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The Evolution of AI: The State of Enterprise AI and Data Architecture

GERMANY READOUT

September 2025

Background

- A global study was conducted by Cloudera, in partnership with ResearchScape, of 1,574 IT leaders based across the U.S., EMEA, and APAC regions who work at companies with more than 1,000 employees in July of 2025.
- The data shared here today represents survey responses from 118 IT leaders in Germany.

The State of Enterprise AI and Data Architecture survey explored:

- How enterprise leaders are approaching AI in 2025
- How the AI and data landscape has changed since 2024
- Current challenges to AI adoption at enterprise scale
- The current state of data architectures
- Security Challenges that arise during AI Implementation and Integration

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Key Findings: The Current State of Enterprise AI

It's no longer about implementation, enterprises are integrating AI into their most critical business processes

- Seventy percent said their organization had significantly or fully integrated AI into their core business processes, while 27% have only somewhat integrated AI.

IT leaders are finding success when it comes to realizing measurable value from AI initiatives

- Half (50%) of respondents said they were significantly successful at realizing value from their AI initiatives, while 15% said they were transformationally successful.

They are also embracing a broad range of AI models to drive value and transform their organizations

- Respondents indicated they are using several forms of AI including deep learning (53%), generative (51%), predictive (47%), agentic (40%), classification (37%), regression (35%), and supervised learning (34%).

Preparedness to manage these new forms of AI is increasing

- Eighty-five percent of respondents said they were prepared to manage new forms of AI, like AI agents. This broke down into 19% saying they were much more prepared, 34% saying they were somewhat more prepared, and 32% saying they were slightly more prepared.

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Key Findings: The State of Data Architecture

IT leaders are relying on a broad set of architectures to store their data

- Respondents indicated they are storing their data in private cloud (67%), public cloud (55%), on-premises distributed (43%), data lakes (36%), data warehouses (31%), on-premises mainframe (27%), other physical environments (23%), and data lakehouses (17%).

Confidence is rising as IT leaders indicate they trust their organization's data more than they did one year ago

- Eighty percent of respondents said they trust their data at least slightly more than they did in 2024. But of that number, 16% said they trust it much more.

Most IT leaders consider their organizational culture to be data driven

- Nearly one-third (30%) of respondents consider their organization to be extremely data driven. And 39% consider their organization to be very data driven.

Most organizations have yet to make all of their data accessible and useable for AI initiatives

- Only 9% of respondents said they have access to all of their organizations data for AI initiatives, with an additional 23% saying they could access almost all of it.

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Key Findings: AI Implementation and Integration

Rising costs are slowing the speed of AI adoption at enterprise scale

- **IT leaders indicated the top cost prohibitions for accelerating AI in their organization were data leakage and breach (41%), data storage costs (41%), integration costs (40%), and point solutions costs (33%).**

Security and compliance are a top concern

- **When asked about the top barriers to AI adoption, respondents noted security and compliance risks (37%), proper training and talent to manage AI tools (35%), and data infrastructure required to effectively support AI (32%).**

In spite of security concerns, most IT leaders feel confident in their ability to secure data used in AI systems

- **Over half (54%) of respondents said they were very confident in their organization's ability to secure data used in AI systems, and an additional 28% said they were extremely confident.**

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