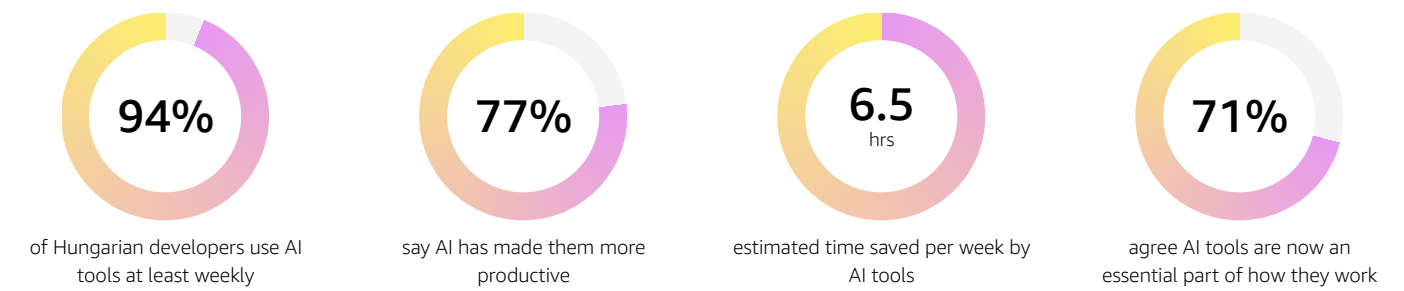


# DevHorizon Hungary 2026: How AI is transforming the developer profession in Hungary

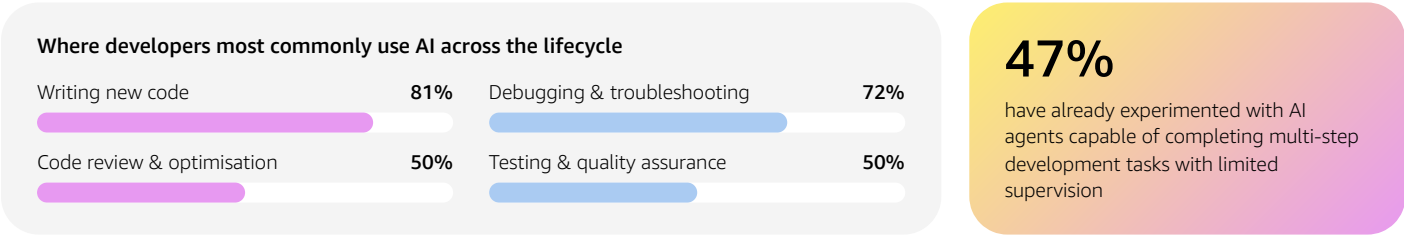
Artificial intelligence (AI) is reshaping how software is built – and Hungary’s developers, part of one of Europe’s fastest-growing regional developer communities, are at the centre of that transformation. This research, based on a survey of 500 professional software developers across Hungary, explores how AI is changing developer workflows, productivity and skills, and what this means for Hungary’s position as a leading European technology hub.



## AI is now mainstream in Hungarian software development

AI has moved beyond experimentation to become part of everyday development work in Hungary. 82% of developers now use AI tools daily as part of their software development workflow, and 94% at least weekly – while 90% use general-purpose AI assistants, such as chat-based tools, at least weekly to support development tasks. While no directly comparable data exists, as additional context, the [Stack Overflow Developer Survey 2025](#) found that 51% of developers globally use AI tools daily.

Adoption is also becoming structural rather than ad hoc. 34% of developers say parts of their team’s development process have been redesigned around AI, or that AI is now embedded throughout the development lifecycle.

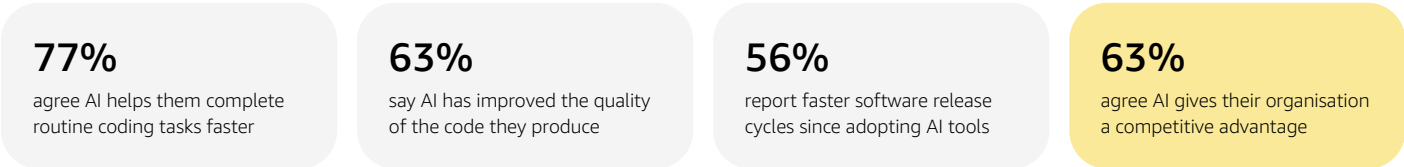


## Productivity gains are materialising – and being reinvested

77% of Hungarian developers say AI has made them more productive, including 32% who describe themselves as much more productive. On average, developers estimate AI saves them 6.5 hours every week – the equivalent of most of a working day.

Rather than simply doing the same work faster, Hungarian developers are reinvesting that time in higher-value activity – most commonly solving more complex technical problems (33%), reviewing and validating AI-generated outputs (30%) and learning new skills or experimenting with new technologies (27%).

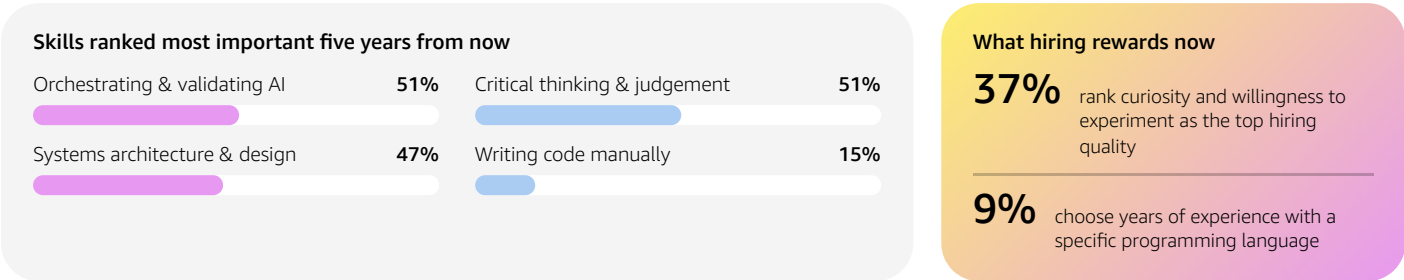
The benefits extend beyond individual output to how software is delivered.



# From writing code to designing systems

As AI takes on more routine implementation, the value of a developer is shifting towards judgement, architecture and orchestration – and Hungarian developers are feeling that shift first-hand. 34% say they have had to significantly evolve their own skills over the past two years because of AI, and compared with two years ago, 36% now spend more time on systems architecture and design, while 54% spend more time reviewing AI-generated outputs.

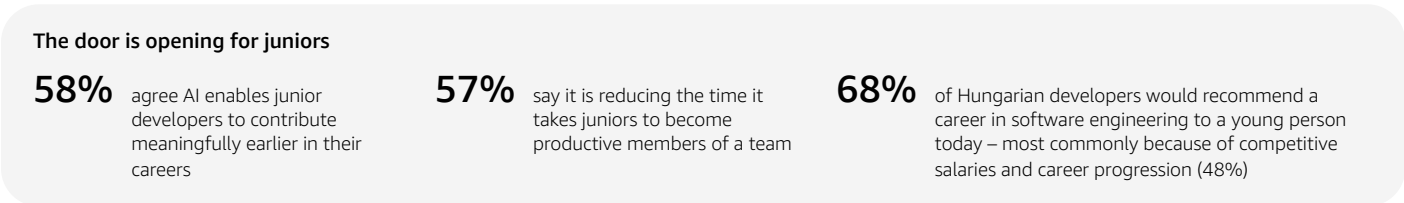
Looking five years ahead, developers are clear about where value will sit:



## Education and training are struggling to keep pace

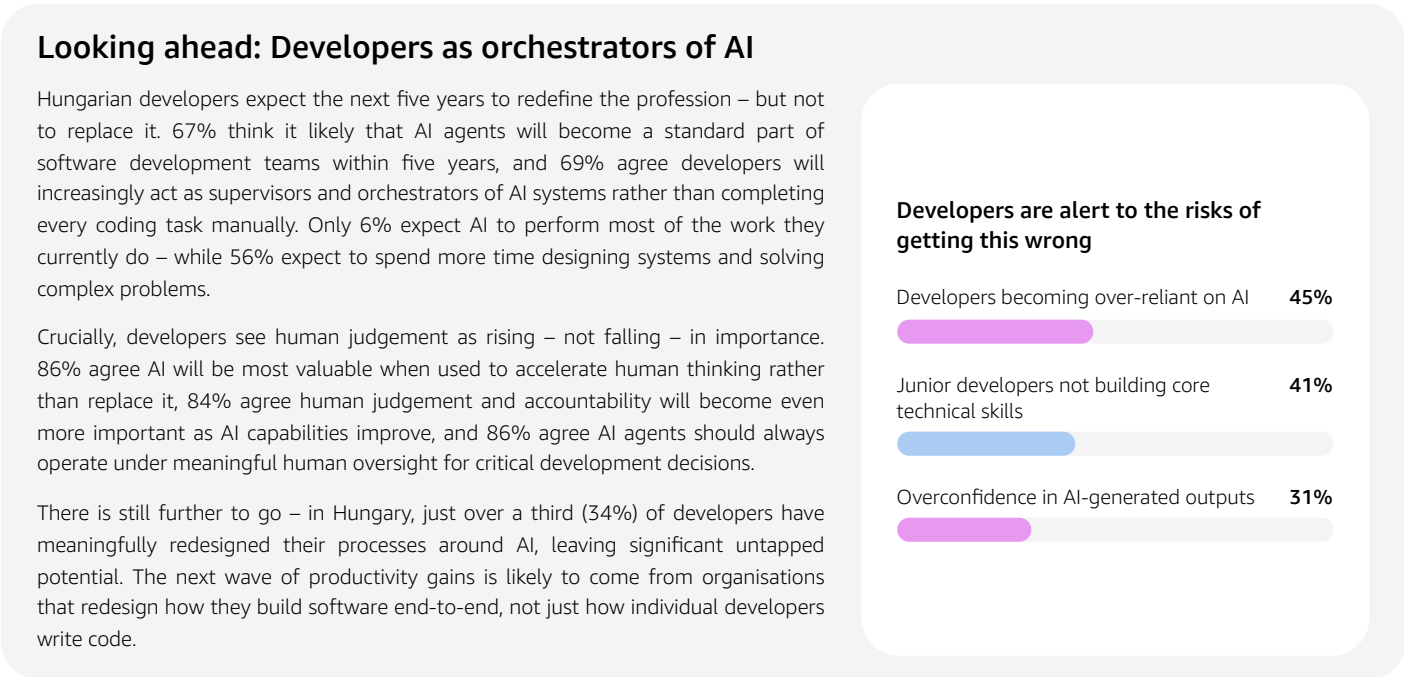
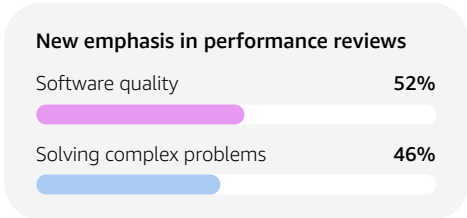
Developers see a growing gap between how fast AI is changing the profession and how fast the skills pipeline is adapting. 78% agree that education and training providers are struggling to keep pace with the rapid evolution of AI, 72% believe university computer science curricula need to evolve more quickly, and 56% think AI literacy should be introduced at secondary school level. Perhaps most tellingly, 76% agree that critical thinking and judgement – such as being able to assess the accuracy of AI output – is a difficult skill to teach, but the most important for the future.

At the same time, AI is opening the door for the next generation.



## What organisations value in developers is changing

The era of measuring developers by lines of code is drawing to a close. 37% say their organisation has changed how developer performance is evaluated over the past two years – most commonly placing more emphasis on software quality and on solving complex problems, and less on the volume of code produced. The change is being felt personally too: 53% report improved job satisfaction since adopting AI tools.



Methodology: Survey of 500 professional software developers in Hungary, conducted 18 July – 5 August 2026. Respondents were screened to confirm they write, review or directly oversee code as part of their day-to-day role. The sample was structured to be representative by sector, company size and region. Developers in this sample were distributed across industries as follows: technology/software (44%), manufacturing (14%), financial services (11%), retail and e-commerce (8%), public sector/government (7%), other (7%), telecommunications (6%), and healthcare (3%). Research conducted in line with MRS and ESOMAR guidelines. Parallel surveys were conducted in Poland and Romania to enable regional comparison.