

Introducing the 2026 AI Index Report

By Stanford Institute for Human-Centered AI (HAI)

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This year's AI Index reveals a widening gap between how quickly AI is advancing and our ability to measure and manage it. While AI continues its rapid integration into the global economy - with technical capabilities improving, investment accelerating, and adoption spreading worldwide - the systems needed to govern, evaluate, and understand this technology are falling dangerously behind. The report raises the central question: Can the systems we build around AI match the speed of AI itself?

What's New

The annual report reveals a field hitting breakthrough capabilities, while raising urgent questions about environmental costs, transparency, and who benefits from the technology.

- AI models are achieving breakthrough results in science and complex reasoning, but at a concerning environmental toll.
- Today's most capable modern models are now among the least transparent.
- Meanwhile, AI's workforce disruption has moved from prediction to reality, hitting young workers first.

[Read the full report on Stanford HAI's website.](#)