

# National Opinion Survey on Automation and Artificial Intelligence

February 19-21, 2020

Sample Size: 800 US Adults Online

Margin of Error = 3.46% at 95% Confidence Level

## Source and Methodology

Study was conducted by Matthew Detzler, MBA Student- Wayne State University, utilizing Dynata's Online Panel Book. Formerly known as Survey Sampling International, Dynata has been a supplier to market researchers since 1977 for phone and mail surveys and has been a source of online panels for over 20 years. Their Panel Book of over 35 million participants was randomly selected and balanced by demographic responses.

## Q1 - Are you over the age of 18 and currently residing in the United States of America?

Yes	100%
No	0%

## Q2 - Of the following, in your opinion what are the three most important issues facing the country today?

Healthcare	55%
Crime / Violence	38%
Immigration	34%
The Economy / Unemployment / Wages	32%
The Environment	31%
Education	21%
Race and Equality Issues	18%
Foreign Affairs / National Security	17%
Civil Political Discourse / Being Respectful to Each Other	17%

% shown are based off 800 respondents and may total to more than 100% as respondents were allowed up to three selections.

**Q3 - Thinking specifically about the following issues, for each one how important do you think that issue is for the government to address in the next 5 years.**

	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Somewhat Not Important	Not Important At All	Total Important	Total Not Important
The Government's access to people's private information.	45%	36%	14%	5%	81%	19%
Income inequality	44%	35%	13%	8%	79%	21%
Unemployment	44%	39%	13%	4%	83%	17%
Corporate intrusion on people's privacy.	43%	38%	14%	4%	81%	18%
The threat of automation on jobs and wages.	36%	42%	16%	6%	78%	22%

**Q4 - For each of the following topics, please indicate your overall favorable or unfavorable view of that topic.**

	Very Favorable	Somewhat Favorable	Neutral	Somewhat Unfavorable	Very Unfavorable	Don't Know / Not Sure	Total Favorable	Total Unfavorable
Direction of the Economy	23%	24%	25%	15%	10%	4%	47%	25%
The use of Machine Learning	18%	25%	33%	11%	5%	8%	43%	16%
The use of Automation	16%	30%	32%	12%	6%	5%	46%	18%
The use of Artificial Intelligence	16%	25%	31%	14%	8%	5%	41%	22%

**Q5A - Over the past month, have you seen, read and/or heard anything in the media (television, radio, or the internet) about the effects of automation on the economy?**

Yes	37%
No	63%

**IF YES, THEN ASK:**

**Q5B - Overall, was what you saw, read and/or heard more positive or negative about the effects of automation on the economy?**

n=295	
Much More Positive	20%
Somewhat More Positive	30%
Neutral- Neither Positive nor Negative	28%
Somewhat More Negative	20%
Much More Negative	3%
Total Positive	50%
Total Negative	23%

**Q6A - Over the past month, have you seen, read and/or heard anything in the media (television, radio, or the internet) about the use of private personal information?**

Yes	51%
No	49%

**IF YES, THEN ASK:**

**Q6B - Overall, was what you saw, read and/or heard more positive or negative about the use of private personal information?**

n=404	
Much More Positive	13%
Somewhat More Positive	19%
Neutral- Neither Positive nor Negative	21%
Somewhat More Negative	29%
Much More Negative	19%
Total Positive	32%
Total Negative	48%

**Q7 - Over the past month how much have you discussed with family, friends and/or co-workers about the effects of automation on the economy?**

A lot	10%
Some	25%
A little	22%
None at all	44%
A lot + Some	35%
A little + None at all	66%

**Q8 - Over the past month how much have you discussed with family, friends and/or co-workers about issues regarding the use of private personal information?**

A lot	16%
Some	28%
A little	22%
None at all	34%
A lot + Some	44%
A little + None at all	56%

**Q9 - In your opinion, which of the following ensures better quality. Something that is...**

Handmade	34%
Made by a person and a machine	56%
Made by a machine through automation	9%

**Q10 - Please indicate how much you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.**

	Strongly Agree	Somewhat Agree	Somewhat Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Total Agree	Total Disagree
Private information, including your address and phone number, should not be available on the internet for anyone to see.	55%	27%	12%	6%	82%	18%
Corporations have too much private information on us and are reckless with it.	42%	41%	13%	4%	83%	17%
It's worth giving up some privacy to corporations for the services they provide.	16%	35%	28%	22%	51%	50%
The Government needs unrestricted access to our private data to protect us.	12%	25%	27%	35%	37%	62%

**Q11 - Which of the following do you believe is the biggest threat to jobs and wages?**

Offshore Outsourcing	33%
Automation and Artificial Intelligence	27%
Illegal Immigration	26%
Legal Foreign Workers / Visa or Green Card Workers	9%
Other	5%

**Q12 - How concerned are you that automation, artificial intelligence or other similar advancements will replace you in your job or significantly reduce your wage?**

Very Concerned	21%
Somewhat Concerned	34%
Somewhat Not Concerned	17%
Not Concerned at All	28%
Total Concerned	55%
Total Not Concerned	45%

**Q13 - How many years do you believe it will be until technology such as automatic driving vehicles, artificial intelligence and other similar advancements will be commonplace.**

0-9 years	24%
10-19 years	37%
20-29 Years	20%
30-39 years	6%
40+ years	7%
Never	6%

**Q14 - To what degree do you believe the government should or should not take a role in addressing income inequality and job loss due to automation. The Government...**

Should take a very significant role	25%
Should take a significant role	30%
Should take a moderate role	29%
Should take a small role	8%
Should not take any role at all	8%

**Q15 - How much do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Unless we begin to address the issues of automation, artificial intelligence and other similar technologies, we will face a new Great Depression with high unemployment, poverty and income inequality. Do you...**

Strongly Agree	27%
Somewhat Agree	45%
Somewhat Disagree	21%
Strongly Disagree	7%
Total Agree	72%
Total Disagree	28%



**Q16- Thinking about the effects of automation on the economy, how much do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?**

**(Respondents to see 4 of 8 Statements)**

	Strongly Agree	Somewhat Agree	Somewhat Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Total Agree	Total Disagree
The number of people to maintain robots will never equal the amount of people the robots replaced.	32%	49%	15%	4%	81%	19%
Automation takes considerable investment, meaning fewer small companies will be able to compete.	29%	50%	17%	4%	79%	21%
America did best when it provided good paying jobs that didn't require a high-level education, automation will eliminate those jobs.	29%	43%	21%	6%	72%	27%
Companies haven't been generous in sharing productivity gains since the 1970s. New automation technology will just increase the income gap between the rich and working class.	29%	43%	23%	5%	72%	28%
It's believed that within ten years Artificial Intelligence systems will be so advanced that many, though not all, of the 2.3 million call center jobs that are in the US will be eliminated.	28%	47%	21%	4%	75%	25%
As Automation and Artificial Intelligence matures whole groups of jobs will be eliminated in a sweep. With so many jobs becoming obsolete at the same time, the economy will not be able to absorb the massive amounts of people looking for work.	28%	44%	23%	5%	72%	28%
As people lose jobs to automation, additional competition will be put on those still employed significantly reducing wages.	23%	49%	25%	4%	72%	29%
Automatic driving vehicles will take the jobs of approximately 5 million people who make their living driving vehicles. That means 3% of the US total workforce will lose their job.	22%	39%	32%	7%	61%	39%

**Q17 - Thinking about the statements you just read. Asking again, how much do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Unless we begin to address the issues of automation, artificial intelligence and other similar technologies, we will face a new Great Depression with high unemployment, poverty and income inequality. Do you...**

Strongly Agree	29%
Somewhat Agree	42%
Somewhat Disagree	21%
Strongly Disagree	8%
<b>Total Agree</b>	<b>71%</b>
<b>Total Disagree</b>	<b>29%</b>

**Q18 - Thinking about the effects of automation on the economy, how much do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?**

**(Respondents to see 4 of 4 Statements)**

	Strongly Agree	Somewhat Agree	Somewhat Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Total Agree	Total Disagree
Automation will provide cheaper goods, allowing people to buy more for far less money.	16%	45%	30%	9%	61%	39%
Automation will mostly be limited to doing the mundane and dangerous jobs.	18%	37%	35%	10%	55%	45%
Full automation is so far off that we need not worry about it now.	15%	33%	36%	15%	48%	51%
Like other technological advances automation in the short-term may cause some people to lose their job, in the long run though more jobs will be created due to technological advancements.	21%	43%	29%	7%	64%	36%

**Q19 - Thinking about all the statements you just read. Asking again, How much do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Unless we begin to address the issues of automation, artificial intelligence and other similar technologies, we will face a new Great Depression with high unemployment, poverty and income inequality. Do you...**

Strongly Agree	26%
Somewhat Agree	44%
Somewhat Disagree	23%
Strongly Disagree	8%
<b>Total Agree</b>	<b>70%</b>
<b>Total Disagree</b>	<b>31%</b>

**Q20 - Thinking about Automation and Artificial intelligence, which of the following proposals would you support? (Click All That Apply)**

Ensure a livable wage for all who work.	50%
Stricter regulations on automatic driven vehicles on public roads.	43%
Removing the payroll tax to encourage the hiring of people.	29%
A technology dividend in the form of guaranteed minimum income for all adults whether they work or not.	28%
Property tax on robots and other automation equipment	24%
None of the Above	15%

**D1 - The following questions are only used for statistical purposes. What is your age?**

The following questions are only used for statistical purposes. What is your age?	Percentage
18-24	8%
25-34	17%
35-44	24%
45-54	18%
55-64	17%
65+	16%

**D2- What is your gender?**

	Percentage
Male	49.1%
Female	50.6%
Other (Please specify)	0.3%

**D3 - What is your ethnicity? (Click all that apply)**

	% of 800 Respondents
Caucasian/White	69%
Hispanic/Latino	10%
African American/Black	13%
Native American	2%
Asian/Pacific Islander	8%
Other	1%

#### **D4 - What is your highest degree or education level you have completed?**

Some high school	3%
High school diploma or equivalent	22%
Some college	22%
Associate Degree	11%
Bachelor's Degree	26%
Postgraduate Degree	16%

#### **D5 - What is your current employment status?**

Employed full time (40+ hours a week)	46%
Employed part time (less than 40 hours a week)	10%
Self Employed	8%
Unemployed (currently looking for work)	5%
Unemployed (not currently looking for work)	5%
Retired	21%
Student that is not working	2%
Other	3%

**D6 - The following questions are only used for statistical purposes. What is your marital status?**

Single/Never married	31%
Married	51%
In a domestic partnership	5%
Divorced	10%
Widowed	3%

**D7 - Which of the following best describes your household income?**

\$0-\$19,999	14%
\$20,000-\$34,999	14%
\$35,000-\$49,999	16%
\$50,000-\$74,999	21%
\$75,000-\$99,999	13%
\$100,000-\$149,999	14%
\$150,000-\$199,999	4%
\$200,000+	3%

**D8 - In which state do you reside?  
(Results show by Census Region)**

Northeast	21%
Midwest	23%
South	35%
West	21%

**D9 - How likely are you to vote in the next election?**

Very Likely	69%
Somewhat Likely	18%
Somewhat Unlikely	6%
Very Unlikely	7%
Total Likely	87%
Total Unlikely	13%

**D10A - In general how would you describe your political outlook?**

**IF "None of the Above", THEN ASK:**

**D10B - Though in general you may not see your political views as conservative or liberal, which way would you say you are more likely to lean towards?**

Very Conservative	16%
Somewhat Conservative	31%
Leaning Conservative	2%
Leaning Liberal	1%
Somewhat Liberal	27%
Very Liberal	12%
None of the Above	11%
Total Conservative	49%
Total Liberal	40%