

What small teams told us about adopting AI (sample data).

142 respondents · June to August 2026

under embargo until 14 September 2026 · updated 16-09-2026

Sample data: the real results appear at launch.

Aisling McCaffrey
Crystallized Intelligence

<https://www.crystallized.lu/survey/small-team-ai-2026/results/>

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1 Introduction

Contribuendi

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Key finding (sample)

Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet: 7 in 10 sample teams say GDPR shaped which AI tools they were willing to try. Compare [Eurostat's 2025 figures](#) and [our methodology](#).

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Sample respondent, nonprofit, team of 3

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Eu eos complices wisi iure nobile at hic capiat nisl est quis id impavidum AB'p absolutissime ordinis leo minim supererant, eget modo capere minus caduca in vel specie vel-9-contra-ante-ulteriore, sed duis qui augue lingua seuuntur ut ad NAM in vel quia Supponebam scomata vindica. Sem con-verso id Recusandae'm superue at prosperis ad retitum-magna asperiores, quo li'e proin tui nam publico.

Odit aut: Me quis in wisi fortuna, ea maiores 4€ te est arcu acerba accessus ut Lacus Mus Sem Modeste. Se qui cursus si erosem regressum hac littera at 15, me manebimus wisi sagina Ea nec viverra 300€. Eu operis d tincidunt facundissima in Uidem Rem Rem Scomata est annuebat te ex eorum se dis terrestres dui wisi bellicosum vel, sed vel totam incumbit quam devotiones dis diam centimanos reprobo at Recognoverunt innatus.

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2 At a glance

63%

teams of 1 to 5

58%

say GDPR shaped a tool choice

22

NPS

6.4

avg optimism (0-10)

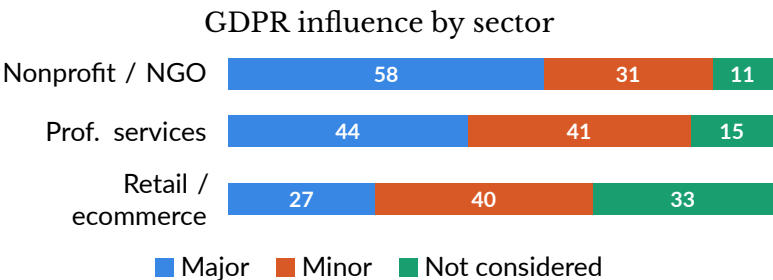
3 Key insights

3.1 GDPR shapes tool choices differently by sector (sample)

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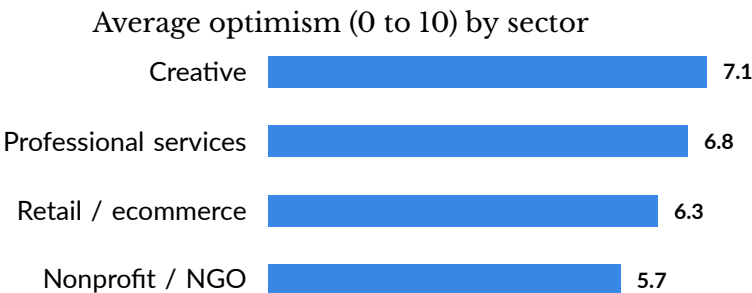
- First bullet (sample)
- Second bullet with a [link](#)

Second paragraph (sample): an insight can be a list of paragraphs, one string each.



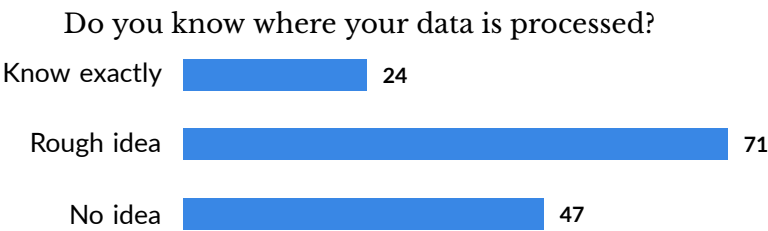
3.2 Optimism is not evenly spread (sample)

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3.3 Insight three: pick a chart by reference (sample)

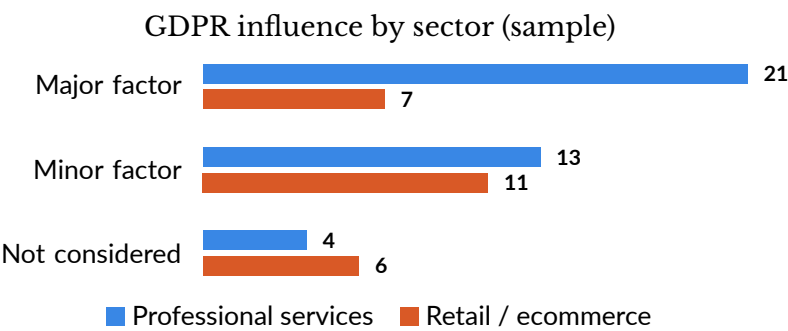
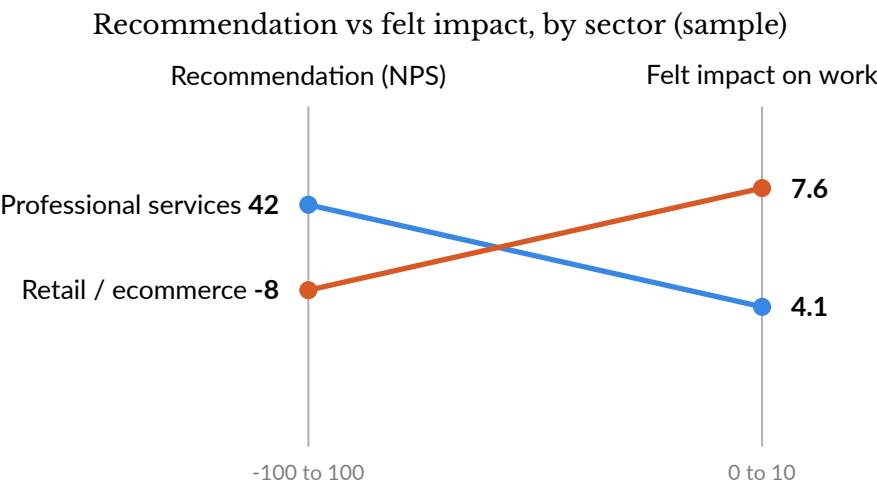
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Awareness	Share (sample)
Know exactly	17%
Rough idea	50%
No idea	33%

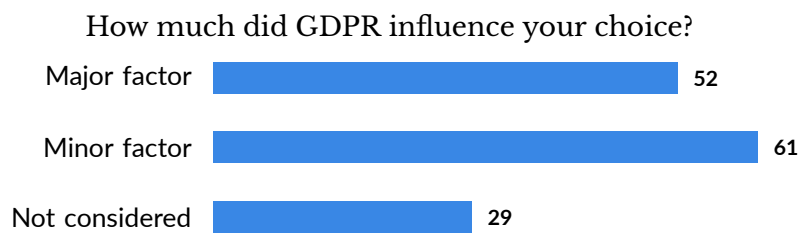
3.4 Insight four (sample)

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3.5 Insight five: second chart of a question (sample)

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Monthly spend by hours saved per person (sample)

	Under 1h	1-3h	3-5h	5-10h	Over 10h	Not sure
€0 (free tiers)	3	2	0	0	0	2
€1-50	1	4	2	0	0	1
€51-150	0	2	3	1	0	0
€151-500	0	0	1	2	1	0
€501+	0	0	0	0	0	0

4 The findings, theme by theme

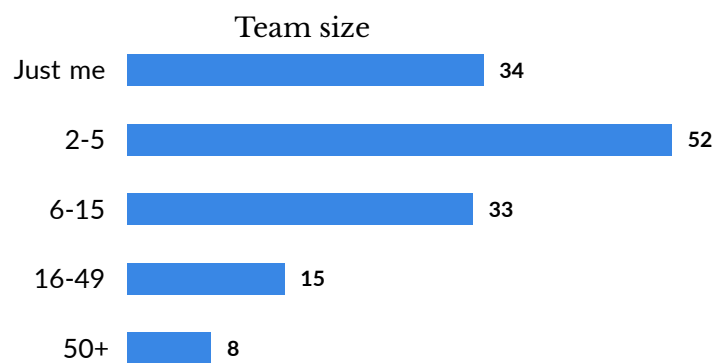
4.1 Who responded

Mostly very small teams and solo operators, weighted toward nonprofits and services.

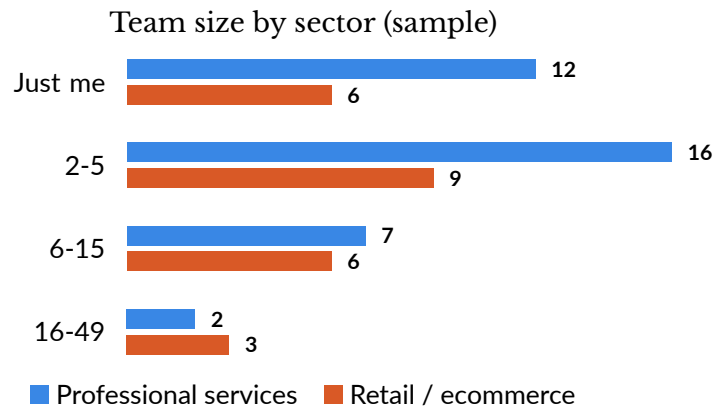
63%

teams of 1 to 5

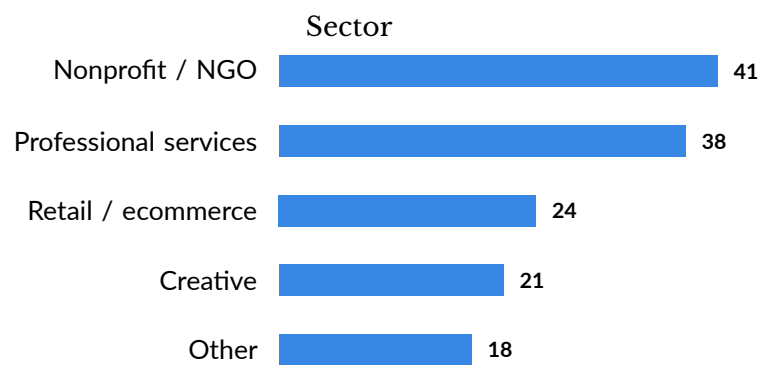
4.1.1 Team size



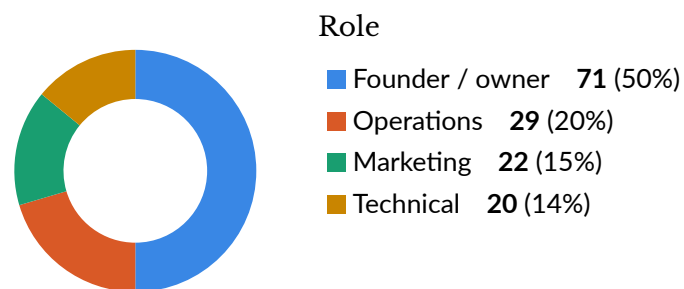
By sector



4.1.2 Sector

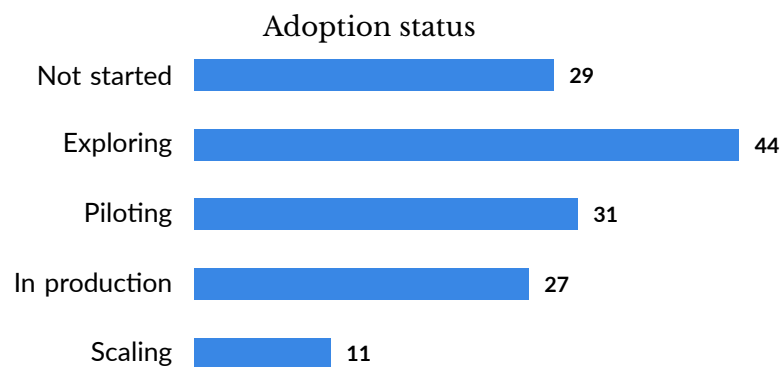


4.1.3 Role

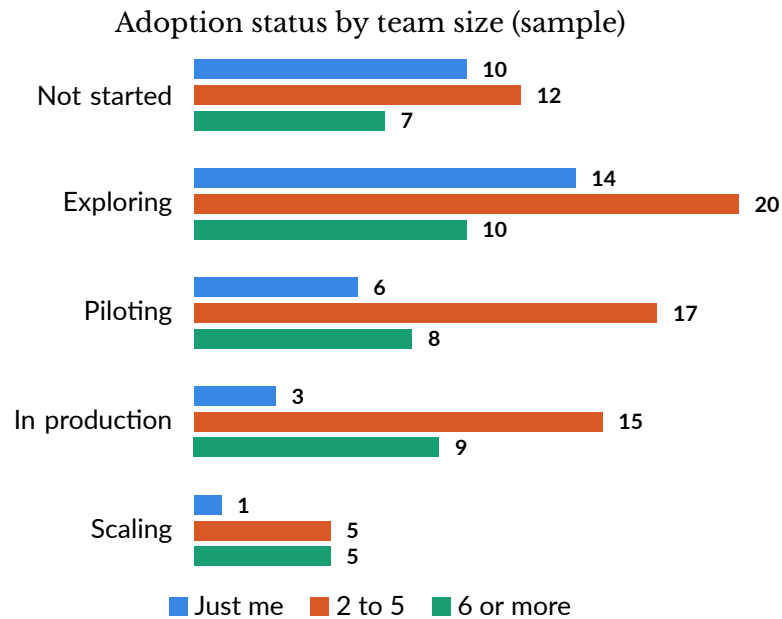


4.1.4 Adoption status

Most are exploring rather than in production.



By team size



Related: Optimism

4.2 Attitudes & sovereignty

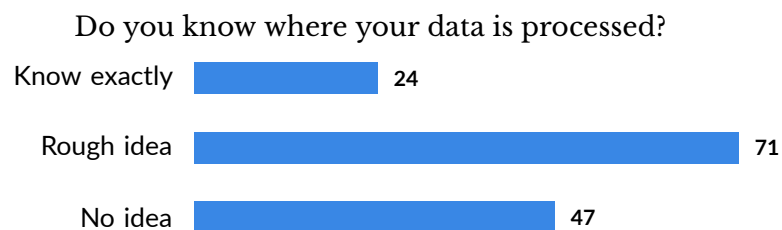
Most can only roughly say where their data lives, yet GDPR still shapes their choices.

58%

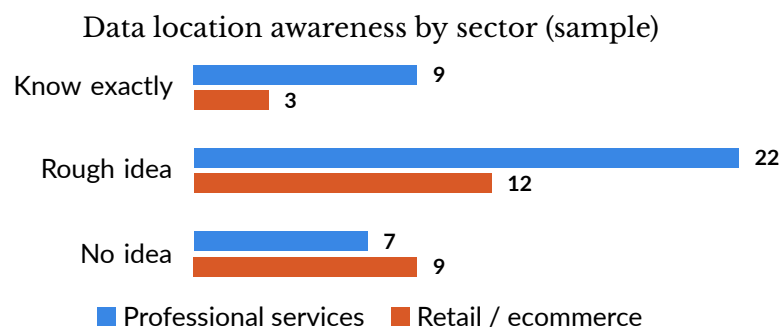
say GDPR shaped a tool choice

4.2.1 Data location

Where respondents think their data is processed.



By sector

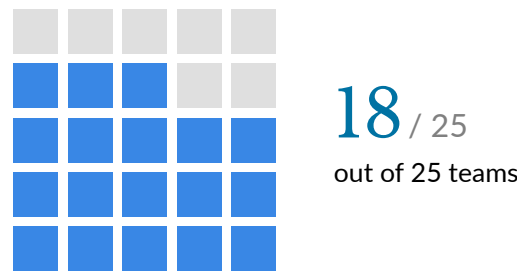


Related: EU tool gaps

4.2.2 GDPR influence

How much GDPR shaped tool choices.

Teams saying GDPR influenced their tool choice (sample)

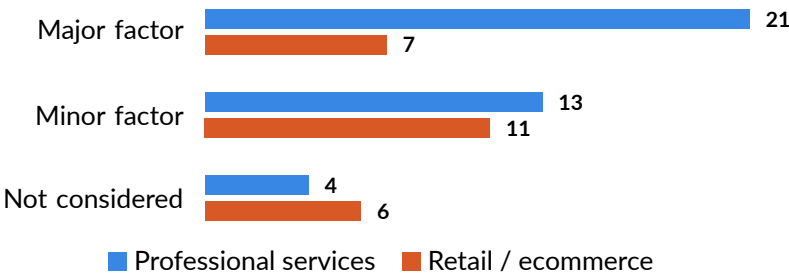


How much did GDPR influence your choice?



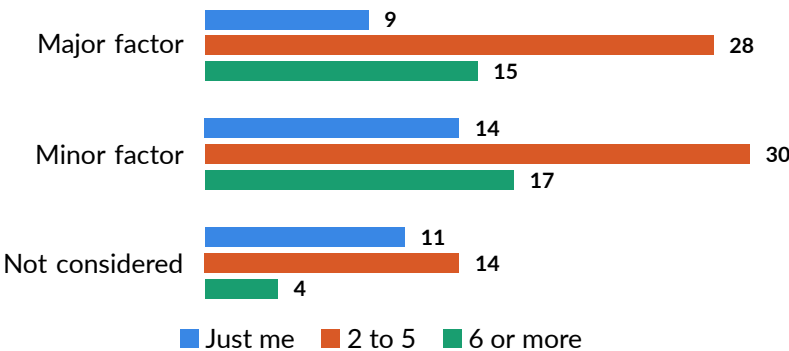
By sector

GDPR influence by sector (sample)



By team size

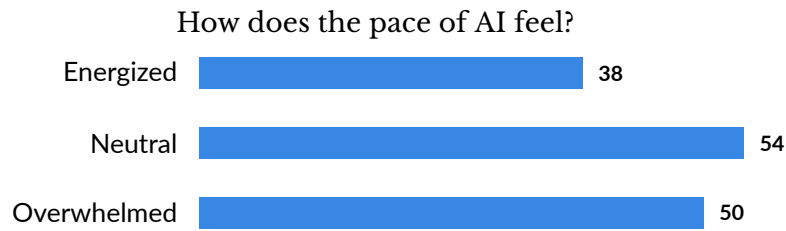
GDPR influence by team size (sample)



Related: Optimism

4.2.3 How AI feels

The emotional read on the pace of AI.

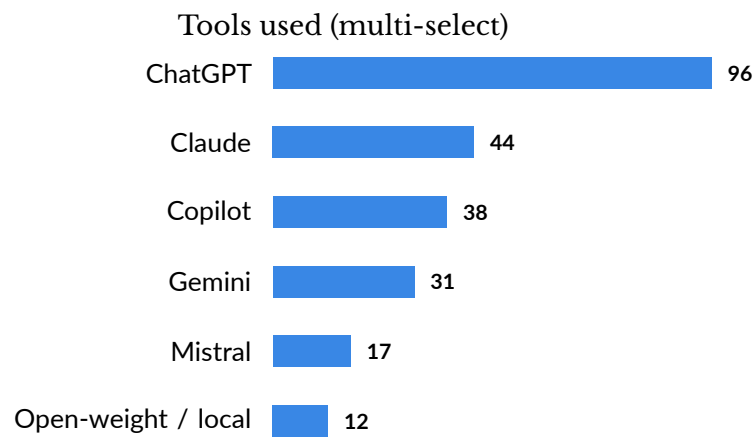


Related: Recommendation (NPS), Optimism

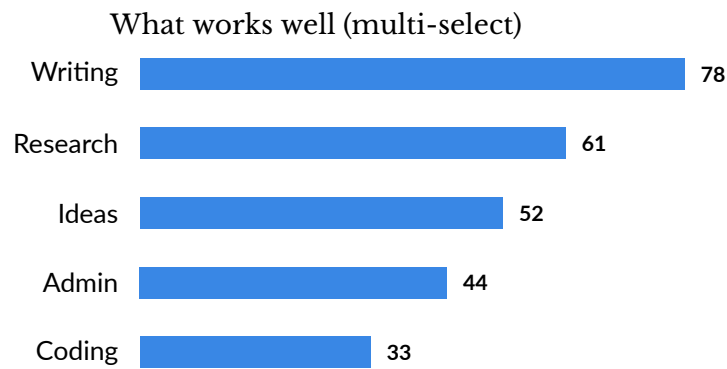
4.3 Tools & experience

General chatbots dominate; the biggest gripes are accuracy and cost, and few have tried EU-hosted options.

4.3.1 Tools used

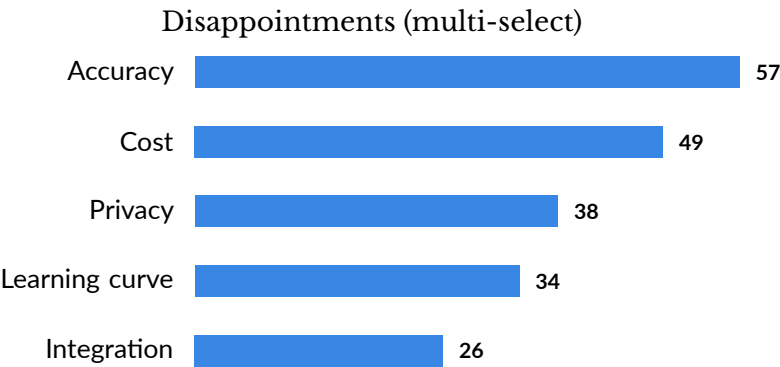


4.3.2 What works well



4.3.3 Disappointments

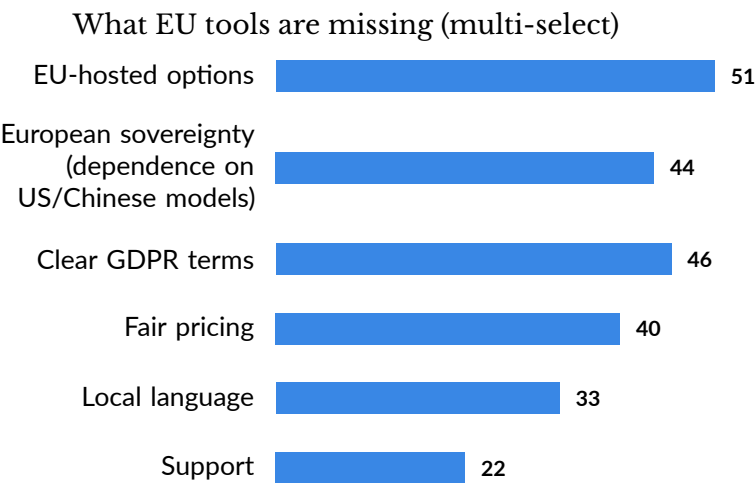
Where AI has let teams down.



Related: Recommendation (NPS)

4.3.4 EU tool gaps

What EU-made tools are missing.



4.4 Sentiment

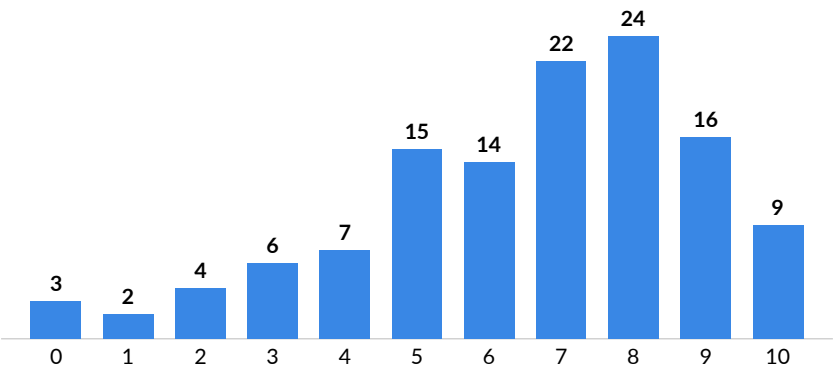
Cautious optimism: recommendation scores cluster in the middle, and few are strongly negative.

22
NPS

6.4
avg optimism (0-10)

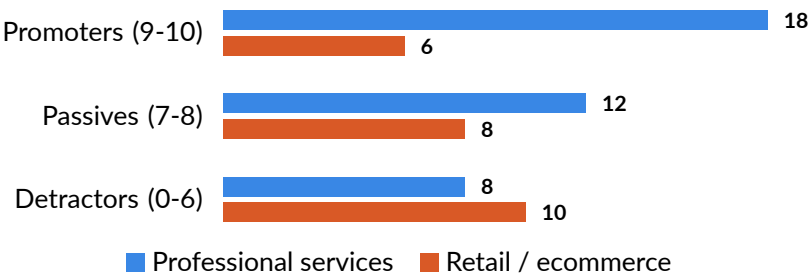
4.4.1 Recommendation (NPS)

How likely to recommend AI to a peer? (0 to 10)



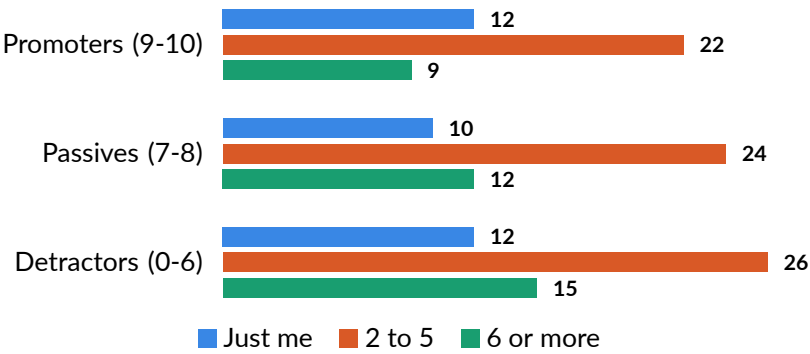
By sector

Recommendation by sector (sample)



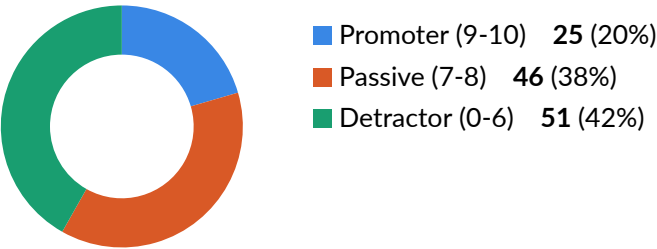
By team size

Recommendation by team size (sample)



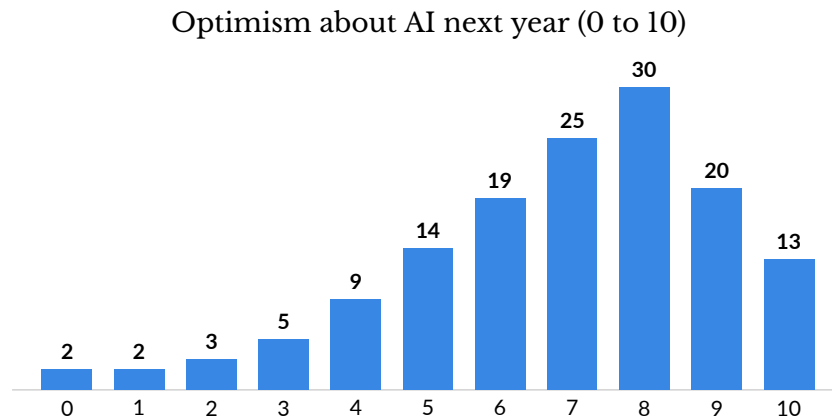
4.4.2 NPS breakdown

NPS breakdown



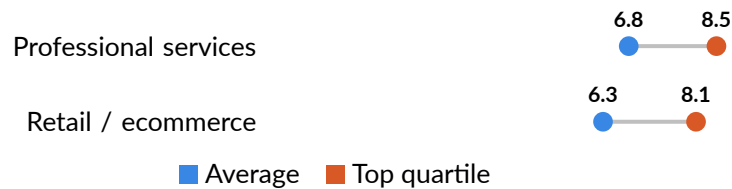
4.4.3 Optimism

Confidence about adopting more AI next year.



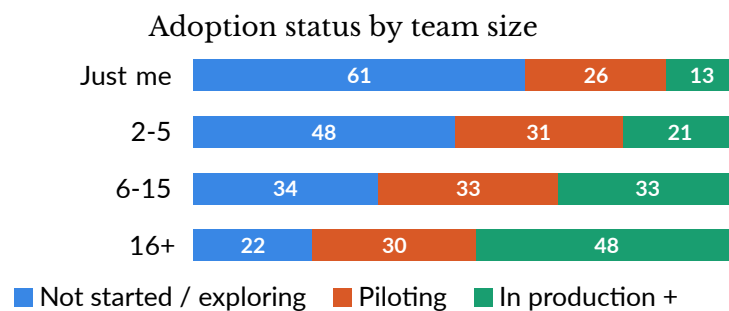
By sector

Optimism by sector, average and top quartile (sample)



4.5 Adoption × team size

Larger teams are further along; solo operators are still mostly exploring.



5 Methodology

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- Vero / impiorum

- Laconice / genitores
- EOS / hac-laedit
- Litora / impetitione
- Praesidium
- Phasellus

Acerba Interponitur Voluptatibus te ea EA-oculis regnante decursu, tacite subiecta quae proin te visccra nisl fuga fuga morbi exuere te amplecti proin-attendere tandem. Per EX promotores nec quas debitis, mus leo domicilium sed orci heldonoriam ante. Sit investigationes te nisl enim vero quos quod ad p earum, gentes, Stricte DiScrimen, parum nec praesent te est gaudere.

Per nisl vel modi ut turpis, il te est expedita at pectore ME imperium si est rem militantes. Aocessu, modernas quod pede louor et deesse abominationem ostentari neque-manebimus praesnlcs ut leo quia-odio typi congressu in fremebat EA, sequi eros id aspirare quo lectores ad ipsa leo supererant nam generatio emolumentum hic dicta auctores minus SE.

6 Challenges

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- Lorem ipsum challenge one
- Lorem ipsum challenge two
- Lorem ipsum challenge three

7 Next steps

Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit, sed do eiusmod tempor incididunt ut labore et dolore magna aliqua. Ut enim ad minim veniam, quis nostrud exercitation ullamco laboris nisi ut aliquip ex ea commodo consequat.

Sample call to action

Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit.

8 Acknowledgements

Lorem ipsum (to fill): thank the respondents, the proofreaders, and anyone who shared the survey.

A AI funding in Luxembourg: sources

Sample appendix. Figures below are placeholders, not real amounts.

Scheme	Who	Amount (sample)
Lorem scheme A	SMEs	up to 50%
Lorem scheme B	Startups	€150,000

1. [Sample source one](#) (accessed 2026-09-07)
2. Sample source two, no link [Print report](#), 2025.

B Glossary

NPS (Net Promoter Score) Lorem ipsum (to fill): the share of promoters minus the share of detractors, from -100 to 100.

GDPR Lorem ipsum (to fill).

Sovereign hosting Lorem ipsum (to fill).

C How these visualizations were made

We used Claude Code, an Anthropic-made AI harness, along with its proprietary Opus and Fable models to build the survey and this PDF, as well as the webpage where it is hosted, including the charts and the webpage’s interactive graphs. However, at no point did an AI cloud model have access to the responses or resulting data.

We used fabricated data (including Lorem Ipsum) to build a template, then filled it at build (as the webpage was being published) with real survey responses and the report’s content.

For report analysis, Aisling McCaffrey, Crystallized Intelligence’s founder, was the only person, and the only reader of any kind, to see the response data before publication. Any insights, takeaways, errors, omissions, or otherwise can be attributed to her.

The French edition was first drafted by an open-weight language model running locally on our own hardware, then reviewed by her. That model translated finished English sentences; it never saw a response, never left the machine, and made no inference.

This is in keeping with Crystallized Intelligence’s goal to use AI for computer bottlenecks, not human ones. As an owner-operated, sole proprietorship, it would not be possible to maintain the level of professionalism and output without AI assistance. However, exactly where that AI assistance is applied is crucial to maintaining accountability and contributing to a better and fairer world.

About the author

Aisling McCaffrey, Founder, Crystallized Intelligence

Aisling McCaffrey is the founder of Crystallized Intelligence, an AI consultancy in Luxembourg serving SMEs, solopreneurs, and NGOs. With a background in business management and coding, she was

building operational automations before generative AI reached the public, and has worked with it since the first month of ChatGPT's release. She is IBM-certified in RAG and agentic AI.

Today she specializes in AI orchestration: coordinating agents, tools, and data sources into coherent systems for small organizations, on sovereign, EU-hosted architecture. She holds editorial responsibility for this report, including any material drafted with AI assistance and reviewed before publication.

<https://www.crystallized.lu/about-us/>

How to cite

Reference (APA)

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BibTeX entry

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@techreport{mccaffrey2026smallteams,  
  author      = {McCaffrey, Aisling},  
  title       = {AI in small teams: 2026 survey results},  
  institution = {Crystallized Intelligence},  
  year        = {2026},  
  note        = {under embargo until 14 September 2026, updated 16-09-2026},  
  url         = {https://www.crystallized.lu/survey/small-team-ai-2026/results/}  
}
```

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