

2025: AI's Vibe Check Year

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In early 2025, the AI industry saw unprecedented investment, with OpenAI raising \$40 billion and new startups securing massive seed rounds. Companies like Meta spent billions acquiring talent and infrastructure. However, the initial fervor cooled in the latter half of the year, marked by a "vibe check." While optimism remains, concerns about an AI bubble, user safety, and sustainable progress have surfaced. The focus is shifting from model capacity to practical applications and business models. Companies are testing pricing strategies and distribution methods, with Perplexity launching its own browser and OpenAI expanding ChatGPT's capabilities. Scrutiny over copyright issues and mental health concerns related to AI interactions has increased, prompting calls for regulation and safety measures. As the hype diminishes, AI companies face pressure to prove their economic value and address growing concerns.