From AI to ROI

CFOs and the Fast Track to Value

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Key Findings

✓ CFOs want to invest in AI, but don't know where to start.

✓ Effective AI -driven strategies deliver results.

✓ AI is a tool, not the goal.

✓ AP is the CFO's quickest ROI win.

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CFOs Want to Invest in AI, But Don't Know Where to Start

CFOs **believe AI can transform the finance function** by:

✔ Reducing manual tasks.

✔ Allowing finance professionals to focus on more value-additive work.

However, there are significant obstacles to overcome .

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Obstacles faced by CFOs

75%

of finance leaders want to increase investments in AI **within the next 12–18 months** but currently **do not know where to start.**

32%

say **improved cost efficiency** is the number 1 goal of their finance transformation initiatives. 55% rank it in their top 3 goals.
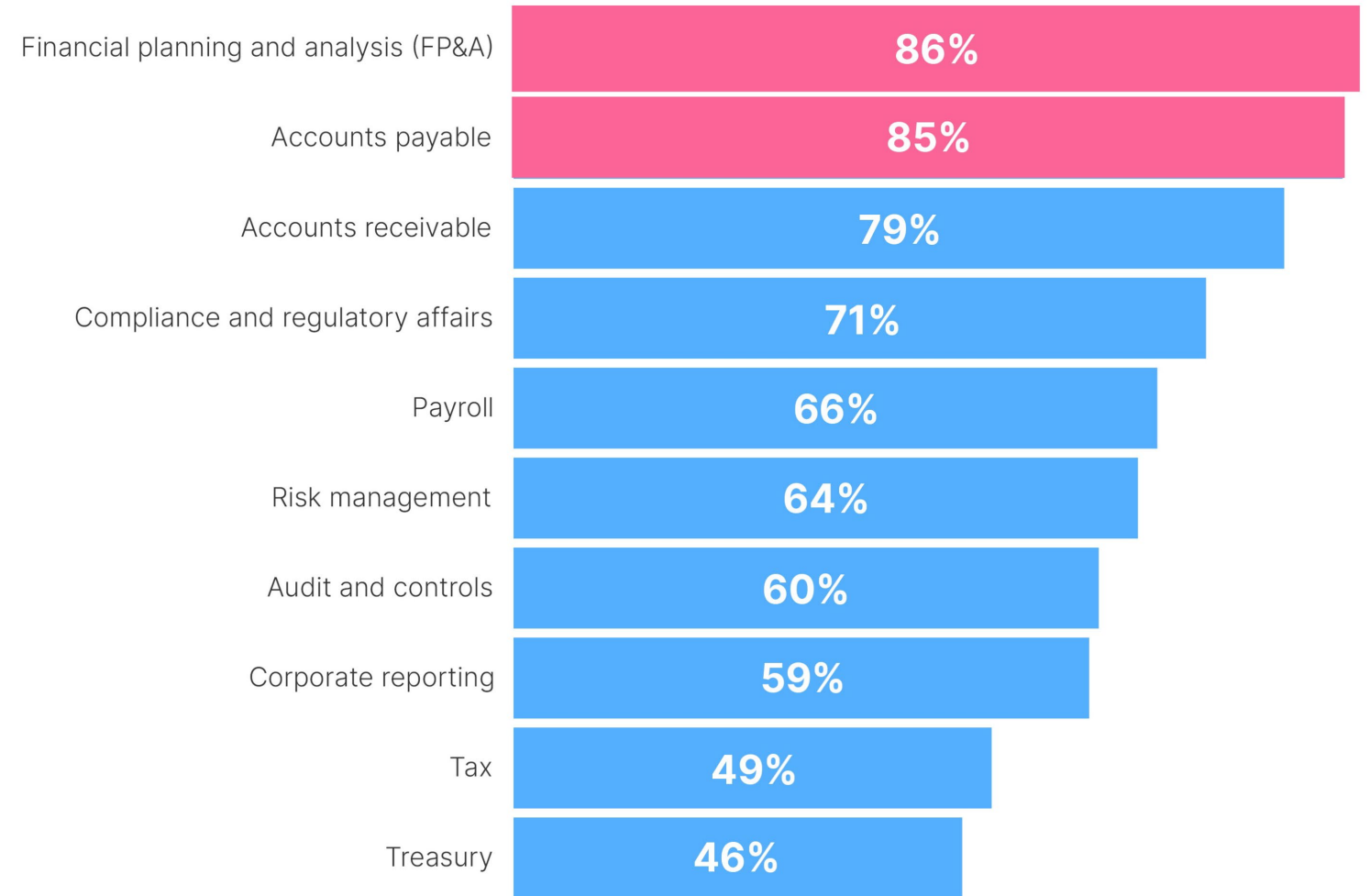
40%

worry they **do not have the change management capabilities** required to execute complex transformation projects.

✓ CFOs are driven by ROI when creating finance transformation strategies

Where to invest

Financial planning and analysis (FP&A)	86%
Accounts payable	85%
Accounts receivable	79%
Compliance and regulatory affairs	71%
Payroll	66%
Risk management	64%
Audit and controls	60%
Corporate reporting	59%
Tax	49%
Treasury	46%

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AP is the CFO's Quickest Win

86% of finance leaders say deploying AI tools that support financial planning and analysis (FP&A) has generated significant returns.
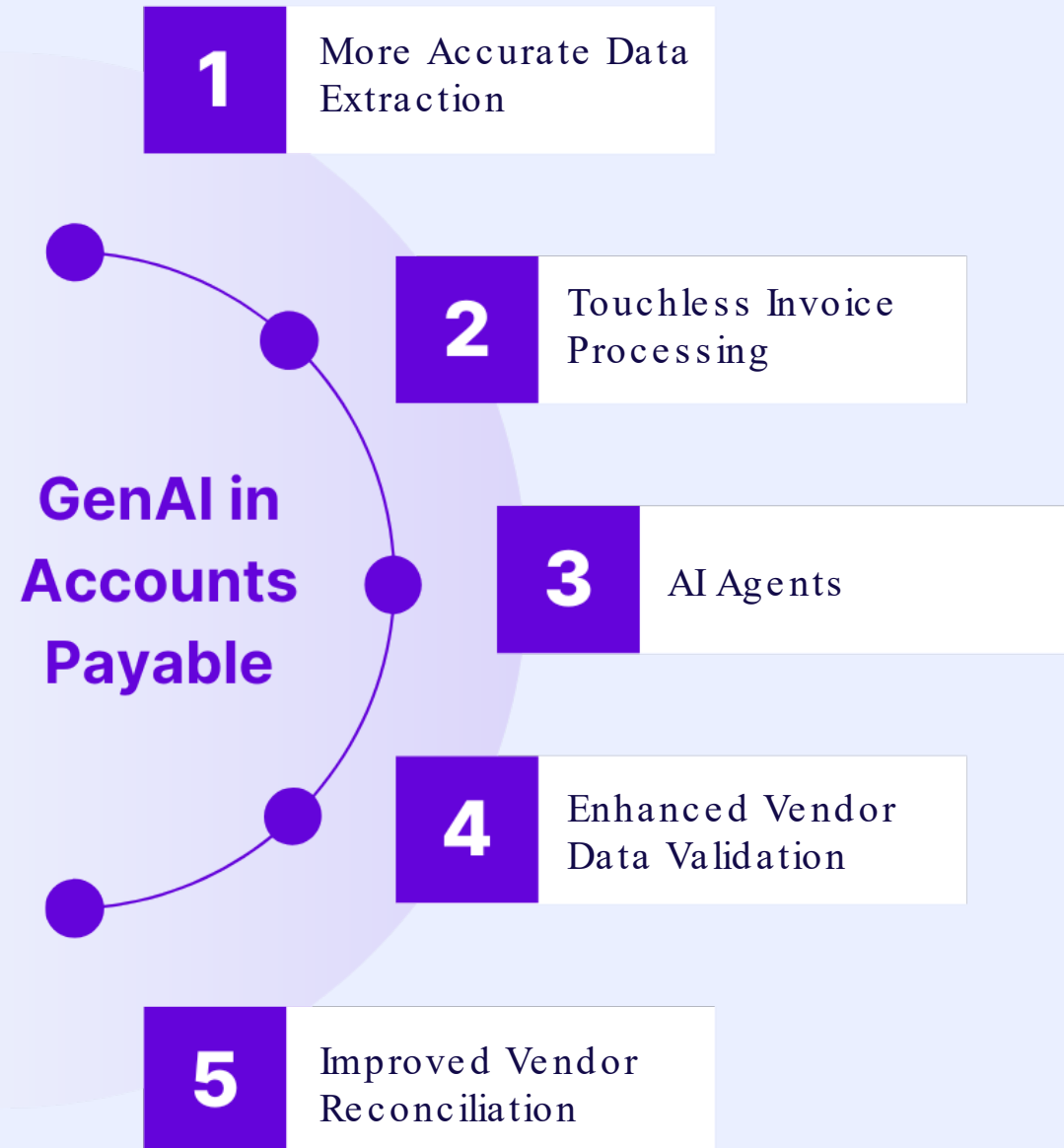
85% report that the use of AI in AP has already started to pay off.

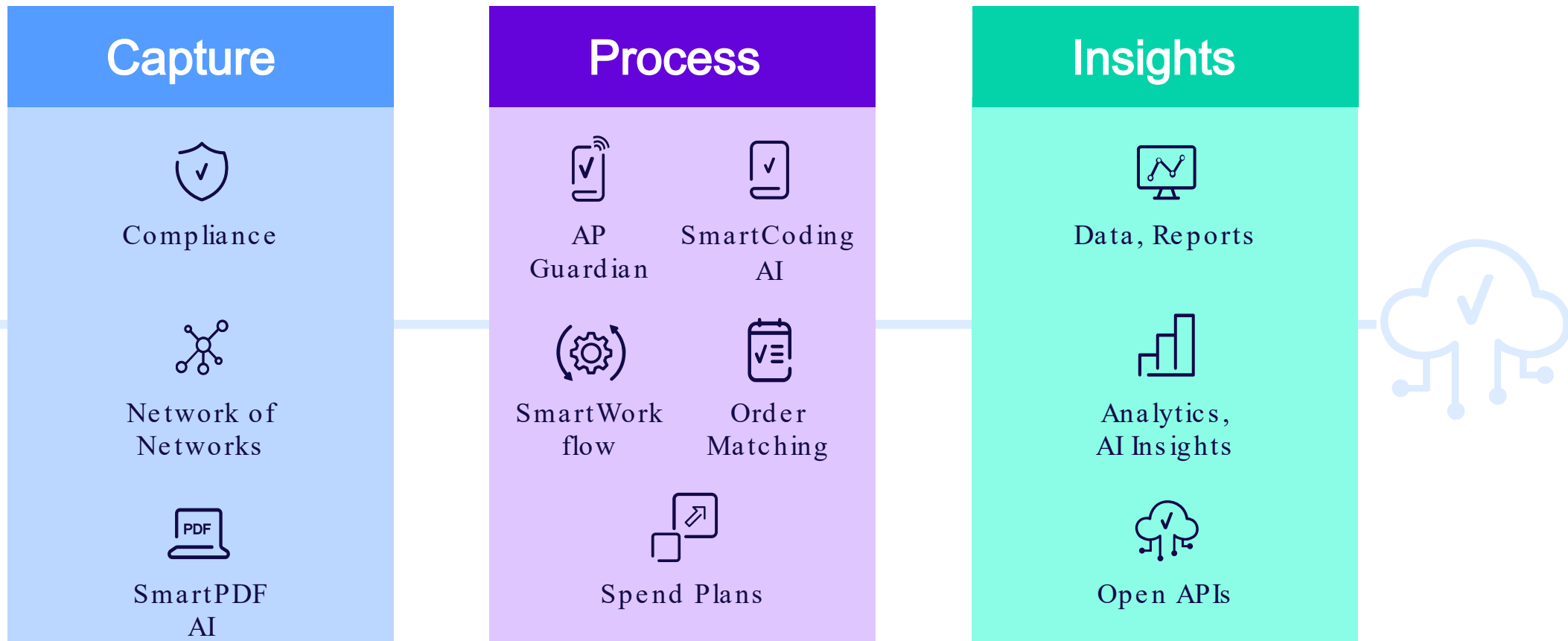Finance departments that have implemented AI tools in their AP teams have seen huge rewards, with an average ROI of **36%**

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Five Essential Gen AI Use Cases in Accounts Payable Every F&A Leader Should Know

GenAI in Accounts Payable

1. More Accurate Data Extraction

2. Touchless Invoice Processing

3. AI Agents

4. Enhanced Vendor Data Validation

5. Improved Vendor Reconciliation

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The Role of Generative AI in AP

Capture

Compliance

Network of Networks

SmartPDF AI

Process

AP Guardian

SmartCoding AI

SmartWork flow

Order Matching

Spend Plans

Insights

Data, Reports

Analytics, AI Insights

Open APIs

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Why is Human - in - the - Loop Concept Essential?

Enhancing Training and Adaptability

Building Trust and Transparency

Ethical Decision Making

Managing High - Risk Environments

Managing Exceptions and Anomalies

Ensuring Accuracy and Compliance

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Realize More Value with SmartPDF

Challenges	What good looks like	Business Outcomes
Data Capture Accuracy	92% automation of capture & validation	Avoid late payments and capture discounts
Fixing extraction issues	Continuous reduction of exceptions through AI training	Full visibility and control
Long processing times	Delivery of automated invoices <2 hours	Less time spent on supplier inquiries

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What does Basware see as the most impactful AP trend in 2025?

AI Agents – the forefront of AI tools

A Trusted Companion for users of Basware's software
Help Users Complete Tasks faster & more efficiently
Provide Strategic guidance on complex subjects such as country specific compliance

Operating in Modular Structure to provide a sustainable way of delivering relevant functionality to end users & Stakeholders

One Basware AI Agent interface will tie together functionalities across the platform

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Classified as Private

Q&A

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