WORCESTER · WESTERN MASSACHUSETTS · COMMONWEALTH

When AI Comes Home



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CONTEXT · UNITED STATES AND GLOBAL

Nationally, about 9.3 million US jobs are at risk from AI

AMERICAN AI JOBS RISK INDEX · 784 OCCUPATIONS · 530 METROS

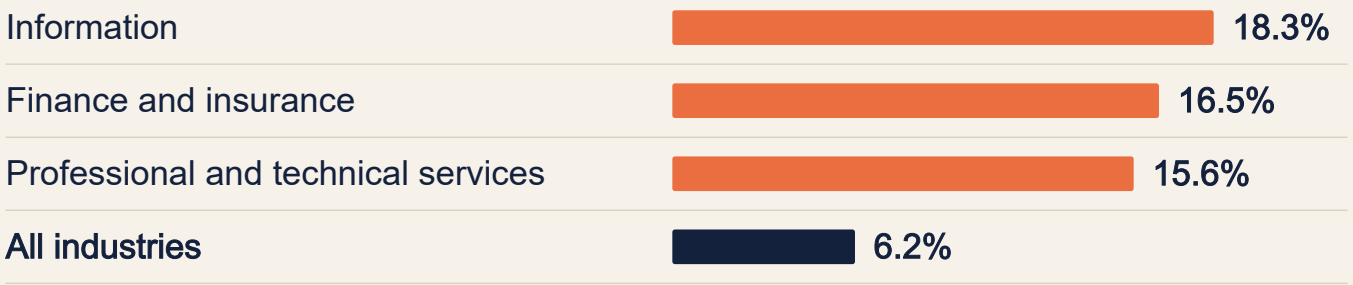
9.3M

US jobs at risk of displacement in the next 2–5 years, central scenario; range 2.7M to 19.5M

$757B

Income at risk each year, central scenario; range $200B to $1.5T

SHARE OF JOBS AT RISK, BY SECTOR · MEDIAN SCENARIO



Sources: Digital Planet, American AI Jobs Risk Index (March 2026); Register of AI Risks & Remedies v21 (Oct. 19, 2026).

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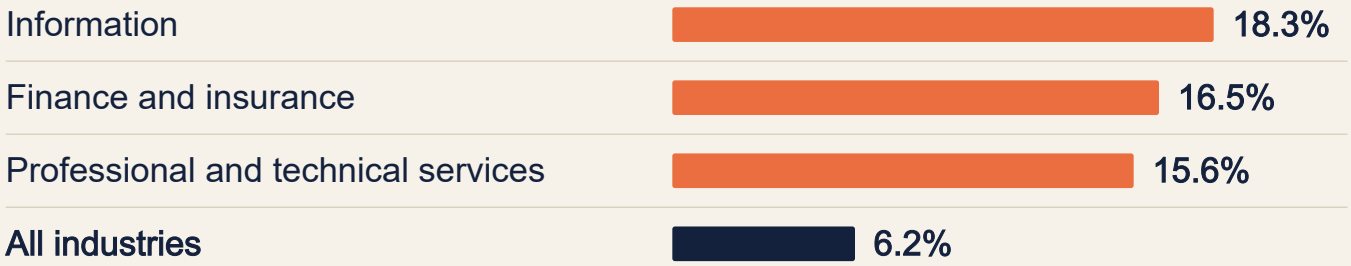
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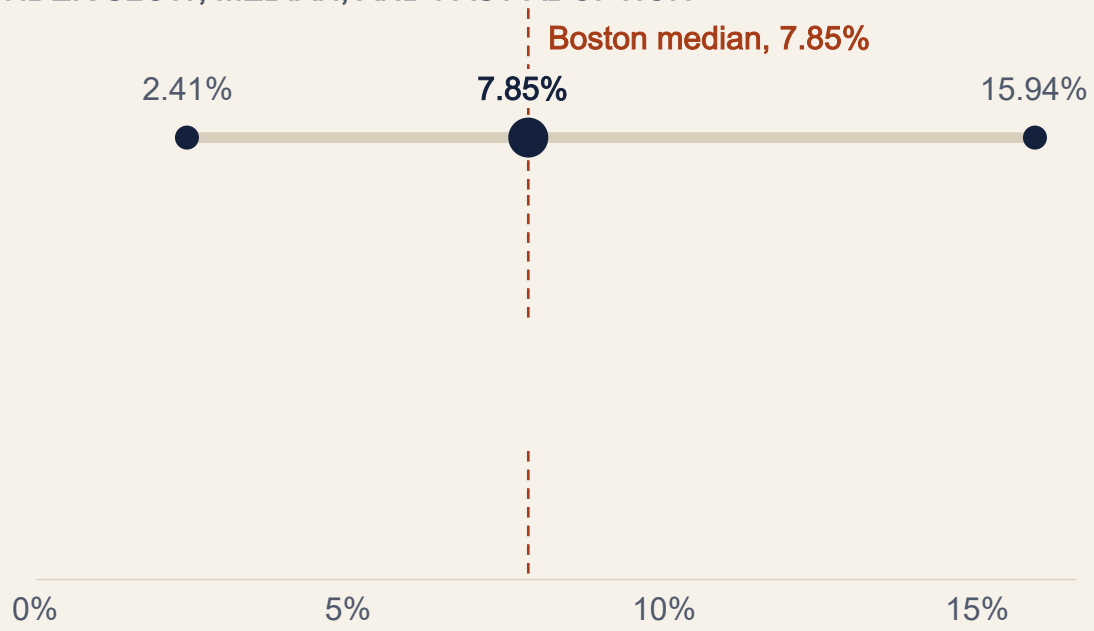
Massachusetts has the highest job -loss rate of any of the 50 states.

Sources: Digital Planet, American AI Jobs Risk Index (March 2026); Register of AI Risks & Remedies v21 (Oct. 19, 2026).

MASSACHUSETTS · BOSTON METRO · WORCESTER REGION

Worcester is less exposed than Boston

SHARE OF JOBS LOST UNDER SLOW, MEDIAN, AND FAST ADOPTION



Dots, left to right: slow, median, fast adoption. Totals under each name are the median scenario. Boston metro includes southern New Hampshire.

Source: Digital Planet AI and Jobs workbook (March 2026). Scenario estimates; not observed layoffs.

MASSACHUSETTS · BOSTON METRO · WORCESTER REGION

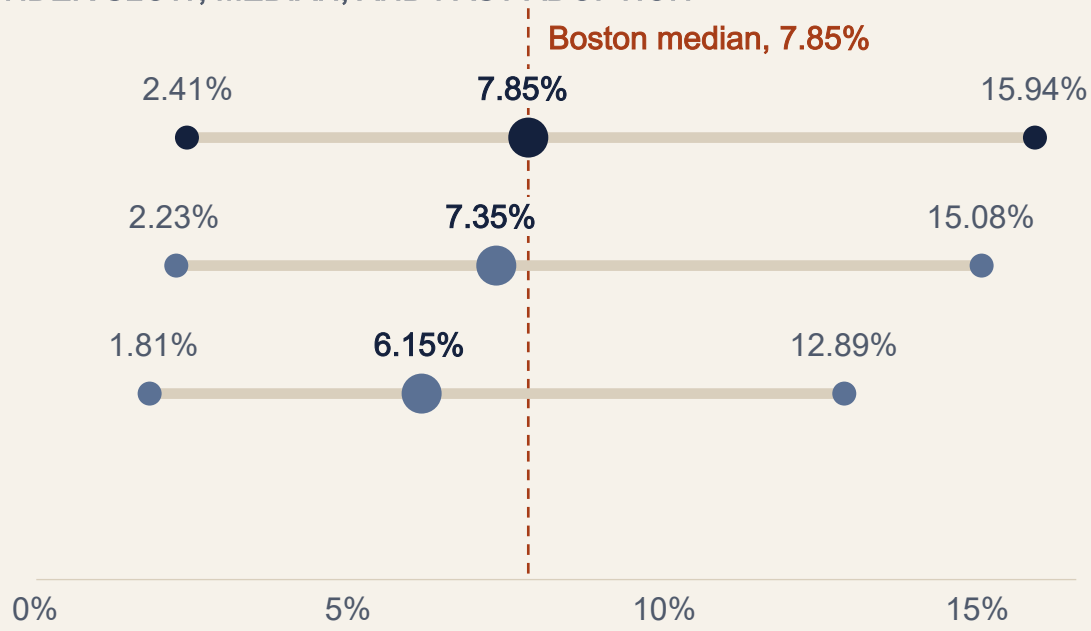
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SHARE OF JOBS LOST UNDER SLOW, MEDIAN, AND FAST ADOPTION

Boston metro
207,019 jobs · $21.3B

Massachusetts
260,944 jobs · $25.7B

United States
9.31M jobs · $757B



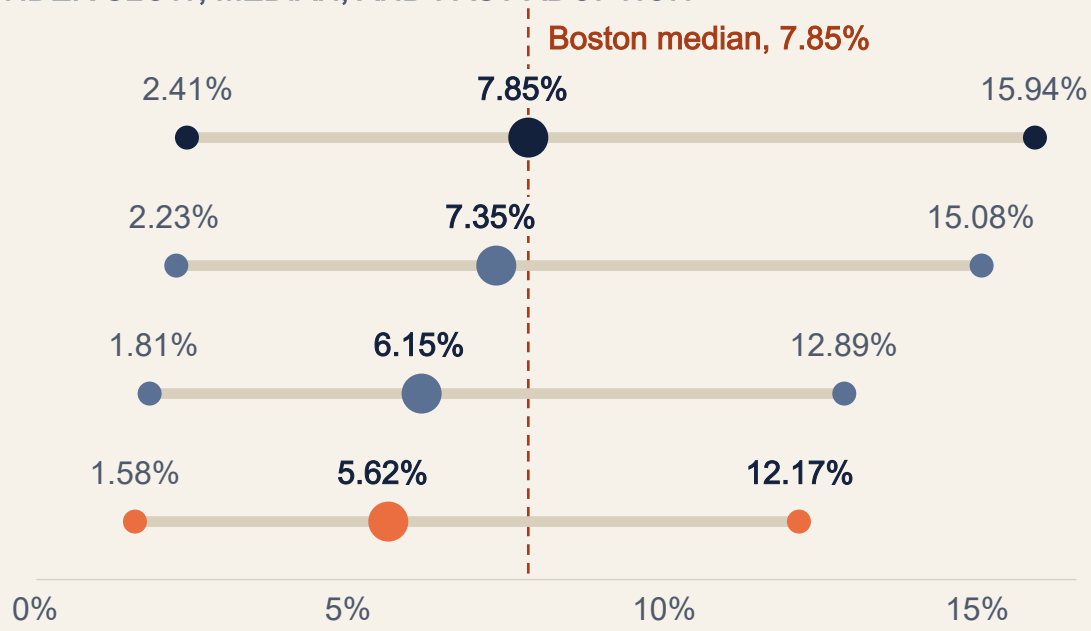
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#12
Boston metro, of 530 US regions

#106
Worcester region, of 530 US regions

Source: Digital Planet AI and Jobs workbook (March 2026). Scenario estimates; not observed layoffs.

WORCESTER COUNTY · WHY THE REGION IS LESS EXPOSED

Worcester’s job mix leans away from the most exposed sectors

JOBS PER 1,000 PEOPLE, 2022 · COUNTY VS STATE



	Below MA	Above MA	County vs MA	US loss rate
Sectors most exposed nationally				
Information			11 vs 24	**18.3%**
Financial activities			93 vs 120	**13.8%**
Professional and business services			132 vs 174	**11.3%**
Where the county leans				
Trade, transportation, and utilities			184 vs 157	**4.2%**
Health care and social assistance			156 vs 140	**3.6%**
Government			116 vs 92	**7.8%**
Manufacturing			75 vs 50	**4.3%**

Sector mix explains about two-fifths of Worcester’s lower rate.

CITY OF WORCESTER, 2024

33.7%

of jobs are in education, health care, and social assistance

Sources: WRRB and Worcester County Insights; Digital Planet AI and Jobs workbook (March 2026).

Six domains where AI risk reaches beyond jobs

DOMAIN
Healthcare
Education and young people
Logistics, retail, manufacturing
Credit, housing, benefits
Households and organizations
Utilities and public finance

Sources: Digital Planet AI and Jobs workbook (March 2026); Register of AI Risks & Remedies v21 (Oct. 19, 2026). Local priorit ies are interpretive.

BEYOND JOB LOSSES · WHAT A JOBS MODEL DOES NOT CAPTURE

Six domains where AI risk reaches beyond jobs

DOMAIN	WHAT CAN GO WRONG
Healthcare	Unequal access to care; wrong answers and weaker clinical judgment
Education and young people	Lost entry routes and skills; image -based abuse; harmful crisis responses
Logistics, retail, manufacturing	Algorithmic management and surveillance; physical harm from embodied AI
Credit, housing, benefits	Discriminatory underwriting and screening; eligibility barriers
Households and organizations	Impersonation and fraud; intrusion; agents acting with unclear authority
Utilities and public finance	Ratepayer cost -shifting, site -specific water demands, land -use burdens

Sources: Digital Planet AI and Jobs workbook (March 2026); Register of AI Risks & Remedies v21 (Oct. 19, 2026). Local priorit ies are interpretive.

BEYOND JOB LOSSES · WHAT A JOBS MODEL DOES NOT CAPTURE

Six domains where AI risk reaches beyond jobs

DOMAIN	WHAT CAN GO WRONG	WHAT LOCAL INSTITUTIONS CAN DO
Healthcare	Unequal access to care; wrong answers and weaker clinical judgment	**Test the clinical objective; keep a safe fallback with clinical override**
Education and young people	Lost entry routes and skills; image -based abuse; harmful crisis responses	**Measure learning, not usage; plan safeguarding before an incident**
Logistics, retail, manufacturing	Algorithmic management and surveillance; physical harm from embodied AI	**Monitor workload, hours and wages, and appeal rights**
Credit, housing, benefits	Discriminatory underwriting and screening; eligibility barriers	**A reason for the decision, a correction route, and a reachable human**
Households and organizations	Impersonation and fraud; intrusion; agents acting with unclear authority	**Verify unusual requests independently; limit agent permissions**
Utilities and public finance	Ratepayer cost -shifting, site -specific water demands, land -use burdens	**Project -specific evidence of who pays and the net local benefit**

Sources: Digital Planet AI and Jobs workbook (March 2026); Register of AI Risks & Remedies v21 (Oct. 19, 2026). Local priorit ies are interpretive.