The Future of AI in Texas

How will AI impact our future in Texas?

Where do we go from here?

Who is using AI?

Will there be guardrails?

AI is rapidly transforming various aspects of our lives, from revolutionizing workplaces and sparking creativity to accelerating breakthroughs in health care.

At the same time, anxiety over AI's ability to disrupt the economy, personal relationships or even our democratic processes is on the rise.

With that in mind, we take a look at how Texas is working **to reap AI's many benefits while responsibly managing the technology's risks.**
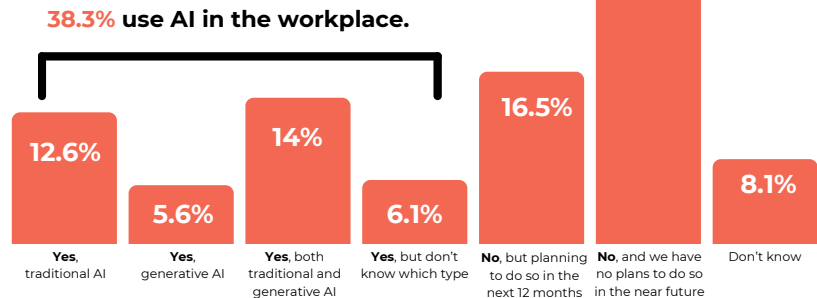
Did you know?

A recent joint report by Microsoft and LinkedIn found that **75% of global knowledge workers use AI at work today**, and 46% of users started using it less than six months ago.

The growing need for AI skills in the workplace

To meet the demand of a future where AI tools are increasingly integrated in our lives, our workforce must meet the demand for the skills required to design, develop and maintain these tools, both on the programming and hardware level.

Is your firm currently using AI?

38.3% use AI in the workplace.

| 12.6% Yes, traditional AI | 5.6% Yes, generative AI | 14% Yes, both traditional and generative AI | 6.1% Yes, but don't know which type | 16.5% No, but planning to do so in the next 12 months | 37.2% No, and we have no plans to do so in the near future | 8.1% Don't know |

Source: Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas, Texas Business Outlook Surveys (April 29,2024)

A recent survey by the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas showed that **nearly 40% of Texas companies already use artificial intelligence**, with another 17% planning to use it in the coming year.

Students are using AI in the classroom

New research from Internet Matters finds **nearly 25% of children are using AI tools to complete or help with their schoolwork.** Also, 40% of children say they have engaged with generative AI, including over half of 13- and 14-year-olds.

To meet the future demand for AI skills, **Texas educational institutions are launching specialized programs and partnerships** with tech companies to equip students with the necessary expertise.

How do businesses see the AI opportunity?

Rapid advances in generative AI, as evidenced by the accelerated releases of ChatGPT, are capturing consumers' imagination and are spurring adoption of AI as a workplace tool.

According to data kept by the University of Texas at Austin, **97 million new AI-related jobs are expected globally over the next two years.**

Did you know?

Dallas' Velvet Taco is using AI to make new taco recipes. **The "Chat GPTaco"** was created using ChatGPT 4, the newest AI-powered text generator, along with a bit of the chef's input.

AI and the need for guardrails

With the **passage of House Bill 2060 in 2023**, state lawmakers authorized the creation of an advisory council on AI, including experts from academia, to weigh in on the use of AI in state agencies.

The council will **issue a report by year's end**, assessing the impact the state's use of AI has had on citizens and make policy recommendations designed to protect Texans from the detrimental impacts of AI, including: **protecting their privacy interests, ensuring freedom from AI-related discrimination and promoting an ethical framework for the use of AI by state agencies.**

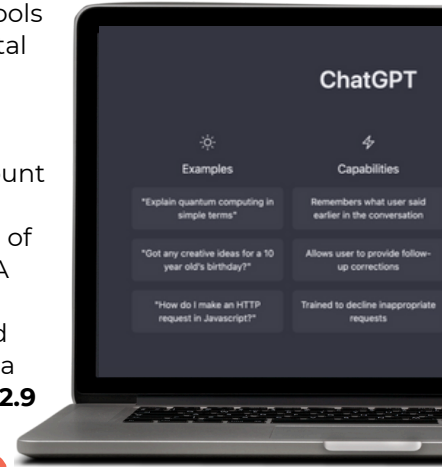## According to AI: Texas in the future

We asked ChatGPT to create a photo of a vibrant and happy future scene of Texas and AI. This is what we got. Not exactly what we were thinking.

Is our infrastructure enough for an AI boom?

The rollout of advanced AI tools will require more of the digital infrastructure underpinning these systems.

Of rising concern is the amount of power used in the development and operation of these advanced AI models. A recent study found a typical search on Google consumed 0.3 watts of electricity while a **ChatGPT query consumed 2.9 watts — nearly a tenfold increase.**

Did you know?

Texas has **roughly 276 data centers across the state**, according to the Houston Chronicle, with most of these facilities located in the Dallas area. Last year alone, 386 megawatts of data center space came online in the DFW Metroplex.

What state agencies are already working in AI?

The Texas Workforce Commission, Texas Department of Transportation and Department of Information Resources are just a few state agencies that are incorporating AI to improve everyday tasks.

Did you know? The Texas Education Agency is already using an automated scoring engine to help grade STAAR exam open-ended responses.

"Alexa, what is AI?"

Traditional AI-driven systems are **already a part of our everyday lives**, like social media platform algorithms, search engines, or virtual assistants like **Amazon's Alexa or Apple's Siri.**

Generative AI tools, which are an advanced subset of AI tools using large language models, are an advanced, highly complex form of deep learning. McKinsey summarizes generative AI as, "algorithms … that can be used to create new content, including audio, code, images, text, simulations, and videos."

texas2036.org/ai