

A Once-in-a-Generation Opportunity

- We have a once-in-a-generation opportunity to grow the U.S. economy, tackle complex societal challenges, and improve people's lives.
- AI is already making a meaningful difference for Americans, from improving health care and supporting veterans to strengthening small businesses and making grocery shopping easier for families.
- Like any transformative technology, some applications of AI present risks. The challenge is to develop and deploy it responsibly so we can unlock its full potential while addressing possible high-risk applications.

Responsible AI innovation is already delivering tangible, real-world results.

Improving Care for Veterans

When veterans receive care from providers in their communities, important medical documents must be added to their VA health records quickly. The Veterans Health Administration's (VHA) AI-Driven eFax Fix (AIEFF) is a new technology helping make that process faster and more accurate for veterans who seek care at VHA facilities. The automated system uses AI to save staff time, reduce stress, and ensure veterans' records are updated quickly and accurately. By automating a time-consuming administrative process, the new AI-enabled technology allows VA staff to spend less time sorting documents and more time supporting veteran care.

Detecting Cancer Earlier

Mayo Clinic researchers developed an AI model helping specialists identify early signs of pancreatic cancer on routine abdominal CT scans up to three years before clinical diagnosis. In a landmark validation study, the model analyzed nearly 2,000 CT scans, including scans that had originally been interpreted as normal, and identified 73% of prediagnostic cancers 16 months before diagnosis. The tool is supporting clinicians by flagging subtle changes that may indicate elevated risk, helping doctors find disease earlier when curative treatment may still be possible.

Supporting Small Businesses

Shopify Magic allows entrepreneurs and small business owners to generate product descriptions, marketing content, and customer responses, turning hours of manual work into minutes. Sidekick, Shopify's AI assistant, also helps connect data points to uncover new opportunities and deliver insights. By streamlining day-to-day operations and personalizing customer experiences, AI is helping entrepreneurs focus less on repetitive tasks and more on growing their business, reaching new customers, and driving economic opportunity.

Identifying Toxic Byproducts in Disinfected Drinking Water

Researchers at Stevens Institute of Technology and Harvard University developed an AI model that enables rapid, scalable toxicity screening of drinking water. The model predicted the toxicity of over one thousand disinfectant byproducts, helping scientists better understand water chemistry and improve public safety.

Improving Student Wellbeing

Dartmouth University students and faculty partnered to develop the interactive, AI-powered platform Evergreen for student wellbeing. Built by students, for students, and powered by decades of research on mental health, Evergreen is designed to help students flourish by providing personalized guidance and support in real time. The platform uses context-aware technology that adapts to each student's needs by learning from their routines, academic schedules, biometric data and college environment. It empowers them to develop lifelong skills for wellbeing and navigate challenges with research-backed, clinically informed support.

Giving People Their Voices Back

ElevenLabs' technology is helping people with ALS, cerebral palsy, and other conditions affecting speech communicate using voices that sound like their own. Through its Impact Program, ElevenLabs has helped approximately 7,000 people reclaim their voices, allowing them to reconnect with loved ones, return to the stage, pray with patients, teach classes, and participate more fully in the world around them.

71% of small and medium-sized business owners are regularly using AI tools and 81% say AI has helped reach new customers. [[TechNet/Morning Consult 2026](#)]

Wharton researchers estimate that AI will increase productivity and GDP by 1.5% by 2035, nearly 3% by 2055, and 3.7% by 2075, and it could reduce deficits by \$400 billion over the ten-year budget window between 2026 and 2035. [[Penn Wharton Budget Model September 2025](#)]

69% of those who use AI are excited about the technology, rising to 86% among those who use it frequently. 66% of the global public now believes workers are likely to benefit from AI, a 13-point increase since 2023. [[Google/Ipsos 2026](#)]

Misconception vs. Reality

MISCONCEPTION 1: AI is abstract, experimental, and disconnected from everyday life.

REALITY: AI is already delivering practical benefits in healthcare, public safety, and public service.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) has deployed AI models that deliver faster weather forecasts and improve hurricane predictions. Cancer researchers are using AI to improve mammogram interpretation and predict long-term breast cancer risk. The Department of Veterans Affairs uses predictive analytics to identify veterans at elevated risk of suicide so they can receive proactive care and support.

These are not distant possibilities. AI is already helping institutions make better use of information, recognize risks earlier, and respond more quickly and effectively. The question is no longer whether AI will affect Americans' lives, but how to expand its benefits across society and ensure all Americans have access to the opportunities AI generates. [[NOAA: New Operational AI-Driven Weather Models January 2026](#); [National Cancer Institute: Artificial Intelligence and Cancer May 2024](#); [Department of Veterans Affairs: Suicide Prevention Research and REACH VET](#)]

MISCONCEPTION 2: AI only benefits large technology companies.

REALITY: AI is giving small businesses capabilities that once required large teams and substantial resources. According to a 2026 TechNet/Morning Consult survey of small retail businesses that sell online, 71% regularly use AI tools, including 52% that use them daily. More than three-quarters say AI helps them compete with larger companies and become more productive, while 81% say it has helped them reach new customers. These tools are helping smaller businesses reduce costs, develop products, expand their capabilities, and compete more effectively.

AI is also helping manufacturers anticipate equipment failures, strengthen quality control, improve efficiency, and reduce waste. By lowering the cost of sophisticated tools, AI can help smaller companies reach customers, manage operations, and compete more effectively. [[TechNet/Morning Consult Poll May 2026](#); [NIST "The Rise of AI in U.S. Manufacturing" May 2025](#)]

MISCONCEPTION 3: AI is only useful for people with technical skills, not ordinary workers and families.

REALITY: AI can expand access to expertise in places where services are scarce, including telehealth support, agricultural tools, disaster forecasting, and assistance for small businesses.

The American Hospital Association (AHA) is launching a three-year initiative to scale AI and telehealth adoption at hospitals across the nation. The Department of Agriculture's (USDA) ongoing HARVEST project deploys smart farming technologies that use artificial intelligence to help farmers protect crops, use resources more efficiently, and reduce reliance on chemicals. Companies like Verizon are using AI-powered "digital twin" technology to pinpoint the exact location of network damage after storms, reconnecting customers faster. Google's Small Business Hub and Anthropic's Claude for Small Businesses both offer small business owners access to free AI-powered tools, learning support and certification opportunities. [[AHA May 2026](#); [USDA 2025](#); [Verizon May 2026](#); [Grow with Google 2026](#); [Claude for Small Business Announcement May 2026](#)]