

Generative AI Snapshot Research

Sales



71%

Generative AI is here to stay, but sales teams are holding back

New research among over 1,000 salespeople reveals adoption of this technology lags behind their marketing counterparts. While many see generative AI as transformative to their role, like increasing sales efficiency and ROI - something is holding them back. A skills and trust gap.

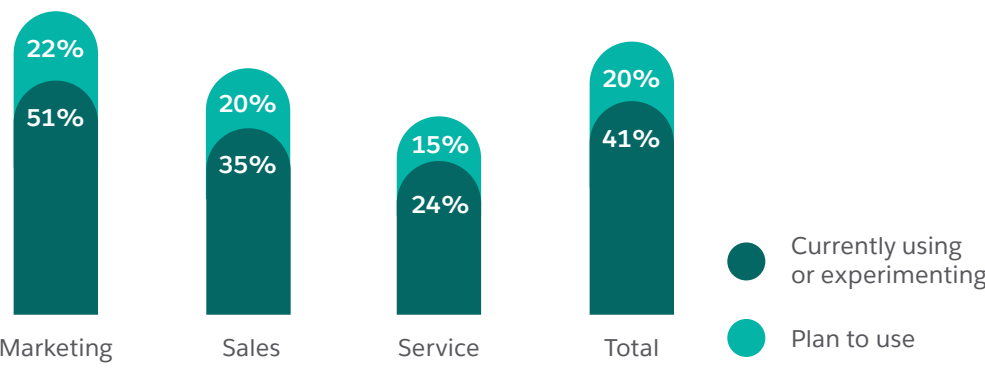
53%

of salespeople **do not know how to get the most value** out of generative AI at work

55%

say **trusted customer data is critical** in successfully using generative AI in their role

Sales professionals report low generative AI adoption



However, sales teams report clear benefits of generative AI to the customer experience

61% of salespeople believe generative AI helps them **better** serve their customers.

61% of salespeople believe generative AI helps them **sell efficiently**

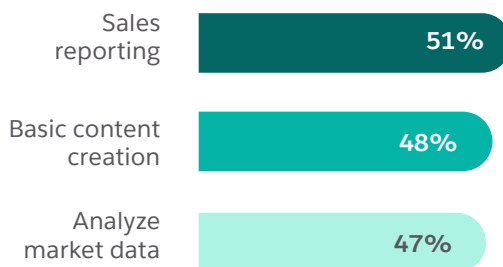
56% of salespeople believe generative AI will help them **increase sales**

Sales and service professionals who do report using generative AI leverage it for basic tasks such as content creation and automating communications, though they believe the technology would be most transformative around more dynamic, complex use cases like sales reporting and improving self-service.

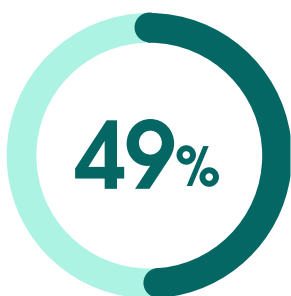
Salespeople Use Generative AI For



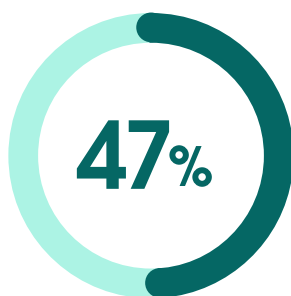
Salespeople Believe Generative AI Transforms How They Do The Following



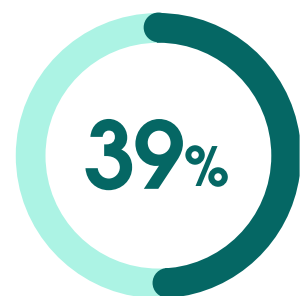
But these teams worry about the impact of generative AI on their role - expressing little knowledge on how to successfully use the technology



of salespeople **don't know how to safely use generative AI at work** (i.e, using trusted data sources and keeping first-party data secure)



of salespeople say they **don't know how to effectively use generative AI.**



sales professionals **worry they will lose their job if they don't learn how to use generative AI at work.**

For customer-facing teams to successfully work alongside generative AI, businesses must close the trust and skills gap

Skills gap

63% of salespeople expect their employer to provide them with opportunities to learn how to use generative AI

67% say their employer doesn't provide generative AI training.

Trust gap

56% say human oversight is critical in successfully using generative AI in their role

55% say enhanced security measures are critical in successfully using generative AI in their role

Methodology
Salesforce conducted a generative AI survey in partnership with YouGov May 18 - 25, 2023. It included over 4,135 full-time employees across sales, service, marketing and commerce. The data above reflects responses from 1,036 full-time sales professionals representing companies of a variety of sizes and sectors in the United States, UK, and Australia. The survey took place online. The figures have been weighted and are representative of all US, UK and Australian full-time employees (aged 18+).

