

# AI's Workforce Shake-Up: New Realities & What Leaders Should Do

---

## Executive Summary

In the past 48 hours, a series of candid warnings and surprise reversals have highlighted how artificial intelligence is already reshaping the world of work. AI's own creators are acknowledging the technology's disruptive impact on jobs, while leading companies are reorganizing to better integrate AI – and in some cases, even rehiring staff after failed automation. From emerging skill gaps to rising employee anxieties and new regulatory pressures, these developments offer a clear message for executives: guiding an AI-driven transformation requires a holistic people strategy that balances technology gains with empathy, training, and transparency.

## AI's Builders Sound Alarm on Job Disruption

([www.usnews.com](http://www.usnews.com) [1])Anthropic, one of the world's leading AI companies, has publicly joined calls for new safeguards as it commits \$200 /million to study AI's impact on jobs ([www.usnews.com](http://www.usnews.com) [2]). In a striking departure from Silicon Valley's usual optimism, CEO Dario Amodei warned that this technology could produce far larger and longer disruptions to the labor market than previous innovations ([www.usnews.com](http://www.usnews.com) [3]). Rather than being a "prophet of doom," Amodei says he wants policymakers and industry to have time to adapt and "find a way for everyone to share in the benefits" of AI's advance ([www.usnews.com](http://www.usnews.com) [4]).

He is not alone. OpenAI's CEO Sam Altman recently met with U.S. Senator Bernie Sanders to discuss an unprecedented idea: the public owning equity in AI firms like OpenAI to fund a broad wealth-sharing program from AI gains ([www.usnews.com](http://www.usnews.com) [5]). When the biggest beneficiaries of AI themselves start advocating bold measures to mitigate job loss and share the wealth, it sends a message that leaders can't ignore.

([www.spglobal.com](http://www.spglobal.com) [6])At the same time, new data underscores that workforce impacts are no longer hypothetical. Companies have mainly pursued AI for efficiency and productivity (cited as goals by 64% and 59% of firms, respectively, versus 24% citing headcount reduction) ([www.spglobal.com](http://www.spglobal.com) [7]). Yet the latest global survey of employers shows a net negative employment effect from AI adoption: over the past year, 5% more companies reduced headcount due to AI than those that increased it, with a further small net decline expected in the coming year ([www.spglobal.com](http://www.spglobal.com) [8]). In short, even if mass automation isn't the goal, some job loss is already occurring as AI tools spread.

The conversation is rapidly shifting from "will AI destroy jobs?" to "how do we manage the transition?" Forward-looking executives are beginning to consider interventions that were once off the table. For example, proposals like government-backed "AI transition" funds or other safety nets – once more common in academic debates than boardrooms – are now part of mainstream discussions, thanks to pressure from both industry leaders and society.

## References:

- [1] [www.usnews.com — https://www.usnews.com/news/business/articles/2026-06-10/anthropic-pledges-200-million-to-research-ai-economic-impact-as-ceo-suggests-job-loss-solutions#:~:text=Anthropic%20on%20Wednesday%20joined%20growing,the%20labor%20market%20than%20previous](https://www.usnews.com/news/business/articles/2026-06-10/anthropic-pledges-200-million-to-research-ai-economic-impact-as-ceo-suggests-job-loss-solutions#:~:text=Anthropic%20on%20Wednesday%20joined%20growing,the%20labor%20market%20than%20previous)
- [2] [www.usnews.com — https://www.usnews.com/news/business/articles/2026-06-10/anthropic-pledges-200-million-to-research-ai-economic-impact-as-ceo-suggests-job-loss-solutions#:~:text=Anthropic%20on%20Wednesday%20joined%20growing,the%20labor%20market%20than%20previous](https://www.usnews.com/news/business/articles/2026-06-10/anthropic-pledges-200-million-to-research-ai-economic-impact-as-ceo-suggests-job-loss-solutions#:~:text=Anthropic%20on%20Wednesday%20joined%20growing,the%20labor%20market%20than%20previous)
- [3] [www.usnews.com — https://www.usnews.com/news/business/articles/2026-06-10/anthropic-pledges-200-million-to-research-ai-economic-impact-as-ceo-suggests-job-loss-solutions#:~:text=chatbot%2C%20Anthropic%20CEO%20and%20co,%E2%80%9D](https://www.usnews.com/news/business/articles/2026-06-10/anthropic-pledges-200-million-to-research-ai-economic-impact-as-ceo-suggests-job-loss-solutions#:~:text=chatbot%2C%20Anthropic%20CEO%20and%20co,%E2%80%9D)
- [4] [www.usnews.com — https://www.usnews.com/news/business/articles/2026-06-10/anthropic-pledges-200-million-to-research-ai-economic-impact-as-ceo-suggests-job-loss-solutions#:~:text=%E2%81%A0public%20will%20become%20very%20rich%2C%E2%80%9D,universal%20basic%20income%20could%20be](https://www.usnews.com/news/business/articles/2026-06-10/anthropic-pledges-200-million-to-research-ai-economic-impact-as-ceo-suggests-job-loss-solutions#:~:text=%E2%81%A0public%20will%20become%20very%20rich%2C%E2%80%9D,universal%20basic%20income%20could%20be)
- [5] [www.usnews.com — https://www.usnews.com/news/business/articles/2026-06-10/anthropic-pledges-200-million-to-research-ai-economic-impact-as-ceo-suggests-job-loss-solutions#:~:text=announcement%20comes%20on%20the%20heels,will%20soon%20meet%20with%20executives](https://www.usnews.com/news/business/articles/2026-06-10/anthropic-pledges-200-million-to-research-ai-economic-impact-as-ceo-suggests-job-loss-solutions#:~:text=announcement%20comes%20on%20the%20heels,will%20soon%20meet%20with%20executives)
- [6] [www.spglobal.com — https://www.spglobal.com/en/research-insights/special-reports/ai-impact-on-employment-2026#:~:text=productivity%20gains%20and%20a%20recalibrated,than%20the%20primary%20objective%20of](https://www.spglobal.com/en/research-insights/special-reports/ai-impact-on-employment-2026#:~:text=productivity%20gains%20and%20a%20recalibrated,than%20the%20primary%20objective%20of)
- [7] [www.spglobal.com — https://www.spglobal.com/en/research-insights/special-reports/ai-impact-on-employment-2026#:~:text=productivity%20gains%20and%20a%20recalibrated,than%20the%20primary%20objective%20of](https://www.spglobal.com/en/research-insights/special-reports/ai-impact-on-employment-2026#:~:text=productivity%20gains%20and%20a%20recalibrated,than%20the%20primary%20objective%20of)
- [8] [www.spglobal.com — https://www.spglobal.com/en/research-insights/special-reports/ai-impact-on-employment-2026#:~:text=investment,adoption%20is%20broad%2C%20but%20most](https://www.spglobal.com/en/research-insights/special-reports/ai-impact-on-employment-2026#:~:text=investment,adoption%20is%20broad%2C%20but%20most)

## From Tools to Transformation: Rethinking Workflows

([www.ceotodaymagazine.com](http://www.ceotodaymagazine.com) [1]) A new survey indicates that 98% of executives are planning substantial organizational redesign in the next two years to accommodate AI, and 99% expect the technology to result in at least some workforce reductions ([www.ceotodaymagazine.com](http://www.ceotodaymagazine.com) [2]). These aren't distant-future forecasts – they reflect what companies are executing right now. The best-prepared organizations see AI not as an add-on, but as a catalyst to reimagine how work is done.

([www.forbes.com](http://www.forbes.com) [3]) Microsoft's own journey offers a telling example. Leaders there learned that “adding AI tools is only the beginning” and that the worst mistake is treating AI like just another software rollout ([www.forbes.com](http://www.forbes.com) [4]). Instead, the company examined 100 internal AI pilot projects to deeply understand how tasks get done and where artificial intelligence could truly change their operating model. The insights led to three recurring patterns: use AI “persona” assistants to help employees with common tasks and boost individual productivity ([www.forbes.com](http://www.forbes.com) [5]); redesign end-to-end processes with AI in mind, applying automation and analytics to entire workflows ([www.forbes.com](http://www.forbes.com) [6]); and even create entirely new “AI-first” ways of working that unlock value not possible before. In short, Microsoft shifted its focus from automating labor to augmenting it – aiming for quality, speed, and new capabilities rather than just cost cuts.

([www.hrgrapevine.com](http://www.hrgrapevine.com) [7]) This shift goes beyond tech teams and product units, extending deep into corporate structures. Microsoft's Chief People Officer, Amy Coleman, recently led a sweeping overhaul of the company's 220,000-employee HR organization to align every people-management process with the firm's AI-driven strategy ([www.hrgrapevine.com](http://www.hrgrapevine.com) [8]). In an internal memo, Coleman explained that the pace of change now “exceed[s] what our current operating model... was built for” and that HR “has to evolve for the Microsoft we are becoming” ([www.hrgrapevine.com](http://www.hrgrapevine.com) [9]). This comprehensive approach – updating roles, decision rhythms, and team structures – reflects an understanding that AI demands agility and continuous learning at all levels of the organization.

## References:

- [1] [www.ceotodaymagazine.com — https://www.ceotodaymagazine.com/2026/06/mercer-ai-workforce-redesign-report-2026/#:~:text=Trends%202026%20study%20found%20that,HR%20leaders%20and%20investors%20globally](https://www.ceotodaymagazine.com/2026/06/mercer-ai-workforce-redesign-report-2026/#:~:text=Trends%202026%20study%20found%20that,HR%20leaders%20and%20investors%20globally)
- [2] [www.ceotodaymagazine.com — https://www.ceotodaymagazine.com/2026/06/mercer-ai-workforce-redesign-report-2026/#:~:text=Trends%202026%20study%20found%20that,HR%20leaders%20and%20investors%20globally](https://www.ceotodaymagazine.com/2026/06/mercer-ai-workforce-redesign-report-2026/#:~:text=Trends%202026%20study%20found%20that,HR%20leaders%20and%20investors%20globally)
- [3] [www.forbes.com — https://www.forbes.com/sites/bernardmarr/2026/06/29/how-microsoft-is-preparing-its-workforce-for-the-ai-era/#:~:text=Contributor,That%20was%20one%20of%20the](https://www.forbes.com/sites/bernardmarr/2026/06/29/how-microsoft-is-preparing-its-workforce-for-the-ai-era/#:~:text=Contributor,That%20was%20one%20of%20the)
- [4] [www.forbes.com — https://www.forbes.com/sites/bernardmarr/2026/06/29/how-microsoft-is-preparing-its-workforce-for-the-ai-era/#:~:text=Contributor,That%20was%20one%20of%20the](https://www.forbes.com/sites/bernardmarr/2026/06/29/how-microsoft-is-preparing-its-workforce-for-the-ai-era/#:~:text=Contributor,That%20was%20one%20of%20the)
- [5] [www.forbes.com — https://www.forbes.com/sites/bernardmarr/2026/06/29/how-microsoft-is-preparing-its-workforce-for-the-ai-era/](https://www.forbes.com/sites/bernardmarr/2026/06/29/how-microsoft-is-preparing-its-workforce-for-the-ai-era/)



barometer.html#:~:text=level%20roles%20most%20exposed%20to,level%20roles%20shrank%2010  
[8] [www.pwc.com](https://www.pwc.com/gx/en/news-room/press-releases/2026/pwc-2026-ai-jobs-barometer.html#:~:text=most%20surprisingly%2C%20headcount%20growth%20at,Jobs%20requiring%20specific) — <https://www.pwc.com/gx/en/news-room/press-releases/2026/pwc-2026-ai-jobs-barometer.html#:~:text=most%20surprisingly%2C%20headcount%20growth%20at,Jobs%20requiring%20specific>  
[9] [www.pwc.com](https://www.pwc.com/gx/en/news-room/press-releases/2026/pwc-2026-ai-jobs-barometer.html#:~:text=most%20surprisingly%2C%20headcount%20growth%20at,Jobs%20requiring%20specific) — <https://www.pwc.com/gx/en/news-room/press-releases/2026/pwc-2026-ai-jobs-barometer.html#:~:text=most%20surprisingly%2C%20headcount%20growth%20at,Jobs%20requiring%20specific>  
[10] [www.pwc.com](https://www.pwc.com/gx/en/news-room/press-releases/2026/pwc-2026-ai-jobs-barometer.html#:~:text=2025%2C%20based%20on%202018%20baseline.Jobs%20requiring%20specific) — <https://www.pwc.com/gx/en/news-room/press-releases/2026/pwc-2026-ai-jobs-barometer.html#:~:text=2025%2C%20based%20on%202018%20baseline.Jobs%20requiring%20specific>  
[11] [www.forbes.com](https://www.forbes.com/sites/paulocarvao/2026/07/01/connect-education-to-jobs-and-create-an-ai-workforce-transition-system/#:~:text=linking%20education%20to%20employment%2C%20as>Show) — <https://www.forbes.com/sites/paulocarvao/2026/07/01/connect-education-to-jobs-and-create-an-ai-workforce-transition-system/#:~:text=linking%20education%20to%20employment%2C%20as>Show>  
[12] [www.forbes.com](https://www.forbes.com/sites/paulocarvao/2026/07/01/connect-education-to-jobs-and-create-an-ai-workforce-transition-system/#:~:text=linking%20education%20to%20employment%2C%20as>Show) — <https://www.forbes.com/sites/paulocarvao/2026/07/01/connect-education-to-jobs-and-create-an-ai-workforce-transition-system/#:~:text=linking%20education%20to%20employment%2C%20as>Show>

## Employee Anxieties and the "BYO AI" Movement

([speakwiseapp.com](https://www.speakwiseapp.com) [1]) Amid the rush to adopt AI, many employees are feeling a mix of excitement and fear. A recent Pew survey found 52% of U.S. workers are worried about the use of AI in the workplace, even as 36% feel hopeful and 29% say they're excited about AI's potential

([speakwiseapp.com](https://www.speakwiseapp.com) [2]). This split mindset reflects a workforce that sees the promise of AI but is anxious about job security, fairness, and its own future in an AI-transformed environment. Younger employees in particular report feeling overwhelmed by the rapid pace of change.

([www.prnewswire.com](https://www.prnewswire.com) [3]) Not all employee reactions to AI are negative – in fact, many are forging ahead on their own. More than three-quarters of workers (76%) have started using AI tools they personally sourced, without waiting for management's green light ([www.prnewswire.com](https://www.prnewswire.com) [4]). This burgeoning "bring your own AI" trend is a double-edged sword. It shows employees' eagerness to boost productivity with AI, but it also exposes a lack of organizational support. Alarming, 41% of workers say their employer has offered no AI training, tools or guidelines at all, and only 19% report getting any comprehensive AI upskilling from their company ([www.prnewswire.com](https://www.prnewswire.com) [5]). Left to improvise, employees are leveraging public AI apps to fill gaps, raising concerns around data security, consistency, and potential burnout.

([conventuslaw.com](https://www.conventuslaw.com) [6]) Meanwhile, outside pressures are mounting for companies to manage these issues responsibly. In Europe, a landmark law known as the AI Act is entering its implementation phase this year, classifying many HR-related AI systems (like hiring algorithms or monitoring tools) as "high risk" and subjecting them to strict compliance requirements ([conventuslaw.com](https://www.conventuslaw.com) [7]). Employers will be legally obliged to maintain human oversight of high-impact AI decisions and to be transparent with employees about how algorithms affect hiring, promotion or firing ([conventuslaw.com](https://www.conventuslaw.com) [8]). Crucially, the AI Act also requires firms to inform and consult employee representatives before deploying high-risk AI in the workplace ([conventuslaw.com](https://www.conventuslaw.com) [9]). Across industries – from Hollywood writers negotiating limits on AI-generated content to warehouse workers seeking algorithmic fairness – the message is clear: companies must engage their people and address anxieties head-on when introducing AI.

### References:

- [1] [speakwiseapp.com](https://www.speakwiseapp.com/blog/ai-in-the-workplace-statistics#:~:text=Report%20via%20PRNewswire%204,%2052,of) — <https://www.speakwiseapp.com/blog/ai-in-the-workplace-statistics#:~:text=Report%20via%20PRNewswire%204,%2052,of>
- [2] [speakwiseapp.com](https://www.speakwiseapp.com/blog/ai-in-the-workplace-statistics#:~:text=Report%20via%20PRNewswire%204,%2052,of) — <https://www.speakwiseapp.com/blog/ai-in-the-workplace-statistics#:~:text=Report%20via%20PRNewswire%204,%2052,of>
- [3] [www.prnewswire.com](https://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/bring-your-own-ai-41-of-workers-say-their-employer-has-done-nothing-to-prepare-them-to-use-ai-at-work-302808365.html#:~:text=training%20is%20missing%20for%20most%3A,sign%20that%20workers%20are%20trying) — <https://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/bring-your-own-ai-41-of-workers-say-their-employer-has-done-nothing-to-prepare-them-to-use-ai-at-work-302808365.html#:~:text=training%20is%20missing%20for%20most%3A,sign%20that%20workers%20are%20trying>
- [4] [www.prnewswire.com](https://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/bring-your-own-ai-41-of-workers-say-their-employer-has-done-nothing-to-prepare-them-to-use-ai-at-work-302808365.html#:~:text=training%20is%20missing%20for%20most%3A,sign%20that%20workers%20are%20trying) — <https://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/bring-your-own-ai-41-of-workers-say-their-employer-has-done-nothing-to-prepare-them-to-use-ai-at-work-302808365.html#:~:text=training%20is%20missing%20for%20most%3A,sign%20that%20workers%20are%20trying>
- [5] [www.prnewswire.com](https://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/bring-your-own-ai-41-of-workers-say-their-employer-has-done-nothing-to-prepare-them-to-use-ai-at-work-302808365.html#:~:text=revealing%20that%20AI%20is%20entering.Key%20Insights%3A%20Workers%20are) — <https://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/bring-your-own-ai-41-of-workers-say-their-employer-has-done-nothing-to-prepare-them-to-use-ai-at-work-302808365.html#:~:text=revealing%20that%20AI%20is%20entering.Key%20Insights%3A%20Workers%20are>
- [6] [conventuslaw.com](https://www.conventuslaw.com/report/artificial-intelligence-and-human-resources-in-the-eu-a-2026-legal-overview/#:~:text=1Many%20AI%20tools%20deployed%20for,a%20Commission%20decision%20confirming%20such) — <https://www.conventuslaw.com/report/artificial-intelligence-and-human-resources-in-the-eu-a-2026-legal-overview/#:~:text=1Many%20AI%20tools%20deployed%20for,a%20Commission%20decision%20confirming%20such>

- [7] [conventuslaw.com — https://conventuslaw.com/report/artificial-intelligence-and-human-resources-in-the-eu-a-2026-legal-overview/#:~:text=1Many%20AI%20tools%20deployed%20for,a%20Commission%20decision%20confirming%20such](https://conventuslaw.com/report/artificial-intelligence-and-human-resources-in-the-eu-a-2026-legal-overview/#:~:text=1Many%20AI%20tools%20deployed%20for,a%20Commission%20decision%20confirming%20such)
- [8] [conventuslaw.com — https://conventuslaw.com/report/artificial-intelligence-and-human-resources-in-the-eu-a-2026-legal-overview/#:~:text=1Many%20AI%20tools%20deployed%20for,than%20December%202027%20or%20August](https://conventuslaw.com/report/artificial-intelligence-and-human-resources-in-the-eu-a-2026-legal-overview/#:~:text=1Many%20AI%20tools%20deployed%20for,than%20December%202027%20or%20August)
- [9] [conventuslaw.com — https://conventuslaw.com/report/artificial-intelligence-and-human-resources-in-the-eu-a-2026-legal-overview/#:~:text=3Regardless%20of%20any%20postponement%20of,of%20December%2013%2C%201983%20imposes](https://conventuslaw.com/report/artificial-intelligence-and-human-resources-in-the-eu-a-2026-legal-overview/#:~:text=3Regardless%20of%20any%20postponement%20of,of%20December%2013%2C%201983%20imposes)

## Leading Change Without Losing People

([www.pwc.com](http://www.pwc.com) [1]) The difference between organizations that thrive with AI and those that stumble is becoming more evident. Far from eliminating jobs, the most successful AI adopters use the technology to “amplify human performance and create new forms of value,” and are even expanding hiring as they grow ([www.pwc.com](http://www.pwc.com) [2]). PwC data shows these AI leaders increased their workforce by 52% (with rising wages) while less AI-savvy peers grew by only 36% ([www.pwc.com](http://www.pwc.com) [3]). By using AI to boost productivity and spur innovation instead of just cutting costs, they’re achieving “superstar” gains – top firms saw a 163% jump in productivity in recent years ([www.pwc.com](http://www.pwc.com) [4]).

([www.cnbc.com](http://www.cnbc.com) [5]) On the other hand, many companies that rushed into automation are realizing they went too far. In a global survey, 39% of business leaders said they had already eliminated roles due to AI – and over half of them (55%) now concede those layoffs were a mistake ([www.cnbc.com](http://www.cnbc.com) [6]). Real-world examples bear this out: Ford, after cutting staff and investing in automation, is rehiring hundreds of engineers because certain quality-control problems proved too complex for AI alone to fix ([www.cnbc.com](http://www.cnbc.com) [7]). Such reversals illustrate that if you shed human talent indiscriminately, you may lose critical knowledge and oversight, undermining the very efficiency gains AI promised.

([news.lrionline.com](http://news.lrionline.com) [8]) The takeaway for leadership is unmistakable. AI implementation cannot be treated as purely a technical project – it must be approached as a comprehensive change management challenge involving your people at every step ([news.lrionline.com](http://news.lrionline.com) [9]). As labor experts note, companies that fail to communicate proactively and invest in employee training are “more likely to encounter resistance” ([news.lrionline.com](http://news.lrionline.com) [10]). In contrast, those that engage employees, provide clear guidance and governance, and pair automation with reskilling are seeing better outcomes and trust ([news.lrionline.com](http://news.lrionline.com) [11]). By focusing on upskilling, transparency, and redesigning work with humans in the loop, leaders can drive innovation and efficiency without losing their people along the way.

### References:

- [1] [www.pwc.com — https://www.pwc.com/gx/en/services/ai/ai-jobs-barometer.html#:~:text=most,labour%20market%20AI%20is%20%E2%80%98professionalising%E2%80%99](https://www.pwc.com/gx/en/services/ai/ai-jobs-barometer.html#:~:text=most,labour%20market%20AI%20is%20%E2%80%98professionalising%E2%80%99)
- [2] [www.pwc.com — https://www.pwc.com/gx/en/services/ai/ai-jobs-barometer.html#:~:text=most,labour%20market%20AI%20is%20%E2%80%98professionalising%E2%80%99](https://www.pwc.com/gx/en/services/ai/ai-jobs-barometer.html#:~:text=most,labour%20market%20AI%20is%20%E2%80%98professionalising%E2%80%99)
- [3] [www.pwc.com — https://www.pwc.com/gx/en/news-room/press-releases/2026/pwc-2026-ai-jobs-barometer.html#:~:text=most%20surprisingly%2C%20headcount%20growth%20at,Jobs%20requiring%20specific](https://www.pwc.com/gx/en/news-room/press-releases/2026/pwc-2026-ai-jobs-barometer.html#:~:text=most%20surprisingly%2C%20headcount%20growth%20at,Jobs%20requiring%20specific)
- [4] [www.pwc.com — https://www.pwc.com/gx/en/news-room/press-releases/2026/pwc-2026-ai-jobs-barometer.html#:~:text=compared%20to%2024,for%20AI%20skills%20hits%2062](https://www.pwc.com/gx/en/news-room/press-releases/2026/pwc-2026-ai-jobs-barometer.html#:~:text=compared%20to%2024,for%20AI%20skills%20hits%2062)
- [5] [www.cnbc.com — https://www.cnbc.com/2026/07/01/employers-who-laid-off-workers-for-ai-are-reversing-their-decisions.html#:~:text=the%20very%20people%20needed%20to,inconsistent%2C%20inaccurate%2C%20or%20difficult%20to](https://www.cnbc.com/2026/07/01/employers-who-laid-off-workers-for-ai-are-reversing-their-decisions.html#:~:text=the%20very%20people%20needed%20to,inconsistent%2C%20inaccurate%2C%20or%20difficult%20to)
- [6] [www.cnbc.com — https://www.cnbc.com/2026/07/01/employers-who-laid-off-workers-for-ai-are-reversing-their-decisions.html#:~:text=the%20very%20people%20needed%20to,inconsistent%2C%20inaccurate%2C%20or%20difficult%20to](https://www.cnbc.com/2026/07/01/employers-who-laid-off-workers-for-ai-are-reversing-their-decisions.html#:~:text=the%20very%20people%20needed%20to,inconsistent%2C%20inaccurate%2C%20or%20difficult%20to)
- [7] [www.cnbc.com — https://www.cnbc.com/2026/07/01/employers-who-laid-off-workers-for-ai-are-reversing-their-decisions.html#:~:text=Lee%20%40in%2Fjustina,using%20more%20AI%20may%20not](https://www.cnbc.com/2026/07/01/employers-who-laid-off-workers-for-ai-are-reversing-their-decisions.html#:~:text=Lee%20%40in%2Fjustina,using%20more%20AI%20may%20not)
- [8] [news.lrionline.com — https://news.lrionline.com/ai-is-changing-the-workplace-unions-are-responding/#:~:text=Employers%20that%20treat%20AI%20as,these%20tools%20expand%2C%20unions%20are](https://news.lrionline.com/ai-is-changing-the-workplace-unions-are-responding/#:~:text=Employers%20that%20treat%20AI%20as,these%20tools%20expand%2C%20unions%20are)
- [9] [news.lrionline.com — https://news.lrionline.com/ai-is-changing-the-workplace-unions-are-responding/#:~:text=Employers%20that%20treat%20AI%20as,these%20tools%20expand%2C%20unions%20are](https://news.lrionline.com/ai-is-changing-the-workplace-unions-are-responding/#:~:text=Employers%20that%20treat%20AI%20as,these%20tools%20expand%2C%20unions%20are)
- [10] [news.lrionline.com — https://news.lrionline.com/ai-is-changing-the-workplace-unions-are-responding/#:~:text=Employers%20that%20treat%20AI%20as,these%20tools%20expand%2C%20unions%20are](https://news.lrionline.com/ai-is-changing-the-workplace-unions-are-responding/#:~:text=Employers%20that%20treat%20AI%20as,these%20tools%20expand%2C%20unions%20are)
- [11] [news.lrionline.com — https://news.lrionline.com/ai-is-changing-the-workplace-unions-are-responding/#:~:text=Employers%20that%20treat%20AI%20as,these%20tools%20expand%2C%20unions%20are](https://news.lrionline.com/ai-is-changing-the-workplace-unions-are-responding/#:~:text=Employers%20that%20treat%20AI%20as,these%20tools%20expand%2C%20unions%20are)

## Key Statistics

- 98% of executives plan to redesign organizational structures for AI within 2 years ([www.ceotodaymagazine.com](https://www.ceotodaymagazine.com/2026/06/mercer-ai-workforce-redesign-report-2026/#:~:text=Trends%202026%20study%20found%20that,HR%20leaders%20and%20investors%20globally))
- 99% of executives expect AI to cause at least some job cuts in their companies ([www.ceotodaymagazine.com](https://www.ceotodaymagazine.com/2026/06/mercer-ai-workforce-redesign-report-2026/#:~:text=Trends%202026%20study%20found%20that,HR%20leaders%20and%20investors%20globally))
- Headcount growth at AI leaders is 52% (2018–2025), compared to 36% at less AI-savvy firms ([www.pwc.com](https://www.pwc.com/gx/en/news-room/press-releases/2026/pwc-2026-ai-jobs-barometer.html#:~:text=nearly%20five%20times%20higher%20than,Jobs%20requiring%20specific))
- 55% of leaders who made AI-driven layoffs say those cuts were a mistake ([www.cnbc.com](https://www.cnbc.com/2026/07/01/employers-who-laid-off-workers-for-ai-are-reversing-their-decisions.html#:~:text=the%20very%20people%20needed%20to,inconsistent%2C%20inaccurate%2C%20or%20difficult%20to))
- 76% of workers have used AI tools they personally sourced for work tasks (due to lack of employer support) ([www.prnewswire.com](https://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/bring-your-own-ai-41-of-workers-say-their-employer-has-done-nothing-to-prepare-them-to-use-ai-at-work-302808365.html#:~:text=revealing%20that%20AI%20is%20entering,Key%20Insights%3A%20Workers%20are)) ([www.prnewswire.com](https://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/bring-your-own-ai-41-of-workers-say-their-employer-has-done-nothing-to-prepare-them-to-use-ai-at-work-302808365.html#:~:text=training%20is%20missing%20for%20most%3A,sign%20that%20workers%20are%20trying))

### KEY TAKEAWAY

AI is not just another IT upgrade – it's a people transformation. Organizations that weave AI into training, workflows and culture are thriving, while those rushing to replace people are already facing costly regrets.

### Sources

[Anthropic Pledges \\$200 Million to Research AI's Economic Impact as CEO Suggests Job Loss Solutions](https://www.usnews.com/news/business/articles/2026-06-10/anthropic-pledges-200-million-to-research-ais-economic-impact-as-ceo-suggests-job-loss-solutions)  
<https://www.usnews.com/news/business/articles/2026-06-10/anthropic-pledges-200-million-to-research-ais-economic-impact-as-ceo-suggests-job-loss-solutions>

[Employers who laid off workers citing AI are already starting to regret it – CNBC](https://www.cnbc.com/2026/07/01/employers-who-laid-off-workers-for-ai-are-reversing-their-decisions.html)  
<https://www.cnbc.com/2026/07/01/employers-who-laid-off-workers-for-ai-are-reversing-their-decisions.html>

[How Microsoft Is Preparing Its Workforce For The AI Era – Forbes](https://www.forbes.com/sites/bernardmarr/2026/06/29/how-microsoft-is-preparing-its-workforce-for-the-ai-era/)  
<https://www.forbes.com/sites/bernardmarr/2026/06/29/how-microsoft-is-preparing-its-workforce-for-the-ai-era/>

[AI reshapes global labour market into two distinct paths, rewarding human skills \(PwC 2026 Global AI Jobs Barometer\)](https://www.pwc.com/gx/en/news-room/press-releases/2026/pwc-2026-ai-jobs-barometer.html)  
<https://www.pwc.com/gx/en/news-room/press-releases/2026/pwc-2026-ai-jobs-barometer.html>

[Bring Your Own AI: 41% of Workers Say Their Employer Has Done Nothing to Prepare Them to Use AI at Work – PR Newswire](https://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/bring-your-own-ai-41-of-workers-say-their-employer-has-done-nothing-to-prepare-them-to-use-ai-at-work-302808365.html)  
<https://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/bring-your-own-ai-41-of-workers-say-their-employer-has-done-nothing-to-prepare-them-to-use-ai-at-work-302808365.html>

[Artificial Intelligence And Human Resources In The EU: A 2026 Legal Overview – Conventus Law](https://conventuslaw.com/report/artificial-intelligence-and-human-resources-in-the-eu-a-2026-legal-overview/)  
<https://conventuslaw.com/report/artificial-intelligence-and-human-resources-in-the-eu-a-2026-legal-overview/>

[AI Is Changing the Workplace, Unions Are Responding – LRI](https://news.lrionline.com/ai-is-changing-the-workplace-unions-are-responding/)  
<https://news.lrionline.com/ai-is-changing-the-workplace-unions-are-responding/>

