DEVTRUST 2026

STACK OVERFLOW DEVELOPER SURVEY

AI adoption is broad.
Trust is conditional.

The strongest signal is not rejection. It is a demand for output that can be checked.

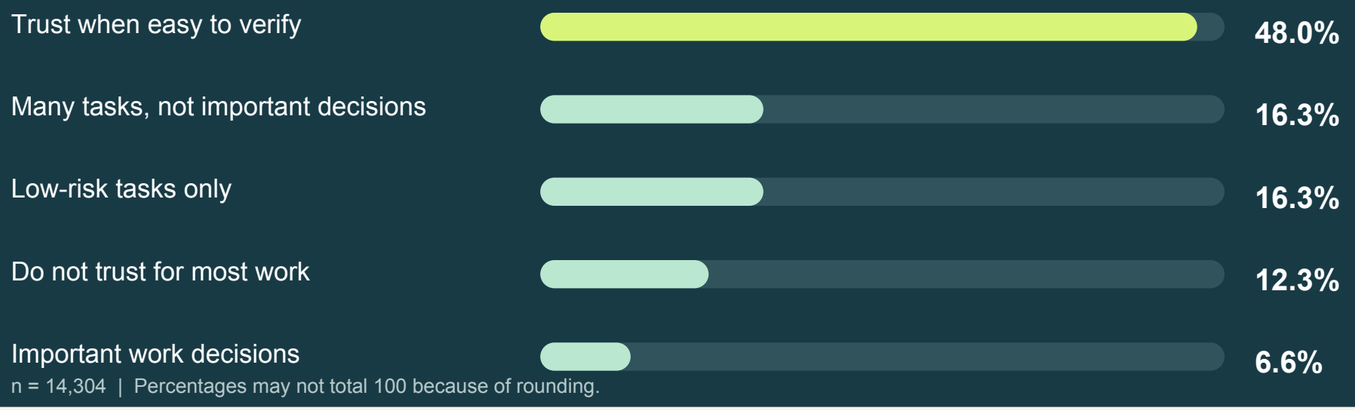
ATTITUDE BY EXPERIENCE

Favorable: 53% (1-5 yrs) | 69% (16+ yrs)

Observed association; the survey does not establish causation.

HOW DEVELOPERS TRUST AI OUTPUT

Share of respondents



n = 14,304 | Percentages may not total 100 because of rounding.

RECOMMEND

Design for verification, not autopilot.

01 Keep AI close to reversible work.

02 Attach context, tests and source links.

03 Require human review for high-risk calls.

WHAT DEVELOPERS DO BEFORE USING AN AI ANSWER

76.5%	63.9%	53.0%	38.0%	9.6%
Run locally	Compare with codebase	Inspect tests / security	Read official docs	Use as-is

Overall survey: 30,903 valid responses across 169 countries. Trust question: n = 14,304.

Voluntary Stack Overflow respondents are not a representative sample of all developers.

Source: survey.stackoverflow.co/2026/ai/data | Accessed Nov 19, 2026