

## 2024 DIVERSITY, EQUITY, & INCLUSION CONFERENCE

### **Bridging the Generations**

Fostering Inclusion and Belonging in Today's Workplace

May 17, 2024

Moderator: Caroline Leary, General Counsel, Environmental Working Group

Panelists: Susan Walker, ERISA and Benefits Counsel - Allstate

Alex Gordon, Senior Counsel, Employment Affairs, The Johns Hopkins Health System

Lisa Greenlees, VP & Senior Counsel - ESG, Marriott International, Inc.

## A Multigenerational Workforce is a Diversity, Inclusion, and Belonging Issue

- Each generation has entered the workplace at different times and faced different obstacles and environments to navigate
- Each generation may bring unique workstyles, preferences, and communication styles to the workplace, leading to potential conflicts but also opportunities for collaboration and innovation.
- Building an inclusive workplace culture that values and respects individuals of all generations is crucial for fostering collaboration, creativity, and productivity across generations.
- More than 60% of employees report experiencing generational conflict at some point in their career



# Mind the Gap: Managing Five Generations in the Workplace

**GENERATION Z** (Born 1997 onward)

05

- Accustomed to change and expects it in the workplace<sup>3</sup>
- Value in-person interactions<sup>3</sup>
- Look for feedback on a frequent, ongoing basis<sup>4</sup>

MILLENIALS (Born 1977-1997) 04

- Looking to be coached or mentored<sup>3</sup>
- Prefer collaborative and technology-centric training<sup>3</sup>
- · Aligning with company values is key4

**GEN-X** (Born 1965-1976)

03

- View change as a vehicle for opportunity<sup>3</sup>
- Embrace a hands-off management policy<sup>2</sup>
- · Entrepreneurial spirit and results-oriented5

BABY BOOMERS (Born 1943-1964) 02

- More reserved in communication style<sup>3</sup>
- Value traditional instructor-led courses or self-learning tools<sup>3</sup>
- Top qualities for a manager are being ethical, fair, consistent<sup>4</sup>

TRADITIONALISTS (Born before 1943)

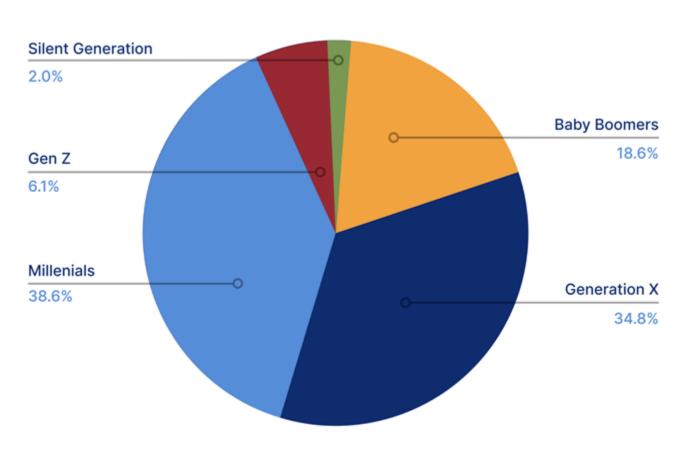


- Believe in hierarchical management style¹
- · Strong work ethic and loyal to their company2
- Slow to adapt to new technology<sup>2</sup>

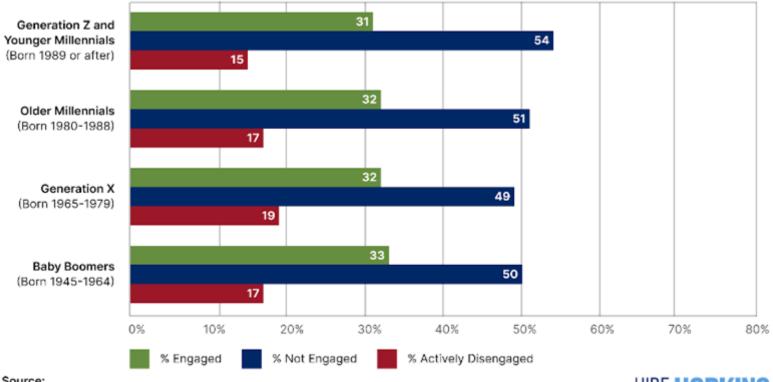
### Workforce Numbers in the U.S. (%)

HIRE **HOPKINS** 

Source: Purdue Global, 2020



### **Employee Engagement by Generation**



Source: Gallup, 2022 HIRE HOPKINS

#### **Multigenerational Legal Considerations**

- Age discrimination
- Harassment
- Workplace Accommodations
- Equitable policies and practices
- Fair succession planning + growth opportunities