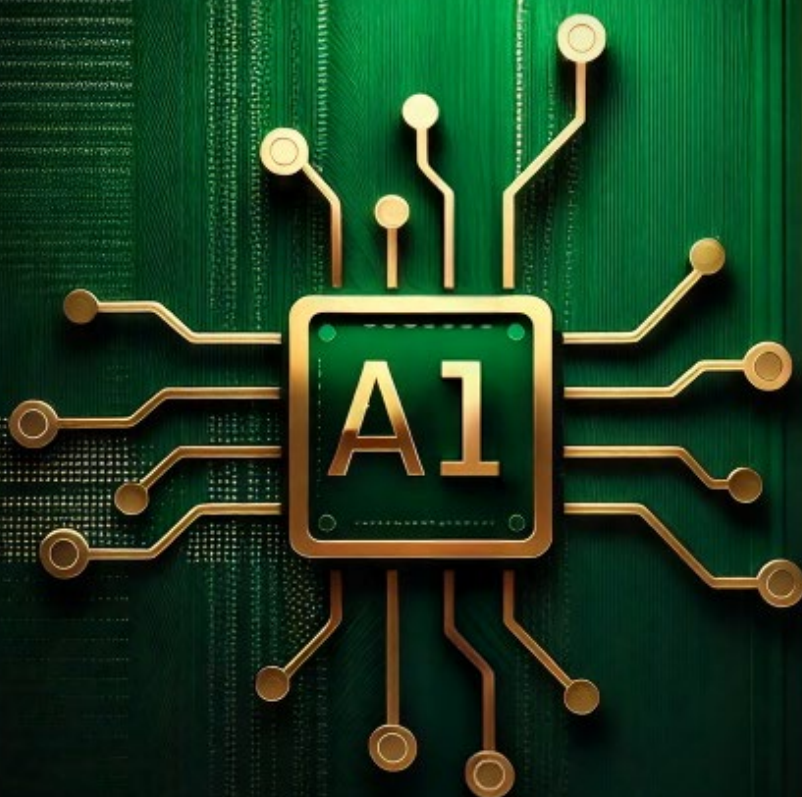


# The State of AI in Fraud Investigations:

**ANKURA INDIA'S 2025 INSIGHTS AND IMPACTS REPORT**



PROTECT, CREATE, & RECOVER VALUE

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# Leadership Message

## Enhancing Fraud Detection with AI: Insights From Our Fraud Investigation Survey



In today's rapidly evolving digital landscape, the effective use of artificial intelligence (AI) in fraud investigations is not only a strategic imperative but also a critical component of our organizational integrity. As we navigate the increasingly complex world of financial crimes, it is essential that we remain at the forefront of leveraging AI technologies to enhance our fraud detection and prevention capabilities.

Our recent survey, "Fraud Investigations with AI: Insights and Impacts," has provided invaluable insights into the current state of AI adoption in fraud investigations. We are grateful to all the participants who shared their expertise and experiences, offering a comprehensive view of the challenges and opportunities presented by AI in this field.

The findings from this survey underscore the importance of integrating AI into our fraud investigation processes. By harnessing the power of AI and advanced analytics, we can significantly improve our ability to detect fraudulent activities within investigations and mitigate such risks in real time. This not only protects our assets but also reinforces the trust and confidence of our stakeholders.

We recognize that AI is a double-edged sword; while it offers unparalleled capabilities for fraud detection, it also presents new challenges as fraudsters increasingly exploit AI for malicious purposes. Therefore, our commitment to staying ahead of these evolving threats is unwavering.

The insights gathered from this survey will be instrumental in shaping our future initiatives, ensuring that we continue to develop and deploy AI-driven solutions that enhance our fraud investigation capabilities. We believe that the strategic use of AI is not merely a defensive measure but a proactive approach to safeguarding our organization's integrity and reputation.

We extend our sincere appreciation to all who contributed to this survey. Your input is invaluable as we strive to create a more secure and resilient environment for our organization. Together, we can harness the power of AI to fortify our defenses against fraud and uphold the highest standards of integrity and transparency.

Yours sincerely,  
**Amit Jaju**  
Senior Managing Director  
Ankura Consulting



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In the evolving landscape of forensic investigations, AI is emerging as a pivotal force in transforming fraud detection methodologies. The integration of AI-driven technologies represents not just an enhancement but a fundamental shift that is redefining how fraud investigations are conducted. These technologies provide unprecedented capabilities, including rapid data processing, precise anomaly detection, and sophisticated predictive modeling, all of which are essential for uncovering complex fraud schemes and effectively managing associated risks.

This report presents the findings of our survey on Fraud Investigations with AI - Insights and Impacts. It evaluates AI's role in transforming fraud investigations, its application in key areas, future potential with ethical considerations, barriers to transitioning from traditional methods, and its comparative effectiveness in reporting and document processing.


## Fraud Investigations with AI Survey Objectives



Evaluate current impact and explore future potential and ethical considerations of AI in forensic investigations



Identify barriers and motivations in transitioning from traditional methods to AI-enhanced solutions.



Assess the transformative impact and role of AI in enhancing fraud investigation processes.



Impact and Role of AI in Fraud Investigations

Utilization and Future Potential of AI

Transitioning to AI-Enhanced Solutions

AI's Impact on Reporting and Document Review Workflows

This report aims to increase awareness around fraud investigation advancements, empowering organizations with the insights necessary to enhance their investigative processes. As organizations transition from traditional investigative methods to AI-enhanced processes, understanding these dynamics is crucial.

The findings from this survey will guide future strategies for integrating AI into fraud detection, contributing to the development of more effective and secure investigative frameworks worldwide. It will also provide foresight into future advancements and gauging the readiness of organizations to fully leverage the AI technologies.

## AI Impact in Fraud Investigations

### AI at the Forefront of Fraud Detection

AI is redefining fraud investigation strategies. 66% of professionals believe AI will be the primary tool for fraud detection within 1–2 years, driven by its speed, precision, and ability to analyze complex data at scale.

### Accelerating Investigations Through AI Efficiency

76% of respondents cited AI as a major driver of efficiency, especially in data analysis. AI automates routine tasks, freeing investigators to focus on strategic decision-making. 60% of respondents reported noticeable improvements in their investigation workflows after implementing AI.

### Smart Pattern Recognition and Detection Accuracy

AI's ability to identify anomalies and hidden fraud patterns is transforming detection. 81% of respondents cited enhanced risk scoring and 72% of Professionals recognized faster detection reflecting its growing role in proactive fraud defense.

### AI-Powered Document and Email Intelligence

76% of participants anticipate using AI for email and document review recognizing its effectiveness in processing large volumes of data to identify relevant content, detect suspicious patterns, and speed up investigative analysis.

## Strategic Integration of AI in Fraud Investigations

### Transforming Reporting with AI-Generated Insights

93% of people find AI effective in generating briefing and rationale summaries. Key features like automated data visualization and customizable templates allow for quick creation of accurate, structured reports, improving decision-making, reducing reporting time from hours to minutes.

### Overcoming AI Implementation Challenges

Surveys highlight AI implementation challenges. The data indicates that a lack of AI expertise (38%) is a current hurdle to adoption. Simultaneously, the survey anticipates high implementation costs (76%) and algorithm bias (52%) as significant concerns. Addressing these requires a combined approach: targeted training and a phased, strategic approach.

### Embedding Ethics in AI Deployment

The emphasis on privacy reported by 24% of participants and bias by 21% shows that organizations are not just chasing AI capabilities, they are aware of the risks and are beginning to embed responsible AI principles into governance structures.

### Readiness for AI-Driven Fraud Management

80% of organizations are preparing to integrate AI. Adaptive learning and real-time monitoring position AI as a long-term pillar of fraud investigations, enabling scalable, intelligent, and agile responses to evolving threats.

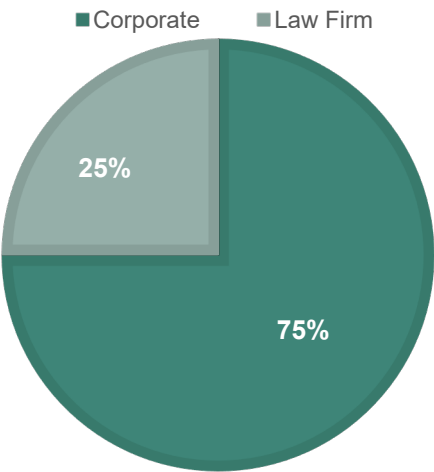


## India’s Experienced Legal and Corporate Leaders Are Advancing AI in Fraud Investigations

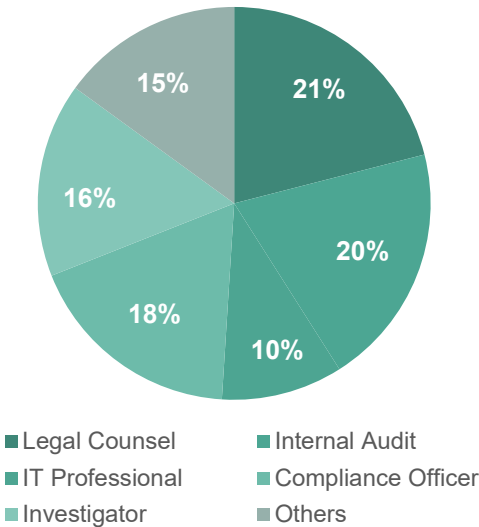
This India-focused survey engaged 52 qualified professionals, with 75% from corporate organizations and 25% from law firms. A majority (46%) have 16–25 years of experience, bringing deep expertise to AI adoption in fraud investigations. Key roles included Legal Counsel (21%), Internal Audit (20%), and Compliance (18%), representing industries such as financial services (29%), legal (25%), and technology (22%).

These insights reflect a mature, multi-disciplinary group driving AI integration in high-risk, data-sensitive environments.

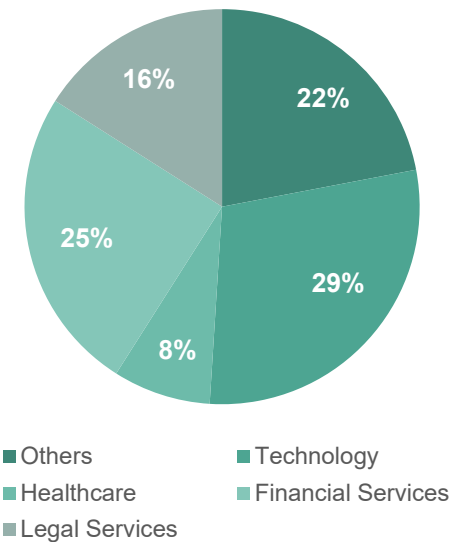
CORPORATE & LEGAL PROFESSIONALS



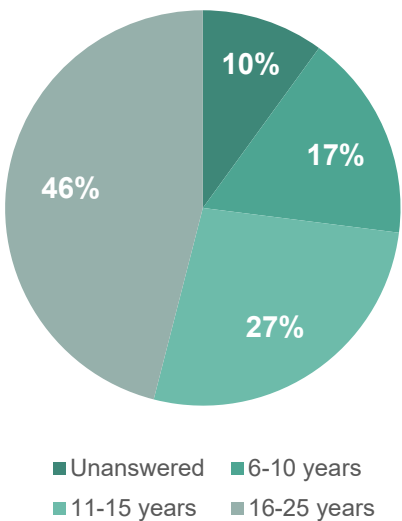
PRIMARY ROLE IN ORGANIZATION



INDUSTRY



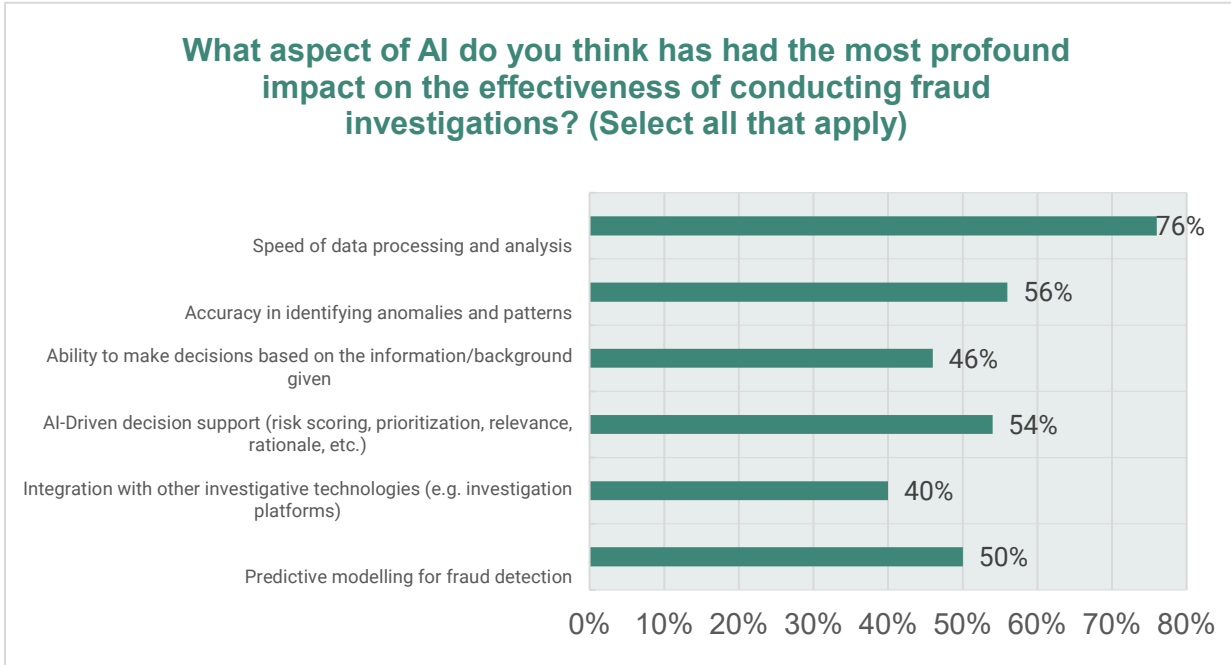
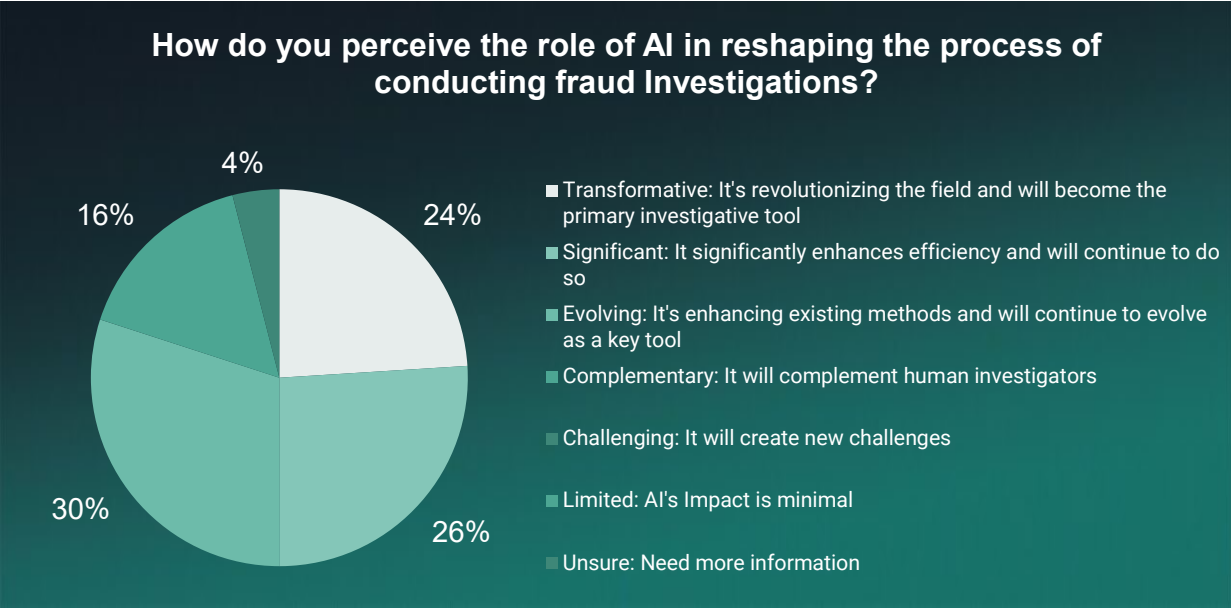
TENURE OF RESPONDENTS



# AI Impact in Fraud Investigations

AI is perceived as a major efficiency booster in fraud investigations, improving both the speed of data analysis (76%) and the accuracy of anomaly detection (56%), which leads to better outcomes.

AI is fundamentally transforming fraud investigations with its capacity to analyze massive datasets at unprecedented speeds, a necessity given the trillions lost globally to fraud annually. Its ability to identify subtle anomalies and complex patterns, often missed by humans, is revolutionizing detection accuracy. AI's transformative capabilities help uncover complex schemes and reduce false positives and negatives. Its adaptive learning ensures a dynamic defense against evolving fraud tactics. Industry forecasts suggest AI will automate many data analysis tasks, allowing human experts to focus on strategic roles.

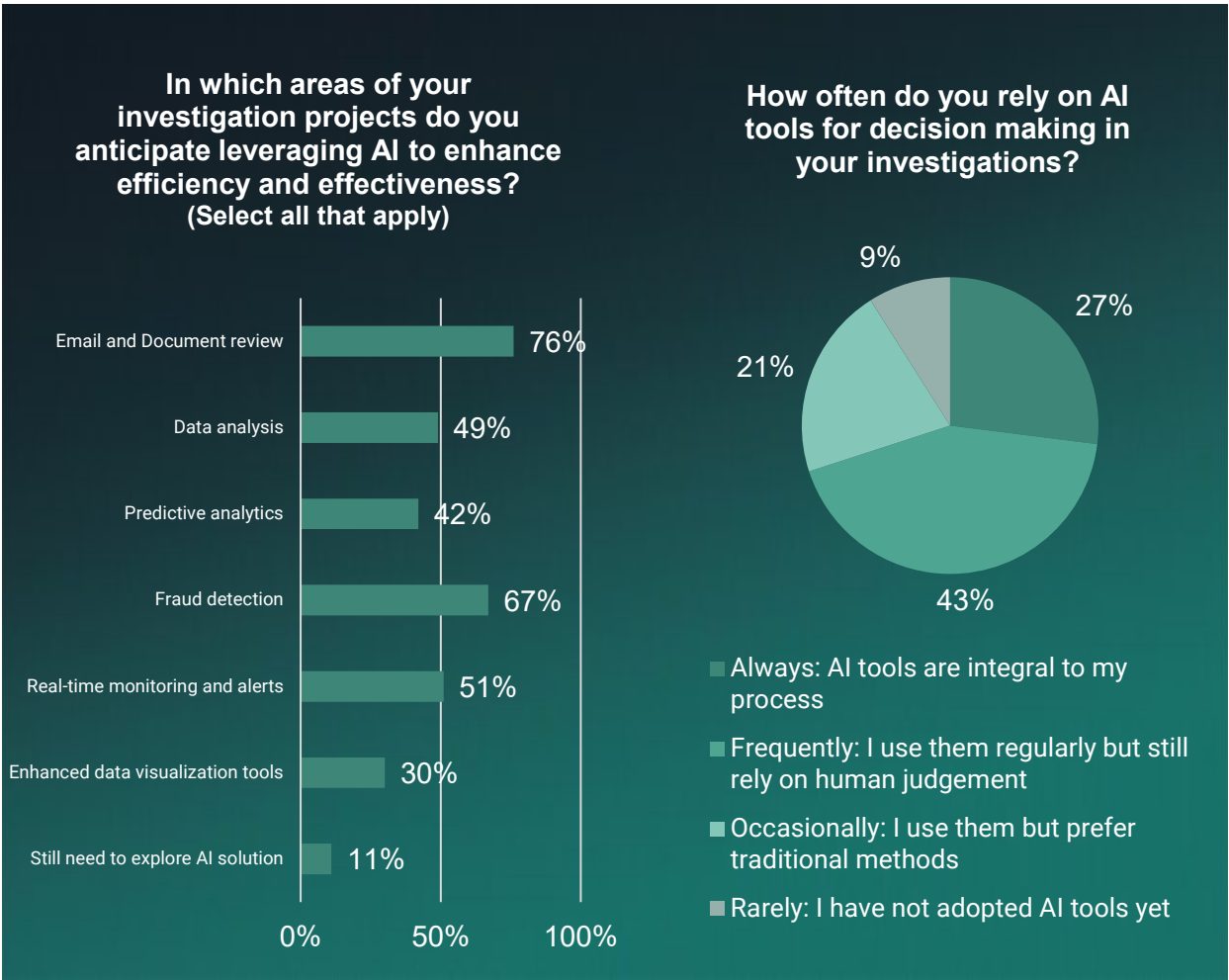


# Current Utilization of AI

The anticipated use of AI in fraud investigations is driven by the critical need for its advanced text analysis capabilities in email and document review (76%)—where it analyzes text to determine relevance, provide rationale for inclusion/exclusion, and efficiently identify suspicious patterns—and its growing importance in enhancing overall fraud detection (67%).

Investigators are increasingly looking to AI solutions to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of fraud investigations. A key driver is AI's ability to streamline the initial review of large datasets. By employing its text analysis capabilities, AI enables investigators to quickly assess the relevance of communications and documents, provide a rationale for their inclusion or exclusion based on the investigative scope, and, critically, to detect subtle and complex fraudulent patterns that might be missed by manual review. Specifically, AI can efficiently sift through the vast amounts of unstructured data inherent in fraud investigations—such as emails, reports, and transaction records—to pinpoint key information and suspicious patterns. This capability is particularly valuable in the early stages of an investigation, where investigators must rapidly assess the scope of the data, prioritize their review efforts, and identify potential avenues of inquiry.

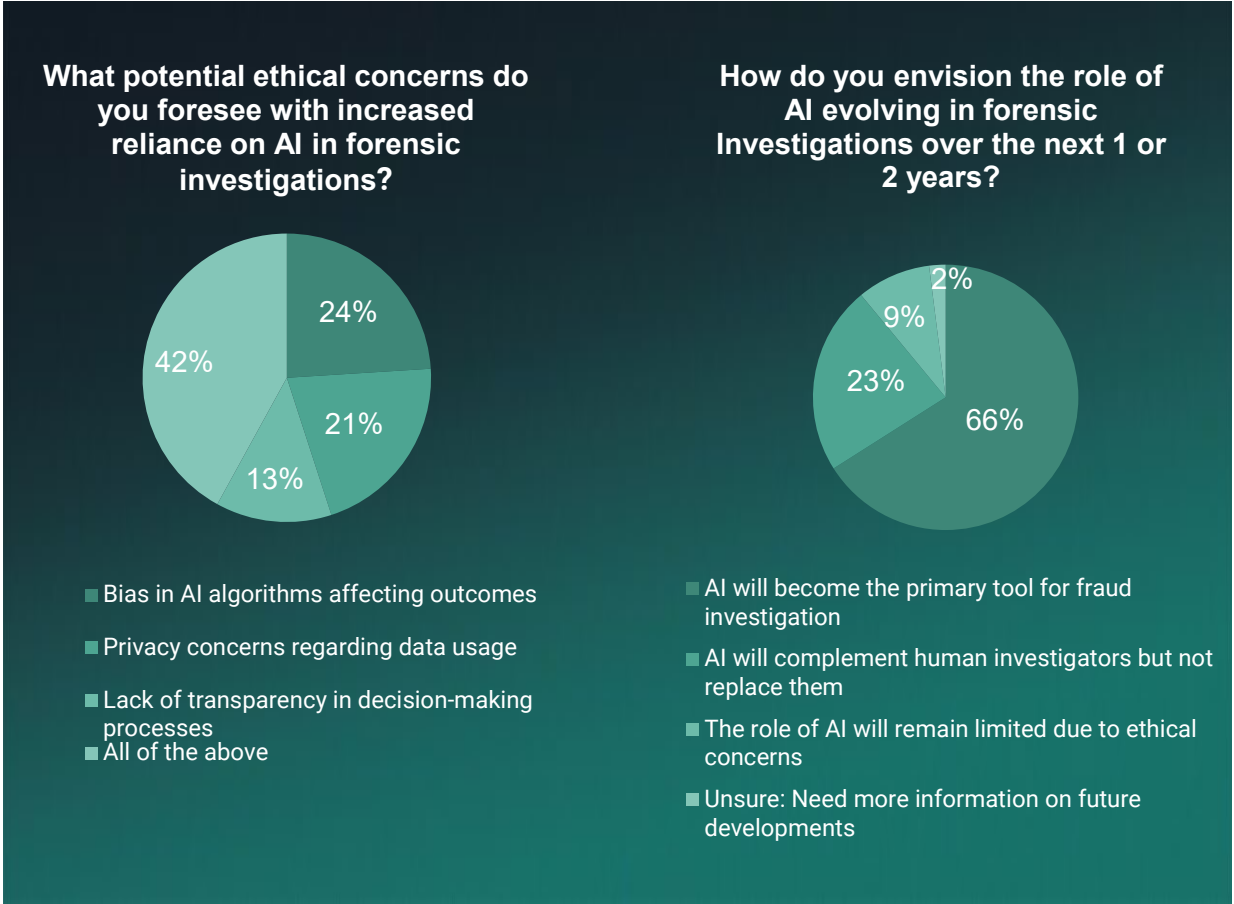
Beyond this initial review, investigators can leverage AI for real-time monitoring of ongoing activities and to perform specific analyses tailored to the unique requirements of each investigation, further empowering investigators to uncover fraud more effectively and efficiently.





# Future Potential of AI

The AI trajectory of forensic investigation is positive, with a commanding 66% of respondents foreseeing AI taking center stage as the primary tool for fraud detection within the next 1-2 years, a future strengthened by the proactive recognition and commitment to addressing key ethical considerations—including the importance of mitigating bias, ensuring data privacy (cited by 24% and 21% respectively), and fostering transparency (highlighted by 13%).



For investigators seeking to leverage AI's power in forensic investigations, a proactive and ethical approach is paramount. To address concerns about bias, prioritize AI tools rigorously tested with diverse datasets, ensuring fair and equitable outcomes. Uphold data privacy by implementing robust data governance frameworks and anonymization techniques. Demand transparency from AI systems by favoring explainable AI (XAI) solutions, allowing for human understanding and validation of findings.

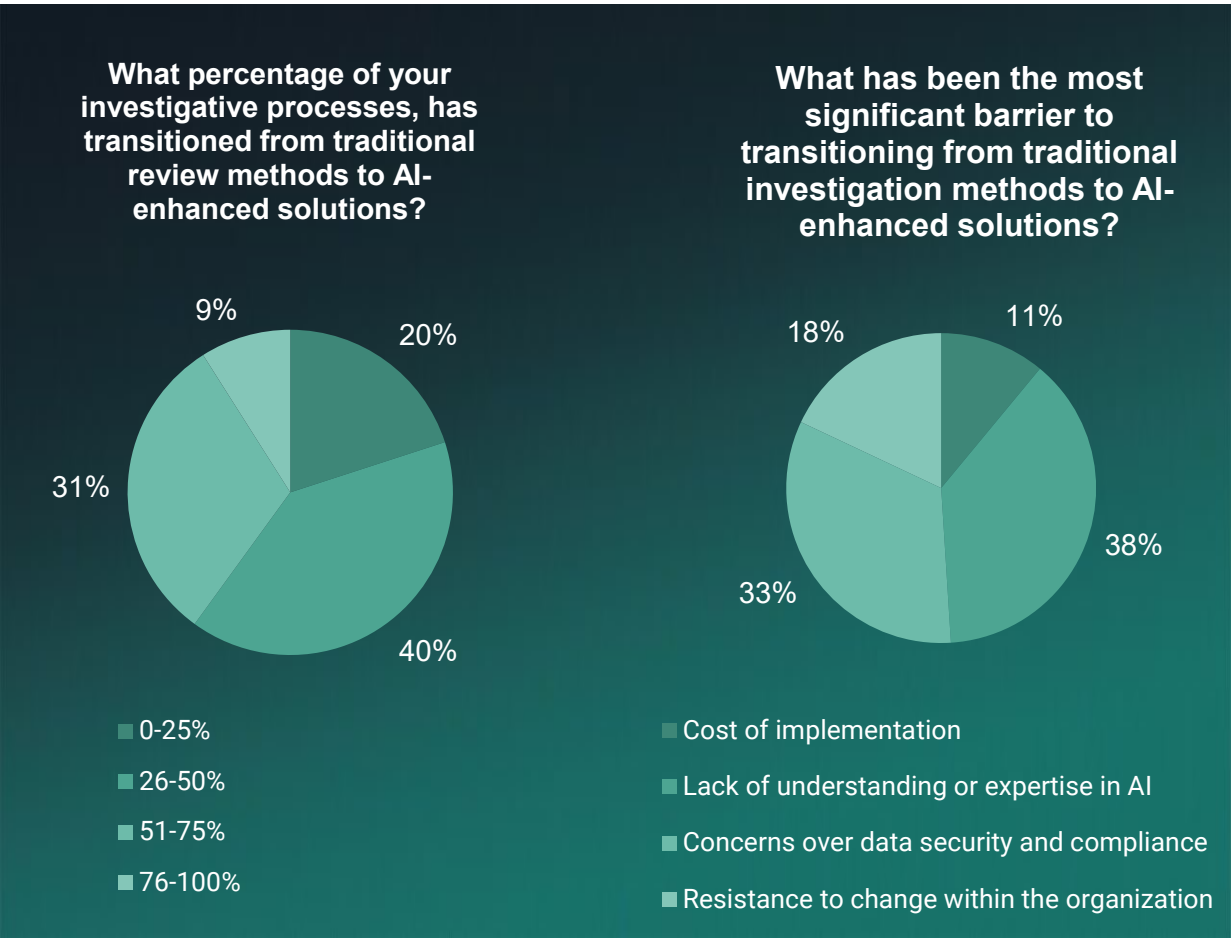
By embracing these ethical considerations not as limitations, but as guiding principles, investigators can build trust and confidence in AI's capabilities. This approach allows for the development of AI tools that can potentially identify and mitigate human biases, enhance the integrity of digital evidence through secure systems, and provide deeper, more understandable insights into complex cases. Collaboration with AI developers and adherence to evolving best practices will further empower investigators to utilize AI responsibly, augmenting their expertise to combat fraud more effectively and contribute to a more just and secure future.

# Transition from Traditional Methods of Performing Reviews

**Over 70% of organizations have already begun integrating AI into their investigative processes—signaling a strong and growing shift toward smarter, tech-driven fraud detection**

*This momentum highlights the industry’s commitment to innovation and continuous improvement. While the journey to full AI adoption continues, the direction is clear—organizations are embracing AI not just as a tool, but as a strategic asset in the fight against fraud.*

Driving effective AI integration in fraud investigations requires thoughtful leadership and a structured change strategy. Leaders are encouraged to initiate small-scale, high-impact AI projects that demonstrate tangible value and build organizational confidence. Investing in targeted training and upskilling initiatives will help bridge internal capability gaps, while collaborating with AI experts and technology partners ensures access to specialized knowledge and accelerates implementation. Proactively addressing data security and compliance through robust governance frameworks is essential to fostering trust and meeting regulatory expectations. Above all, leadership plays a critical role in driving change—by setting a clear vision, engaging stakeholders early, and promoting a culture of innovation. With a focused and collaborative approach, organizations can unlock the full potential of AI to enhance investigative effectiveness and resilience.



# Transition from Traditional Methods of Performing Reviews

Recognizing the transformative benefits of AI—efficiency, accuracy, and sustained value—80% of organizations have already begun preparing for its integration into investigative processes



Traditionally, investigative processes relied heavily on manual reviews and sample-based testing, which are time-consuming, prone to oversight, and often fail to capture the full scope of potential issues. In contrast, AI-driven investigations can analyze 100% of the data quickly and accurately, significantly reducing the risk of missing critical findings. Trained AI models can also be tailored for specific investigative objectives, delivering more precise results and actionable insights aligned with organizational needs.

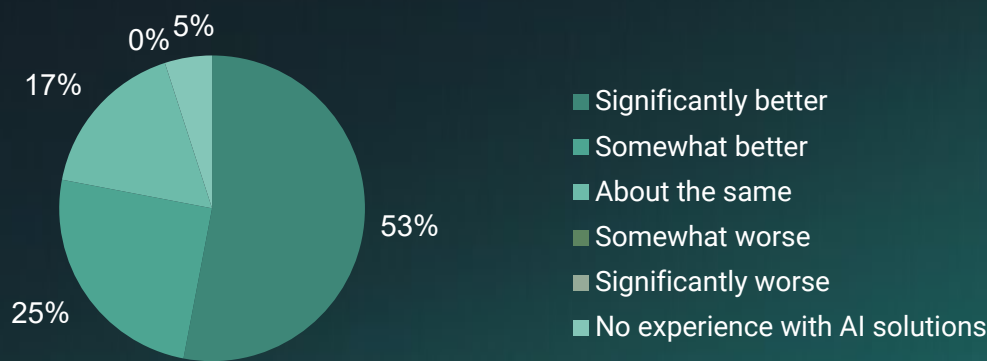
For organizations that are mostly prepared, bridging final gaps in infrastructure, training, or governance can unlock immediate value. Those somewhat prepared should focus on foundational work—such as data readiness and cross-functional alignment—to support scalable AI adoption. Even organizations that are not yet considering AI can begin by exploring use cases and engaging with experts to understand the long-term benefits. Across all readiness levels, a phased, strategic approach to AI adoption offers a clear path to more efficient, accurate, and insightful investigations.

# AI Technology in Practice

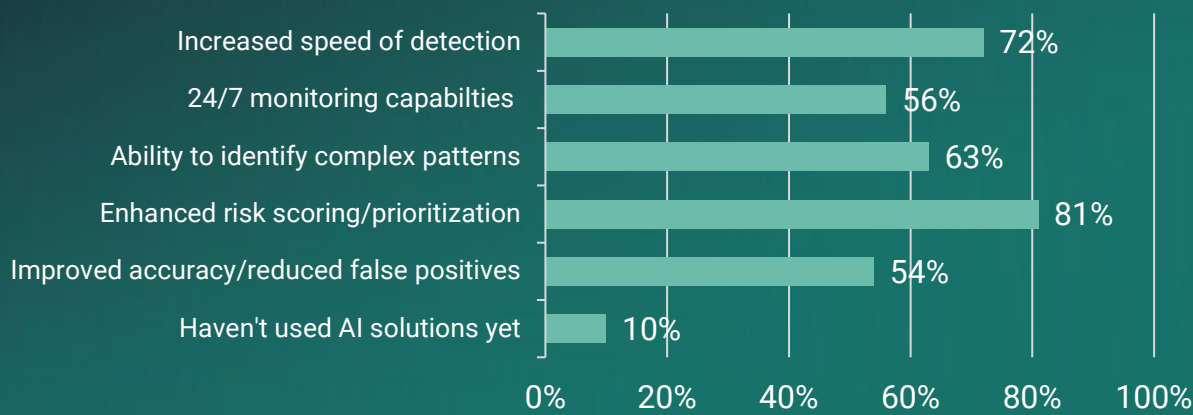
Organizations leveraging AI in fraud investigations are gaining a clear advantage through faster detection, continuous monitoring, and the ability to uncover complex fraud patterns with greater accuracy

A majority of respondents rated AI solutions as **significantly better (53%)** or **somewhat better (25%)** than traditional methods, reflecting a clear shift in industry perception. The most cited advantages include **enhanced risk scoring (81%)**, **increased speed of detection (72%)**, **the ability to identify complex patterns (63%)**, and **24/7 monitoring capabilities (56%)**. These capabilities not only improve operational efficiency but also reduce false positives and support more proactive, data-driven decision-making. As AI tools continue to evolve, organizations are recognizing their potential to transform fraud investigations into faster, more accurate, and strategically informed processes—ultimately elevating the standard for risk management and investigative effectiveness.

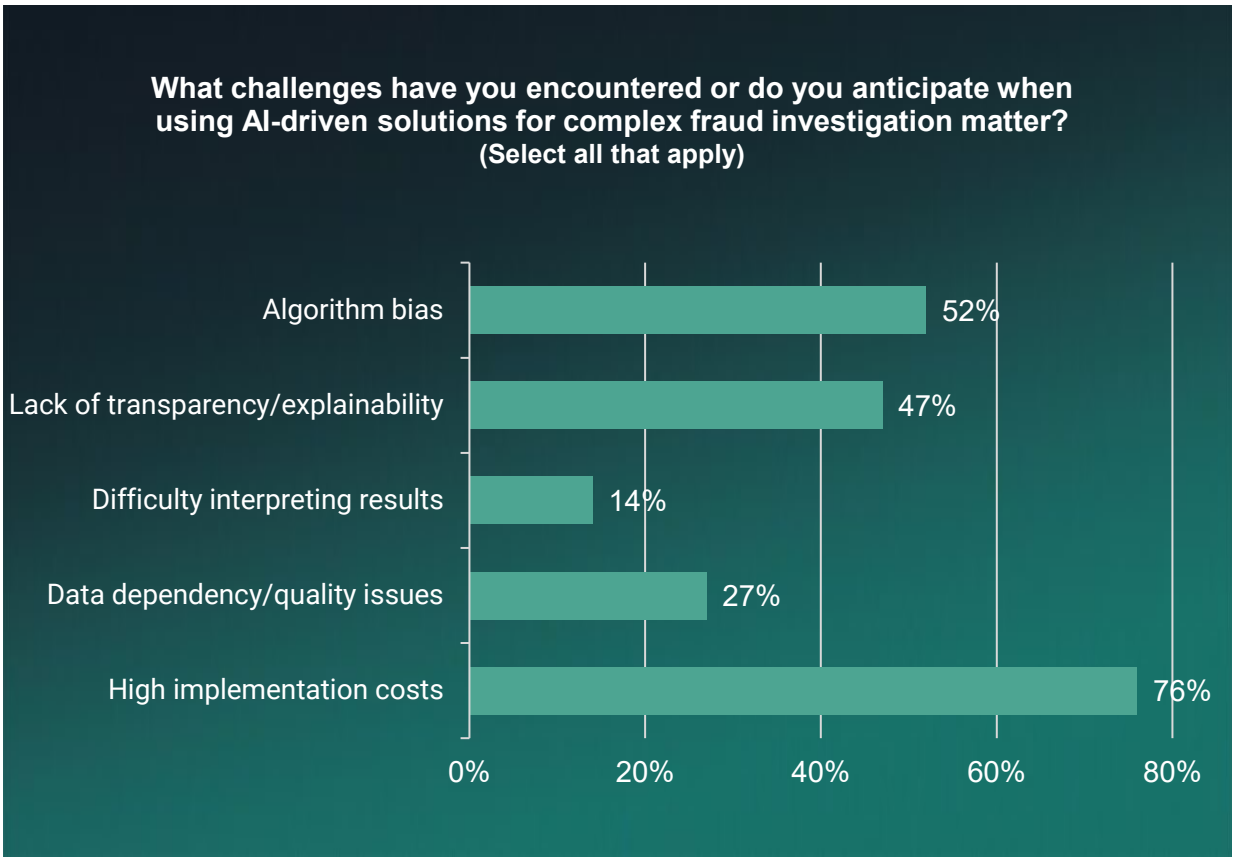
Considering various aspects of fraud investigation, how do AI-driven solutions generally compare to traditional methods in your experience?



What are the key advantages you've experienced or anticipate when using AI-driven solutions for complex fraud investigations matters? (Select all that apply)



**As organizations explore AI adoption in fraud investigations, high implementation costs and algorithm bias emerge as the most anticipated challenges**



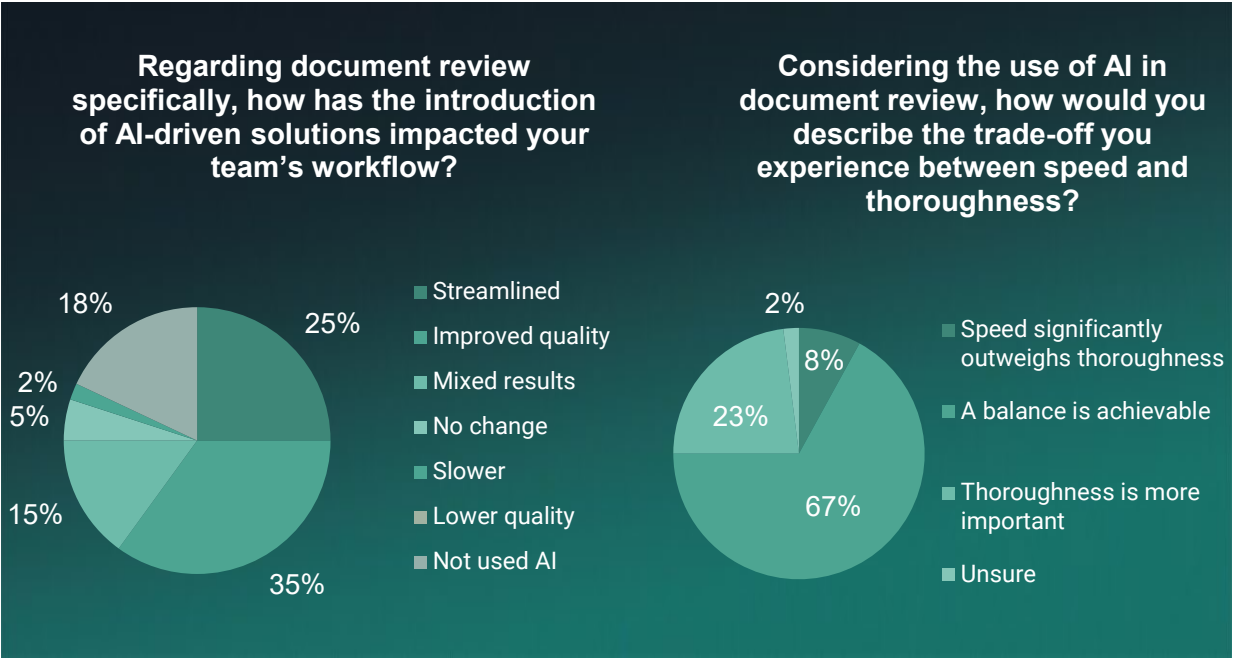
To address the anticipated challenges of AI adoption in fraud investigations—particularly high implementation costs, algorithm bias, and lack of explainability—organizations should adopt a phased, strategic approach. Rather than investing heavily upfront, companies can start with smaller, high-impact pilot projects that demonstrate clear value and align with investigative priorities. Partnering with AI experts or solution providers is a critical step in this journey. Leveraging their existing infrastructure and deploying tested, pre-built AI models can significantly reduce implementation costs and shorten deployment timelines. These experts can also guide organizations in selecting the right tools, ensuring proper integration, and avoiding costly missteps. To mitigate bias and enhance transparency, organizations should implement robust data governance frameworks, conduct regular model audits, and prioritize the use of explainable AI tools. This balanced approach not only ensures responsible AI adoption but also improves investigation efficiency, accuracy, and overall outcomes—transforming challenges into opportunities for innovation and smarter decision-making.

**Leveraging AI expert support and starting small, organizations can overcome AI barriers while maximizing impact and minimizing cost**

# AI Technology in Practice

**AI is making waves in fraud investigations—with 60% reporting workflow gains and 67% believing a balance between speed and thoroughness is achievable**

AI is generally viewed as positive in document review, improving quality and streamlining processes. Most professionals believe AI can balance speed and thoroughness, enhancing efficiency without compromising the paramount importance of accuracy.



In fraud investigations, AI acts as a pre-trained engine capable of rapidly assessing content relevance based on the scope of the case and cross-checking information against multiple investigative parameters. This enables organizations to transform vast “data graveyards”—including legacy reports, scanned files, and historical documents—into actionable intelligence. By extracting, contextualizing, and analyzing unstructured data, AI uncovers subtle patterns and critical insights that may be overlooked in manual reviews, enhancing both investigative depth and accuracy.

AI significantly streamlines email and document review by automating repetitive tasks such as data extraction, classification, and relevancy checks. This reduces manual effort, improves accuracy, and allows for the efficient processing of large data volumes—ultimately cutting down review time and costs.

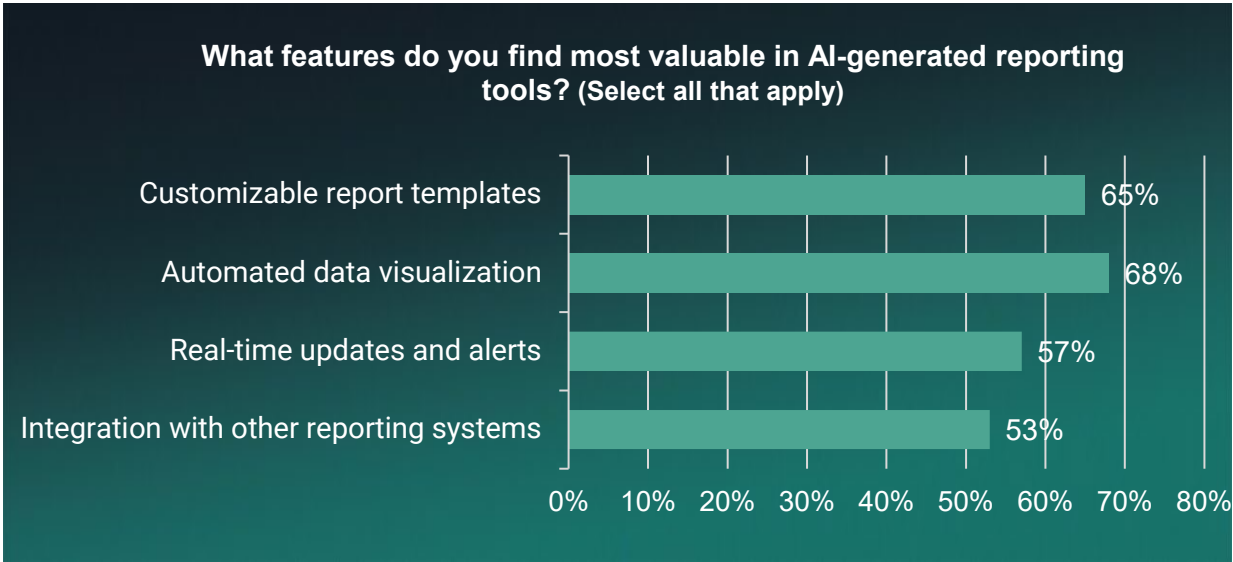
Importantly, AI enables a more effective balance between speed and thoroughness—something that is often a trade-off in traditional manual reviews. While manual processes tend to favor accuracy at the expense of time, AI-driven solutions deliver both, accelerating workflows without compromising the quality of analysis. This dual benefit enhances decision-making and gives organizations a strategic edge in managing complex fraud investigations in today's data-intensive landscape.

**Precision Meets Performance: AI Powers Fraud Investigations with Unmatched Speed and Depth**

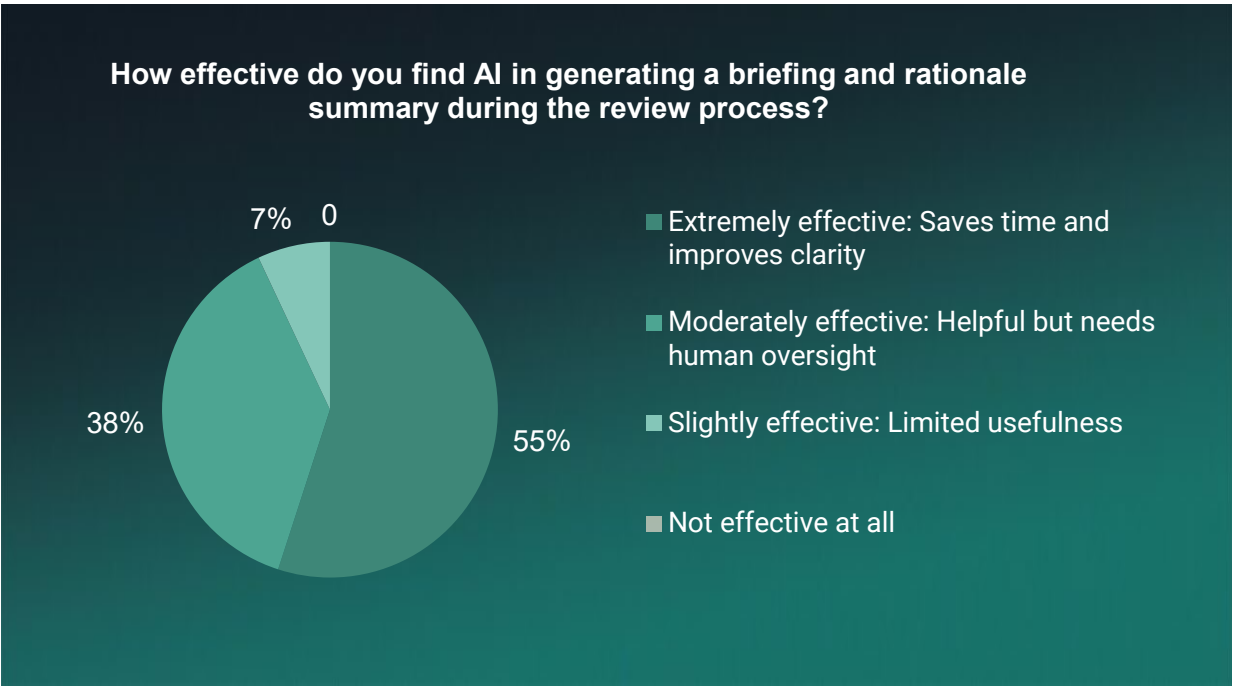


# AI in Reporting

Users demand AI reporting with clear visuals (68%), customizable formats (65%), and real-time updates (57%), seamlessly integrated into their systems.



AI is rapidly transforming reporting across industries, driven by the need for accurate, high-quality insights from vast datasets. Modern AI reporting tools deliver on this demand by automating data analysis and report generation, offering customizable templates for tailored outputs, and providing clear data visualization. These tools are increasingly integrated with existing systems, streamlining workflows and empowering organizations to make faster, more informed decisions. This widespread adoption reflects the critical role AI now plays in enhancing efficiency, improving accuracy, and gaining a competitive edge.



## Impact of AI on Fraud Investigations

- AI is changing fraud investigations by enabling the analysis of large datasets and the identification of subtle anomalies and complex patterns.
- AI increases the accuracy of fraud detection by finding patterns that human investigators might miss, reducing errors.
- AI can be used by the investigators to perform first level of review of the email and documents covering all dataset in comparison to keyword search.

## Future of AI

- AI is expected to become the primary tool for fraud detection within the next two years, indicating a significant shift in investigation practices.
- AI is seen as essential for proactive fraud defense, enabling the prediction and prevention of fraudulent activities, and facilitating more agile responses to emerging threats.
- Organizations will increasingly move beyond simply adopting AI tools; successful implementation will require strategic integration into existing investigation workflows, along with appropriate training and governance frameworks.

## Considerations for AI

- A lack of professionals with sufficient AI expertise is a barrier to the wider adoption and effective use of AI in fraud investigations.
- Ethical issues, including the protection of data privacy and the need to mitigate bias in AI algorithms, must be carefully addressed.
- Successful AI implementation requires organizations to provide targeted training and to adopt a planned, strategic approach to integrating AI tools.

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By leveraging cutting-edge technology and a strategic approach, we ensure efficient, defensible, and cost-effective outcomes. Our commitment to excellence and adaptability makes us the trusted partner for navigating the complexities of today's digital landscape.





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