# The Path to Al Maturity 2023

An Executive Survey









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The Path to Al Maturity 2023 - An Executive Survey



# Introduction

In this year's LXT research study on AI maturity, we focused from an AI perspective on key themes of investment, maturity, drivers of strategy and industry trends, and also explored attitudes towards responsible AI and AI data. Our research this year revealed increased levels of AI investment, and a greater proportion of the organizations surveyed assessing themselves as operating at higher levels of AI maturity. We also found that with a climate of economic downturns as context, business agility has come to the forefront as a driver of AI strategy. From a solutions perspective, NLP, Speech and Conversational AI solutions were the most commonly deployed across industries, with Conversational AI leading in terms of ROI.

An encouraging finding from this study is that 80% of companies state they have developed a data strategy to support their Al initiatives. As Al is a data-driven technology, it is critical for organizations to build a solid plan for data collection and enhancement that will allow them to build better Al. Participants understand the importance of using highquality training data for their Al solutions to generate more successful outcomes. Finally, we are pleased to report that companies are actively implementing techniques to manage bias in their Al applications, and are addressing ethics and fairness in Al head on. As adoption of Al technology continues to grow, it is increasingly important for organizations to ensure good oversight is in place.

As Al continues to demonstrate its transformational capabilities for organizations across all industries, it is imperative for companies to prioritize building and implementing their Al strategies. Our goal with this research study is to provide insight into the overall Al landscape and the attributes of companies that have reached the higher levels of Al maturity where the technology is delivering a tangible return on investment to their businesses. If you have questions about the research or would like to suggest a topic for consideration in the future, please contact us at info@lxt.ai.

### **Research Overview**

The Path to AI Maturity is an annual research study by LXT aimed at understanding the overall AI maturity of mid-to-large organizations located in the United States, along with AI investment levels, key business drivers for AI, the role of training data in AI projects and more.

This report is the second annual survey commissioned by LXT and represents the views of leaders in 315 companies, a 57% increase in sample size from last year's survey. Respondents are senior executives that are closely involved in their organization's Al initiatives.

The study uses Gartner's AI Maturity Model which characterizes an organization's journey with AI into 5 levels:

#### **Gartner's AI Maturity Model levels**

Level 1: Awareness – An early interest in and conversations around AI strategy

**Level 2: Active** – Initial experimentation and pilot projects with Al

**Level 3: Operational** – Al in production, creating value through process optimization or product/service innovations

**Level 4: Systemic** – Al is pervasively used for digital process and chain transformation, and disruptive new digital business models

**Level 5: Transformational** – Al is inherent in the DNA of the business



In this report, companies in the Awareness and Active stages of AI maturity will be referred to as "Experimenters", whereas companies in the Operational, Systemic and Transformational stages will be referred to as "Maturing". **Close to half of organizations** invest over \$76M in Al annually.

**48% of organizations** have reached the highest levels of AI maturity— up 8% from 2021—yet only 9% have reached the transformational level where AI is part of the organization's DNA.

**Business agility** is the primary driver for implementing AI.

**Over 80% of organizations** have implemented a data strategy to support their Al initiatives.

**87% of companies** are willing to pay more for highquality training data, and as a result the demand for Al training data continues to be strong.

More than 90% of companies say they have made good or excellent progress in managing bias in their machine learning models.

**NLP solutions** are the most highly deployed AI solutions.

**Conversational AI** has yielded the highest return on investment.

The need for training data is high and will continue into the future; two-thirds of respondents stated that their needs will increase in the next two to five years; none of the respondents expect data expenditure to decrease.

# Summary of findings

#### Al investment and drivers

- Close to half (49%) of organizations surveyed have AI budgets of \$76M or more.
- The majority (58%) of high-revenue companies (more than \$500M in annual revenue) have AI budgets above \$75M.
- Al strategies are driven by business agility, anticipating customer needs and technological innovation.
- Cost saving is not a dominant driver for organizations that are deploying Al strategies.
- Al can help companies improve business agility during times of economic uncertainty.
- Natural Language Processing (NLP) and Speech Recognition solutions are the most commonly deployed AI applications.
- Conversational AI solutions have delivered the highest return on investment.

#### Al maturity trends

 Close to half (48%) of mid-to-large US organizations report having reached the higher levels of AI maturity (Maturing). This represents an 8% increase from last year's survey results.

- 52% of mid-to-large US organizations are still experimenting with AI (Experimenters).
- Maturing organizations are more likely to use Al to drive future advantage; Experimenters are more focused on risk management.
- In uncertain economic conditions, bringing new products to market quickly is seen as a significant benefit to Maturing companies.
- Companies that have reached the highest levels of AI maturity rely most on supervised machine learning methods.
- On average, 46% of AI projects fail to meet their goals, but the success rate increases as a company progresses in its AI maturity journey.
- Integrating AI with existing technologies is the biggest barrier to reaching AI maturity.

#### Al data trends

- Over 80% of organizations have implemented a data strategy to support their Al initiatives.
- The majority of organizations use annotated (72%) and/or or synthetic (63%) data to train their machine learning models.
- The need for training data is high and will continue into the future; two thirds of respondents stated that their needs will increase in the next two to five years; none of the respondents expect data expenditure to decrease.

- Training data for AI (13%) and product development (13%) account for the largest share of AI budgets.
- Organizations say the greatest ROI of highquality training data is found in operational efficiency.
- Data strategies for maturing companies are focused on data enhancement.
- Data security is the biggest challenge that organizations are facing when it comes to training data for Al.
- Most organizations (87%) say they are willing to spend more for higher-quality training data for Al.
- The most highly used data type for the organizations surveyed is numerical data.
- Audio and video data are the data types that are most planned for future use.

#### **Responsible Al**

- Data diversity and risk management are important components of AI strategies.
- Organizations rely on multiple strategies to reduce bias in AI models.
- Almost all organizations believe they have made excellent or good progress when it comes to managing bias in Al models.

#### Al trends by industry

- NLP is the most deployed AI solution across industries.
- The manufacturing industry has the lowest Al project failure rate.
- Organizations in the professional services and manufacturing sectors are ahead in their Al journey.
- Drivers of AI strategies vary by industry, with use cases in both customer-facing and internal functions.
- The Professional Services industry is the most willing to spend more on higher-quality training data.
- Across industries, the majority of respondents are willing to pay more for higher-quality training data.
- Organizations across most sectors are predominantly using numerical data.
- The types of data planned for future use vary by industry.

# 01 Al Investment and Drivers

#### Al investment is strong across mid-to-large US organizations

While the current economic climate is creating a high level of overall uncertainty, investment in AI continues to be strong as organizations view the technology as an important lever for business growth. Our study showed that close to half (49%) of organizations surveyed have AI budgets of \$76M or more.



Q8. In which range approximately is your organization's total budget for AI? n=315; weighted to NAICS US industry split

#### Al budgets correlate with an organization's revenue

Not surprisingly, organizations with higher revenues have larger AI budgets. According to our study, the majority (58%) of high-revenue organizations have AI budgets over \$75M. Only 25% of organizations with revenues of \$500M or less have AI budgets over \$75M.





#### Business agility is the top driver of AI strategies

Organizations surveyed were given a variety of options to choose from when describing the drivers behind their AI strategies. Business agility and flexibility rose to the top amongst respondents, but solving for customer needs and supporting technological innovation were also top drivers for AI.



While last year the lead driver for AI strategies was product development, this year there is a more even distribution across the top five responses, demonstrating the applicability of AI in addressing a wide range of business needs.



#### Al can help companies improve business agility during times of economic uncertainty

Given the current economic climate, we asked respondents to indicate how AI can help their organizations navigate economic downturns. Improving business agility and resilience as well as bringing new products to market quickly were the top benefits selected. Companies see AI as a way to help them quickly respond to market trends and drive innovation while simultaneously adjusting to disruptions that may occur due to external factors.



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Q3. How do you see your AI deployment helping you navigate economic downturns? n=315; weighted to NAICS US industry split

#### NLP and Speech Recognition are the most commonly deployed AI applications

57% of survey respondents have deployed Natural Language Processing and Speech/Voice Recognition Systems. After NLP and Speech solutions, a wide range of solutions have been deployed including Predictive Analytics, Conversational AI and Computer Vision. This highlights the broad applicability of AI across industries.







#### Conversational AI solutions have delivered the highest return on investment

As part of the study we gave respondents the opportunity to tell us which AI applications they felt had delivered the highest return on investment for their organization to date. Conversational AI, Security Applications and NLP/Speech rose to the top, with respondents reporting a variety of solutions from Data Analytics to Inventory Management.



# **02 Al Maturity Trends**

#### Al implementations continue to mature; close to half of organizations report having reached the higher levels of Al maturity

Gartner's AI Maturity Model was used to gain insight into how respondents characterize the sophistication of AI implementations within their organizations. Survey participants were asked to select the level of AI maturity for their organization from one of the five Gartner AI Maturity Model levels.

#### According to the survey results:

48% of mid-to-large US organizations report having reached the higher levels of AI maturity (Maturing):

- 25% Operational: AI is in production, creating value
- 14% Systemic: Al is used for digital process and chain transformation
- 9% Transformational: AI is part of the business DNA

52% of mid-to-large US organizations are still experimenting with AI (Experimenters):

- 18% Awareness: Early Al interest with risk of overhyping
- 34% Active: AI experimentation



In our inaugural report, just 40% of companies reported that they had reached the highest levels of AI maturity. This year's study shows an 8% increase in AI maturity. The most significant shift is in the "Active" stage where 12% have moved on from this stage. Results show that an increasing number of organizations are succeeding with their AI deployments and have moved past the experimentation phase into the production phase.



LXT Path to AI Maturity 2023 Q5. Looking at the Gartner AI Maturity Model diagram below, at what level of AI maturity is your organization today? n=315; weighted to NAICS US industry split While these results are encouraging, we still see that the percentage of companies that have reached the Transformational is in single digits, which indicates that most companies have a ways to go in their AI journeys. The chart below shows the change in maturity level year over year.



LXT State of Training Data in Al.

[2023] Q7. Looking at the Gartner AI Maturity Model diagram below, at what level of AI maturity is your organization today? n=315; weighted to NAICS US industry split [2022] Q7. Looking at the Gartner AI Maturity Model diagram below, at what level of AI maturity is your organization today? n=200

#### Maturing organizations are more likely to use AI to drive future advantage; Experimenters are more focused on risk management

When we examine the business drivers for AI by maturity stage, we find that while all companies most often selected business agility and flexibility as the main driver for their AI strategies, Maturing organizations are more focused on using AI to anticipate customer needs and improve the customer experience, along with driving technological innovation and streamlining decision making. Experimenters prioritize using AI to manage risk and create competitive advantage for their organizations.

#### Business drivers of organization's AI strategy

Experimenters	Maturing
<b>44%</b>	<b>55%</b>
Business	Business
agility/flexibility	agility/flexibility
<b>41%</b> Risk management	53% Anticipating customer needs/experience
<b>39%</b>	<b>52%</b>
Anticipating customer	Technological
needs/experience	innovation
<b>37%</b>	<b>52%</b>
Competitive advantage/	Streamline decision
differentiation	making
<b>37%</b>	<b>46%</b>
Technological	Product
innovation	development
<b>33%</b>	<b>46%</b>
Scaling more	Competitive advantage/
quickly	differentiation
<b>33%</b>	<b>42%</b>
Streamline decision	Scaling more
making	quickly
<b>32%</b>	<b>37%</b>
Cost savings	Risk management
<b>31%</b>	<b>35%</b>
Product	Supply chain
development	management
<b>26%</b> Supply chain management	<b>29%</b> Cost savings

LXT Path to AI Maturity 2023

Q2. What are the key business drivers of your organization's AI strategy? n=315; weighted to NAICS US industry split

#### In uncertain economic conditions, bringing new products to market quickly is seen as a significant benefit to Maturing companies

While all organizations see improving business agility and resilience as the top ways that Al can help them navigate economic downturns, Maturing companies say that Al will help them bring products to market quickly, while Experimenters rank this benefit the lowest. Experimenters believe that Al can help them navigate economic downturns by using the technology to retain customers and automate repetitive tasks.

### How do you see your AI deployment helping you navigate economic downturns?

Experimenters	Maturing
<b>50%</b> Improving business agility	<b>68%</b> Improving business agility
<b>43%</b> Improving business resilience	<b>58%</b> Improving business resilience
<b>43%</b> Retaining customers	<b>55%</b> Bring new products to market quickly
<b>41%</b> Automating repetitive tasks	<b>42%</b> Achieving scale
<b>35%</b> Cost savings	<b>40%</b> Cost savings
<b>32%</b> Achieving scale	<b>37%</b> Automating repetitive tasks
<b>32%</b> Retaining talent	<b>37%</b> Retaining customers
31% Bring new products to market quickly	<b>35%</b> Retaining talent

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Q3. How do you see your AI deployment helping you navigate economic downturns? n=315; weighted to NAICS US industry split

### Companies that have reached the highest levels of AI maturity rely most on supervised machine learning methods

Survey respondents at the Systemic and Transformational levels of AI maturity use a combination of unsupervised, semi-supervised and supervised machine learning methods, but rely most on supervised machine learning which uses annotated data. Experimenters on the other hand use all three types of machine learning methods more evenly.





When we examine the machine learning methods used by AI maturity stage in the chart below, we see that companies that have reached the highest stages have shifted from using semisupervised to supervised machine learning, which uses annotated or structured data. As organizations scale their AI deployments to extend into multiple areas of the business, they are relying on supervised learning in their AI maturity journey. While supervised learning requires more human input, this approach generally produces more accurate results.

For all other stages of AI maturity, companies are increasing their use of semi-supervised machine learning techniques which use a small amount of annotated data and a large amount of unannotated data for model training.

	I			
Changes since 2022	Awarness	Active	Operational	Systemic + Transformational
Supervised	-3% pts ↓	<b>-21%</b> pts	-29% pts	<b>+12%</b> ↑ pts
Semi-supervised	<b>+15%</b> ↑ pts	<b>+11%</b> pts	<b>+25%</b> ↑ pts	<b>-18%</b> pts
Unsupervised	<b>-4%</b> pts	<b>+14%</b>	No change	<b>+1%</b> pts

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[2023] Q14. What types of learning do you use for your Al models? n=315; weighted to NAICS industry split [2022] Q4. What types of learning do you use for your Al models? n= 200

#### On average, 46% of AI projects failed to meet their goals, but the success rate increases as a company progresses in its AI maturity journey

While respondents state that the majority of Al projects meet their intended goals, 46% of Al projects have failed. However, as a company's Al maturity moves from the Experimenter phase to the Maturity phase—or from pilot to production—Al project failure decreases from 55% to 36%. Building a reliable pipeline of high-quality training data can help improve project success rates by accelerating the move from pilot to production.





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Q10. What proportion of your organization's AI projects have failed to meet their goals? (Average) n=315; weighted to NAICS US industry split

#### Integrating AI with existing technologies is the biggest barrier to reaching AI maturity

While integration of existing or legacy systems to AI is the biggest challenge to reaching AI maturity, additional hurdles exist across technology, people, data and resources. One quarter of organizations stated that getting management approval or buy-in was a top challenge to reaching AI maturity.



Q6. What has been the biggest challenge for your organization in getting to AI maturity? n=315; weighted to NAICS US industry split

# **03 Al Data Trends**

#### Over 80% of organizations have implemented a data strategy to support their AI initiatives

A high majority of organizations surveyed have invested in implementing a data strategy for AI. There is a close to even split between the percentage of organizations whose strategy is focused on data annotation versus data acquisition. 18% of companies are still developing their data strategy, which will be an important component to their success with AI.



Organizations that have reached higher levels of AI maturity have primarily implemented data strategies focused on data enhancement or annotation, followed by data acquisition. Experimenters are implementing a wider range of strategies and a higher percentage of these companies do not have a data strategy to support their AI initiatives compared to Maturing companies. Interestingly, data strategies focused on synthetic data have been deployed equally across both segments.



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Q11. How would you characterize your organization's data strategy to support its Al initiatives? n=315; weighted to NAICS US industry split

### The majority of organizations use annotated or synthetic data to train their machine learning models

While annotated data is the top choice for model training, synthetic data is also highly used. Unannotated data is used much less frequently by all the organizations surveyed.



### The need for training data is high and will continue into the future

Two thirds of respondents stated that their needs for training data will increase in the next two to five years. No respondents expect their training data expenditure to decrease in that timeframe. Organizations that have reached the highest level of maturity indicate the strongest need to increase their training data volumes over this time period. As companies deploy more AI models across their functions and business processes, more training data is needed to support initial model training and periodic model updates.



Al maturity:	Need will <b>increase</b>	Need will <b>remain</b> <b>the same</b>
Systemic + Transformational	82%	18%
Operational	63%	36%
Active	52%	46%
Awareness	74%	22%

#### Training data for AI and product development account for the largest shares of AI budgets

When asked how an organization's budget for AI is allocated across a range of categories, training data and product development ranked the highest. AI budgets have many components including strategy, talent, software and hardware with a fairly even distribution across them.

#### What percentage of your investment in AI is dedicated to each of the following? (Average)

13%	13%	12%	11%	11%	11%	11%	10%	8%
Training data for AI	Product development	Software	AI strategy	Talent	Analytics	Hardware	Controls and compliance	Other items

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Q9. What percentage of your investment in AI is dedicated to each of the following? (Average) n=315; weighted to NAICS US industry split

### Organizations say the greatest ROI of high-quality training data is found in operational efficiency

When evaluating the ROI of high-quality training data to support their AI projects, organizations indicated various factors including operational efficiency, higher rates of success of AI projects and cost savings.



### Data security is the biggest challenge that organizations are facing when it comes to training data for AI

Data security is currently by far the most challenging aspect for organizations when it comes to training data for AI. Companies are also struggling most when it comes to the availability and quality of their training data.



#### Most organizations say they are willing to spend more for higher-quality training data for AI

When asked if they would be willing to spend more for higher-quality data to support their Al initiatives, 87% agreed. No respondents indicated that they would not at all be willing to spend more for higher-quality data. Organizations understand the value of using high-quality training data as it helps them achieve higher accuracy and generate ROI faster.







#### The most highly used data type for the organizations surveyed is numerical data

Survey respondents indicated that numerical data was the data type most widely used for their AI applications. After text, there are many data types that are used fairly equally including time series, user behavior and sensor data.



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#### Audio and video data are the data types that are most planned for future use

The mix of data types shifts when companies look to their future plans. Audio is the data modality most planned for future use, followed by video and gestures. Transactional data and handwriting also appear higher in the list for future data types.



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Q17. What data types do you use currently? And what data types do you expect to use in the future? n=315; weighted to NAICS US industry split

# Responsible Al

Given the increased focus on the topics of responsible and ethical AI, we took the opportunity to ask respondents a few questions about these important topics.

#### Data diversity and risk management are important components of AI strategies

When asked about a variety of themes related to building responsible AI, data diversity and risk management were equally important. Proactive bias reduction was also an important theme, followed by fairness in AI and ethics. A high majority of respondents indicated that these strategies are important aspects of their AI strategies, showcasing the importance of building responsible AI in today's world.



Importance of responsible AI strategies

LXT Path to Al Maturity 2023

Q4. Which of the following are important to your organization's AI strategy? n=315; weighted to NAICS US industry split

#### Organizations rely on multiple strategies to manage bias in AI models

Managing diversity in annotation teams, regular human reviews of AI models and results, and closely monitoring domains prone to bias are the top three strategies used to manage bias in AI models. Only 4% of organizations say bias is not an issue. We are encouraged to see the range of strategies being used by organizations to manage bias, and that organizations are implementing multiple strategies to tackle this issue.



#### Almost all organizations believe they have made excellent or good progress in managing bias in Al

When it comes to managing bias in Al, the results were very positive. 92% stated that they believe they have made good or excellent progress. Organizations are aware that bias is an issue that they need to actively address which is a positive step towards the goal of building more responsible and inclusive Al solutions.





# 05 Al Trends by Industry

Survey respondents represent the views of organizations across a range of industries, from automotive to retail to financial services. Following are some of the key findings by industry segment.

#### NLP is the most deployed AI solution across industries

NLP and Speech applications have been deployed the most in the automotive, technology, retail/eCommerce and professional services industries. The only industries in our survey where NLP and Speech applications were not the most deployed were financial services and manufacturing, however NLP and Speech was the second most deployed application in financial services. NLP is used across a wide range of solutions from search engines to chatbots to social media monitoring and more, and allows organizations to analyze large volumes of data to gain insights, streamline their processes and connect with customers. Generative AI — where entirely new content is generated using AI models is unlocking a host of new opportunities for NLP models to generate new content that is grammatically correct and at the same time engaging, but human oversight is needed to ensure content accuracy and to manage potential bias.

While over half of manufacturing companies surveyed have deployed NLP solutions, this industry is more focused on deploying predictive analytics, robotics and inventory management solutions.

Automotive	Financial services	Manufacturing and supply chain	Professional services	Retail/ eCommerce	Technology	Other
<b>67%</b> Natural Language Processing and Speech/Voice Recognition	<b>65%</b> Financial Reporting	63% Robotics	<b>78%</b> Natural Language Processing and Speech/Voice Recognition	<b>55%</b> Natural Language Processing and Speech/Voice Recognition	<b>67%</b> Natural Language Processing and Speech/Voice Recognition	<b>67%</b> Natural Language Processing and Speech/Voice Recognition
<b>67%</b> Conversational AI	<b>42%</b> Natural Language Processing and Speech/Voice Recognition	<b>60%</b> Predictive Analytics	<b>78%</b> Predictive Analytics	<b>48%</b> Predictive Analytics	<b>52%</b> Biometrics/Facial Recognition	<b>48%</b> Security/Fraud Applications
<b>56%</b> ar/vr	<b>39%</b> Security/Fraud Applications	<b>60%</b> Inventory Management	<b>72%</b> Biometrics/Facial Recognition	<b>48%</b> Computer Vision	<b>49%</b> Predictive Analytics	<b>72%</b> Search Engines
50% Computer Vision	<b>32%</b> Predictive Analytics	<b>57%</b> Biometrics/Facial Recognition	<b>72%</b> Security/Fraud Applications	<b>45%</b> Conversational AI	<b>45%</b> Conversational AI	<b>45%</b> Conversational AI
50% Robotics	<b>32%</b> Conversational AI	<b>51%</b> Natural Language Processing and Speech/Voice Recognition	<b>72%</b> Search Engines	<b>43%</b> ar/vr	<b>43%</b> Computer Vision	<b>44%</b> Biometrics/Facial Recognition

#### Types of AI or machine learning applications deployed by industry

The manufacturing industry has the lowest AI project failure rate

Al project failure rates vary widely by industry, with the highest failure rates being reported in retail/eCommerce and financial services. The manufacturing and professional services industries report the lowest failure rates for Al projects.



LXT Path to AI Maturity 2023

Q10. What proportion of your organization's AI projects have failed to meet their goals? (Average) n=315

### Organizations in the professional services and manufacturing sectors are ahead in their AI journey

Building on the previous finding where the manufacturing and professional services industries report the lowest failure rates for AI projects, these industries are also the furthest ahead in their AI journey according to their own assessment of where their company sits on the Gartner AI Maturity Model.



LXT Path to AI Maturity 2023

Q5. Looking at the Gartner AI Maturity Model diagram below, at what level of AI maturity is your organization today? n=315

### Drivers of AI strategies vary by industry, with use cases in both customer-facing and internal functions

While business agility and flexibility are key drivers of AI strategies for several industries represented in the survey, technological innovation rises to the top for both the financial services and technology industries. Professional services' use of AI is driven equally by anticipating customer needs and streamlining decision making. The chart below shows that AI is being used externally to drive innovation, as well as internally through risk management streamlining decision making.

#### Business drivers of AI strategies by industry

Automotive	Financial services	Manufacturing and supply Chain	Professional services	Retail/ eCommerce	Technology	Other
<b>67%</b> Business agility/ flexibility	58% Technological innovation	<b>58%</b> Business agility/ flexibility	<b>72%</b> Anticipating customer needs/experience	<b>52%</b> Business agility/ flexibility	<b>52%</b> Technological innovation	<b>63%</b> Business agility/ flexibility
<b>56%</b> Risk management	<b>42%</b> Scaling more quickly	<b>51%</b> Supply chain management	<b>72%</b> Streamline decision making	<b>48%</b> Anticipating customer needs/experience	<b>47%</b> Product development	<b>48%</b> Risk management
<b>50%</b> Technological innovation	<b>35%</b> Risk management	<b>45%</b> Cost savings	<b>67%</b> Product development	<b>42%</b> Competitive advantage /differentiation	<b>46%</b> Supply chain management	<b>48%</b> Product development
50% Anticipating customer needs/experience	<b>35%</b> Cost savings	<b>45%</b> Scaling more quickly	<b>56%</b> Technological innovation	<b>42%</b> Risk management	<b>43%</b> Risk management	<b>41%</b> Technological innovation
50% Streamline decision making	<b>35%</b> Business agility/ flexibility	<b>43%</b> Technological innovation	<b>56%</b> Competitive advantage /differentiation	<b>40%</b> Streamline decision making	<b>42%</b> Anticipating customer needs/experience	<b>41%</b> Streamline decision making
<b>39%</b> Competitive advantage /differentiation	<b>32%</b> Competitive advantage /differentiation	<b>43%</b> Product development	<b>56%</b> Business agility/ flexibility	<b>33%</b> Scaling more quickly	<b>42%</b> Business agility/ flexibility	<b>41%</b> Competitive advantage /differentiation
<b>39%</b> Cost savings	<b>32%</b> Product development	<b>40%</b> Competitive advantage /differentiation	50% Scaling more quickly	<b>32%</b> Technological innovation	<b>42%</b> Streamline decision making	<b>41%</b> Cost savings
<b>33%</b> Scaling more quickly	<b>26%</b> Anticipating customer needs/experience	<b>40%</b> Anticipating customer needs/experience	<b>39%</b> Supply chain management	<b>30%</b> Supply chain management	<b>39%</b> Competitive advantage /differentiation	<b>37%</b> Anticipating customer needs/experience
<b>33%</b> Supply chain management	<b>26%</b> Streamline decision making	<b>34%</b> Streamline decision making	<b>33%</b> Risk management	<b>28%</b> Product development	<b>35%</b> Cost savings	<b>22%</b> Scaling more quickly
<b>33%</b> Product development	<b>19%</b> Supply chain management	<b>26%</b> Risk management	<b>22%</b> Cost savings	<b>27%</b> Cost savings	<b>34%</b> Scaling more quickly	<b>19%</b> Supply chain management

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Q2. What are the key business drivers of your organization's AI strategy? n= 315

#### The professional services industry is the most willing to spend more on higherquality training data

When asked if they are willing to spend more for higher quality training data, 100% of respondents in the professional services industry agreed, and a large majority of respondents across all other industries agreed as well.

#### Organizations across most sectors are predominantly using numerical data

While numerical data is the type of data most commonly used in the Financial Services, Professional Services, Retail/ eCommerce and Technology sectors, Automotive is using audio data and Manufacturing is using time series data the most. Images and numerical data are also high on the list for Manufacturing.



LXT Path to Al Maturity 2023

Q13. How willing is your organization to spend more for higher quality training data for Al? n=315; weighted to NAICS US industry split

	Automotive	Financial services	Manufacturing and supply Chain	Professional services	Retail/ eCommerce	Technology	Other
	78% Audio/Other (music, environmental sounds, etc.)	<b>68%</b> Numerical	<b>66%</b> Time series	<b>83%</b> Numerical	<b>60%</b> Numerical	<b>67%</b> Numerical	<b>63%</b> Numerical
Types of data used currently by industry	<b>72%</b> Transactional	<b>68%</b> User behavior	<b>65%</b> Images	<b>83%</b> Time series	<b>58%</b> Images	<b>67%</b> Sensor data	<b>63%</b> Images
ised current	<b>72%</b> User behavior	<b>61%</b> Text	<b>65%</b> Numerical	<b>78%</b> Voice	58% Product or SKU information	<b>64%</b> Images	<b>59%</b> Voice
pes of data u	<b>61%</b> Voice	<b>61%</b> Time series	<b>62%</b> Text	<b>78%</b> Text	<b>55%</b> Transactional	<b>62%</b> Text	<b>59%</b> Text
Ϋ́	<b>61%</b> Time series	<b>55%</b> Sensor data	<b>60%</b> Sensor data	<b>78%</b> Product or SKU information	<b>55%</b> User behavior	<b>61%</b> Video	<b>59%</b> Sensor data

LXT Path to Al Maturity 2023

Q17. What data types do you use currently? And what data types do you expect to use in the future? n= 315; weighted to NAICS US industry split

#### The types of data planned for future use vary by industry

When respondents were asked about the types of data they plan to use in the future, we saw more variance across industries. Audio and video data were top choices across most industries except for Automotive that is considering gesture data the most, and Manufacturing that is considering user behavior data the most.

Automotive	Financial services	Manufacturing and supply Chain	Professional services	Retail/ eCommerce	Technology	Other
<b>61%</b> Gestures	<b>55%</b> Audio/Other (music, environmental sounds, etc.)	<b>46%</b> User behavior	<b>33%</b> Audio/Other (music, environmental sounds, etc.)	<b>48%</b> Video	<b>51%</b> Product or SKU information	<b>63%</b> Audio/Other (music, environmental sounds, etc.)
56% Product or SKU information	<b>45%</b> Images	<b>43%</b> Video	<b>33%</b> Video	<b>47%</b> Audio/Other (music, environmental sounds, etc.)	45% Audio/Other (music, environmental sounds, etc.)	<b>56%</b> Product or SM information
<b>50%</b>	<b>45%</b>	<b>40%</b>	<b>33%</b>	<b>47%</b>	<b>43%</b>	<b>52%</b>
Images	Video	Gestures	User behavior	Handwriting	Gestures	Transactional
<b>50%</b>	<b>42%</b>	<b>39%</b>	<b>28%</b>	<b>45%</b>	<b>39%</b>	<b>52%</b>
Numerical	Voice	Transactional	Images	Sensor data	Time series	Video
<b>44%</b>	<b>42%</b>	<b>38%</b>	<b>22%</b>	<b>43%</b>	<b>37%</b>	<b>48%</b>
Sensor data	Sensor data	Voice	Voice	Voice	Video	Gestures

LXT Path to AI Maturity 2023

Q17. What data types do you use currently? And what data types do you expect to use in the future? n= 315; weighted to NAICS US industry split

# Conclusion

The release of ChatGPT at the end of 2022 was a watershed moment for Artificial Intelligence, creating a wide-spread frenzy in the market and highlighting the massive impact of a single AI application across all industries. The potential disruption that AI applications can generate is fueling continued and significant investment in the technology.

Our research revealed how organizations view AI as an important tool to help improve their agility during times of economic uncertainty. Companies that have reached the highest levels of AI maturity have embedded artificial intelligence across their organizations to transform the way they do business.

We also found that an increasing number of companies have moved past the Active stage into the higher levels of AI maturity, where they now believe they are generating a solid return on their investments.

Through our research we discovered that Almaturing organizations:

### Are more likely to use AI to drive future advantage

While companies across all stages are using Al to drive business flexibility and agility, our research showed that Maturing companies are more focused on using Al to anticipate customer needs and support innovation, while managing risk is more important to Experimenters.

### See higher success rates with their Al projects

Experimenters stated that 55% of their Al projects have failed, but failure rates decrease to 36% in the Maturing stage. As companies gain more experience with Al and clarify their objectives in Al projects, they see improved success rates and higher returns on their investments.

### Rely most on supervised machine learning methods

Al Maturing organizations use a combination of supervised, semi-supervised and unsupervised machine learning techniques. They use supervised machine learning the most and are increasing their usage of semisupervised learning year over year.

### Implement data strategies focused on data enhancement

It is encouraging to see that over 80% of organizations surveyed have implemented a data strategy. Al is a data-driven technology, so creating a data strategy to support Al projects is critical to their success. Al Maturing companies have most often implemented data strategies focused on data enhancement or annotation, followed by acquisition.

### **Behind the research**

LXT commissioned a survey of 315 senior decision-makers working for US organizations. 46% of respondents were from the C-Suite and all those who took part had verified AI experience; only 25% of those who applied met the criteria required for participation, which included their level of AI knowledge and experience.

Contributors were engaged using online surveys, answering on behalf of a range of business sizes, revenues and industries. Each participant represents a US organization with at least \$100 million in annual revenue and over 500 employees.

The results were weighted to match the North American Industry Classification System split of companies with 500+ employees in an effort to reflect an accurate representation of the mix of US companies by industry.

The research was conducted from September 29th to October 21st, 2022, by Reputation Leaders, an independent research organization. Interviews were conducted in the US by online survey using the panel services of Borderless Access.

For questions about the research findings, please reach out to us at info@lxt.ai.



Automotive	18
Financial services [Financial Services (banking, investing,; excludes insurance) + Insurance/Re-insurance]	31
Manufacturing and supply chain [Consumer Goods (food, beverages, tobacco, and household products) + Manufacturing and Production + Logistics,Distribution, and Supply Chain]	29
Professional services [Advertising, Marketing, PR or Media services + Consulting Services + Professional Services, Scientific, and Technical Services + Real Estate, Property Rental, and Leasing]	18
Retail/eCommerce [Retail Trade Including E-commerce + Wholesale Trade]	60
Tech [Telecoms and Internet Communications + Technology and IT]	132
<b>Other</b> [Accommodation, Hospitality and Food Services + Construction + Energy and Utilitie	27

### About LXT

LXT is an emerging leader in AI training data to power intelligent technology for global organizations. In partnership with an international network of contributors, LXT collects and annotates data across multiple modalities with the speed, scale and agility required by the enterprise. Our global expertise spans over 115 countries and coverage for more than 750 language locales. Founded in 2010, LXT is headquartered in Toronto, Canada with presence in the United States, UK, Egypt, Turkey and Australia. The company serves customers in North America, Europe, Asia Pacific and the Middle East. Learn more at Ixt.ai.

