



## PROPOSAL HITS SNAG

SENATE PARLIAMENTARIAN STALLS PROPOSED \$1 BILLION IN FUNDING FOR SECURITY ADDITIONS FOR THE WHITE HOUSE CAMPUS AND THE PRESIDENT'S NEW BALLROOM TRUMP'S BALLROOM. **A4**

### TECHNOLOGY

## Why some workers embrace AI, and some don't



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*There's been an uptick in alarm that new technologies will replace their jobs, a poll finds.*

**Matt O'Brien and Linley Sanders**  
Associated Press

More American workers are experimenting with artificial intelligence in their jobs, but skepticism is still widespread.

New Gallup polling finds that while more employees are using AI frequently in their work, there's been an uptick in alarm that new technologies will replace their jobs. Many workers who are not using AI say they prefer to work without it, have ethical oppositions to the technology or worry about data privacy.

The poll, conducted in February, points to a divergence in how AI is reshaping American workplaces. Some find it to be a game-changer for productivity and efficiency, while others are concerned about its potentially negative impacts.

Social worker Scott Segal said he regularly uses AI to find information that will help connect his elderly and vulnerable patients to health care resources in northern Virginia. While he knows that the human connection and care he brings to that work is important, he also believes that AI could soon replace him.

"I'm planning ahead, I think everyone who works in a replaceable field or trade should be planning ahead."

**Scott Segal, social worker**

### PRODUCTIVITY RISES

Roughly 3 in 10 employees are frequent users of AI in their jobs, meaning they use it daily or a few times a week. About 2 in 10 are infrequent users, using AI tools at work a few times a month or a few times a year.

The Gallup poll found that about 4 in 10 workers say their organization has adopted AI tools or technology to improve organiza-

tional practices. About two-thirds of those workers say AI has had an "extremely" or "somewhat" positive impact on their individual productivity and efficiency at work.

Workers using AI in management roles are more likely to say the technology has been at least "somewhat" positive for their productivity, compared with individual contributors. About 7 in 10 leaders using AI at least a few times a year say AI has made them more efficient at work, compared with just over half of individual contributors.

Labor and employment attorney Elizabeth Bloch of Baton Rouge, Louisiana, said she uses ChatGPT to help "draft letters or emails in a diplomatic way because it's a very adversarial profession and sometimes you get heated."

AI tools appear to have a greater benefit for workers in managerial, health care and technology roles than in service jobs. About 6 in 10 employees in those fields who are using AI say it's boosted their productivity at least "somewhat," compared with 45% of those using it in service jobs.

### AI SOMETIMES MAKES STUFF UP

Even when companies make AI tools available, there's no guarantee employees will adopt them. About half of U.S. employees use AI only once a year or not at all, according to the Gallup study.

**SEE TECHNOLOGY, A3**

### MICHIGAN EDUCATION

## Whitmer OKs removing writing from 11th-grade state testing

*The bipartisan legislation also removes the requirement to keep test results on high school transcripts in each subject.*

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LANSING — Bipartisan legislation that state lawmakers say erases outdated standardized testing requirements for Michigan high school juniors got the stamp of approval Thursday from Gov. Gretchen Whitmer.

The House bills target parts Revised School Code and State School Aid Act related to the Michigan Merit Exam, removing or consolidating requirements for tests typically taken by high school juniors.

The move primarily removes a writing requirement from one assessment and keeps test results off students' high school transcripts.

"Nearly every Michigan college has test-optional applications, yet Michigan's students have been required to share their scores even while out-of-state applicants haven't," state Rep. Matt Koleszar, D-Plymouth, said. Koleszar was one of the bills' sponsors.

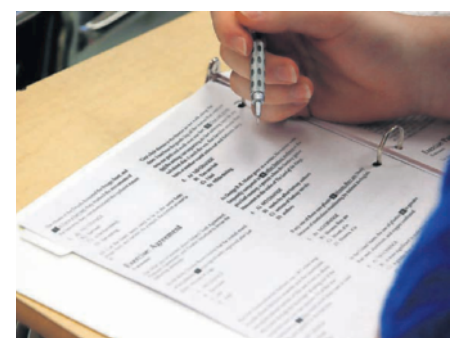
"At their core," he said, "these laws are about reducing unnecessary stress while increasing opportunity for our kids."

The adjustment comes as the rate of college readiness in writing assessments among Michigan's high school juniors remains on the other end of a long-term decline over the past two decades.

Although the percentage of test-takers who meet or exceed readiness standards increased by four points in 2025, proficiency remains lower than pre-pandemic levels, after a 60% peak in 2016 and 2017.

According to legislators, Michigan was one of only a handful of states that still required a written portion in addition to the main merit test. Following the disruption in schools brought on by the COVID-19

**SEE MICHIGAN EDUCATION, A3**



**Gov. Whitmer approved legislation changing the state's standardized testing requirements. The changes primarily remove a writing requirement from one assessment and keep test results off students' high school transcripts. AP**

## 'One buck rule' approved for Michigan's Lower Peninsula

*The new bag limit will go into effect for 2027 hunting seasons.*

**Justine Lofton** [jlofton@mlive.com](mailto:jlofton@mlive.com)

GAYLORD — Deer hunters in Michigan's Lower Peninsula will be limited to one buck per year beginning in 2027.

The Michigan Natural Resources Commission approved the "one buck rule" — reducing the annual bag limit from two to one — during its regular meeting on Wednesday in Gaylord.

Under the new rules, a regular deer license in the Lower Peninsula will be valid for a doe or a buck with at least three points on one side. A combination license will include one buck tag (no antler point restrictions) and one doe tag. The commission also

eliminated the late antlerless deer season, ending all hunting seasons on Jan. 1.

Rule change proposals from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources were presented to the panel earlier this year. The DNR's recommendations were based on goals set by the commission, which include increasing the number of older bucks, increasing antlerless deer harvest, improving the buck-to-doe ratio, and improving hunter satisfaction.

Michigan has established antler point restrictions in some areas, including the Upper Peninsula, where the two-buck limit will remain intact, and those are unchanged.

According to a DNR memo on the rule changes, Michigan is unique among Great Lakes states for routinely harvesting more antlered deer than antlerless deer. Some of that, the DNR says, is because hunters can take two bucks.

In 2025, hunters harvested 153,604, antlered deer compared with 127,979 antlerless deer across all seasons, according to data from the DNR's mandatory harvest reporting. That's 55% bucks and nearly 26,000 more bucks than does.

An average of just under 32,000 antlered deer annually over the past decade have been a second antlered deer taken by the same hunter, according to the DNR.

