

VOICE RECOGNITION STILL HAS SIGNIFICANT RACE AND GENDER BIASES

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[HTTPS://HBR.ORG/2019/05/VOICE-RECOGNITION-STILL-HAS-SIGNIFICANT-RACE-AND-GENDER-BIASES](https://hbr.org/2019/05/voice-recognition-still-has-significant-race-and-gender-biases)

SUMMARY

- **Voice AI (speech recognition) performs worse for female users and non-standard accents**
- **Even though it affects important aspects of daily life: immigration decisions such as language proficiency tests, job hiring, and transportation**
- **Why? Databases have lots of white male data, and less data on female and minority voices**

SUMMARY

- e.g., **“Google’s speech recognition is 13% more accurate for men than it is for women”**
- e.g., **“Indian English has a 78% accuracy rate and Scottish English has a 53% accuracy rate”**
- > **immense social injustice**
- **Women have a big purchasing power “Women are [responsible for] 85% of consumer dollars spent. Women control 70% of financial decisions in the house.”**
- > **missed opportunity by service providers/tech companies**