AI AT WORK IN INDIANA

Early Signals from Indiana's Tech Community



ABOUT THE SURVEY

Tech employers and workers are often among the first to experience how emerging technologies change work. As early AI adopters, Indiana's tech community offers a meaningful preview of how AI expectations, training needs and entry-level work are already shifting, as well as how those shifts may spread across the broader economy as adoption accelerates.

This brief is based on 221 voluntary responses collected from TechPoint's network in May 2026. The findings are not meant to represent every Indiana employer or worker. Instead, they provide early signals from a highly relevant segment of the state's economy: Indiana's tech community and partner network.

TechPoint reviewed the survey data and identified four takeaways related to AI usage among Indiana's tech community, where productivity gains are emerging and how entry-level work may be changing. Our findings are:

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1 | AI IS NOW A DAILY PRODUCTIVITY TOOL

The vast majority of respondents have made AI a core part of their workflow. Seventy-eight percent use AI tools daily, and 93% report being more productive compared to a year ago. The gains are not marginal: 43% describe themselves as significantly more productive, or 2x+, with the remainder reporting moderate or slight gains. Only 3% report no meaningful change or a decline.

That level of daily use far outpaces national workforce benchmarks. Gallup's February 2026 workplace survey found that only 13% of U.S. employees use AI daily in their role. This gap reinforces the early-adopter nature of TechPoint's sample and suggests Indiana's tech community may be previewing patterns that become more common as workplace AI adoption matures.

Usage frequency is the strongest predictor of outcome. Daily users report 2×+ gains at five times the rate of non-daily users (52% vs. 10%). The productivity dividend from AI is real — but it accrues primarily to those who use it habitually, not occasionally.

CURRENT AI USE	COUNT	% OF ALL RESPONDENTS
Drafting or Editing Written Content	165	75%
Brainstorming / Ideation	160	72%
Data Analysis or Research	136	62%
Coding / Technical Development	103	47%
Learning / Upskilling	103	47%
Workflow Automation or Productivity Tasks	90	41%
Customer Support or Communication	41	19%
Other / Write-in	16	7%
I Do Not Currently Use AI	7	3%
NOTE: Because the question is multi-select, percentages add up to more than 100%		

WHY IT MATTERS: AI adoption has crossed from experimentation into daily work. The productivity upside is real, but it is not evenly distributed: daily users are seeing the largest gains, making AI fluency and workflow integration a growing competitive advantage.

> **AI IS NOT REALLY SUPPLANTING HUMAN WORK, IT IS INSTEAD INCREASING OVERALL PRODUCTIVITY, REDUCING ERRORS AND INCREASING SCOPE AND REACH.**
>
> — Executive leader at a small professional services company

2 | LEARNING IS MOSTLY INFORMAL

Despite widespread adoption and significant productivity upside, only 17% of workers receive employer-provided AI training. Among the 65% (143) of respondents who answered the learning question, AI skill development is occurring primarily outside formal education and training systems.

This mirrors national research from the New York Fed, which found that only 15.9% of employed respondents said their employer currently offers AI training, even as 38% said training on AI tools is important to them.

Coding/technical AI users are especially likely to rely on experimentation and external content. They are less likely than non-coding users to report learning from peers or employer-provided training. That may suggest technical users are moving quickly on their own, ahead of formal organizational learning.

OVERALL LEARNING METHODS	COUNT	% OF RESPONDENTS WHO ANSWERED
Direct Experimentation	126	88%
Newsletters, Podcasts, Articles or Social Media	99	69%
Coworkers, Peers or Professionals	90	63%
Webinars, Conferences or Professional Events	78	55%
Formal Courses, Trainings or Certifications	38	27%
Employer-provided Training or Guidance	24	17%
Vendors, Consultants or Technology Partners	14	10%
Do Not Actively Seek AI-related Information	6	4%
NOTE: Because the question is multi-select, percentages add up to more than 100%		

WHY IT MATTERS: AI adoption appears to be moving faster than formal training systems. Early adopters are learning by experimenting, following external content (i.e., podcasts and newsletters) and relying on peers, but that approach may not scale to the broader workforce.

> **THE BEST TRAINING IS GETTING IN AND USING THE TOOLS THEMSELVES.**
> — Mid-level manager at a midsize technology services company

3 | ENTRY-LEVEL WORK IS CHANGING

The data reinforces our experience gap research that was published in February. Across all respondents who answered the question, 58% say AI is increasing expectations for entry-level roles or reducing the number of entry-level roles.*

Two interesting findings emerged:

- Among those using AI for coding, concern is highest: 28% believe AI is already reducing entry-level roles in their field, nearly double the rate among non-coders (15%). This group has the clearest direct view of what AI can replace in technical work.
- Of the 47 respondents who said AI is reducing the number of entry-level roles, 33 came from organizations with fewer than 50 employees. Larger organizations (1,000+) were more likely to be unsure or to see AI creating new roles.

WHY IT MATTERS: The responses do not point to a simple story of mass entry-level job loss. Instead, they suggest that AI may be changing what it means to be ready for an entry-level role. Early-career workers may need more than technical knowledge; they need the judgment to use AI well and take responsibility for the work it helps produce.

***NOTE:** This figure removes those who didn't respond or answered "unsure"

> **MANY TECHNICAL ENTRY JOBS ARE NOW MANAGEMENT JOBS. FOR MANY TASKS, DELEGATION TO AI AND MANAGING/ CORRECTING OUTPUT ARE TABLE STAKES.**
> — Executive leader at a small technology services company

4 | AUTONOMOUS WORKFLOWS ARE EMERGING

Fifty-eight percent of respondents indicate AI output requires moderate editing or refinement before use. Another 9% report the output needs significant correction or rewriting. Only 10% describe their workflows as autonomous or orchestrated, where AI operates within defined workflows or manages multiple workflows with minimal human direction.

This feedback signals that AI has not replaced human judgment in most professional contexts. The ability to critically review, refine and take responsibility for AI-generated work is becoming a core professional competency. The most productive workers are not simply prompting and publishing; they are prompting, evaluating and owning the final result.

The coding cohort appears further along the AI maturity curve. Eighteen percent of respondents using AI for coding or technical development report autonomous or orchestrated workflows, compared with 3% of non-coding users. That suggests technical users may be more likely to move beyond one-off tasks toward defined workflows, integrations and AI-supported development processes.

WHY IT MATTERS: AI is speeding up work, but human judgment still matters. Most respondents need to review or correct AI output before using it, making evaluation, refinement, and ownership core workplace skills. The coding cohort may show the direction adoption is heading: toward more integrated workflows, not less human responsibility.

> **"AI IS LIKE AN OVERCONFIDENT UNDER SKILLED ASSISTANT. ITS OUTPUT NEEDS CONSIDERABLE REVIEW, PROOFING, AND ITERATIONS."**
>
> — Mid-level manager at a large technology-enabled company

AI IS EVERYWHERE RIGHT NOW, AND IT CAN BE HARD TO SEPARATE THE SWEEPING PREDICTIONS FROM WHAT IS ACTUALLY CHANGING INSIDE ORGANIZATIONS.

That is why TechPoint conducted this survey: to move beyond broad assumptions and get a real-time look at how Indiana's tech community is actually using AI at work.

The takeaways highlighted in this brief represent only part of what the data reveals. We encourage you to explore the dashboard, examine the results through the lens of your own work and consider what the findings may mean for your organization.

EXPLORE THE DASHBOARD

AND PLEASE LET US KNOW WHAT YOU FIND. WE'D LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU.