

October 30, 2025

# ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & THE AI REVOLUTION

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- ▶ Tracye McDaniel, President





# THEORY INTO PRACTICE

Committed to **holistic thinking** and  
**sustainable development.**

We design strategies that will  
support your community's  
**vision for the future.**



# 1995

YEAR FOUNDED

# 600+

ENGAGEMENTS

# 425+

CLIENTS

# 44

STATES

# 7

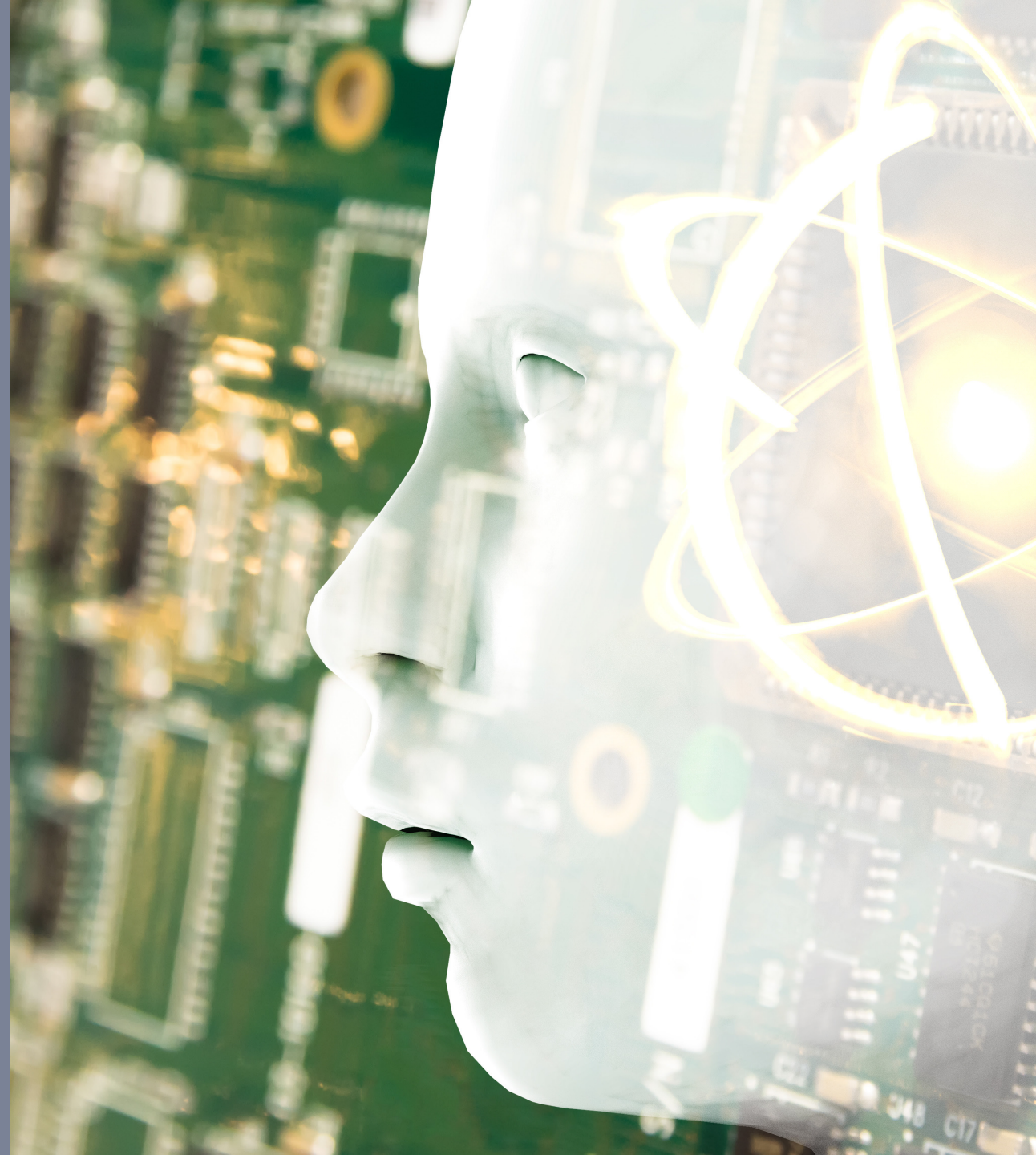
COUNTRIES



# AI

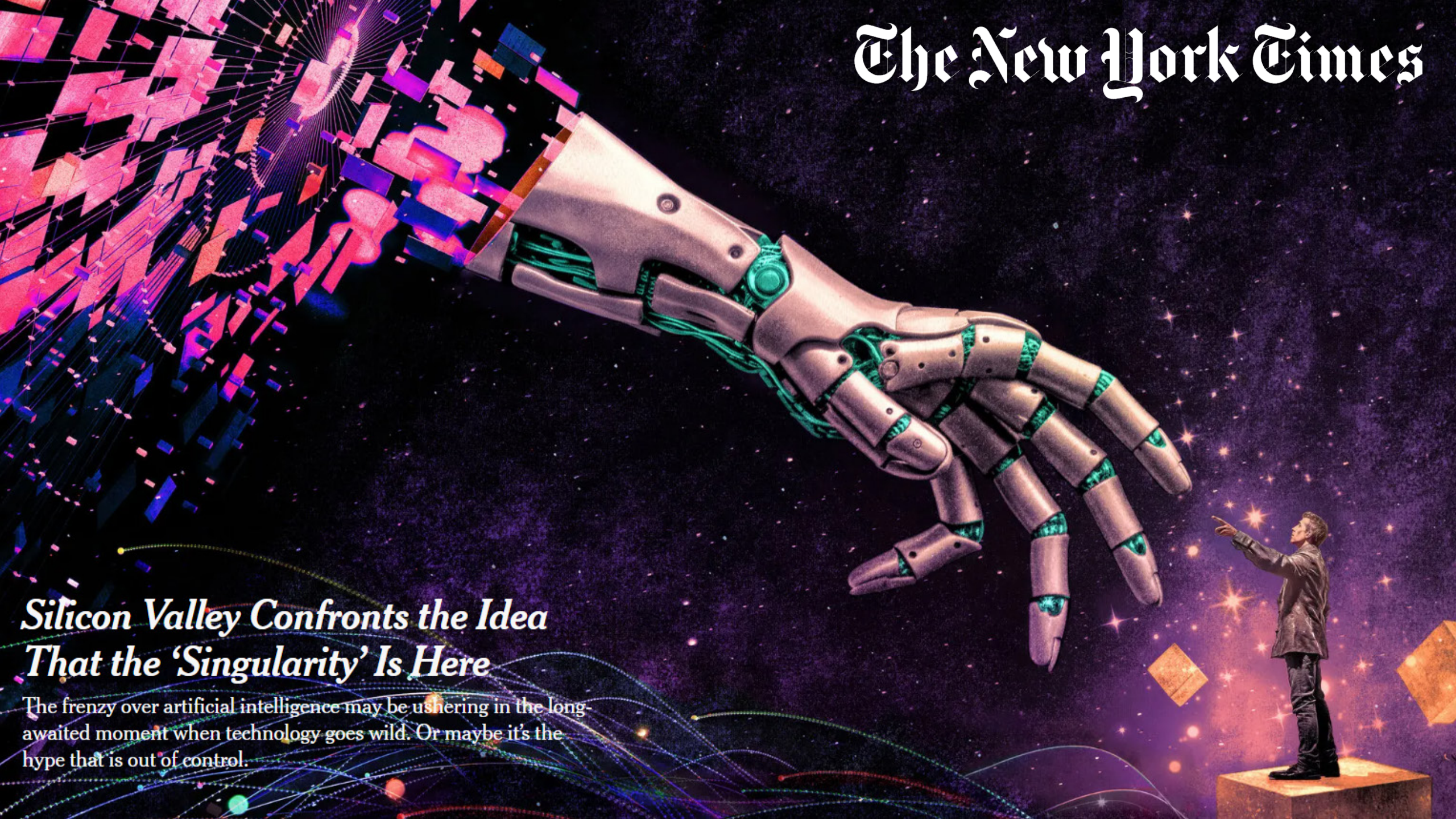
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AI and emerging technologies will  
forever change how we do  
economic development...





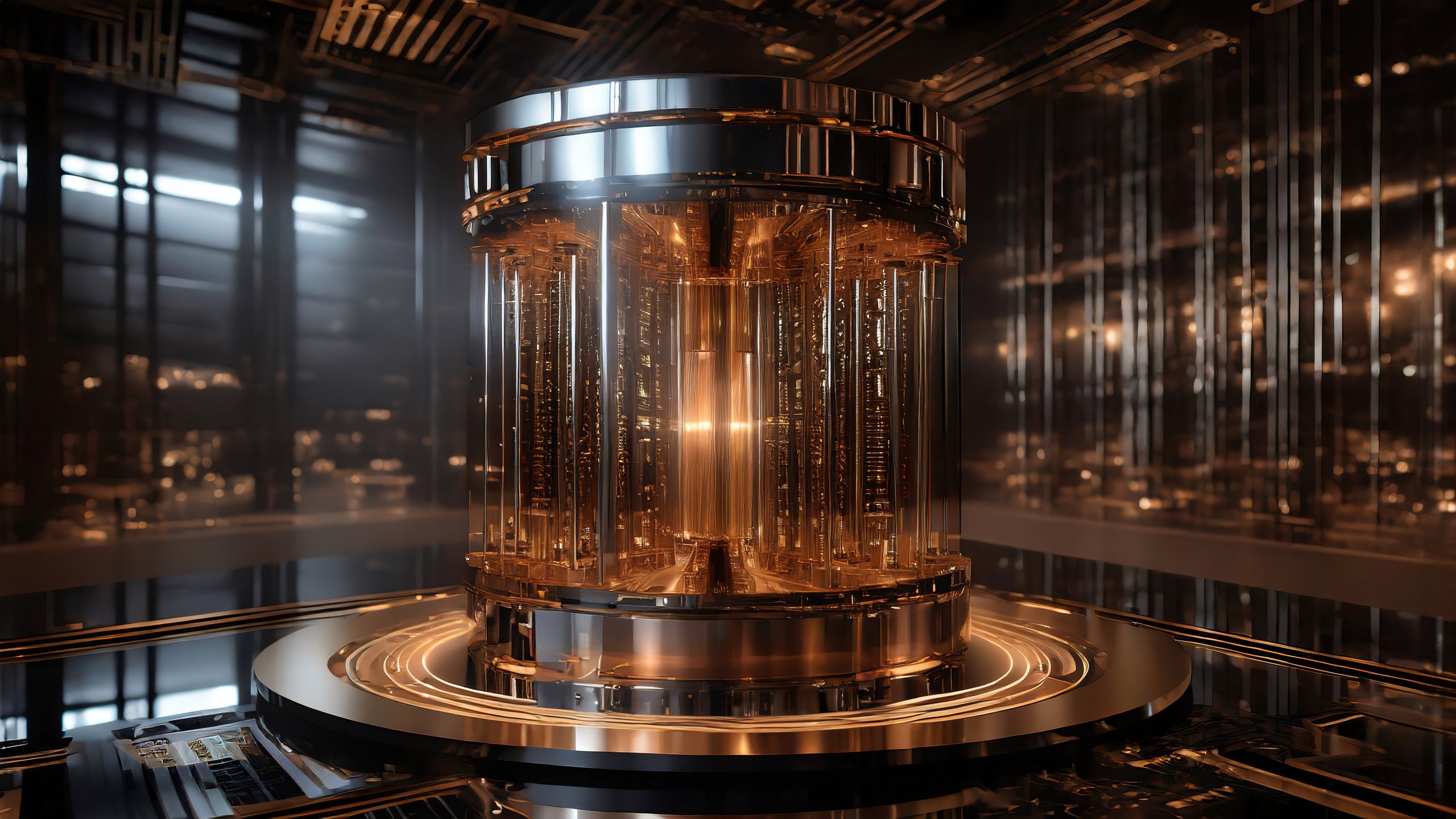
# The New York Times



## *Silicon Valley Confronts the Idea That the 'Singularity' Is Here*

The frenzy over artificial intelligence may be ushering in the long-awaited moment when technology goes wild. Or maybe it's the hype that is out of control.







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# Two Critical Aspects of AI: Data Centers & Workforce

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# DATA CENTERS

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An infrastructure that will  
shape the economy



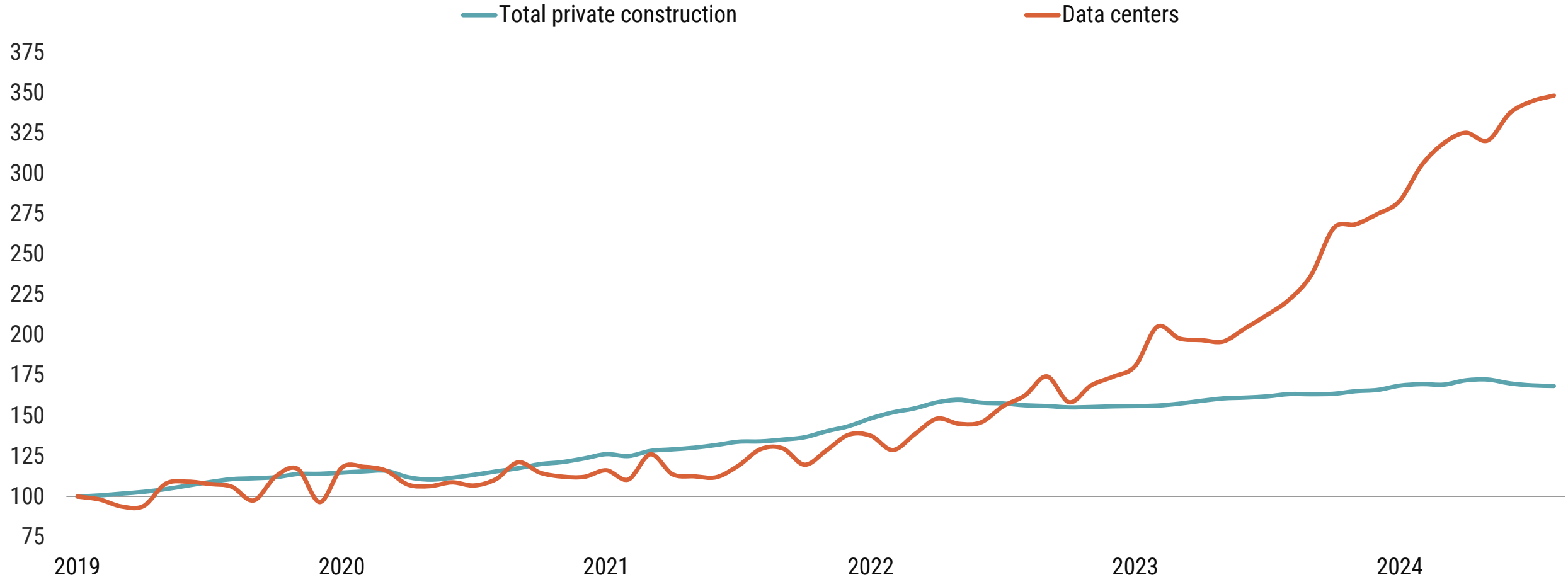


# WHAT'S FUELING THE AI REVOLUTION?

*US construction of data centers has exploded since 2023*

## PRIVATE-SECTOR CONSTRUCTION SPENDING

January 2019 indexed to 100



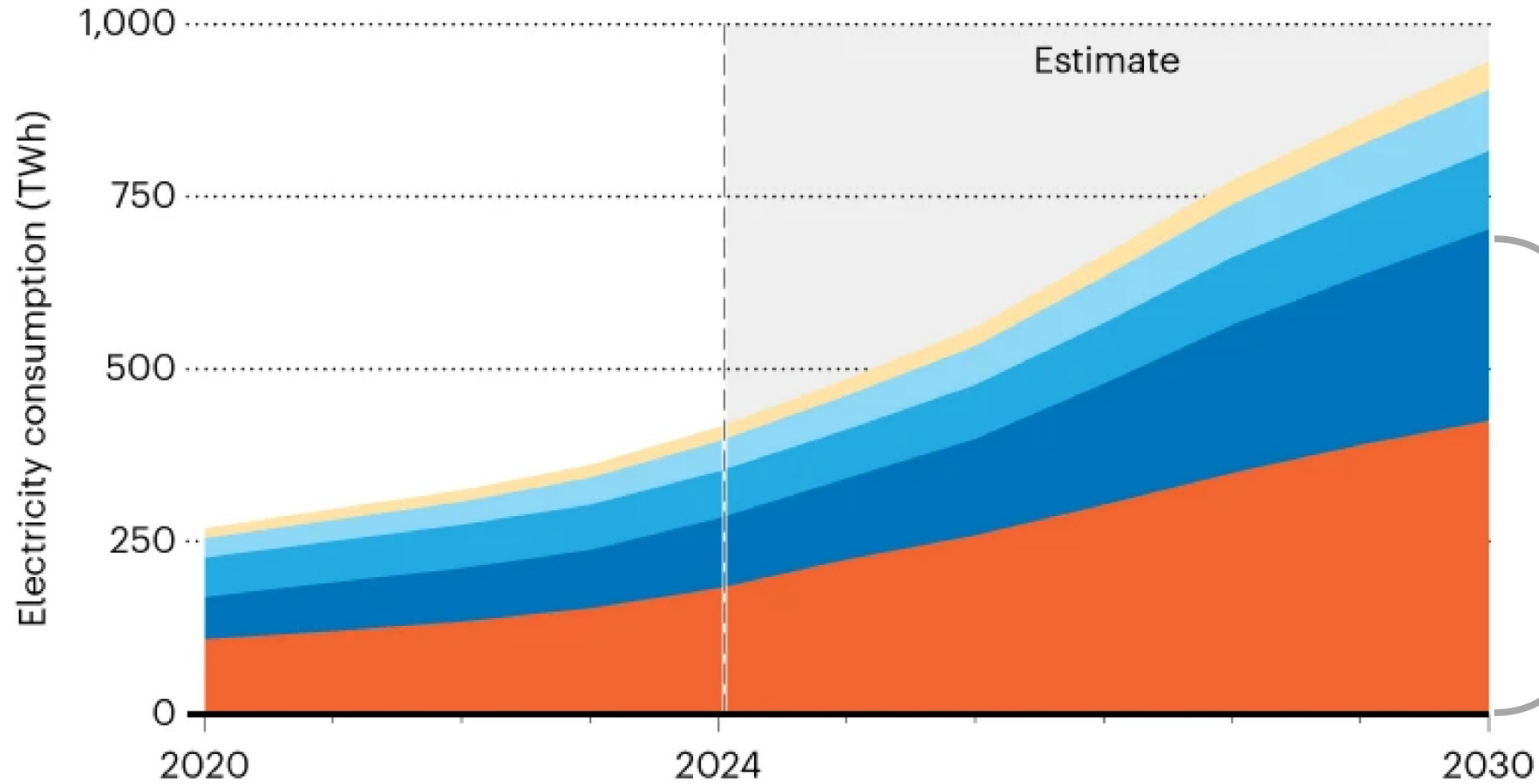
Source: US Census Bureau; TIP Strategies.

Notes: The chart is indexed to a base month and reflects the seasonally adjusted value of private construction put in place.



# DATA-CENTER ENERGY GROWTH

United States China Europe Asia excl. China Rest of world



China and the United States are predicted to account for nearly 80% of the global growth in electricity consumption by data centers up to 2030.\*

\*Predicted trajectory under current regulatory conditions and industry projections.

Source: Nature; Source: IEA ([CC BY 4.0](#)) featured in "[Data Centers Will Use Twice as Much Energy by 2030—Driven by AI](#)," by Sophia Chen and Nature Magazine, Scientific American, April 10, 2025.

# WHY DATA CENTERS?

*What are they and why do we need them?*

1

Workforce

2

Fiscal & Taxation

3

Infrastructure & Utilities

4

Regulatory Issues

5

Community Engagement & Equity

6

Risk & Resilience

7

Governance & Accountability

8

Public Relations

9

Land Use Analysis

10

Innovation Strategy



# WORKFORCE

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What is the future of jobs?







*The New York Times*

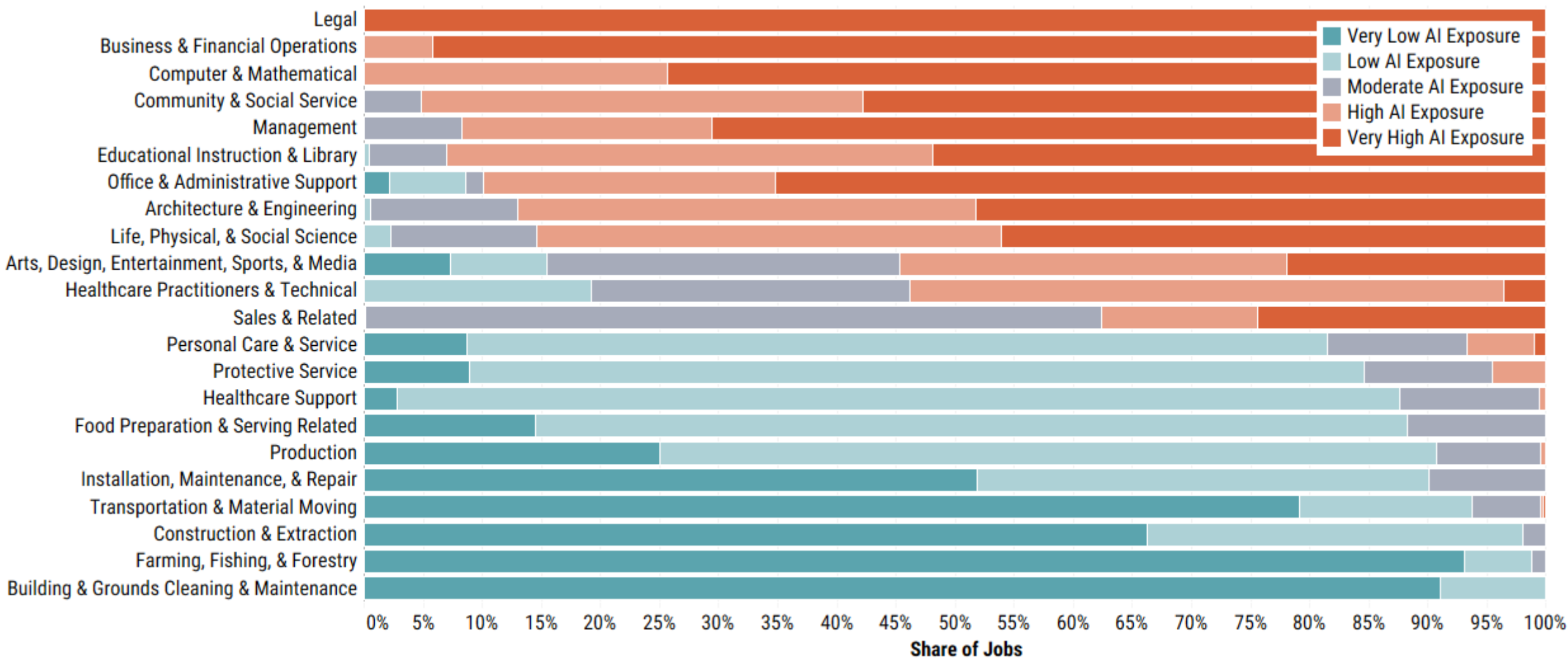
*Amazon Plans to Replace More Than  
Half a Million Jobs With Robots*

Internal documents show the company that changed how people shop has a far-reaching plan to automate 75 percent of its operations.



# AI OCCUPATIONAL EXPOSURE

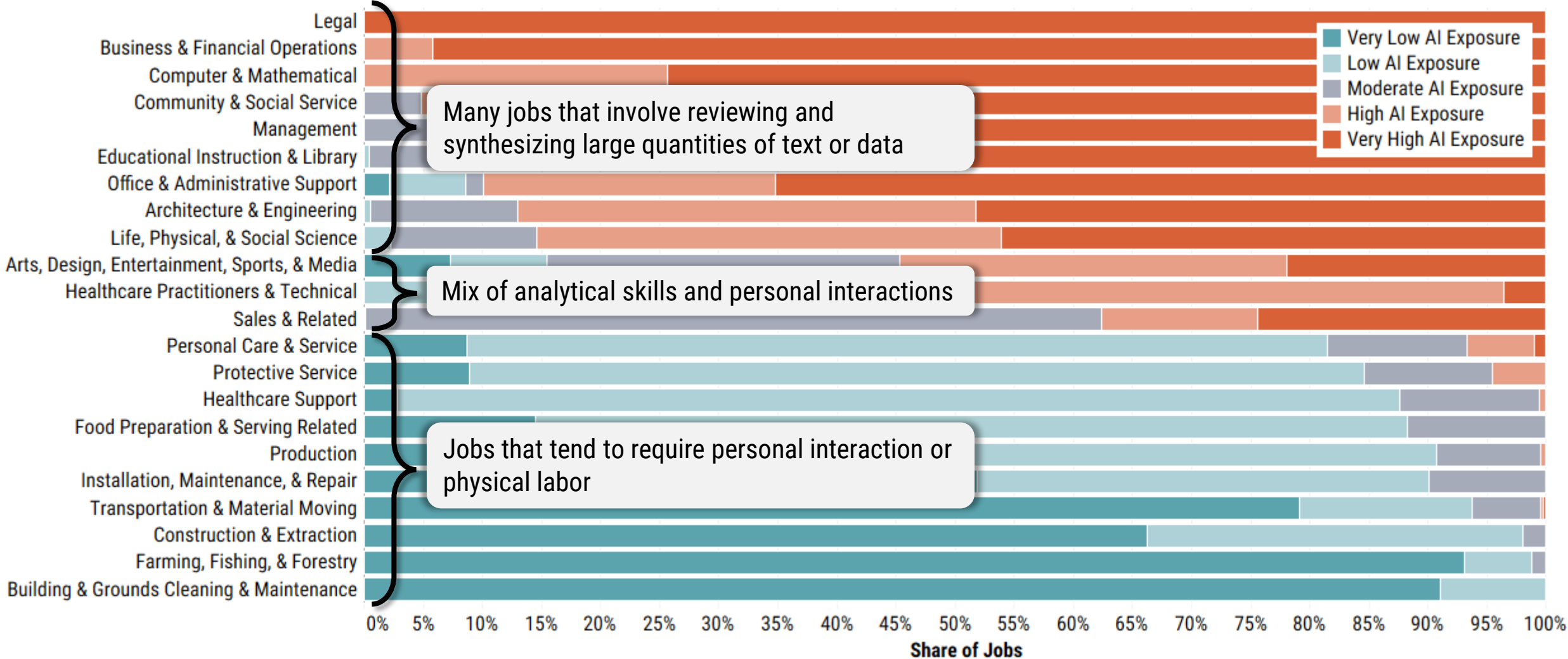
*Percent of jobs in AI exposure categories by major occupation group*



Sources: US Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS); Lightcast 2025.3—QCEW Employees, Non-QCEW Employees, and Self-Employed; Lightcast Global AI Skills 2025; US Department of Labor (DOL), Employment and Training Administration, Occupational Information Network (O\*NET) version 30; Felten, Raj, & Seamans (2021). Occupational, industry, and geographic exposure to artificial intelligence: A novel dataset and its potential uses. [Strategic Management Journal](#), 42(12), 2195–2217; Felten, Raj, & Seamans (2023). Occupational heterogeneity in exposure to generative AI. Available at [SSRN](#); TIP Strategies, Inc.

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What is the *human*  
value of a job?

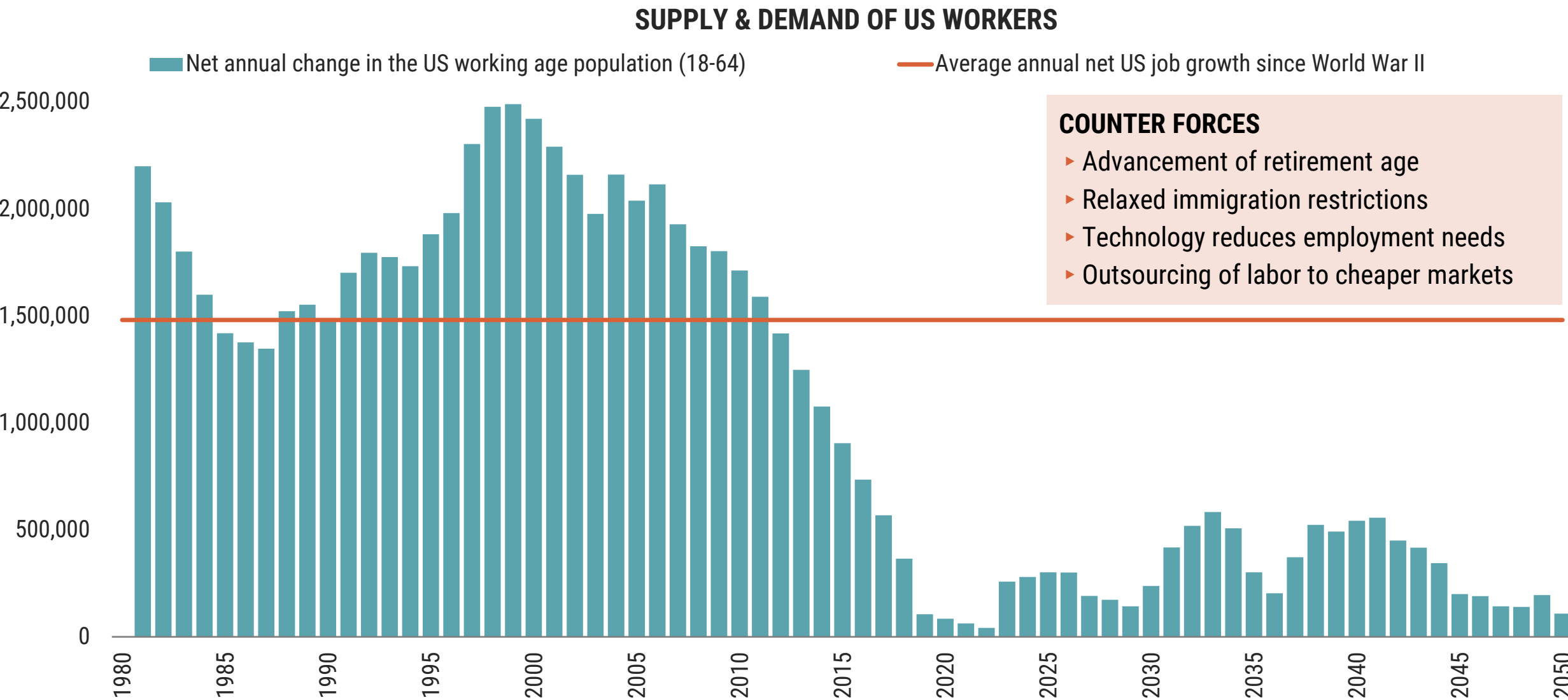
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Maybe there is a job in the world that AI won't change, but I haven't thought of it.

*-Walmart chief executive Doug McMillon*



# THE US LABOR SUPPLY FACES LONG-TERM PRESSURE



Source: US Census Bureau, International Database; US Bureau of Economic Analysis, Current Employment Statistics; TIP Strategies, Inc.  
Notes: Population estimates and projections are for the resident population. The US population components shown in the IDB may not match the official population components for the United States, in part, due to differences in how they are displayed (calendar year versus midyear-to-midyear estimates).

The image features two silver, spherical mesh microphones positioned on the left and right sides, facing each other. The background is a soft-focus bokeh of warm, golden-brown lights. In the center, the word "DEBATE" is written in a large, bold, white sans-serif font with a subtle drop shadow.

**DEBATE**



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# QUESTIONS?

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YOU

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