

Robo-Takeover: Amazon Tests Humanoid Robot in Fulfillment Center

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Amazon has introduced two new robots to speed up deliveries, raising concerns among fulfillment center workers that the e-commerce giant might eventually reduce its workforce.

In a [blog post](#) on Wednesday, Amazon said its robotics team will begin testing a bipedal robot named "Digit" at a site just south of Seattle.

"Digit can move, grasp, and handle items in spaces and corners of warehouses in novel ways. Its size and shape are well suited for buildings that are designed for humans, and we believe that there is a big opportunity to scale a mobile manipulator solution, such as Digit, which can work collaboratively with employees," Amazon said.



Amazon explained Digit will "help employees with tote recycling, a highly repetitive process

of picking up and moving empty totes once inventory has been completely picked out of them.”



In addition to Digit, Amazon revealed Sequoia, a new robotic system to help fulfill customer orders faster, already operational at a Texas fulfillment center.

“Sequoia will help us delight customers with greater speed and increased accuracy for delivery estimates, while also improving employee safety at our facilities,” Amazon said, adding it will “identify and store inventory we receive at our fulfillment centers up to 75% faster than we can today.”



It also “reduces the time it takes to process an order through a fulfillment center by up to 25%, which improves our shipping predictability and increases the number of goods we can offer for Same-Day or Next-Day shipping,” the e-commerce giant added.

Amazon said it has more than “750,000 robots working collaboratively with our employees, taking on highly repetitive tasks and freeing employees up to better deliver for our customers.”

At some point, Amazon will realize its robot workforce can do a better job fulfilling orders

than humans because robots don't get sick, take breaks, complain, strike, or waste time watching TikTok videos on their smartphones.

We've penned plenty of notes over the years, informing readers about the coming massive layoff wave corporations will have to unleash due to AI. Goldman's Jan Hatzius [suggested in a note earlier this year](#), "Using data on occupational tasks in both the US and Europe, we find that roughly two-thirds of current jobs are exposed to some degree of AI automation, and that generative AI could substitute up to one-fourth of current work. Extrapolating our estimates globally suggests that generative AI could expose the equivalent of 300 million full-time jobs to automation" as up to "*two thirds of occupations could be partially automated by AI.*"

Americas Technology

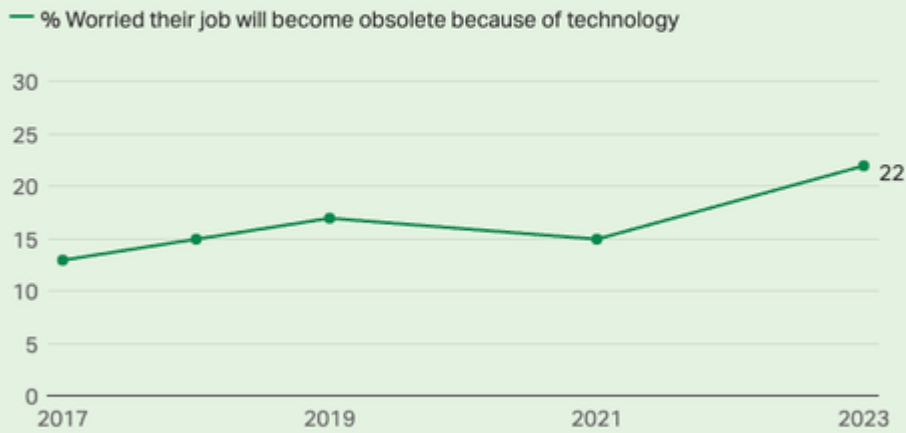
Generative AI - Part I: Laying Out the Investment Framework

Cloud computing created new investment opportunities by enabling the delivery of software as a utility. Generative AI further unlocks value as it extends this utility and provides new tools for enhancing end-user productivity. While traditional AI has been helpful in making predictions of outcomes, Generative AI is about generating content such as text, video, images, or computer code, which was previously not possible. Large Language Models (LLMs) are a key enabler of GAI, with a profound level of proficiency and intelligence. AI has the potential to establish new companies, while providing incumbents with new growth avenues by turbo-charging end-user productivity. We estimate a Generative AI Software TAM of ~\$150bn, vs. the global software industry TAM of \$685bn. The GS Macro team estimates AI could drive ~\$7tn in global economic growth over 10 years, underpinned by productivity growing 1.5pp faster annually. We raise our PTs on MSFT (to \$325, vs \$315 prior), CRM (to \$325, vs. \$320), and ADBE (to \$480, vs. \$475) to incorporate higher outer year estimates that reflect our conviction in the success/adoption of newly launched GAI products. Microsoft has clearly taken the tech industry by storm by being first

... and more recently, younger folk in the labor market are [beginning to realize](#) their days are numbered as AI takes their jobs.

U.S. Workers' Worry About Tech Replacement

Next, please indicate whether you are worried or not worried about each of the following happening to you, personally, in the near future.



Based on U.S. adults employed full or part time

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GALLUP

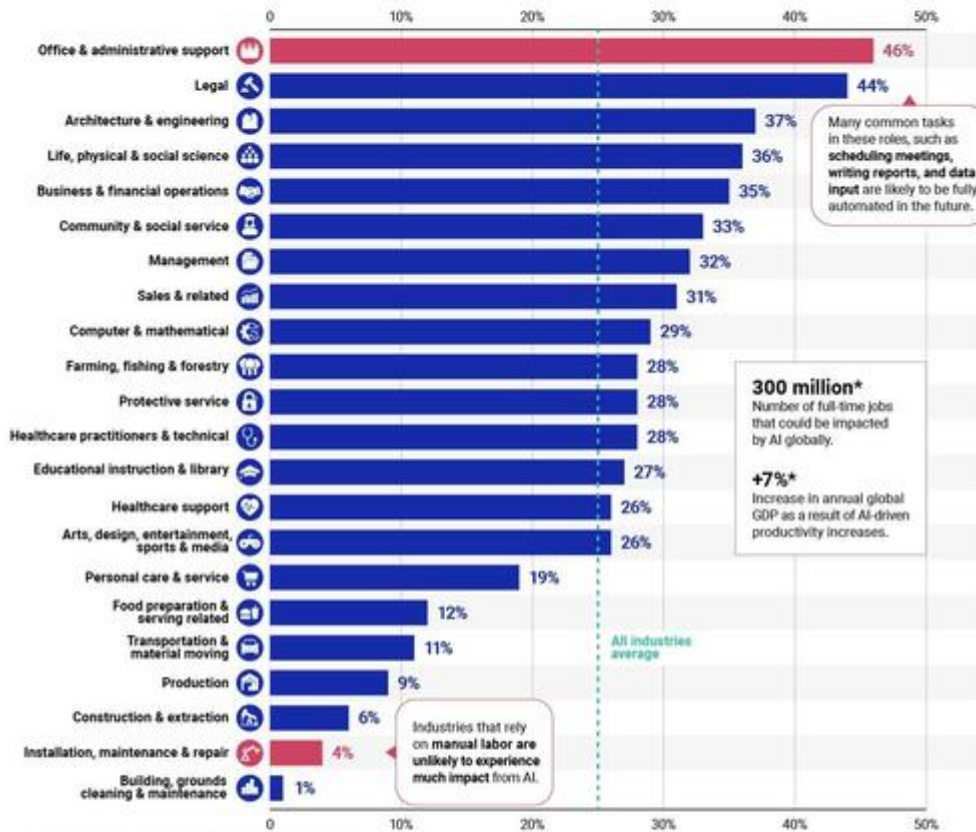
For more insight into the rapidly evolving job landscape, Visual Capitalist's Marcus Lu and Sabrina Lam - using data from [MSCI](#) - have ranked the industries where [AI-driven automation will displace the most workers](#).



U.S. Industries with the Highest Potential for Automation

Automation exposure was estimated for 900+ U.S. jobs using the O*NET occupational database. Exposure estimates were weighted by the employment share of each occupation, and aggregated to the industry level.

Estimated Share of Employment Exposed to AI Automation



Source: Goldman Sachs Global Investment Research (March 2023)

* Over a 10-year period starting from a point when roughly half of all businesses have adopted generative AI.

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Source: Goldman Sachs Global Investment Research (March 2023). Based on the assumption that AI is capable of competing tasks up to a difficulty of 4 on the 7-point O*NET scale. Also assumes that occupations which require workers to spend significant time outdoors or perform physical labor cannot be automated by AI.

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Now's the time to evaluate your job and see how automation will impact your industry.

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