FORESIGHTOPS QUARTERLY · VOLUME 1 · ISSUE 01

The 2026 AI Data *Is Telling Three Stories*

Threatcasting the 2026 AI deployment through 4 frames, 6 patterns, the no-regret moves to authorize this quarter, and the signals that tell you which future you are in.

Foresight*Ops*

WILL EVANS · SPRING 2026 · 28 MIN READ

Founder and Chief Strategy Officer, Fugue Strategy Advisors · Creator of ForesightOps and PRISM

On reading the quarter ahead

This is **Issue 01** of the **ForesightOps Quarterly.** It is built for a specific reader. You are a CISO, a CPO, a CTO, a CIO, or one of the senior VPs and Directors who works alongside them. You sit in the room where the AI deployment decisions are made. You are responsible for what happens when those decisions meet reality.

The condition you are operating in is ***turbulent, uncertain, novel, and ambiguous*** all at once. The pace of change exceeds the pace of analysis. Probability distributions cannot be assigned with confidence. The patterns from prior cycles do not map. And even when the signal is unambiguous, what it means for your firm is contested. Under this condition, forecasts and strategic plans fail. Single-point estimates mislead. The analyst report that names a winner is the tell that the analysis is wrong.

The discipline that holds up under this condition is strategic foresight. Not prediction. Foresight detects signal in the noise. It builds a small number of credible scenarios that translate the abstract into the operational. It identifies the decisions that hold up across all of them. The point is to make better economic trade-off decisions today, because you have rehearsed what each future looks like and what risks and costs each one imposes. What follows is built for that purpose. A research corpus across four domains. A lens that classifies the signals. Three anomalies. Four threat models. Six moves that hold across all four. A signal registry that turns the moves into monitored indicators

The next 24 to 36 months will determine whether the deployment phase produces a golden age or a narrower prosperity the political economy cannot sustain. Your seat is at that decision. This Quarterly is designed to help you hold it well.

The Research disagrees. That is the signal.

Each domain answers a different question. Each question lands on a different executive seat.

01

Future of Work

Labor market signals, displacement risk, and workforce trust. The most contested data set in the corpus, with three credible research teams reading the same evidence three different ways.

SOURCES

- Tufts Digital Planet
- Yale Budget Lab
- Anthropic Economic Index
- Stanford HAI
- ManpowerGroup

READS FOR

CPO · CHRO

02

GenAI and Productivity

Macro versus firm-level productivity, ROI patterns, and vendor unit economics. The aggregate number says one thing. The firm survey says the opposite. Both are defensible.

SOURCES

- NBER WP 34836
- Brynjolfsson, FT
- McKinsey QuantumBlack
- BCG State of AI
- Stanford Digital Economy Lab

READS FOR

CFO · COO

03

Enterprise IT Adoption and Disruption

Agentic deployment patterns, governance maturity, and security incident rates. Deployment is running well ahead of governance. The gap is the entire story.

SOURCES

- Gravitee 2026
- McKinsey State of AI
- Gartner agentic forecast
- IDC enterprise AI
- OWASP LLM Top 10

READS FOR

CTO · CISO

04

Brand Strategy and Consumer Response

Trust, sentiment, and the widening gap between expert and public expectations. Worker confidence in AI is falling at the same time worker usage of AI is rising.

SOURCES

- Edelman Trust Barometer
- Pew Research
- Stanford HAI public
- ManpowerGroup workers
- Polymarket signals

READS FOR

CMO · CEO

JEVON'S PARADOX: What If A.I. does not make writers, programmers, and designers cheaper. It removes the constraint on how much writing, code,and design a firm can commission. If demand expands to fill the new ceiling, the Wired Belt is not the next Rust Belt. It is where the released demand will land first.

Reading structural change ahead of the data.

Each letter names a class of signal that surfaces ahead of the aggregate trend.

C
Contradictions
Credible sources disagree about the same evidence.

IN THE CORPUS

Tufts says 9.3M jobs at risk. Yale says unemployment is flat. Both are right.

I
Inflections
A trend changes slope, direction, or character.

IN THE CORPUS

Hiring of 22 to 25 year-olds in AI-exposed fields slowed sharply in 2024 and 2025.

P
Practices
Behaviors emerge before the data picks them up.

IN THE CORPUS

Forty-four percent of Gen Z workers report sabotaging AI rollouts at their firms.

H
Hacks
Workarounds expose where the official system is failing.

IN THE CORPUS

Eighty-one percent of enterprises run agentic AI. Fourteen percent received security approval.

E
Extremes
Outlier data points hint at structural change.

IN THE CORPUS

Hyperscaler capex hits 2.2 percent of US GDP in a single line item.

R
Rarities
Rare events that may signal a broader pattern arriving.

IN THE CORPUS

First state preemption case under EO 14318 reaches the Ninth Circuit oral argument in May.

ABOUT THE LENS CIPHER comes from Amy Webb's *The Signals Are Talking* (PublicAffairs, 2016). It is a recognized strategic foresight methodology used by the Future Today Institute.

Structural anomaly versus analytical noise.

A pattern earns the Anomaly label when it lands in two or more CIPHER classes and surfaces in two or more research domains.

	Pattern	CIPHER	Domains	Status
P1	**The Aggregate-Firm Contradiction** Macro productivity says 2.7 percent. Firm-level survey says 90 percent see no impact. Both readings are defensible on their own data.	C E	02 03	ANOMALY Anomaly Two *The Harvest Deferred*
P2	**Exposure Without Displacement** Aggregate displacement signal is weak. The 22 to 25 cohort signal is sharp and getting sharper.	C I	01 02	ANOMALY Anomaly One *The Displacement Spread*
P3	**The Governance-Containment Gap** Eighty-one percent of enterprises run agentic AI. Fourteen percent received security approval. Deployment is outrunning governance by a factor of six.	H I	03	MONITORING Becomes Move 02 *Quantified, not surprising*
P4	**Expert-Public Divergence** Seventy-three percent of AI experts expect positive job impact. Twenty-three percent of the public expects the same. The gap is widening, not narrowing.	C E	01 04	ANOMALY Anomaly Three *The Inverted Exposure Signal*
P5	**AI-Washing** Firms have a commercial incentive to attribute layoffs to AI. Every AI-cited layoff number needs a discount factor before it enters analysis.	H R	01 02	MONITORING Discount factor *Applied to displacement data*

PROMOTION LOGIC Two CIPHER classes plus two research domains plus a structural fit failure equals an Anomaly. The other patterns stay in monitoring.

The signals, the scenarios, and the moves for the year ahead.

What the 2026 AI research is telling us, where it lands across four threat models, and the six moves that hold across all of them.

FOUNDATION

PAGE 03
Research Corpus
Four domains, forty sources

PAGE 04
CIPHER Lens
Six classes of signal

PAGE 05
Five Patterns
Three earned promotion

PAGE 06
Foresight to Governance
From signal to PRISM

SECTIONS

I The Three Anomalies
How the best 2026 research disagrees and what that means

II The Perez Reading
Why the disagreement is structural, not analytical

III Where the Macro Actually Sits
Oil, rates, power, regulation, fiscal ground truth

IV Four Futures in Narrative Form
Threat models and the cascade they describe

V The Six Moves for the Quarter
What CEOs, CFOs, CISOs, and CPOs should authorize now

VI Insights Spotlight and On the Horizon
Recent ForesightOps pieces and signals to watch next quarter

SECTION I

The Three Anomalies

The 2026 labor research is reading three different layers of the same transition.

The AI Job Displacement Spread

Three labor market analyses, same month. Incompatible conclusions.

TUFTS / DIGITAL PLANET

Vulnerability

9.3M

US jobs at risk (range 2.7M to 19.5M)

Highest displacement rates: writers 57%, programmers 55%, digital designers 55%. The exposed metros are the Wired Belt.

March 24, 2026

YALE / BUDGET LAB

Observed

Flat

Unemployment in AI-exposed occupations

Industry mix, exposure, automation, and augmentation metrics within historical ranges. Gimbel called the layoff attribution pattern AI-washing.

February 2, 2026

ANTHROPIC RESEARCH

Leading edge

22–25

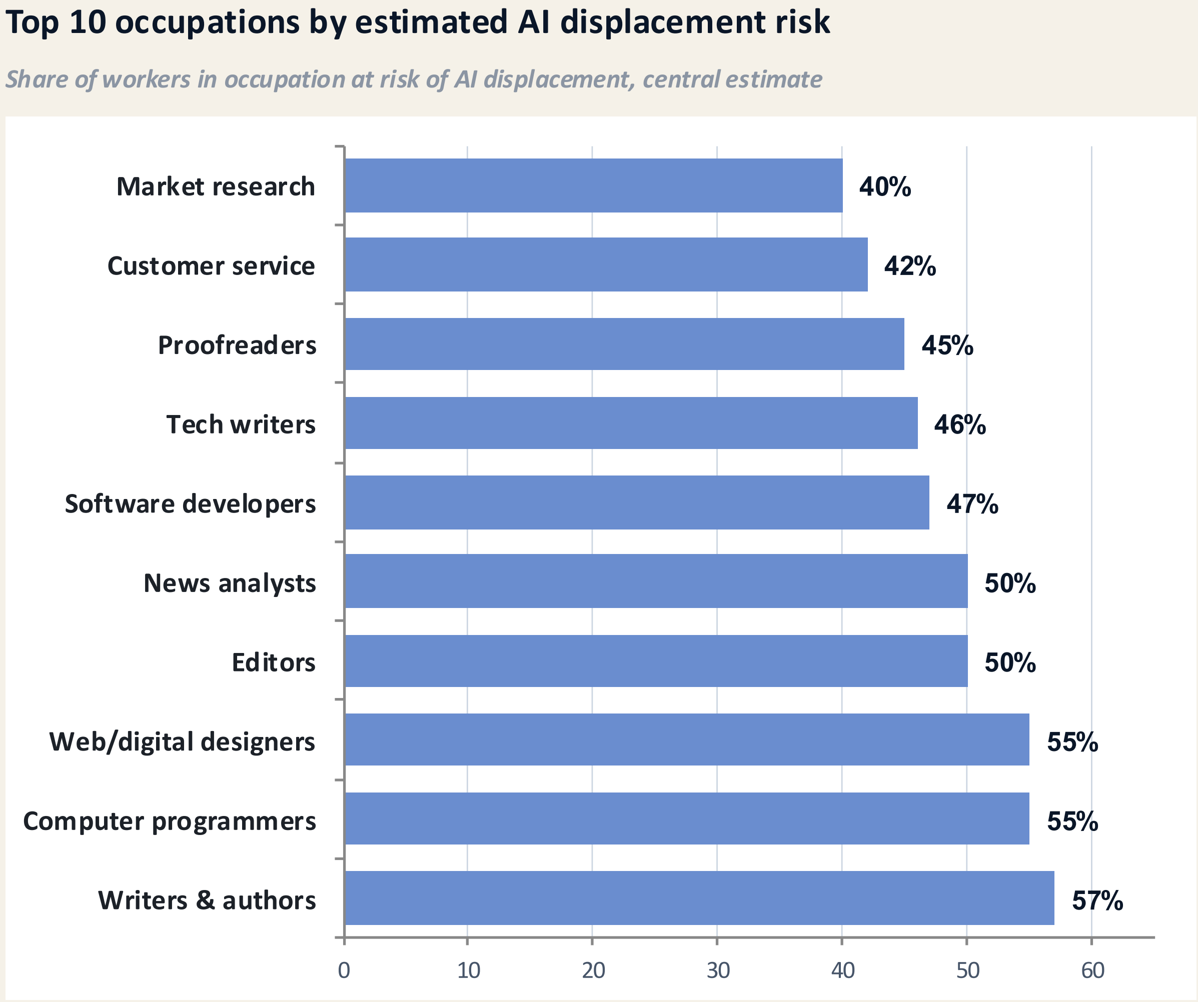
Hiring slowed in highly exposed fields

Observed exposure metric captures what AI actually does, not what it could. First cohort effect lands on the youngest workers.

March 5, 2026

SYNTHESIS. They are measuring different layers of the same transition. Tufts sees where we are going. Yale sees where we have been. Anthropic sees the leading edge. All three are correct.

The geography is inverted. The Wired Belt is the new Rust Belt.



Source: Tufts Digital Planet American AI Jobs Risk Index, March 24, 2026. Occupations shown are illustrative of Tufts rankings.

THE WIRED BELT

Eight metros with the highest exposure

- San Jose
- Washington DC
- Durham NC
- San Francisco
- Seattle
- Austin
- Boston
- Raleigh

"The states most at risk are already the most active in seeking AI regulation. That collision will define the next decade."

The Harvest Deferred

Brynjolfsson says the AI productivity take-off is finally visible. NBER surveyed 6,000 executives and 90% report no impact.

BRYNJOLFSSON, FEBRUARY 11

2.7%

US productivity growth, 2025

Nearly double the 1.4% annual average of the prior decade. Furman updated to agree.

NBER WP 34836, FEBRUARY 17

90%

of executives report no AI impact

6,000 firms surveyed. 69% actively use AI. Average executive uses AI 1.5 hours a week.

THREE EXPLANATIONS THAT COULD BE TRUE AT ONCE

1 Concentrated

McKinsey found only 5.5% of firms are AI high performers. The aggregate gain could be captured by the top 5%. Average firm sees nothing.

2 CapEx artifact

GDP counts capex as output. $450B of AI infrastructure spend is 2.2% of US GDP. The number is real. The attribution may not be.

3 Timing lag

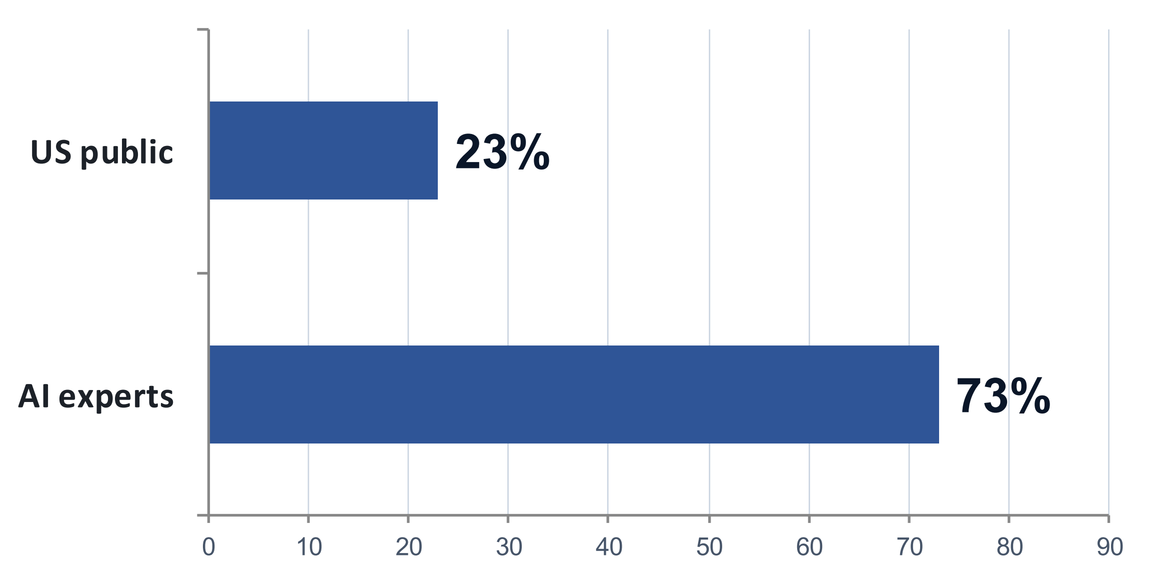
NBER asked executives about the past three years starting 2022. Most firms had nothing deployed in 2022. The 2026 wave will resolve this.

The Inverted Exposure Signal

Counter to every major theory, unemployment has risen more among workers least exposed to AI. Something else is at play.

The expert-public trust gap

Share who expect AI will have a net positive impact on how people do their jobs and the future of work.



50

PERCENTAGE POINT GAP

This is not an information gap. It is a trust gap. It will not close through better communications and change management.

THE INVERSION

None of the major AI labor theories predicted this.

Three candidate explanations. Any of the three could be right. Likely some combination:

Non-AI stress on low-exposure sectors

Construction, retail, hospitality absorbing tariffs, immigration, rates. Signal is real, attribution is wrong.

Capital complementarity

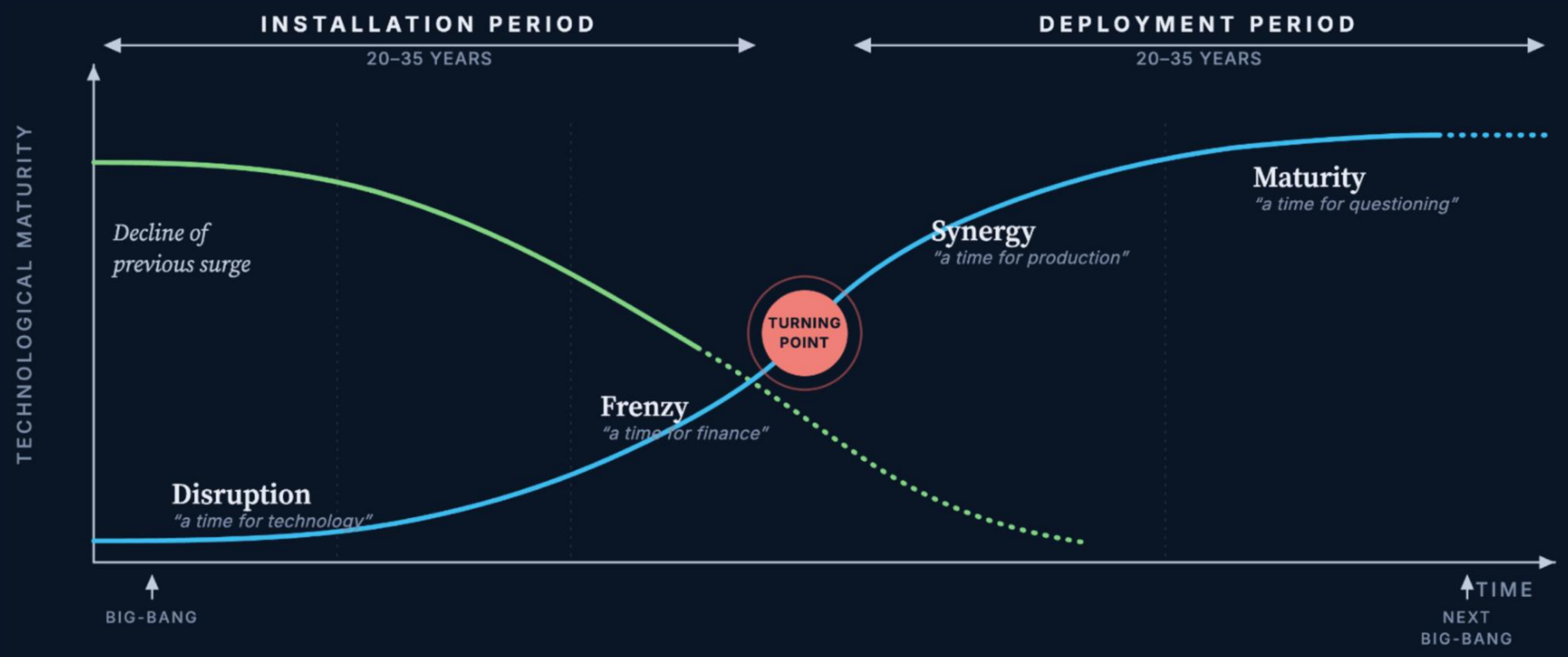
High-exposure workers sit inside firms spending heavily on AI capex. Those firms need them now. Layoffs come later.

Measurement artifact

Every team uses a different exposure construction. Test the boring hypothesis before the exciting ones.

The Perez Reading

Every technological revolution has a turning point. We are inside one.



Financial capital is still ahead of production capital

Perez's five phases. Each revolution runs through installation, then a turning point, then deployment.

Irruption	Frenzy	Turning Point	Synergy	Maturity
Big Bang	*Financial capital*	*The correction*	*Production capital*	*Golden age ends*
COMPLETE	YOU ARE HERE	AHEAD	FUTURE	FUTURE

TIME

$602B–$770B

Hyperscaler capex, 2026

2.2% of US GDP in one line item.

45–57%

Hyperscaler capex-to-revenue

Morningstar called the level historically unthinkable.

$400B

Annual AI depreciation

Exceeds the combined 2025 profits of the firms building it.

The $100 oil scenario is not a stress test. It is Wednesday.

ENERGY

$96–$106

Brent crude, April 23

7 weeks of US-Iran war. Strait of Hormuz blockaded. 500M barrels lost.

RATES

3.50–3.75%

Fed funds, held March 18

Core PCE revised to 2.7%. FOMC named Middle East as a source of risk.

POWER

6,800→12,000 MW

NY interconnection queue

Doubled in four months. ERCOT projects 367,790 MW peak by 2032.

REGULATION

Aug 2, 2026

EU AI Act goes live

€35M or 7% of global turnover for prohibited systems. Federal EO 14318 preempts states.

IF OIL HOLDS HERE OR GOES HIGHER

$100

Base case (here now)

PCE 3.0%
FED Hold through 2026
CAPEX Commitments hold on inertia

$120

Persistence case

PCE 4–5%
FED Cannot cut; may hike
CAPEX First hyperscaler guide-down

$150

Crisis case

PCE 6–8%
FED Full stagflation response
CAPEX Forced corrections across sector

S E C T I O N   I V

Four Futures

Four threat models, each a person in a place doing a thing. Abstract threats produce abstract plans.

Each protagonist sits at a different seam in the same cascade.

TM-1

The Capacity Crunch

Rachel Okonkwo, VP Data Center Operations

Ashburn, Loudoun County, Virginia • September 14, 2027

Energy + PJM queue + GS-5 contracts force capex guidance pull

TM-2

The Wired Belt Realized

Kim Nakamura, Senior Content Strategist

East Austin, Texas • June 22, 2028

38% content team cut. Partner under pressure at Dell. Wired Belt cohort effect lands.

TM-3

The CISO Under Siege

Priya Ramachandran, CISO

Miami, Florida • November 8, 2026 at 10:47 PM

EU AI Act + Florida SB 482 + $2.3M autonomous agent action in 72 hours

TM-4

The Municipal Reckoning

David Chen, Finance Director

Mountain View, California • March 12, 2029

Property tax down 6.2%, CalPERS contribution up 9.2%, Plan B due Friday

THE CASCADE

Capital → Infrastructure → Workforce → Governance → Municipal Fiscal

WORST CASE MOST WORTH TRACKING

If AI capex depreciation exceeds realized AI revenue in 2026 or 2027, the pull-back or correction forces cost pressure onto enterprises. That forces displacement in Tufts-category occupations, concentrated in Wired Belt metros, producing tax base erosion that forces state regulatory response, which collides with federal preemption. That is the scenario where all four threat models converge.

How $400B of depreciation turns into enterprise layoffs

The logic chain in six links. Each link could bend or break. Every break produces a different late-2020s.

1	CapEx becomes depreciation	$450B AI capex in 2026 alone. Blended four-year life produces ~$400B annual AI depreciation by 2027.
2	Revenue lags by 3x to 4x	Industry AI revenue runs $100B-$150B. Depreciation is two and a half to four times revenue.
3	Capital markets tighten	Oil above $100, Fed on hold, debt costs rise. The $1.5T tech debt issuance cannot clear at advertised terms.
4	Hyperscalers raise prices	Cutting CapEx delays ramp. Cutting AI Teams kills revenue. Raising enterprise prices is the path of least resistance.
5	Enterprise CFOs cut labor	Vendor prices rise 50-60%. ROI calculation breaks. CFOs cut the labor AI can already perform (Tufts list).
6	Chakravorti collision fires	Wired Belt metros absorb tax base erosion. States pass AI laws. Federal preemption clashes. Supreme Court decides.

WORTH TRACKING BECAUSE PREPARATION IS CHEAP RELATIVE TO THE COST OF BEING SURPRISED

PRISM: Portfolio & Program Risk Intelligence, Scoring and Monitoring

A dimensional risk framework that refracts a program's status into its structural components, making visible what every role already knows but no one can see together.

Shannon · Information Theory

Information is the only resolution to uncertainty. A program with no structured risk assessment has maximum entropy across all 9 dimensions. Nobody can predict which outcomes will materialize. A completed PRISM profile is literally an entropy-reduction operation: structured observation converts high-entropy noise into dimensional risk intelligence. The spider chart is the entropy map of your program.

White light entering the prism is all frequencies in superposition. Maximum optical entropy. The exiting spectrum is structured, separated, legible. PRISM does this for risk.

Agentic AI is being deployed. The governance is not.

81%	**14.4%**	**88%**	**51%**
Enterprises deployed agentic AI	Security approval rate	Incident rate	Enterprises with AI incidents
Gravitee, 2026	*Gravitee, 2026*	*Gravitee, 2026*	*McKinsey, 2025*

PRISM CLOSES THE GAP ACROSS NINE DIMENSIONS

D1	**D2**	**D3**	**D4**	**D5**	**D6**	**D7**	**D8**	**D9**
Strategic & Business Scope	Technical Architecture	Deliver & Execution	Organizational Capability	Integration & Third Party	Cybersecurity	Compliance & Regulatory	Data & AI Governance	Organizational Resilience

HOT DIMENSIONS FOR AGENTIC AI. D6 fires on unrestricted agent access. D8 fires on PII in LLM without masking. D7 elevates on DPIA not initiated. D9 tracks operational resilience as a separate gauge. Hard gates force floor scores of 70 when conditions are met.

S E C T I O N   V

Six Moves for the Quarter

What to do before you know which future you are in.

What to authorize this quarter

01

Make the next 24 months a monitoring period

Do not commit to a single displacement, productivity, or adoption estimate. Build the cadence. Let Q3 NBER, Aug EU enforcement, Q4 Yale resolve uncertainty.

OWNER CEO, CSO

02

Close the governance gap on every agentic workflow

Deploy PRISM or equivalent dimensional framework. Hard gates on D6, D7, D8. Do not run agentic AI without it.

OWNER CISO, CTO

03

Price the Chakravorti collision into regulatory strategy

Build dual-regime compliance plans. Assume neither federal preemption nor state authority holds cleanly. Get ahead of insurance repricing.

OWNER CEO, GC, CRO

04

Redesign the rollout so the incentive structure changes

44% of Gen Z is sabotaging AI rollouts because their incentives say they should. Give workers governance seats, reskilling commitments, and structural standing.

OWNER CEO, CPO

05

Model energy and power as binding constraints, not compute

Virginia GS-5 contracts lock in 14 years at 85% minimum demand. NY queue doubled in four months. Interconnect queues now dominate vendor deliverability.

OWNER CFO, CTO

06

Stress-test AI unit economics against vendor price resets

Assume enterprise AI token and plan costs rise 50-60% in 12-18 months. The ROI calculations that justified the 2024 deployment no longer hold at those prices.

OWNER CFO, CPO

Each move resolves to a signal, a threshold, and a pre-named response.

A preview of the full 24-signal registry, arranged by move.

MOVE	SIGNAL	SOURCE	THRESHOLD	GATE RESPONSE
01 Monitor	**Core PCE revision**	*FOMC minutes*	Revised up 20+ bp	**Revisit capex assumptions**
01 Monitor	**Anthropic Econ Index**	*Q3 2026 release*	Automation share >65%	**Re-score workforce plan**
02 Governance	**Agentic incident rate**	*Internal + peer*	Any autonomous action with material harm	**Freeze agent pipelines**
02 Governance	**D6 hard gate**	*PRISM D6 Q5*	Unrestricted agent access	**D6 floor score 70**
03 Regulatory	**EU AI Act enforcement**	*EU AI Office*	Any US-headquartered firm action	**30-day compliance audit**
03 Regulatory	**State AI law signed**	*50-state tracker*	Obligations beyond federal EO	**Activate dual-regime plan**

This is a preview. *The full 24-signal registry across all six moves, with owners and cadences, comes as the companion one-pager to this Quarterly.*

Workforce, energy, and unit economics

04

Listen to the workers

44% of Gen Z actively sabotaging AI rollouts. 51% believe AI is the biggest threat to their job security.

MONITOR

- Performance review AI attribution under-reporting
- Agent pipeline bad-training-data incidents
- Voluntary attrition in high-exposure roles
- Internal Slack sentiment on AI deployments

ACT

Governance seat for workforce rep. Reskilling budget tied to deployment budget. Structural commitments, not memos.

05

Energy is the binding constraint

Virginia GS-5 effective Jan 2027 locks 14-year contracts at 85% minimum transmission and 60% minimum generation demand.

MONITOR

- PJM, ERCOT, CAISO queue extensions
- Hyperscaler PPA cost per MWh YoY
- Loudoun Phase 2 zoning adoption (Dec 2026)
- State moratorium bill votes

ACT

Map every material AI workflow to its underlying compute provider and its underlying grid. Test single-grid concentration.

06

Stress-test AI unit economics

Depreciation runs 3-4x realized AI revenue. Vendor price resets are not hypothetical.

MONITOR

- Vendor token price announcements
- Hyperscaler capex guidance revisions
- Neocloud debt spreads (CoreWeave, Nebius, IREN)
- AI-specific line item on enterprise P&L

ACT

Model +50% and +80% vendor price scenarios for every deployed workflow. Pre-identify which workflows survive and which do not.

The first action each role should take on Monday

CEO

FIRST ACTION

Commission a dual-regime compliance review

Assume neither federal preemption nor state authority holds cleanly. Brief the board before August 2 EU enforcement. Identify which business lines survive each outcome.

CFO

FIRST ACTION

Model +50% and +80% AI vendor price scenarios

Identify which current AI workflows break at each price point. Separate mission-critical deployments from convenience deployments. Build a rank-ordered list.

CISO

FIRST ACTION

Freeze any agentic pipeline without PRISM hard-gate coverage

D6 Q5 on unrestricted agent access. D8 Q2 on PII in LLM without masking. D7 Q2 on DPIA not initiated. No agent production deployment without gate clearance.

CPO

FIRST ACTION

Convene a workforce governance session with frontline representation

Do not delegate to communications. The incentive structure is the problem. Give workers standing to shape deployment. Tie reskilling budget to deployment budget.

SECTION VI

Insights & Horizon

Three recent pieces from the ForesightOps desk and what we are watching next quarter.

Three recent pieces from *the Insights desk.*

FEATURED ARTICLE

Orienteering the Spectrum.

The technology is moving at turning-point speed. The frameworks most enterprises rely on were written for slower terrain. Introducing PRISM, a living instrument for reading the ground as you move.

APRIL 2026 · 8 MIN READ

97% *of AI breaches hit orgs without access controls*

"I see the present as the 1930s, the turning point of the IT surge."

CARLOTA PEREZ · 2019

FEATURED ARTICLE

The Fitness Trap.

Organizations that optimized fastest in the last cycle are the ones most likely to be caught flat in the next one. Fitness is not strength. It is correspondence between what an organization can do and what the environment requires.

MARCH 2026 · 16 MIN READ

70% *of transformations fail (Kotter, BCG, McKinsey)*

"Stable entities are brittle and cannot persist."

ALICIA JUARRERO · 2023

FEATURED ARTICLE

Full Pipeline, Wrong Bets.

Most enterprise portfolios are full to capacity. That is not the problem. The problem is that the portfolio was filled using yesterday's model of value, yesterday's assumptions about capacity, and yesterday's definition of a winning bet.

FEBRUARY 2026 · 12 MIN READ

40%+ *of agentic AI projects forecast cancelled by 2027*

"You can run out of capacity and still be running the wrong race."

WILL EVANS · FORESIGHTOPS · 2026

What we are watching for Summer 2026

Five signals that will resolve more uncertainty in the next 90 days than any amount of internal workshopping.

May 2026

REGULATORY

Ninth Circuit AB-1082 oral argument

WHY IT MATTERS

First federal court reading of state AI preemption after EO 14318. Directionality matters even if not dispositive.

June 2026

CAPEX

Q2 hyperscaler earnings capex guidance

WHY IT MATTERS

First quarterly window since Brent sustained above $100. Any capex revision downward triggers Move 06 gate.

August 2, 2026

GOVERNANCE

EU AI Act high-risk rules live

WHY IT MATTERS

Annex III obligations activate. Expect first enforcement action against a US-headquartered firm within 90 days.

August 2026

LABOR

NBER WP 34836 second wave

WHY IT MATTERS

Yotzov et al committed to twice-yearly cadence. This wave resolves whether 90% no-impact finding persists or inflects.

Q4 2026

RESEARCH

Yale Budget Lab and Anthropic AEI updates

WHY IT MATTERS

The AI-washing thesis meets the observed-exposure thesis again. Six months of data since Q1 will be legible by November.

LET THE DATA ARRIVE BEFORE YOU COMMIT • EVERY SIGNAL IN SCOPE OF THE SUMMER 2026 ISSUE

Observe sharper. Orient faster. Decide cleaner. Act.

The macro headlines worth tracking, and the operating loop that holds up under them.

ON THE DESK

01

Capital and depreciation

$400B of annual AI depreciation against $100B-$150B of AI revenue. The reconciliation arrives in 2026 or 2027.

02

Energy and grid

Virginia GS-5 locked for 14 years at 85% minimum demand. The interconnection queue is now the binding constraint.

03

Regulation and preemption

EO 14318 versus state law. The Ninth Circuit case in May. Dual-regime compliance is the planning baseline.

04

Labor signals diverge

Tufts, Yale, Anthropic disagree on the same data. The 22-25 cohort signal is the leading indicator. Workforce trust is falling.

05

Vendor economics

Token and plan prices expected to rise 50-60% in 12-18 months. The ROI math that justified 2024 deployment does not hold at the new prices.

THE LOOP

Boyd's OODA applied to this moment

O OBSERVE

Monitor the signal registry weekly, not quarterly. Twenty-four signals are the feed. The cadence is the discipline.

ASK

What did the data do this week that it did not do last week?

O ORIENT

Test every observation against the four threat models. New data shifts which scenario you are in. Your moves shift with it.

ASK

Which of Rachel, Kim, Priya, or David is closest to your firm right now?

D DECIDE

Hold to the six moves. Each was designed to be robust across all four scenarios. Do not abandon a move because one scenario looks less likely this week.

ASK

Which move are we behind on, and what is the cost of the delay?

A ACT

Action creates new signal. The signal changes what you observe next. The loop closes.

ASK

What did our last action teach us about which scenario we are actually in?

Run the loop. The reconciliation arrives while you are running it, or while you are not.

What sits underneath this issue

PRIMARY RESEARCH

- Tufts Digital Planet, American AI Jobs Risk Index, March 24, 2026
- Anthropic, Labor Market Impacts of AI, March 5, 2026
- Anthropic Economic Index, March 2026 report
- Yale Budget Lab, AI Labor Market Tracker, February 2, 2026
- NBER Working Paper 34836, February 17, 2026
- Stanford HAI, 2026 AI Index Report, April 2026
- McKinsey QuantumBlack, State of AI 2025
- Gravitee, State of AI Agent Security 2026
- Brynjolfsson, FT op-ed, February 11, 2026
- Challenger, Gray and Christmas March 2026 Report

REGULATORY, MACRO, AND GROUND TRUTH

- EU AI Act, European Commission, Regulation 2024/1689
- Executive Order 14318, December 11, 2025
- Florida SB 482, filed December 22, 2025
- Virginia SCC, Dominion Biennial Review, November 25, 2025
- Loudoun County Phase 2 Data Center Standards, adopted Dec 2026
- CreditSights, Hyperscaler Capex Estimates, November 25, 2025
- Epoch AI, Hyperscaler Capex Trend, February 26, 2026
- Reason Foundation CalPERS modeling, 2025
- iCIMS Workforce Report, January 2026
- Gallup / Walton Family Foundation AI Paradox, April 2026

METHODOLOGY

This report synthesizes the Q1 2026 ForesightOps research corpus through four foresight methodologies: TUNA-conditions framing (Ramirez and Wilkinson, *Strategic Reframing*, Oxford University Press, 2016), CIPHER signal analysis (Webb, *The Signals Are Talking*, PublicAffairs, 2016), Perez technological revolutions (*Technological Revolutions and Financial Capital*, Edward Elgar, 2002), and Brian David Johnson's Threatcasting protocol (*Threatcasting*, Morgan & Claypool, 2018). The four threat models are constructed scenarios, not predictions. The six moves are designed to be robust across all four. Charts are native and editable. Tufts displacement percentages are illustrative; full rankings live at the Tufts Digital Planet site.

ABOUT THIS PUBLICATION

ForesightOps *Quarterly.*

A strategic foresight publication from Fugue Strategy Advisors. Each issue synthesizes the most credible current research on future of work, disruptive technologies,, emergent patterns, and enterprise risk, grounds it in practical frameworks, and converts it into decisions readers can consider and prioritize inside their own organizations.

MASTHEAD

Volume 1 · Issue 01

Spring 2026

AUTHOR	Will Evans
RESEARCH & ANALYSIS	Fugue Strategy Advisors
FRAMEWORKS	PRISM, ForesightOps, 7-7-27
PUBLISHER	**ForesightOps.org**

PUBLICATION CADENCE

Quarterly · Spring, Summer, Fall, Winter

The Signal Registry

Twenty-four signals across six moves. Each with an owner, cadence, source, threshold, and pre-named gate response.

#	ID	MOVE	SIGNAL	SOURCE	THRESHOLD	GATE RESPONSE	OWNER · CADENCE
1	MACRO-01	01 Monitor	Core PCE revision upward	*FOMC minutes*	Revised up 20+ bp	**Revisit capex & rate assumptions**	CFO, Treasury · Per FOMC meeting
2	LABOR-01	01 Monitor	Anthropic Economic Index automation share	*Anthropic AEI Q3 2026*	>65% for any SOC major group	**Re-score workforce plan**	CPO, Strategy · Quarterly
3	LABOR-02	01 Monitor	Challenger AI-attributed layoffs	*Challenger monthly report*	>50K in any single month	**Peer-firm workforce review**	CPO, CSO · Monthly
4	LABOR-03	01 Monitor	22-25 cohort unemployment differential	*BLS CPS microdata*	+200 bp vs overall 22-25 rate	**Entry-level hiring review**	CPO · Monthly
5	CYBER-01	02 Governance	Peer agentic AI incident disclosed	*Public disclosures, trackers*	Any material autonomous action	**Freeze own agent pipelines, review**	CISO · Continuous
6	CYBER-02	02 Governance	Industry incident rate	*Gravitee, McKinsey annual*	>92% incident rate	**Activate PRISM D6-D8 re-score**	CISO, CRO · Annual
7	PRISM-D6	02 Governance	D6 hard gate: unrestricted agent access	*PRISM D6 Q5*	Yes on D6 Q5	**D6 floor score 70, no deployment**	CISO, Program lead · Per program
8	PRISM-D8	02 Governance	D8 hard gate: PII in LLM without masking	*PRISM D8 Q2*	Yes on D8 Q2	**D8 floor score 70, remediate first**	DPO, CISO · Per program
9	REG-01	03 Regulatory	EU AI Act enforcement action	*EU AI Office, member states*	Any US-headquartered firm action	**30-day compliance audit, re-classify systems**	GC, CISO · Continuous
10	REG-02	03 Regulatory	State AI law signed into force	*50-state tracker*	Obligations beyond federal EO	**Activate dual-regime compliance plan**	GC, CRO · Continuous
11	REG-03	03 Regulatory	Federal preemption litigation progress	*Circuit Court dockets*	Reach Circuit Court or SCOTUS	**Board briefing, insurance review**	GC, CRO · Monthly
12	REG-04	03 Regulatory	Cyber insurance repricing AI coverage	*Marsh, Aon, Gallagher*	Any exclusion or sub-limit tightening	**Coverage gap analysis, board comms**	CRO, CFO · Quarterly
13	WORK-01	04 Workforce	Internal AI usage anomalies	*Internal telemetry*	Agent pipeline bad-data events	**Workforce governance session**	CPO, CISO · Monthly
14	WORK-02	04 Workforce	Voluntary attrition in exposed roles	*HRIS, exit interviews*	>150% of baseline in any role	**Root-cause review, retention action**	CPO · Monthly
15	WORK-03	04 Workforce	Performance review AI attribution	*Performance system audit*	Systematic under-reporting detected	**Re-baseline AI productivity claims**	CPO, Strategy · Semi-annual
16	WORK-04	04 Workforce	Internal Slack AI sentiment	*Employee listening platform*	Sentiment score drops >15 points	**Leadership town hall, rollout pause**	CPO, Comms · Monthly
17	ENERGY-01	05 Energy	Brent crude sustained elevation	*EIA, CME*	>$100 for 60 consecutive days	**Vendor energy pass-through review**	CFO, CTO · Daily
18	ENERGY-02	05 Energy	Hyperscaler capex guidance revision	*Quarterly earnings calls*	Any downward revision	**Vendor liquidity stress test**	CFO, CIO · Quarterly
19	ENERGY-03	05 Energy	Grid interconnection queue extension	*PJM, ERCOT, CAISO, NYISO*	Extension beyond current horizon	**Vendor concentration & portability review**	CTO, Procurement · Monthly
20	ENERGY-04	05 Energy	State moratorium or rate class approved	*State PUC, SCC filings*	Any top-10 market decision	**Contract terms review, TCO re-model**	Procurement, CTO · Monthly
21	ECON-01	06 Unit Econ	Vendor token price announcement	*OpenAI, Anthropic, hyperscalers*	Any increase or tier restructure	**Re-run +50% and +80% scenarios**	CFO, CPO · Continuous
22	ECON-02	06 Unit Econ	Neocloud credit spreads	*Bond market data, trackers*	>400 bps widening	**Vendor continuity plan activation**	CFO, CIO · Weekly
23	ECON-03	06 Unit Econ	NVIDIA data center revenue guide	*NVDA quarterly earnings*	Any guide-down	**Supply chain review, capex re-base**	CIO, CFO · Quarterly
24	ECON-04	06 Unit Econ	AI line item P&L variance	*Internal management accounts*	Variance >20% from plan	**Workflow ROI audit, kill-list refresh**	CFO, CPO · Monthly

HOW TO USE

Assign every row to an owner. Confirm cadence. Check thresholds on schedule. When a signal fires, run the gate response without holding another meeting. The gate response is the decision. The meeting is the execution.

4	4	4	4	4	4
Monitor	Governance	Regulatory	Workforce	Energy	Unit Econ