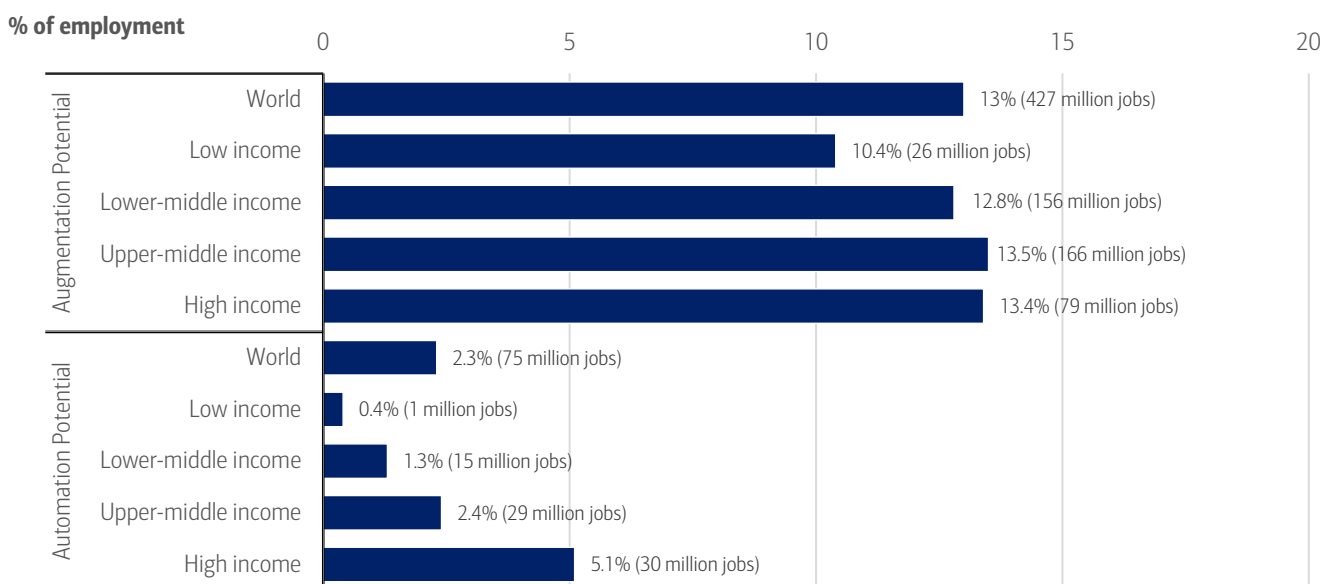


Daily Insights

AI substitutes tasks, not entire jobs

22 May 2026

The number of jobs in the AI augmentation category is significantly higher than the number of jobs that have automation potential
Global estimates for jobs with AI augmentation and automation potential as share of total employment



Source: ILO – CC BY 4.0 - Gmyrek, P., Berg, J., Kamiński, K., Konopczyński, F., Ładna, A., Nafradi, B., Roslaniec, K., Troszyński, M. (2025). *Generative AI and Jobs: A Refined Global Index of Occupational Exposure*, ILO Working Paper 140 (Geneva, ILO). Doi:10.54394/HETP0387; BofA Global Research

Note: Based on microdata for 59 countries. Augmentation potential refers to the likelihood that AI will assist humans rather than replace them. Automation potential refers to the likelihood that AI can fully replace a task or job.

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As AI becomes more integrated in the workplace, BofA Global Research expects tasks to be reallocated within occupations rather than entire professions being displaced. Data from the International Labour Organization (ILO) supports this view, suggesting that around 13% of global employment has augmentation potential, compared with just 2.3% at risk of automation.

Historically, breakthrough technologies have often bolted onto existing processes before reorganizing them. Electrification, for instance, first powered old factory layouts and only later enabled redesign. BofA Global Research expects a similar two-stage path with generative AI.

Dive deeper into our publication: [Adaptability is the new job security: AI and the future of work](#). Or, if you’re looking for a listen this Memorial Day weekend, tune in to [Global Research Unlocked](#), where BofA Global Research analysts unpack their latest AI insights.

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Disclosures

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