WMU Alumni Geographic Distribution (2007)
There are 164,000 WMU alumni worldwide.

About 97 percent of all WMU alumni (159,000) live in the United States.

The largest populations of WMU alumni outside the United States are in Malaysia (about 1,300), Japan (500), Thailand (400) and Canada (400).

Of the 159,000 alumni who live in the U.S., about three-fourths (119,000 alumni) live within a five-hour driving radius (300 miles) of Kalamazoo, which includes Milwaukee, Chicago, Indianapolis, Cleveland and Columbus, Ohio, and most of Michigan’s Lower Peninsula.

There are 111,121 WMU alumni in Michigan.

Two-thirds (68 percent) of all WMU alumni live in Michigan.

More than 90 percent of Michigan’s WMU alumni live in the Lower Peninsula, south of a line extending from Muskegon County in the west to St. Clair County in the east.

*Verifiable, living alumni, includes both those who earned degrees at Western Michigan University and some former students who did not earn degrees. The WMU definition for “non-graduate alumni” has varied over the years. The alumni population is continually changing. Within one year of this report, actual alumni counts may vary by plus or minus 20 percent of the figures presented here. Population relationships and ratios are less likely to vary significantly.
More than 41,000 alumni live in a nine-county area of Southwest Michigan:

- Kalamazoo
- St. Joseph
- Berrien
- Cass
- Van Buren
- Allegan
- Barry
- Eaton
- Ingham
- Jackson

More than 25,000 alumni live in a four-county area of Southeast Michigan:

- Allegan
- Barry
- Lenawee
- Livingston

More than 20,000 alumni live in a four-county area of West Central Michigan:

- Osceola
- Oceana
- Newaygo
- Montcalm

Nearly 40 percent of all WMU alumni (62,400 alumni) live in these 13 counties of West Michigan: