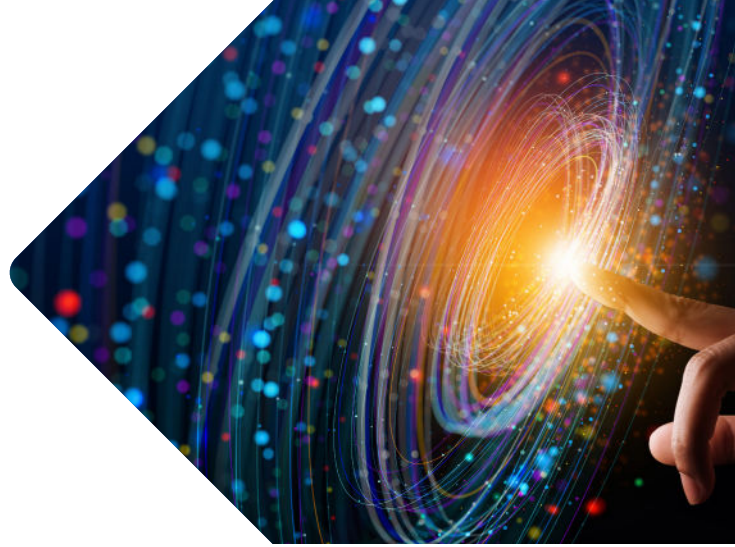




**ACTIAN**<sup>TM</sup>  
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# The Gen AI Data Readiness Checklist

Findings from the Actian Gen AI Data Readiness Study

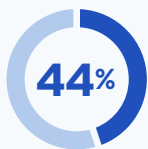
## A Second Look at Gen AI Data Readiness

Many organizations are prioritizing the deployment of Gen AI for a number of mission-critical use cases, but they may not be as ready as they think. A lack of proper data preparation could lead to costly and time-consuming setbacks. But when approached correctly, proper data preparation can help accelerate and future-proof your Gen AI deployment.

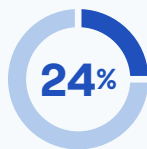
In order to determine organizational readiness to adopt Gen AI, Actian surveyed 550 professionals—70% of which were Director or higher—from 6 countries and 7 industries about their deployment experiences. Their answers indicated that they believe they're prepared for Gen AI—but how ready are they really?

### The stakes are high

Respondents are deploying Gen AI for mission-critical use cases



Implementing today



Just starting



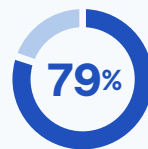
Planning/considering



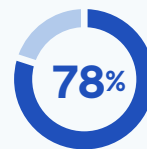
Not planning to implement

### People think their data is ready

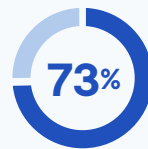
Rate themselves “above average” and “outstanding” in data readiness



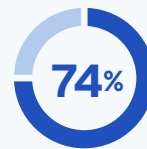
Data quality & cleanliness



Data preparation



Data management and staffing

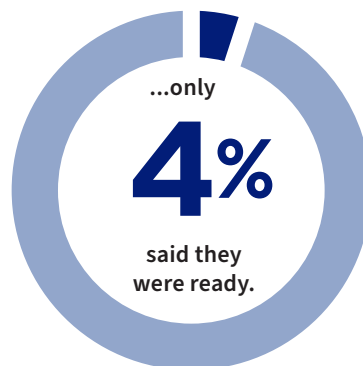


Data governance

Source: Actian's Gen AI Data Readiness Study, 2024.

## But, how ready is your data, really?

When Gartner asked people in charge of AI data readiness...



# The Gen AI Data Readiness Checklist

## 1 Have the right conversations with the right stakeholders

### Your Business Users

- What are my use cases?
- What data do I need (and not need) to achieve them?
- What do I need to do to get my data ready for Gen AI?

### Your Data Scientists

- How will we establish and create our data model?

### Your IT Developers/Data Engineers

- How will we automate real-time data integration / enforce rules & standards?

### Your Data Stewards

- How will we verify our data set for quality and compliance, and what involvement do we need from our IT developers/data engineers?
- How will we anonymize data and ensure compliance with privacy and security regulations?

### Your Business Analysts

- How will we prepare and share the data for consumption by the business users?

## 2 Define data quality

- How much data volume do we need to manage?
- How will we use this data?
- How will we clean and normalize the data?
- How will we optimize ML specifically for this use case?
- How will we ensure the accuracy and quality of the training data, including data sources outside our company?
- How will we prevent poor quality data from being injected upstream?
- What kinds of risks does poor data quality pose?

## 3 Plan for data quality lifecycle management

- How will my use cases and data sets shift over time?
- How will we build flexibility and agility into this process?
- How will we extend data quality to existing data flows/pipelines?
- How will we conduct readiness tests and debug our workflows before we entrust some of our most important business processes to them?
- How much time and money would we lose if we skip or shortcut one of the above steps?
- How will we track data quality over time?

## 4 Create a balanced strategy

### Consider the pros and cons of either moving too quickly or too slowly on Gen AI adoption

- What are the risks of moving too quickly? How much would it cost and how long would it take to re-do our Gen AI data workflows later if we don't get it right the first time?
- What are the risks of moving too slowly? How long would it take to catch up to a competitor who tackles their Gen AI data readiness challenge before we do?
- How much damage would result if we automate decisions and functions based on hallucinations?
- Where do we feel stuck? And how could we leverage a proven data approach (i.e., data readiness for Cloud) to get us un-stuck?

### Determine the risk of faulty data and how to avoid generating wrong answers that sound real in Gen AI

- How will we make our data ready in a way that prevents hallucinations?
- How will we define data accuracy?

### Explore the need to account for emerging regulations and standards, and to find a partner who can help

- How will we build flexibility into our approach?
- Which vendors have the best track record in flexible, trusted data readiness?
- How can that vendor help us find the fastest path to real value from Gen AI?



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