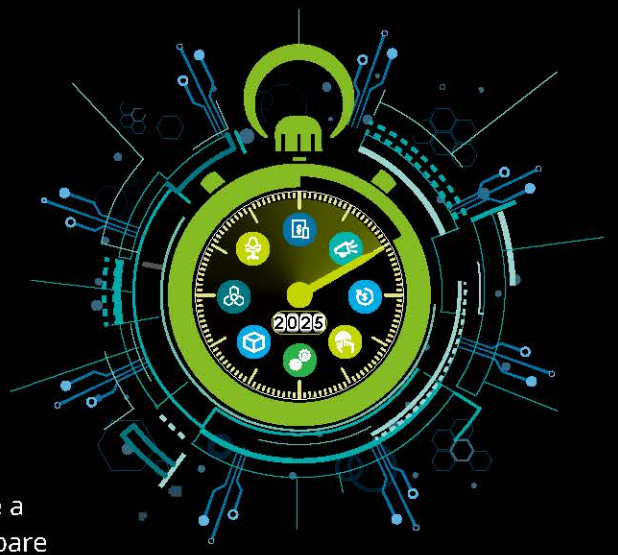


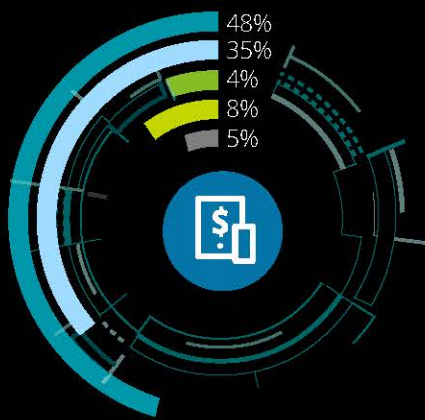
Finance 2025: Our predictions What executives and others have to say about them



None of us knows for certain what the future will hold, but we all have a responsibility to be thinking about what's likely to happen, and to prepare for it. When we published our Finance 2025 report and eight predictions about the future finance function, back in 2018, we initiated a poll that has now been live for over two years, where we ask our readers a simple question: "Tell us your level of agreement or disagreement with each of our predictions."

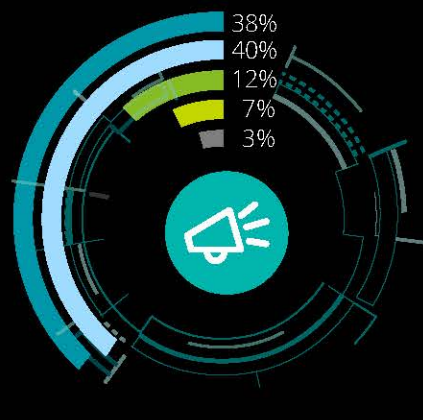
Over 500 finance executives and other professionals — representing over a dozen industry sectors across more than 60 countries — responded to the poll. Here's what they had to say...

Prediction #1. Transactions will be touchless as automation and blockchain reach deeper into finance operations.

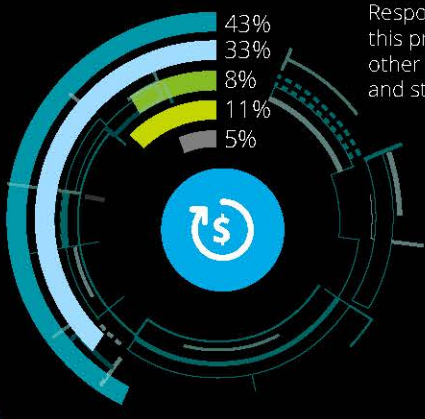


Strongly agree Somewhat agree Not sure Somewhat disagree Strongly disagree

Prediction #2. With operations automated, Finance will double down on business insights and service. Success is not assured.



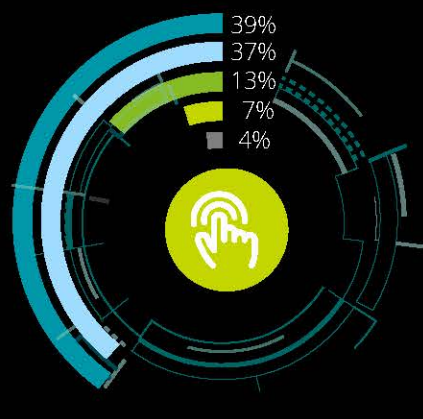
Prediction #3. Finance goes real time. Periodic reporting will no longer drive operations and decisions—if it ever did.



Respondents disagreed with this prediction more than any other (somewhat disagree and strongly disagree).

Strongly agree Somewhat agree Not sure Somewhat disagree Strongly disagree

Prediction #4. Self-service will become the norm.

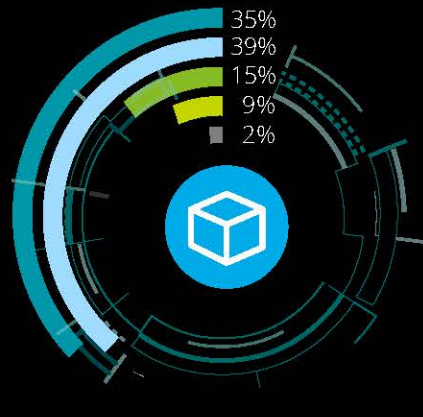


Prediction #5. New service delivery models will emerge as robots and algorithms join a more diverse finance workforce—think about the integration of freelancers, gig workers, and crowds.

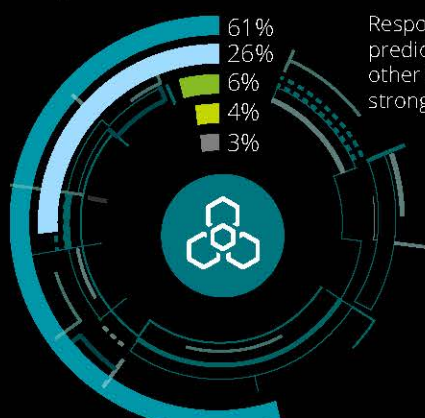


Strongly agree Somewhat agree Not sure Somewhat disagree Strongly disagree

Prediction #6. Finance applications and microservices will challenge traditional ERP. Big vendors will be prepared.



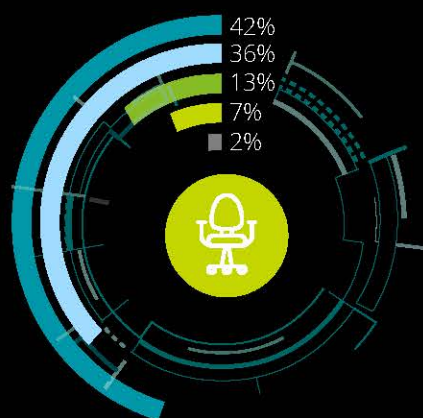
Prediction #7. The proliferation of APIs will drive data standardization, but it won't be enough. Many companies will still be struggling to clean up their data messes.



Respondents agreed with this prediction more than any other (somewhat agree and strongly agree).

Strongly agree Somewhat agree Not sure Somewhat disagree Strongly disagree

Prediction #8. Employees will be doing new things in new ways, some of which will make CFOs uncomfortable.



* Responses may not equal 100% due to rounding.

* Respondents represent various functions (Finance, Supply chain, HR, IT, etc.), with 51 percent having titles of director or above; 72 percent of respondents represent Finance, with 55 percent of those having titles of director or above (16 percent belonging to the C-Suite)

The years ahead hold great promise for finance organizations that want to create more value for the companies they support. Contact us or explore our **Crunch Time** report series to learn more:

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