



# INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF MULTIDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH

IN SCIENCE, ENGINEERING, TECHNOLOGY AND MANAGEMENT

Volume 12, Issue 3, March 2025



INTERNATIONAL  
STANDARD  
SERIAL  
NUMBER  
INDIA

**Impact Factor: 8.214**



+91 99405 72462



+9163819 07438



ijmrsetm@gmail.com



www.ijmrsetm.com

# Study on AI : A Revolutionary Ally for Progress or An Unforeseen Adversary to Humanity's Future?

Mrs. Shilpa Mary, Dr. Sachin K. Parappagoudar, Aarshia Nandy, Disha P, Ridhima, N. Prethwin

Asst. Professor, Faculty of Management, Jain (Deemed to be University), Bengaluru, Karnataka, India

Asst. Professor, Faculty of Management, Jain (Deemed to be University), Bengaluru, Karnataka, India

Student, Faculty of Management, Jain (Deemed to be University), Bengaluru, Karnataka, India

Student, Faculty of Management, Jain (Deemed to be University), Bengaluru, Karnataka, India

Student, Faculty of Management, Jain (Deemed to be University), Bengaluru, Karnataka, India

Student, Faculty of Management, Jain (Deemed to be University), Bengaluru, Karnataka

**ABSTRACT:** This study explores Artificial Intelligence (AI) as both a possible revolutionary friend and foe to humankind. In a survey of 76 participants, mostly young adults, the research finds a sophisticated public understanding of AI. Respondents acknowledge the possibility of AI enhancing productivity and services but voice serious concerns regarding job loss, privacy, and cognitive effects.

**KEYWORDS:** Artificial Intelligence, AI Ethics, Technology Perception, AI Governance, Technological Impact, Public Opinion, AI Risks, Human-AI Interaction, Technology Adoption, Emerging Technologies, Digital Transformation

## I. INTRODUCTION

The 21st century saw AI become the cornerstone of technology advancement, an innovation that had a possibility of transforming industry, society, and the essence of humanity to what we are only starting to enjoy today. With each advancing innovation, technologies of artificial intelligence creep increasingly into our lives, the result casting in stark relief an uncomfortable possibility: is AI our revolutionary ally propelling human accomplishments to new frontiers, or could it be an uninvited competitor destabilizing our lives?

The sudden incorporation of AI in nearly all areas of contemporary life—healthcare and learning, finance and national defense—stands as arguably the most profound technological revolution in the wake of the industrial revolution. With machine learning algorithms more sophisticated by the day and autonomous systems more powerful by the hour, society stands at a perilous crossroads where fundamental questions regarding the human-AI relationship must be tackled with speed and sophistication.

Our work explores this rich but complex relationship, and the tremendous positives AI technologies can deliver with profound ethical, social, and existence issues they pose. From machine learning programs at their most fundamental to thoroughly autonomous ones, the rate of change in AI is forcing us to look hard, honestly at the potential and its risks. This research adds to the current debates regarding responsible AI development and regulation, with the goal of enabling us to leverage AI's spectacular potential while minimizing its severe risks.

The ambivalence of AI as both helpful and harmful companion requires a transdisciplinary approach towards comprehending its implications. Integrating insights from computer science, ethics, sociology, economics, and philosophy, this study attempts to create a holistic framework to assess and regulate AI's development in society. It is only through such a holistic evaluation that we can anticipate being able to navigate the messy terrain of AI development in ways that retain human agency, dignity, and flourishing.

## II. RESEARCH OBJECTIVES

The following are the objectives of this study:

- To explore AI's double nature – as a revolutionary force for human advancement and a threat to our future.
- Explain how AI innovations impact various domains of activity such as military operations, healthcare systems, economic systems, and social interactions.
- Identify important ethical challenges and governance concerns in AI technology development and application.
- Assess existing paradigms for the responsible development of AI and propose changes.

- Explore the public perception of and interest in the impacts of AI on society, employment, and human existence.
- Explore approaches through which AI systems are enabled to support human ability rather than substituting for it.
- Explore how human cognition and artificial intelligence relate as they develop over time, specifically how reliance on AI systems might transform human cognitive processes.
- Investigate possible long-term evolutionary consequences of human-AI symbiosis and co-production over future generations.
- Discuss cross-cultural perceptions of AI adoption and regulation, recognizing that various societies might have divergent methods of weighing innovation against risk management.
- Create actionable models for schools to educate the next generation on successful partnership with AI systems without losing out on critical thinking.

### III. LITERATURE REVIEW

Our literature review identified some key themes of AI's dual potential both as friend and foe:-

- **Military Uses and Security Implications**

Layton's study in 2021 examines how AI might revolutionize battlefield operations and military equipment, quoting defense agencies around the world heavily investing in AI for future war. His study explains the practical constraints of managing AI in the real world and the necessity of human collaboration. Layton suggests offensive and defensive tactics of operation for AI-fueled warfare in the air, seas, and on land, sparking significant debate about how the world needs to prepare for AI's inevitable involvement in its future wars.

The embedding of AI within military systems is arguably the most significant use of this technology, with ramifications that reach far beyond traditional warfare. Autonomous weapons systems, predictive intelligence analysis, and algorithmic decision support systems are quickly becoming core elements of military strategy globally. This development poses deep questions regarding human control, responsibility, and the potential for unintended escalation in conflict. The notion of "meaningful human control" has emerged as an important principle in international discourse, though agreement on its exact definition and application is lacking.

RAND published research polling AI and machine learning impacts, specifically on the US Army, in examining how they would enhance warfare capabilities, inform better decision-making, and enable automation. As much as it reports potential benefits through logistics, training, and warfare planning, its report discusses why a strategic transition to implementing AI needs to be aligned with the mission and values of the Army.

Additional research by the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) has underscored the destabilizing risk of sophisticated AI systems in the military environment. According to their report, the feeling of technological superiority might reduce the threshold for the initiation of war, and the lack of transparency in AI decision-making could destroy conventional deterrence models based on predictability and transparent signaling. These anxieties are magnified in the context of global competition for power, where superior technology in AI is increasingly perceived as a matter of strategic necessity.

- **Existential Risks and Catastrophic Scenarios**

Bostrom and Cirkovic's classic work "Global Catastrophic Risks" addresses potential global threats with catastrophic implications for humanity, placing AI alongside other existential threats like nuclear war, deadly pandemics, and runaway global warming. Their account considers probability and potential impact of the doomsday scenarios and addresses the reasoning why we actually need risk management measures to safeguard the future of humanity.

The debate about existential risk posed by artificial general intelligence (AGI) continues to change, with different schools of thought regarding both the timescale and extent of potential threats. Supporters of the "fast takeoff" hypothesis suggest that once AI has achieved human-level intelligence, it may be able to rapidly improve beyond human abilities in almost all areas, and potentially result in situations where human values and goals are displaced. Others, on the other hand, support the "slow takeoff" perspective, which argues that AGI development will advance slowly enough to enable proper safety protocols and alignment methods to be established.

Miller's blunt "Singularity Rising" provokes the notion of technological singularity---the moment computer intelligence overtakes human intelligence---its impact on sped-up technology development and dramatic societal changes. His book balances prospective benefits with real risks, factoring in effects for economics, ethics, and even the human condition, and highlighting the need for meticulous examination, planning, and combined approaches to guarantee singularity is for the betterment of mankind and not the detriment.

The alignment issue---making sophisticated AI systems consistently act in line with human values---is arguably the most basic of the challenges in preventing existential risk. Recent efforts by groups such as the Machine Intelligence



Research Institute and the Future of Life Institute have succeeded in making some aspects of this issue more formal, though full solutions are not yet at hand. Value learning, interpretability, corrigibility, and containment have all become complementary strategies for solving various aspects of the alignment problem.

#### ● **Ethical Frameworks and Governance**

Bareis and Katzenbach analyze AI's dual role in society, recognizing its potential to be a revolutionary collaborator but also identifying significant threats as an unexpected enemy. Although AI can revolutionize productivity and decision-making across numerous industries, the authors emphasize ethical issues and challenges we face when applying AI systems, promoting right governance and ethical norms to limit potential risks and ensure AI serves humanity ultimately.

The moral landscape of AI regulation has become progressively more complicated as uses become more diverse and penetrate further into social institutions. Models focusing on justice, fairness, transparency, and autonomy have come to the fore, though tension continues between these sometimes conflicting values. For example, attempts to remove algorithmic bias need to be weighed against privacy concerns, while mandates for transparency can conflict with protecting intellectual property. These tensions call for contextual methods of AI ethics that acknowledge diversity of uses and their differences of effect across communities and cultural contexts.

The Future of Humanity Institute's "The Governance of Artificial Intelligence: An Agenda" speaks directly to our near-term requirement for proper frameworks governing AI development and deployment, focusing on why directing AI progress to social values and safety considerations is so important. The most central governance concerns are regulatory frameworks, stakeholder engagement, and international collaboration, and the agenda discusses particular means of constraining AI risks while stimulating responsible innovation.

Recent developments in global AI governance include the European Union's AI Act, which is the first attempt at a comprehensive regulation of AI systems based on risk categories. This rights-based framework is contrasted with more innovation-driven frameworks in other jurisdictions, which reflects the difficulty of formulating internationally consistent governance strategies. Multi-stakeholder efforts such as the Global Partnership on AI and the OECD AI Principles are significant steps toward shared norms, but issues concern mechanisms for enforcement and the representation of Global South views.

"The Ethics of Artificial Intelligence: A Review of the State of the Art" covers AI's ethical content, introducing major themes and structures in the new field. Ethical issues arising from AI technology, such as bias, accountability, and privacy, are examined by the authors using existing research on AI ethics, and areas of research that need to be addressed in more depth are identified. This systematic approach is trying to guide policymakers and researchers on significant ethical concerns regarding AI to facilitate responsible and inclusive development.

#### ● **Societal and Economic Impact**

Brynjolfsson and McAfee's "The Fourth Age" highlights the impact of newer technologies such as AI and robotics to reshape society and economies. They contend that we're on the cusp of an emerging age led by intelligent machines with potential to accelerate productivity while creating historically unprecedented challenges. It outlines how next-generation technologies have the potential to potentially change our workforce, ignite innovation, and solve issues global in scale while highlighting social and moral concerns we must thoroughly examine.

The distributional impact of AI-induced automation is the key issue of concern for economists and policymakers alike. Aggregate gains in productivity are likely to be large, yet the skewed benefit distribution may add to existing inequality unless policy makers step in with suitable interventions. Past trends of technological change portend labor market polarization, especially for middle-skill jobs that will bear the brunt of displacement pressure. This trend may be partially offset by the creation of new job categories and an extension of jobs needing distinctly human skills such as creativity, empathy, and ethical judgment.

In addition to labor market impacts, AI holds the potential to reshape consumption habits, social interactions, and institutional arrangements. The increasing use of recommendation systems, customized services, and predictive analytics is redefining the way people find information, establish preferences, and make choices. These developments have significant implications for democratic processes, cultural change, and psychological health. Analyzing these wider societal effects demands inter-disciplinary collaboration between computer scientists, social scientists, and humanities researchers.

John Tasioulas speaks about the future of AI and AI-human collaboration opportunities, charting an agenda for integrating AI into every facet of society. He stresses the design of systems complementary to human capabilities

instead of substituting them, raising core questions such as ethics, AI system reliability, and proper governance structures. Tasioulas stresses the collective endeavor that seeks to maximize human values and social good in the development of AI.

- **Computer Ethics and Technological Responsibility:**

"Computer Ethics: Concepts and Cases" provides an overview of computer ethics, examining technology's ethical impacts on society. The authors discuss ethical principles through case studies on the use of computers, data privacy, intellectual property, and the impact of technology on human behavior, highlighting the necessity of ethical guidelines for decision-making in the rapidly changing digital environment.

The discipline of AI ethics has made tremendous progress over the last few years, going beyond abstract principles to more concrete advice for practitioners. Value-sensitive design methods highlight the integration of ethical aspects across the development process instead of handling them as post-hoc limitations. Responsible innovation frameworks also promote anticipatory governance, inclusive deliberation, and reflexive learning to solve ethical issues ahead of time. Such methodological innovations supplement substantive ethical discussions on fairness, accountability, transparency, and safety.

Responsibility attribution in human-AI collaborative systems is a very demanding area of AI ethics. Most traditional conceptions of moral responsibility presuppose human agency, intentionality, and causal control—conditions that lose clear meaning in collaborative human-AI systems. Some models have been offered to bridge this "responsibility gap," including distributed responsibility structures, insurance-based models, and new liability regimes. The adequacy of these models varies across application domains and is influenced by factors like system autonomy, predictability, and the severity of potential harms.

#### IV. QUESTIONNAIRE

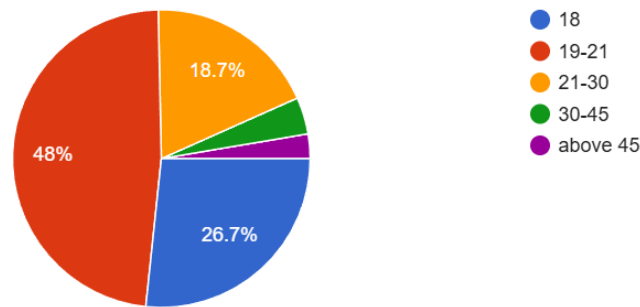
Our questionnaire was designed to assess public attitudes, views, and worries about AI's role in society. The questions in our questionnaire were:

- What is your age group?
- What is your highest level of education?
- What is your professional background?
- How familiar are you with Artificial Intelligence (AI)?
- Which sectors, in your opinion, use AI the most?
- How has AI contributed to society positively?
- On a scale of 1-10, how much do you think AI improves productivity?
- Do you believe AI can bridge gaps in accessing education and healthcare?
- Apart from all the advantages, what do you think are the negative aspects of AI?
- On a scale of 1-10, how much do you worry about AI being misused?
- Do you think AI is posing a threat to humanity's future?
- Should there be restrictions on the usage of AI?
- How many AI tools/software have you used in school/college/work?
- Do you think AI will replace human jobs completely?
- How often do you use AI?
- According to you, is AI a friend or a foe?

#### V. FINDING AND RESEARCH

##### Demographic Profile of Respondents

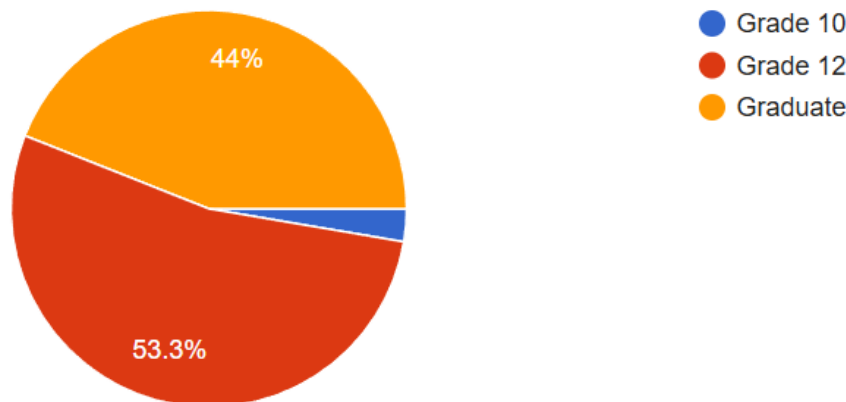
Age Distribution:



- The majority of the respondents (approximately 67%) were aged 19-21 years
- Approximately 15% were aged 21-30 years
- Approximately 15% were 18 years old
- Few (approximately 3%) were aged 30-45 or older than 45

This age breakdown is representative of a largely young sample, which could affect the general view of technology uptake and AI attitudes. The high proportion of Generation Z respondents offers insight into the views of digital natives regarding AI, although the low representation of older groups is a limitation to the generalizability of results across age groups.

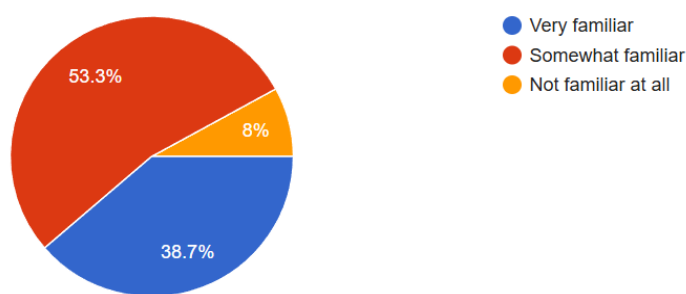
Educational Background:



- Approximately 62% had Grade 12
- Approximately 35% had college diplomas
- Few had only completed Grade 10

The educational background indicates a fairly well-educated sample, with most having attended secondary education or higher. This breakdown reflects international trends in technology awareness, where levels of education are associated with higher exposure to and knowledge of new technologies. The dominance of participants with a high school education or higher suggests that the results may be most applicable to populations with comparable educational backgrounds.

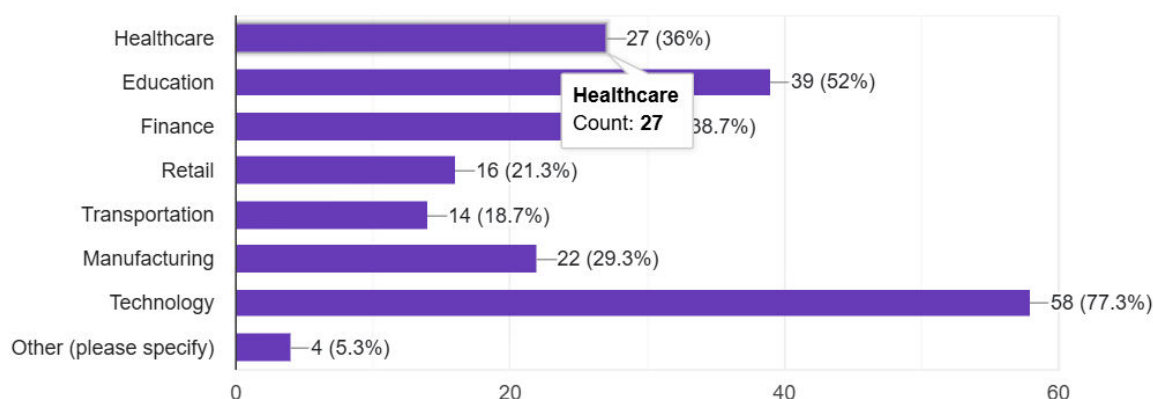
Awareness of AI:



- 41% said they were "Very familiar" with AI
- Half said they were "Somewhat familiar"
- Only 9% confessed that they were not familiar

The high rate of self-reported familiarity with AI among respondents indicates general awareness of this technology in day-to-day existence. This familiarity can be attributed to growing media reports, educational exposure, or direct experience with consumer-facing AI applications. Self-reported familiarity is not always a clear indicator of technical understanding, and more study might investigate the accuracy and depth of public knowledge regarding AI functions and boundaries.

Fields Where AI is Used Most Extensively:



- Technology was the most frequently mentioned top sector (by approximately 75% of the survey respondents)
- Education ranked second (54%)
- Healthcare (44%) and Finance (41%) trailed closely behind
- Manufacturing, Retail, and Transport also received name mentions

Respondents' views of areas in which AI is being applied are largely consistent with true industry adoption trends, and technology industries are at the forefront of implementation. The high awareness of AI in education is noteworthy, possibly because of the growing visibility of educational technology resources and learning systems, particularly among the highly youthful sample. Citing healthcare and finance as large AI application areas highlights knowledge about how algorithms are reconfiguring these essential service industries.

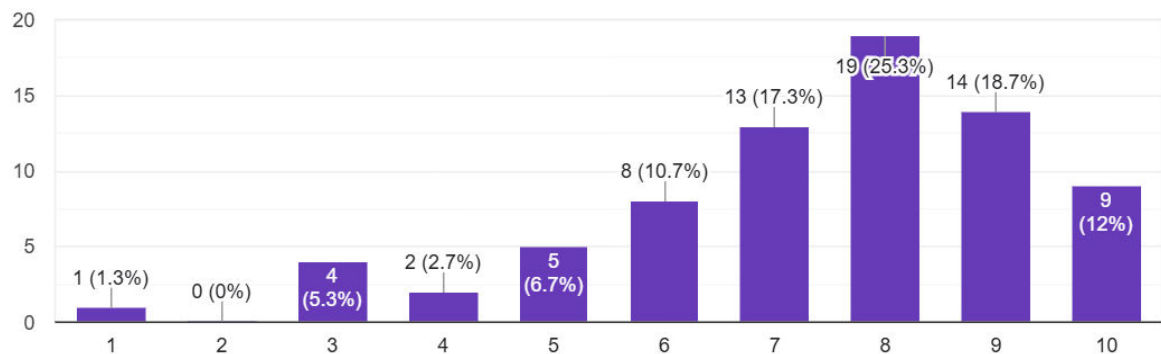
The most frequently cited positive effects of AI were:

- Simplifying life and making it more efficient (27%)
- Making knowledge and information more accessible (22%)
- Saving time and making individuals more productive (18%)
- Aiding healthcare by enhancing diagnosis and treatment (12%)
- Improving education and learning prospects (10%)

The view of the main value of AI as convenience and efficiency is consistent with consumer-oriented applications that simplify routine tasks. The focus on access to information mirrors AI's increasing presence in search engines, recommendation systems, and knowledge management applications. Identification of gains in productivity is consistent

with AI applications within the workplace in automation and decision support. Benefits in healthcare and education, though less common, reflect observation of AI's potential for transformation in these areas.

#### AI and Productivity:



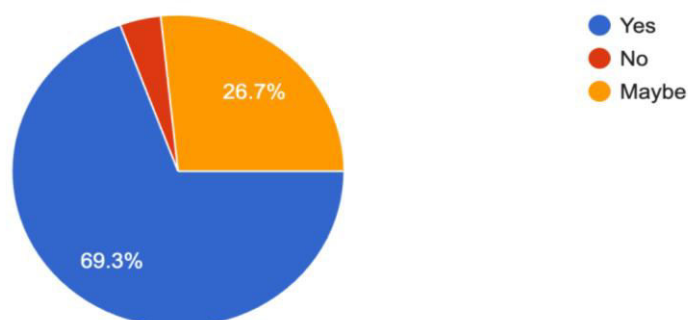
- On the whole, the score of AI's productivity impact was 7.5 out of 10
- 28% scored it 8/10
- 19% scored it 9/10
- 13% scored it a full 10/10
- Just 8% scored it below 5/10

The high positive valuation of AI's productivity contribution implies broad acknowledgment of efficiency benefits from AI deployment. This view corresponds with economic studies recording productivity improvements among high-AI uptake industries. The modest share of observers scoring productivity impact below the midpoint testifies to narrow doubt about AI value prop in terms of productivity increase. These results imply public openness to productivity-raising AI use, potentially enabling further take-up across economic sectors.

#### Potential of AI to Fill Gaps in Education and Healthcare:

- 62% felt that AI can actually fill these significant gaps
- 29% were less certain, having answered with "Maybe"
- Just 9% did not think AI could fill these gaps

The positive sentiment towards AI's potential to fill accessibility gaps in critical services such as education and healthcare indicates sensitivity to new uses in these areas. Telemedicine platforms, artificial intelligence-based diagnostic platforms, individualized learning platforms, and edutainment chatbots are ever more apparent manifestations of how AI can bypass the usual impediments to access to services. The modest skepticism evident in the "Maybe" answers could be evidence of acknowledgment of the challenges to implementation, such as infrastructure limitations, digital divides, and requirements for human judgment in sensitive areas.



#### Concerns and Threats of AI

##### Negative Impacts of AI

The most frequently cited harms were:



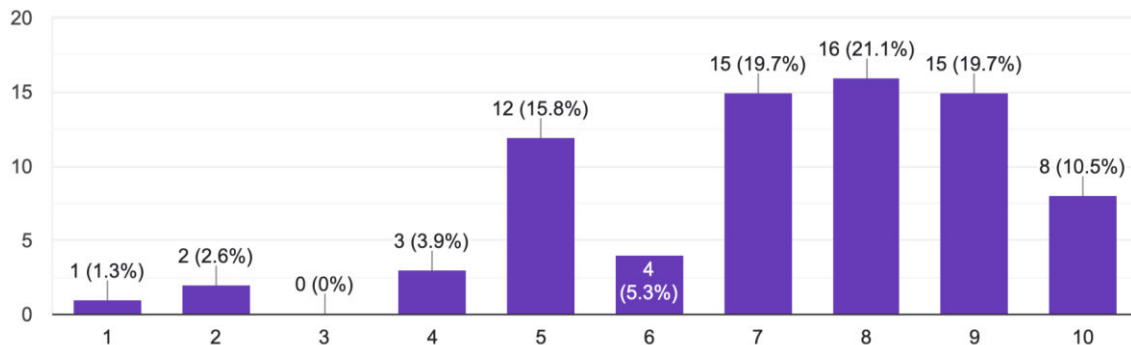
- Job displacement and unemployment (26%)
- Diminished human cognitive capabilities/creativity/critical thinking abilities (22%)
- Too much dependence and mounting indolence (17%)
- Security and privacy risks (15%)
- Morality concerns such as prejudice, misuses, and lack of control (12%)
- Danger of unrestricted AI creation harming humanity (8%)

Workplace disruption as the leading worry remains in alignment with past patterns of fear about jobs lost due to technology. The sharp focus on cognitive effects, specifically the possible atrophy of critical thinking and creative abilities is a more unique issue particular to AI technologies that support or substitute for cognitive capabilities. Privacy and security issues express sensitivity to the data-intensive character of much AI technology and the risk of it being exploited. The comparatively low proportion citing existential risk is in contrast to the salience of such issues in expert discussion, and may indicate a divergence between specialist and public risk perceptions.

#### Concern About AI Abuse

- The mean concern about AI abuse was 7.2 out of 10  
23% rated it 8/10
- 19% rated it 9/10
- 11% rated it highest concern at 10/10
- Just 15% rated it less than 5/10

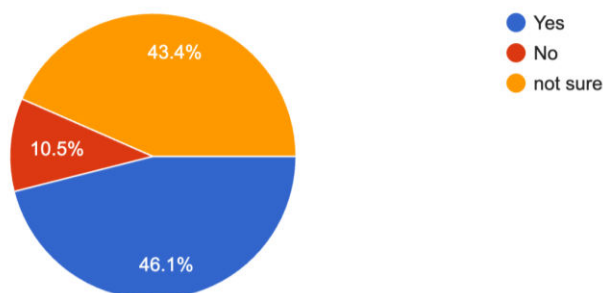
The high degree of concern about AI misuse reflects broad awareness of risk scenarios from individual privacy invasions to systemic manipulation of information environments. Concern may be driven by media reports of AI-related controversies, such as algorithmic bias events, privacy invasions, and deepfake technology. The pattern of concern levels reflects a population that is broadly concerned but not overwhelmingly anxious, with a substantial minority reporting more moderate concern levels.



#### AI as a Threat to Humanity

- 35% felt that AI indeed poses a threat to humanity's future  
Half were indifferent
- 15% did not view AI as a threat to humanity

The large percentage that sees AI as possibly harmful to humanity's future shows that existential risk stories have become a part of public awareness to some extent. Yet, the overall dominance of ambivalence shows that a large majority is not sure enough or informed enough to make solid conclusions regarding long-term risk situations. The large minority dismissing existential threat stories can be an indication of optimism regarding control mechanisms or skepticism regarding what AI systems might be able to do.



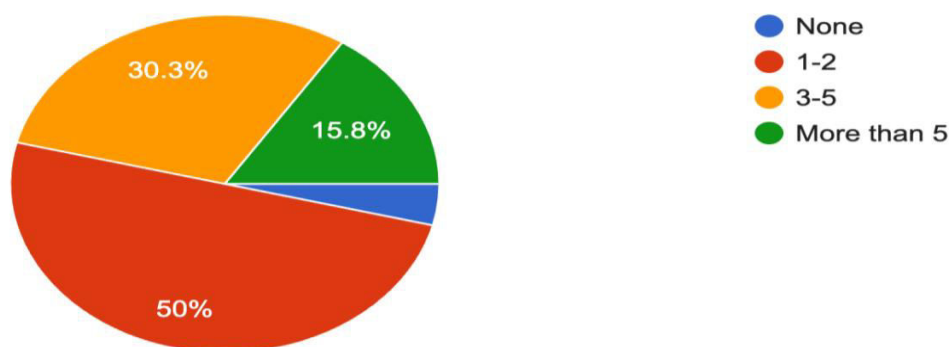
- 67% felt there is a need to restrict the use of AI
- 22% had no idea if they needed it restricted
- 11% opposed it being restricted

The high level of support for limiting AI development points to broad acceptance that unregulated growth carries large societal threats. The pro-regulation position resonates with developing policy debates over AI governance frameworks and implies popular openness to regulatory mechanisms. The comparatively low proportion of those opposing limits could represent libertarian ideological values or fear of inhibiting innovation. The undecided group points to the difficulty in crafting regulatory strategies that reconcile risk reduction with facilitating useful applications.

#### AI Use Patterns and Attitudes

##### AI Tools/Software Use

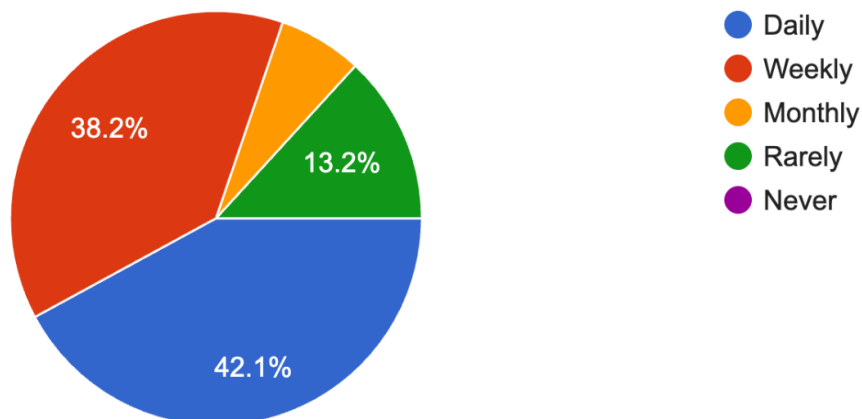
- 37% used 1-2 AI tools
- 31% used 3-5 AI tools in collaboration
- 19% used more than 5 AI tools in collaboration
- 13% hadn't used any AI tools in collaboration



Distribution of AI tool usage shows widespread penetration of AI technologies in the sample, with overwhelming majorities claiming experience with at least one AI application. High adoption in this way indicates normalizing of AI tools into mundane contexts, especially among the majority young respondent population. High levels of reported experience with more than one AI tool suggest diversification of use beyond single purpose applications, which may reflect increased incorporation of AI in multiple domains of life and work.

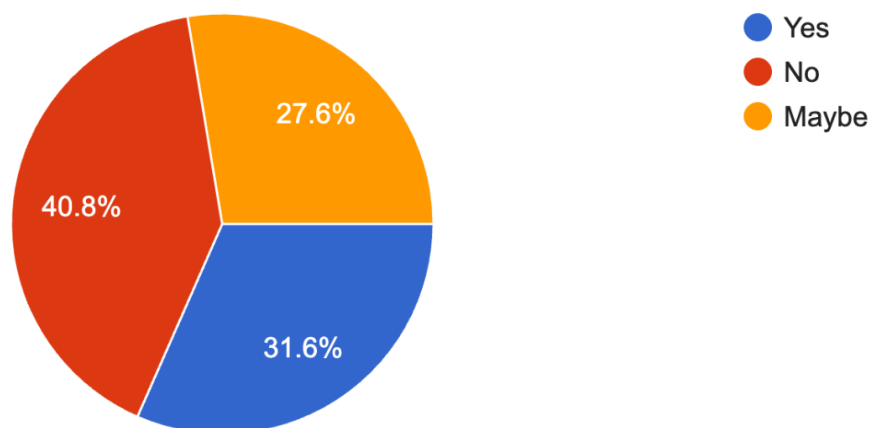
##### AI Frequency of Use

- 42% said they used AI every day
- 44% used AI on a weekly basis
- 11% interacted with AI on a monthly basis
- 3% used AI tools barely ever



The prevalence of AI interaction at high frequency as indicated by the respondents highlights the pervasiveness of the technology in everyday activities. The high percentage indicating daily use indicates that AI has become an integral part of information access, communication, and personal productivity for most people. The low percentage indicating occasional use may be indicative of either limited exposure to AI technologies or intentional avoidance of minimizing interaction with such systems.

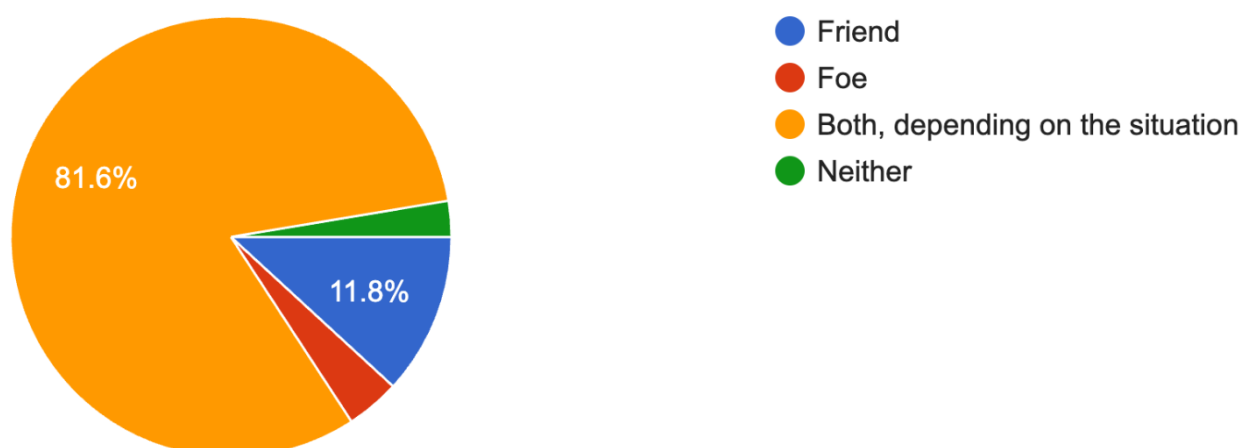
#### AI Replacing Human Labor



- 30% thought that AI would entirely replace human work
- 37% weren't sure
- 33% didn't think AI will entirely replace human employees

The polarized opinions on full labor replacement by AI mirror wider societal ambivalence about the ultimate effect of automation. The approximately equal split between certainty of replacement, uncertainty, and certainty against replacement indicates a lack of agreement even among those with comparable demographic profiles. This split could be due to varying definitions of "complete replacement" or different judgments of the uniquely human skills that could defy automation.

#### Emotion towards AI as Friend or Foe



- 70% considered AI as "Both, depending on the circumstance"
- 15% considered AI as an only "Friend"
- 5% considered AI as an only "Foe"
- 5% considered it as "Neither"
- 5% did not answer this question

The prevalent nuanced view considering AI as context-dependent in its benevolence reflects mature public comprehension beyond the simple stories. This cogent perspective considers AI's capability for both good and ill based on design decisions, deployment environments, and governance frameworks. The very small percentages with purely positive or negative beliefs might reflect ideology-fueled views or limited familiarity with the entire diversity of AI applications and their diverse implications.

## VI. RESULTS AND RESEARCH

Based on our data analysis, several key findings emerge concerning how people view AI's dual role as friend and potential foe:

### 1. Balanced Perception of AI's Role

The greatest shock? Most respondents have nuanced perceptions of AI. A whopping 70% view AI as "both friend and foe, depending on the situation," indicating that they understand AI's dual nature. This balanced view is consistent with scholarly literature that values both the promise of AI to revolutionize and its significant risks.

This subtle insight implies that oversimplified pro-technology or anti-technology accounts might not resonate with public opinion. Rather, governance strategies recognizing both potential benefits and limitations are more likely to be consistent with public opinion. The prevalence of balanced views implies potential openness to contextual regulation that is varied according to levels of application risk instead of broad permissions or bans.

### 2. Appreciation of AI's Benefits

The respondents evidently value AI's benefits, particularly in:

**Efficiency and productivity:** Having a median score of 7.5/10, the majority of respondents recognized AI for their capacity to increase work output and efficiency.

**Accessibility of information:** A few noted the role of AI in enhancing the accessibility of information and knowledge.

**Expert domains:** Healthcare, education, and finance emerged as areas where AI has the potential to make massive positive differences, such as closing gaps of accessibility (endorsed by 62% of the respondents).

The acknowledgment of AI's multiform advantages across various sectors portends public readiness for broader implementation where compelling value propositions are recognized. The call for productivity enhancement resonates with economic incentives toward AI adoption, while the information accessibility focus captures AI's promise to democratize knowledge assets. The delineation of distinct high-value application spaces such as healthcare and education marks recognition of AI's ability to solve long-standing societal problems.

### 3. Primary Concerns over AI Risks

Though many perceived positives, individuals were exceedingly concerned:

Higher concern over misuses: AI misuse overall concern score was 7.2/10 and indicated overall apprehension regarding potential ill uses.

Consensus in limiting AI: The majority felt AI should be limited, expressing concern regarding the potential harm to be done by it if untamed.

Uncertainty regarding threat to existence: Half of the sample were uncertain if AI poses a threat to human existence, 35% thought it does, and this reflects uncertainty around this topic.

The high concern for abuse combined with high support for limits indicates government sensitivity to regulatory action against AI dangers. The focus of concern appears to be on immediate harm in the form of privacy violations, manipulation, and unfair discrimination rather than the long-term existential risks. The high level of uncertainty surrounding the problem of existential risk presents an opportunity for public education regarding long-term safety issues, but it is essential to avoid over caution that might lead to reaction.

#### 4. Particular Issues Reflect Scholarly Concern

The negative attributes named by ordinary individuals closely reflect particular concerns named by scholars:

Economic disruption: Losing jobs was the most pressing concern (26%), which echoed intellectual fears about the effects of AI on jobs.

Cognitive and social effects: Most were concerned about reduced critical thinking skills and increasing reliance on AI, which correspond to fears about how AI will change human cognitive functions and social relationships.

Ethical concerns: Privacy, security, bias, and abuse were concerns that arose consistently, consistent with ethical theories set out in the literature.

The convergence of public issues and scholarly discussion implies that scholarly understanding is filtering into public consciousness, either directly through educational sources or indirectly via media reports. This alignment might enable more productive public participation with technical policy debates as primary concepts and vocabulary enter the common discourse. The focus on job loss as the central issue does reflect, however, that economic security continues to be a top priority for many when assessing technological transformation.

#### 5. Patterns of Use and Familiarity

The findings reveal extensive AI uptake:

Heavy use patterns: 42% used AI every day, 44% every week, which already indicates AI penetration into daily life.

Familiarity with education: Higher education levels tended to be associated with higher familiarity.

Age variable: Younger interviewees (19-21) indicated higher familiarity with AI, citing a generation factor in AI adoption and awareness.

The very high rate of AI interaction among respondents indicates that these technologies are already relatively well-embedded in everyday life. Such broad adoption can lead to network effects and path dependency, speeding up further embeddedness. The educational level variable correlation with familiarity underscores the critical role educational programs play in priming populations for AI-shaping environments. The differences in familiarity by generation indicate that AI literacy initiatives might need to be addressed differently for different age groups.

#### 6. Uncertainty of Job Replacement

Views on whether AI would replace human labor entirely were strongly polarized:

30% assumed total replacement would occur

37% were uncertain

33% excluded total replacement

This division mirrors broader societal uncertainty regarding AI's eventual job effect, resting on uncertainty regarding total replacement.

The broad disagreement over labor market effects captures real uncertainty over what the ultimate capabilities and limitations of AI are. Some might imagine circumstances in which AI ultimately dominates all economically relevant skills, while others might perceive lasting human strengths in those areas that demand creativity, empathy, or ethical discernment. The large share of uncertain respondents indicates willingness to consider evidence-based evaluations of automation potential by occupational groups.

#### 7. Demographic Trends



Some interesting demographic trends emerged:

Age affects perception: The younger individuals (18-21) were more optimistic about AI but also more worried about abuse.

Education adds nuance: Better-educated respondents were more likely to think about AI in shades of gray, rather than black and white.

Use affects attitude: Frequent users of AI were cognizant of advantages and limitations, while light users were more one-dimensional in their opinion.

These trends indicate that our perspectives regarding AI are a combination of who we are, what we have gone through, and what we've been told about technology. The optimism of young people can be attributed to being used to digital technology and accepting change without issues. However, their fears of abuse indicate they are cognizant of the negative side of things despite their general positivity. The alignment of schooling with equitable perspectives supports the grounds why we need diversified AI training that includes opportunities along with constraints.

## VII. CONCLUSION

Our findings expose AI as a multifaceted technological phenomenon with revolutionary promise and immense threats. As an assistant, AI has the capacity to make us more efficient, increase access to information, and propel key areas such as healthcare and education. The mass adoption of AI tools (87% of the participants using at least one) attests to its quick integration into everyday life. But there are valid concerns. A high concern score for abuse (7.2/10) and robust support for regulation (67%) indicate the necessity for careful governance. Most concerns are loss of employment, possible diminution of human intellectual abilities, privacy threats, and ethical issues. The most compelling finding is that 70% of respondents consider AI to be "both friend and foe, depending on the circumstances" - a balanced view reflecting expert insight.

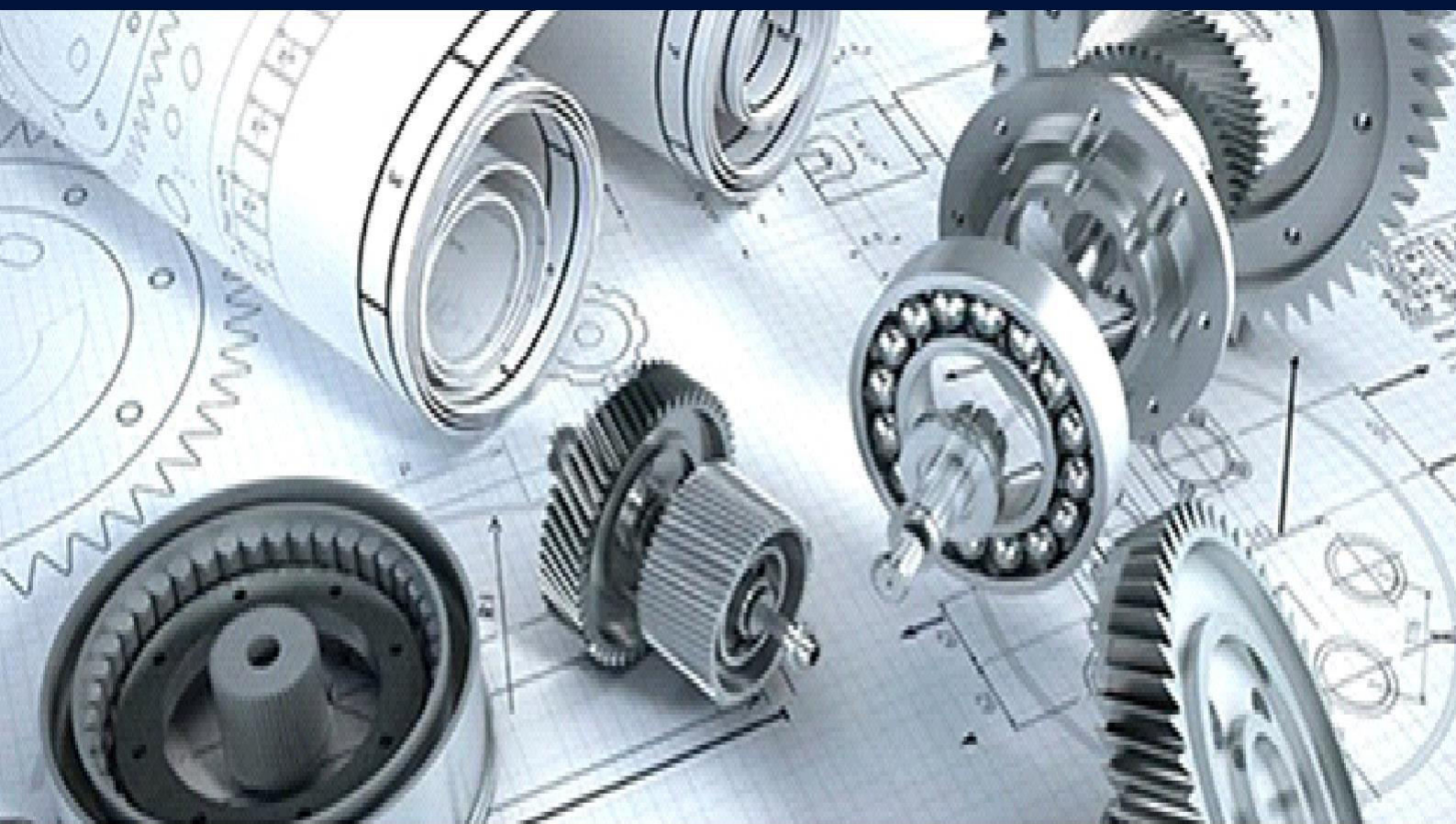
Most implications are:

- Need for balanced, fair regulation of AI
- Immediate need for thorough education in AI
- Essential to economic readiness
- Central position of ethical frameworks in constructing AI

The future is bright: AI is not good or bad in itself but a potent technology whose effect will be determined by human decision. By keeping the balance, solving problems, and promoting wide-ranging governance, we can realize the potential of AI while preserving human agency and well-being. In the end, our research demonstrates that careful innovation, continued research, and citizen involvement can make AI a force of human advancement and not a future threat.

## REFERENCES

1. Bareis, J., & Katzenbach, C. (n.d.). AI's dual role in society: Revolutionizing collaboration and addressing ethical challenges.
2. Bostrom, N., & Cirkovic, M. (Eds.). (n.d.). Global catastrophic risks.
3. Brynjolfsson, E., & McAfee, A. (n.d.). The fourth age: Smart robots, conscious computers, and the future of humanity.
4. Future of Humanity Institute. (n.d.). The governance of artificial intelligence: An agenda.
5. Future of Life Institute. (n.d.). Research on AI alignment and safety.
6. Layton, R. (2021). AI in military operations: Revolutionizing battlefield strategies.
7. Machine Intelligence Research Institute. (n.d.). Research on AI alignment challenges.
8. Miller, J. (n.d.). Singularity rising: How emerging technologies will improve our lives.
9. RAND Corporation. (n.d.). Research on AI and machine learning impacts on military operations.
10. Stockholm International Peace Research Institute. (n.d.). Report on AI in military environments.
11. Tasioulas, J. (n.d.). AI and human collaboration: Ethical considerations and future opportunities.
12. Technological Ethics Research Group. (n.d.). Computer ethics: Concepts and cases.



# INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF MULTIDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH

IN SCIENCE, ENGINEERING, TECHNOLOGY AND MANAGEMENT



+91 99405 72462



+91 63819 07438



ijmrsetm@gmail.com

[www.ijmrsetm.com](http://www.ijmrsetm.com)