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## Global Skills Report 2022

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The Coursera Global Skills Report 2022 report presents data from **the more than 100 million people who have used Coursera** to learn new skills. The report concentrates on three of the most important skill areas: business, technology, and data science. It shows regional and country-specific skill trends. The report **ranks 102 countries** on a percentile scale taking into factors skills, proficiency and learner growth rate.

### KEY HIGHLIGHTS:

- **Three-quarters** of workers in a recent survey said that **they felt unprepared** for jobs in the digital-first economy. Not every worker needs to learn how to code, but every worker needs to be literate in digital skills. Digital skills are the shared language of the modern economy
- **47%** of the people enrolled in courses are now women, up from 45% last year and 38% two years ago. Despite Women's participation continuing to rise, women **still lag behind in STEM** enrolment.
- **Developing countries** had the **highest rate of learner growth**: While learners grew in every region of the world, Asia Pacific and Sub-Saharan Africa had the highest percent changes. Learners in the developing world showed relatively high levels of business skills proficiency, but scored lower in technology and data science.
- **Countries in the lowest 25%** of learner performance had **average internet access rates of 54.2%**, while those in the **highest 25% had access rates of 83.6%**. Lower levels of internet access mean lower levels of skills proficiency.
- Courses in human skills had more learners from developed countries, while those in digital skills had more from developing ones. Skills like audit, mobile development, and geovisualization had an over-representation of learners from low-income countries while skills like storytelling and resilience had an over-representation of learners from high-income countries.
- In last year's report, **learners in the U.S. ranked 29<sup>th</sup> in the world**: a position that they maintain this year. However, while their proficiency in business skills rose, learners in the U.S. fell behind other high-income countries in a number of key technology and data science skills; software engineering, cloud computing, and mathematics to name a few.
- **Seven of the top ten** performing countries in this year's report **are located in Europe**. The highest aggregate being proudly achieved by **Switzerland**.
- While **Indonesia has risen 39 positions** in this year's aggregate skills proficiency rankings, countries such as India, Taiwan, and the Philippines, have slid backward in the digital skills needed to power modernization and growth. Proficiency in technology and data science **skills varies widely** across the Asia-Pacific region
- Global Skill Trends Classification:
  - Lagging (25<sup>th</sup> Percentile or below):
    - Geographic Locations: Parts of Sub-Saharan Africa and the Caribbean.
    - Average GDP per Capita: **\$5,418**
    - Growth Opportunities: Improving the capacity of workers to participate in the digital economy of the respective nations.
  - Emerging (26<sup>th</sup> – 50<sup>th</sup> Percentile):
    - Geographic Locations: Latin America, the Middle East, and North Africa.
    - Average GDP per Capita: **\$14,367**
    - Growth Opportunities: Investing resource extraction revenue into diversified skills training.
  - Competitive (51<sup>st</sup> – 75<sup>th</sup> Percentile):
    - Geographic Locations: The U.S., parts of Europe, and parts of Asia-Pacific.
    - Average GDP per Capita: **\$20,337**
    - Growth Opportunities: Upskilling workers to take advantage of new emerging job opportunities.
  - Cutting-Edge (76<sup>th</sup> – 100<sup>th</sup> Percentile):
    - Geographic Locations: Europe and parts of Asia-Pacific.
    - Average GDP per Capita: **\$33,975**
    - Growth Opportunities: Investing in the skills required for innovation and next-generation technology.

## REGIONAL SKILLS TRENDS

- North America
  - Learners are focusing on the skills needed to lead the global economy.
  - Figures:
    - 21.7 million Coursera Learners (28% Increase)
    - Median Age: 34 Years (0 Year Change)
    - Internet Access: 93% (3% Increase)
    - Learning on Mobile: 40% (1% Increase)
    - Women Learners: 52% (1% Decrease)
  - The job market in the U.S. has come a long way since its recession in 2020. With an **unemployment rate of 3.8%** in February 2022, the country has **recovered 90%** of the jobs lost during the pandemic. Canada's unemployment rate has also **fallen from a peak of 13.4% to 5.3%** in March 2022.
  - Skills proficiency in the U.S. held steady, but dropped in Canada. **Canada slipped 23 spots** in the percentile ranking.
- Latin America and the Caribbean
  - A tenuous recovery and long-term effects of climate change present chances to invest in skills.
  - Figures:
    - 17.9 million Coursera Learners (23% Increase)
    - Median Age: 32 Years (1 Year Increase)
    - Internet Access: 67% (5% Increase)
    - Learning on Mobile: 47% (4% Decrease)
    - Women Learners: 50% (1% Increase)
  - The **slowed rate of regional GDP growth** directly indicates the struggling state of regional economies. According to UN, average regional GDP growth **slowed to 2.1% in 2022, down from 6.2% in 2021**. The report also cited low levels of investment, productivity, and employment; increased inflation; and the continuing impacts of the pandemic. In order to avoid a long-term economic slowdown, regional leaders should prioritize workforce development across business, technology, and data science.
  - The Caribbean is outpacing South America. The Caribbean Development Bank projects **GDP growth of 9.1%** for the region in 2022, powered by strong performance in the oil and gas sectors in countries like Guyana and Trinidad and Tobago. Further economic gains are anticipated from tourism sector as the tourism destinations lift COVID restrictions.
- Asia – Pacific:
  - Regional competition will push countries to prioritize skills.
  - Figures:
    - 31.8 million Coursera Learners (40% Increase)
    - Median Age: 32 Years (4 Years Increase)
    - Internet Access: 65% (5% Increase)
    - Learning on Mobile: 47% (5% Decrease)
    - Women Learners: 41% (1% Increase)
  - In April 2022, the World Bank highlighted three shocks — the invasion of Ukraine, a slowdown in China, and rate hikes from the U.S. Federal Reserve — that led it to cut its predictions of regional GDP growth from **5.4% to 5%**.
  - Skills development powers island nations. Countries like Singapore, Indonesia, and Japan that have invested heavily in their human capital lead the region in skills proficiency.
- Europe:
  - An uncertain continent must embrace its strengths.
  - Figures:
    - 17.4 million Coursera Learners (23% Increase)
    - Median Age: 33 Years (1 Year Increase)
    - Internet Access: 85% (2% Increase)
    - Learning on Mobile: 40% (11% Decrease)
    - Women Learners: 47% (1% Increase)
  - Europe's competitive advantage lies in high-skill workers. Despite the economic toll of Russia's invasion of Ukraine, Europe's markets remain strong.
  - The **Digital Markets Act** may open opportunities for smaller technology companies. In the spring, the European Union passed new antitrust rules to reduce the market power of American technology

giants. When these regulations come into force, they could open space for local firms to recruit high-skill talent.

- Middle East and North Africa:
  - The transition away from the fossil fuel economy is happening, but more skill development is needed.
  - Figures:
    - 5.9 million Coursera Learners (40% Increase)
    - Median Age: 29 Years (1 Year Decrease)
    - Internet Access: 77% (1% Increase)
    - Learning on Mobile: 57% (3% Decrease)
    - Women Learners: 37% (0% Change)
  - **Women's enrolment held steady.** The percentage of women learners was 37% in both last year's Global Skills Report and this one.
  - 57% of learners used mobile devices. With countries like Egypt, Saudi Arabia, and Iraq having the highest regional rates of smartphone use, learners in the region turn to mobile devices more frequently than anywhere outside of Sub-Saharan Africa. Especially as data costs come down, the region is primed for an "ed tech revolution".

### STATE-BY-STATE SKILLS TRENDS IN INDIA:

- Across India, learner performance is divided, with states in southern areas tending to perform better than those in northern regions.
- States with statistics ranked:
  - Lagging States: Kerala, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh.
  - Emerging States: Bihar, Odisha, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat.
  - Competitive States: Maharashtra.
  - Cutting-Edge States: Andhra Pradesh, Haryana, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal.
- Country-wide Figures:
  - 15.7 million Coursera Learners
  - Median Age: 28 Years
  - Learning on Mobile: 60%
  - Women Learners: 38%
- Skills Rankings and Proficiency Levels:
  - Business:
    - Rank: 62 (Fell 11 Ranks)
  - Technology:
    - Rank: 56 (Rose 6 Ranks)
  - Data Science:
    - Rank: 76 (Fell 12 Ranks)
- Last year, **India's tech sector** grew at **twice the rate of its economy** as a whole. Powered by major homegrown companies like Jio, Infosys, and Tata Consultancy Services alongside Western multinationals like Twitter, Amazon, and Alphabet, the industry has already earned a record **\$227 billion in revenue this fiscal year**.
- Skills proficiency held steady, but data science skills lagged behind. With rankings virtually unchanged year-over-year, India continues to need to develop skilled talent.
- The number of **open data science jobs** in the country **rose 47.1%** between 2020 and 2021. With a data science proficiency level of 26%, India's companies may struggle to find the talent to fill those roles without more training.
- Learners in India **concentrated on financial skills**. Reflecting a fintech market estimated at \$31 billion in 2021, the third-largest in the world, learners in India are over-indexed in skills including investment management (1.38x), blockchain (1.33x), and risk management (1.22x).

Read more: [Global Skills Report 2022 by Coursera](#)

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