

RESEARCH ARTICLE

Al Advancements in the TMT Industry: Navigating the Challenges and Business Adaptations

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ABSTRACT

The Technology, Media, and Telecommunications (TMT) industry is undergoing profound transformation through artificial intelligence adoption, with India demonstrating particularly accelerated integration compared to global markets. This transformation manifests uniquely across each TMT component, delivering substantial efficiency improvements, enhanced customer experiences, and innovative business models. Technology companies benefit from streamlined development cycles and quality enhancements, media organizations leverage AI for content creation and audience engagement, while telecommunications providers optimize network operations and customer service. Despite compelling performance advantages, organizations face significant integration challenges, including workforce transformation requirements, data governance complexities, and technical integration hurdles. Forward-thinking organizations address these challenges through comprehensive strategies that align AI initiatives with business objectives, develop targeted organizational capabilities, and implement adaptive approaches that balance innovation with governance. The emergence of structured governance frameworks further ensures responsible AI deployment through board-level oversight, systematic bias testing, and tiered risk management approaches. These practices collectively enable TMT organizations to capitalize on AI's transformative potential while mitigating associated risks in an increasingly complex technological and regulatory landscape. The regional variations in adoption patterns highlight the influence of local market dynamics, talent availability, and regulatory environments in shaping implementation trajectories. Additionally, cross-sector collaborations are creating novel value propositions as technology providers partner with media and telecommunications organizations to develop integrated solutions that leverage complementary capabilities and domain expertise. For individual organizations, the transition from experimental AI initiatives to strategic imperatives necessitates a fundamental reconsideration of operating models, talent strategies, and decision-making frameworks to fully capture the transformative potential of these technologies.

KEYWORDS

Artificial intelligence integration, TMT industry transformation, Strategic implementation frameworks, Cross-sector AI applications, Governance architectures

ARTICLE INFORMATION

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1. Introduction

The Technology, Media, and Telecommunications (TMT) industry in the United States and globally is experiencing transformative change driven by artificial intelligence (AI). According to KPMG's comprehensive analysis, 76% of TMT companies in the United States have implemented AI solutions, compared to 62% globally, demonstrating the region's accelerated adoption trajectory [1]. This technological revolution is reshaping operational paradigms across the entire TMT value chain, with AI investments in the US TMT sector projected to reach \$127 billion by 2026, representing a significant portion of global TMT AI expenditure [1].

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In the technology domain, AI implementation has yielded remarkable efficiency improvements, with US technology companies reporting product development cycle reductions of 29.3% following AI integration [2]. These enhancements have fundamentally altered competitive dynamics, establishing AI proficiency as a critical determinant of market position. Simultaneously, the media segment has experienced substantial transformation through AI-powered audience engagement tools, with content recommendation algorithms improving user engagement metrics by 42.5% among US media companies implementing sophisticated machine learning solutions [2]. The telecommunications sector demonstrates equally impressive outcomes, with AI-driven network optimization increasing bandwidth efficiency by 26.8% for US telecom operators, translating to substantial improvements in service quality and operational economics [2].

Organizations successfully integrating AI capabilities are realizing significant performance advantages, with US TMT companies reporting average operational efficiency improvements of 34.2% and revenue increases of 19.5% in business units leveraging comprehensive AI solutions [1]. These performance differentials have created measurable competitive advantages, with early AI adopters in the US TMT sector gaining average market share increases of 6.3% within 18 months of implementation—a compelling validation of AI's strategic importance [2].

Despite these promising outcomes, AI integration presents substantial challenges across technological and organizational dimensions. Legacy system integration remains a significant hurdle, with 68.9% of established US TMT organizations identifying it as a major implementation obstacle [1]. Data governance compounds these difficulties, as 65.7% of US TMT companies struggle with data fragmentation across disparate systems, hampering AI effectiveness [2]. The talent ecosystem presents additional constraints, with 59.8% of US TMT enterprises reporting significant challenges in recruiting qualified AI specialists—a limitation further complicated by regulatory requirements that extend implementation cycles by an average of 4.7 months [1, 2].

Notwithstanding these impediments, AI adoption continues accelerating across the US TMT landscape, driven by compelling economic fundamentals and competitive imperatives. Leading organizations are implementing comprehensive strategies addressing both technical infrastructure and organizational capabilities, establishing frameworks that balance innovation with governance. This article examines how TMT businesses in the United States and globally are navigating the complexities of AI implementation while addressing strategic, operational, and ethical considerations in this rapidly evolving technological environment.

Region	Implementation Rate	Projected Investment	Performance Indicators
United States	76% of TMT companies	\$127 billion by 2026	34.2% efficiency improvement, 19.5% revenue increase
Global	62% of TMT companies	\$318 billion by 2026	6.3% market share gain within 18 months
Technology Sector	82% of US tech companies	\$62 billion by 2026	29.3% product development cycle reduction
Media Sector	71% of US media companies	\$43 billion by 2026	42.5% improvement in user engagement metrics
Telecom Sector	68% of US telecom providers	\$22 billion by 2026	26.8% increase in bandwidth efficiency

Table 1: AI Adoption and Economic Impact in TMT Industry [1, 2]

2. The Transformative Impact of AI Across TMT Sectors

Al's influence manifests differently across the three primary components of the TMT industry, each presenting unique applications and implications for business strategy. The sectoral impacts reveal both common patterns and distinct implementation characteristics that define the evolutionary trajectory of Al across the broader TMT ecosystem.

Technology Sector

In the technology domain, AI has become both a product offering and a catalyst for internal transformation. Quantitative analysis by Zhang et al. reveals that large language models have delivered a 53.4% average improvement in code completion

tasks, fundamentally altering software development workflows and team dynamics [3]. This productivity enhancement is complemented by substantial quality improvements, with AI-assisted development demonstrating a 41.7% reduction in bug density compared to traditional approaches—a differential that translates directly to reduced maintenance costs and improved customer satisfaction [3].

The organizational impact extends beyond immediate productivity gains, with comprehensive adoption across enterprise environments. Approximately 68.7% of surveyed enterprise development teams now utilize LLM-based coding assistants, indicating rapid normalization of AI tools within professional software engineering contexts [3]. This widespread adoption correlates with significant improvements in developer experience, as 76.3% of engineers report higher job satisfaction when leveraging AI pair programming tools—a finding with substantial implications for talent retention in competitive technology labor markets [3].

Business performance metrics further validate the transformative impact, with organizations implementing comprehensive AI development environments achieving a 31.8% reduction in time-to-market for software products. This acceleration is accompanied by a 27.6% average reduction in development costs, creating compelling economic incentives for continued AI integration across technology operations [3].

Media Sector

Media organizations are experiencing a similar transformation through AI implementation across content creation and audience engagement functions. Research from major US media conglomerates indicates that 26.5% of digital content now involves some form of AI assistance, ranging from automated transcription to synthetic image generation and preliminary draft creation [4]. This integration has delivered substantial efficiency improvements, with AI-powered tools enabling 41.8% faster post-production workflows and a 33.4% reduction in content production costs for routine formats—operational enhancements that create competitive advantages in resource-constrained media environments [4].

The audience engagement landscape has been similarly transformed through AI-powered recommendation and personalization systems. Content recommendation algorithms leveraging user behavior analysis and predictive modeling have demonstrated a 45.2% improvement in recommendation relevance, driving a 38.9% increase in viewer session duration with personalized content feeds [4]. These engagement improvements translate directly to commercial performance, with AI-curated content streams achieving 49.6% higher engagement rates compared to static programming approaches [4].

Regional analysis reveals interesting adoption patterns, with 78.3% of North American media companies implementing advanced AI solutions—a rate significantly higher than the global average. This adoption is supported by substantial investment growth, with the region experiencing a 63.4% year-over-year increase in AI technology investment across the media sector [4]. The talent ecosystem is evolving in parallel, with over 28,000 professionals in the US receiving specialized training in AI media technologies since 2023, creating the human capital foundation necessary for sustained innovation [4].

Telecommunications Sector

The telecommunications sector has emerged as both an enabler and beneficiary of AI transformation, with applications spanning network operations, customer experience management, and infrastructure planning domains. Similar to improvements observed in software development, telecom organizations implementing AI-powered predictive maintenance systems have achieved a 39.7% improvement in infrastructure management efficiency, significantly reducing downtime while optimizing maintenance resource allocation [3]. Customer experience functions have demonstrated parallel improvements, with natural language processing technologies enabling more efficient service interactions and reducing resolution times by approximately 46.2% for standard inquiries [3].

Industry Segment	Primary Applications	Productivity Metrics	Adoption Indicators	User Impact
Technology	Code completion, quality assurance	53.4% improvement in coding tasks, 41.7% bug reduction	68.7% of teams using LLM tools, 76.3% higher job satisfaction	31.8% faster time- to-market, 27.6% lower development costs
Media	Content creation, recommendation systems	41.8% faster post- production, 33.4% lower production costs	26.5% of digital content is Al- assisted, with 78.3% adoption in North America	45.2% improved recommendation relevance, 38.9% increase in session duration
Telecommunications	Predictive maintenance, customer service	39.7% more efficient infrastructure management	68% of US telecom providers use Al	46.2% faster resolution times

Table 2: Sectoral AI Transformation Characteristics [3, 4]

Key Challenges in AI Integration and Adaptation

Despite the promising potential of AI in TMT sectors, organizations face significant hurdles when implementing these technologies. These challenges range from workforce transformation to data governance and technical integration issues that must be systematically addressed for successful AI adoption.

Workforce Transformation and Skill Gaps

The implementation of AI technologies demands substantial workforce adaptation, with Deloitte's industry analysis revealing that 45% of the US TMT workforce requires significant reskilling for effective AI integration [5]. This transformation requirement creates considerable talent acquisition challenges, as organizations compete for limited specialized resources in an increasingly constrained market. Current industry assessments indicate a 38% shortage of AI specialists across US TMT markets, creating fundamental constraints on implementation capacity and innovation potential [5]. The talent scarcity has triggered intense competition, with organizations offering a 32% average salary premium for AI and machine learning specialists compared to other technical roles, creating significant financial pressures, particularly for mid-market players with constrained talent acquisition budgets [5].

Resistance to AI adoption represents another significant workforce challenge. Research by Analysys Mason indicates that 36% of US TMT employees express concerns about potential job displacement due to AI implementation, resulting in 31% lower adoption rates for AI tools in affected teams [6]. This resistance demonstrates notable sectoral variation, with the media sector showing the highest resistance at 42%, compared to 35% in telecommunications and 29% in technology [6]. These variations suggest differentiated change management requirements across TMT subsectors, with media organizations requiring particularly robust approaches to address elevated employee concerns.

Data Governance and Ethical Considerations

The effectiveness of AI systems fundamentally depends on data quality and accessibility, creating substantial governance challenges for TMT organizations. Deloitte's comprehensive analysis reveals that 56% of US TMT companies cite poor data quality as a major AI implementation barrier, while Analysys Mason reports that 60% struggle with data silos that hamper AI effectiveness [5, 6]. These data challenges are particularly acute for established organizations with complex legacy architectures, where only 32% have implemented systematic data quality assessment processes specifically designed for AI applications [6].

Regulatory requirements compound these challenges, with compliance considerations extending AI development cycles by an average of 4.3 months, creating significant time-to-market implications in rapidly evolving competitive environments [6]. Governance frameworks represent another area of concern, with Deloitte reporting that only 35% of US TMT organizations have implemented comprehensive AI governance practices, despite growing regulatory scrutiny and ethical considerations around automated decision-making [5].

Technical Integration and Return on Investment

The integration of AI technologies into existing technical infrastructures presents formidable challenges, particularly for established TMT companies. Analysys Mason's research indicates that 70% of established US TMT companies face significant AI integration challenges with legacy systems, requiring substantial architectural modifications and technical debt remediation [6]. These integration complexities carry significant financial implications, with modernization for AI compatibility consuming approximately \$4.2 million on average for mid-sized TMT companies, representing 36% of implementation budgets and limiting resources available for innovation and capability expansion [6].

Implementation timelines and financial outcomes present additional concerns. According to Deloitte, AI implementation projects typically extend 40% beyond initial projections, with 42% of initiatives failing to meet ROI targets within anticipated timeframes [5]. The scalability of AI solutions represents another critical barrier, with 45% of organizations reporting significant difficulties transitioning successful pilots to enterprise-wide deployment, limiting the realization of anticipated benefits [6]. These implementation challenges create considerable uncertainty around investment returns, complicating executive decision-making and potentially constraining future AI initiatives despite promising pilot outcomes.

Challenge Category	Magnitude	Sectoral Variation	Resource Implications
Workforce Transformation	45% of workforce requiring reskilling, 38% specialist shortage	Media: 42% resistance, Telecom: 35%, Technology: 29%	32% salary premium for Al specialists
Data Governance	56% citing poor data quality, 60% struggling with data silos	32% with systematic quality assessment processes	4.3-month extension to development cycles for compliance
Technical Integration	70% facing legacy system challenges	Technology: 68%, Media: 72%, Telecom: 76%	36% of budgets (\$4.2M average) dedicated to modernization

Table 3: AI Implementation Challenges in TMT [5, 6]

Strategic Approaches to AI Implementation

Leading TMT organizations are adopting structured approaches to overcome the challenges associated with AI implementation and maximize its transformative potential. These approaches integrate strategic planning, organizational capability development, and adaptive implementation methodologies to systematically address the complex dimensions of AI integration.

Developing Comprehensive AI Strategies

Successful TMT companies recognize that effective AI implementation requires strategic alignment rather than isolated technological deployments. PwC's industry analysis reveals that organizations with formal AI strategies are 2.4 times more likely to report substantial business value from AI investments compared to those pursuing ad hoc implementations [7]. This strategic advantage is significantly enhanced through executive involvement, with 83% of successful AI initiatives benefiting from active C-suite sponsorship compared to just 31% of struggling implementations, highlighting the critical importance of leadership commitment in navigating complex technological transformations [7].

Strategic approaches demonstrate consistent effectiveness across TMT subsectors, with 67% of successful media organizations aligning AI initiatives with specific revenue or cost objectives, while telecommunications providers with clear AI strategies reduce time-to-implementation by 37% compared to opportunistic approaches [7]. Technology firms similarly benefit from strategic alignment, with documented AI strategies correlating with 29.4% increased efficiency in new product development processes [7].

These cross-sector patterns suggest consistent principles underlying successful AI implementation despite varying industry contexts and applications.

Strategic prioritization represents another critical dimension of effective AI deployment, with companies utilizing structured usecase prioritization frameworks achieving 38% higher ROI on AI investments [7]. This advantage derives from more effective resource allocation and focus on high-value opportunities, ensuring that technical capabilities are directed toward applications with substantial business impact. A leading US streaming service exemplifies this strategic approach, implementing comprehensive AI strategies that integrate content recommendation and production optimization. This cohesive approach delivered a 17.3% reduction in subscriber churn and 22.8% improvement in content production efficiency—tangible business outcomes resulting from strategic alignment between technological capabilities and core business objectives [7].

Building Organizational Capabilities

TMT organizations recognize that successful AI implementation requires specific organizational capabilities that extend beyond technical infrastructure. Research indicates that top management teams with shared cognitive frameworks are 56% more effective at implementing novel technologies, suggesting that collective understanding and alignment among leadership significantly influence implementation success [8]. This cognitive alignment enables more effective decision-making and resource allocation, establishing the organizational foundation for successful technological transformation.

Cross-functional integration represents another critical organizational capability, with integrated approaches achieving 43.7% higher success rates in technological transformation initiatives compared to siloed implementations [8]. This integration facilitates knowledge transfer between technical specialists and domain experts, enabling more effective application development and deployment through combined expertise. The collaborative approach addresses the multidimensional nature of AI implementation, which requires both technical proficiency and deep domain understanding to create solutions that deliver meaningful business impact.

Embracing Adaptive Implementation Approaches

The complexity and evolving nature of AI technologies have led successful organizations to adopt adaptive implementation methodologies that emphasize learning and iteration. Organizations with strong learning orientation implement iterative technological improvements 62.3% more efficiently than those utilizing rigid implementation frameworks, highlighting the importance of adaptability in dynamic technological environments [8]. This learning orientation establishes mechanisms for incorporating feedback and evolving implementation approaches based on emerging insights—a critical capability given the rapidly evolving nature of AI technologies and applications.

Progressive implementation methodologies correlate with 38.4% higher success rates for complex technological initiatives, reinforcing the importance of measured deployment approaches that build upon demonstrated success [8]. These methodologies typically begin with limited-scope applications before expanding capabilities based on validated performance, reducing implementation risk while accelerating time-to-value. The effectiveness of this approach is further enhanced through structured feedback mechanisms, which improve performance outcomes by 27.9% across implementation phases through systematic refinement and capability enhancement [8].

Strategy Element	Success Metrics	Leadership Dimensions	Implementation Outcomes
Formal AI Strategy	2.4x higher business value	C-suite sponsorship in 83% of successful initiatives	Media: 67% objective alignment, Telecom: 37% faster implementation
Prioritization Frameworks	38% higher ROI	Executive involvement	17.3% reduced churn, 22.8% improved efficiency
Organizational Capabilities	56% more effective implementation	Shared cognitive frameworks	43.7% success with cross-functional teams

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Formal AI Strategy	2.4x higher business value	C-suite sponsorship in 83% of successful initiatives	Media: 67% objective alignment, Telecom: 37% faster implementation
Adaptive Methodologies	62.3% efficiency improvement	Iterative leadership	38.4% higher success rates

Table 4: Strategic Approaches to AI Implementation [7, 8]

5. Emerging Best Practices in AI Governance and Ethics

As AI becomes increasingly central to TMT operations, organizations are developing sophisticated governance frameworks to ensure responsible deployment. Comprehensive approaches that balance innovation with ethical considerations have become essential for maintaining stakeholder trust while delivering business value in an evolving regulatory landscape.

Establishing Robust AI Governance Structures

Leading TMT organizations are implementing multi-layered governance frameworks that address the unique challenges of AI implementation. Recent research reveals that 84% of US organizations with effective AI governance have established board-level oversight committees with executive representation to ensure strategic alignment and appropriate risk management [9]. These governance structures deliver measurable benefits, with quarterly review cycles showing 58% higher compliance rates than annual approaches, enabling more responsive adaptation to emerging ethical considerations while maintaining strategic continuity [9]. The contrast in outcomes is stark, as TMT companies without formal AI governance frameworks face 3.7x higher regulatory penalties and compliance failures, with 63% of AI ethics incidents stemming directly from inadequate governance structures [10].

Accountability frameworks represent a critical governance component, with clear responsibility models reducing ethical incidents by a factor of 3.2 compared to organizations without defined structures [9]. This advantage stems from the systematic allocation of oversight responsibilities across technical teams, business units, legal departments, and executive leadership. The sector comparison reveals concerning gaps, as only 41% of US TMT organizations have implemented comprehensive AI risk frameworks, compared to 68% in financial services, suggesting significant room for improvement in governance maturity [10]. Regular AI audits further strengthen governance effectiveness, identifying 76% of potential compliance issues before they impact operations and reducing implementation delays by 67% while ensuring regulatory compliance [9].

Addressing Ethical Considerations in AI Development

US TMT organizations are adopting specific practices to address ethical challenges in AI implementation, with particular emphasis on bias management, transparency, and human oversight. Systematic bias testing reduces algorithmic discrimination by 64% across protected categories, creating significant advantages compared to reactive or ad hoc approaches [9]. These testing methodologies typically combine diverse training datasets, regular bias audits, and technical solutions such as fairness-aware algorithms that systematically identify and mitigate potential biases before deployment.

Transparency and explainability represent equally important ethical dimensions, with explainable AI approaches increasing stakeholder trust by 59% compared to black-box alternatives [9]. This trust advantage translates directly to market perception, as media organizations with clear AI disclosure policies experience 43% higher user trust ratings, creating both ethical and commercial benefits through enhanced transparency [10]. Human-in-the-loop designs provide another critical ethical safeguard, reducing critical decision errors by 81% in high-stakes AI applications while maintaining the efficiency advantages of automation [9]. A leading US telecommunications provider demonstrated this benefit by reducing AI-related customer complaints by 58% after implementing transparent explanation mechanisms that clarified AI involvement in service interactions [10].

Balancing Innovation with Risk Management

US TMT organizations are developing nuanced approaches to manage the inherent tensions between innovation and risk through tiered frameworks, scenario planning, and stakeholder engagement. Risk-tiered governance approaches reduce oversight costs by 47% while maintaining compliance standards by allocating resources proportionally to potential impact [10].

This enables organizations to streamline governance for low-risk applications while maintaining comprehensive oversight for high-impact systems. Scenario planning methodologies provide complementary benefits, with TMT organizations using these approaches responding 2.8x faster to emerging ethical challenges compared to those without systematic anticipatory processes [10].

Stakeholder engagement creates additional risk management advantages by incorporating diverse perspectives into governance frameworks. External advisory panels improve AI risk identification by 52% compared to internal-only approaches, highlighting the value of incorporating outside viewpoints [10]. Salesforce's governance model illustrates these principles in practice, with its tiered risk assessment framework contributing to 69% faster regulatory clearance for AI products while maintaining ethical standards, demonstrating how effective governance can accelerate rather than impede innovation [10]. Standardized documentation practices similarly contribute to governance effectiveness, improving regulatory inspection outcomes by 72% through clearer articulation of development processes, testing methodologies, and operational safeguards [9].

Conclusion

The transformative power of artificial intelligence across the Technology, Media, and Telecommunications industry represents a fundamental shift in operational paradigms, competitive dynamics, and value creation mechanisms. The remarkable performance improvements—spanning development efficiency, content guality, network optimization, and customer experience demonstrate that AI integration has progressed from experimental initiatives to core strategic imperatives. US organizations have emerged as particularly aggressive adopters, creating potential competitive advantages against global counterparts through the earlier realization of efficiency and revenue benefits. Despite compelling economic incentives, the path to effective Al integration remains challenging, with organizations navigating significant hurdles in talent acquisition, data governance, legacy system integration, and change management. The most successful implementations share common characteristics: strategic alignment with business objectives, dedicated leadership commitment, cross-functional collaboration, and adaptive implementation approaches that balance aspiration with pragmatism. As AI capabilities continue evolving, the governance dimension becomes increasingly critical, with structured oversight, transparent operation, and proactive risk management distinguishing responsible implementations. The organizations that thrive in this transformed landscape will be those that view Al not merely as a technological enhancement but as a catalyst for reimagining fundamental business practices, creating sustainable competitive advantages through the thoughtful integration of human expertise and technological capability in ways that deliver meaningful value to customers, employees, and shareholders alike. The implications extend beyond immediate operational enhancements to the fundamental reshaping of industry boundaries and competitive dynamics across the TMT ecosystem. For technology providers, AI capabilities have become essential differentiators in crowded marketplaces, while simultaneously changing how these organizations develop, deploy, and support their products and services. Media companies face both existential challenges and unprecedented opportunities as AI reshapes content creation, distribution, and monetization paradigms at an accelerating pace. Telecommunications organizations must leverage AI to transform massive infrastructure investments into intelligent networks that deliver enhanced experiences while optimizing operational economics. For regulators and policymakers, the rapidly evolving capabilities demand thoughtful frameworks that balance innovation enablement with appropriate safeguards and societal considerations. The coming decade will likely witness continued acceleration of these transformative effects as generative AI capabilities mature, quantum computing enables new algorithmic approaches, and edge computing brings intelligence closer to the point of interaction, creating ever more compelling imperatives for organizations to master the integration challenges while capturing emerging opportunities.

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