The Impact of Emerging Technologies on Industrial and Social Transformation

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Article Info

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Keyword:
[Emerging technologies, Industrial transformation; Social transformation; Digital skills; Technology adoption.**]**

Kata Kunci:
[Teknologi baru; Transformasi industry; Transformasi sosial; Keterampilan digital; Adopsi teknologi.**]**

Abstract

Rapid advancements in emerging technologies, including artificial intelligence, the Internet of Things, and automation, are transforming industrial operations and social structures. This study aims to analyze the impact of these technologies on industrial adaptation and social transformation. A quantitative research design with a cross-sectional survey was employed, collecting data from 250 respondents including industry professionals, entrepreneurs, and community members. Structured questionnaires with Likert-scale items were used, and data were analyzed using multiple linear regression. The results indicate that technological adoption significantly enhances industrial efficiency, innovation, and social adaptation, while digital skills strengthen this effect. The study concludes that integrating emerging technologies with digital competency development is crucial for sustainable industrial and social transformation. Future research should explore longitudinal impacts and the role of policy frameworks in supporting inclusive technology adoption.

Abstrak

Perkembangan pesat teknologi baru, termasuk kecerdasan buatan, Internet of Things, dan otomatisasi, telah mengubah operasi industri dan struktur sosial. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menganalisis dampak teknologi baru terhadap adaptasi industri dan transformasi sosial. Penelitian ini menggunakan desain kuantitatif dengan survei cross-sectional, mengumpulkan data dari 250 responden yang terdiri dari profesional industri, pengusaha, dan anggota masyarakat. Kuesioner terstruktur dengan skala Likert digunakan sebagai instrumen, dan data dianalisis menggunakan regresi linier berganda. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa adopsi teknologi signifikan meningkatkan efisiensi industri, inovasi, dan adaptasi sosial, sementara keterampilan digital memperkuat pengaruh tersebut. Kesimpulannya, integrasi teknologi baru dengan pengembangan kompetensi digital penting untuk mencapai transformasi industri dan sosial yang berkelanjutan. Penelitian selanjutnya disarankan untuk mengeksplorasi dampak jangka panjang dan peran kebijakan publik dalam mendukung adopsi teknologi yang inklusif.

INTRODUCTION

The rapid development of emerging technologies has become a primary driver of global change across multiple sectors. Advances such as artificial intelligence (AI), the Internet of Things (IoT), robotics, and industrial automation not only transform how companies operate but also influence social interactions and societal patterns. These technological transformations require swift adaptation by industries and communities to harness emerging opportunities while mitigating potential disruptions (Oladele, 2025).

In the industrial context, key challenges include low technology adoption capacity, skill gaps among the workforce, and rapidly evolving business models. Socially, communities face issues such as digital inequality, changes in employment patterns, and the need to adapt to new modes of communication and interaction. The impact of emerging technologies on both industry and society is not always linear; while they enhance efficiency and innovation, they may also create uncertainty for the workforce and social structures.

Previous studies have examined the effects of emerging technologies on industrial and social change. For example, (Morrar et al., 2017) highlighted that new technologies are driving the Fourth Industrial Revolution, significantly affecting corporate operational models and societal behavior. Similarly, (Caruso, 2018) emphasized that automation and AI improve industrial productivity but require higher digital skills, triggering social transformation. These findings collectively suggest that technology adoption is a critical factor in promoting Industrial and Social Transformation.

Moreover, studies on emerging technologies show their potential to enhance industrial efficiency and social innovation. (Sousa et al., 2024) demonstrated that integrating AI and IoT in manufacturing and service sectors increases operational efficiency while facilitating social innovation through digital interaction. (Morrar et al., 2017) further noted that new technologies enable the development of adaptive social systems responsive to industrial changes.

To address these challenges, organizations and communities need to adopt adaptive strategies, including enhancing digital skills, investing in technological infrastructure, and developing policies that support inclusive integration of new technologies. Such approaches strengthen both industrial and social capacities to navigate rapid and complex

transformation.

Two theoretical frameworks support these proposed solutions: Rogers' Diffusion of Innovations Theory (Dutton, 2004), which explains how technological innovations can be effectively adopted within societies, and Castells' Social Transformation Theory (Leonardi, 2009), which emphasizes the reciprocal relationship between technological change and social structures. Together, these frameworks provide a basis for designing sustainable strategies for industrial and social adaptation.

Based on this rationale, the present study aims to analyze the impact of emerging technologies on industrial and social transformation, identify factors that reinforce this transformation, and provide recommendations for industries and communities to effectively leverage new technologies.

RESEARCH METHOD

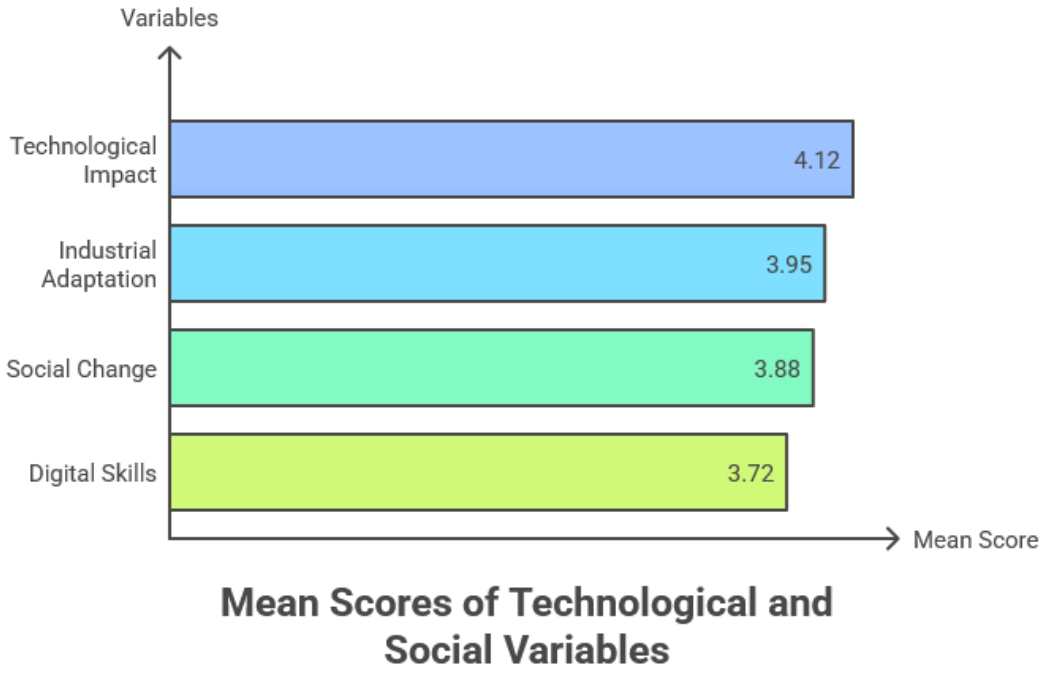
This study employs a quantitative research design with a cross-sectional survey approach. The quantitative approach is chosen to measure the statistical relationship between emerging technologies and their impact on industrial and social transformation, allowing the collection of numerical data from a large sample to test hypotheses and identify patterns of influence. Data are collected using a structured questionnaire developed based on validated scales from prior research on technology adoption, industrial performance, and social transformation. The questionnaire consists of closed-ended questions using a Likert scale (1–5) to measure respondents' perceptions of technological impact, industrial adaptation, and social change, and it was pre-tested through a pilot survey with 30 respondents to ensure reliability and validity. The survey is administered to a sample of 250 respondents, including industry professionals, entrepreneurs, and community members affected by the adoption of emerging technologies. Respondents are selected using stratified random sampling to ensure representation across different sectors and social demographics, and data collection is conducted through both online and offline methods to achieve broad coverage and high response rates. Collected data are analyzed using multiple linear regression analysis to determine the impact of emerging technologies on industrial and social transformation. Prior to regression analysis, statistical tests including validity, reliability, and multicollinearity checks are conducted. Hypotheses are tested at a 95%

confidence level, and the results are interpreted to identify key factors that significantly influence industrial efficiency, innovation, and social adaptation. This methodological approach ensures a rigorous, replicable, and statistically valid investigation of how emerging technologies shape both industrial and social transformation.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The analysis of the collected data focused on measuring the impact of emerging technologies on industrial performance and social transformation. The study employed descriptive statistics to understand the general patterns of respondents' perceptions, followed by multiple linear regression analysis to examine the effect of independent variables on industrial and social outcomes.

Picture 1. Descriptive Statistics of Respondents' Perceptions.



This Picture 1 shows that respondents perceive emerging technologies as having a high impact on both industrial adaptation and social change, with mean scores above 3.7 on a 5-point scale. Standard deviations indicate moderate variability among respondents, suggesting a generally consistent perception across different groups. Digital skills show slightly lower mean values, highlighting a potential area for intervention to support industrial and social adaptation.

Table 1. Multiple Linear Regression Analysis of Emerging Technologies on Industrial and

Independent Variable	B	Std. Error	t	p-value
Technological Impact (TI)	0.62	0.08	7.75	0.000
Digital Skills (DS)	0.29	0.09	3.22	0.002
Constant	1.15	0.25	4.60	0.000

The regression results indicate that technological impact significantly predicts both industrial adaptation and social change ($B = 0.62$, $p < 0.001$). Digital skills also have a significant positive effect ($B = 0.29$, $p = 0.002$), suggesting that higher digital competencies enhance the benefits of emerging technologies. The model demonstrates a strong explanatory power for understanding the relationship between technology adoption and industrial-social transformation.

Table 2. Model Summary

Model	R	R^2	Adjusted R^2	Std. Error of the Estimate
Regression	0.78	0.61	0.60	0.37

The model summary shows an R^2 of 0.61, meaning that 61% of the variance in industrial and social transformation is explained by technological impact and digital skills. This indicates a substantial and statistically meaningful relationship, confirming that emerging technologies play a pivotal role in shaping both industrial efficiency and social adaptation.

The findings reveal that emerging technologies have a significant positive impact on both industrial adaptation and social transformation. Technological impact is the strongest predictor, while digital skills act as an important moderating factor that enhances the effectiveness of technology adoption. These results suggest that organizations and communities should focus on improving digital competencies alongside implementing emerging technologies to maximize industrial and social benefits.

The findings indicate that emerging technologies have a significant impact on both industrial adaptation and social transformation. Regression analysis revealed that technological impact positively influences industrial performance and social change, while digital skills act as a moderating factor that strengthens this relationship.

These results align with (Tortorella et al., 2019; Yavuz et al., 2023), who found that

the adoption of Industry 4.0 technologies enhances organizational performance through improvements in social, competitive, and financial outcomes. This study highlights the importance of integrating emerging technologies into industrial strategies to achieve sustainable transformation.

Furthermore, (Chen et al., 2022; Ren et al., 2022) revealed that technological transformation has heterogeneous effects on economic structures, influencing employment patterns and income distribution. This underscores the need for adaptive policies to manage the social consequences of new technology adoption.

From a social perspective,(Goyal & Aneja, 2020; Sholler & MacInnes, 2022) demonstrated that the AI industry affects employment levels and income distribution, implying potential social inequality. This finding emphasizes the importance of an inclusive approach in implementing emerging technologies to ensure benefits are shared across society.

Additionally, (Agbaji et al., 2023; Mpofu & Nicolaides, 2019) identified that public perception of the Fourth Industrial Revolution and artificial intelligence is influenced by ethical considerations, privacy concerns, and potential job displacement. This suggests that education and public engagement are critical to reducing resistance and enhancing social acceptance of technological transformation.

The implications of this study indicate that effective industrial and social transformation requires a synergy between the adoption of emerging technologies and the enhancement of digital skills. Collaboration between government and the private sector is essential to develop policies and training programs that support digital competency across sectors.

Future research should consider longitudinal studies to monitor the long-term impacts of emerging technology adoption on industrial and social structures. Additionally, more in-depth studies on the role of public policy in supporting digital transformation in developing countries are highly recommended.

CONCLUSION

The present study demonstrates that emerging technologies have a significant and positive impact on both industrial adaptation and social transformation. Technological

adoption enhances operational efficiency, stimulates innovation, and reshapes social interactions, confirming that industries and communities benefit from the integration of advanced digital solutions. Digital skills serve as a crucial moderating factor, strengthening the effectiveness of emerging technologies and enabling both organizations and individuals to adapt more efficiently to rapid technological changes.

The findings align with recent research, emphasizing that successful industrial and social transformation depends not only on technology adoption but also on enhancing human competencies and creating supportive policies. This study contributes to the existing literature by providing empirical evidence of the relationship between emerging technologies, industrial performance, and social adaptation, particularly in the context of contemporary digital transformation.

In conclusion, the study confirms that strategic implementation of emerging technologies combined with digital skill development is essential for achieving sustainable industrial and social transformation. Policymakers, industry leaders, and educational institutions are encouraged to collaborate in promoting technology adoption, digital literacy, and inclusive practices to maximize the benefits of technological advancement.

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