



# Where We're Going We Do Need Roads

Pathways to  
the Future





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**Marissa Wicklund**



# Questions We'll Address

- What's going on?
- What's new and different?
- What can we do about it?
- Who has a head start?



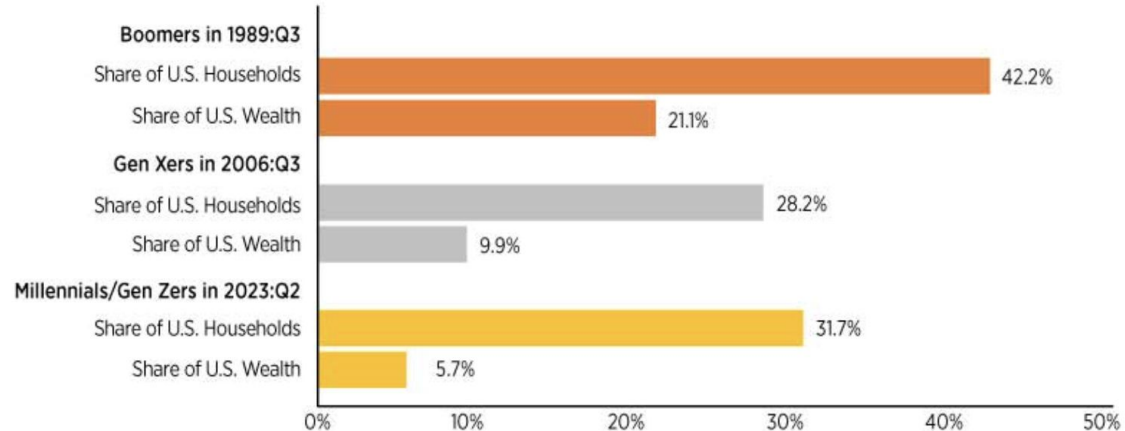
# Excerpt from Spring Giddiness | **Rumi**



Today, like every other day, we wake up empty and frightened. Don't open the door to the study and begin reading. Take down a musical instrument. Let the beauty we love be what we do. There are hundreds of ways to kneel and kiss the ground.

# New Economic Reality

## Generational Shares of U.S. Households and Wealth at Same Age



■ FEDERAL RESERVE BANK OF ST. LOUIS

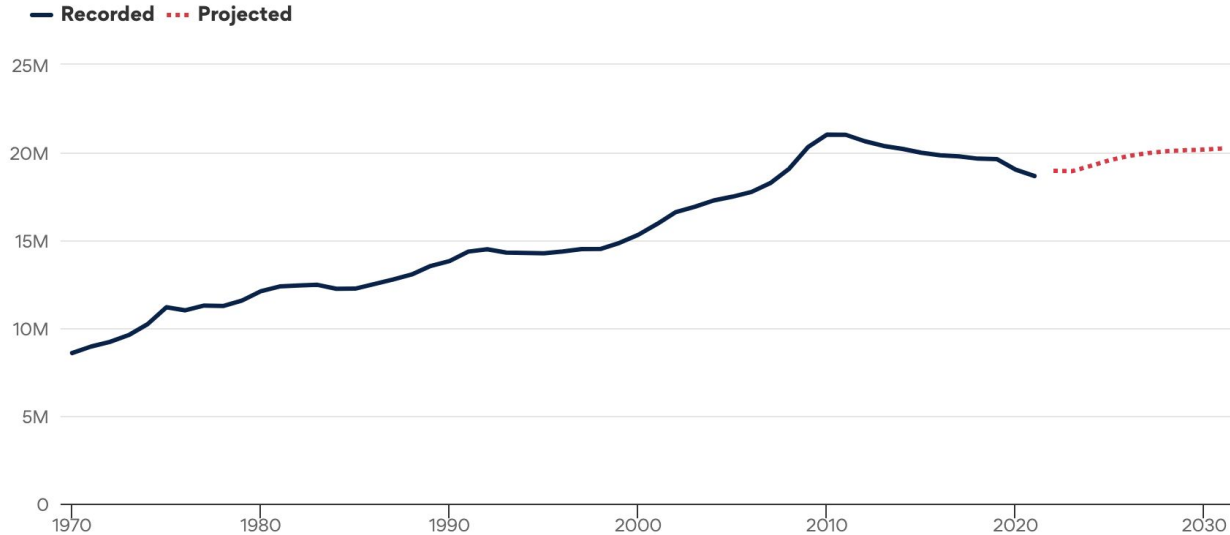
SOURCES: Distributional Financial Accounts and Institute for Economic Equity calculations.

NOTES: Shares are calculated when each generation was relatively young (at the average age of 34). The data are for the quarter in the year when the generation was at that average age.



# Higher Education Uncertainty

Total and Projected Undergraduate Fall Enrollment 1970-2031



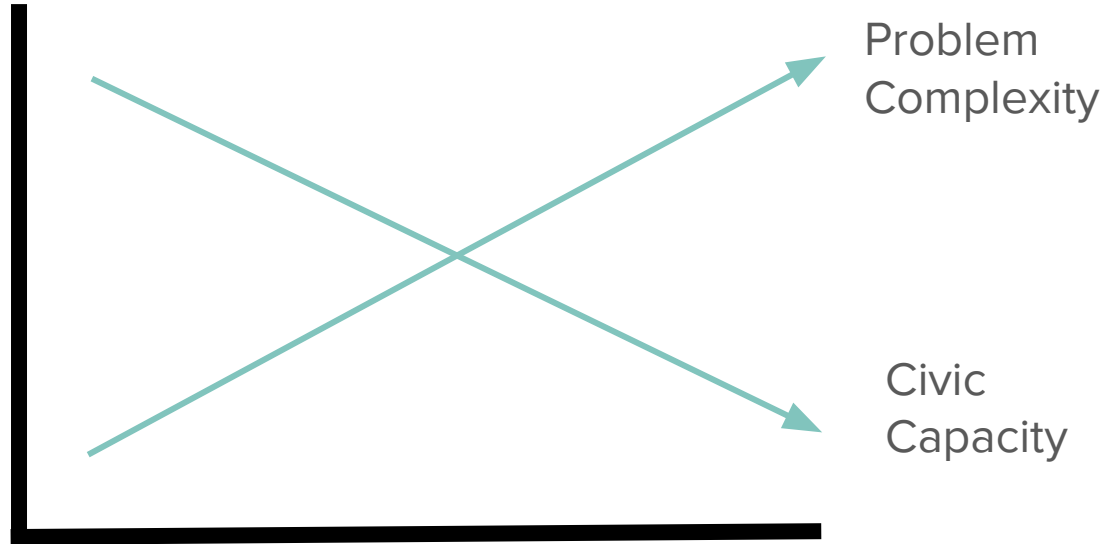
Source: The National Center for Education Statistics<sup>[4]</sup>



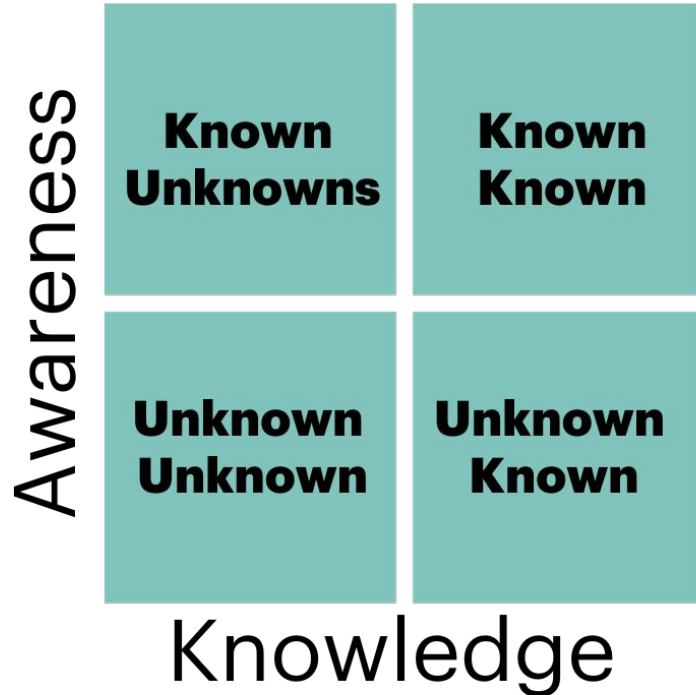


# Ingenuity Gap

Thomas Homer Dixon



# You don't know what you don't know...



**KU:** Question

**KK:** Forecasted & Planned

**UU:** ???

**UK:** Assumptions/Intuition



# CTE Career Clusters



- Ag, Food & Natural Resources
- Architecture & Construction
- Arts, A/V Tech & Communication
- Business Management & Admin
- Education and Training
- Finance
- Government & Public Administration
- Health Science
- Hospitality & Tourism
- Human Services
- Information Technology
- Law & Public Safety
- Manufacturing
- Marketing
- STEM
- Transportation, Distribution and Logistics



# Drivers

## Emerging Tech

Generative AI, decentralized systems and more.

## Climate Adaptation

Federal spending, interconnected global challenges, innovation.

## Community

Organization and a civic imperative to participate.

## Skills-First World

Hiring, portraits, badging, community alignment, reskilling.

## Next Gen Economics

Value creation, creator/attention economy, new business models.

## Health

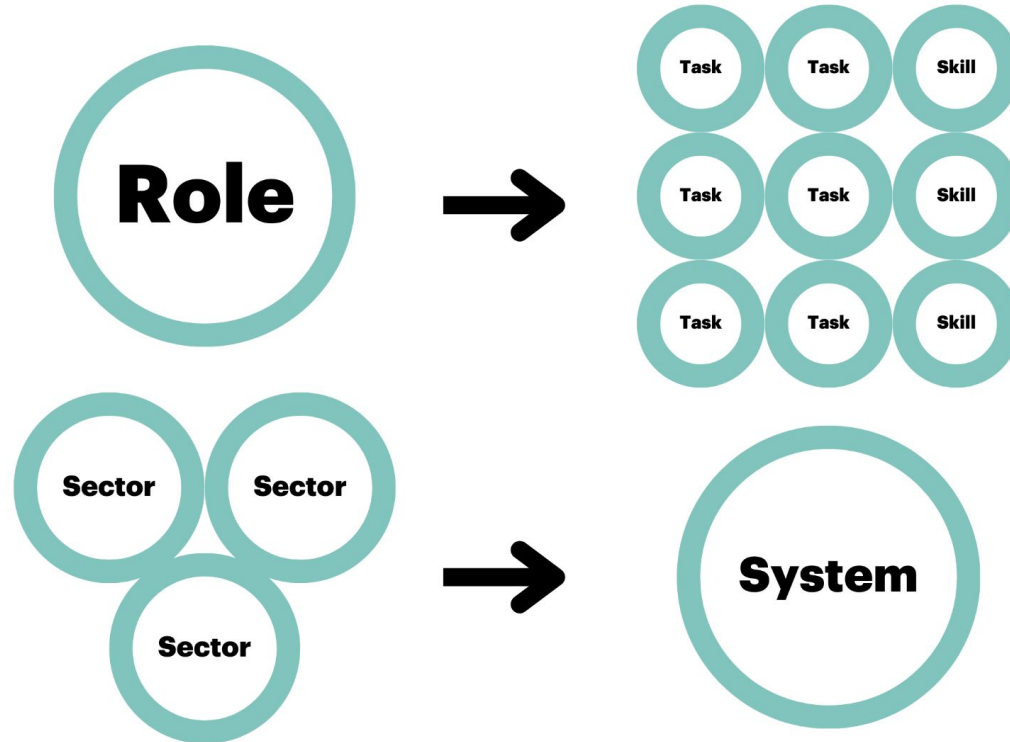
Wellness, monitoring innovations, aging population.

"Tasks within jobs typically show considerable variability in 'suitability for machine learning' while few -- if any -- jobs can be fully automated using machine learning."

- **Erik Brynjolfsson, MIT**



# The Transition



# Creator Archetype from BigThought

## 21ST CENTURY LEARNERS THE CREATOR ARCHETYPE



SOCIAL & EMOTIONAL  
FOUNDATION



ACADEMICS  
& ARTISTRY



DIGITAL  
FLUENCY



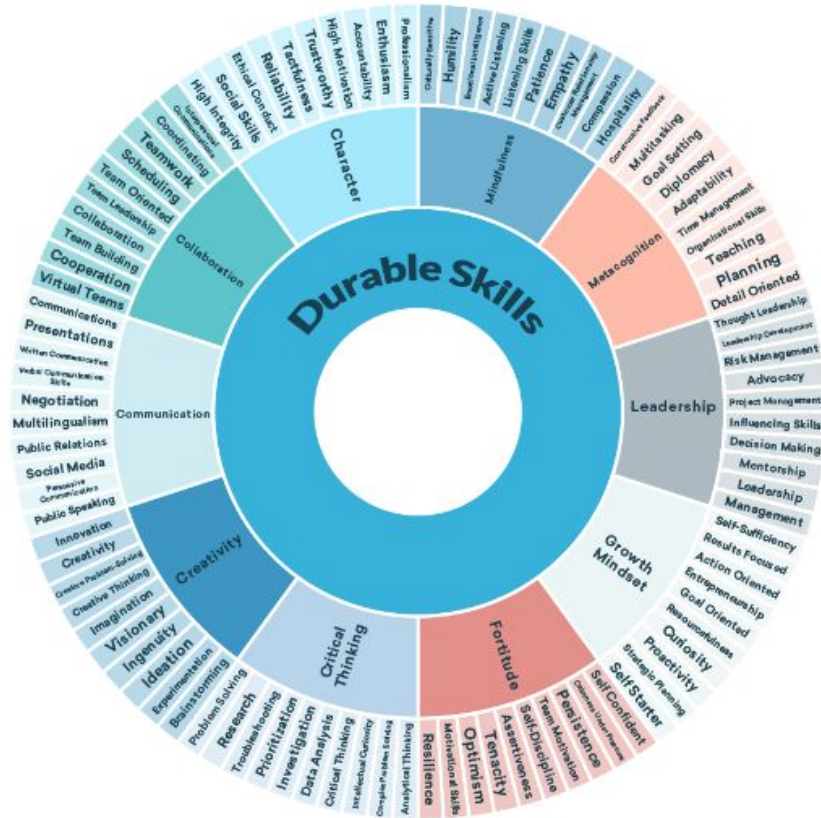
DESIGN  
THINKING



CIVICS  
& SERVICE



# Durable Skills Framework



# Contribution Skills



## Agency

Entrepreneurship  
Opportunity Spotting  
Critical Thinking  
Creativity  
Communication  
Growth Mindset

## Purpose

Civics  
Collaboration  
Organizing and Facilitation  
Relationship Building  
Know Yourself  
Know Your Community

# Career Exploration





Advocacy



Impact Investing

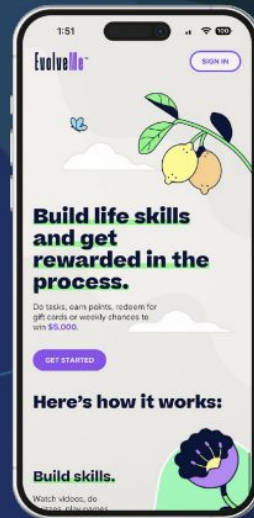


15M middle and high school students



Digital Experiences

Philanthropic Giving



# The World of Work



- Explore
- Simulate
- Meet a Pro
- Practice



# The Knowledge Society



- Emerging Technology
- Mentorship
- Mindset
- Global Community
- Real-World Challenges
- Unique Opportunities

# Community Share



COMMUNITY  
SHARE

- Partnership
- Client Projects
- Community exploration trends and data

# Project-Based Learning 2.0



# Find the Why & KnoPro



A statewide client-connected challenge initiative from Symphony Workforce.



A challenge network from NAF.

# Employer Provided Innovation Challenges (EPIC)



- U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation
- National initiative for client-connected projects





# Real World Learning Experiences



## Work Experiences

- Internships
- Client connected projects



## Entrepreneurial Experiences



## College Credit

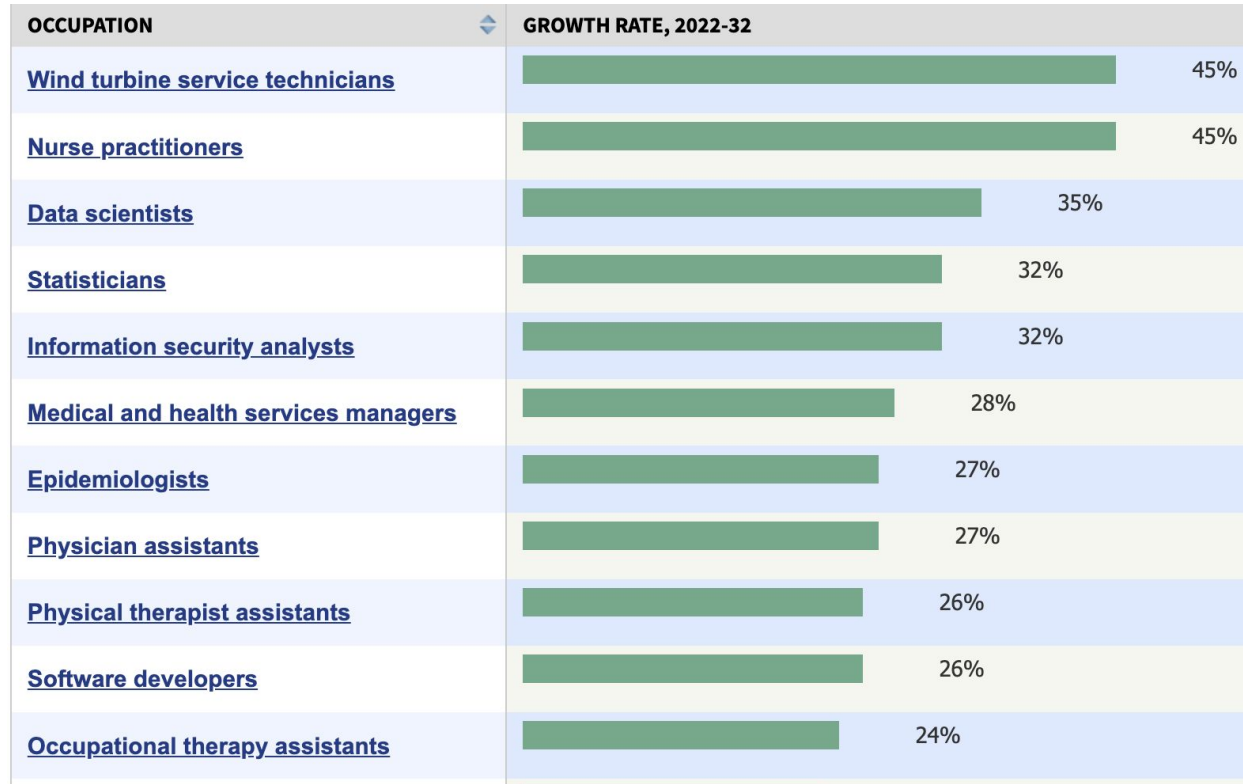


## Industry-Recognized Credentials

# Growing Sectors



# Fastest Growing Labor Sectors



OCCUPATION	GROWTH RATE, 2022-32
<a href="#">Wind turbine service technicians</a>	45%
<a href="#">Nurse practitioners</a>	45%
<a href="#">Data scientists</a>	35%
<a href="#">Statisticians</a>	32%
<a href="#">Information security analysts</a>	32%
<a href="#">Medical and health services managers</a>	28%
<a href="#">Epidemiologists</a>	27%
<a href="#">Physician assistants</a>	27%
<a href="#">Physical therapist assistants</a>	26%
<a href="#">Software developers</a>	26%
<a href="#">Occupational therapy assistants</a>	24%

From the Bureau of Labor Statistics



“If you know a young person who wants to do something that’s going to help the world and wants to make a good living at the same time, tell them to go become an electrician.”

- **Bill McKibben**





# Green Pathways

A Getting Smart  
Publication



# Energy



# School Models



# Key Takeaways



- Rather than building all new CTE pathways, we need to add durable skills, add next gen job awareness, add support & guidance systems.
- It's critical to expose young people to mindsets, emerging challenges and opportunities AND provide them with mentorship.
- Pathways must focus on skills before sector as most challenges are now cross-sector.
- Learners must take the extra step to find the passion underneath the skills.



# Any Questions...



Heads up, if we don't have the answer you're looking for... here are some folks to look up:

- **For AI & Computer Science:** TeachAI.Org, AIForEducation.io
- **For Social Capital:** Julia Freeland Fisher, CommunityShare.org
- **For Performing Arts Pathways:** High School for the Recording Arts
- **For Support and Guidance:** Crew by EL Education, Compass by Valor
- **For Middle School:** Cajon Valley
- **For Sustainability:** Green Schools National Network, SEI

# Thank You!



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