



What's at Stake

From health care and energy to education and financial services, artificial intelligence (AI) holds promise for numerous areas of American life. The nation that wins the AI race will have a powerful role in shaping the future.

- Traditional AI has increased the efficiency and productivity of businesses and homes. **AI could raise** the global gross domestic product (GDP) by 7%—and with it, standards of living for much of mankind—within 10 years.
- AI could add up to **\$22.1 trillion annually** to the global economy—fast approaching the entire size of the nearly \$29 trillion U.S. economy today.
- If the U.S. doesn't retain its lead, other countries (such as China) will quickly fill its shoes. These countries are already making leaps and bounds in their AI capabilities.

A Better Approach

Already, freelancers are learning how to coexist and even thrive with AI. Generative AI is already being implemented across traditional and freelance jobs through activities like coding, marketing, analyzing documents, and relying on chatbots for customer service, for instance. This happens with and without human input. **Surveys** indicate that many freelancers are harnessing AI to maximize their skills and focus on growing their businesses.

To develop AI's potential, the United States must unleash AI's benefits while protecting Americans' safety and privacy and U.S. intellectual property from internal and foreign adversaries. Sound technology policies will allow the United States to sustain and enhance America's global AI dominance to promote human flourishing, economic competitiveness, and national security. This means avoiding government interference with free market innovation and First Amendment rights.

Agency leaders throughout the government should work together to identify policy changes needed to remove obstacles in order to retain AI global leadership.

Artificial intelligence holds the potential to revolutionize numerous opportunities across a range of facets of American life. It will require nimble responses from policymakers to both protect consumers and employees and unleash these unique capacities.

Addressing Misperceptions

MISPERCEPTIONS	FACTS
<p>AI development will lead to robots taking over.</p>	<p>AI includes four developmental stages: 1) reactive machines (with no memory and task-specific, e.g. an input always with the same output), 2) limited memory (AI that can temporarily store data for making decisions), 3) theory of mind (AI that models and develops emotions, beliefs, feelings), and 4) self-awareness (a state sometimes called singularity, where some believe AI could evolve beyond human control, as in the movie “2001: A Space Odyssey”).</p> <p>Much AI technology exists in the limited memory stage today, with theory of mind currently in development and self-aware yet to be explored, though some observers believe AI could reach a tipping point where it outperforms human intelligence.</p>
<p>AI data centers use an excessive amount of water.</p>	<p>Yale Professor Yuan Yao reported that “AI can enhance energy efficiency and reduce energy usage, and it assists in environmental monitoring and management, such as tracking air emissions. Moreover, AI supports process and supply chain optimization to minimize environmental impacts.”</p> <p>Additionally, using ChatGPT, a generative AI chatbot developed by OpenAI and launched in 2022, requires minimal water usage, especially when compared to other water consumption uses, such as consuming a hamburger or addressing leaking pipes.</p>
<p>AI is going to take away jobs from Americans.</p>	<p>Automation increases productivity and output and raises the amount of capital available to each worker. Automation often improves capital productivity and creates new tasks that labor can perform. In this way, AI and human capital are complementary partners in new dimensions of productivity.</p>

To learn more, read the [***Policy Focus on Artificial Intelligence***](#).