ANTHROP\C

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February 2, 2026

The Honorable Rick Allen
Chairman, Subcommittee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
Committee on Education and Workforce
2176 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mark DeSaulnier
Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
Committee on Education and Workforce
2176 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

RE: Subcommittee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions, "Building an AI-Ready America: Adopting AI at Work"

Dear Chairman Allen and Ranking Member DeSaulnier,

Thank you to the Subcommittee for holding this hearing. Anthropic is an AI safety company and the developer of Claude, a family of large language models used by individuals and businesses across the United States and around the world. We are pleased to share our perspective on how AI is being adopted in the workplace, what that adoption is revealing about the nature of workforce change, and how policymakers can work with the private sector to better understand and navigate this transition.

The Anthropic Economic Index: Measuring AI Adoption in Real Time

One year ago, in February 2025, we launched the Anthropic Economic Index, a research program designed to provide public transparency into how AI is actually being adopted across the U.S. economy. Using privacy-preserving analysis of anonymized Claude usage data, our Economic Index tracks which occupations and industries are seeing the most AI interaction, how those patterns are shifting over time, and what they may signal about broader workforce change. We have now published four reports, with our most recent in January 2026, and the data across them is beginning to reveal not just a snapshot of adoption, but the trajectory of change.[1]

What the Data Is Telling Us: A Year in Transition

Our research reveals that AI adoption is both accelerating and broadening faster than many anticipated. In our first report, with data from January 2025, we found that 36% of jobs saw AI being used for at least a

[1]Anthropic, "The Anthropic Economic Index," Feb. 10, 2025, www.anthropic.com/research/the-anthropic-economic-index.

quarter of their tasks. By November 2025, that figure had risen to 49% — a 13 percentage point increase in less than a year.[2]

Coding and technical work continue to dominate AI usage, representing roughly a third of all conversations on Claude.ai and nearly half of enterprise API traffic — though coding's share has declined from a peak of 40% in early 2025 to 34% in our most recent report. Meanwhile, knowledge-intensive fields are catching up fast. Educational tasks surged from 9% to 15% of usage over the course of 2025. Usage remains highly concentrated: the top ten tasks still account for 24% of all conversations.[3]

Geographic adoption tells a story of rapid diffusion. In our September 2025 report, we found that adoption across U.S. states was highly uneven, with technology-intensive regions like Washington, D.C. leading at 3.82 times the national per-capita average.[4] By January, our data showed this geographic gap was narrowing meaningfully: our models project that if current convergence trends continue, per-capita AI usage could equalize across U.S. states within two to five years — roughly ten times faster than the geographic diffusion of earlier economically consequential technologies like personal computers or the internet.[5]

Our January 2026 report also introduced new "economic primitives" to measure how AI affects productivity across different types of work. The findings raise important distributional questions: AI delivers its largest productivity gains on more complex, higher-skill tasks. Tasks requiring a college degree see an average 12x speedup, and AI is disproportionately covering tasks that require an average of 14.4 years of education — compared to the economy-wide average of 13.2 years. Notably, AI's success rates on these higher-complexity tasks are lower than on simpler ones — 66% versus 70% — suggesting that the largest productivity gains come precisely where human judgment and oversight remain most essential.

This pattern is likely to play out unevenly across occupations. In some professions — such as radiology or therapy — AI is absorbing time-intensive tasks and freeing workers to focus on the higher-judgment work at the core of their role. In others — such as data entry or travel planning — AI is taking over the tasks that previously required the most specialized expertise, potentially leaving human workers with less skilled work.

Finally, our data reveals a dynamic picture of how AI is being used, particularly in enterprise settings. On Claude.ai, the balance between augmentation (where users collaborate with AI iteratively) and automation (where users delegate tasks entirely) shows a roughly even split, with the balance partly shaped by new model capabilities and new product features — such innovations both automate some tasks and open up new forms of collaboration. Among our enterprise API customers, however, the pattern is starker: 75% of

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[2] Appel, Ruth, et al. "Anthropic Economic Index Report: Economic Primitives." Jan. 15, 2026, www.anthropic.com/research/anthropic-economic-index-january-2026-report.
[3] Appel, Ruth, et al. "Anthropic Economic Index Report: Economic Primitives." Jan. 15, 2026, www.anthropic.com/research/anthropic-economic-index-january-2026-report.
[4] Appel, Ruth, et al. "Anthropic Economic Index Report: Uneven Geographic and Enterprise AI Adoption." Sept. 15, 2025, www.anthropic.com/research/anthropic-economic-index-september-2025-report.
[5] Appel, Ruth, et al. "Anthropic Economic Index Report: Economic Primitives." Jan. 15, 2026, www.anthropic.com/research/anthropic-economic-index-january-2026-report.

business use involves task automation. This suggests that as businesses integrate AI into production workflows, they are increasingly deploying it to automate tasks and workflows rather than augmenting them. Such automation may more directly displace some forms of work — a trend policymakers will want to monitor closely.[6]

What AI Adoption Looks Like From the Inside

Aggregate data tells us where AI is being adopted, but not what that transition looks like for workers themselves. In December 2025, Anthropic published research examining how AI is changing work for our own engineers and researchers. We offer these findings not as representative of the economy at large, but as an instructive early signal.[7]

Three findings stand out. First, AI is augmenting rather than replacing work: engineers reported using Claude in roughly 60% of their work, but could fully delegate only 0–20% of it. Second, AI is enabling work that would not otherwise get done — about 27% of Claude-assisted work fell into this category. Third, effective AI use requires strong underlying skills. Our engineers identified a paradox of supervision: the skills needed to oversee AI outputs are the same skills that may atrophy from over-reliance on it. This dynamic has direct implications for workforce readiness and training.[8]

Policy Recommendations

The data available today is a valuable starting point, but it is far from sufficient to guide the workforce policy decisions ahead. For example, the Anthropic Economic Index covers a subset of our own usage data, and Claude is just one of the frontier models in use across the economy. Headline unemployment remains important, but it is a lagging indicator that can mask significant disruption. Informed workforce policy requires both richer data and more sophisticated analysis. We offer two recommendations.

1. **First, we encourage Congress and the Administration to invest in expanded data collection on AI adoption** — from both firms and frontier AI labs. Federal statistical agencies — including the Bureau of Labor Statistics and Census Bureau — should be resourced to track AI deployment across the economy in real time. The Business Trends and Outlook Survey (BTOS) and similar instruments should be expanded to capture how AI is changing work at the occupation and sector level using metrics that are directly observable, including AI usage rates and use intensity, worker productivity indicators by level of AI adoption, and share of work automated by AI vs. augmented by AI.

   Frontier AI labs can complement this data with signals that firm-level surveys cannot easily capture — such as the geographic dispersion of AI adoption, the complexity and skill-level of tasks being performed with AI assistance, and the degree to which AI is augmenting versus automating work. The Anthropic Economic Index demonstrates that this kind of transparency is feasible while preserving user privacy. We believe it should become an industry norm, and we

[6] Appel, Ruth, et al. "Anthropic Economic Index Report: Economic Primitives." Jan. 15, 2026, www.anthropic.com/research/anthropic-economic-index-january-2026-report.
[7] Huang, Saffron, et al. "How AI Is Transforming Work at Anthropic." Dec. 2, 2025, www.anthropic.com/research/how-ai-is-transforming-work-at-anthropic.
[8] Huang, Saffron, et al. "How AI Is Transforming Work at Anthropic." Dec. 2, 2025, www.anthropic.com/research/how-ai-is-transforming-work-at-anthropic.

encourage policymakers to encourage voluntary data release by both frontier AI labs and large American companies adopting AI.

2. **Second, we encourage the development of a formal monitoring framework** that pairs leading and lagging indicators to provide earlier warning of disruption. Leading indicators — such as monthly job destruction rates in AI-exposed occupations, entry-level hiring trends, and occupational churn velocity — can provide earlier signals that disruption is accelerating. We believe government labor data should be paired with private-sector AI adoption data to enable this kind of real-time monitoring. Expanded data collection and labor market tracking of this kind improve policy responsiveness under any scenario — whether AI's labor effects prove modest or severe.

We thank the Subcommittee again for this hearing and welcome the opportunity to partner with this committee as it weighs the impacts of AI on the workforce and greater economy.

Sincerely,

Brian Peters
Head of North America Government Affairs
Anthropic