



AI-Enable

Perspectives on AI in Higher Education: Survey Insights from Teachers and Institutional Management

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Agenda

- Introduction
- Theoretical Backgrounds
- Methods
- Results
- Conclusions



Introduction

- **Inclusive digital education** has become a priority for higher education institutions
 - Ensuring equitable participation of students with diverse needs, including those with special educational needs and disabilities
- AI is regarded as a transformative force in (inclusive) education, providing tools for **personalization, adaptive learning, and inclusive pedagogy**

Research

- Although AI shows **strong potential** for accessibility, adaptive learning, and assistive technologies, **concerns persist** around issues such as bias, privacy, equitable access ...
- Objectives
 - Assess perceived benefits for students and teachers
 - Identify risks and challenges (technical, ethical, pedagogical)
 - Provide recommendations for responsible adoption

Methods (Survey)

- A structured survey to capture stakeholder perspectives on AI in inclusive education, focusing on three dimensions:
 - benefits for **students**,
 - benefits for **teachers**, and
 - **systemic** challenges in technology, pedagogy, ethics, and culture.
- The questionnaire was collaboratively developed by the AI-ENABLE project team, conducted March–June 2024

Survey structure

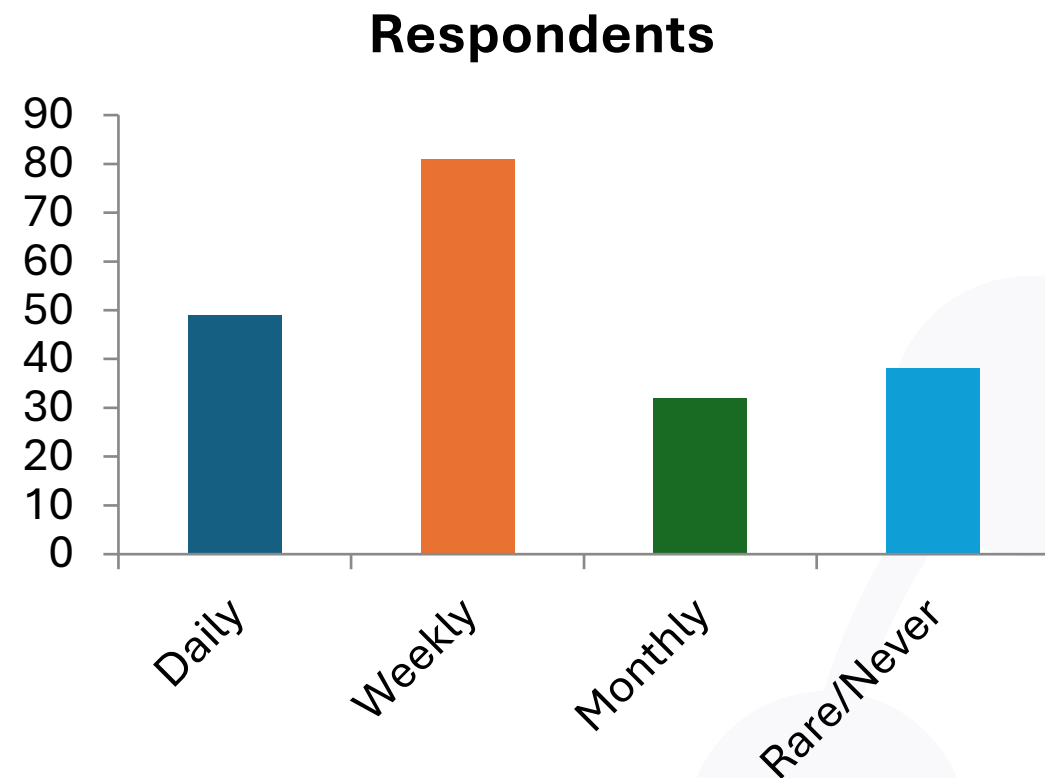
1. **Background information** – gender, country, institutional affiliation, role, discipline, and years of teaching or research experience.
2. **Awareness and use of AI tools** – measuring familiarity with AI applications, types of tools used, and frequency of use.
3. **Perceived benefits of AI** – accessibility, personalization, student engagement, collaboration, teacher support.
4. **Perceived challenges of AI** – technological, pedagogical, ethical, and cultural barriers.

Participants - demographic

- A total of **200** valid responses were collected.
 - 109 female
 - 90 male
 - 1 non-disclosed respondent.
- Participants roles:
 - **researchers** (n = 162),
 - teachers (n = 125),
 - management/administrators (n = 60),
 - other roles (n = 39).
- Countries:
 - Ukraine (n = 97)
 - Spain (n = 31)
 - Slovenia (n = 19)
 - Türkiye (n = 19).
- Wide range of disciplines:
 - Humanities
 - social sciences
 - STEM
 - ...

Results – adoption and frequency

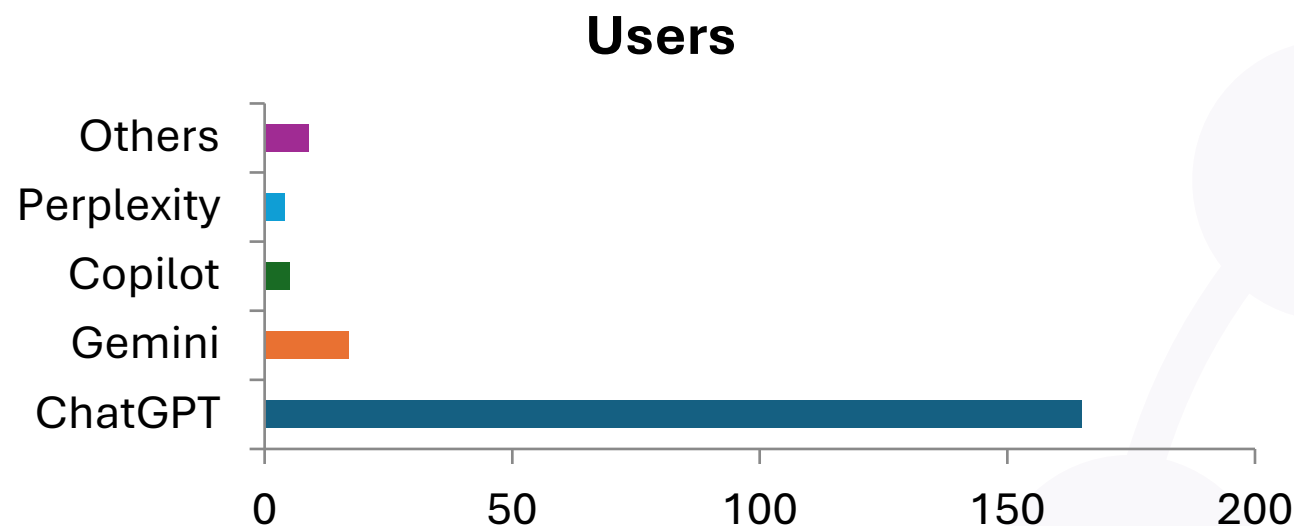
- AI adoption
 - 138 reported using AI in their professional work
 - 61 stated they do not use AI in their professional work
 - one was unsure
- Frequency of use
 - 49 respondents used AI daily
 - 81 respondents used several times a week
 - 32 respondents used AI several times a month
 - a minority reported rare or no use



Results - tools

- Tools

- ChatGPT 165
- Gemini (17)
- Copilot (5),
- Perplexity (4)
- Bard (4)
- Canva (4)
- GitHub Copilot (2)
- Wolfram Alpha (2)
- DALL·E (2)
- Smodin (1)



Results - activities

- The most common academic applications included:
 - designing class materials (120),
 - checking knowledge (116),
 - designing tests (105),
 - conducting research for classes (74),
 - scaffolding learning (62), and
 - creating presentations (60).
- Specialized use in domains such as nursing (50), programming (33), creative writing (31), and design (28).

Perceived benefits for teaching

- supports teaching **efficiency and quality**.
- saving time through **automated grading** and plagiarism detection,
- enriching lesson planning by providing instant suggestions
- supporting curriculum development through the generation of teaching resources.
- **help create more diverse and inclusive materials, enabling them to better address student heterogeneity and accessibility needs**

Perceived benefits for students

- enhances learning through personalization, engagement, and **improved outcomes**.
- more interactive and motivating environments via **gamification**, quizzes, and simulations.
- collaboration and **interactive learning**.
- helping students **brainstorm**, structure assignments, and synthesize large volumes of information.
- benefits for language practice and creative tasks, such as essay writing or script development.

Benefits for **inclusive education**

- **accessibility** through tools such as text-to-speech, captioning, and alternative content formats
- **personalization**, by adapting resources to SEND students
- alternative **communication**, particularly for students with disabilities
- **cultural and linguistic inclusivity**, by enabling translation and adaptation of materials to diverse contexts.

Challenges and barriers

- Current tools often **lack integration with assistive technologies** and struggle to accommodate diverse disability profiles
- Technical and **financial barriers**—such as high costs, interoperability problems, and infrastructure inequalities
- student **over-reliance** on AI,
- erosion of **critical thinking skills**,
- potential for academic **dishonesty**
- Ethical and privacy risks
- Risks of bias from non-representative training datasets
- Opacity of AI decision-making.
- Reduced human interaction

Conclusions

- The results confirm both **optimism** about AI's potential to enhance teaching and learning and persistent concerns about infrastructure, ethics, and pedagogy.
- AI particularly ChatGPT demonstrates that generative AI has already become embedded in routine academic workflows
 - Teachers use it extensively for designing materials, preparing tests, and checking knowledge,
 - Students rely on it for writing assignments, presentations, and laboratory work.
- The ability of AI to adapt materials to different languages and cultural contexts was also seen as a strong enabler of inclusivity, allowing diverse student groups to participate more fully in learning.

Conclusions

- The survey shows that while AI is already reshaping higher education practice, its role as a driver of inclusive digital education will depend on deliberate strategies that combine technological innovation with pedagogical responsibility.
- Only by addressing the challenges identified by educators can AI become a sustainable enabler of equity in learning.
- Priorities:
 - investment in AI literacy and professional development for educators
 - establishment of clear institutional and policy frameworks addressing ethics, transparency, and privacy, and
 - targeted support for infrastructure and inclusive design practices to ensure equitable access.



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Thank you!

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Questions?



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