ATTITUDES TOWARDS EMERGING TECH – GERMANY – 2023

Generative AI offers a wealth of opportunities for brands, especially in engaging younger adults. Addressing concerns such as AI's impact on human interactions is key to enabling a smooth transition.





Attitudes Towards Emerging Tech - Germany - 2023

This report looks at the following areas:

- The impact of the cost-of-living crisis on emerging technologies
- The approach German consumers take to adopting emerging technologies
- Use and interest in emerging technologies, including Virtual Reality, Generative Al and cryptocurrency
- The perceived impact of AI on different areas, including shopping, healthcare and the job market
- Technologies German consumers are most excited to see development for in the future, including smart home technology and driverless cars
- Attitudes towards emerging technologies, including the appeal of Al-generated art, humans' capacity to emotionally connect to robots, and the perceived future of cryptocurrencies



Generative Al offers a wealth of opportunities for brands, especially in engaging younger adults. Addressing concerns such as Al's impact on human interactions is key to enabling a smooth transition.

Overview

44% of German 16-34s think art generated by Al can be just as appealing as art generated by humans (vs 27% for all). This highlights significant opportunities for brands to use Al for content generation when targeting younger adults, such as with content for streaming services or advertising.

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Early Adopters of emerging technologies are typically higher-income earners, who are less affected by rising costs of living. As such, the market for emerging technologies is expected to remain relatively resilient to economic turbulence. However, **since not all Early Adopters are high earners**, **brands can promote growth by striving for income inclusivity**, for example by offering rental options for devices such as VR headsets.

German consumers in particular look forward to **AI helping them find information**, presenting opportunities for brands to implement AI tools and features (eg Amazon's AI customer review summaries). **Younger Germans are particularly positive about how AI might improve shopping**, enabling brands to enhance their ecommerce experience, ranging from hyperpersonalisation of information to chatbot assistance.

However, Germans tend to perceive the impact of AI on the job market and human interactions negatively. To **capitalise on the power of AI, brands adopt a positive narrative around AI,** by highlighting how it can free up time for more interpersonal tasks in the workplace.

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Report Content

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

· The five-year outlook for emerging technologies

Market context

- Ease adoption by anticipating Germans' perception of tech
 - Graph 1: perceived impact of technology on selected areas of life, 2023
- Affluence of Early Adopters to protect emerging tech from economic turbulence
 - Graph 2: usage of emerging technologies, by net monthly household income, 2023

Opportunities

- · Harness the full power of AI by alleviating consumer concerns
 - Graph 3: anticipated impact of AI on areas of life, 2023
- · Leverage AI to enhance the customer journey
- · Use chatbots to assist younger consumers' shopping experience
- Capitalise on younger Germans' openness towards Al-generated content
- · Employers: highlight how AI can promote human interactions

MARKET DRIVERS

The German economy

- Stagnation follows a technical recession
 - Graph 4: key economic data, in real terms, 2019-24
- Continuously high inflation shapes consumers, brands and the economy...
- · ...impacting financial wellbeing...
- · ...confidence and consumer expenditure
- Affluence of Early Adopters to protect emerging tech from economic turbulence
 - Graph 5: usage of emerging technologies, by net monthly household income, 2023
 - Graph 6: planned change in spending on technology and communication in next six months, by approach to emerging technologies, 2023
- · Capitalise on the purchasing power of Early Adopters

Perceptions of technology

- · Ease adoption by anticipating Germans' perceptions of tech
 - Graph 7: perceived impact of technology on selected areas of life, 2023
- · Address younger Germans' concerns regarding tech and wellbeing
 - Graph 8: change in overall mental wellbeing compared to a year ago, 2022

WHAT CONSUMERS WANT AND WHY

Approach to adopting emerging technologies

- · Germans are open but hesitant with emerging technologies
- · Focus on Early Adopters to reassure the mainstream
- · Age and gender predict affinity towards emerging tech
 - Graph 9: respondents who like to try emerging technologies as soon as they are available, by age & gender, 2023
- Focus on targeting younger men with emerging tech...
- · ...but consider broadening appeal
- Put a focus on affluent consumers...
 - Graph 10: respondents who like to try emerging technologies as soon as they are available, by net monthly household income, 2023
- · ...but be income-inclusive as well
- · Capitalise on international peer reviews

Use and interest in emerging technologies

- · Emerging technologies hold growth potential on the German market
 - Graph 11: usage and interest in emerging technologies, 2023
- · Look beyond Early Adopters
 - Graph 12: emerging technologies used, by approach to adopting emerging technologies, 2023
- 16-34s lead adoption of emerging tech in Germany
 - Graph 13: usage of emerging technologies, by age, 2023
- Prove utility to successfully engage younger Germans with emerging tech
- Tap the growth potential of emerging technologies in Germany
 - Graph 14: consumers who have not used select technologies but are interested in doing so, by age, 2023
- · Don't miss out on the growth potential among middle-aged and older Germans
- · Capitalise on the growth potential of internet tech among mid-to-older-aged Germans
- · XR devices need to prove their worth to drive growth
- · Use Chatbots to assist younger consumers' shopping experience
- Examples where brands can tap younger Germans' Chatbot interest to assist shopping
- Directly engage younger Germans with generative Al tools

Perceived impact of AI on areas of life

- · Germans and AI: interested, but concerned
 - Graph 15: anticipated impact of AI on areas of life, 2023
- Mind consumer concerns with Al to facilitate smooth integration
- · Anticipate how Al will transform the customer journey
- · Social media platforms: capitalise on generative AI to fortify ecommerce stance

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- Don't lose the human factor
 - Graph 16: perceived impact of AI on how we interact with each other, by age, 2023
- · Use AI to enhance the service quality of healthcare
- · Leverage AI to assist younger Germans in keeping well...
- · ...and use a hybrid approach to get older Germans on board
- Tap Al to increase the entertainment value
- · Use AI to make entertainment more interactive
- · Al to hyper-personalise gaming experiences
- · Shape a positive narrative around Al
 - Graph 17: perceived impact of AI on the job market, by age, 2023
- Employers can leverage AI to resonate with young men
 - Graph 18: perceived impact of AI on the job market, by age and gender, 2023
- Emphasise how AI can promote human interactions
 - Graph 19: perceived impact on varying areas, by negative perception of AI on human interactions, 2023

Most engaging technology sectors for the future

- · Resonate by innovating essential devices
 - Graph 20: technologies most excited to see developments for in the future, 2023
- · Capitalise on the interest in Al among younger Germans
- · Keep in mind who you are innovating for
 - Graph 21: technologies most excited to see developments for in the future, by approach to adopting emerging tech, 2023
- · Target smart home innovations to tech enthusiasts

Attitudes towards emerging technologies

- · Make safety for children a core element of innovation
 - Graph 22: attitudes towards emerging technologies, 2023
- · Hyper-personalise the online experience for younger Germans
- Provide personalisation opt-outs to allay concerns
- Enhance how Gen Z can socialise online
- · Capitalise on younger Germans' openness towards Al-generated art
- Al content is shaping pop culture among younger Germans tap it!
- · Heinz taps generative AI shaping pop culture
- · Leverage crypto to resonate with younger German men
- · Embrace the future potential of robots

LAUNCH ACTIVITY AND INNOVATION

• Apple announces its first take on the VR/AR device market

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- Apple announced its first take on the VR/AR device market
- Google develops AI tools for healthcare
- · Amazon to bring Generative AI to Amazon Astro in coming years

APPENDIX

Appendix – abbreviations, consumer research methodology and language usage

- Abbreviations
- Consumer research methodology
- A note on language

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