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Coding is solved. Its control is not: 75% of AI-written pull requests are merged without a single human review

Today, the largest study to date of AI-generated code - 112 million commits from 340,000 repositories in 159 countries - reveals what is missing as companies fail to see a return on AI: control.

Stockholm, 10 November 2026. Last month, a widely discussed analysis by Apollo showed that AI has so far delivered no visible financial payoff for the 493 companies in the S&P 500 outside the Magnificent Seven. Today, the largest study to date of AI-generated code shows what is missing: organizations have handed the writing of code to AI agents - but not the control of it.

Analyzing 112 million commits in 340,000 repositories from more than 35,000 organizations in 159 countries, the AgenticReview Group finds that 75% of pull requests written by AI agents are merged without a single human review.

The shift has been explosive. In just twelve months, the share of organizations with AI agents writing their code in a given month nearly quadrupled, from 9% to 34%, while the agents' share of all commits rose fivefold, from 4% to 21%. Today 69% of the organizations studied have AI agents in their code work.

Control has not followed. Three in four pull requests opened by AI agents are merged without any human review. 98% of the lines agents write are left exactly as the machine wrote them, and only 1.2% of the untouched lines are fixed within three months. Meanwhile the fundamentals are weak: only 41% of organizations reach a high level in security, 40% in dependency management and just 32% in architectural order.

> *"Writing code is no longer the bottleneck - controlling it is. Companies have let machines write the code, but nobody is steering what they write - and that is where much of the return on AI is lost. Governance today lives in policies and frameworks on paper. What has been missing is measuring how it actually works in the code," says Rufus Lidman, principal investigator of the study.*

Key findings

- **Explosive adoption:** use rises with size, from 50% in one- and two-person teams to 94% in organizations with 50+ developers, and is highest among AI and SaaS companies and in North America and Oceania.
- **A huge spread in control:** the median organization scores 6.4 of 10 on the Composite Index for Agentic Code Control (CIACC); the top tenth reaches 8.3 or more, the bottom tenth 4.0 or lower.
- **Size buys routines, not architecture:** larger organizations get more tests and security, but architectural order stays flat at around 30-35% and delivery per developer falls.
- **A north-south divide:** Western AI and SaaS companies lead on control, while six of the eight weakest combinations of continent, industry and size are Asian.

- **Control cannot be inherited:** strength in what classic code review measures explains only 7% of control in the agentic era.

> *"Boards ask whether their company uses AI. The better question is whether anyone steers what the AI writes. Software nobody steers becomes software nobody can change, sell or hand over. And then, who can expect a return on AI?" says Rufus Lidman.*

About the study

The study covers 112 million commits from 470,000 active contributors (counted per organization) in 340,000 repositories and 35,203 organizations in 159 countries, analyzed with the AgenticReview method, which condenses 34 measures into 8 indicators, four dimensions and one composite index (CIACC, 0-10). Industries and continents are always compared with organizations of the same size. Only derived measures are stored - no source code - and results are reported at organization level, never for individuals. The study is based on public repositories; methods and limitations are documented in the report's appendix.

Full report (free, CC BY 4.0): https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.23966831

Press page - all figures, pick and download (high resolution, dark and light): https://agenticreview.ai/press

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About the AgenticReview Group: The AgenticReview Group is an independent group of data architects and scientists, led by Rufus Lidman, behind the AgenticReview method. Its work has three strands: research into how AI-generated code is governed; exploring a platform that lets organizations monitor control of their own code; and exploring the same method for validating developers' code history in recruitment. The study was financed by seed funding from the group's founders.

FACT SHEET

Key figures

Finding	Figure
Data set	112 million commits, 340,000 repositories, 35,203 organizations, 159 countries; 470,000 active contributors (counted per organization)
Use of AI agents	69% of organizations studied show traces of AI agents in their code work
Growth in 12 months	YoY share with agent commits in a given month: 9% to 34% (Nov 2025 - Oct 2026)
Agents' share of all commits	YoY 4% to 21% in the same period
Unreviewed agent code	75% of pull requests opened by agents merged without human review; 16% reviewed by a human
Untouched agent code	98% of agent-written lines left unchanged within a week; 1.2% of untouched lines fixed within three months
Weak fundamentals	High level (8+ of 10): security 41%, dependency management 40%, architectural order 32%
Typical control score	Median CIACC 6.4 of 10; top tenth 8.3+ (Code with Control), bottom tenth 4.0 or lower (Code without Control)
Size	Use rises from 50% (1-2 developers) to 94% (50+); size buys tests and security, not architecture
Industry and region	AI and SaaS companies lead; Western AI and SaaS teams top control; six of the eight weakest combinations are Asian
Old vs new	Strength in classic code review explains only 7% of control in the agentic dimensions (R^2 = 0.07)

Source: The State of AI Code Control 2026 (the CiSCiN report), AgenticReview Group, November 2026 edition (model v4.10). https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.23966831

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