

#climate-control

The threat of global warming has been heard. People are choosing products, services, and behaviors—including commuting methods—that help mitigate it. But transit is already suffering the effects—‘member Snomaggedon? Expect your workforce to say no to vehicles and yes to #wfh.

#fattax

America has become a battleground between the militant health nuts—people who subsist on kale, ban soda, and ascribe to military-style workouts—and everyone else. As healthcare becomes compulsory, costs soar, and scientific evidence mounts against certain foods and lifestyle choices, engaging in unhealthy behaviors leads to penalties—financial, professional, and personal.

#snacks

Snacking is on a tear. From over-scheduled lives to a flurry of conflicting views on having three squares, people have turned to snacks. Should people be able to get a healthy and balanced diet through snacking? Probably.

#chat

Outlook. Slack. Gmail. Skype. Chances are, your office uses one or more of these communication tools, but as workplaces evolve, which is the most efficient tool moving forward? With a tonal range from formal to informal, email's the gold standard, but as older technologies—think: video conferencing—mature, and newer devices—those swanky VR headsets—emerge, what might the future of workplace communication look like?

#worklife-merge

It's no longer about compartmentalization when it comes to one's job and one's home life. People are recognizing that they spend a huge part of their lives at work, and are choosing jobs that give them meaning, where they can be themselves. In return, they have to answer emails from the dinner table.

#luxuryof-focus

We are learning more than ever about what makes for smart work. Scientists and productivity experts are singing the praises of doing one thing at a time, even advocating daydreaming and vacation as ways to be more focused. With all this new research some are starting to ask, what if we could get more done by doing less?

#crowd-control

If the consumer is king, today is his reign of terror because of his instant connection to the World Wide Web and tendency to rate, review, and tweet when there is a problem. In the future, expect people to choose whether or not to work for you or patronize your business based on what they read online.

#millennial-mindset

We all hear a lot about Millennials: how they are non-materialistic, over-educated super-communicators, or experience-seeking, relationship-forging, commitment-phobic trophy children. Honestly, get used to them because they are today's workforce. At least until Gen Z—practical, digital, no-filter-using—comes in and starts bossing the Millennials around.

#girlson-top

For the first time ever, the majority of the American workforce is female, and younger women are outpacing men in education and salary. The collaborative nature of today's workplace seems to favor chicks and their typically less aggressive communication styles. I'm with her, indeed.

#doingwell- doinggood

People are looking for the companies that employ them and align with their own values: doing right by people (both employees and consumers) and doing right by the earth. And it can pay off—consumers are willing to pay a premium for corporate responsibility, and half of millennials would take a pay cut to work for a company whose values are consistent with their own.