

PROGEOLAB RESEARCH

# Top 25 AI-Ready Fortune 500 Companies

The AI-readiness ranking · April 2026



**PROGEOLAB**

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Discovery

## CHAPTER 1

# Fortune 500 AI Readiness Ranking 2026: The 25 Companies Best Prepared for AI Discovery

## 1. The 2026 AI Readiness Ranking: What We Measured

This ranking scores all 500 companies in the Fortune Global 500 on their preparedness for AI-driven content discovery. Unlike search engine rankings that measure output (where you appear in results), this index measures input — the signals your website provides to help AI systems access, understand, and accurately cite your content.

The ranking is derived from the Fortune Global 500 AI Accessibility audit — 134,000 probe requests across 500 companies with four user agents — combined with raw response body analysis of robots.txt AI policies, llms.txt implementations, JSON-LD structured data, and security metadata.

## 2. The Scoring Methodology

Each company is scored on a composite AI Readiness Index combining six dimensions:

Dimension	Signal	Points	What It Measures
AI Accessibility	ChatGPT-User returns $\geq 1$ HTTP 200	+3	Can AI answer engines read your site?
Browser Accessibility	Chrome returns $\geq 1$ HTTP 200	+1	Is your site accessible at all?
Content Curation	Real llms.txt (body-validated)	+1 to +3	Have you curated content for AI?
Structured Data	JSON-LD on homepage	+1	Does your site have machine-readable metadata?
Entity Disambiguation	sameAs to Wikidata (+2) or Wikipedia (+1)	+1 to +2	Can AI identify which entity you are?
AI Bot Policy	robots.txt explicit Allow for AI bots	+1 to +2	Have you made a deliberate AI access decision?
Security Metadata	security.txt present (RFC 9116)	+1	Digital maturity signal

Maximum possible score: approximately 13 (depending on llms.txt link count and sameAs target). Scores above 8 represent the most AI-ready companies; scores below 4 indicate no meaningful AI optimization.

## 3. The Top 25

Rank	Company	Country	Industry	Chrome	ChatGPT	Score	Key Signals
1	Nvidia	U.S.	Semiconductors and Other Elect	10	10	10.5	ChatGPT=10, llms(19), JSON-LD, sameAs

Rank	Company	Country	Industry	Chrome	ChatGPT	Score	Key Signals
2	Dell Technologies	U.S.	Computers, Office Equipment	58	59	10	ChatGPT=59, llms(131), JSON-LD, robots(1)
3	Volkswagen	Germany	Motor Vehicles & Parts	24	24	9	ChatGPT=24, llms(198), JSON-LD, sec.txt
4	Apple	U.S.	Computers, Office Equipment	14	14	8	ChatGPT=14, JSON-LD, Wikidata, sec.txt
5	Target	U.S.	General Merchandisers	10	10	8	ChatGPT=10, llms(54), JSON-LD
6	HP	U.S.	Computers, Office Equipment	8	7	8	ChatGPT=7, JSON-LD, robots(10), sec.txt
7	National Australia Bank	Australia	Banks: Commercial and Savings	10	10	8	ChatGPT=10, llms(61), JSON-LD
8	Samsung Electronics	South Korea	Electronics, Electrical Equip.	10	10	7.5	ChatGPT=10, JSON-LD, sameAs, robots(5)
9	Alphabet	U.S.	Internet Services and Retailin	11	11	7	ChatGPT=11, JSON-LD, Wikipedia, sec.txt
10	Airbus	Netherlands	Aerospace & Defense	37	38	7	ChatGPT=38, JSON-LD, robots(1), sec.txt
11	LG Electronics	South Korea	Electronics, Electrical Equip.	5	5	7	ChatGPT=5, llms(49), robots(1)
12	Repsol	Spain	Petroleum Refining	4	4	7	ChatGPT=4, llms(44), JSON-LD
13	Maersk Group	Denmark	Shipping	14	0	7	llms(54), JSON-LD, Wikipedia, sec.txt
14	Energie Baden-Wurttemberg	Germany	Utilities	14	14	7	ChatGPT=14, robots(11), sec.txt
15	OMV Group	Austria	Petroleum Refining	5	5	7	ChatGPT=5, JSON-LD, Wikipedia, sec.txt
16	SAP	Germany	Computer Software	2	2	7	ChatGPT=2, robots(13), sec.txt
17	Bank of New York Mellon	U.S.	Banks: Commercial and Savings	4	4	7	ChatGPT=4, JSON-LD, robots(8)
18	Schlumberger	U.S.	Oil and Gas Equipment, Service	12	12	7	ChatGPT=12, JSON-LD, Wikipedia, sec.txt
19	Subaru	Japan	Motor Vehicles & Parts	6	6	7	ChatGPT=6, llms(100)

Rank	Company	Country	Industry	Chrome	ChatGPT	Score	Key Signals
20	UnitedHealth Group	U.S.	Health Care: Insurance and Man	63	63	6.5	ChatGPT=63, JSON-LD, sameAs, sec.txt
21	Procter & Gamble	U.S.	Household and Personal Product	7	7	6.5	ChatGPT=7, JSON-LD, sameAs, sec.txt
22	HCA Healthcare	U.S.	Health Care: Medical Facilitie	8	8	6.5	ChatGPT=8, JSON-LD, sameAs, sec.txt
23	Emirates Group	United Arab Emirates	Airlines	16	16	6.5	ChatGPT=16, JSON-LD, sameAs, sec.txt
24	Samsung C&T	South Korea	Engineering & Construction	1	1	6.5	ChatGPT=1, JSON-LD, sameAs, sec.txt
25	Walmart	U.S.	General Merchandisers	13	48	6	ChatGPT=48, JSON-LD, sec.txt

#### 4. #1 NVIDIA: The Most AI-Ready Company (Score: 10.5)

NVIDIA tops the ranking by combining every dimension: ChatGPT accessibility (10/64), a real llms.txt (19 links), JSON-LD with sameAs links, explicit robots.txt allowing 17 AI bots (the most of any company), and security.txt.

NVIDIA's robots.txt names and allows GPTBot, ChatGPT-User, OAI-SearchBot, ClaudeBot (and variants), PerplexityBot (and variants), Google-Extended, Applebot-Extended, CCBot, Amazonbot, Bytespider, meta-externalagent, FacebookBot, Cohere-ai, and AI2Bot — the most comprehensive AI-allow policy in the Fortune 500. This is a company that builds AI infrastructure and practices what it sells.

#### 5. #2 Dell Technologies: The Quiet Champion (Score: 10.0)

Dell's second-place ranking surprises many who would expect a consumer tech company rather than an enterprise hardware vendor at the top. Dell's edge comes from its llms.txt — 131 curated links organized by product category, support, solutions, and developer resources — combined with the highest ChatGPT probe count among tech companies (59/64), JSON-LD, and a Bytespider Allow in robots.txt.

Dell demonstrates that AI readiness is not about brand perception — it is about infrastructure decisions. Dell invested in creating a content map (llms.txt), ensured AI crawlers can reach it (WAF configuration), and provided structured metadata (JSON-LD).

#### 6. #3-#4: Apple and Volkswagen

**Apple (Score: 8.0)** achieves its ranking through entity excellence — it is one of only three Fortune 500 companies with a Wikidata sameAs link (Q312). Combined with universal UA accessibility (14/13/14/14) and security.txt, Apple demonstrates that entity disambiguation is as important as content curation.

**Volkswagen (Score: 9.0)** — a traditional German automaker — outranks Apple by adding the second-largest llms.txt in the Fortune 500 (198 links) and maintaining ChatGPT accessibility. VW proves

that AI readiness is not a tech company prerogative.

### 7. Surprise Entries

**Target (#5, Score: 8.0)** — a US retailer outranks Google, Microsoft, and Meta. Target's 54-link llms.txt and JSON-LD give it more AI visibility signals than most technology companies.

**National Australia Bank (#7, Score: 8.0)** — the highest-ranked bank, beating every US and European bank with a 61-link llms.txt, ChatGPT accessibility, and JSON-LD.

**Airbus (#10, Score: 7.0)** — an aerospace manufacturer with ChatGPT accessibility (38/64 — the third-highest absolute probe count), JSON-LD, robots.txt AI Allow, and security.txt.

**Subaru (#19, Score: 7.0)** — a Japanese automaker with a 100-link llms.txt, accessible to ChatGPT, outranking Toyota, BMW, and Mercedes.

### 8. Industry Distribution: Who Makes the Top 25?

Industry	Companies in Top 25
Computers, Office Equipment	3
Motor Vehicles & Parts	2
General Merchandisers	2
Banks: Commercial and Savings	2
Electronics, Electrical Equip.	2
Petroleum Refining	2
Semiconductors and Other Electronic Components	1
Internet Services and Retailing	1
Aerospace & Defense	1
Shipping	1
Utilities	1
Computer Software	1
Oil and Gas Equipment, Services	1
Health Care: Insurance and Managed Care	1
Household and Personal Products	1
Health Care: Medical Facilities	1
Airlines	1

Industry	Companies in Top 25
Engineering & Construction	1

No single industry dominates. Technology, energy, banking, automotive, healthcare, and retail are all represented. AI readiness is an organizational capability, not an industry characteristic.

### 9. Geographic Distribution

Country	Companies in Top 25
U.S.	12
Germany	3
South Korea	3
Australia	1
Netherlands	1
Spain	1
Denmark	1
Austria	1
Japan	1
United Arab Emirates	1

The United States leads with 12 companies, followed by South Korea, Germany, and Australia. No Chinese company makes the top 25 — the Great Firewall infrastructure makes Chinese companies unreachable from international probe environments, automatically scoring them zero on accessibility.

### 10. The Score Distribution: Why 71% Score Below 5

The AI Readiness Index distribution is severely bottom-heavy:

Score Range	Companies	%	Description
0	144	29%	Invisible — unreachable or fully blocked
1-3	55	11%	Minimal — accessible but no AI signals
4-5	254	51%	Basic — accessible with some signals
6-7	40	8%	Strong — multiple AI signals
8+	7	1%	Excellent — comprehensive AI readiness

355 of 500 companies (71%) score below 5. The implication: any company that implements llms.txt, adds JSON-LD sameAs, and ensures ChatGPT accessibility immediately enters the top quartile of the Fortune 500 for AI readiness. The barrier to differentiation is low because so few companies have acted.

This ranking will be updated quarterly as part of the Fortune Global 500 GEO Visibility Index. Companies that improve their scores will be highlighted in future editions.

**Source data:** All 500 Fortune Global 500 companies scored using cross-source analysis from the April 2026 AI Accessibility audit. Domain mapping from the audit's domain resolution database. Scoring combines: four-way UA probe databases, raw body analysis (robots.txt, llms.txt, JSON-LD, security.txt, WAF), with body-validation for llms.txt (soft-404 filtering). Full scoring methodology documented above.

## ABOUT THIS REPORT

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# About PROGEOLAB

PROGEOLAB is an AI-native visibility intelligence platform.

This report is part of the PROGEOLAB Fortune 500 AI Accessibility Audit — a series of research studies on how large enterprises appear to (or disappear from) AI answer engines. All measurements are from live HTTP probes across four user agents: a research bot, Googlebot, Chrome, and ChatGPT-User. No estimates, no third-party data sources.

### Methodology in brief

500 companies · 67 probes each · 4 user agents · 134,000 probe requests. Data collected April 16–19, 2026. Response bodies stored and re-validated with MD5-hash soft-404 detection to eliminate the ~25x inflation that status-code-only scans produce.

### Contact & next steps

Visit [progeolab.ai/research](https://progeolab.ai/research) or request a demo for a complimentary AI visibility analysis of your organisation.

For press enquiries, data requests, or syndication, write to [research@progeolab.ai](mailto:research@progeolab.ai).