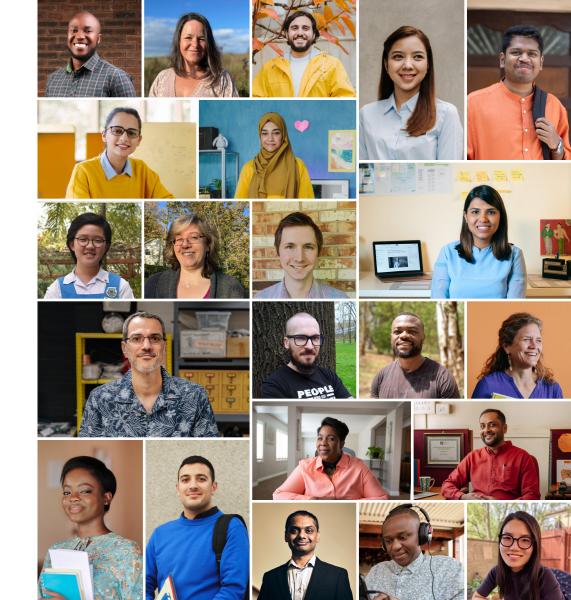
2023

# Learner Outcomes Report

coursera



## **Contents**

## Introduction

- **03** Letter from Coursera's Chief Content Officer
- **04** Executive summary

## **Core findings**

- **08** Career benefits
- **12** Personal benefits
- **17** Workforce development

## **Spotlights**

- **21** Micro-credentials
- **24** Countries

## **Appendix**

- **33** Methodology
- **35** Demographics

## Letter from Coursera's Chief Content Officer

Coursera's mission is rooted in serving the world through learning so everyone—regardless of location, socioeconomic status, or personal circumstance—has the power to unleash their full potential. This impact is most profound when learning on Coursera unlocks new job opportunities and career advancement.

To help measure the progress we're making toward this goal, I'm pleased to introduce our most extensive Learner Outcomes Report ever, created in collaboration with Huron Consulting Group. The report gathers insights from more than 55,000 learners across over 190 countries to understand how Coursera helps learners reach their career and personal goals. The results highlight the transformative impact of online learning:

- 77% of learners (and 91% in developing economies) report career benefits, such as getting a new job, earning a promotion, gaining
  applicable career skills, and more.
- 95% of learners (and 99% in developing economies) report personal benefits, such as gaining more confidence, feeling more accomplished, and more.
- 30% of unemployed learners were employed after completing their most recent course or program on Coursera.
- 1 in 4 Entry-Level Professional Certificate completers got a new job.

In addition to results for learners worldwide, the report delves into the benefits of online education for learners in developing economies and specific countries with a high concentration of Coursera learners—such as India, the U.K., Mexico, and more. It also highlights the impact on low-income learners and first-generation college students in the U.S., uncovering the critical role high-quality online education plays in helping those who need it most.

As technology advancements like generative AI and demand for remote roles reshape the job market, online learning can empower learners with the skills needed to thrive in this rapidly changing environment. We're encouraged by the stories of our learners and how our partners' content is helping individuals around the world advance their careers and enrich their lives. But our work is far from over. Together with our world-class university and industry partners, we will work tirelessly to help anyone, anywhere create a brighter future for themselves and their communities.



#### **OUR MISSION**

We provide universal access to world-class learning so that anyone, anywhere, has the power to transform their lives through learning.

Core findings 2023 Coursera Learner Outcomes Report Introduction Spotlights **Appendix** 

## **Executive summary**

In January 2023, Coursera commissioned Huron Consulting Group to survey learners about how their recently completed course or program on Coursera helped them achieve their career and personal goals. This report details findings from more than 55,000 learners across over 190 countries, underscoring the impact that Coursera and its world-class university and industry partners have had on learners at all stages of their career and personal journeys.

Most learners come to Coursera to transform their careers: 85% want to land their first professional job, switch careers, or advance in their current roles. Due to this overwhelming preference for career development, all data in this report focuses specifically on career-focused learners on Coursera and explores the following themes:



### Learners report new skills, increased pay, and new job opportunities

77% of learners say learning on Coursera has helped their careers, and one in four Entry-Level Professional Certificate completers report getting a new job. Coursera is making particular strides in serving learners who need it most—91% of learners in developing economies and 67% of U.S. learners with a low income report career benefits.



## Personal benefits

### Learners become more confident and fulfilled, inspiring them to continue learning

95% of learners report personal benefits from learning on Coursera—62% increased their confidence and nearly half felt they have more opportunities for career growth.

As learners gain confidence, they want to continue to grow. Nearly all (98%) learners intend to continue learning, with 38% planning to enroll in an online or in-person degree program, and 75% intending to enroll in another course or program on Coursera.



## (3) Workforce development

### Learners gain skills for in-demand jobs

The report also demonstrates how Coursera is providing workers all over the world with job-relevant skills. 30% of unemployed learners were employed after completing their most recent course or program on Coursera, and 72% of learners enrolled in workforce development programs through Coursera for Government saw career benefits.

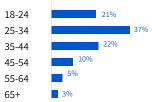
# 55K+

Learner survey responses

# 190+

**Countries represented** 





### Gender identity<sup>1</sup>



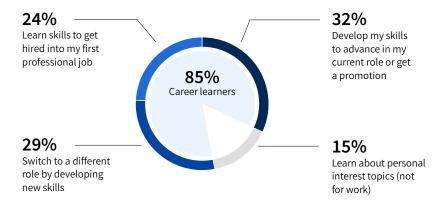


## Learners come to Coursera to transform their careers

Learners across the globe enroll in courses or programs on Coursera with the objective of landing their first professional job, switching careers, or advancing in their current role.

## Primary learner goals

What was your primary goal for enrolling in the most recent Coursera course or program you completed? (Select one.)<sup>1</sup>



### Top learner outcomes desired

What career outcomes did you hope to achieve by enrolling in the most recent Coursera course or program you completed?<sup>2</sup>

- 1. Get a new job
- 2. Increase my job interview offers
- 3. Increase my salary or pay
- 4. Earn a degree or career credential to get the job I want
- 5. Receive a promotion

# **Core findings**



# Learners report new skills, increased pay, and new job opportunities



### "

I was looking to use automation to improve the operational efficiency of the business my husband and I own. Thanks to the programming courses I took, we increased our annual revenue by more than 33% YoY.

#### Beth F., learner from the U.S.

Python Specializations, incl. Python for Everyone University of Michigan

## Most learners report career benefits from learning on Coursera

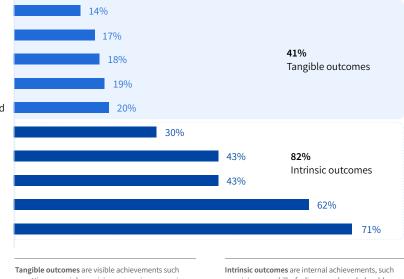
Learners on Coursera are achieving career outcomes, from getting a new job and increasing their pay, to gaining skills and improving their performance at work.

**77%** 

of global learners report career benefits<sup>1</sup>

# What career outcome(s) did you achieve by enrolling in the most recent Coursera course or program you completed?<sup>2</sup>





**Tangible outcomes** are visible achievements such as getting a new job, receiving a pay raise, or earning a career credential.

as gaining new skills, feeling more knowledgeable, and deciding on the right career path.

## Career benefits are outsized for learners in developing economies

Learners in developing economies report an even higher rate of career impact. Nearly all learners in countries such as Ethiopia, Nigeria, and Pakistan report career benefits from learning on Coursera. Increasing access to high-quality, job-focused education can provide a pathway for social mobility and, ultimately, economic development.

91%

of learners in developing economies report career benefits<sup>1</sup>



44% achieved a tangible outcome<sup>2</sup>

27%

got a new job or increased their job interview offers

22%

earned a degree or career credential

14%

increased salary or pay



85% achieved an intrinsic outcome<sup>3</sup>

70%

felt more knowledgeable

64%

gained skills to apply in their career

49%

decided whether a role or career path was right for them

## U.S. learners of all backgrounds are achieving their career goals

Data from low-income learners, first-generation college students, and individuals without a Bachelor's degree in the U.S. highlights that Coursera is serving populations that are poised to benefit the most from access to high-quality education.

Low-income learners<sup>1</sup>

67%

report career benefits

**54**%

gained skills they could apply in their career

26%

got a new job or increased their job interview offers

11%

increased salary or pay

First-generation college students<sup>2</sup>

67%

report career benefits

58%

gained skills they could apply in their career

24%

got a new job or increased their job interview offers

16%

increased salary or pay

Learners without a Bachelor's degree<sup>3</sup>

65%

report career benefits

56%

gained skills they could apply in their career

24%

got a new job or increased their job interview offers

18%

increased salary or pay



# Learners become more confident and fulfilled, inspiring them to continue learning



#### "

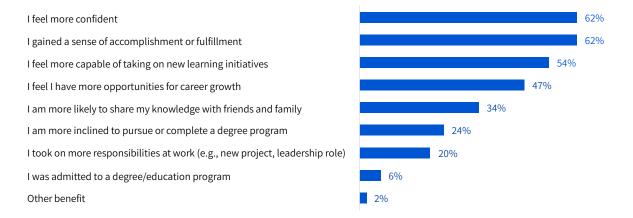
It didn't teach me everything there is to know about psychology but it gave me the courage to embark on this new journey with confidence and conviction. I have enrolled in a degree program to further pursue my dream.

Ulli H., learner from the U.S. Introduction to Psychology Yale University

# Nearly every learner feels better about themselves and their futures after learning on Coursera

Learning has the power to transform individuals, families, and entire communities. Learners feel more confident and capable—ready to take on new tasks at work and share what they've learned with friends and family.

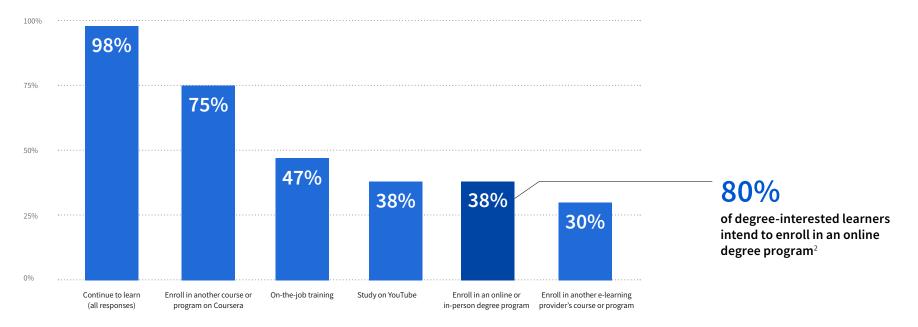
95% of global learners report personal benefits How else have you benefited from the most recent Coursera course or program you completed? (Select all that apply.)  $^{\scriptscriptstyle 1}$ 



## The majority of learners plan to pursue further education

After gaining confidence and new skills, learners are inspired and motivated to continue their journey, with many feeling ready to invest in the most transformative credential: the degree.

## In which of the following ways do you intend to continue to learn? (Select all that apply.)1



¹n=37,238; ²0f degree-interested learners (14,148), 11,263 intend to enroll in an online degree program.

14

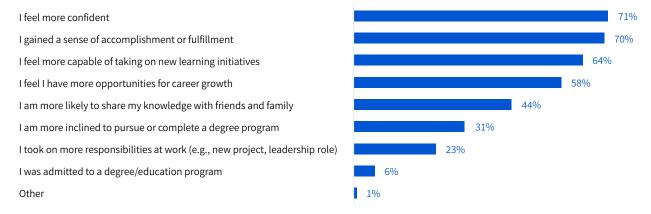
## Learners in developing economies experience greater personal benefits

Learners in developing economies, many of whom may not have access to higher education, are gaining confidence in the future of their education journey. All learners are eager to continue learning and see how their newfound knowledge can further transform their careers.

99%

of learners in developing economies report personal benefits

# How else have you benefited from the most recent Coursera course or program you completed? (Select all that apply.)<sup>1</sup>



### In which of the following ways do you intend to continue to learn? (Select all that apply.)<sup>2</sup>



Note: Countries with developing economies are countries that have a Low Human Development Index (HDI) (less than 550). A low HDI indicates a poor standard of living, including low life expectancy, lack of educational attainment, and low income as defined by the UN Development Program (Source). Survey questions: 'How else have you benefited from the most recent Coursera course or program you completed? (Select all that apply); chart excludes non-responders and learners who chose None (n=2,838); 'in which of the following ways do you intend to continue to learn? (Select all that apply) (n=2,666); Total career learners from Low HDI countries = 3,154.

# U.S. learners who typically face education barriers are seeing personal benefits

In the U.S., online learning is enhancing the sense of accomplishment in learners without a college degree, individuals with a low income, and first-generation college students. With increased confidence in themselves and their learning abilities, many are ready to take a monumental step and enroll in a degree program.

Low-income learners<sup>1</sup>

89%

report personal benefits

61%

 $gained\ a\ sense\ of\ accomplishment\ or\ fulfillment$ 

46%

felt they have more opportunities for career growth

35%

intend to enroll in an online or in-person degree program

First-generation college students<sup>2</sup>

89%

report personal benefits

62%

gained a sense of accomplishment or fulfillment

44%

felt they have more opportunities for career growth

33%

intend to enroll in an online or in-person degree program

Learners without a Bachelor's degree<sup>3</sup>

89%

report personal benefits

61%

gained a sense of accomplishment or fulfillment

44%

felt they have more opportunities for career growth

39%

intend to enroll in an online or in-person degree program



# Learners are gaining skills for in-demand jobs



### "

As a graduate in industrial maintenance engineering and having started as a self-taught programmer, the Meta Back-End Developer Professional Certificate greatly improved my coding, problem solving, and debugging skills. I got an entry-level IT Support role after my certification.

Peter O., learner from Nigeria

Meta Back-End Developer Professional Certificate

# Nearly a third of unemployed learners secured jobs after completing their most recent course or program on Coursera

Many learners around the world who reported being unemployed prior to enrolling in their most recent course or program found full-time or part-time employment post-completion. In the U.S., even more learners were able to secure jobs, and almost half felt their course or program opened up more opportunities for career growth.

Employment rate for unemployed learners<sup>1</sup>

30% of unemployed learners found employment

33%

of unemployed U.S. learners found employment

U.S. unemployed learners<sup>2</sup>



60% report career benefits

50%

gained skills to apply in their career

19%

earned a degree or career credential

12%

increased salary or pay



87% report personal benefits

58%

gained a sense of accomplishment or fulfillment

45%

felt they have more opportunities for career growth

31%

intend to enroll in an online or in-person degree program

# Learners from workforce development programs gained job-relevant skills and feel they have more opportunities for career growth

Governments around the world partner with Coursera to reskill citizens and deliver online training programs at scale, which is critical amid potential job dislocation caused by emerging AI technologies. Two-thirds of learners in these workforce development programs feel more accomplished. Half believe online learning has enhanced their prospects for career advancement.<sup>1</sup>



72% report career benefits

0

93% report personal benefits

52%

gained skills to apply in their career

19%

got a new job or increased their job interview offers

**12%** 

increased salary or pay

66%

gained a sense of accomplishment or fulfillment

50%

felt they have more opportunities for career growth

38%

intend to enroll in an online or in-person degree program

# Spotlights

## Micro-credentials

Micro-credentials focus on a specific set of learning outcomes in a narrow field of study and can be completed over a shorter period of time. Offered by universities, industry educators, and other organizations, they are designed to be more flexible and accessible to help learners quickly master a specific set of skills.

With the rapidly changing demands of the labor market, micro-credentials, such as Professional Certificates and Specializations on Coursera, have become increasingly popular in helping learners gain in-demand skills to transform their careers. These programs can also serve as a pathway toward more advanced credentials, such as degrees.



#### "

While I had project management skills learned 'on the job' as a classroom teacher for over a decade, I lacked a framework and vocabulary for communicating my proficiency to potential employers.

After completing the Google Professional Certificate, I felt confident to discuss my skills, and I have accepted a new position and increased my salary by \$20,000.

#### Kate M., learner from USA

Project Management: Professional Certificate Google

<sup>1</sup>Towards a common definition of micro-credentials, UNESCO, 2022

## **Entry-Level Professional Certificates**

Entry-Level Professional Certificates were launched on Coursera in 2018 and are already helping learners secure jobs and increase their salaries. These micro-credentials, which are created by top companies including Google, Meta, and IBM, help learners without a college degree or prior experience gain the skills needed for high-demand, entry-level jobs in fields such as social media marketing, data analysis, and IT.







## 52% achieved a tangible outcome

28% got a new job

28% earned a degree or career credential

27% increased salary

or pay

27% increased their interview job offers



### Confidence

65%

gained a sense of accomplishment or fulfillment

59%

felt more confident

50%

felt they have more opportunities for career growth



### 86% achieved an intrinsic outcome

77%

felt more knowledgeable

**69%** gained skills to

apply in their career

53% decided whether a role or career path was right for them (8)

**Further education** 

96%

intend to continue to learn

59%

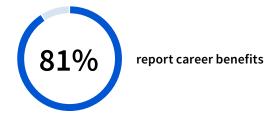
intend to enroll in another course or program on Coursera

35%

intend to enroll in an online or in-person degree program

## **Specializations**

Specializations are a series of rigorous courses and hands-on projects created by leading universities and companies. Within 3-6 months, learners can master a specific skill to advance their careers—nearly a quarter of learners increased their salary and almost half improved their performance at work.







## 47% achieved a tangible outcome

24% increased their interview job offers

22% increased salary or pay

22% earned a degree or career credential **20%** got a new job

.

accomplishment or fulfillment

68%

gained a sense of

67%

felt more confident

49%

felt they have more opportunities for career growth



## 86% achieved an intrinsic outcome

76%

felt more knowledgeable

70%

gained skills to apply in their career

**48%** improved their performance at work

ঞ্চ

## **Further education**

Confidence

98%

intend to continue to learn

78%

intend to enroll in another course or program on Coursera

39%

intend to enroll in an online or in-person degree program

## **Countries**

Remote work has created new opportunities for the global workforce. At the same time technology, such as generative AI, is shifting the way almost every job task is performed. In its recent Future of Jobs Report, the World Economic Forum found that 23% of jobs will be disrupted in the next five years.<sup>1</sup>

These country spotlights feature countries with a high concentration of learners on Coursera—and highlight how online education has empowered learners worldwide to face an uncertain future with confidence.



"

I was able to share what I learned with my team, and became more confident in company meetings. It strengthened my LinkedIn profile, and I got freelancing offers and a steady job offer.

Mai A., learner from Egypt
Search Engine Optimization (SEO)
University of California, Davis

Core findings 2023 Coursera Learner Outcomes Report Introduction Spotlights **Appendix** 

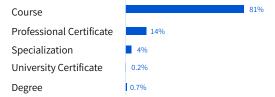
#### North America

# **United States**

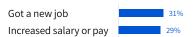
## Primary learner goal



## **Products completed**



### **Entry-Level Professional Certificates**



## **Specializations**

Got a new job	22%
Increased salary or pay	26%



68% report career benefits 71%

felt more knowledgeable

61%

gained skills to apply in their

25%

got a new job or increased their job interview offers

20%

increased salary or pay

40%

improved their performance at work

19%

earned a degree or career credential



90% report personal benefits 63%

gained a sense of accomplishment or fulfillment 53%

felt more confident

45%

felt they have more opportunities for career growth



96% intend to continue learning 64%

intend to enroll in another course or program on Coursera **54**%

intend to do on-the-job training

32%

intend to enroll in an online or in-person degree program

n=7,068, primary learner goal excludes non-responders and learners who chose Other; additional data excludes learners who selected a non-career related primary goal for learning on Coursera (n=5,698); Survey questions: What was your primary goal for enrolling in the most recent Coursera course or program you completed? (Select one.) (n=6,412); Has learning on Coursera benefited your career? (n=5,594); What career outcome(s) have you achieved by enrolling in the most recent Coursera course or program you completed? (n=5,240), Entry-Level Professional Certificates and Specializations not included due to insufficient sample size; How else have you benefited from the most recent Coursea course or program you completed? (Select all that apply,) (n=5,078); in which of the following ways do you intend to continue to learn? (Select all that apply,) (n=4,824)

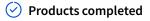
Core findings Introduction 2023 Coursera Learner Outcomes Report Spotlights **Appendix** 

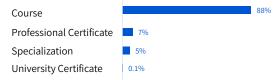
#### Asia Pacific

# India

## Primary learner goal









89% report career benefits 70%

felt more knowledgeable

62% gained skills to apply in their career

43% improved their performance at work

31% got a new job or increased their job interview offers

27% credential

15% earned a degree or career increased salary or pay



97% report personal benefits 63% gained a sense of accomplishment or fulfillment 70%

felt more confident

47% felt they have more opportunities for career growth



99% intend to continue learning

79% intend to enroll in another course or program on Coursera

46% intend to do on-the-job training

intend to enroll in an online or in-person degree program

36%

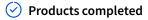
Core findings 2023 Coursera Learner Outcomes Report Introduction Spotlights **Appendix** 

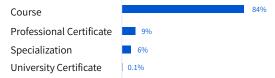
#### Europe

# **United Kingdom**

## Primary learner goal

Land first professional job Switch to a different role Advance in current role Learn for personal interest







70% report career benefits 72%

felt more knowledgeable

64%

gained skills to apply in their

23%

got a new job or increased their job interview offers

20%

increased salary or pay

43%

improved their performance at work

17%

earned a degree or career credential



93% report personal benefits 63%

gained a sense of accomplishment or fulfillment 56%

felt more confident

45%

felt they have more opportunities for career growth



98% intend to continue learning

69%

intend to enroll in another course or program on Coursera 59%

intend to do on-the-job training

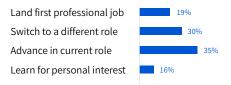
26%

intend to enroll in an online or in-person degree program

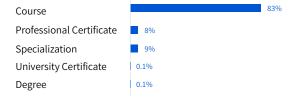
#### Europe

# Germany

## O Primary learner goal



## Products completed





**71%** report career benefits

75%

felt more knowledgeable

64%

gained skills to apply in their

career

30%

got a new job or increased their job interview offers

21%

increased salary or pay

42%

improved their performance at work

19%

earned a degree or career credential



95% report personal benefits

64%

felt more confident

62%

gained a sense of accomplishment or fulfillment

46%

felt they have more opportunities for career growth



98% intend to continue learning

**74**%

intend to enroll in another course or program on Coursera

56%

intend to do on-the-job training

36%

intend to enroll in an online or in-person degree program

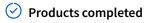
Core findings Introduction 2023 Coursera Learner Outcomes Report Spotlights **Appendix** 

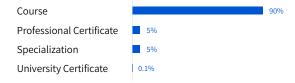
#### Latin America

## **Brazil**

## Primary learner goal

Land first professional job Switch to a different role Advance in current role Learn for personal interest







85% report career benefits 72%

33%

felt more knowledgeable

gained skills to apply in their career

71%

22% 21%

got a new job or increased their job interview offers

increased salary or pay

earned a degree or career credential

improved their performance

**52**%

at work

96% report personal benefits

69% felt more confident **59%** gained a sense of

accomplishment or fulfillment

50%

felt they have more opportunities for career growth



83%

intend to enroll in another course or program on Coursera 50%

intend to enroll in an online or in-person degree program

49%

intend to do on-the-job training

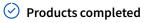
Core findings Introduction Spotlights 2023 Coursera Learner Outcomes Report **Appendix** 

#### Latin America

# Mexico

## Primary learner goal

Land first professional job Switch to a different role Advance in current role Learn for personal interest







84% report career benefits 69%

felt more knowledgeable

66%

gained skills to apply in their

career

27%

got a new job or increased their job interview offers

22%

increased salary or pay

51%

improved their performance at work

19%

earned a degree or career credential



96% report personal benefits 64%

felt more confident

55%

gained a sense of accomplishment or fulfillment 50%

felt they have more opportunities for career growth



99% intend to continue learning 79%

intend to enroll in another course or program on Coursera 48%

intend to do on-the-job training

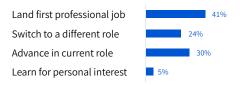
47%

intend to enroll in an online or in-person degree program

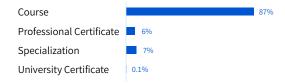
#### Middle East

# **Egypt**

## O Primary learner goal



## Products completed





89% report career benefits

75% felt more knowledgeable

63% gained skills to

gained skills to apply in their career

49% improved their performance at work

32%

got a new job or increased their job interview offers

24%

earned a degree or career credential 16%

increased salary or pay



96% report personal benefits

75%

felt more confident

61%

gained a sense of accomplishment or fulfillment

47%

felt they have more opportunities for career growth



99% intend to continue learning

82%

intend to enroll in another course or program on Coursera

50%

intend to enroll in an online or in-person degree program

44%

intend to do on-the-job training

# Appendix

Appendix

## Methodology

#### Data collection methodology

#### Study population

Results in the 2023 Coursera Learner Outcomes Report are based on a web survey conducted from January 25-March 1, 2023, with a sample of 55,648 respondents who completed a course, Professional Certificate, Specialization, University/MasterTrack Certificate, or degree program on Coursera between June 1, 2021, and September 30, 2022. The Coursera Learner Outcomes Survey was conducted in English only.

The sample size enabled Coursera to obtain results with a 95% confidence level when measured against the industry-standard range of error, with the exception of University/MasterTrack Certificates and degree learners, whose results are only reported out as part of the full learner sample.

#### Participant recruitment

All learner email addresses were provided by Coursera, with the exception of degree program graduates and select MasterTrack/ University Certificate learners, where Coursera worked directly with university partners to obtain those learner email addresses. In a few cases, university partners chose to deploy the survey on Coursera's behalf rather than share learner email addresses. Learners who completed the survey, except for non-eligible Coursera for Government Workforce Development learners, were given the option to opt in to a gift card raffle at the close of the survey. Those who opted in could be randomly selected to receive one of eighty \$25 gift cards.

#### Study tools and data security

#### **Email recruitment**

Email recruitment administered by Huron Consulting utilized the platform MindFire. More information about this software can be found here: https://mindfireinc.com/.

### Survey instrument development

In December 2022, five focus groups were conducted with 20 Coursera learners to clarify the purpose of the survey and inform questionnaire development.

The final instrument consisted of 26 items, including closed and open question types. Items explored were 1) demographic and income levels; 2) motivations and expectations of Coursera enrollment; 3) outcomes associated with Coursera enrollments. The time to complete the survey was approximately eight minutes.

#### Survey administration

Huron Consulting uses Alchemer for hosting and the execution of polls and survey questions. Alchemer does not hold any contact information for the recipient. It collects data based on user responses to questions, reports aggregate results, and supplies Huron with data exports of responses and ID numbers for matching back to our campaign database.

Security information for Alchemer can be found here: https:// www.alchemer.com/security/.

#### coursera

#### **About Coursera**

Coursera was launched in 2012 by two Stanford Computer Science professors, Andrew Ng and Daphne Koller, with a mission to provide universal access to worldclass learning. It is now one of the largest online learning platforms in the world, with 124 million registered learners as of March 31, 2023. Coursera partners with over 300 leading university and industry partners to offer a broad catalog of content and credentials, including courses, Specializations, Professional Certificates, Guided Projects, and bachelor's and master's degrees. Institutions around the world use Coursera to upskill and reskill their employees, citizens, and students in fields such as data science, technology, and business. Coursera became a Delaware public benefit corporation and a B Corp in February 2021. To learn more, visit Coursera.org

## **1** HURON

#### **About Huron Consulting Group**

Huron is a global consultancy that collaborates with clients to drive strategic growth, ignite innovation, and navigate constant change. Through a combination of strategy, expertise, and creativity, we help clients accelerate operational, digital, and cultural transformation, enabling the change they need to own their future. By embracing diverse perspectives, encouraging new ideas, and challenging the status quo, we create sustainable results for the organizations we serve. Through focus, passion. and collaboration, Huron provides guidance to organizations as they contend with the change transforming their industries and businesses.

#### Huron's commitment to higher education

Education leaders are increasingly faced with strategic, financial, and enrollment challenges and increased competition. They need to transform how they deliver services to advance their academic, research, and clinical missions in order to own their future. Huron Consulting helps higher education and research institutions to foster innovation, improve financial health, and strengthen student success. With over 7,000 education engagements across 500+ education institutions across North America, all top 100 research universities, all 65 members of the American Association for American Universities, and 40+ of the largest university systems, Huron Consulting shares the goals of higher education leaders—sustainable change that supports and advances institutional missions.

## Methodology

#### Rationale for indicators of wealth and social mobility

#### Human development index (HDI)\*

The Human Development Index (HDI) is "a summary measure of achievement in key dimensions of human development: a long and healthy life, being knowledgeable, and having a decent standard of living. The HDI is the geometric mean of normalized indices for each of the three dimensions." The HDI currently measures data for 191 countries and territories. It is maintained by the United Nations Development Program. The Index is organized into 4 groups: Low, Medium, High, and Very High.

Low HDI consists of 32 nations: Afghanistan, Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Central African Republic, Chad, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, The Gambia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mozambique, Niger, Nigeria, Pakistan, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Sudan, Sudan, Tanzania, Togo, Uganda, and Yemen. Source:https://hdr.undp.org/data-center/human-development-index#/indicies/HDI.

#### Lower-income learners

Learners were asked to self-identify their yearly earnings. Learners with lower incomes were defined as those reporting an annual income of \$20,000 or less (normalizing to the U.S. Dollar). This

definition comes from two measures developed by the U.S. Federal Government: the "poverty thresholds" as defined by the U.S. Census Bureau in 2022 and the "poverty guidelines" as defined by the Department of Health and Human Services in 2021

#### First-generation college students

Learners were asked to identify if one or both of their parents/ guardians obtained a college degree. Those answering "No" are considered first-generation college students.

#### **Technical methodology**

#### Learner segments

Learners self-identified as 1 of 4 learner types or segments:

- 1. Learn skills to get hired into my first professional job
- 2. Switch to a different role by developing new skills
- 3. Develop my skills to advance in my current role or get a promotion
- Learn about personal interest topics (not for work)

Learner segments 1, 2, and 3 are collectively identified as career learners or career-focused learners.

In survey analysis, it was found that 85% of learners have career-related goals for learning on Coursera, so unless otherwise denoted, outcomes are conditional on learners having a stated career goal for taking content on Coursera. Demographics are inclusive of all survey respondents.

#### Prior employment: unemployed and seeking employment

Learners reported their employment status prior to their enrollment at Coursera through a multi-response question. Anyone referred to as unemployed and seeking employment in this study must have selected that category, regardless of other selections made. For the purposes of this report, they will be referred to as unemployed learners.

#### Benefits and outcomes

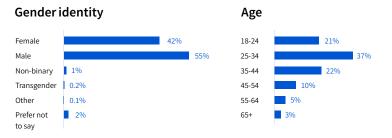
In this study, we looked at learner outcomes through a framework of career and personal benefits. Career benefits include responding "Yes" to whether Coursera benefited the learner's career and achieving tangible and intrinsic outcomes.

We define tangible outcomes as getting a new job, receiving a promotion, increasing salary or pay, increasing job interview offers, and earning a degree or credential to get a desired job.

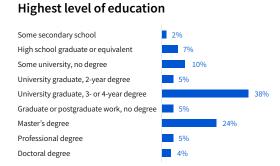
Intrinsic outcomes include feeling more knowledgeable, gaining applicable career skills, improving work performance, deciding if a role or career path is right for the learner, and increasing colleague's confidence in the learner.

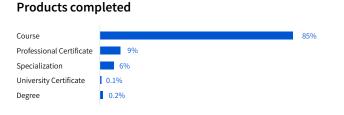
We define personal benefits as how learners felt after completing their course or program on Coursera and their future growth. This includes includes increased feelings of confidence, gaining a sense of accomplishment or fulfillment, feeling more capable of taking on new learning initiatives, feeling that one has more opportunities for career growth, being more likely to share knowledge with others, and taking on more responsibilities at work. Personal benefits that relate to future growth include plans to pursue further education, such as enrolling in a degree program or in another course or program on Coursera.

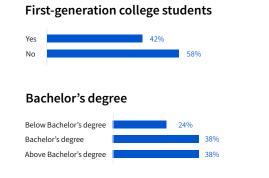
## Learner respondent demographics

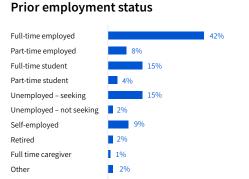












# coursera

**Learn without limits**