

Summary of Paper: [ChatGPT is Ready for the Profession—But is the Profession Ready for ChatGPT?](#)

What is this Study About?

This study examines how ready the accounting profession is to adopt and leverage ChatGPT, an artificial intelligence (AI) tool that can automate tasks and generate text. Through a survey of 136 accounting professionals and interviews with experts, the authors evaluate current use, readiness, and expectations for how ChatGPT might shape future accounting work.

What are the major findings of the study?

Currently, accountants use ChatGPT mostly for simple tasks like drafting emails and memos. More advanced uses—like technical research and data analytics—are expected to grow. Key factors encouraging adoption are perceived usefulness, ease of use, and individual openness to innovation. Barriers include perceived risk and lack of trust. Leaders are more optimistic than junior staff, and public accounting firms show both high innovation and concerns due to confidentiality risks.

Why is the study important?

The findings highlight a critical moment for the profession: generative AI can dramatically increase efficiency and free professionals for higher-value work. But readiness gaps in trust, risk management, and clear policies could slow progress. Practitioners must actively learn how to use tools like ChatGPT to remain competitive and avoid being left behind.

What is the impact on professional practice and society at large?

Widespread adoption of AI tools could automate repetitive tasks, helping firms manage workload, talent shortages, and rising client expectations. By enabling accountants to shift toward strategic, value-added activities, AI can strengthen decision-making, reduce errors, and improve audit quality. However, managing risks—like data security and accuracy—will be essential. Firms must develop guidelines, train staff, and balance innovation with governance. This study offers timely insights for leaders planning how to integrate AI responsibly in their practice.