Spotlight: Boston

AI at Work Is Here.
Now Comes the Hard Part

Finding 1

Employees want AI at work—and won't wait for companies to catch up

They're bringing their own tools even as leaders face AI inertia.

- **72%** of knowledge workers based in Boston use generative AI at work. (vs. **71%** of US knowledge workers)

- While **more than three-fourths** of leaders based in Boston believe their company needs to adopt AI to stay competitive, **just over half** of leaders based in Boston worry their organization's leadership lacks a plan and vision to implement it. (vs. **77%** and **60%** of US leaders)

- **75%** of AI users based in Boston are bringing their own AI to work (BYOAI). (vs. **63%** of US workers)

Finding 2

For employees, AI raises the bar and breaks the career ceiling

Some are itching for a career change, and there is a massive opportunity for those willing to skill up on AI.

- Just **over two-thirds** of leaders based in Boston say they would not hire someone without AI skills. (vs. **65%** of US leaders)

- **More than half** of leaders based in Boston say they'd rather hire a less experienced candidate with AI skills than a more experienced candidate without them. (vs. **71%** of US leaders)

Finding 3

The rise of the AI power user—and what they reveal about the future

Power users use AI at least several times per week. They say it saves them more than 30 minutes per day.
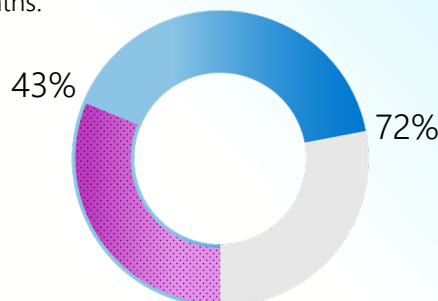
- **Just under half** of AI power users based in Boston start their day with AI and **just over half** use it to get ready for the following day. (vs. **80%** and **82%** of US AI power users)

- However, AI power users based in Boston are about **20%** less likely to frequently ask co-workers what prompts they find most useful and **20%** less likely to experiment with different ways of using AI. (vs. **40%** and **45%** more likely for US AI power user)

Nearly Three Out of Four People in Boston Are Using AI at Work

Usage nearly doubled in the last six months.

72% of people are already using AI at work

43% of them started using it less than 6 months ago

43%

72%

Survey Questions:
How often do you use generative artificial intelligence (AI) for your work?
How long have you been using generative artificial intelligence (AI) at work?

Read the full report on WorkLab

Microsoft