

# Should AI Replace Us? Examining Workplace Culture Shifts in Tech and Food Production

Tran Nhu Nguyen Khoi<sup>1</sup>, Beverly Grace Clapano Oblina<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Student, Vinschool Central Park, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, 700000

<sup>2</sup>AP Seminar, Academic Writing, & ESL Teacher, ESL Standard Department, Vinschool Central Park, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, 700000

Email address: <sup>1</sup>khoitrannhunguyen5@gmail.com, <sup>2</sup>beverlygrace90210@gmail.com

**Abstract**—This paper looks at how AI is changing workplace culture, especially in the technology and food production sectors. It explores how AI is reshaping job roles, boosting productivity, and encouraging collaboration, while also addressing the ethical challenges that come with automation. While AI can help reduce repetitive tasks and improve efficiency, concerns about job loss and the impact on workplace relationships remain. The paper also discusses the need for responsible AI development and clear regulations to ensure a balance between automation and human work. By weighing both the benefits and challenges, this research offers a better understanding of how AI can fit into workplaces while still allowing people to play a key role.

**Keywords**— AI automation, ethics, workplace culture, technology, food industry.

## I. INTRODUCTION

“The key to success with AI is not just having the right data, but also asking the right question.” - Ginni Rometty, CEO of IBM, a global technology innovator, leading advances in AI and automation. By stating this quote, Ginni emphasizes the dark side of developing these powerful technologies, revealing potential risks and ethical concerns, especially in how inconceivable the consequences humans could possibly face (Rometty, 2024).

Like any other technology, applying AI in our daily lives is a double-edged sword. It can become one of our greatest strengths, but if mismanaged, it could also expose vulnerabilities we fail to recognize. The inevitable doubt in ambitious AI technology has led to the question: “Can AI be trusted?” Trusted to interact with humans daily, trusted to be involved in life-altering jobs like surgery and medicine, or even trusted to be a safe technology that we can continue developing? This research report will discuss the credibility of AI technology under the lens of the Technology & Food Producing industry and examine how AI affects workplace culture while exploring whether AI should replace humans in these industries. This research report will discuss the credibility of AI technology under the lens of the Technology & Food Producing industry and examine how AI affects workplace culture while exploring whether AI should replace humans in these industries.

This report explores how artificial intelligence is transforming workplace culture in technology and food production industries and whether AI should replace or complement human labor.

## II. AI’S IMPACT ON WORKPLACE CULTURE IN TECHNOLOGY AND FOOD PRODUCING COMPANIES

### *Transformation of Jobs and Productivity*

In the technology sector, the workplace culture will be significantly altered by the presence of AI. Research shows that 92% of IT jobs will be transformed by AI, with the most significant changes affecting mid- and low-level positions, as manual tasks become less relevant or are easily replaceable (Zubicoa, 2024). Since IT is a critical part of the technology industry, repetitive tasks are expected to decrease dramatically because AI can perform these functions more efficiently than humans (Lutkevich, 2024).

Tasks that were once performed by human workers, such as data entry, statistical analysis, and system monitoring, are increasingly handled by AI and automation systems. AI offers more speed, precision, and efficiency at a large scale, often outperforming human productivity in these areas (Lordan, 2022). Similarly, in the food industry, AI-powered smart packaging solutions and data analytics for factors such as freshness and temperature have proven to surpass human capabilities in efficiency, safety, and sustainability (Revolutionizing the Food Industry: The Transformative Power of Artificial Intelligence - A Review, 2024).

### *Economic Considerations: Cost of AI vs. Human Labor*

Another crucial factor in AI adoption is the cost associated with AI implementation in both the Technology & Food Producing industries. Despite reports stating that replacing humans with AI is still too expensive, AI remains a more sustainable solution in the long run (MIT study, 2024). Employing human workers comes with additional expenses, including salaries, healthcare insurance, retirement plans, and training to ensure their well-being and work quality.

By contrast, AI-powered systems, once implemented, offer a long-lasting and cost-effective alternative. Although businesses may initially need to invest a significant amount of money in AI deployment, the lucrative long-term economic benefits and efficiency gains may make the investment worthwhile (Beaton, 2023). For many companies, this economic advantage makes the transition to AI not just appealing but essential for maintaining sustainable development.

### III. THE ROLE OF AI IN IMPROVING WORKPLACE MORALE AND COLLABORATION

Despite concerns over job displacement, AI is expected to positively impact workplace culture. Instead of eliminating human roles, AI can help workers by minimizing dull, repetitive tasks, allowing them to focus on creative and strategic aspects of their jobs (Boesen, 2024). A study conducted by MIT demonstrated that AI tools, such as ChatGPT, enhance productivity while also encouraging employees to strive for excellence (English, 2023).

AI-driven improvements can reduce workloads for human workers, transforming workplace environments into more enjoyable and fulfilling spaces. Additionally, AI helps close knowledge gaps by providing workers with unlimited resources and tools, enabling them to develop professionally. Statistics show that 75% of employees reported improvements in team morale, collaboration, and collective learning due to AI integration (English, 2023).

### IV. AI AND HUMAN COEXISTENCE IN THE WORKPLACE

With the vast impact AI has on industries, workers and AI must learn to coexist in the workplace. Businesses aiming for success should be prepared to quickly adapt and deploy AI within their organizational systems. To ensure that humans and AI can work harmoniously, AI limitations should be clearly defined. AI should primarily be tasked with performing repetitive and technical functions such as picking up objects and manufacturing products. Meanwhile, humans should retain control over management, creativity, and innovation-oriented responsibilities.

For AI-human collaboration to be effective, companies must equip their workforce with the necessary skills to leverage AI's capabilities. Employees must be trained to use AI-powered resources and tools to accomplish organizational objectives. Having AI as a complementary tool rather than a replacement for human workers will create a symbiotic relationship where AI enhances human efficiency rather than displacing it (Zirar, Ali, & Islam, 2023).

### V. TRUSTING AI: SHOULD WE RELY ON IT COMPLETELY

#### *Ethical and Moral Considerations*

A fundamental question remains: Should AI be trusted, despite the undeniable benefits it brings to industries? Experts emphasize that artificial intelligence itself is neither good nor bad in a moral sense (CalTech, 2023). The real challenge lies in how humans apply AI in ways that do not cause harm and how to manage the risks associated with its use (Esperanca, 2024).

Though AI is known for its superior ability to learn and evolve, workplace AI cannot think for itself. AI-powered chatbots and automation systems are limited to performing only what they have been programmed to do. Their capabilities are confined to the data they have been trained on, under the supervision of human engineers. This control ensures that AI remains a valuable tool rather than an independent entity.

The convenience and efficiency gained from AI integration, when balanced with its potential risks, make it a worthy investment. By implementing AI responsibly, businesses can continue pushing productivity boundaries while minimizing significant risks.

#### *Ensuring Responsible AI Development*

With the increasing integration of AI into workplace environments, ensuring its responsible development is paramount. AI has evolved into an indispensable part of various industries, becoming a fundamental component in daily business operations (Urwin, 2024). However, the potential for AI to develop unpredictably—as depicted in fictional scenarios like *The Terminator*—remains a topic of concern.

To prevent harmful outcomes, AI technology development must be executed with strict regulations and oversight. Governments and regulatory bodies must establish clear policies to ensure AI operates ethically and safely. Transparency, accountability, and responsible innovation are crucial in ensuring AI serves as a tool for human progress rather than a threat.

### VI. CONCLUSION

The introduction of AI in the workplace has significantly reshaped workplace culture in the Technology and Food Producing industries. AI has transformed job roles, increased productivity, and provided businesses with economic advantages. While concerns about job displacement and ethical risks persist, AI integration can enhance workplace morale, collaboration, and efficiency.

Successfully implementing AI requires a careful balance between automation and human contribution. Defining clear boundaries for AI's role and ensuring employees are equipped to work alongside it are essential steps toward a productive and ethical future. Ultimately, AI's future in the workplace depends not just on its capabilities, but on how we as a society choose to guide its development. Only through responsible integration can AI truly empower, rather than replace, the human workforce.

### REFERENCES

- [1] Zatsu, V., Shine, A. E., Tharakan, J. M., Peter, D., Ranganathan, T. V., Alotaibi, S. S., Mugabi, R., Muhsinah, A. B., Waseem, M., & Nayik, G. A. (2024). Revolutionizing the food industry: The transformative power of artificial intelligence—a review. *Food Chemistry X*, 24, 101867. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.fochx.2024.101867>
- [2] Zirar, A., Ali, S. I., & Islam, N. (2023). Worker and workplace Artificial Intelligence (AI) coexistence: Emerging themes and research agenda. *Technovation*, 124, 102747. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.technovation.2023.102747>
- [3] Beaton, K. (2023, June 21). Analysis: Is AI destined to revolutionize labor? *The Food Institute*. <https://foodinstitute.com/focus/analysis-is-ai-destined-to-revolutionize-labor/>
- [4] Boesen, T. (2024, February 29). Is AI integration destroying workplace relationships? *Okoone*. <https://www.okoone.com/spark/technology-innovation/is-ai-integration-destroying-workplace-relationships/>
- [5] English, L. (2024, June 3). The impact of AI on company culture and how to prepare now. *Forbes*. <https://www.forbes.com/sites/larryenglish/2023/05/25/the-impact-of-ai-on-company-culture-and-how-to-prepare-now>

- [6] Esperanca, H. (2024, August 15). AI in workplace—balancing opportunities and risks. *Collaboris*. <https://www.collaboris.com/ai-in-workplace-opportunities-and-risks/>
- [7] Lutkevich, B. (2024, November 4). Will AI replace jobs? 17 job types that might be affected. *WhatIs*. <https://www.techtarget.com/whatis/feature/Will-AI-replace-jobs-9-job-types-that-might-be-affected>
- [8] Thomas, P. A. (2024, November 6). AI still far more expensive than humans in most jobs: MIT study. *Computerworld*. <https://www.computerworld.com/article/1611663/ai-still-far-more-expensive-than-humans-in-most-jobs-mit-study.html>
- [9] Urwin, M. (2024, July 19). AI taking over jobs: What to know about the future of jobs. *Built In*. <https://builtin.com/artificial-intelligence/ai-replacing-jobs-creating-jobs>
- [10] Zubicoa, F. D. (2024, September 3). 92% of IT jobs will be transformed by AI. *CIO*. <https://www.cio.com/article/3485322/92-of-it-jobs-will-be-transformed-by-ai.html>
- [11] Caltech Science Exchange. (n.d.). Can we trust artificial intelligence? *Caltech Science Exchange*. <https://scienceexchange.caltech.edu/topics/artificial-intelligence-research/trustworthy-ai>