CPA

Practice Advisor

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and a variety of bots are reshaping many professions, how worried are American workers that they will lose their jobs as a result of these technologies?

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With frequent articles and commentary on how artificial intelligence, automation and a variety of bots are reshaping many professions, how worried are American workers that they will lose their jobs as a result of these technologies?

Not very much, is the answer, according to new research from global staffing firm Robert Half. Only about 12% of workers say they are concerned that AI and automation will have a negative impact on their job. Many more see a silver lining in the phenomenon: about four in 10 (39%) believe these and other new technologies will have a positive effect, while 49% don't think they will be affected much at all.

But futurists and staffing experts interviewed for the Jobs and AI Anxiety report

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advancements in the workplace will be best positioned for success."

Additional Findings

- In addition to requiring new skills (47%), employers said other top impacts of new technologies on their staff include:
 - Increased employee productivity (47%)
 - o More time for teams to focus on strategic areas (44%)
 - New career opportunities (44%)
 - Change in processes (44%)
- Almost 2 in 5 employees (39%) said they see AI and automation having a positive impact on their job, mainly for the following reasons:
 - Increased productivity (33%)
 - o Ability to develop new skills and deliver better business solutions (27%)
 - Opportunity to focus on creativity and problem-solving (27%)
- Among the 28 U.S. cities in the worker survey, Indianapolis, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Minneapolis and Cleveland have the most professionals who think AI and automation will have no impact on their job.

Upskilling for the Future

Business leaders surveyed for the report expect to upgrade the technological skills of their workforce by training current staff (64%), hiring new staff (47%), working with external service providers (47%) and bringing in consultants who are subject matter experts (45%). But 82% of managers think it will be challenging to get their staff up to speed on new technologies, and 80% anticipate it will be difficult to find professionals with the requisite expertise.

"Technology disruptions create a level playing field for professionals and businesses, which can be exciting but also a little overwhelming," McDonald added..

"Employees can help future-proof their careers by learning new skills to make them

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