



Center for Business Analytics and Community Research

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA UPSTATE

It's out of the box, what are you going to do now?

AI and Future-Proofing Your Career

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The future of work is no longer clear.

...so, it's a good thing
you're here!



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Work Is Changing

32

Percent change in average job skills across all occupations, 2021 - 2024.

Lightcast: The Speed of Skills Change

70

Percentage of core skills across **most** jobs projected to change by 2030. *LinkedIn: Work Change Report*

75

Percentage of skills that changed (2021 – 2024) in the top quartile of disrupted occupations. *Lightcast:*

The Speed of Skills Change

72

Share of U.S. jobs projected to require postsecondary education or training by 2031 (up from 68%). *Georgetown University Center for Education and Workforce*

10

Percentage of professionals hired today that have job titles that did not exist in 2020. *LinkedIn: Work Change Report*

2x

Professionals beginning their careers today are likely to experience **twice** the number of job changes compared with entrants 15 years ago. *LinkedIn: Work Change Report*



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AI Disruption

70

Approximate age of AI.

300

Estimated millions of jobs in the U.S. and EU projected by Goldman Sachs to be disrupted or eliminated by AI. *Money Talks News*

109

U.S. private AI investment in 2024 (billions of dollars) — nearly 12× that of China and 24× the UK. *Stanford 2025 AI Index*

This is small compared to the many hundreds of billions of AI investment announced just in the US since January 2025.

7

Goldman Sachs estimate of annual GDP growth boost from AI-driven productivity and innovation. *Goldman Sachs | Economics Research*

78

Percentage of organizations that reported using AI in 2024.

And, in 2024, 75% of global knowledge professionals were utilizing GenAI. *McKinsey & LinkedIn*.

15,625

Percentage increase in Generative AI job postings from 2021 to 2024. *Lightcast*



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Traditional perception:
Automation primarily impacts
blue-collar occupations....

White-collar jobs have been
much more immune to
automation....

5x

The future... is no place for incrementalism!

Must go all in...all in on **resilience,**
adaptability and skills refresh.



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In-demand Skills from Recent Bachelor's Level Job Postings?

U.S.A.

1. AI Literacy
2. Conflict Mitigation
3. Adaptability
4. Process Optimization
5. Innovative Thinking
6. Public Speaking
7. Solution-Based Selling
8. Customer Engagement & Support
9. Stakeholder Management
10. Large Language Model (LLM) Development & Application

[\(5\) LinkedIn Skills on the Rise 2025: The 15 fastest-growing skills in the U.S. | LinkedIn](#)

Hard Skills Aug. 2024 – Aug. 2025

Microsoft Office	4,316
Microsoft Excel	4,081
Manufacturing	2,408
Microsoft PowerPoint	1,770
Microsoft Outlook	1,227
Microsoft Word	1,174
Customer Relationship Management (CRM)	1,127
SAP	1,097
Presentation	981
Finance	975

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Power Skills Aug. 2024 – Aug. 2025

Communication (Verbal and written skills)	15,669
Cooperative/Team Player	10,942
Problem Solving	5,635
Organization	4,350
Project Management	4,326
Analytical	4,272
Supervision / Management	4,259
Interpersonal Relationships/ Maintain Relationships	4,199
Detail Oriented/Meticulous	3,982
Self-Motivated/Ability to Work Independently/Self Leadership	3,368

Source: Chmura JobsEQ, RTI – August 2024 – August 2025



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What should you be doing? Future-proofing your career...

Proactive process of anticipating the future of work

- The bad news – there will be disruptions
- The good news – there will be disruptions

In-demand skills for the Future

- Data literacy and AI literacy
- Analytical and innovative thinking
- Resilience, flexibility, and adaptability
- Communications and interpersonal skills
- Lifelong learning

Being strategic now

- Gain experience early – internships, job shadowing, or even self-created projects
- Network
- Utilize USC Upstate resources
- Stay open-minded

61

Percent of employers have increased their experience requirements over the past several years...another reason you need to be engaged in **internships, other WBL or project-based learning.** *Deloitte Insights*

Adaptability – The Defining Skill of 2025. *LinkedIn*



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“Static credentials and “one-and-done” learning are becoming a thing of the past. The future is all about building careers through continuous learning and upskilling, with AI leading the way.” Work Change Report, LinkedIn

“If we want things to stay as they
are,...

...things will have to change.”

Giuseppe Tomasi di Lampedusa



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Sources & Resources

- [Adaptability: The Defining Skill of 2025 | LinkedIn](#)
- [After Everything: Projections of Jobs, Education, and Training Requirements through 2031 - CEW Georgetown](#)
- [Closing the skills gap | Deloitte Insights](#)
- [Most in-demand core skills globally in 2025-2030 | Human Resources Online](#)
- [Goldman Sachs economist warns Gen Z tech workers are first on the chopping block as AI shows signs of shaking up the labor market](#)
- [Goldman Sachs Predicts 300 Million Jobs Will Be Lost Or Degraded By Artificial Intelligence](#)
- [Introducing the State of Data & AI Literacy Report 2025 | DataCamp](#)
- [Most in-demand core skills globally in 2025-2030 | Human Resources Online](#)
- [Spending on AI data centers is so massive that it's now two-thirds of GDP—and it could crash the American economy](#)
- [The Most In-Demand Skills of 2024 | LinkedIn](#)
- [The Speed of Skill Change](#)
- [Work Change Report from LinkedIn](#)
- [What jobs are affected by AI? Better-paid, better-educated workers face the most exposure | Brookings](#)
- [Working with AI: Measuring the Occupational Implications of Generative AI](#)



Thank you



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