



30 MINUTES

What Accounts for Increasing Jobs in Healthcare?

Having speculated, students learn why jobs in healthcare are on the rise, through their analysis of the Baby Boomers and Healthcare infographic.



VOCABULARY

booming

baby boomers

PREP

Be prepared to explain the terms: **booming, baby boomers**

MATERIALS

- *The Future of Health: Baby Boomers* infographic (two pages)

PAGE ONE

Distribute the first page of the infographic and ask students to read it for understanding of who baby boomers are.

DISCUSS

According to the graphic, who are baby boomers?

- › *People born between 1946 and 1964.*

How old are baby boomers now? Do the math.

- › *53-71*

What do they have to do with healthcare?

- › *They are aging and have a lot of health concerns.*

Approximately how many baby boomers are turning or have already turned 65 and will likely need more healthcare in the coming years?

- › *Roughly 80 million.*

Explain that the baby boomer generation was the longest generation of the 20th century (1900s) and so this is the largest amount of aging people our modern healthcare system has ever had to care for.

What kinds of health concerns do baby boomers have according to the infographic?

- › *Obesity, arthritis, diabetes.*

Do you have any people in your life in this age bracket who have some of these health concerns? What additional health concerns do you think baby boomers have?

What are causes of health concerns in baby boomers in your family and community?

- › *Results of physical strain due to many years working in physically demanding jobs, such as ones in construction, food service, custodial; unhealthy diets; exposure to pollution; lack of preventive care, such as regular check-ups and health screenings; stress, due to financial, family and work concerns.*

PAGE TWO

Distribute the second page asking students to read it and explain in further detail the connections between baby boomers and healthcare.

DISCUSSION

How do you think the aging of baby boomers will affect healthcare employment?

- › *There will be a dramatic increase in healthcare jobs.*

What are some of the reasons there are so many new jobs in healthcare?

- › *People are living longer, and with more health problems.*
- › *There are a lot of tech jobs due to the computerization of the healthcare industry.*
- › *Healthcare research creates a lot of laboratory jobs.*

Which patient care jobs do you think will have openings?

- › *Nurses, home health aides, physical therapists*

Which administrative jobs do you think will be in need?

- › *Medical coders and billers, medical receptionists*

What related jobs could increase due to the healthcare needs of baby boomers?

- › *Sales of medical and healthcare equipment, such as wheelchairs, walkers, bathroom grab bars and ramps.*

For the careers that do not involve working with patients, where do you think this work is conducted and what kind of work is it? What kind of interests do you think someone in these careers should have?

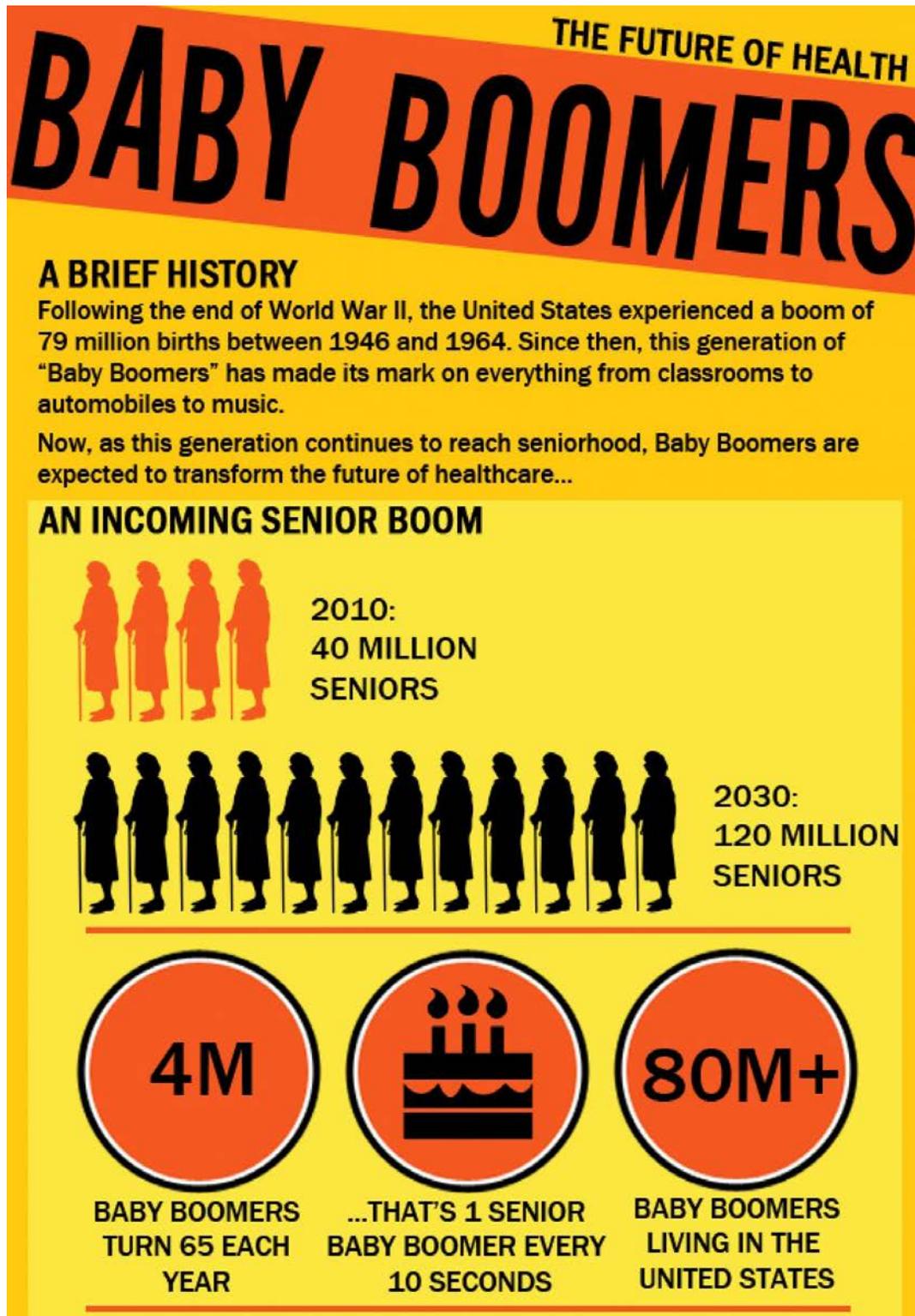
Location and Type

- › *Laboratory, Lab Techs*
- › *Offices, Medical Record Technicians*

Interests

- › *An interest in machines and computers*
- › *Someone who prefers not to come in contact with patients' personalities, pain, questions, blood, etc.*

Healthcare Infographic



Source: <http://visual.ly/future-health-baby-boomers>



PROJECTED AVERAGE LIFE EXPECTANCY IN 2030



COMPARED TO AVERAGE LIFE EXPECTANCY IN 1950

SENIOR BOOM CONTRIBUTORS



HEALTHCARE

BABY BOOMER EFFECT



IMMIGRATION

BOOMER HEALTH IN 2030



6/10 WILL BE LIVING WITH MORE THAN 1 CHRONIC CONDITION



1/4 WILL BE LIVING WITH DIABETES



1/3 WILL BE CONSIDERED OBESE



1/2 WILL BE LIVING WITH ARTHRITIS



OF HOSPITAL ADMISSIONS WILL BE PATIENTS 65+