UC BERKELEY LABOR CENTER

Research roundups on tech and work [April – mid-July 2025]

Research and Resources

[Electronic Monitoring and Automated Decision Systems: Frequently Asked Questions](#): This short explainer by the UC Berkeley Labor Center offers an accessible and non-technical overview of the digital technologies being used to monitor and manage workers.

[When Bossware Manages Workers: A Policy Agenda to Stop Digital Surveillance and Automated-Decision-System Abuses](#): This National Employment Law Project (NELP) report documents the harmful impacts that surveillance and algorithmic management technologies are having on workers, outlining key policy solutions to these challenges.

[Artificial Power: 2025 Landscape Report](#): This report by AI Now argues that despite the economic power and political clout that technology companies currently hold, our futures are not predetermined. The report puts forth strategies for an alternative AI future.

[Uber's Inequality Machine: Data on How AI-Driven Pay is Harming Workers and What We Can Do to Push Back](#): Drawing on a survey of over 2500 Uber drivers across the U.S., this PowerSwitch Action and Gig Workers Rising report demonstrates the harmful impacts that Uber's algorithmic wage-setting is having on drivers–including decreased pay, physical pain, and food insecurity.

[AI at Work: A Series on the EU AI Act](#): This Center for Democracy and Technology (CDT) EU brief provides a high-level overview of the rights that the EU AI Act gives workers.

[Who Powers AI? Exploring the Data Work Landscape](#): TechEquity has assembled a global database of companies providing a variety of data work services (e.g. curation, annotation, and content moderation). This resource sheds light on the invisible global supply chains that power our AI systems.

[Little Tech Goes Global: The Expansion of AI and Workplace Surveillance](#): This Coworker report profiles case studies of workplace technology adoption in six different countries, providing insight into the global scale of the phenomenon. See [coverage](#) on the report.

[Generative AI and Jobs: A 2025 Report](#): The International Labour Organisation's (ILO) latest occupational exposure study finds that while 1 in 4 of global occupations are at risk of some kind of exposure to GenAI, overall automation scores are lower than in 2023.

[Pseudo-Automation: How Labor-Offsetting Technologies Reconfigure Roles and Relationships in Frontline Retail Work](#): In this research paper Pegah Moradi, Karen Levy, and Christobel Cheyre

demonstrate that deploying self-checkout counters in retail stores is changing demands on workers rather than simply replacing jobs.

[Beyond Redistribution: Rethink UBI and the Politics of Automation](): This piece by Ava Lieu, postdoctoral fellow at the Harvard Law School, traces the market-liberal roots of current Universal Basic Income (UBI) proposals, arguing that these policies are often invoked to displace responsibility for automation onto the state.

[From Policy to Practice: Prototyping the EU AI Act's Human Oversight Requirements](): This report by Knowledge Center Data & Society provides recommendations on how to make human oversight requirements under the EU AI Act more effective.

[Procuring Public-Sector AI: Guide for Local Governments](): This white paper by researchers at Carnegie Mellon and the University of Pittsburgh highlights best practices for ensuring the responsible procurement of AI in local government. This accompanying [paper]() offers more details on challenges reported by workers (such as information asymmetry, power imbalance, and lack of technical expertise).

[Immigration, DOGE, and Data Privacy](): This explainer by CDT summarizes the categories of data that the federal government has access to and the impacts that DOGE's use of this data can have on migrants.

[Data Centers Aren't the Future of American Prosperity](): This brief by Data & Society researchers Tamara Kneese and Maya Woluchem dispels five of the core myths powering the growth of data centers.

[Gear Shift: Driving Change in Public Sector Technology through Community Input](): This primer by Data & Society explains how government agencies procure new technologies, arguing that incorporating community voice is vital (even if complex) and should be incorporated at the pre-procurement stage.

[Tracking Uses of AI in the Trump Administration](): This resource put together by the Revolving Door Project catalogues examples of the administration's deployment of AI across agencies.

[License to Build: Public Attitudes to Public Sector AI](): Drawing on six years of research and engagement with the public, this Ada Lovelace briefing centers the importance of public trust to successful AI use in the public sector. The report ends with recommendations on how to achieve this outcome.

[Innovation Framework: A Civil Rights Approach to AI](): Drawing on established civil rights principles, the Center for Civil Rights and Technology created this practical guide to adopting fair and ethical AI systems as a useful tool for a variety

[Legislative Poison Pills, Information Monopolies, and the False Dawn of State Tech Regulation](): This paper by CDT's Matt Scherer offers an analysis of the regulatory models currently being

considered and passed in state legislatures and highlights the issues that must be addressed in order to be effective.

[Punctuated and Prolonged: A Workers' Inquiry into Infrastructural Failures in Bus Transit](#): This paper by Hunter Akridge and colleagues documents the challenges that bus drivers face on the job and proposes technology and design centered solutions to strengthen public transit systems for workers and the public.

[Tips for Identifying AI Use](#): This guide by TechTonic Justice offers practical measures to help determine whether AI is being used on us in our daily lives. The document highlights what to look for, how to investigate, and what to do about it.

[Beyond Regulation: What 500 Cases Reveal About the Future of AI in the Courts](#): Courts are already regulating AI. This Tech Policy Press summarizes high-level findings from the *AI on Trial* dataset documenting 500 cases from multiple countries.

More from the dystopia
- [Chicago Sun-Times Prints AI-Generated Summer Reading List With Books That Don't Exist](#)
- [How a New Type of AI is Helping Police Skirt Facial Recognition Bans](#)
- [An AI Avatar Tried to Argue a Case Before the New York Court. The Judges Weren't Having It](#)
- [State Bar of California Admits it Used AI to Develop Exam Questions, Triggering New Furor](#)
- [UAE First Country to Use AI to Write Laws](#)
- [This AI Successfully Applied to Become an Art Student at a University in Vienna](#)
- [UK Creating 'Murder Prediction' Tool to Identify People Most Likely to Kill](#)
- [Inside "AI Addiction" Support Groups, Where People Try to Stop Talking to Chatbots](#)
- [Who Needs a Human Government When You Have 17 Chatbots? Welcome to Sensay Island](#)
- [Book on Machine Learning is Full of Made-Up Citations](#)