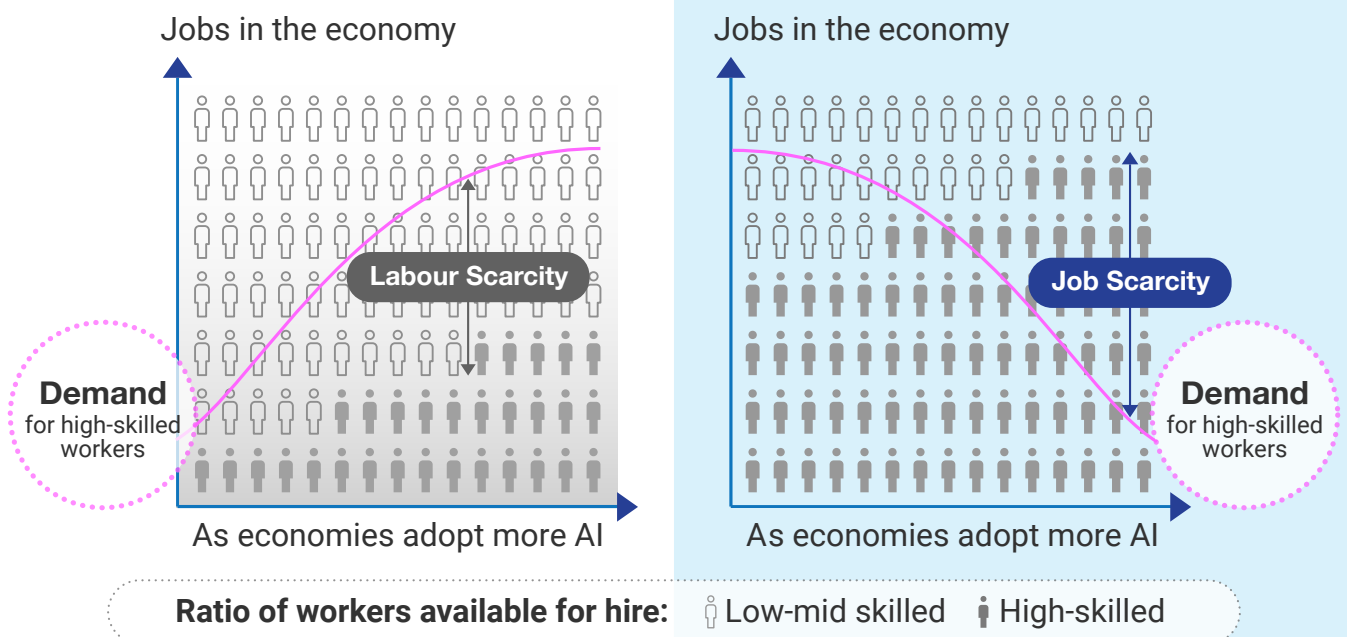


Competing views for the future of work

Will the fourth industrial revolution create better jobs than it destroys? Two contrasting views – Labour Scarcity and Job Scarcity – show different possibilities of how AI innovation may impact high-skilled work.

Labour Scarcity vs Job Scarcity



Impact of technologies on jobs

- AI technologies attack routine jobs, removing mundane tasks
 - Workforce is freed up to perform more complex work
 - High-skilled jobs grow disproportionately in the economy
- At risk:** Low- and mid-skilled workers

- AI technologies attack complex jobs, capturing cognitive tasks
 - Workforce has limited opportunities to perform complex work
 - High-skilled jobs decrease disproportionately in the economy
- At risk:** High-skilled, knowledge workers

Implication for skills and education

Skills upgrading

- Skills content of most jobs increases
- Education is in a race with technology to upgrade skills

Skills re-stratification

- Skills content of some high-skilled jobs increases but others are deskilled
- Scarcity of good jobs to match educational aspirations



Technology is not destiny. How the fourth industrial revolution is viewed will shape the actions taken. With high-skilled work powering social mobility across many societies, the stakes are high.

About the Digital Futures of Work Research Programme

The Digital Futures of Work Research Programme seeks to support societal actors to make careful assessments and take vital steps to shape the fourth industrial revolution towards human augmentation, social inclusion and shared prosperity. Read the full report at <https://digitalfuturesofwork.com/>.

Hosted by

In partnership with

