THE RISKS OF SHADOW AI In the U.S. Workplace

A



AI IS REVOLUTIONIZING U.S. WORKPLACES, BOOSTING POST-COVID PRODUCTIVITY TO LEVELS Equivalent to 47 years of average U.S. growth

- AI technologies are revolutionizing workplaces, altering how employees perform their tasks. In the U.S., 85% of workers¹ have used AI tools in their daily work routine
- Employees primarily use gen AI tools for fundamental tasks, such as drafting written content (68%), brainstorming (60%), and verifying information (50%)
- By automating recurrent tasks, enhancing data analysis, and fostering innovation, AI significantly increases productivity and efficiency
- In fact, AI tools boosted workers' daily task efficiency by 66%, which is comparable to 47 years of typical U.S. productivity growth, given the average annual labor productivity increase of 1.4%²

MOST COMMON USES OF AI IN THE WORKPLACE IN THE U.S. Based on a survey of 1,100 American Employees

Drafting	written content			68	%	
· Brainsto	orming ideas			60%	1	
Conduct	ting background research			50%		
Analyzir	ng data/making forecasts	19	%			
</ </ </ </l	ing/checking computer code	11%				
Image re	ecognition/generation	7%				

1 Insights were gathered from a survey of 3,000 employed Americans to gauge overall sentiment regarding AI in the workplace

2 Key studies found that AI tools increased task efficiency by 66% on average, with support agents handling 13.8% more inquiries, business professionals writing 59% more documents, and programmers coding 126% more projects. To put this in perspective, this 66% boost in productivity is equivalent to 47 years of natural productivity growth in the United States

Source: The conference board "Majority of US Workers Are Already Using Generative AI Tools" (2024), Nielsen Norman Group "AI Improves Employee Productivity by 66%" (2024), Checkr "A Comprehensive Survey on AI in the Workplace" (2024), Press Search

SHADOW AI IS RAPIDLY INCREASING IN THE U.S. AS MORE EMPLOYEES SECRETLY USE UNAUTHORIZED AI TOOLS IN THE WORKPLACE, OFTEN WITHOUT THEIR EMPLOYERS' KNOWLEDGE

- Despite Al's benefits, many employees use these tools without informing their company or managers. Notably, a staggering 69% of U.S. workers¹ are hesitant to disclose their Al usage at work
- This reluctance has given rise to "shadow Al", where employees use unauthorized Al tools and put their companies at risk
- With only 4.4% of U.S. companies fully embracing AI, most employees are resorting to unsanctioned models
- As a result, employees are recklessly feeding sensitive data into public AI tools. Since ChatGPT's launch, 4.7% of employees² have done so at least once
- Sensitive data comprises 11% of employees' input into ChatGPT. While users retain ownership, ChatGPT may still use this data to improve its services

SHARE OF U.S. COMPANIES BY AI INTEGRATION LEVEL Based on a survey of 1,000 U.S.-Based Business Leaders



1 Insights were derived from a survey of 3,000 employed Americans aimed at understanding overall sentiment toward AI in the workplace 2 Data was obtained from an analysis of ChatGPT usage among 1.6 million workers at companies across various industries that utilize the Cyberhaven platform

Source: Tech.co "The Impact of Technology on the Workplace" (2024), Checkr "A Comprehensive Survey on AI in the Workplace" (2024), CyberHaven "ChatGPT at Work" (2024), Press Search

SHADOW AI EXPOSES COMPANIES TO A RANGE OF RISKS, INCLUDING CYBERSECURITY VULNERABILITIES AND COMPLIANCE BREACHES

THE SAMSUNG CASE - A WAKE UP CALL

In 2023, **Samsung** experienced serious breaches **when employees leaked sensitive data** by using ChatGPT to resolve technical issues. One copied source code from a faulty semiconductor database, another shared confidential code to fix equipment, and a third uploaded meeting details for minutes. These incidents highlighted **the severity of shadow AI to several companies**, revealing dangers like **data poisoning**, **compromised projects**, **and significant security threats**. Such risks not only endanger company reputation but also expose critical data to competitors, potentially causing substantial financial losses:

MISINFORMATION

• Senior leaders are worried about large language AI models generating false data

Errors in AI-powered legal briefs illustrate this risk, potentially leading to poor decisions, reputational damage, and financial losses

CYBERSECURITY RISK

- Misusing AI for coding can introduce bugs or security flaws that hackers may exploit to introduce malware
- This poses significant cybersecurity risks, potentially compromising system integrity and leading to data breaches or operational disruptions

EXPOSED DATA

- Many users are unaware that AI providers often record their inputs
- Sharing sensitive company data can lead to unintentional exposure, risking privacy violations, loss of competitive advantage, and legal problems

COMPLIANCE FAILURES

- With increasing AI regulations, companies must ensure compliance
- Without dedicated staff to oversee adherence, employees might **unintentionally breach regulations**, risking investigations, fines, legal issues, and reputational damage

MAJOR COMPANIES ARE RESTRICTING OR BANNING AI TO ADDRESS SHADOW AI CONCERNS, BUT These measures only limit the Risks, not eliminate them

Due to concerns over AI risks, many companies have imposed strict measures, such as bans on generative AI tools. These restrictions are primarily driven by fears of data leaks and insufficient tracking of data subject to legal or industry-specific regulations. However, these bans don't fully address the underlying issues. Notable companies¹ that have heavily restricted or banned AI include:



1 These are examples of companies that have adopted a specific AI restriction, but they may also fall into other categories (e.g., a company might have an in-house AI solution while still prohibiting the use of external tools)

WHILE RESTRICTING AI SHOULD THEORETICALLY REDUCE ITS RISKS, EMPLOYEES ARE LIKELY TO SEEK OUT AI REGARDLESS, MAKING IT NECESSARY TO DEVELOP A COMPREHENSIVE MITIGATION STRATEGY

Although banning or heavily restricting AI in the workplace may mitigate risks, employees will still find ways to access unauthorized AI tools, such as using their personal devices or non-company networks. To effectively address this challenge, organizations must first pinpoint the sources of Shadow AI within their operations. Once identified, a comprehensive, multi-faceted approach is crucial:

DETECTION PHASE

- **Open Communication:** Encourage discussions across the organization to raise awareness about rogue AI risks, fostering a culture of trust where employees feel safe sharing their AI usage
- **Technical Monitoring:** Use tools like internet gateways and firewalls to collect data that may reveal shadow AI instances. Companies can even monitor "Sign-in with Google" activity or similar tools to detect unauthorized app usage
- Specialized Detection Solutions: Implement third-party solutions to more accurately detect shadow AI and shadow IT within the organization
- **Regular Audits and Monitoring:** Implement regular audits and continuous monitoring of AI tool usage to detect unauthorized applications early

MITIGATION PHASE

- Establish Clear Policies: Develop and enforce clear policies that define authorized vs. unauthorized AI applications, outline the approval process for new tools, and specify consequences for using unauthorized AI. Currently, 50% of U.S. companies are updating their internal policies to govern AI tool usage
- Enhance Official AI Solutions: Provide secure and user-friendly AI tools through official channels to reduce employees' temptation to seek unauthorized AI. These tools should be regularly updated and improved to meet evolving business needs
- Employee Training and Awareness: Educate employees on shadow AI dangers and the importance of adhering to organizational policies. The benefits of using approved AI tools should also be emphasized

As AI becomes increasingly integral to business operations, **Infomineo** is already assisting numerous organizations in refining their AI practices through comprehensive benchmarking of AI tools, policies, and regulatory frameworks. **Infomineo** can help your company detect and manage shadow AI with the right technologies, while providing strategic insights to establish robust AI policies and effective employee training programs





ABOUT US





THREE TYPES OF SUPPORT

AD-HOC

Answering research requests to support project execution, proposal development or internal discussions

TRACKING

Preparing newsletters, regular benchmarking, tracking competitive moves etc.

CONTENT DEVELOPMENT

Database creation, thought leadership

COMBINATION OF APPROACHES

Open sources and paid sources such as Orbis, Capital IQ and Factiva DESK PRIMARY RESEARCH RESEARCH

Cold calling and expert interviews



Social listening, web scraping

WHAT MAKES US DIFFERENT



HIGH-QUALITY IMPACTFUL INSIGHT

Answering research requests to support project execution, proposal development or internal discussions



THOUGHT PARTNERSHIP

Answering research requests to support project execution, proposal development or internal discussions



STREAMLINED PROCESS INTEGRATION

Answering research requests to support project execution, proposal development or internal discussions

INFOMINEO ACROSS THE GLOBE











Our team of **300+** Infomineons worldwide is committed to helping you reach your objectives.

With a track record of over 200 satisfied clients, we are confident in our ability to adapt to your unique needs, seamlessly integrate with your operations and ultimately overachieve your expectations.







www.infomineo.com Infomineo Copyright © 2024. All righ<u>ts reserved.</u>

