

**MOOC Participant Demographics:  
Changing Weather and Climate in the Great Lakes Region**

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All participants in a Coursera MOOC are invited to respond to a demographic survey that gathers information about participant gender, age, race/ethnicity, level and area of education, employment status and industry/field, ability to communicate in English, languages spoken, and where they live. This is a summary of the responses from participants in the Changing Weather and Climate in the Great Lakes Region MOOC.

**Course Overview**

<b>MOOC Name</b>	Changing Weather & Climate in the Great Lakes Region
<b>Course Start Date</b>	February 23, 2015 (4 weeks)
<b>Instructor</b>	Steve Ackerman, Margaret Mooney
<b>Number of Registered Participants</b>	4,511
<b>Number of Active Participants</b>	3,394
<b>Demographic Survey Respondents</b>	3,103

**Summary**

1. Overall, there are more male Coursera MOOC participants than female participants. Fifty-six percent (56%) of the Changing Weather and Climate in the Great Lakes Region MOOC participants are male, lower than the overall Coursera MOOC percentage of 60%.
2. The average age of Coursera MOOC participants is 36. The average age of participants in the Changing Weather and Climate in the Great Lakes Region MOOC is 46, older than the overall Coursera MOOC average by ten years.
3. Overall, 52% of Coursera MOOC participants describe themselves as native or equivalent speakers of English. A much larger percentage (77%) of the Changing Weather and Climate in the Great Lakes Region MOOC participants describe themselves as native (or equivalent) speakers of English.
4. Overall, 29% of Coursera MOOC participants live in the United States. A higher percentage of the Changing Weather and Climate in the Great Lakes Region MOOC participants, 57%, live in the United States. Other countries with 2% or more of the Changing Weather and Climate in the Great Lakes Region MOOC participants include Canada (9.6%), India (3.4%), United Kingdom (2.3%), and China (2.2%).

5. Of the Changing Weather and Climate in the Great Lakes Region MOOC participants who live in the United States, 17% live in Wisconsin. This is higher than the overall Coursera average percentage of MOOC participants who live in Wisconsin (1%). After Wisconsin, the other nine states in the ten most frequently participating states for the Changing Weather and Climate in the Great Lakes Region MOOC include Illinois (12%), Michigan (12%), New York (7%), Ohio (7%), California (6%), Minnesota (5%), Texas (3%), Indiana (2%), Virginia (2%), Arizona (2%), and Massachusetts (2%). Most of the states (as well as Canada) that surround the Great Lakes has higher-than-average participation in this MOOC.
6. Overall, 76% of Coursera MOOC participants have a bachelors degree or higher (35% bachelors degree, 31% masters degree, 6% doctoral degree, 5% professional degree). The percentage of the Changing Weather and Climate in the Great Lakes Region MOOC participants with a bachelors degree or higher is slightly higher at 78%.
7. Most Coursera MOOC participants are not enrolled in school. Sixty-eight percent (68%) report that they are not enrolled either full or part-time. A higher percentage of the Changing Weather and Climate in the Great Lakes Region MOOC participants, 77%, are not enrolled in school.
8. The MOOC participants who indicated they had a college degree (including an associate's degree) were asked about the field of their degree. Overall, the Coursera MOOC participants most commonly indicated degrees in Computer/Information Science (16%) and Business/Marketing (14%). These were also the three most common fields for the Changing Weather and Climate in the Great Lakes Region MOOC participants who had completed degrees. Perhaps given the topic of this MOOC, participants were more likely than the overall Coursera average to have degrees in agriculture and natural resources.
9. Almost three quarters of Coursera MOOC participants are employed either full or part time. A much lower percentage of the Changing Weather and Climate in the Great Lakes Region MOOC participants, 57%, are employed full or part time.
10. The MOOC participants who indicated that they were employed were asked about their industry/field. The most common responses overall were computers/mathematics, education/library related, and business/financial. The Changing Weather and Climate in the Great Lakes Region MOOC participants were more likely than the overall Coursera MOOC participants to be employed in the education/library field and in the healthcare and social services field. They were less likely to be employed in the computers/mathematics field or the business field and more likely to indicate "other" as their field of work.

The following tables provide more information about all of the responses to the Coursera demographic survey.

<b>Gender</b>	<b>Great Lakes Weather /Climate</b>	<b>All Coursera MOOCs</b>	<b>Difference (Coursera-UW)</b>
Male	55.9	59.7	3.8
Female	44.1	40.3	-3.8

<b>Age</b>	<b>Great Lakes Weather /Climate</b>	<b>All Coursera MOOCs</b>	<b>Difference (Coursera-UW)</b>
Average	46.4	36.4	-10.0

<b>English Speaking Ability</b>	<b>Great Lakes Weather /Climate</b>	<b>All Coursera MOOCs</b>	<b>Difference (Coursera-UW)</b>
Native or equivalent	77.0	52.2	-24.8
Sufficient for most situations	19.7	41.0	21.3
Sufficient for limited situations	3.2	6.8	3.6

<b>Country of Residence</b>	<b>Great Lakes Weather /Climate</b>	<b>All Coursera MOOCs</b>	<b>Difference (Coursera-UW)</b>
United States	57.0	29.4	-27.6
Canada	9.6	3.3	-6.3
India	3.4	7.7	4.3
United Kingdom	2.3	3.9	1.6
China	2.2	7.6	5.4

\*countries with 2% or more of participants are shown.

<b>State of Residence for U.S. Residents</b>	<b>Great Lakes Weather /Climate</b>	<b>All Coursera MOOCs</b>	<b>Difference (Coursera-UW)</b>
Wisconsin	16.7	1.2	-15.5
Illinois	12.2	4.3	-7.9
Michigan	11.7	2.5	-9.2
New York	7.0	8.6	1.6
Ohio	6.7	2.5	-4.2
California	6.0	18.1	12.1
Minnesota	5.2	1.7	-3.5
Texas	2.6	6.0	3.4
Indiana	2.2	1.1	-1.1
Virginia	2.2	3.9	1.7
Arizona	2.1	1.6	-0.5
Massachusetts	2.0	3.7	1.7

\*top ten states are shown

<b>Highest Level of School Completed</b>	<b>Great Lakes Weather /Climate</b>	<b>All Coursera MOOCs</b>	<b>Difference (Coursera-UW)</b>
Bachelors	31.6	34.7	3.1
Masters	32.8	30.7	-2.1
Some College	10.3	9.0	-1.3
Professional	5.1	4.6	-0.5
Doctorate	8.6	6.1	-2.5
High School	3.4	7.2	3.8
Associate's Degree	6.6	5.0	-1.6

<b>Degree-Related Subjects for Participants with Degrees</b>	<b>Great Lakes Weather /Climate</b>	<b>All Coursera MOOCs</b>	<b>Difference (Coursera-UW)</b>
Other	38.5	44.9	6.4
Business/Management/Marketing	11.6	14.3	2.7
Computer/Information Science	10.5	16.1	5.6
Biological/Biomedical Sciences	9.7	5.1	-4.6
Physical Sciences	9.7	3.4	-6.3
Mathematics/Statistics	7.0	5.1	-1.9
Social Sciences/History	6.8	4.6	-2.2
Agriculture/Natural Resources	3.9	1.3	-2.6
Engineering/Engineering Tech.	2.3	5.2	2.9

<b>Current Enrollment Status</b>	<b>Great Lakes Weather /Climate</b>	<b>All Coursera MOOCs</b>	<b>Difference (Coursera-UW)</b>
Not currently a student	77.4	68.3	-9.1
Enrolled full-time	14.9	21.0	6.1
Enrolled part-time	7.7	10.7	3.0

<b>Current Employment Status</b>	<b>Great Lakes Weather /Climate</b>	<b>All Coursera MOOCs</b>	<b>Difference (Coursera-UW)</b>
Employed Full-Time (>=35 hrs/wk)	42.4	59.5	17.1
Employed Part-Time (< 35 hrs/wk)	14.9	13.9	-1.0
Other	6.9	0.1	-6.8
Unemployed, Looking for Work	12.6	11.4	-1.2
Unemployed, Not Looking	23.2	15.1	-8.1

<b>Industry, if employed or seeking employment</b>	<b>Great Lakes Weather /Climate</b>	<b>All Coursera MOOCs</b>	<b>Difference (Coursera-UW)</b>
Other	24.7	17.3	-7.4
Education/Library	19.3	16.1	-3.2
Computers/Mathematics	14.3	23.4	9.1
Healthcare/Social Services	10.9	9.8	-1.1
Architecture/Engineering	8.4	6.6	-1.8
Business/Financial/Sales	6.5	11.3	4.8
Arts/Entertainment/Sports	5.6	6.7	1.1
Management	5.6	5.5	-0.1
Office/Administrative	4.7	3.3	-1.4