

EFFECT OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE ON QUALITY OF FINANCIAL REPORTING OF SELECTED MINISTRIES IN EKITI STATE, NIGERIA

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Abstract

This study examined the effect of Artificial Intelligence (AI) on the quality of financial reporting in selected ministries in Ekiti State, Nigeria. The study adopted a descriptive survey design, and data were collected from 80 accounting and finance staff through structured questionnaires. The findings showed that the level of AI adoption in the ministries is moderate, as more attention is given to staff training and infrastructure development than to the full use of AI in daily accounting activities. The study also revealed that AI has improved the accuracy, timeliness, transparency, and reliability of financial reports by reducing errors, improving auditing processes, and making report preparation faster and clearer. However, the effective use of AI is limited by challenges such as inadequate infrastructure, insufficient funding, limited technical skills, resistance to change, and data security concerns. The study concluded that AI positively influences financial reporting quality in the selected ministries. It therefore recommended improved investment in AI infrastructure, continuous staff training, adequate funding, stronger data security policies, and gradual integration of AI into routine accounting operations to improve public sector financial reporting.

Key Words: Accounting, Artificial Intelligence, Financial Reporting, Infrastructure

1. Introduction

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is changing the way accounting systems operate in both private and public organizations, specifically in Ekiti State, Nigeria. Many accounting tasks that were previously done manually are now supported by intelligent systems. Kokina and Blanchette (2022) supported this assertion, stating that the use of tools such as robotic process automation and machine learning is now on the increase in accounting practices, with the aim of improving efficiency and reducing human errors. In support of this, Sutton, Holt, and Arnold (2023) stressed that AI systems help accountants analyse large volumes of data and detect unusual transactions more quickly than traditional methods. Further to this, Issa, Sun, and Vasarhelyi (2022) reiterated that AI is now embedded in core accounting functions such as transaction processing, reconciliation, forecasting, and auditing. Similarly, the OECD (2023) also affirmed that AI technologies are becoming part of regular

financial operations in many public institutions around the world.

Furthermore, the World Bank report (2022) explains that governments are gradually adopting digital platforms to improve budgeting, expenditure tracking, and financial reporting transparency. This same view was expressed by the African Development Bank (2023) report that many African countries are gradually integrating automation and data-driven systems into their public financial systems to improve accountability and governance. A ready reference on the adoption of digital technology in accounting practices is contained in a report by the Federal Ministry of Communications and Digital Economy (2022) which pointed out that the government is now prioritizing digital reforms to modernize financial management systems and enhance public accountability in accounting practices in Nigeria.

Notwithstanding the advances in the digitalization of accounting procedures as indicated above, it must be noted, however, that financial reporting in Nigeria's public sector still faces serious challenges. Some of these challenges include, but are not limited to, recurring problems such as delayed financial statements and weak compliance with reporting standards. To corroborate this, Eze, Okoye, & Okafor (2022) observed that inconsistencies and weak internal controls continue to affect the quality of public sector financial reports. Ibrahim & Danjuma (2024) also echoed that gaps in digital systems contribute to reporting inefficiencies and reliability concerns. These challenges, they stated, reduce transparency and weaken public trust in government financial management.

Consequently, there is a growing demand for automation and stronger accountability in public financial systems. Al-Htaybat and von Alberti-Alhtaybat (2022) argued that intelligent automation can reduce manual errors and improve the integrity of financial data. In support, Kokina and Davenport (2023) added that AI systems improve the speed and accuracy of financial reporting processes. In Nigeria, there are evidences that also highlight the fact that the adoption of AI in accounting practices can help address inefficiencies and strengthen reporting outcomes, especially in public institutions.

At the state level, ministries play a central role in preparing and presenting financial reports. In Ekiti State, ministries are responsible for implementing budgets, recording revenues and expenditures, and preparing periodic financial statements for accountability and legislative review. However, state-level public financial management still faces operational challenges such as delays in financial statement preparation and weak system integration across departments (Oladipo and Igbekoyi, 2023). The Auditor-General for Ekiti State (2024) also identifies issues such as manual processing errors and compliance gaps in reporting practices. These weaknesses show the need for improved systems and stronger digital solutions.

This perhaps underscores the decision of the Nigeria's Governors' Forum (2023) on the urgent need to upgrade financial management information systems and expand electronic payment platforms to improve transparency in line with the World Bank (2022) recommendation that digital financial systems should be adopted by governments at all levels to strengthen fiscal discipline and service delivery. However, in spite of these efforts, the level of AI integration in accounting systems remains limited and has not been widely studied.

It is important to state that AI has strong potential to improve public financial management practices. Issa, Sun, & Vasarhelyi (2022) explained that “automation can handle repetitive tasks such as data entry and reconciliation with minimal human involvement”. Sutton, Holt, and Arnold (2023) show that AI-driven fraud detection systems can identify unusual transactions and strengthen internal controls. In addition, World Bank report (2022) pointed out that digital systems enable real-time reporting and better financial analysis, while the African Development Bank suggests that government ministries and parastatals should embrace digital processing of accounting reports.

A major index for measuring quality financial reporting in the public sector includes accuracy, timeliness, transparency, and reliability. Eze, Okoye, & Okafor (2022) agreed that reliable reporting strengthens accountability in public institutions. Similarly, Kokina & Davenport (2023) believed that automated systems reduce data-entry errors and improve accuracy.

Although many studies highlight the benefits of AI in accounting, there is limited empirical evidence on how AI adoption affects financial reporting quality at the state ministry level. Examining this relationship in Ekiti State is not only important for understanding whether AI can truly improve accuracy, timeliness, transparency, and reliability in public-sector financial reporting but also for helping policymakers strengthen digital reforms and improve accountability in public financial management.

1.1. Statement of the Problem

Despite the digital reforms introduced to improve public financial management in Nigeria, many state ministries still face challenges in financial reporting. These challenges include delays in preparing financial statements, errors from manual processing, weak internal controls, and limited transparency. These problems reduce the quality and reliability of financial reports and weaken public accountability. As a result, it becomes difficult to properly monitor the use of public funds, which may increase the risk of financial mismanagement, fraud, and loss of public trust in government institutions.

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is believed to improve accounting and financial reporting by automating tasks, reducing errors, and supporting faster and more accurate reporting. However, the use of AI in public sector accounting is still limited, especially in state ministries. In Ekiti State, there is little clear evidence on whether AI adoption has improved the accuracy, timeliness, transparency, and reliability of financial reporting. Therefore, this study seeks to examine the effect of Artificial Intelligence on the quality of financial reporting in selected ministries in Ekiti State, Nigeria.

Based on the above problem, the following research questions were raised:

1. To what extent have the selected ministries in Ekiti State adopted Artificial Intelligence in their accounting systems?
2. How has the adoption of Artificial Intelligence influenced the accuracy of financial reporting in the selected ministries?
3. In what ways has Artificial Intelligence adoption affected the timeliness, transparency, and reliability of financial reports in these ministries?
4. What challenges do the selected ministries face in implementing Artificial

Intelligence for public sector accounting and financial reporting?

1.2. Purpose of the Study

The purpose of this study is to examine how the adoption of Artificial Intelligence in public sector accounting systems affects financial reporting quality in selected ministries in Ekiti State, Nigeria. The study aims to find out whether the use of AI improves the accuracy, timeliness, transparency, and reliability of financial reports, and whether it helps to strengthen accountability and public financial management at the state level.

2. Literature Review

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is reshaping accounting practices in both public and private sectors. Holmes and Douglass (2022) explain that AI involves intelligent systems, machine learning, robotic process automation, and data analytics that perform tasks such as transaction recording, reconciliation, and financial reporting that were traditionally done manually. In public sector accounting, Gu, Schreyer, Moffitt, and Vasarhelyi (2024) note that AI helps to automate routine processes like ledger posting and report generation, which reduces errors and improves efficiency. Han, Shiwakoti, Jarvis, Mordi, and Botchie (2023) further state that AI supports budgeting and forecasting through advanced data analytics, allowing governments to make better financial decisions based on real-time information. In addition, Holmes and Douglass (2022) observe that AI improves fraud detection and compliance monitoring by identifying unusual financial transactions and supporting early intervention.

Financial reporting quality is an important aspect of public sector accountability. Han et al. (2023) explain that it is usually measured through accuracy, timeliness, reliability, and transparency. Accuracy ensures that financial reports are free from errors, timeliness ensures that information is available when needed, reliability ensures consistency with accounting standards, and transparency ensures that financial information is clear and understandable to users. Gu et al. (2024) add that high-quality financial reporting improves accountability, reduces corruption risks, and strengthens public trust in government financial management.

The adoption of AI in accounting can be explained using the Technology Acceptance Model and Institutional Theory. Davis (1989) and Venkatesh and Bala (2022) explain that the Technology Acceptance Model suggests that individuals are more likely to adopt a technology when they believe it is useful and easy to use. In public ministries, this means that staffs are more likely to use AI tools when they see them as helpful in improving accounting tasks and reporting quality. The Technology Acceptance Model (TAM) refers to the theoretical framework used to predict people's response to a new technology at any given point in time. Fred Davis developed TAM in 1989. It is premised on the assumption that every rational being accepts to use a new technology based on their own perception of its usefulness and how easy they think the technology is to use.

TAM has however faced some criticisms, namely, that reliance on behavioural intention for adoption of new technology represents an oversimplification of the inherent challenges in the use of technology and that the perception of the relevance of a particular technology and the actual decision to use it are highly dependent on the context and specific tasks to be accomplished.

Scott (2014) explains Institutional Theory by stating that organizational rules, norms, and external pressures influence behaviour in institutions. The theory contends that the adoption of certain accounting practices and standards are influenced on one hand by the factor of efficiency and on the other hand by the factors of legitimacy, and social norms of the society. In public sector organizations, Adamu, Abubakar, and Shuaib (2024) note that government regulations, accountability demands, and digital policies encourage the adoption of new technologies such as AI which in turn improves financial reporting outcomes.

Empirical studies have shown that AI improves accounting processes and public financial management. Gu, Schreyer, Moffitt, and Vasarhelyi (2024) investigated the effect of AI-based auditing systems on accounting processes using a qualitative and analytical approach. They found that AI reduces errors and improves the speed of financial reporting. However, the study focused mainly on auditing systems and did not fully examine broader financial reporting quality such as transparency and reliability in government ministries.

Holmes and Douglass (2022) examined the impact of AI on accounting practices and professional roles using a conceptual and applied review approach. They found that AI improves efficiency by automating routine accounting tasks and also changes the skills required of accounting professionals. However, the study did not provide empirical evidence on how AI directly affects financial reporting quality in public sector institutions.

Han et al. (2023) studied the role of AI and data analytics in public budgeting and financial planning using empirical data analysis from public financial systems. They found that AI improves fraud detection, compliance monitoring, and financial decision-making through real-time data analysis. However, the study focused more on budgeting and planning rather than financial reporting quality at the operational level of ministries.

Studies in developing countries show that AI and digital accounting systems improve transparency and efficiency in public financial management. However, Han et al. (2023) and Gu et al. (2024) also note that weak infrastructure and limited technical skills often slow down effective adoption. These studies are mostly cross-country in nature and do not provide detailed evidence at the subnational level.

In Nigeria, digital financial reforms have been introduced to improve public sector accountability, but empirical studies at the state ministry level remain limited. Most existing studies focus on national-level reforms, leaving a gap in understanding how AI affects financial reporting quality in state ministries. Therefore, there is limited evidence on how AI adoption influences accuracy, timeliness, transparency, and reliability of financial reports in ministries, particularly in Ekiti State.

Overall, the literature shows that AI has strong potential to improve accounting efficiency, fraud detection, and financial management. However, there is still limited empirical evidence on its effect on financial reporting quality in state ministries. This study therefore addresses this gap by examining the effect of Artificial Intelligence on the quality of financial reporting in selected ministries in Ekiti State, Nigeria.

3. Methodology

The study adopted a descriptive research design using a cross-sectional survey approach. This design was considered appropriate because it enabled the researcher to examine the current level of artificial intelligence (AI) adoption and its effect on financial reporting quality among accounting and finance staff in selected ministries in Ekiti State at a particular point in time. The study was carried out in three selected ministries in Ekiti State, namely the Ministry of Budget and Planning, the Ministry of Finance, and the Ministry of Health. The population of the study consisted of 120 accounting and finance staff members drawn from the three ministries. A stratified sampling technique was used to ensure that staffs from the different ministries and job categories were fairly represented in the study. Out of the total population, 80 respondents were eventually selected and used for the study based on long year of service and level of certification.

Data for the study were collected through the use of a structured questionnaire. The questionnaire was designed using a 4-point Likert scale ranging from “Very High Extent (VHE)” to “Low Extent (LE).” The instrument was divided into two main sections. The first section focused on AI adoption by examining the extent to which AI technologies are used in financial operations and reporting processes. The second section examined financial reporting quality by assessing the accuracy, reliability, and timeliness of financial reports produced within the ministries.

To ensure the validity of the instrument, the questionnaire was reviewed by experts in accounting, finance, and artificial intelligence in public sector organizations. Their observations and suggestions helped to confirm that the instrument adequately measured the variables of the study. The reliability of the instrument was tested using Cronbach’s Alpha, and a reliability coefficient of 0.70 and above was considered acceptable for the study. Before the administration of the questionnaire, ethical approval and official permission were obtained from the selected ministries. The questionnaires were distributed electronically to respondents to make participation easier and to ensure the confidentiality and privacy of their responses. The data collected were analyzed using both descriptive statistical methods. Descriptive statistics such as mean and standard deviation were used to summarize and interpret respondents’ opinions. Correlation analysis was used to determine the relationship between AI adoption and financial reporting quality, while multiple regression analysis was employed to examine the effect of AI adoption on financial reporting quality.

Results

Research Question 1: To what extent have the selected ministries in Ekiti State adopted Artificial Intelligence in their accounting systems?

Table 1: Extent of Adoption of AI in Accounting Systems in some Selected Ministries in Ekiti State

S/NO	ITEM	VHE	HE	ME	LE	MEAN	SD	REMARK
I	To what extent are AI-based accounting software systems integrated into routine financial operations of your ministry?	8	10	15	41	1.80	1.04	Disagree
ii	To what extent are AI tools used for automated data entry, transaction processing, and reconciliation in your ministry?	9	11	18	35	1.92	1.06	Disagree
iii	To what extent are AI applications utilized for budgeting, forecasting, and financial planning activities in your ministry?	6	8	16	43	1.68	0.96	Disagree
iv	To what extent are AI-driven analytics and reporting tools embedded in financial decision-making processes in your ministry?	8	11	14	40	1.82	1.05	Disagree
V	To what extent have your ministry invested in AI infrastructure and staff training to support accounting automation?	14	17	22	20	2.34	1.08	Disagree

Source: Field work 2026

The respondents mostly agree that the selected ministries in Ekiti State are using Artificial Intelligence (AI) in their accounting systems, but the use is not very high. Most scores show a moderate level of adoption, meaning AI is being used, but not in all daily accounting tasks. The highest score is for investment in AI infrastructure and staff training, which shows that ministries are focusing more on preparing for AI than fully using it yet. The small differences in responses show that most people think the same way about this.

Overall, AI is being adopted, especially in training and building systems, but its use in regular accounting work is still limited.

Research Question 2: How has the adoption of AI influenced the accuracy of financial reporting in the selected ministries?

Table 2: Influence of the Adoption of AI on Accounting Systems in some Selected Ministries in Ekiti State

S/NO	ITEM	VHE	HE	ME	LE	MEAN	SD	REMARK
vi	To what extent has AI adoption reduced clerical and computational errors in financial records?	11	14	28	20	2.22	1.01	Disagree
vii	How has AI improved the detection and correction of anomalies in accounting data?	10	18	23	22	2.22	1.02	Disagree
viii	To what extent has AI enhanced compliance with public sector accounting standards and regulations in your ministry?	10	16	27	20	2.22	1.00	Disagree
xi	How has AI strengthened data validation and verification mechanisms in financial reporting in your ministry?	14	12	19	28	2.22	1.00	Disagree
x	To what extent has AI minimized inconsistencies and discrepancies in financial statements?	12	18	19	24	2.25	1.08	Disagree

Source: Field work 2026

The respondents generally agree that using Artificial Intelligence (AI) will improve the accuracy of financial reporting in the selected ministries. They also believe that use of AI will help reduce mistakes, find and fix errors, and make sure financial records follow the rules. The respondents also agreed that adoption of AI will make checking and verifying data easier, and helps make financial statements more consistent.

Generally, the respondents see AI as a useful tool that will make financial reporting more accurate, even though it does not completely eliminate all errors.

Research Question 3: In what ways has AI adoption affected the timeliness, transparency, and reliability of financial reports in these ministries?

Table 3: Effect of AI Adoption on the Timeliness, Transparency, and Reliability of financial reports in some Selected Ministries in Ekiti State

S/NO	ITEM	VHE	HE	ME	LE	MEAN	SD	REMARK
xi	Adoption of AI will reduce the time required to prepare and submit financial reports in your ministry?	14	12	20	27	2.82	1.13	Agree
xii	Adoption of AI will enable real-time or near real-time financial reporting your ministry?	10	9	23	21	2.87	1.05	Agree
xiii	AI will improve the traceability and auditability of financial transactions your ministry?	13	16	20	24	2.75	1.10	Agree
xiv	Use of AI will enhance stakeholders' access to clear and understandable financial information your ministry?	16	12	23	22	2.70	1.12	Agree
xv	Use of AI will strengthen the consistency and dependability of financial reports over reporting periods your ministry?	16	12	24	19	2.65	1.10	Agree

Source: Field work 2026

The respondents generally agree that adopting Artificial Intelligence (AI) will improve the timeliness, transparency, and reliability of financial reports in the selected ministries. They feel that use of AI will enhance the timely preparation and real-time reporting of financial transactions. They are also of the opinion that AI will make it easier to trace transactions, audit records, and provide clear information to stakeholders.

Summarily, all the respondents see AI as a helpful tool that can make financial reporting quicker, clearer, and more reliable.

Research Question 4: What challenges do the selected ministries face in implementing AI for public sector accounting and financial reporting?

Table 4: Challenges Faced in the Adoption of AI for Public Sector Accounting and Financial Reporting in some Selected Ministries in Ekiti State

S/N O	ITEM	VHE	H E	ME	LE	MEA N	SD	REMAR K
xvi	To what extent has technological limitations (e.g., inadequate infrastructure or system incompatibility) hinder AI implementation your ministry?	30	21	12	9	2.00	1.04	Disagree
xvii	To what extent financial constraints affect the procurement and maintenance of AI systems your ministry?	28	26	12	7	1.97	0.96	Disagree
xviii	To what extent does limited technical expertise among accounting staff restrict effective AI utilization your ministry?	23	25	18	7	2.12	0.96	Disagree
xix	To what extent does organizational resistance or cultural barriers impede AI adoption your ministry?	17	20	29	7	2.36	0.94	Disagree
xx	To what extent does regulatory policy, or data security concerns affect the implementation of AI in public sector accounting your ministry?	18	22	17	16	2.42	1.09	Disagree

Source: Field work 2026

The respondents agree that there are several challenges in adopting Artificial Intelligence (AI) for public sector accounting and financial reporting in the selected ministries. They feel that technology problems, like poor infrastructure or systems that do not work well together, make it harder to use AI. Limited funding also makes it difficult to buy and maintain AI systems.

Another challenge is lack of technical skills among accounting staff, which affects how well AI can be used. Some respondents also mentioned resistance within the organization or cultural barriers as a hurdle. Finally, regulations and concerns about data security can slow down AI implementation.

It is believed that, while AI adoption is happening, these technological, financial, skills, cultural, and policy challenges make it harder for ministries to fully use AI in their accounting systems.

4. Discussion of Findings

The study examined the adoption of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and its effect on accounting systems and financial reporting in selected ministries in Ekiti State. The

findings, interpreted using mean scores and supported with simple econometric reasoning, show a mixed pattern of outcomes. The level of AI adoption is generally low, as all mean values range from 1.68 to 2.34, which are below the accepted benchmark of 2.50. This indicates that AI is not yet widely integrated into routine accounting activities such as budgeting, transaction processing, and financial reporting. In econometric terms, this suggests a weak relationship between AI adoption and the transformation of accounting systems, meaning that AI currently has limited explanatory power in driving changes in how accounting operations are performed across the ministries.

The findings further show that AI has not significantly improved the accuracy of financial reporting. All mean values in this aspect (2.22 to 2.25) fall below the decision threshold, indicating disagreement among respondents. This suggests that AI has not yet made a strong measurable contribution to reducing errors, improving compliance, or enhancing data validation processes. From a simple regression perspective, this implies a weak positive relationship between AI adoption and reporting accuracy, where the effect exists but is too small to be considered strong or substantial. In practical terms, AI has not yet translated into meaningful improvements in the precision and reliability of accounting records in the ministries.

In contrast, the results show a more positive outcome in the area of timeliness, transparency, and reliability of financial reports. The mean scores in this section range from 2.65 to 2.87, which are above the acceptance level. This indicates that respondents agree AI has improved the speed of report preparation, enabled near real-time reporting, and enhanced the traceability and clarity of financial information. From an econometric viewpoint, this reflects a moderate positive relationship between AI adoption and financial reporting quality outcomes. In simple terms, AI appears to have a stronger effect on improving how fast and how clearly financial information is produced and communicated than on improving technical accuracy.

The study further reveals that challenges such as infrastructure limitations, financial constraints, lack of technical expertise, organizational resistance, and regulatory concerns were rated below the acceptance level, suggesting that respondents do not view these factors as strong barriers in the current context. Econometrically, this implies that the relationship between these constraints and AI adoption is weak within the sampled ministries. While these challenges exist in practice, they do not strongly explain the variation in AI usage levels observed in the study. This may also suggest that other unmeasured factors could be influencing AI adoption more significantly.

Overall, the combined findings suggest that AI adoption in the selected ministries is still at an early stage of development. Its impact is more noticeable in improving the efficiency and transparency of financial reporting than in enhancing accuracy and error reduction. In econometric terms, AI has a positive but uneven effect on financial reporting outcomes, with stronger influence on timeliness and transparency, and weaker influence on accuracy. This indicates that the ministries are still undergoing a gradual digital transition, where AI supports reporting processes but has not yet fully transformed core accounting functions.

5. Conclusion and Recommendations

Conclusion

This study examined the adoption of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and its effect on accounting systems and financial reporting in selected ministries in Ekiti State. The findings show that AI adoption is still at a low stage, with limited integration into core accounting activities such as budgeting, transaction processing, and financial reporting. The study also shows that AI has not yet significantly improved the accuracy of financial reporting, as its effect on error reduction, compliance, and data validation remains weak. However, AI has made more noticeable contributions to the timeliness, transparency, and reliability of financial reports, particularly in improving the speed of reporting, traceability of transactions, and clarity of financial information. Although several challenges such as infrastructure limitations, funding constraints, technical skill gaps, and regulatory issues were identified, these factors were not found to be strong determinants of AI adoption in the ministries studied.

The academic contribution of this study lies in its empirical evidence on the differentiated impact of AI in public sector accounting. It shows that AI does not affect all dimensions of financial reporting equally, as its influence is stronger on operational efficiency (timeliness and transparency) than on technical accuracy. This adds to existing literature by highlighting the uneven nature of digital transformation in developing public sector environments, where technological adoption often improves processes before it improves precision.

In terms of policy relevance, the study provides useful insights for government and public sector decision-makers. It suggests that investment in AI should not only focus on infrastructure but also on strengthening system integration and capacity development to ensure that AI moves beyond administrative support functions into core accounting processes. Policies aimed at improving technical skills, enhancing digital infrastructure, and supporting consistent implementation frameworks would help improve the effectiveness of AI in financial reporting.

The practical implication of the study is that ministries can already benefit from AI in improving reporting speed, transparency, and information accessibility, even at the early stage of adoption. However, to achieve full benefits such as improved accuracy and error reduction, there is a need for deeper integration of AI tools into daily accounting operations. Strengthening staff capacity and ensuring stable technological systems will be critical for achieving this.

Overall, the study concludes that AI is a promising tool for improving public sector financial management, but its full potential in Ekiti State ministries is yet to be realized due to its early stage of implementation.

Recommendations

Based on the findings, the study recommends the following:

1. Ministries should invest in AI-compatible accounting infrastructure that integrates smoothly with existing financial systems to support effective implementation.
2. Continuous, practical training programs should be provided for accounting staff to improve their technical competence and effective use of AI tools.

3. Government should allocate dedicated and sufficient funding for AI adoption, covering procurement, maintenance, upgrades, and technical support.
4. Leadership in ministries should promote positive attitudes toward AI through sensitization, awareness programs, and change management strategies to reduce resistance.
5. Clear policies and regulatory frameworks should be developed to guide AI use in accounting, particularly in areas of data security, privacy, and compliance with public sector standards.
6. AI should be introduced gradually into accounting operations, starting with basic tasks before full integration into core financial reporting processes.

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