AI adoption has crossed the threshold from experimentation to execution, and **agentic AI is next in line.**

The **SAP Value of AI 2026** report surveyed 2,600 business leaders from 13 countries around the world to understand how businesses are increasingly driving ROI from AI, even as challenges continue to accrue.

AI is only becoming more important over time as businesses use it for more and more tasks.

30%

of tasks in the average business are supported by AI today.

48%

of tasks in the average business will be supported by AI in 2 years.

Global AI spending and ROI are rising steadily...

The average global business spends US$28M on AI today, up slightly from $26.7m last year. That's expected to increase by 45% in the next two years.

$6.3m

The average company expects to drive ROI of 21% (US$6.3m) from AI this year.

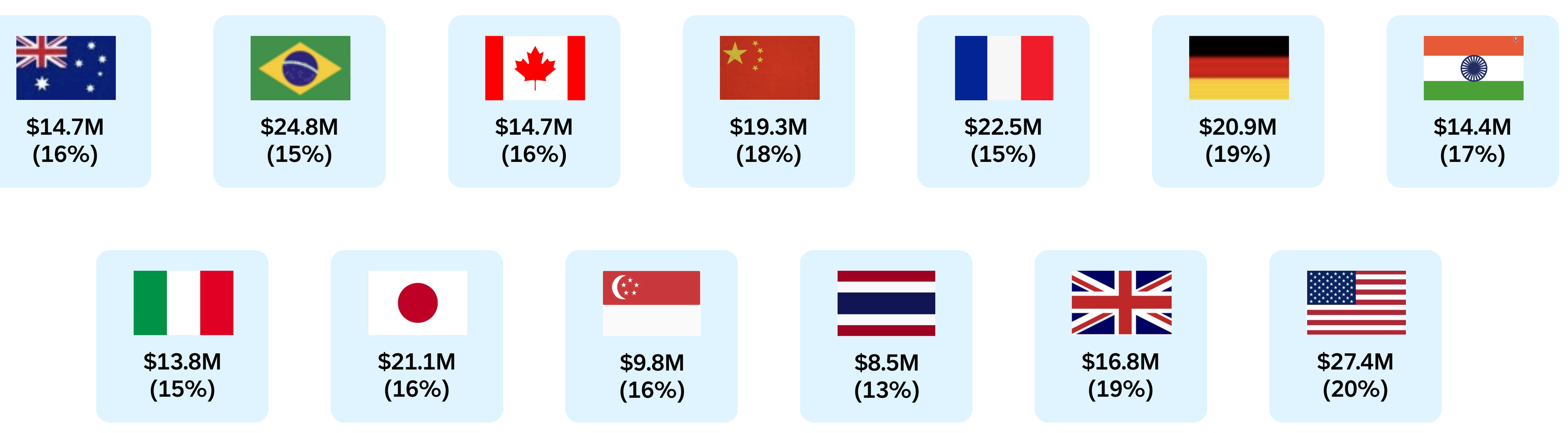
$15.9m

That ROI is expected to grow to 38% in two years' time ($15.9m).

Agentic ROI expectations have **jumped from 10% last year to 17% this year.**

That means, in the next two years, ROI **from agentic AI is expected to reach US $17.6m** in the average global business, more than quadrupling last year's estimates ($4.3m).

AGENTIC ROI IN NEXT 2 YEARS



What is your organization's estimated potential financial return on investment (ROI) from implementing agentic AI in the next two years?

But even as AI ROI satisfaction is climbing, most organizations feel they haven't yet reached its full potential.

69%

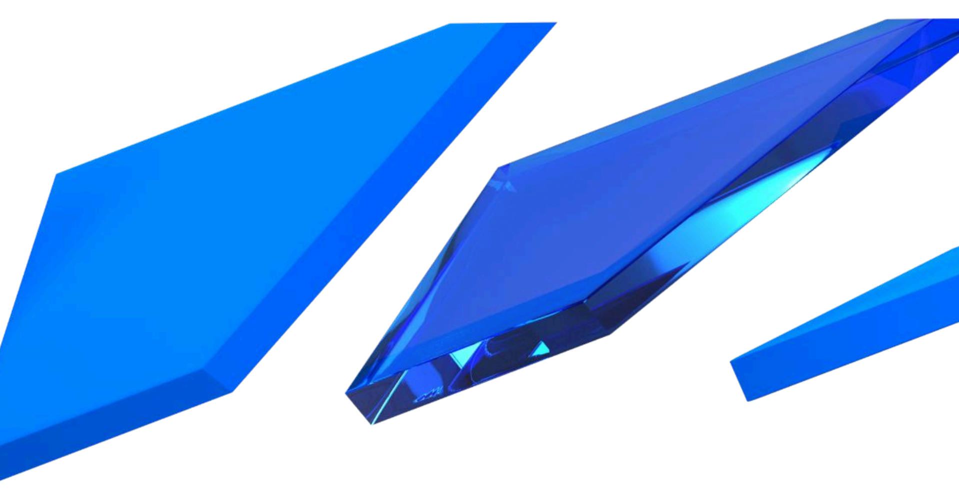
are satisfied with their current AI ROI.

67%

of respondents are not convinced their AI implementation is delivering to its full potential.

> "Realizing real value from AI is not going to be easy because it demands a new approach. Businesses, large and small, will need to connect AI to the data and processes that run their organizations, and make sure it has the context and governance to drive trusted results. **That's what we call the Autonomous Enterprise."**
>
> **Sean Kask,** Chief AI Strategy Officer, SAP

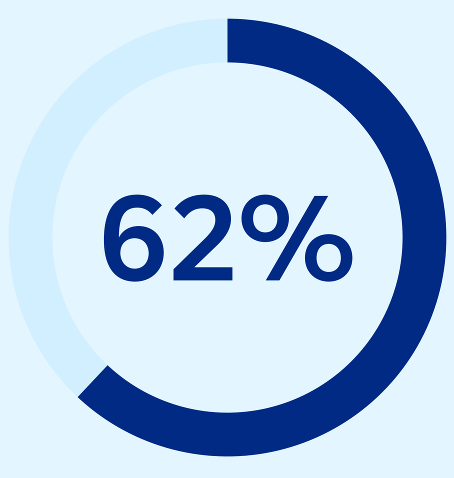
Business are adapting to new challenges to squeeze more value out of their AI investments:



Data

Data is nearly universally seen as critical to AI, yet the share of businesses who feel ready is declining.

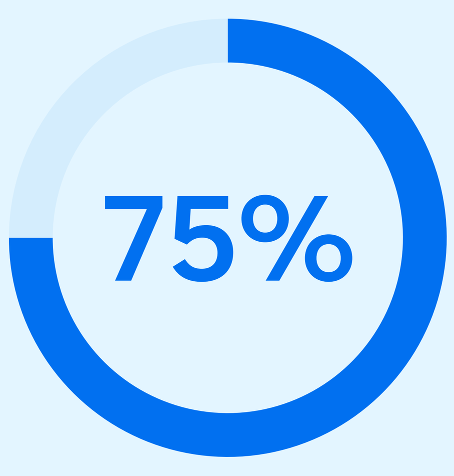
62% of businesses say they are data ready for AI today, down from 64% last year.



Workforce

AI is not driving cost-efficiency or productivity benefits as much as helping staff create insights, make decisions, and engage with customers.

75% of businesses are planning to upskill or reskill current employees for AI as part of their workforce planning.



Governance

Businesses around the world will need to improve agentic governance to ensure trusted, compliant, secure AI outcomes.

12% of businesses say either their skills or their processes and frameworks are fully ready to govern AI effectively.

Learn more about the Autonomous Enterprise at **SAP.com**

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