Gartner

2026 Technology Adoption Roadmap

The Gartner Technology Adoption Roadmap provides IT leaders with peer-driven perspectives on deployment plans, adoption timelines, value and risk for key technologies. The 2026 Technology Adoption Roadmap explores 44 technologies, evaluated by 105 global organizations over a 12- to 24-month period. Use these insights to compare your plans with industry peers and identify emerging opportunities.

Enterprise value

The value factor is based on the analysis of key ROI drivers, including increased cost-efficiency, improved speed and agility, enabled resilience, enhanced employee productivity and delivery of superior capabilities to consumers.

Low Medium High

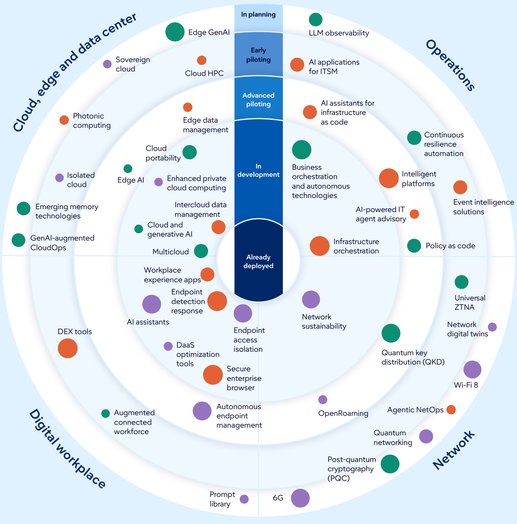
Deployment risk

The risk factor awarded to each technology is based on the analysis of potential risks posed, including talent unavailability, high or unpredictable costs, cybersecurity, technical incompatibility or architecture complexity and vendor lock-in.

Low Medium High

Adoption phase

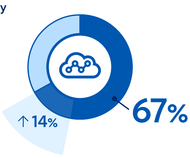
The adoption phase is determined by current deployment plans for a majority of organizations. Technologies on the cusp of moving into the next deployment phase are placed on borders between phases.



Key take-aways from the 2026 roadmap

1 Cost unpredictability and vendor dependency are growing challenges.

Cost unpredictability now affects 67% of cloud-related technologies — up sharply from 14% last year — making proactive FinOps practices essential for sustainable cloud adoption.

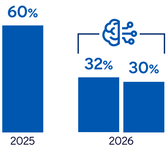


2 Operations technologies are widely piloted, but cost barriers remain.

60% of operations technologies are valued for boosting employee productivity, yet unpredictable costs keep most AI-powered IT service management (ITSM) tools in the piloting stage.

3 The primary I&O value focus has shifted.

Last year, speed and agility was the top value driver (60%). This year, a focus on employee productivity (32%) and agility (30%) highlights the rise of human-AI collaboration.



4 AI in I&O is shifting to selective deployment, but organizations struggle to measure impact.

Despite 60% of AI-powered digital workplace tools being rated high to medium risk, 60% are already in deployment, driven by their impact on employee productivity.

Other considerations

Cloud resilience is best achieved by partitioning workloads, not by complex multicloud setups.

Edge AI and data management focus on agility but face risks from cost and complexity.

Quantum technology adoption is hindered by high costs and limited talent, with cryptography and key distribution seen as risky.

Cross-functional adoption roadmaps for your organization

Get adoption timelines with risk and value drivers for key technologies across:

- Cybersecurity
- Enterprise applications
- Infrastructure and operations
- Midsize enterprises
- Software engineering
- Strategic portfolio management

To see more, set up a call:

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n = 105 (IT leaders from I&O across global organization), n = 44 (technologies)
Source: Gartner Technology Adoption Roadmap for Large Enterprises for 2026 Survey