The Global Learner Survey

September 2019





People are moving beyond traditional learning

The incoming generation of workers value college education as much as previous generations — but they place similar value on alternatives, such as vocational or trade training.



The 40-year career is giving way to an era of reinvention

The traditional, linear career path is a thing of the past. People are molding learning and work into what they need it to be in today's world, which means life-long learning and diverse career paths.



A global upskilling divide is emerging

Workers in China, India, Brazil and Hispano-America are more likely to retrain or upskill for their jobs than those in the US and in the UK.



Human skills are more important than ever, especially when it comes to tech and automation

Workers everywhere want to brush up on skills that machines and Artificial Intelligence (AI) can't yet compete with — critical thinking, problem-solving and creativity. Educational institutions aren't yet meeting this need.



Confidence in educational institutions is wavering

Most respondents to our survey think traditional educational institutions are failing to reach working adults with the skills they need for the future of their working lives. They also want to see governments doing more to make this kind of learning accessible to all.



Self-service learning not only exists, but will increase

With ready access to online learning, free online resources, short courses and certifications – versus declining trust in traditional education institutions – people believe that DIY learning is the future.



People expect digital and virtual learning to be the new normal in the next decade

Technology can enhance the learning experience and increase accessibility; people of all ages are embracing it as the future of education.



School safety, online bullying and social media are real concerns, especially in the US

While school violence is a main driver of safety perceptions, social media and online behaviors like bullying are having an effect too, making the school environment more difficult for today's students.

