

ASSIST→DO

The shift that repriced software, in five rows. Same tools, different job – and a different budget line.

	AI-ASSISTED through 2025	AI-AGENTIC 2026 onward
WHAT IT DOES	Finishes your sentences. Autocomplete, line by line.	Takes whole tasks. You set the goal; it does the work.
PLATFORM SIGNAL	Autocomplete is the dominant request inside Cursor.	Agent requests overtake autocomplete – Nov 2025. By early 2026 it isn't close.
BUILD VOLUME	43M pull requests merged a month. GitHub, 2025.	10× the prior year's commit pace. GitHub, early 2026.
WHOSE BUDGET	Software. Worldwide SaaS runs about \$300B a year.	Payroll. The US labor market alone is \$13T a year.
WHO IT HITS	Engineering – the first function through the shift.	Marketing, finance, operations, support, HR – next.

Engineering was the canary. Eighteen months of software teams is every other function's next three years.

Figures as reported by the platforms and cited in Chapter 3.