

**2026 PEW RESEARCH CENTER'S AMERICAN TRENDS PANEL  
Wave 187: Survey on Artificial Intelligence  
February 17-23, 2026**

**Topline  
N=5,119**

**Note: All numbers are percentages unless otherwise noted. Percentages less than 0.5% are replaced by an asterisk (\*). Rows/columns may not total 100% due to rounding. The questions presented below are part of a larger survey conducted on the American Trends Panel.**

**"No answer" includes web respondents who do not answer the question as well as telephone respondents who refuse to answer or who say they don't know how to answer. In cases where "not sure" was offered as an explicit option to web and telephone respondents, the "no answer" category includes only web skips and telephone refusals.**

**This survey was conducted primarily online, with some interviews conducted by live telephone. This topline shows the programming language for online administration. For details on how questions were slightly modified for phone administration, visit the questionnaire.**

**American Trends Panel surveys conducted between October 2016 and June 2024 were conducted fully online (with tablets and data plans provided to adults without home internet). For additional details, visit the methodology.**

**PN = Programming note**

	<b>Sample size</b>	<b>Margin of error at 95% confidence level</b>
U.S. adults	5,119	+/- 1.6 percentage points

**AI\_HEARD  
ASK ALL:**

How much have you heard or read about artificial intelligence (AI)?<sup>1</sup>

	<u>A lot</u>	<u>A little</u>	<u>Nothing at all</u>	<u>No answer</u>
Feb 17-23, 2026	48	48	3	*
Jun 9-15, 2025	47	48	5	*
Aug 12-18, 2024	40	53	6	*
Jul 31-Aug 6, 2023	33	56	10	*
Dec 12-18, 2022	26	59	15	*

<sup>1</sup> For surveys conducted before 2026, the question wording was "Artificial intelligence (AI) is designed to learn tasks that humans typically do, for instance recognizing speech or pictures. How much have you heard or read about AI?"

**AIFIRST\_OE****ASK ALL:****[ PN: SHORT OPEN-END, CODED ANSWERS SHOWN BELOW ]**

In just a few words, what is the first type of artificial intelligence (AI) that comes to mind when you think of AI?

Feb 17-23,

2026

29	Chatbots
8	Robots and sci-fi
7	Images and videos
6	Generative AI and LLMs
4	Internet and Tech generally
4	Negative views of AI
3	Search engines
2	Virtual assistants
2	News and information
2	Social media
1	Work, employment and jobs
1	Writing and editing
1	Medical and health care
1	Customer service assistants
1	Telemarketing, robocalls and ads
1	Scams, fraud and impersonation
1	Tech companies
*	AI agents and agentic AI
*	Driverless cars
*	Education, schoolwork and students
16	Other
8	No answer

**USEAI****ASK ALL:**

Just your impression, how often do you interact with artificial intelligence (AI)?

	<u>Almost constantly</u>	<u>Several times a day</u>	<u>About once a day</u>	<u>Several times a week</u>	<u>Less often</u>	<u>No answer</u>
Feb 17-23, 2026	7	29	15	15	34	*
Jun 9-15, 2025	5	26	15	17	38	*
Aug 12-18, 2024	4	23	13	17	43	1
Feb 7-11, 2024	4	18	12	15	50	2
Dec 12-18, 2022	5	23	13	15	44	1

**AIIMP****ASK ALL:****[ PN: ROTATE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1-5/5-1, HOLDING 6 AND 99 LAST ]**

Do you think that the impact of artificial intelligence (AI) on society over the next 20 years will be...

Feb 17-23,  
2026

4	Very positive
12	Somewhat positive
31	Equally positive and negative
20	Somewhat negative
20	Very negative
13	Not sure
*	No answer

**AIIMPSELF****ASK ALL:****[ PN: ROTATE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1-5/5-1 IN SAME ORDER AS AIIMP, HOLDING 6 AND 99 LAST ]**

Do you think that the impact of artificial intelligence (AI) on you, personally over the next 20 years will be...

Feb 17-23,  
2026

6	Very positive
17	Somewhat positive
27	Equally positive and negative
19	Somewhat negative
12	Very negative
19	Not sure
1	No answer

**AIPACE****ASK ALL:****[ PN: ROTATE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1-2/2-1, HOLDING 3, 4, AND 99 LAST ]**

Do you think artificial intelligence (AI) is advancing...

Feb 17-23,  
2026

63	Too quickly
2	Too slowly
19	At about the right pace
16	Not sure
*	No answer

**AIDSEC****ASK ALL:****[ PN: ROTATE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1-2/2-1, HOLDING 3, 4, AND 99 LAST ]**

Do you think the increased use of artificial intelligence (AI) will make your personal information...

Feb 17-23, <u>2026</u>	
3	More secure
71	Less secure
10	Will not make much difference
16	Not sure
*	No answer

**AISUMRD****ASK ALL:**

Do you ever read artificial intelligence (AI) summaries at the top of a search engine result?

Feb 17-23, <u>2026</u>	
60	Yes
30	No
10	Not sure
*	No answer

**ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS HELD****[ PN: RANDOMIZE ORDER OF REGCONFG AND REGCONFI ]****REGCONFG****ASK ALL:****[ PN: ROTATE OPTIONS IN SAME ORDER AS REGCONFG ]**

How much confidence do you have in the U.S. government to regulate the use of artificial intelligence (AI) effectively?

	<u>A great deal</u>	<u>Quite a bit</u>	<u>Some</u>	<u>Not too much</u>	<u>None</u>	<u>Not sure</u>	<u>No answer</u>
Feb 17-23, 2026	1	4	20	41	26	7	*
Aug 12-18, 2024	2	5	22	41	21	9	1

**REGCONFI****ASK ALL:****[ PN: ROTATE RESPONSE OPTIONS IN SAME ORDER AS REGCONFG, HOLDING 6 AND 99 LAST ]**

How much confidence do you have in U.S. companies to develop and use artificial intelligence (AI) responsibly?

	<u>A great deal</u>	<u>Quite a bit</u>	<u>Some</u>	<u>Not too much</u>	<u>None</u>	<u>Not sure</u>	<u>No answer</u>
Feb 17-23, 2026	2	6	25	38	21	6	1
Aug 12-18, 2024	2	6	24	39	20	8	1

**EMPLSIT**  
**ASK ALL:**

What is your current work situation?

Feb 17-23,  
2026

46	Work full time for pay
13	Work part time for pay
12	Not currently working for pay
6	Unable to work due to a disability
22	Retired
*	No answer

**HOMEDEV****ASK ALL:**

[ PN: RANDOMIZE ITEMS ]

Do you have any of the following at home?

		Yes, I <u>have this</u>	No, I do not <u>have this</u>	No <u>answer</u>
THRM	A thermostat Feb 17-23, 2026	90	10	*
DBELL	A doorbell Feb 17-23, 2026	68	32	*
VAC	A vacuum Feb 17-23, 2026	92	8	1

[ PN: RANDOMIZE SMARTDEV\_THRM, SMARTDEV\_DBELL, AND SMARTDEV\_VAC IN SAME ORDER AS THE CORRESPONDING ITEMS APPEAR IN HOMEDEV ]

**SMARTDEV\_THRM**

**ASK IF HAS THERMOSTAT AT HOME (HOMEDEV\_THRM=1) [N=4,680]:**

Some thermostats use artificial intelligence (AI) to do things like learning cooling and heating patterns on its own to adjust the temperature, including models of Google Nest thermostats.

Do you have a thermostat that uses AI?

Feb 17-23,  
2026

13	Yes, I have this
83	No, I do not have this
4	Not sure
*	No answer

**SMARTDEV\_THRM**  
**BASED ON ALL ADULTS:**

Feb 17-23,  
2026

11	Yes, I have this
74	No, I do not have this
4	Not sure
*	No answer to SMARTDEV_THRM
10	Does not have thermostat
*	No answer to HOMEDEV_THRM

**SMARTDEV\_DBELL**  
**ASK IF HAS DOORBELL AT HOME (HOMEDEV\_DBELL=1) [N=3,609]:**

Some doorbells use artificial intelligence (AI) to do things like recognize a person or package at your door and send an alert, including models of Ring and Eufy video doorbells.

Do you have a doorbell that uses AI?

Feb 17-23,  
2026

27	Yes, I have this
69	No, I do not have this
4	Not sure
*	No answer

**SMARTDEV\_DBELL**  
**BASED ON ALL ADULTS:**

Feb 17-23,  
2026

18	Yes, I have this
46	No, I do not have this
2	Not sure
*	No answer to SMARTDEV_DBELL
32	Does not have doorbell
*	No answer to HOMEDEV_DBELL

**SMARTDEV\_VAC**  
**ASK IF HAS VACUUM AT HOME (HOMEDEV\_VAC=1) [N=4,788]:**

Some vacuums use artificial intelligence (AI) to clean on its own by doing things like figuring out a room's layout and recognizing objects in its path, including models of Roomba and Shark Robot vacuums.

Do you have a vacuum that uses AI?

Feb 17-23,  
2026

14	Yes, I have this
84	No, I do not have this
2	Not sure
*	No answer

**SMARTDEV\_VAC**  
**BASED ON ALL ADULTS:**

Feb 17-23, <u>2026</u>	
13	Yes, I have this
77	No, I do not have this
1	Not sure
*	No answer to SMARTDEV_VAC
8	Does not have vacuum
1	No answer to HOMEDEV_VAC

**SMRTTECH**  
**ASK ALL:**  
**[ PN: RANDOMIZE ITEMS ]**

Do you have any of the following?

		Yes, I <u>have this</u>	No, I do not <u>have this</u>	Not <u>sure</u>	No <u>answer</u>
WTCH	A smartwatch, such as an Apple Watch or Google Pixel Watch Feb 17-23, 2026	37	61	1	*
SPKR	A smart speaker, such as an Amazon Echo or Apple Homepod Feb 17-23, 2026	35	64	1	*

**CHATAWARE**  
**ASK ALL:**

How much have you heard about artificial intelligence (AI) chatbots like ChatGPT, Gemini or Copilot?

	<u>A lot</u>	<u>A little</u>	<u>Nothing at all</u>	<u>No answer</u>
Feb 17-23, 2026	44	43	13	*
Aug 12-18, 2024	28	44	28	*

**CHATUSEMOD**  
**ASK ALL:**

Do you ever use an artificial intelligence (AI) chatbot like ChatGPT, Gemini or Copilot?

Feb 17-23, <u>2026</u>	
49	Yes, I do
51	No, I do not
*	No answer

**TREND FOR COMPARISON  
CHATUSE  
BASED ON ALL ADULTS:**

Have you ever used an artificial intelligence (AI) chatbot like ChatGPT, Gemini or Copilot?<sup>2</sup>

Aug 12-18,  
2024

33	Yes, I have
38	No, I have not
*	No answer to CHATUSE
28	Has heard nothing at all about AI chatbots
*	No answer to CHATAWARE

**CHATFREQ  
ASK IF USES AI CHATBOTS (CHATUSEMOD=1) [N=2,605]:**

About how often do you use an artificial intelligence (AI) chatbot like ChatGPT, Gemini or Copilot?

Feb 17-23,  
2026

8	Almost constantly
25	Several times a day
16	About once a day
20	Several times a week
31	Less often
*	No answer

**CHATFREQ  
BASED ON ALL ADULTS:**

Feb 17-23,  
2026

4	Almost constantly
12	Several times a day
8	About once a day
10	Several times a week
15	Less often
*	No answer to CHATFREQ
51	Does not use AI chatbots
*	No answer to CHATUSEMOD

<sup>2</sup> In the 2024 survey, this question was asked of those who had heard at least a little about AI chatbots. It is presented here among all adults.

**CHATCONF****ASK IF USES AI CHATBOTS (CHATUSEMOD=1) [N=2,605]:****[ PN: ROTATE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1-5/5-1 IN SAME ORDER AS DCARS\_COMF, HOLDING 98 AND 99 LAST ]**

How confident are you in your ability to use artificial intelligence (AI) chatbots?

Feb 17-23,  
2026

11	Extremely confident
26	Very confident
46	Somewhat confident
13	Not too confident
3	Not at all confident
*	No answer

**CHATCONF****BASED ON ALL ADULTS:**Feb 17-23,  
2026

5	Extremely confident
13	Very confident
22	Somewhat confident
7	Not too confident
1	Not at all confident
*	No answer to CHATCONF
51	Does not use AI chatbots
*	No answer to CHATUSEMOD

**CHATENJ****ASK IF USES AI CHATBOTS (CHATUSEMOD=1) [N=2,605]:****[ PN: ROTATE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1-5/5-1, HOLDING 98 AND 99 LAST ]**

How much do you enjoy using artificial intelligence (AI) chatbots?

Feb 17-23,  
2026

11	A great deal
25	A fair amount
38	Some
20	Not too much
5	Not at all
*	No answer

**CHATENJ  
BASED ON ALL ADULTS:**

Feb 17-23, <u>2026</u>	
6	A great deal
12	A fair amount
19	Some
10	Not too much
2	Not at all
*	No answer to CHATENJ
51	Does not use AI chatbots
*	No answer to CHATUSEMOD

**CHATSPEC  
ASK ALL:  
[ PN: RANDOMIZE ITEMS ]**

Which of the following artificial intelligence (AI) chatbots do you ever use?

		<u>Yes, I use this</u>	<u>No, I do not use this</u>	<u>No answer</u>
GPT	ChatGPT Feb 17-23, 2026	44	55	1
	<b>ASK IF FORM 1 [N=2,555]:</b>			
CLD	Claude Feb 17-23, 2026	6	92	2
	<b>ASK IF FORM 2 [N=2,564]:</b>			
GEM	Gemini Feb 17-23, 2026	24	74	2
	<b>ASK IF FORM 1 [N=2,555]:</b>			
CPT	Copilot Feb 17-23, 2026	17	82	1
	<b>ASK IF FORM 2 [N=2,564]:</b>			
MAI	Meta AI Feb 17-23, 2026	14	84	2
	<b>ASK IF FORM 1 [N=2,555]:</b>			
CAI	Character.ai Feb 17-23, 2026	3	95	2

**ASK IF FORM 2**  
**[N=2,564]:**

GRK	Grok				
	Feb 17-23, 2026	8	90	2	

**CHATGPT TREND FOR COMPARISON<sup>3</sup>**  
**GPTUSE**  
**BASED ON ALL ADULTS:**

Have you ever used ChatGPT?

	<u>Yes, I have done this</u>	<u>No, I have not done this</u>	<u>No answer to GPTUSE</u>	<u>Has heard nothing at all about CHATGPT</u>	<u>No answer to GPT1</u>
Feb 24-Mar 2, 2025	34	46	*	20	*
Feb 7-Mar 11, 2024	23	43	*	34	*
Jul 17-23, 2023	18	54	*	27	*

**[ PN: RANDOMIZE ORDER OF CHATWHY1 AND CHATWHY2 ]**

**CHATWHY1**

**ASK IF USES AI CHATBOTS (CHATUSEMOD=1) [N=2,605]:**

**[ PN: RANDOMIZE ITEMS ]**

Do you ever use artificial intelligence (AI) chatbots for the following?

		<u>Yes, I do</u>	<u>No, I do not</u>	<u>No answer</u>
MED	To get medical advice Feb 17-23, 2026	42	58	*
FIT	To get diet and fitness information Feb 17-23, 2026	40	60	*
ADV	For emotional support or advice Feb 17-23, 2026	20	80	*
CMP	For companionship Feb 17-23, 2026	8	92	*

<sup>3</sup> Prior to 2026, this question was asked among those who had heard at least a little about ChatGPT. It is presented here among all adults, accounting for form splits in previous surveys.

**CHATWHY1  
BASED ON ALL ADULTS:**

		Yes, I <u>do</u>	No, I do <u>not</u>	No answer to <u>CHATWHY1</u>	Does not use <u>AI chatbots</u>	No answer to <u>CHATUSEMOD</u>
MED	To get medical advice Feb 17-23, 2026	20	28	*	51	*
FIT	To get diet and fitness information Feb 17-23, 2026	20	29	*	51	*
ADV	For emotional support or advice Feb 17-23, 2026	10	39	*	51	*
CMP	For companionship Feb 17-23, 2026	4	45	*	51	*

**CHATWHY2  
ASK IF USES AI CHATBOTS (CHATUSEMOD=1) [N=2,605]:  
[ PN: RANDOMIZE ITEMS ]**

Do you ever use artificial intelligence (AI) chatbots for the following?

		<u>Yes, I do</u>	<u>No, I do not</u>	<u>No answer</u>
SRC	To search for information Feb 17-23, 2026	86	14	*
<b>ASK IF CURRENTLY WORKING FOR PAY [N=1,894]:</b>				
WRK	For tasks at work Feb 17-23, 2026	63	37	*
VID	To create or edit images or videos Feb 17-23, 2026	48	51	*
NEW	To get news Feb 17-23, 2026	27	72	*
FUN	For fun or entertainment Feb 17-23, 2026	51	49	*

**CHATWHY2  
BASED ON ALL ADULTS:**

		Yes, I <u>do</u>	No, I <u>do not</u>	No answer to <u>CHATWHY2</u>	Does not use <u>AI chatbots</u>	No answer to <u>CHATUSEMOD</u>
SRC	To search for information Feb 17-23, 2026	42	7	*	51	*
VID	To create or edit images or videos Feb 17-23, 2026	24	25	*	51	*
NEW	To get news Feb 17-23, 2026	13	35	*	51	*
FUN	For fun or entertainment Feb 17-23, 2026	25	24	*	51	*

**CHATWHY2\_WRK  
BASED ON ADULTS WHO ARE CURRENTLY WORKING FOR PAY (EMPLSIT=1,2) [N=3,038]:**

Feb 17-23, <u>2026</u>	
38	Yes, I do
22	No, I do not
*	No answer to CHATWHY2_WRK
40	Does not use AI chatbots
*	No answer to CHATUSEMOD

**CHATIM  
ASK IF USES AI CHATBOTS (CHATUSEMOD=1) [N=2,605]:  
[ PN: RANDOMIZE ITEMS; ROTATE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1-5/5-1, HOLDING 98 AND 99 LAST ]**

Do you think using artificial intelligence (AI) chatbots helps or hurts each of the following?

		Helps a <u>lot</u>	Helps a <u>little</u>	Neither helps <u>nor hurts</u>	Hurts a <u>little</u>	Hurts <u>a lot</u>	No <u>answer</u>
CRT	How creative you are Feb 17-23, 2026	12	31	35	14	8	1
PRD	How productive you are Feb 17-23, 2026	21	40	29	6	3	*
WLB	How happy you are Feb 17-23, 2026	4	12	74	6	3	*
INF	How informed you are Feb 17-23, 2026	17	41	32	7	3	*
FRND	Your relationships with other people Feb 17-23, 2026	3	10	72	9	6	*

**CHATNOYEAR**

**ASK IF DOES NOT USE AI CHATBOTS (CHATUSEMOD=2) [N=2,502]:**  
**[ PN: ROTATE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1-5/5-1 IN SAME ORDER AS DCARS\_COMF, HOLDING 6 AND 99 LAST ]**

How likely are you to use an artificial intelligence (AI) chatbot in the next 12 months?

Feb 17-23,  
2026

1	Extremely likely
3	Very likely
16	Somewhat likely
27	Not too likely
40	Not at all likely
12	Not sure
*	No answer

**CHATNOWHY**

**ASK IF DOES NOT USE AI CHATBOTS (CHATUSEMOD=2) [N=2,502]:**  
**[ PN: RANDOMIZE ITEMS ]**

How much is each of the following a reason why you do not use artificial intelligence (AI) chatbots?

		<u>Major reason</u>	<u>Minor reason</u>	<u>Not a reason</u>	<u>No answer</u>
LIT	I don't know how to use them Feb 17-23, 2026	29	26	44	1
USE	I'm not interested in using them Feb 17-23, 2026	60	23	16	1
INF	I don't trust them to give accurate information Feb 17-23, 2026	45	30	23	1
JDG	I think others will judge me for using them Feb 17-23, 2026	3	11	85	1
PRV	I'm concerned about how my personal information will be used Feb 17-23, 2026	54	24	20	1

PARTY In politics today, do you consider yourself a:  
**ASK IF INDEP/SOMETHING ELSE (PARTY=3 or 4) OR MISSING:**

PARTYLN As of today do you lean more to...<sup>4</sup>

	<u>Republican</u>	<u>Democrat</u>	<u>Independent</u>	<u>Something else</u>	<u>No answer</u>	<u>Lean Rep</u>	<u>Lean Dem</u>
	28	27	30	15	1	18	22

<sup>4</sup> PARTY and PARTYLN asked in a prior survey.