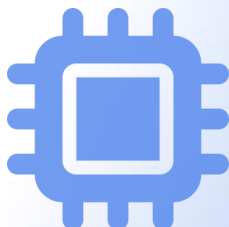




THE CAPACITY AND LIMITS OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE:

According to the OECD's report “Introducing the AI Competency Indicators,” AI systems are assessed within a framework of **nine competency domains and five difficulty levels.**



Since November 2022, artificial intelligence has advanced rapidly; however, our capacity to understand and evaluate this technology has not kept pace. Through a five-year study involving contributions from more than 50 experts and researchers, the OECD aims to close this gap and give policymakers a way to compare AI competencies with human skills.

The Anatomy of Human Intelligence

Drawing on human psychology, the OECD compares AI across **nine distinct domains**:

- 1. Language:** Natural language processing and multilingual communication.
- 2. Social Interaction:** Social cues, emotional perception, and identity.
- 3. Problem Solving:** Multi-step reasoning and analysis.
- 4. Creativity:** Producing novel and valuable outputs.
- 5. Metacognition & Critical Thinking:** Monitoring and evaluating one's own processes.
- 6. Knowledge, Learning & Memory:** Representing knowledge and transferring it to new situations.
- 7. Vision:** Interpreting visual scenes and objects.
- 8. Manipulation:** Interacting with physical objects.
- 9. Robotic Intelligence:** Autonomous action in complex and uncertain environments.

These indicators provide a benchmark for determining the extent to which AI systems approach human-level competencies.

Measuring Difficulty Levels

Competencies are assessed on a five-level scale ranging from simple to complex. The upper levels of the scale cover the competencies that are most challenging for AI systems and have not yet been fully mastered. Each level serves as a standard defining what a machine can accomplish accurately and consistently.

Where Does AI Stand Today?

AI has reached, or come close to, the Level 3–4 band in Language, Problem Solving, Knowledge/Learning/Memory, and partly in Vision. By contrast, in deeper cognitive and human domains such as Social Interaction and Metacognition/Critical Thinking, it remains at Level 1–2.

Where Does AI Stand Today?

Meanwhile, Manipulation and Robotic Intelligence competencies, which require interaction with the physical world, still hover largely around Level 2, while Creativity, depending on context, falls within the Level 2–3 range.

Source:

OECD (2025), “AI Competency Indicators: Beta Version,” OECD AI and the Future of Skills Project.