

# DC's Millennial Population Age 18-34: Then and Now



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**Joy Phillips, PhD.**  
**DC Office of Planning/State Data Center**

District of Columbia  
Office of Planning



# Who Are Millennials?

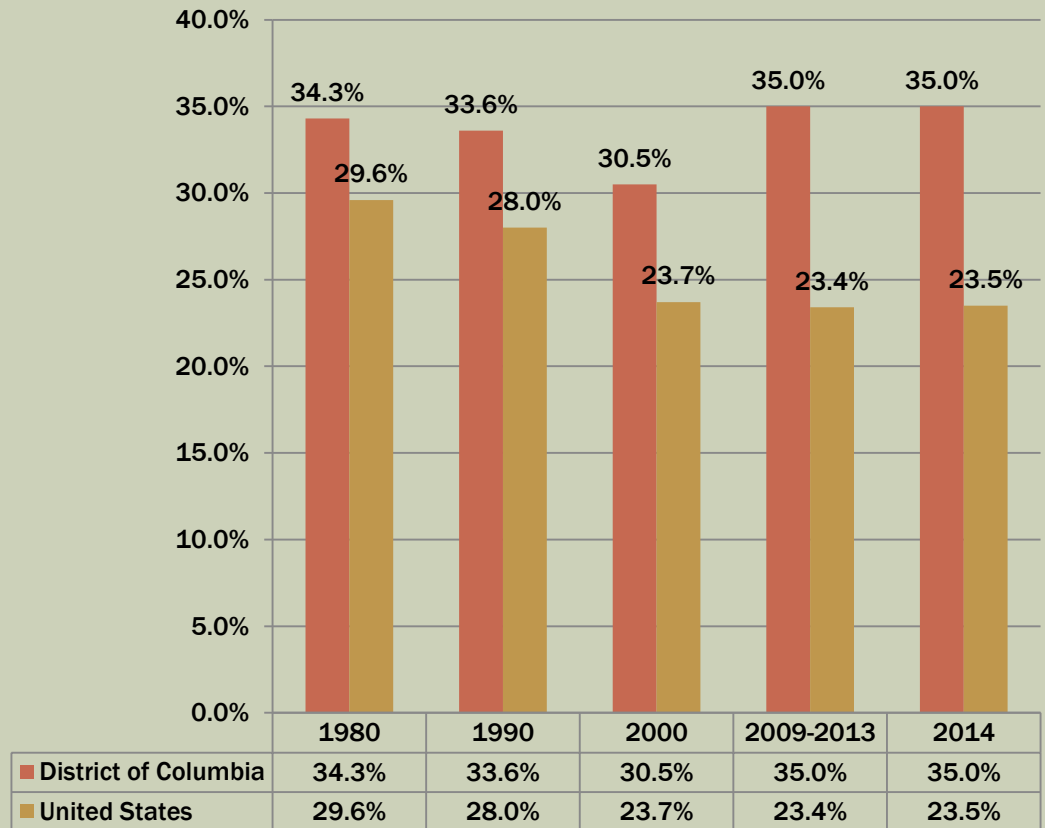
Millennials, also known as Generation Y, are the demographic cohort born between 1982 and 2000, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. This generation numbered about 83 million in 2014 and represents more than one quarter of the U.S. population.

Source: DC Office of Planning using data from the U.S. Census Bureau 1980, 1990 and 2000 Censuses and the American Community Survey (ACS) 2009-2013 5-year estimates

# Population Size

The District's share of young adults (millennials 18-34 years) increased in line with its total population since 2000. In 2014, the District's population 18-34 years numbered **230,484 or 35%**. The share of young adults in the U.S., unlike the District, continues to decline.

## Percent of Population Age 18-34

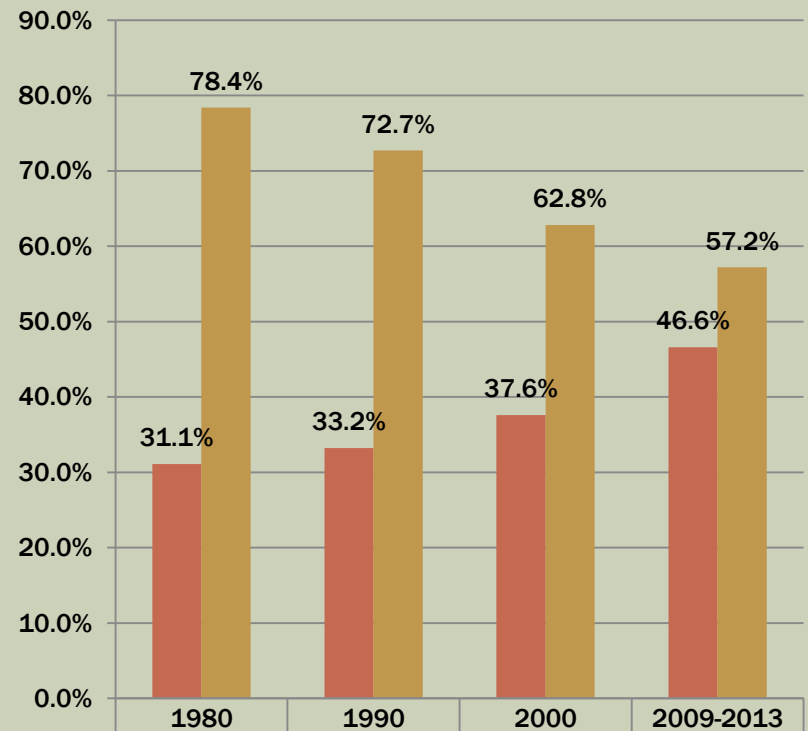


Source: DC Office of Planning using data from the U.S. Census Bureau 1980, 1990 and 2000 Censuses and the American Community Survey (ACS) 2009-2013 5-year estimates

# White, Non-Hispanic Millennials

White, non-Hispanic millennials increased in the District, growing more than 15 percent since 1980. The national trend showed a reverse for white, non-Hispanic millennials, decreasing over 20 percent as the nation's minority population increased.

## White, Non-Hispanic, Age 18-34



■ District of Columbia	31.1%	33.2%	37.6%	46.6%
■ United States	78.4%	72.7%	62.8%	57.2%

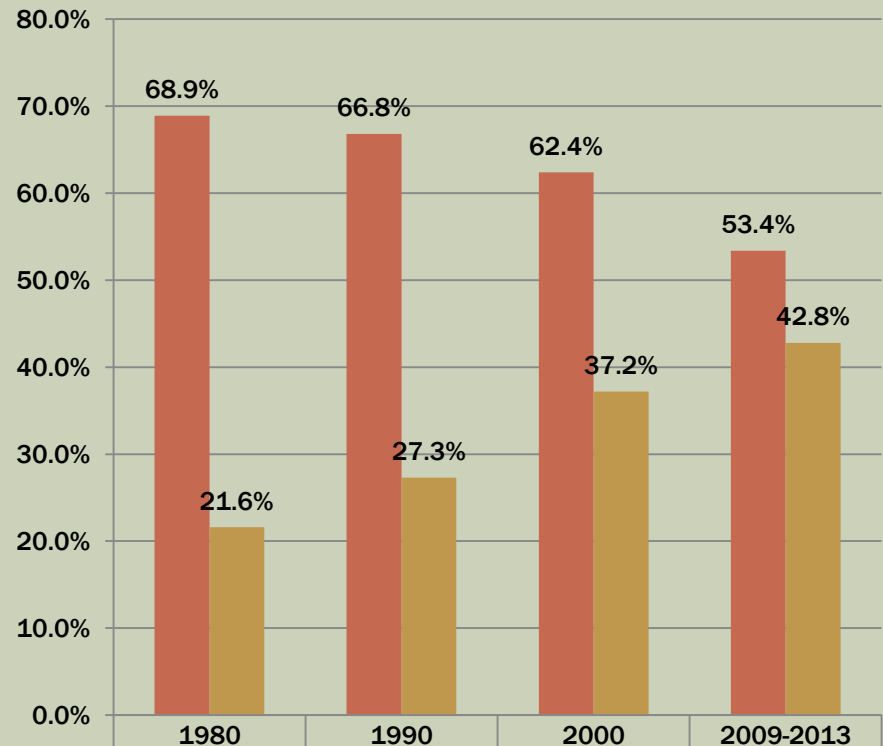
Source: DC Office of Planning using data from the U.S. Census Bureau 1980, 1990 and 2000 Censuses and the American Community Survey (ACS) 2009-2013 5-year estimates

# Minority

The share of young adults that were racial or ethnic minorities has decreased significantly over the last thirty years in the District unlike the nation where this group has doubled.

## Minority, Age 18-34

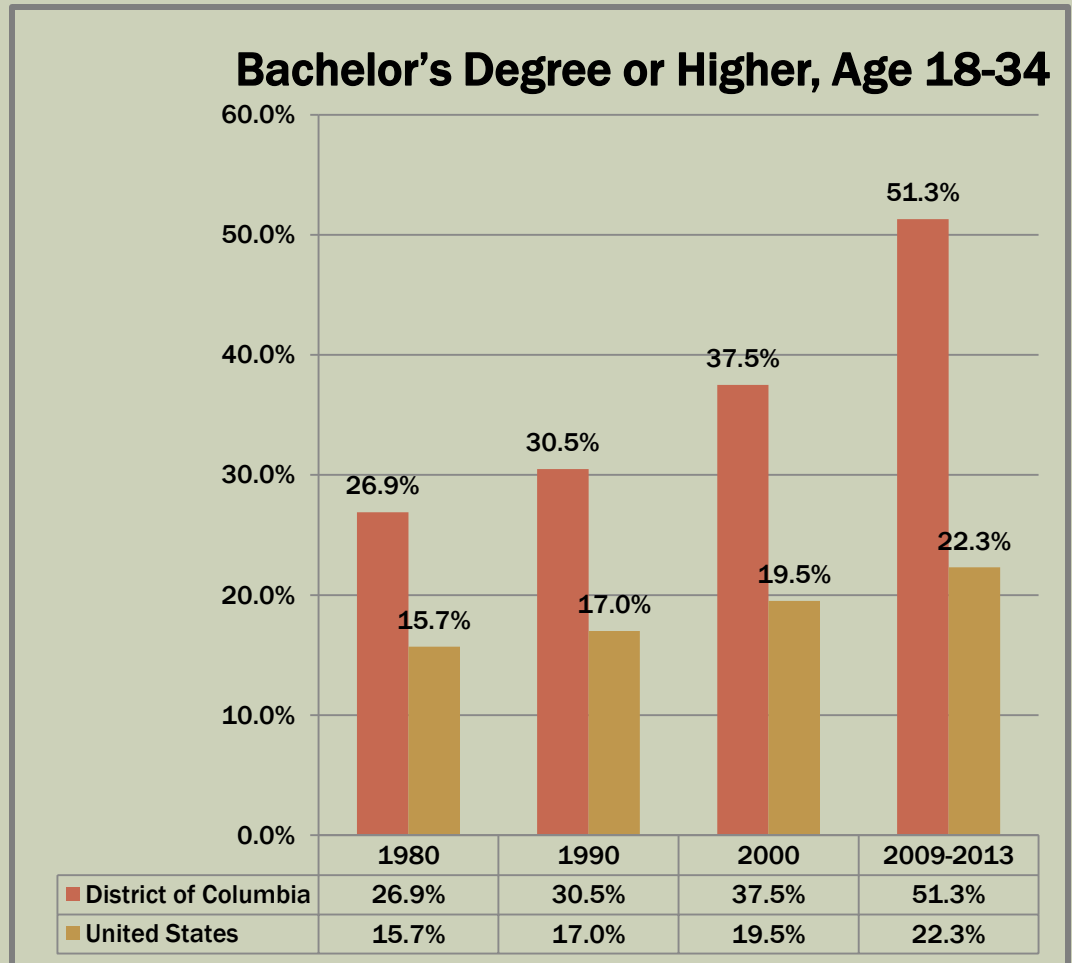
(Percent of the population age 18-34 who reported their ethnicity and race as something other than non-Hispanic White)



■ District of Columbia	68.9%	66.8%	62.4%	53.4%
■ United States	21.6%	27.3%	37.2%	42.8%

# Education

Over 50 percent of millennials in the District has earned a bachelor's degree or higher educational level, more than twice the nation at 22 percent in the 2009-2013 period.

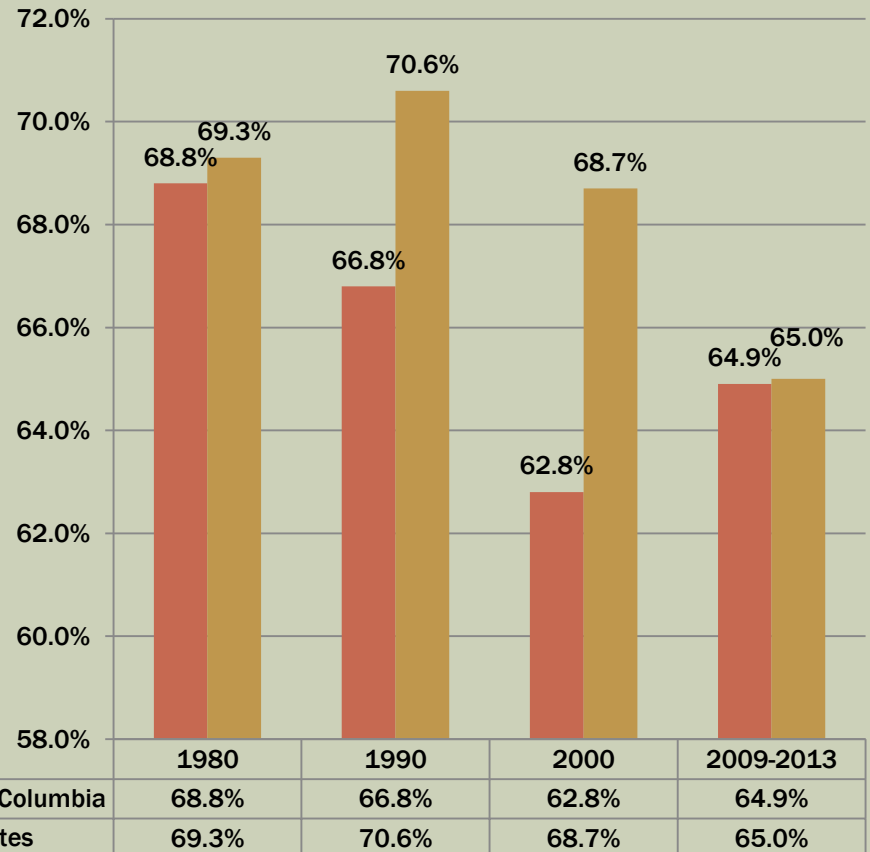


Source: DC Office of Planning using data from the U.S. Census Bureau 1980, 1990 and 2000 Censuses and the American Community Survey (ACS) 2009-2013 5-year estimates

# Employed Millennials

The percentage of millennials employed since 1980 averages about 66 percent and 68 percent for the District and the U.S., respectively.

## Employed Population, Age 18-34



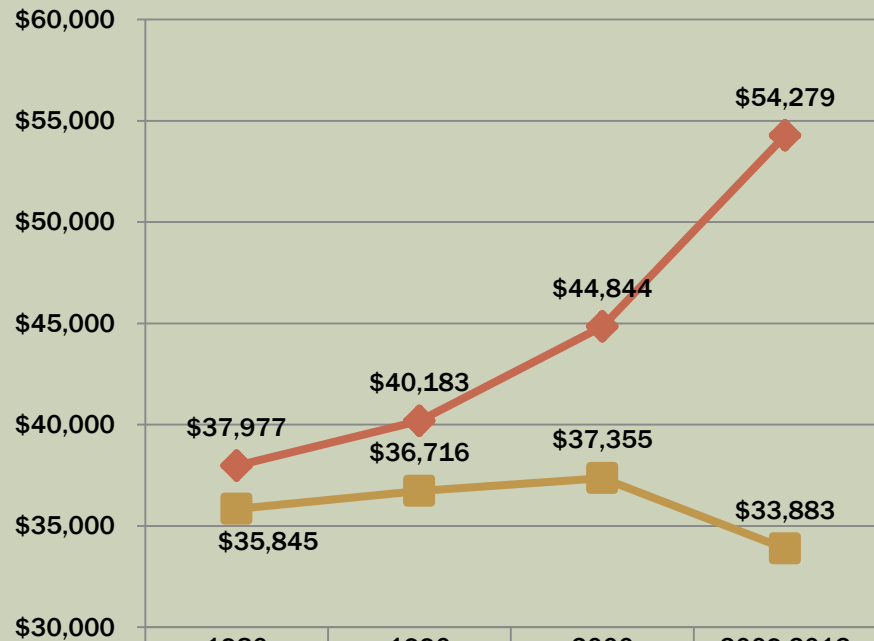
Source: DC Office of Planning using data from the U.S. Census Bureau 1980, 1990 and 2000 Censuses and the American Community Survey (ACS) 2009-2013 5-year estimates

# Median Earnings

Millennials in the District have earned more each decade since 1980 but the national picture showed a decline in their earnings.

## Median Earnings for Full Time Workers, Age 18-34

(in 2013 inflation-adjusted dollars)



◆ District of Columbia	\$37,977	\$40,183	\$44,844	\$54,279
■ United States	\$35,845	\$36,716	\$37,355	\$33,883

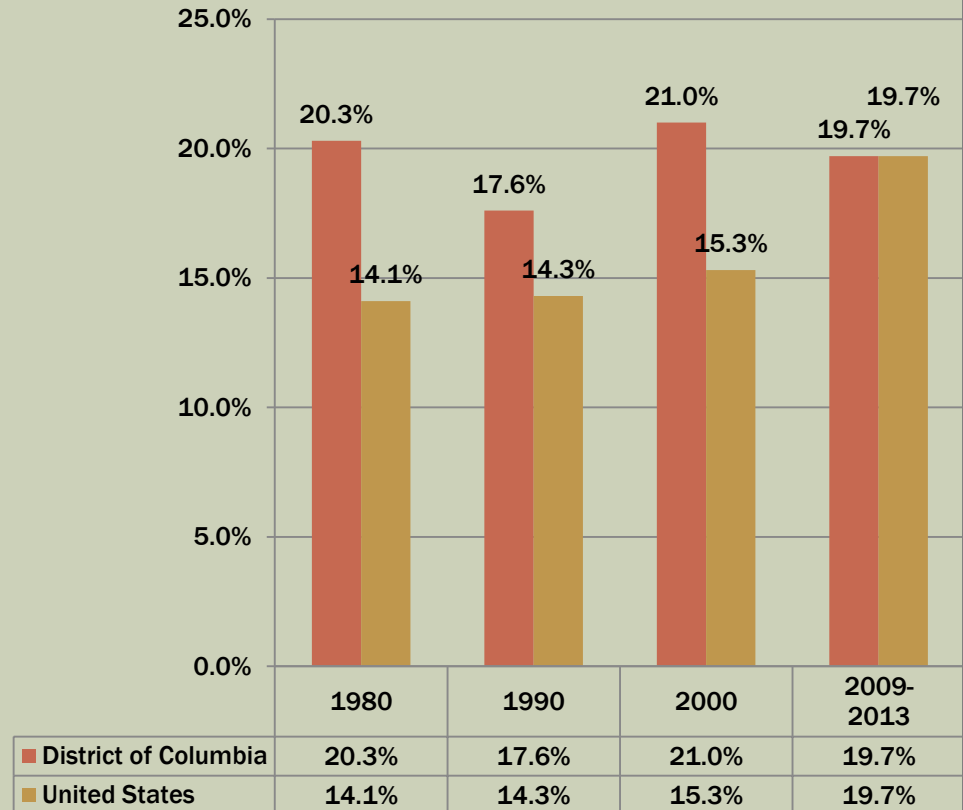
Source: DC Office of Planning using data from the U.S. Census Bureau 1980, 1990 and 2000 Censuses and the American Community Survey (ACS) 2009-2013 5-year estimates



# Poverty

While there was a slight reduction in the percentage of millennials living in poverty in the District in the last ten years, the national picture showed more millennials living in poverty now than in each decade since 1980.

## Living in Poverty, Age 18-34

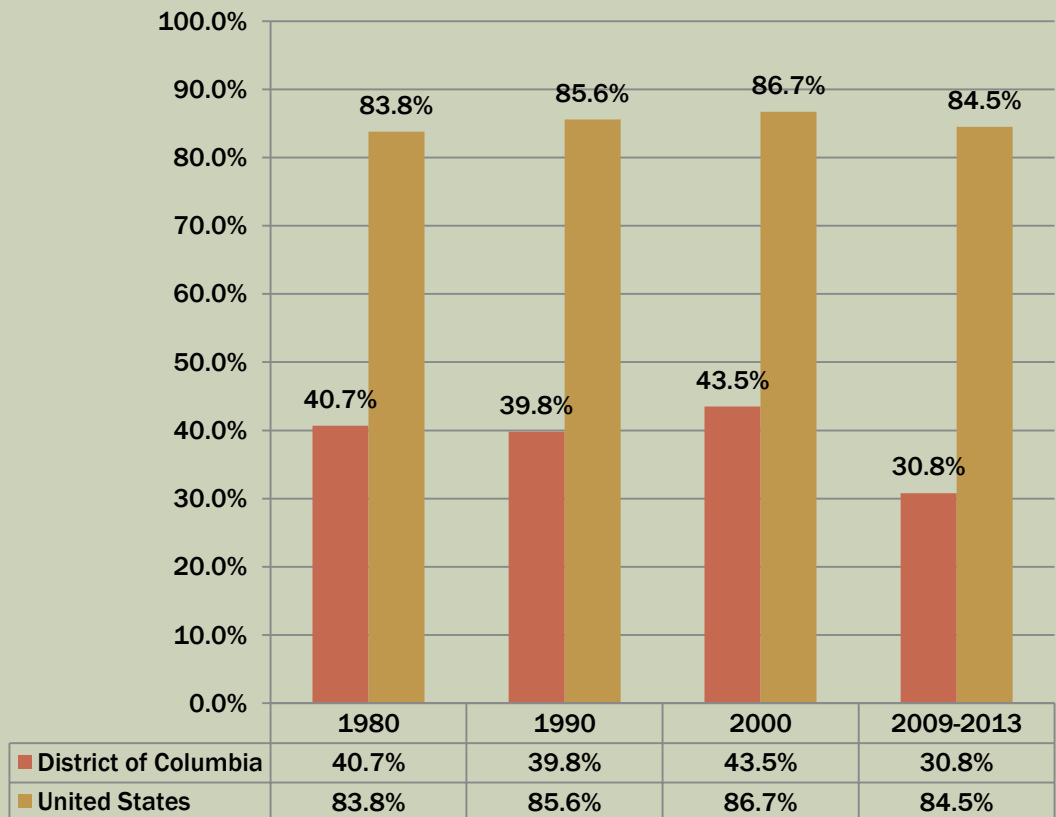


Source: DC Office of Planning using data from the U.S. Census Bureau 1980, 1990 and 2000 Censuses and the American Community Survey (ACS) 2009-2013 5-year estimates

# Commuting to Work

Only 30 percent of District millennials either drove themselves or carpooled to work in the 2009-2013 period unlike the nation with 85 percent. The majority of District millennials used public transportation.

## Drove Car, Truck, Van or Carpooled to Work, Age 18-34

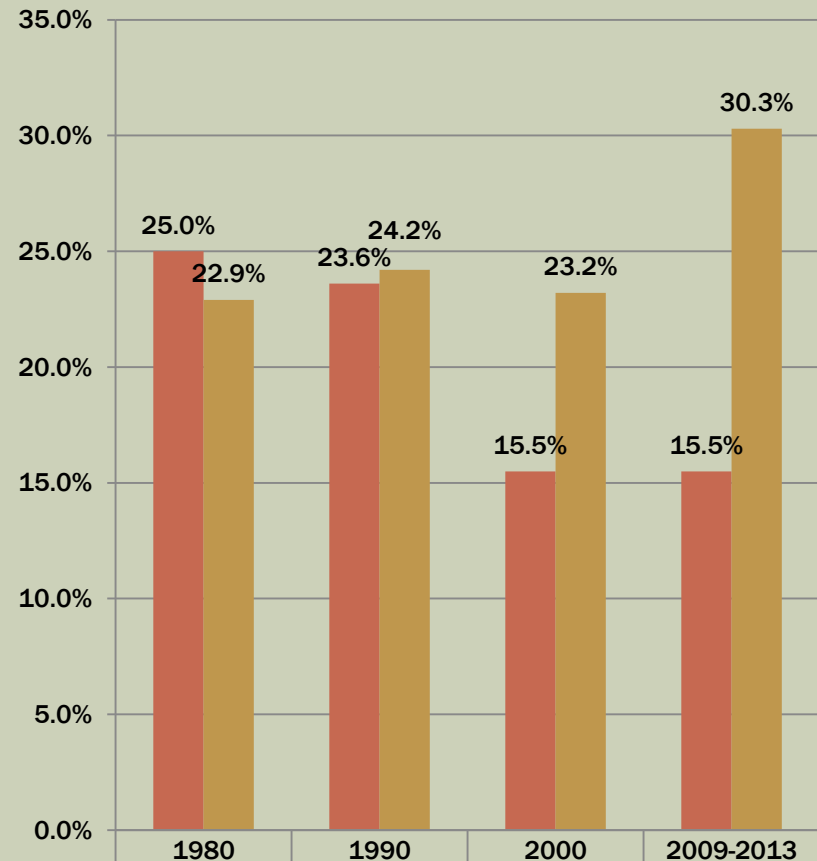


Source: DC Office of Planning using data from the U.S. Census Bureau 1980, 1990 and 2000 Censuses and the American Community Survey (ACS) 2009-2013 5-year estimates

# Living With Parents

Only 15.5 percent of millennials lived with their parents in the District in the 2009-2013 period, down from 25 percent in 1980. The picture for the nation as a whole showed more millennials living with their parents now than ever.

## Living With a Parent, Age 18-34

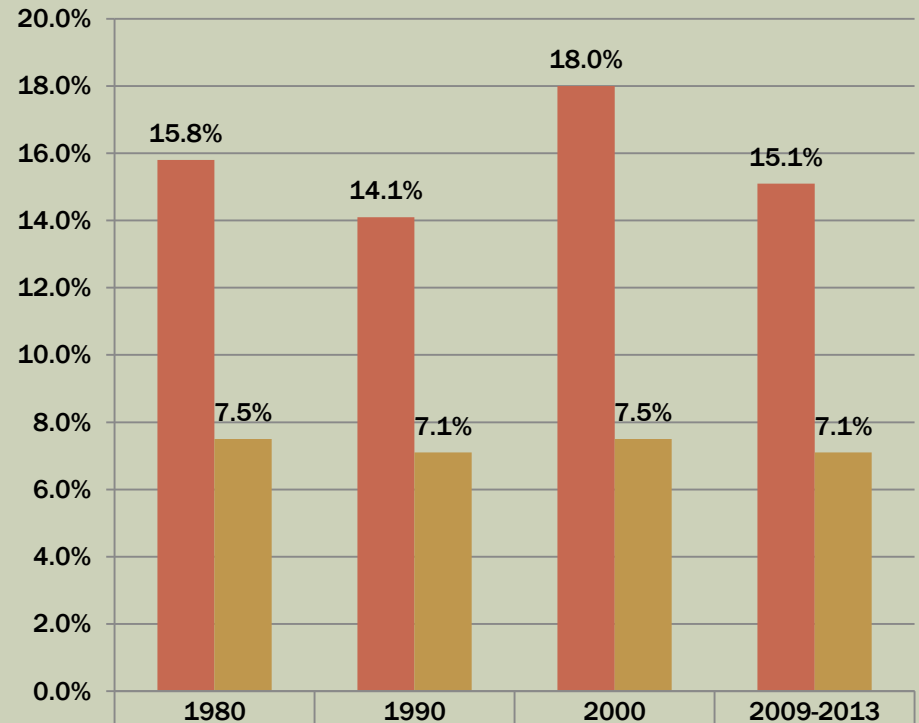


District of Columbia	25.0%	23.6%	15.5%	15.5%
United States	22.9%	24.2%	23.2%	30.3%

# Living Alone

While less than 20 percent of District millennials lived alone, this number was more than twice the national rate.

## Living Alone, Age 18-34



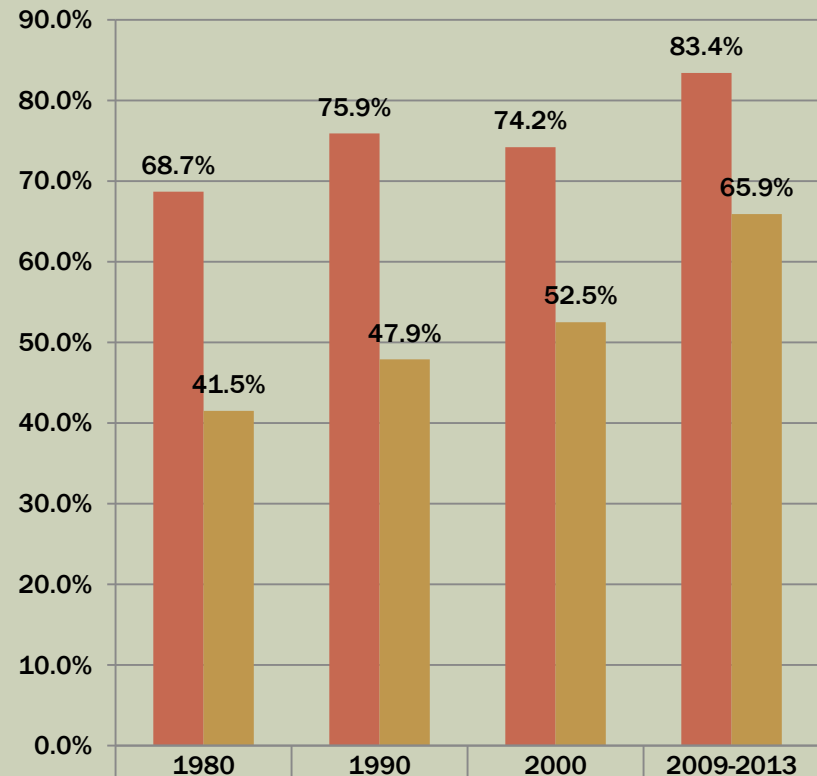
■ District of Columbia	15.8%	14.1%	18.0%	15.1%
■ United States	7.5%	7.1%	7.5%	7.1%

Source: DC Office of Planning using data from the U.S. Census Bureau 1980, 1990 and 2000 Censuses and the American Community Survey (ACS) 2009-2013 5-year estimates

# Never Married

For the District, the majority of millennials have always never married and this percent has increased, generally, each decade. Never married millennials in the U.S. have increased over 20 percent since 1980.

## Never Married, Age 18-34



■ District of Columbia	68.7%	75.9%	74.2%	83.4%
■ United States	41.5%	47.9%	52.5%	65.9%

Source: DC Office of Planning using data from the U.S. Census Bureau 1980, 1990 and 2000 Censuses and the American Community Survey (ACS) 2009-2013 5-year estimates