

# Redefining the Future of Software Engineering

## How agentic AI is changing software development

Software engineering teams are beginning to work with AI in a very different way. What started as assistance for individual tasks is expanding into autonomous participation across the software lifecycle. Data from an MIT Technology Review Insights report, sponsored by SoftServe, shows rising investment, gradual performance gains, and a clear shift toward agent-managed development that will reshape how teams plan, build, and deliver software.

### RESEARCH AT A GLANCE

300 senior technology leaders surveyed



Roles include CIOs, CTOs, CDOs, and software leaders



Organizations across 7 industries



Companies headquartered in 6 countries



Most respondents work at firms with \$500M+ annual revenue

### ADOPTION IS ACCELERATING

Agentic AI use is already underway in software engineering teams. Expectations rise as teams move beyond pilots and refine workflows.

51%

say agentic AI is a top investment priority today

84%

expect it to be a top priority within two years

51%

use agentic AI today, mostly in limited deployments

45%

plan adoption within the next 6 to 12 months

### SPEED LEADS THE BENEFITS

Time savings stand out across industries. Faster iteration drives more experiments within the same timeframe

98%

expect faster delivery from pilot to production

37%

timeline acceleration expected



Technology and media organizations expect even higher gains

### FROM TASKS TO LIFECYCLE MANAGEMENT

Where agentic AI is used today:



Agentic AI use remains concentrated in specific functions.



Most activity sits in coding, testing and QA, documentation, and knowledge management.

### How Quickly Scope Expands

Expansion happens fast once teams move past pilots.

41% expect agents to manage most products end to end within 18 months.

72% expect this level of use within two years

### ROLES ARE SHIFTING

Work distribution is changing as agentic AI use expands.

51% of organizations plan to prioritize engineers skilled in working with AI within the next two years.



Software architects and data engineers also rank among the most in-demand roles over that same period.

As more tasks move to agents, a larger share of human effort centers on specification, oversight, and evaluation of agent output rather than direct execution.

Download **Redefining the Future of Software Engineering** to explore the full findings, industry breakdowns, and expert insights.

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