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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Adobe Future of Creativity: 165M+ Creators Joined the Creator Economy Since 2020

- More than 165 million creators joined the global creator economy in the last two years
- One in four people are contributing to online spaces, reshaping the future of work, social causes and mental health.
- 17% of creators are business owners, while 39% aspire to become a business owner one day

Hong Kong — August 26, 2022 —Today, Adobe (NASDAQ:ADBE) announced the latest data and insights on the Creator Economy from the Adobe Future of Creativity Study. The study finds that the Creator Economy – the economy empowering people who are monetizing their content, goods and services online by leveraging their own creativity, talents and passions –grew by more than 165 million creators over the past two years to 303 million creators globally. Additionally, the study finds that the Creator Economy is reshaping every aspect of culture and society, from the future of work to social causes to mental health.

"The creator economy has boomed globally in recent years, thanks to more advanced social media applications, popular creative tools, people's desire to express themselves and other factors," said Tony Ng, managing director of Greater China, Adobe. "Whether they are individuals, solopreneurs, small business owners or content creators, everyone can express themselves, explore ideas, pursue artistic pursuits in new ways, and even make money and grow their careers. Adobe is supporting creators from all walks of life through better creative tools."

The Future of Creativity Study provides the most comprehensive view into the global Creator Economy and how creativity is changing across the U.S., U.K., Spain, France, Germany, Australia, Japan, South Korea and Brazil. The study defines creators as professionals and non-professionals creating original content for their jobs or passions including designers, photographers, filmmakers, illustrators, hobbyists and more. Influencers are a subset of creators defined as those with five thousand followers or more who leverage social media to influence their audience.

The Creator Economy Is Diverse & Thriving

Since 2020, the creator economy has grown exponentially.

- More than 165 million creators joined the Creator Economy since 2020, with significant growth across all markets.

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- In the U.S. alone, the Creator Economy grew by 34 million new creators (40%). Brazil (+73 million new creators), South Korea (+11 million) and Spain (+10 million) also emerged as hot spots for creativity.
- One in four people (23%) are creators contributing photography, videography, creative writing and more to online spaces including social media platforms and blogs.
- Millennials represent 42% of the Creator Economy. By comparison, Gen Z represents 14%.
- 48% of creators are universally motivated by the same goal: freedom of expression. Less than one-third of creators (26%) are motivated by money.
- Influencers make up only 14% of the global creator economy.

Redefining The Future of Work

The creator economy has unlocked new full- and part-time career paths, particularly for Gen Z and Millennials who are drawn to less traditional careers. The study found that content creation can be lucrative, but it takes time and commitment to be successful and while it remains a side hustle for most, many creators aspire to do more.

- Two in five influencers were motivated to start creating by the possibility of turning it into a career.
- 17% of creators are business owners, while 39% aspire to become a business owner one day.
- For the majority of creators, creating is a hobby or side hustle. Six in ten creators have full-time jobs.

Creators are Key to Advancing Social Causes Online

Creators embrace the opportunity to advance conversations around social causes online, taking action to support ones that are important to them personally.

- Nearly all (95%) of creators take action to advance or support causes that are important to them.
- Food and housing security (62%), social justice (59%) and climate change (58%) top the list of causes most important to creators around the globe.
- By using their creativity and influence to advance social causes, creators believe they can increase awareness (51%), give a voice to those who otherwise wouldn't have one (49%).

Creators and Mental Health

The study revealed the more time creators spend creating and sharing content, the happier they feel. This is the opposite of social media *consumers*, who studies have shown can experience negative effects from social media use.

- Creators who make daily content and/or spend 10+ hours per week creating report being happiest overall.
- Most creators (69%) and influencers (84%) say creating and sharing online content is a creative outlet they can't find elsewhere.
- One in two influencers say using social media or creating social content is more important to their mental health than exercising (30%), listening to music (31%), and going outside in nature (27%).

"The creator economy not only provides more opportunities to creators, but also adds more colour to people's lives. Adobe Creative Cloud provides the most comprehensive portfolio of products and services across every creative category, supporting millions of creators around the world from different sectors to collaborate, telling their own stories," Ng added.

Adobe's study, Future of Creativity: Creators in the Creator Economy, can be found in full [here](#).

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About the Future of Creativity Study

Adobe's Future of Creativity study aims to understand how creativity is changing around the world, speaking directly with those at the forefront of online creativity: creators in the creator economy. The study will examine the future of creativity from a variety of perspectives.

Methodology

The Future of Creativity study surveyed ~9,000 online creators in May 2022, in nine global markets (U.S., U.K., Spain, France, Germany, Australia, Japan, South Korea and Brazil). Adobe partnered with Edelman Data & Intelligence to conduct the study and analyze data to identify key trends across the creator economy. "Creators" are defined as having participated in creative activities (e.g., photography, creative writing, NFT creation, original social media content, etc.) and posting, sharing, or promoting their work from these activities online at least monthly with the goals of growing their social presence. Data was collected from 4,535 Gen-Pop creators (ages 18+, ~500 per market), 5,111 Gen Z creators (ages 16-24, ~500 per market) with a $\pm 1.4\%$ margin of error and 95% confidence level.

About Adobe

Adobe is changing the world through digital experiences. For more information, visit https://www.adobe.com/hk_en/.

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