McKinsey & Company

# Unleashing GenAI through People

October 2023



CONFIDENTIAL AND PROPRIETARY Any use of this material without specific permission of McKinsey & Company is strictly prohibited

## **Contents**

**1** What is Generative AI (GenAI)?

2 How does GenAl affect people and organizations?

How are other companies getting started on GenAl?



1

What is Generative AI?

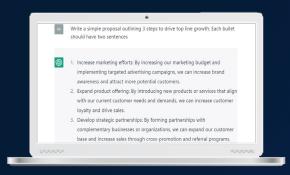


## What is Generative AI?

Generative AI (GenAI) enables the creation of new unstructured content, such as text, images, etc.

GenAl is powered by Foundation
Models (artificial intelligence models)
trained on a **broad set of data** that can
be adapted to a wide range of tasks

These models are typically also **better** at interpreting / labelling unstructured data than traditional Al



Generate marketing or social media copy in "house style" using ChatGPT, Copy.A, etc.



Accelerate the drug discovery process, reducing time in laboratories with ABSCI, etc.



Create new product design concepts using DALL-E2, Stable Diffusion, etc.



Automate code generation in programming languages like Python with Codex/Github Copilot, etc.

## We see 4 leading uses of Generative AI

**Archetype** 

## **Content Synthesis**



## **Coding & Software**



## **Content** generation



### **Customer Engagement**



**Description** 

Generate insights and drive actions based on summarization and synthesis of unstructured data Interpret and generate code and documentation

Support ideation for new product development or generate personalized marketing copy

Streamline interactions by interpreting text or model customer journeys

Selected use cases

Extract insights from large document sets (e.g., ESG information from sustainability reports)

Augment capabilities of operations staff (e.g., chat interface for maintenance operator)

Generate code and assist developers

Refactor or translate code to accelerate mainframe migration

Personalized customer comms or marketing

Generate RfPs or technical documents

Generate visuals (images, designs, 3D models) to accelerate the product design process

Streamline customer communications, e.g., issue resolution (driving action to resolve) and Q&A

Model and predict elements in patient or customer journey

### **Examples**

Technical report query







#### Code optimization





#### Design ideation



#### Always on chat bot



# The world of Generative AI is far broader than ChatGPT and large language models, and has many applications



Early adoption of Generative AI indicates the impact of AI in day-to-day life is taking off Adoption rates are reaching scale faster than ever before with users actively engaging with multiple applications

Time to 1 million users1



2

How does GenAI affect people and organizations?



## GenAI's impact on organizations will be faster, broader and deeper

### Continuation...



Automation and digitization reshaping Future of Work and Future of Workforce



Demographic shifts changing structure of workforces and talent pools



Employees placing increased demands on their (potential) employers



...and exacerbation of talent challenges and opportunities



#### **Faster**

The pace of workforce transformation is likely to accelerate



### Broader

GenAl will reshape the way we work impacting all employees, incl. occupations with higher levels of education



### Deeper

GenAl has the potential to change the anatomy of work, augmenting individual tasks for all employees

## 10 year

acceleration of widespread automation compared to pre-GenAl

## 70%

of jobs significantly exposed to automation due to GenAl – with some professions 2X compared to pre GenAl

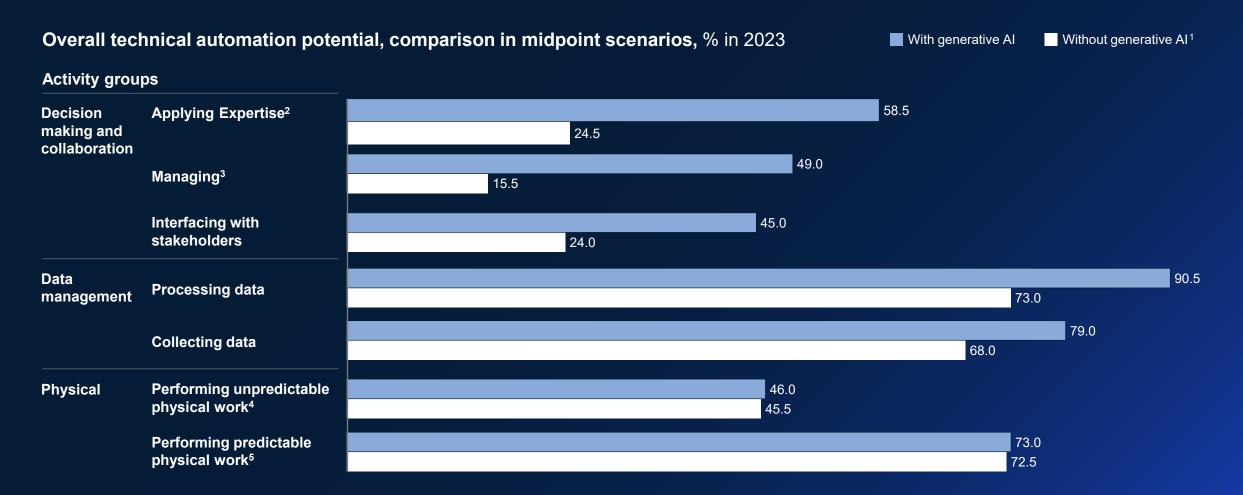
## 25%

of employees' time previously not automatable, is now potentially automatable by GenAl

Source: McKinsey Global Institute

McKinsey & Company

# Generative AI could have the biggest impact on collaboration and the application of expertise, activities that previously had a lower potential for automation



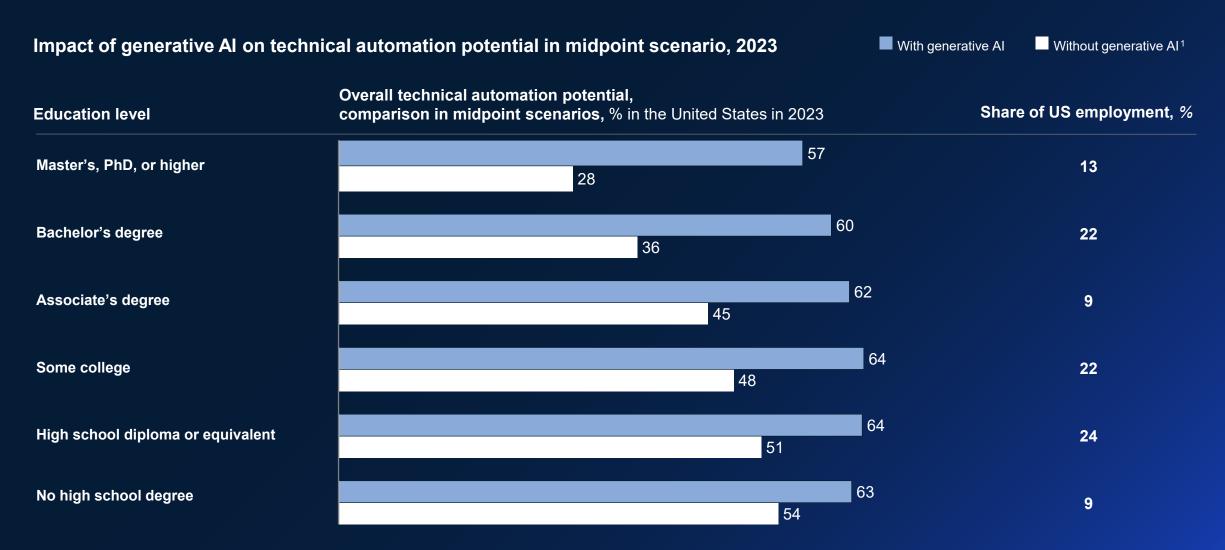
Note: Figures may not sum, because of rounding

<sup>1.</sup> Previous assessment of work automation before the rise of generative Al. 2. Applying expertise to decision making, planning, and creative tasks.

<sup>3.</sup> Managing and developing people. 4. Performing physical activities and operating machinery in unpredictable environments.

<sup>5.</sup> Performing physical activities and operating machinery in predictable environments.

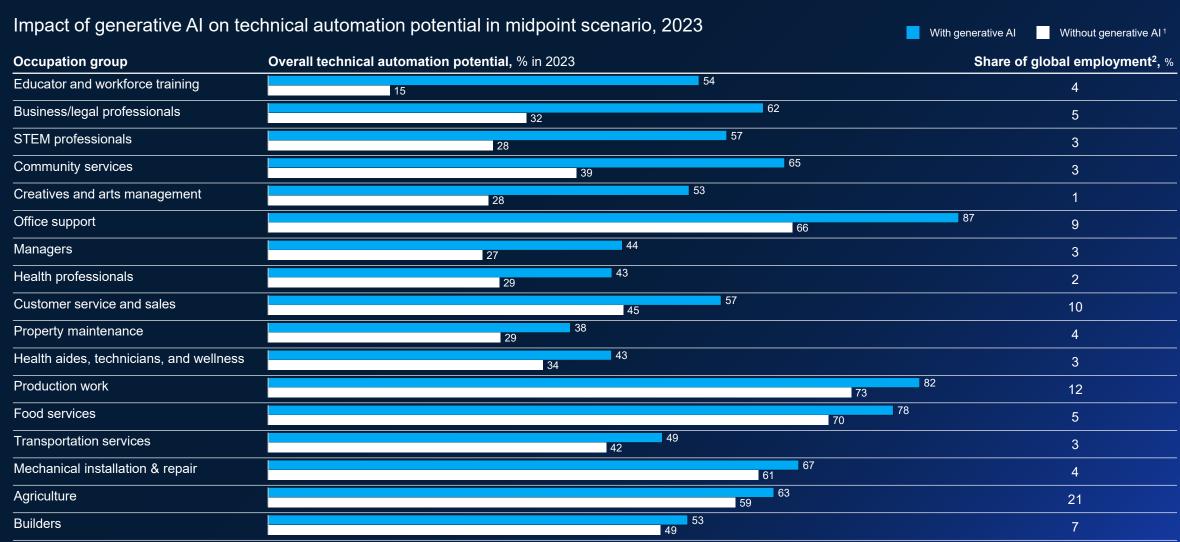
# Generative AI increases the potential for technical automation most in occupations requiring high levels of educational attainment.



<sup>1.</sup> Previous assessment of work automation before the rise of generative AI.

Source: McKinsey Global Institute analysis

# Advances in technical capabilities could have the most impact on activities performed by educators, professionals, and creatives



63

51

Note: Figures may not sum, because of rounding.

Total

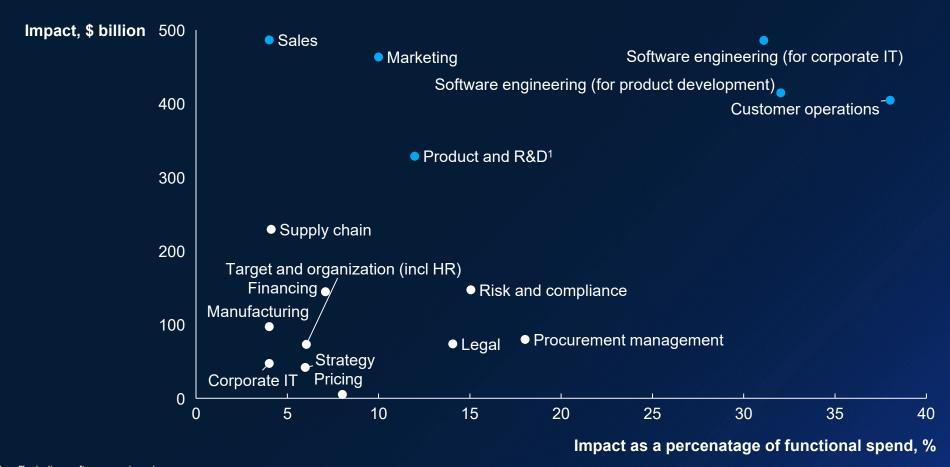
100

<sup>1.</sup> Previous assessment of work automation before the rise of generative Al.

<sup>2.</sup> Includes data from 47 countries, representing around 80% of employment across the world.

# Using generative AI in just a few functions could drive most of the technology's impact across potential corporate use cases





Excluding software engineering
 Note: Impact is averaged.
 Source: Comparative Industry Services (CIS), HIS Markit; Oxford Economics; McKinsey Corporate and Business Functions database; McKinsey Manufacturing and Supply Chain 360; McKinsey Sales Navigator; Ignite, a McKinsey database; McKinsey analysis

## GenAI opportunities exist across the talent lifecycle

Non exhaustive

Workforce planning



Talent acquisition



Onboarding



Talent management



5 Learning



Conduct labor market analysis

Create organization Draft customized candidate communications

Draft skill-based job postings

Create pre-onboarding checklist and assist with forms

Virtual "buddy" to answer common early-hire questions

Career co-pilot to uncover career paths and draft associated development plans

Develop learning and employment records

Create simulation-based, personalized learning experiences

Develop multimodal learning content (not limited to text)

Performance management and coaching



**7** Benefits



Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion



Employer and Manager Self Service



Workforce productivity



Aggregate performance input from multiple sources for manager review

Assist in developing specific goals tied to business strategy

Answer benefits eligibility questions via advanced chatbot

Assist in suggesting additional benefits offerings for which employees are eligible

Aid in accessibility with multi-model support (text, image, language) – including translation

Support DEI in implementation of GenAI across other elements of talent lifecycle

Provide self-service through improved interface for administrative tasks

Auto-complete medical leave form

Summarize / create first drafts to save time and enhance productivity

Summarize meetings and send to attendees

# GenAI can create first-drafts, personalized content and enhance accessibility but must be used with caution in domains of high risk

Non-exhaustive

### **GenAl's functional strengths in the People Domain...**

### **Capability Use Cases**

# Providing easy-to-use information

- Career navigation (e.g., "what career paths exists for people with skills like me?")
- Employee **policy information** (e.g., "what are the steps to apply for FMLA<sup>1</sup>?")
- Benefits selection and navigation (e.g., "where can I get a colonoscopy covered by the plan?");
- Trends in employee concerns

# Generating customized content

- Candidate communications (e.g., tailored thank you communications in the organization's tone)
- Customized learning scenarios (e.g., training customized to an upcoming event)
- Survey communications (e.g., tailored follow-ups to boost response rates)

#### "Co-pilot": Generating draft content

for human

review

- **Job descriptions** for well-understood roles
- Employee feedback from multiple sources for performance management process
- Drafts of individual development plan for discussion with manager
- Drafts of action plans following employee survey results

## **Enhancing** accessibility

- Translation of employee-relevant content into different languages
- Conversion of corporate job descriptions into easy-to-understand descriptions for frontline workers
- Image-to-text work aids for visually impaired (e.g., GenAl coach for step-by-step advice via headset for neurodiverse colleague)

## GenAl's limitations/shortcomings in the People Domain...





Writing survey questions – ChatGPT has the functionality, but output may not be effective (i.e., due to limited context, need for human survey designer, potential bias and inappropriate language)



Drafting content and making decisions related to job design, pay, or performance – It can lead to high risk of potential bias and misrepresentation (e.g., based on demographics or due to model inaccuracies) especially if used without human-in-the-loop



Providing responses with employment law implications – It can lead to legal and reputational risks especially if the model is unable to extract the right information from pre-written policy pages or without human-in-the-loop (e.g., "is my job really supervisory?", "what is the process for filing a harassment complaint?")

1. Family and Medical Leave Act

McKinsey & Company

### Gen AI and skill-based practices

Skills-based practices move beyond traditional approaches and help solve employers' toughest talent challenges – by focusing on knowledge, skills, and abilities (vs credentials) needed to do a job

### **Examples**:

- Expand talent pipelines look for candidates outside of industry with non-traditional experience
- Write job postings based on core skills needed, instead of core experiences or credentials obtained
- Evaluate candidates based on demonstration of skills and willingness to learn
- **Promote internally** using upskilling trainings and apprenticeships

**Examples of how GenAl can help accelerate** skill-based practices

Draft skill based job descriptions – and find talent which could match: Beamery's Talent GPT can help write skill-based job descriptions – and find where talent with relevant skills exist internally and externally

Write better interview questions: Interview Question Generator powered by SkillsEngine and OpenAl makes skills-based interviews easier by generating skill-based questions

**Provide career navigation for learners**: Gen Alpowered talent management platforms can provide guidance to employees on what careers could be available for someone with their skills – as well as what learnings and job experiences would be required for the next roles

3

How are others getting started?



## How we have seen People Function lead on GenAI

Assess automation impact by
area of workforce – and
implications on roles,
functions, and ways of
working

# Prioritization of HR- specific use cases (and integration into People transformation agenda)

## Design, build, and implement GenAl solutions in People domain

## GenAl governance and operating model

### GenAl Acadeny

**Examples of Activities** 

Rapidly identify roles – and functions -- most likely to be impacted by automation – including GenAi over next 5 years

For higher priority areas, develop 3-5 year automation roadmap by function linked to shifting customer expectations, emerging technology, and operational plans (including technical foundation required)

Understand organization-wide implications – including enterprise tools, cross functional ways of working, and talent needs

Build list of domains with GenAl use cases

Prioritize / confirm use cases for piloting deployment

For prioritized use cases of deep dives build

- Value proposition and business case
- Pilot execution plan
- Technology requirements (e.g., data, consumption model)
- Organizational readiness assessment
- Responsible Al (e.g., risk assessment)

Prepare for delivery (design concept & workplan, align requirements & resourcing, staff team)

Lead rapid design and dev sprints to build and launch an MVP

Set and track OKRs, refine and learn

Build capabilities and conduct change management

Communicate success stories and learnings across the organization

Collect and assess progress of current state efforts (owners, resources, areas of focus, etc.)

Develop Responsible AI principles and governance framework for GenAI including operating model for GenAI – including Legal, Product, IT, and HR

Stand up GenAl pilot program with tangible assets to be produced, areas/groups of people for pilot, key activities & owners, pilot milestones, success markers to scale

For executives: Plan and execute "Go & Learn" for executive colleagues

For "makers" (i.e., product and business owners): upskilling on technical and responsible AI elements of GenAI as required for build (e.g., vector databases; core design tradeoffs)

For knowledge workers across org: upskilling on core tools; demonstrating personal productivity enhancements; managing risk)

#### **Outcomes**



Rapid identification of roles most likely to be impacted by GenAl – to assist in prioritization of enterprise-wide use cases

Functional automation roadmap - in conjunction with junctions

Talent, enterprise-wide tool, and governance roadmap

Validated value and feasibility assessment of priority use cases

Integrated GenAl roadmap tied to People function strategy

2-4 high impact use cases for activation

Launched pilot with ongoing tracking against OKRs

Consolidated, clear-eyed view of current state and success criteria

GenAl principles, guardrails and governance model

Business executives empowered with knowledge of GenAl capabilities to explore opportunities

Equipping "makers" and the broader organization to explore GenAl