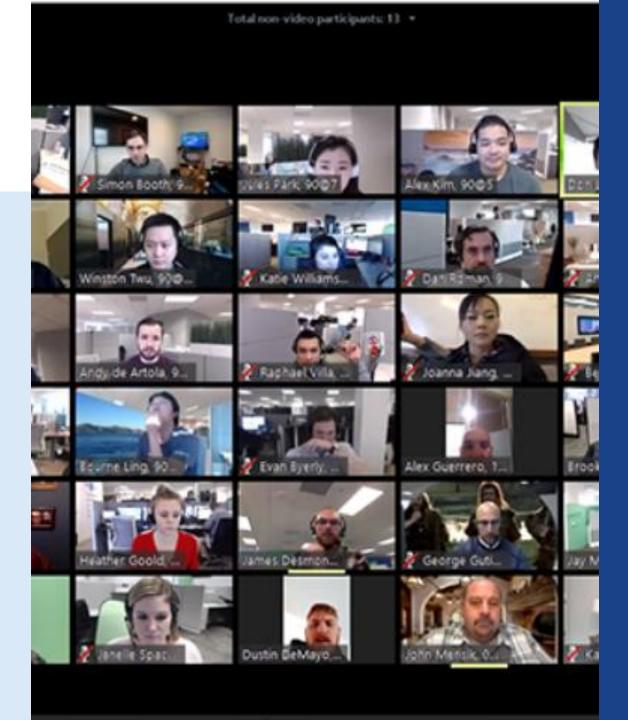


As Millennials take Boomer jobs, experience levels are dropping.



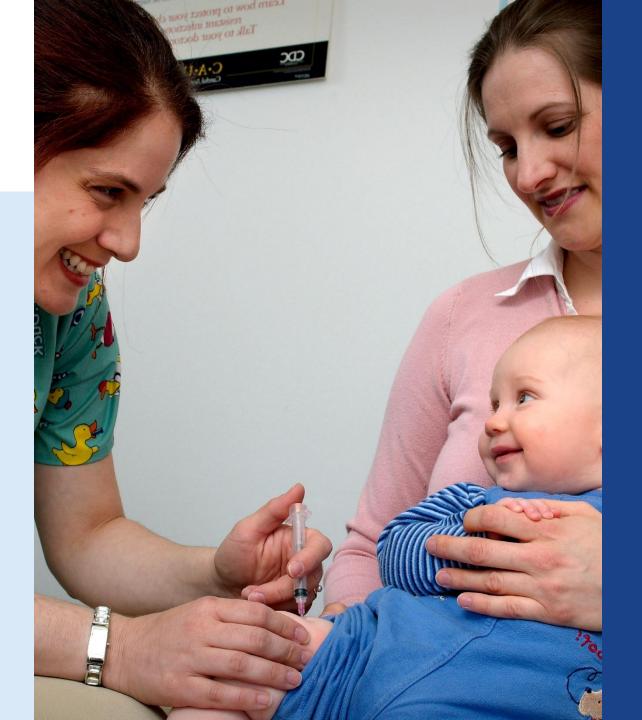
By 2025, the average B2B buyer will be a Millennial.

- 80% of sales interactions will be entirely digital
- 44% prefer no sales rep



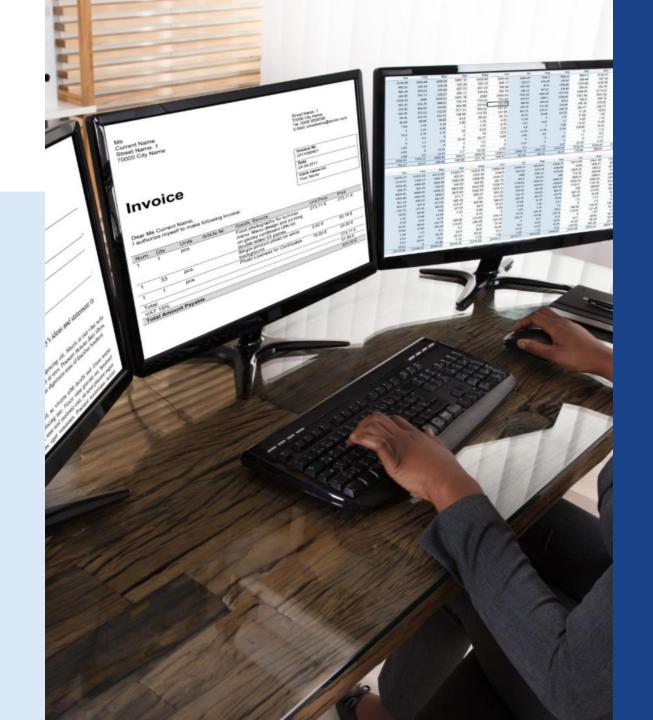
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Real Story Hospital with no doctors



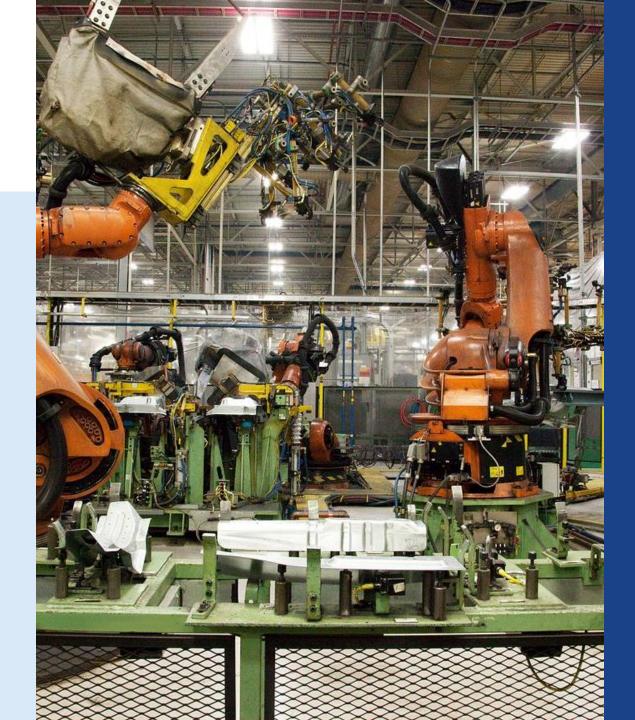
THE PERFECT STORM

Real Story Physician owned clinic has to sell out because they can't find qualified billing/coding help.



THE PERFECT STORM

Real Story Fortune 100 manufacturer can't get their new plant started up. Not enough experienced engineers.



DISCUSSION

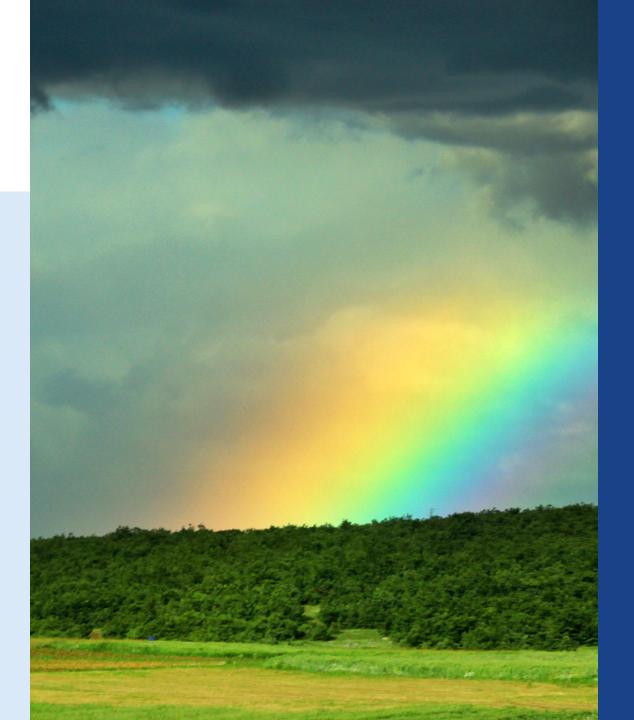
Is the Perfect Storm impacting your practice? How do you expect the Perfect Storm to impact your practice over the next decade?

HOW TO WEATHER THE STORM

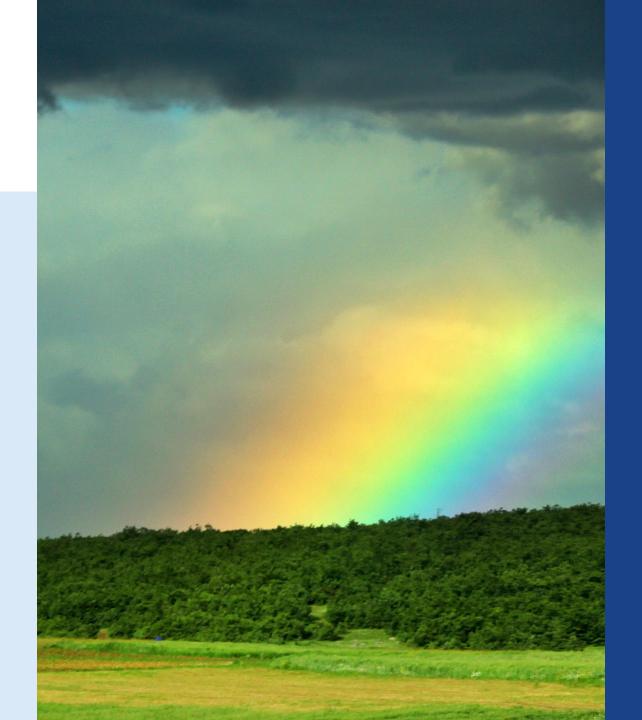
Survive, then Thrive

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Tip #1 Start Succession Planning

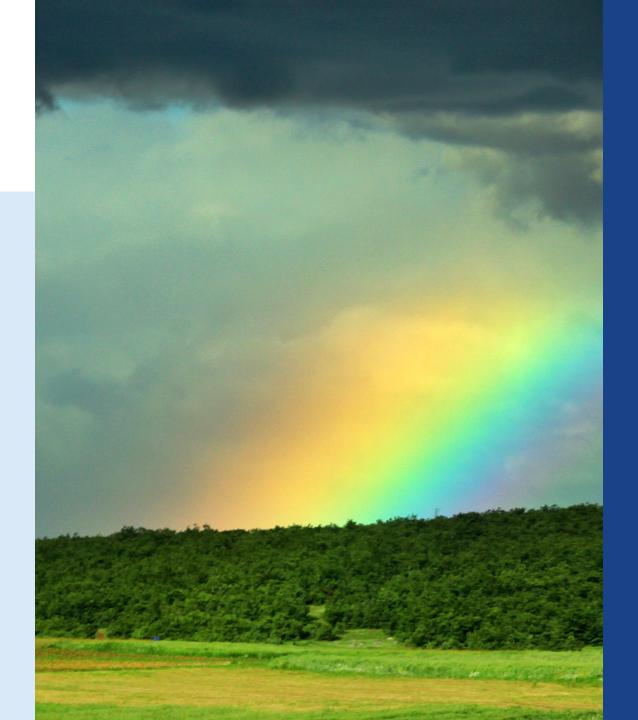


Start giving more experience to your next generation of workers.

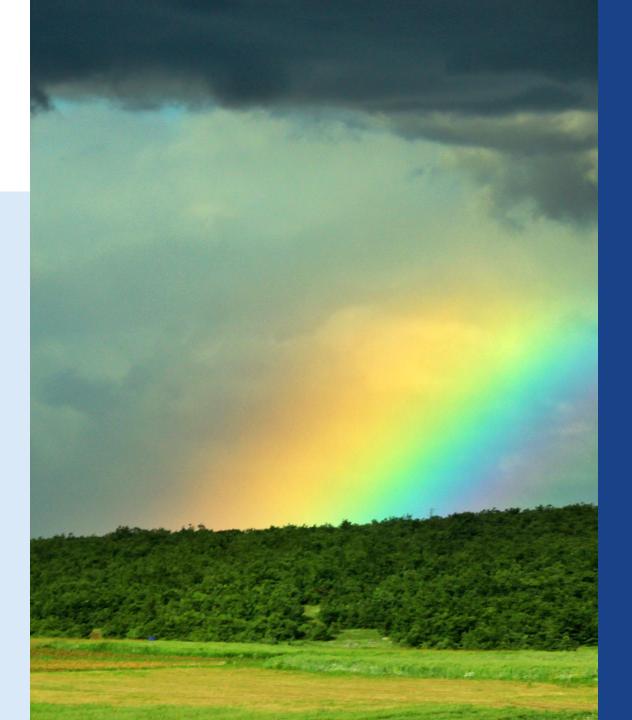


Hospital CEO

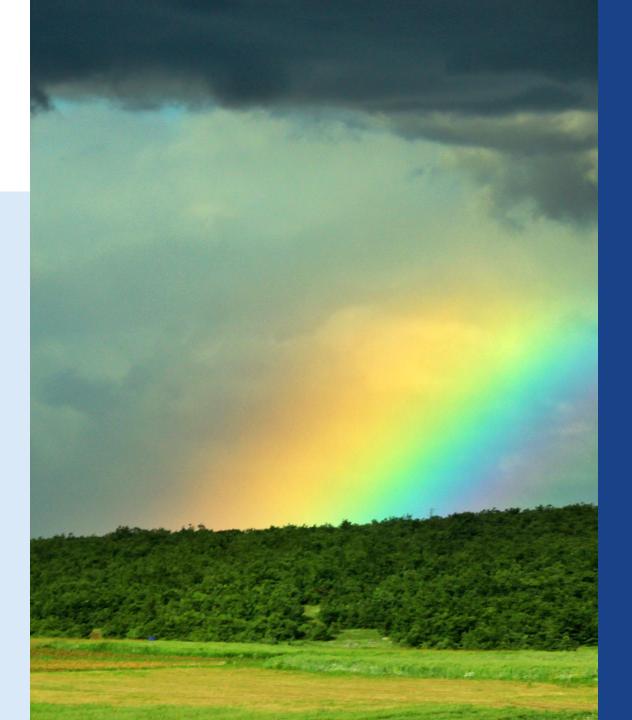
"I want everyone to be capable of doing 50% of their bosses job"



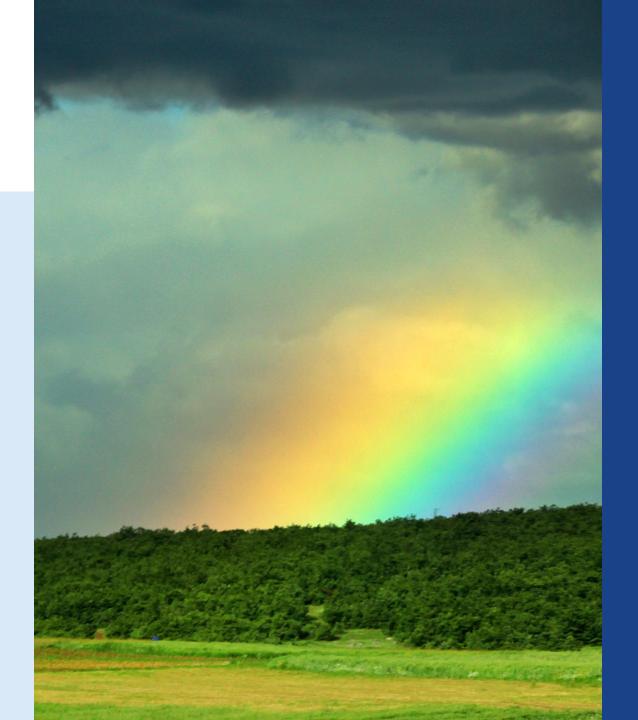
Tip #2 Become a Better Employer



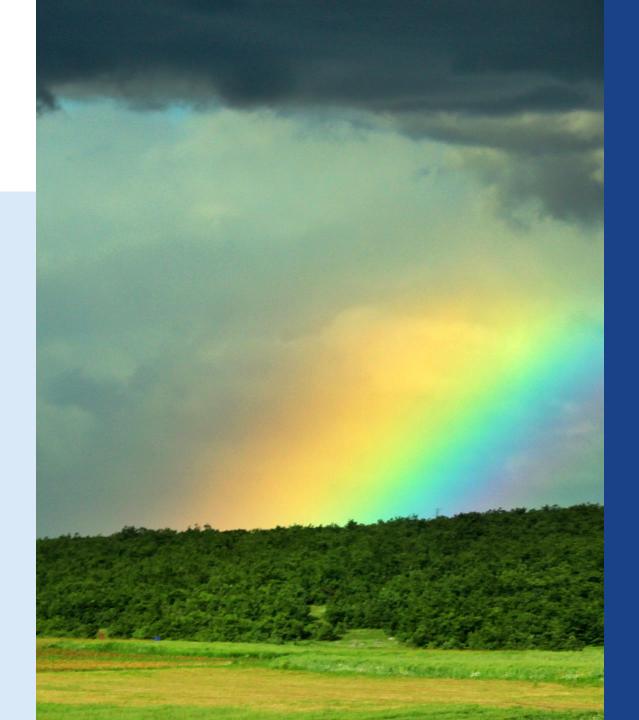
Tip #2 Become a Better Employer



Think about your employee experience from hire to retire. How does it fail?

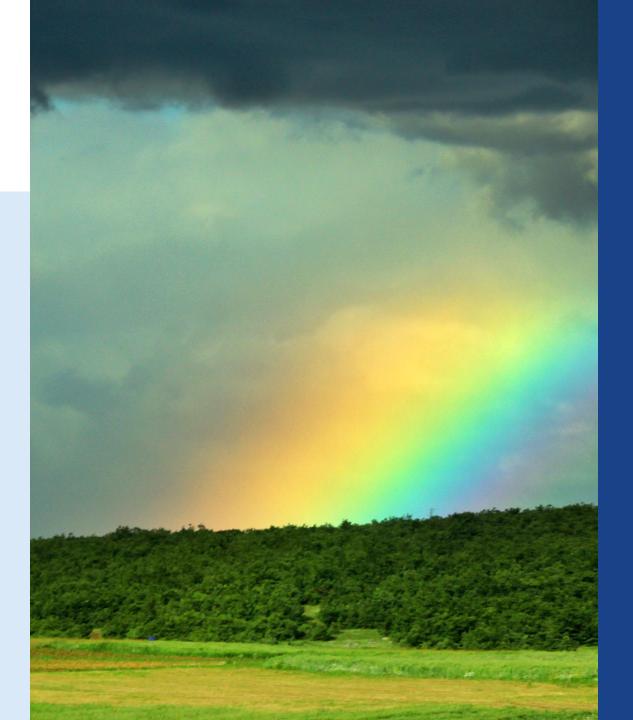


Implement systems that support a strong culture and improve engagement.

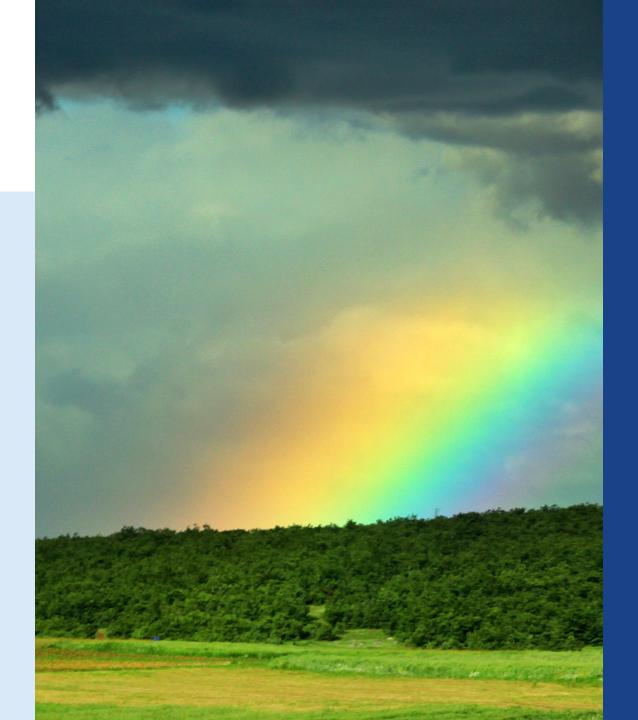




Tip #3 Embrace your Millennials

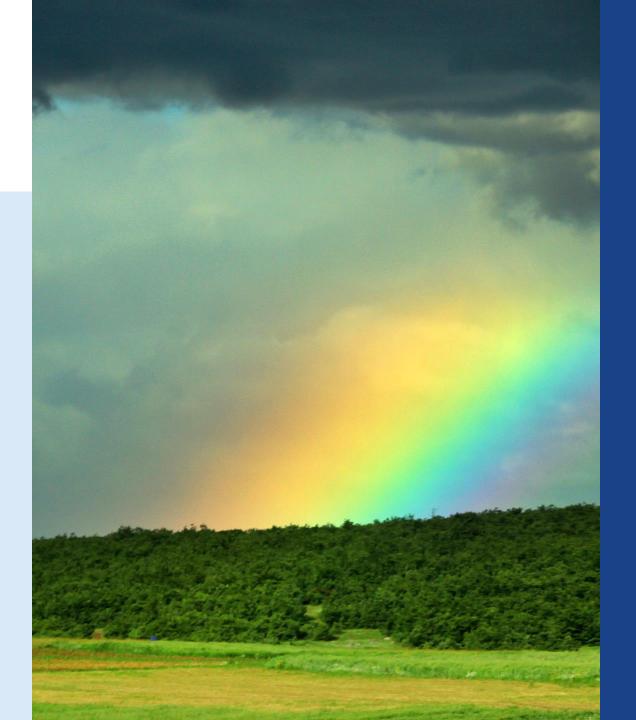


Stop trashing your Millennials. They hear you and it's not helpful.



Get THEM involved in steering through the storm.

They think differently.



DISCUSSION

What do you need to do to weather the storm and come out thriving?

Let's revisit Lauren. It's 2050.



Lauren is at her retirement party. She has been CEO for 15 years. Now she isn't fully retiring, but she is taking on an advisory role for the company as a new CEO takes over.



Lauren starts reflecting on her executive experience...



Lauren remembers that her first few years in the C-Suite were hard. She made a lot of mistakes. She is smart, motivated, and educated, but she didn't have experience.



But Lauren did make some really good decisions too...



She engaged outside experts to help her.

(great move... cough cough)



She launched a team to explore how leaders flow through the company and how to make it better. The team upgraded the employee experience significantly.



She launched supervisor, manager, director, and executive development programs.



She updated the performance management system to ensure employees get regular feedback.



She implemented change management systems that engaged employees to identify and implement process improvements.



She made sure that every employee was being actively prepared for their next position.



She established clear goals and educated her employees on those goals so they could be engaged in company successes (and failures).



Lauren then looked around the room drinking her punch...



...and she recognized that her biggest accomplishment, was putting her people at the center of everything.



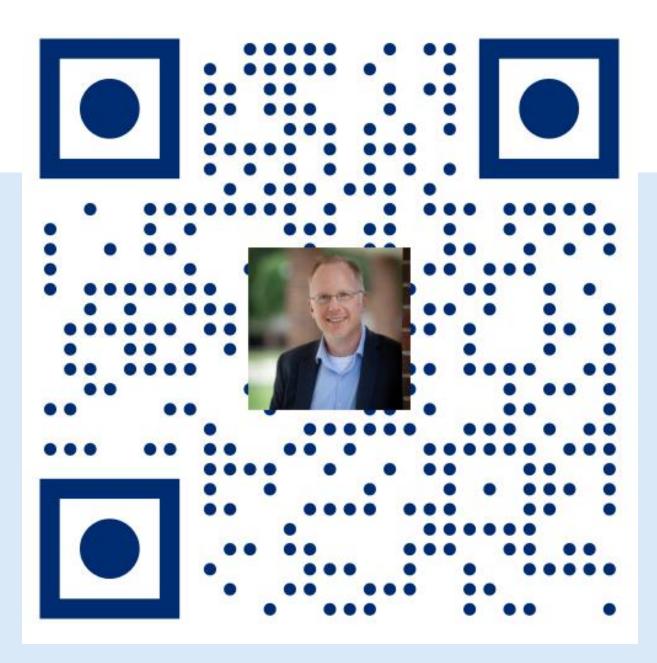
Lauren loved her team and knew they would thrive.



Now... if there was just something she could do about those darn Gen Alpha employees...



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QUESTIONS?

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