Artificial Intelligence

Citi's Inference Ahead - Building the Rails for Scaled Intelligence

CITI'S TAKE

Gemini 4 Argon (9/30) scores 53 on AA, matching Fable 5.1 and GPT-6 Astra. The model's design extends the frontier trend of building models for agents tackling multi-step work across ever-larger software projects, while delayed broad availability follows a wider industry shift toward phased releases that give providers more time to strengthen safeguards and improve efficiency before monetization . Across the top 10 providers , the only models that improved intelligence while lowering task costs relative to their predecessors were proprietary models , highlighting a renewed interest in price-performance among proprietary model providers (Figure 13). The next step for providers, and a likely focus during World Summit AI next week (Figure 3), is converting longer reasoning into lower cost per completed workflow.

Consumer. Always-on assistants are becoming a vehicle for rapidly deploying more autonomous AI in consumer markets. Meta's Muse reached 5M U.S. downloads within 22 days of launch (Tech Crunch, 9/21), a pace that exceeded the early mobile adoption curve of ChatGPT. Accelerating adoption suggests AI products are diffusing through consumer channels faster with each successive generation. While we were at Decagon Dialogues, the keynote revealed customers like Delta and Verizon have a strong interest in AI concierges spanning discovery, purchase, onboarding, support, and growth, though governance remains a key hurdle as enterprises weigh how much autonomy to grant agents. The result is a sizable long-term opportunity for agentic systems for enterprises, even if deployment timelines lag underlying demand.

Security. Greater safety and anti-distillation measures (OpenAI, 9/30) may continue to draw out processes between pretraining cycles, making proprietary providers' current 12-point intelligence lead harder to sustain against open models (Figure 8). NVIDIA's runtime and DPU controls (9/28) suggest companies will increasingly enforce identity, permissions, isolation, and auditing outside the model. Google's Fairwind Program illustrates how frontier labs are pairing limited-access models with vetted defenders, potentially making controlled access a competitive advantage.

Utilization. H100 and B200 rental prices rose 2.2% and 2.8% WoW, while B300 fell 6.5%, compressing the B300 premium over B200 by 56% (Figure 20). The WoW convergence is constructive for utilization. Firm H100 and B200 pricing signals durable demand for installed capacity, while a lower B300 premium should accelerate next-generation adoption as deployments catch up. Meanwhile, Context Language Models (Figure 2) show how architecture advances can improve software efficiency by letting models actively manage and update their own context, yielding 5% higher 12-hour agent scores with 59% fewer FLOPs. Additionally, Meta's Suffix Cache Reuse cut server-side compute by 35% without affecting performance, helping make new agentic workloads viable.

Figure 1. A Summary of Signals

Metric	Unit	Latest Date	Period	Calculation	Period-Over-Period Δ	Latest Period	2nd Latest Period	3rd Latest Period	4th Latest Period	5th Latest Period	6th Latest Period	Trendline
Proprietary and Open Models (Artificial Analysis)												
Highest Intelligence for Proprietary Models	Points	9/30/26	Week	Point-in-Time	— 0.0	58	58	53	53	48	43	
Highest Intelligence for Open Models	Points	9/30/26	Week	Point-in-Time	0.0%	46	46	44	44	43	40	
Gap in Proprietary and Open Intelligence	Points	9/30/26	Week	Point-in-Time	— 0.0	12	12	9	9	5	3	
Highest Intelligence Models from the Top-20 Providers (Artificial Analysis)												
Median Intelligence	Points	9/30/26	Week	Point-in-Time	▼ -10.5%	34	38	33	32	32	28	
Median Latency	Sec.	9/30/26	Week	Point-in-Time	▲ +11.9%	3.00	2.68	2.75	2.60	2.65	2.50	
Median Speed	Tok/Sec	9/30/26	Week	Point-in-Time	▼ -6.7%	97	104	108	90	86	70	
Release Cadence (Artificial Analysis, HF/Timeline, Model Provider Websites)												
Proprietary Models Released in Last Week	Models	9/25/26	Week	Week Total	▼ -55.0%	9	20	0	12	6	1	
Open Models Released in Last Week	Models	9/25/26	Week	Week Total	▼ -100.0%	0	2	4	6	2	4	
Proprietary Models Released in Last 90 Days	Models	9/25/26	Week	Trailing 90d	▲ +2.3%	90	88	68	69	58	54	
Open Models Released in Last 90 Days	Models	9/25/26	Week	Trailing 90d	▼ -2.3%	43	44	42	41	38	42	
Index Pricing (Bloomberg)												
A100 (SDA100RT)	$/Hour	9/25/26	Week	Week Avg	0.0%	1.57	1.57	1.60	1.61	1.61	1.64	
H100 (DESKH100)	$/Hour	9/25/26	Week	Week Avg	▲ +2.2%	2.74	2.68	2.65	2.64	2.56	2.61	
H200 (DESKH200)	$/Hour	9/25/26	Week	Week Avg	▲ +0.6%	3.42	3.40	3.37	3.35	3.31	3.28	
B200 (DESKB200)	$/Hour	9/25/26	Week	Week Avg	▲ +2.8%	5.18	5.04	4.94	4.90	4.90	4.90	
B300 (DESKB300)	$/Hour	9/25/26	Week	Week Avg	▼ -6.5%	5.60	5.99	6.56	6.15	5.76	5.75	
Avg Inference Token Expenditure (SDLLMTK)	$/1M Tok	9/28/26	Week	Week Avg	— 0.0	0.97	0.97	0.97	0.99	1.06	1.06	
Model Pricing for Blended Tokens (Artificial Analysis)												
US+EU Avg Price	$/1M Tok	9/30/26	Week	Point-in-Time	— 0.0	1.72	1.72	2.30	2.30	1.80	1.42	
China Avg Price	$/1M Tok	9/30/26	Week	Point-in-Time	— 0.0	0.83	0.83	0.83	0.73	0.91	0.91	
Frontier Avg Price	$/1M Tok	9/30/26	Week	Point-in-Time	0.0%	1.36	1.36	1.71	1.67	1.44	1.22	
Proprietary Avg Price	$/1M Tok	9/30/26	Week	Point-in-Time	0.0%	2.15	2.15	2.89	3.17	2.23	1.75	
Open Avg Price	$/1M Tok	9/30/26	Week	Point-in-Time	— 0.0	0.68	0.68	0.68	0.67	0.75	0.75	
Cost per Intelligence Index Task (Artificial Analysis)												
Proprietary Avg Cost	$/Task	9/30/26	Week	Point-in-Time	▲ +74.5%	3.49	2.00	2.06	1.46	0.42	0.38	
Open Avg Cost	$/Task	9/30/26	Week	Point-in-Time	— 0.0	0.80	0.80	1.24	0.85	0.35	0.35	
Model Cost Composition per Intelligence Index Task (Artificial Analysis)												
Input Share of Task Cost	%	9/30/26	Week	Point-in-Time	▼ -2.6	3.6	6.2	6.3	2.7	1.8	1.8	
Cache Hit Share of Task Cost	%	9/30/26	Week	Point-in-Time	▲ +2.4	39.3	36.9	36.2	45.4	35.0	34.4	
Cache Write Share of Task Cost	%	9/30/26	Week	Point-in-Time	▼ -2.8	21.1	23.9	23.9	26.1	31.1	30.7	
Reasoning Share of Task Cost	%	9/30/26	Week	Point-in-Time	▲ +4.5	21.7	17.2	17.2	16.3	22.5	22.7	
Answer Share of Task Cost	%	9/30/26	Week	Point-in-Time	▼ -1.4	14.3	15.7	16.3	9.6	9.7	10.3	
Avg Output Tokens per Task	Tokens	9/30/26	Week	Point-in-Time	▲ +55.0%	58,385	37,667	37,269	43,690	26,029	25,350	
Developer Usage (PyPI)												
Multi-Provider SDK Downloads	%	9/29/26	Week	WoW Trailing Avg	▲ +5.6	+8.2	+2.6	+4.1	+5.0	-37.4	-9.6	
Gemini SDK Downloads	%	9/29/26	Week	WoW Trailing Avg	▲ +5.5	+4.6	-0.9	+1.6	+8.2	-52.6	-12.8	
Mistral SDK Downloads	%	9/29/26	Week	WoW Trailing Avg	▼ -36.7	-17.7	+19.0	-11.8	+26.9	-48.9	-32.2	
App Usage (Sensor Tower)												
Gemini App WAU	%	9/27/26	Week	WoW	▲ +0.9	+1.4	+0.5	-0.2	+2.7	+3.4	+2.0	
Qwen App WAU	%	9/27/26	Week	WoW	▲ +3.3	+1.2	-2.1	+4.8	-1.1	+6.8	-4.4	
Kimi App WAU	%	9/27/26	Week	WoW	▼ -1.0	-1.8	-0.8	-3.0	-1.8	-3.5	-2.8	
Web Usage (Similarweb)												
Gemini Web Visits	%	8/31/26	Week	WoW Trailing Avg	▼ -4.0	-0.1	+3.9	+0.4	-1.7	-2.3	+0.6	
Qwen Web Visits	%	8/31/26	Week	WoW Trailing Avg	▲ +3.0	+4.2	+1.2	-1.1	+9.3	-2.2	-3.0	
Kimi Web Visits	%	8/31/26	Week	WoW Trailing Avg	▲ +18.5	-10.0	-28.5	-9.5	-12.8	-10.0	+12.3	
Layoffs (WSJ)												
All Layoffs Announced	People	9/25/26	Month	MTD	▲ +359.3%	8,089	1,761	17,420	24,709	26,160	11,843	
AI-Driven Layoffs Announced	People	9/22/26	Month	MTD	▲ +46.1%	469	321	3,220	21,640	15,360	10,400	

Artificial Analysis updated its Intelligence Index tasks on Sep. 7, 2026; cost-per-task comparisons should be made separately for the periods before and after the update.

Source: Citi Research, Artificial Analysis, Bloomberg, PyPI Stats, Sensor Tower, Similarweb, Wall Street Journal

Figure 2. Weekend Content

Podcast	Latent Space	September 25, 2026	OpenRouter, from Seed to Stripe — with OpenRouter's Alex Atallah & AMP's Anjney Midha
Podcast	Big Technology Podcast	September 30, 2026	SAP CEO: AI Won't Kill Software, But It Will Change Your Job — With Christian Klein
Paper	Meta, MIT, Trillium Labs, University of Washington	September 29, 2026	Context Language Models
Article	Bain & Company	September 29, 2026	The AI-Native Enterprise: Absorption Is the New Advantage
Interview	MIT Technology Review	September 30, 2026	"We're not going to shoot ourselves in the foot" over hack fallout, says OpenAI's chief research officer
Webinar	Financial Times Live	September 30, 2026	Preparing Businesses to Scale Agentic AI
Survey	Virtualization	September 29, 2026	AI Infrastructure Tops Enterprise AI Challenges, Survey Finds
Paper	Lai et al.	September 29, 2026	Routing Should Pay for Itself: Sparse Supervision for Economical LLM Routing
Paper	Shanghai Artificial Intelligence Laboratory	September 28, 2026	RSI-Router: Evolving Subtask-Level LLM Routing and Skills for Cost-Efficient Agents
Paper	Meituan LongCat Team	September 28, 2026	LongCat-DeepResearch Technical Report
Paper	Lee et al.	September 28, 2026	FinAutoRubric: Expert-Guided Automatic Rubric Generation for Evaluating Financial Research Agents
Paper	Du et al.	September 30, 2026	RSI-Master: Structuring Experiments to Guide Autonomous Model Improvement
Paper	Beijing Academy of Artificial Intelligence	September 29, 2026	AREX-2: Advancing Self-Improving Agents through Long-Horizon Reflective Tasks
Podcast	The AI Daily Brief	September 30, 2026	The Most Important New AI Tools from OpenAI DevDay
Paper	Apostolou et al.	September 30, 2026	Agentic AI in Industry: Adoption Level and Deployment Barriers
Paper	University of Wisconsin–Madison, MIT, Norkel AI, Stanford	September 28, 2026	Can Agents Design Libraries for Agents?
Podcast	The AI Daily Brief	September 29, 2026	How to Build Team Agents
Podcast	Latent Space	September 24, 2026	Runway's WorldPrompt and the Engineering of Real-Time Worlds
Interview	Fortune	October 1, 2026	Yann LeCun has "
Article	Harvard Business Review	September 30, 2026	How Leaders Talk About AI Predicts Adoption
Paper	Galbot Team	October 1, 2026	Systematically Exploring the Capabilities of GPT-6 Astra as Embodied Policies
Paper	Liu et al.	September 29, 2026	RoboCoach: World Models as Active Coaches for Compositional Robot Skills

Source: Citi Research

Figure 3. Events Calendar

October 5, 2026	October 11, 2026	a16z Tech Week	Conference	San Francisco, CA
October 6, 2026	October 9, 2026	COLM	Conference	San Francisco, CA
October 7, 2026	October 8, 2026	World Summit AI	Conference	Amsterdam, The Netherlands
October 8, 2026	October 8, 2026	Science: A New Golden Age	Conference	Washington, D.C.
October 12, 2026	October 15, 2026	OCP Global Summit	Conference	San Jose, CA
October 13, 2026	October 15, 2026	SEMICON West	Conference	San Francisco, CA
October 18, 2026	October 26, 2026	Open Source AI Week	Conference	San Francisco, CA
October 19, 2026	October 21, 2026	Cloudflare Connect	Conference	San Francisco, CA
October 20, 2026	October 21, 2026	PyTorch Conference	Conference	San Jose, CA
October 20, 2026	October 22, 2026	NVIDIA GTC Berlin	Conference	Berlin, Germany
October 24, 2026	October 29, 2026	EMNLP	Conference	Budapest, Hungary
October 25, 2026	October 28, 2026	Oracle AI World	Conference	Las Vegas, NV
November 9, 2026	November 12, 2026	Conference on Robotic Learning	Conference	Austin, TX
November 15, 2026	November 19, 2026	ACM CCS 2026	Conference	The Hague, The Netherlands
November 15, 2026	November 20, 2026	Supercomputing Conference	Conference	Chicago, IL
November 17, 2026	November 20, 2026	Microsoft Ignite	Conference	San Francisco, CA
November 30, 2026	December 3, 2026	NVIDIA GTC Washington, D.C.	Conference	Washington, D.C.
November 30, 2026	December 4, 2026	AWS re:Invent	Conference	Las Vegas, NV
December 3, 2026	December 4, 2026	Adopt AI	Conference	Paris, France
December 6, 2026	December 12, 2026	NeurIPS	Conference	Sydney, Australia
December 7, 2026	December 11, 2026	GITEX	Conference	Dubai, UAE
December 9, 2026	December 10, 2026	The AI Summit New York	Conference	New York, NY
December 12, 2026	December 16, 2026	IEE International Electron Devices Meeting	Conference	San Francisco, CA
December 31, 2026	December 31, 2026	U.S. BIS HBM & SME Export Control Deadline	Deadline	Washington, D.C.
January 1, 2027	January 1, 2027	New York RAISE Act Takes Effect	Deadline	NY
January 6, 2027	January 9, 2027	CES	Conference	Las Vegas, NV
January 21, 2027	January 23, 2027	AIEI	Conference	Bangalore, India
January 28, 2027	January 28, 2027	Generative AI Summit	Conference	Washington, D.C.
January 30, 2027	February 4, 2027	SPI Photonics West	Conference	San Francisco, CA
February 16, 2027	February 23, 2027	AAAI	Conference	Montréal, Canada
March 15, 2027	March 18, 2027	NVIDIA GTC	Conference	San Jose, CA
April 5, 2027	April 8, 2027	RSAConference	Conference	San Francisco, CA
April 13, 2027	April 15, 2027	Google Cloud Next	Conference	Las Vegas, NV
April 26, 2027	April 30, 2027	ICLR	Conference	San Francisco, CA
June 1, 2027	June 5, 2027	NAACL	Conference	San Francisco, CA
June 7, 2027	June 10, 2027	Snowflake Summit	Conference	San Francisco, CA
June 9, 2027	June 10, 2027	The AI Summit London	Conference	London, UK
June 20, 2027	June 24, 2027	IEEE CVPR	Conference	Seattle, WA
June 21, 2027	June 24, 2027	Databricks Data + AI Summit	Conference	San Francisco, CA

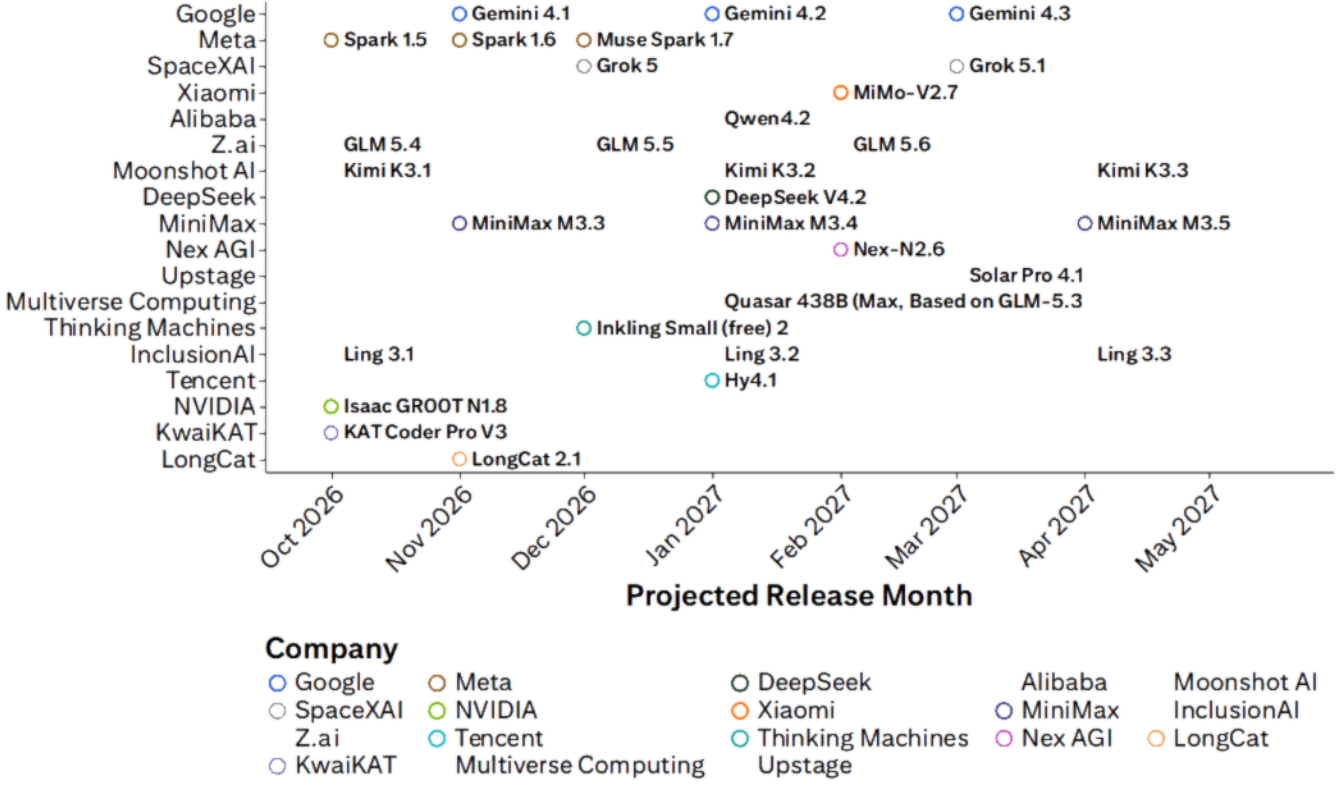
Source: Citi Research

Figure 4. Model Metrics

MoM Δ in Provider Rank	Model Provider	Leading Model	Artificial Analysis Intelligence Index	Speed (Output Tokens/ Second)	Blended Price (USD/ 1M Tokens)	Context Window (1K Tokens)	Release Date	License
—	Anthropic	Claude Opus 5.5 (max with fallback)	58	92	$2.94	1000	Sep. 22, 2026	Proprietary
	Google	Gemini 4 Argon (high)	53	239	$0.57	1000	Sep. 30, 2026	Proprietary
	OpenAI	GPT-6 Astra (max)	53	51	$7.70	1000	Sep. 3, 2026	Proprietary
▼2	Meta	Muse Spark 1.3 (max)	48	181	$0.78	1000	Sep. 2, 2026	Proprietary
▼1	SpaceXAI	Grok 4.7 (xhigh)	46	73	$1.35	500	Sep. 21, 2026	Proprietary
	Xiaomi	MiMo-V2.6-Pro	46	42	$0.17	1000	Sep. 22, 2026	Open
	Alibaba	Qwen3.8 Max (0902)	45	39	$1.18	984	Sep. 16, 2026	Proprietary
▼2	Z.ai	GLM-5.3 (max)	45	68	$0.90	1000	Aug. 14, 2026	Open
▼3	Moonshot AI	Kimi K3 (max)	44	34	$2.31	1050	Jul. 16, 2026	Open
▼1	DeepSeek	DeepSeek V4.1 Flash (max)	39	209	$0.19	1000	Sep. 14, 2026	Open
—	MiniMax	MiniMax-M3	29	99	$0.22	1000	Jun. 1, 2026	Open
	Nex AGI	Nex-N2-Pro	28	116	$0.53	262	Jun. 2, 2026	Open
	Upstage	Solar Pro 4	28	80	$0.22	512	Aug. 6, 2026	Proprietary
▼2	Multiverse Computing	Quasar 438B (max)	27	143	$0.72	1000	Aug. 10, 2026	Proprietary
▲1	Thinking Machines	Inkling Small	26	188	$0.22	1000	Jul. 30, 2026	Open
▲2	InclusionAI	Ling-3.0-flash-VL	25	142	$0.04	262	Sep. 14, 2026	Open
▼2	Tencent	Hy3	25	88	$0.10	256	Jul. 6, 2026	Open
	NVIDIA	Nemotron 3 Ultra	23	180	$0.48	262	Jun. 1, 2026	Open
	KwaiKAT	KAT-Coder-Pro V2	22	102	$0.22	256	Mar. 27, 2026	Proprietary
	LongCat	LongCat 2.0	19	47	$0.19	1000	Jun. 29, 2026	Open

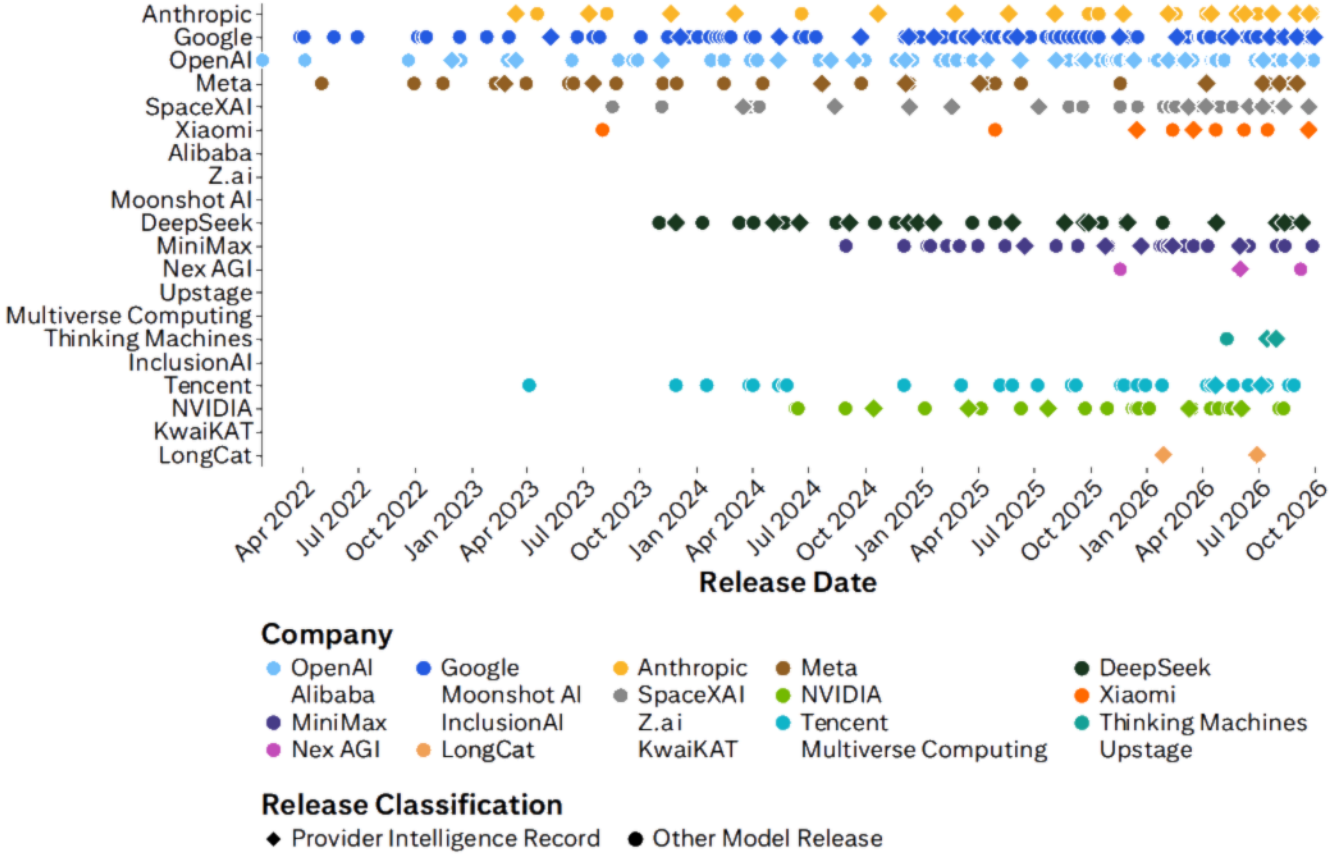
Source: Citi Research, Artificial Analysis, Model Provider Websites

Figure 5. Projected Model Releases



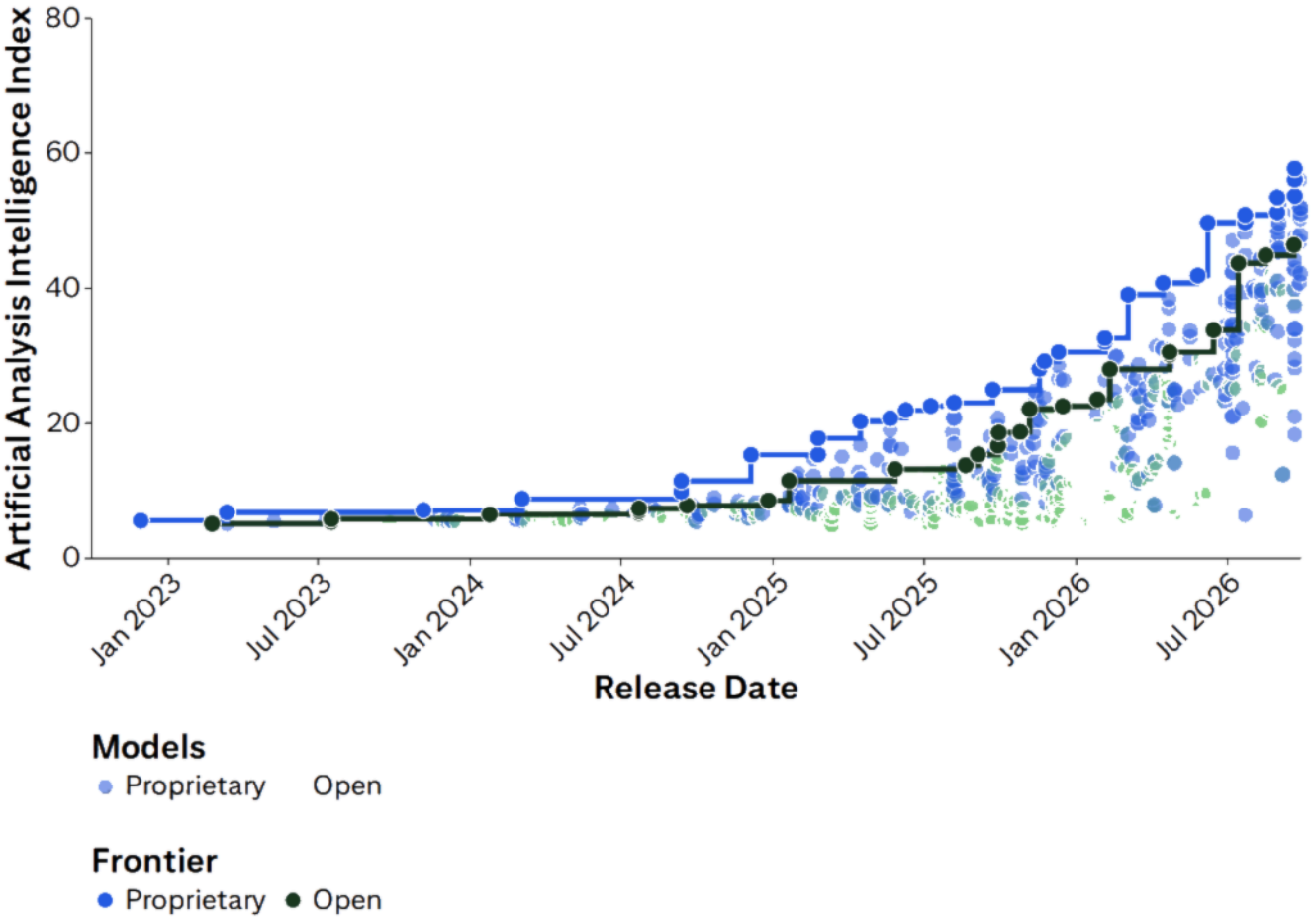
Source: Citi Research, OpenRouter, Artificial Analysis, LLMTimeline, Model Provider Websites

Figure 6. Historical Model Releases



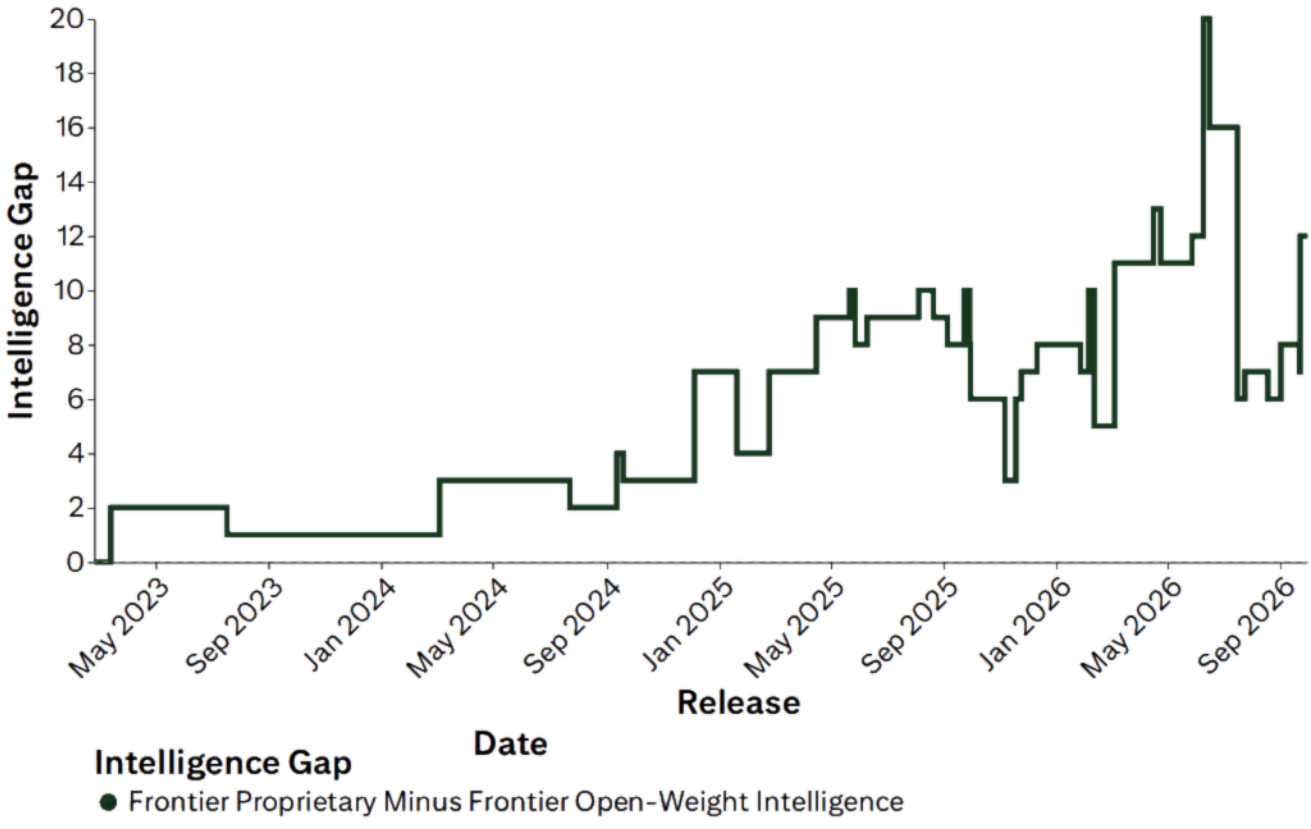
Source: Citi Research, OpenRouter, Artificial Analysis, LLMTimeline, Model Provider Websites

Figure 7. Frontier Releases for Proprietary and Open Models



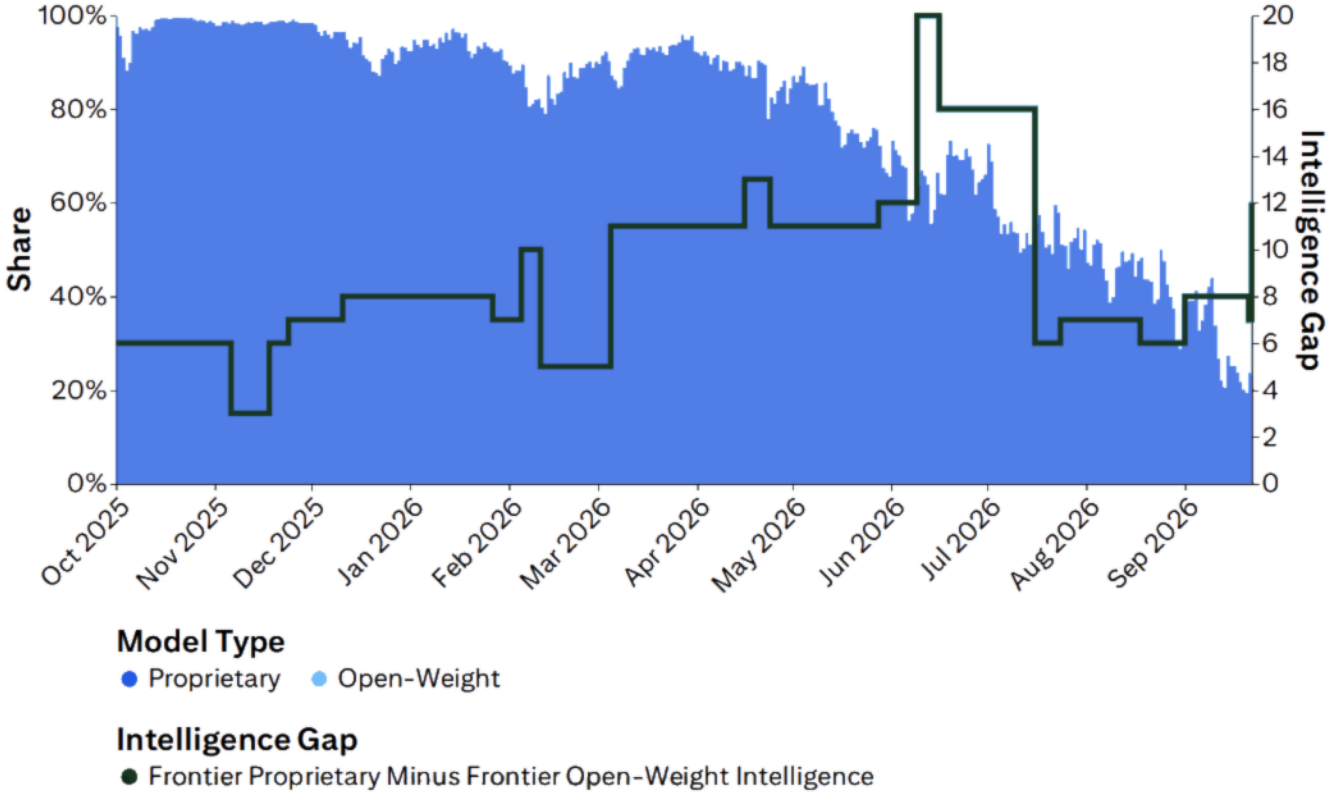
Source: Citi Research, Artificial Analysis

Figure 8. Gap in Proprietary and Open Intelligence



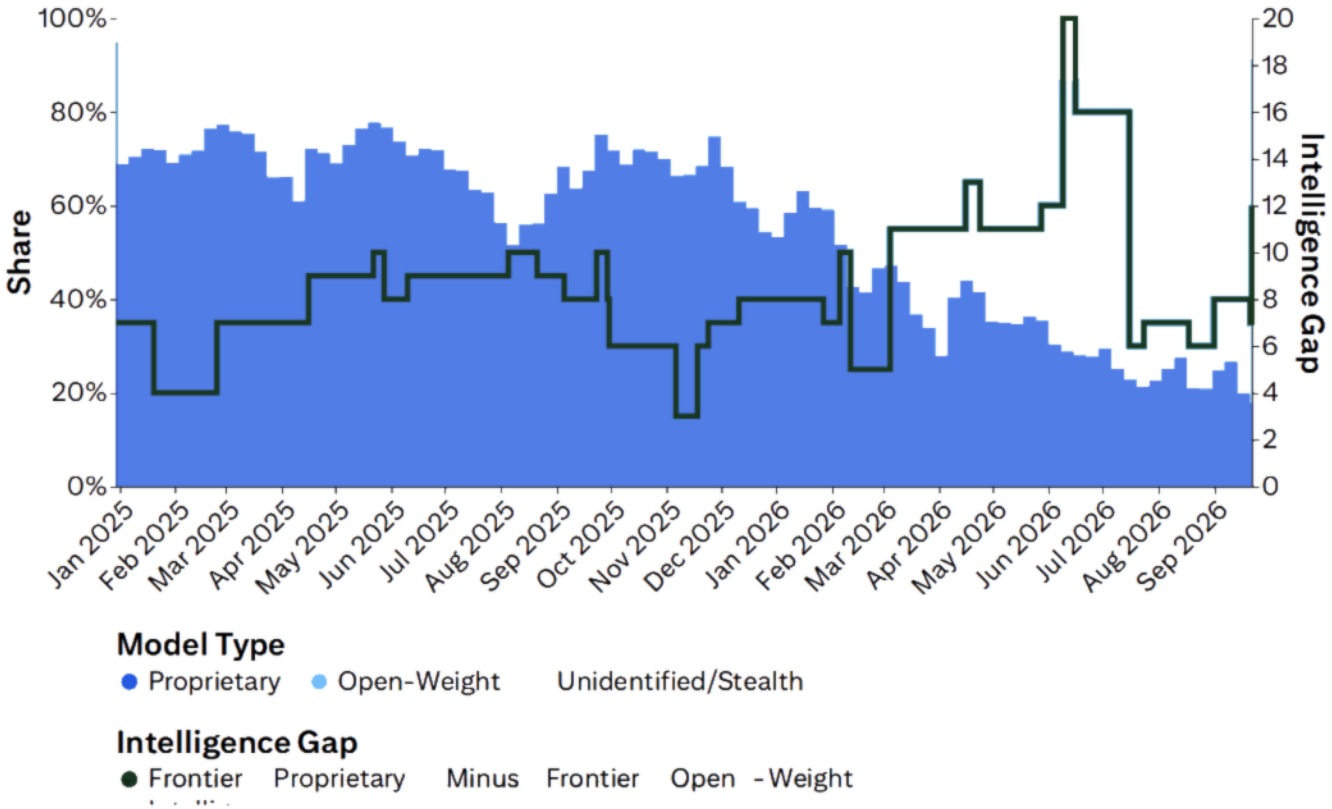
Source: Citi Research, Artificial Analysis

Figure 9. Vercel Token Volume Shares



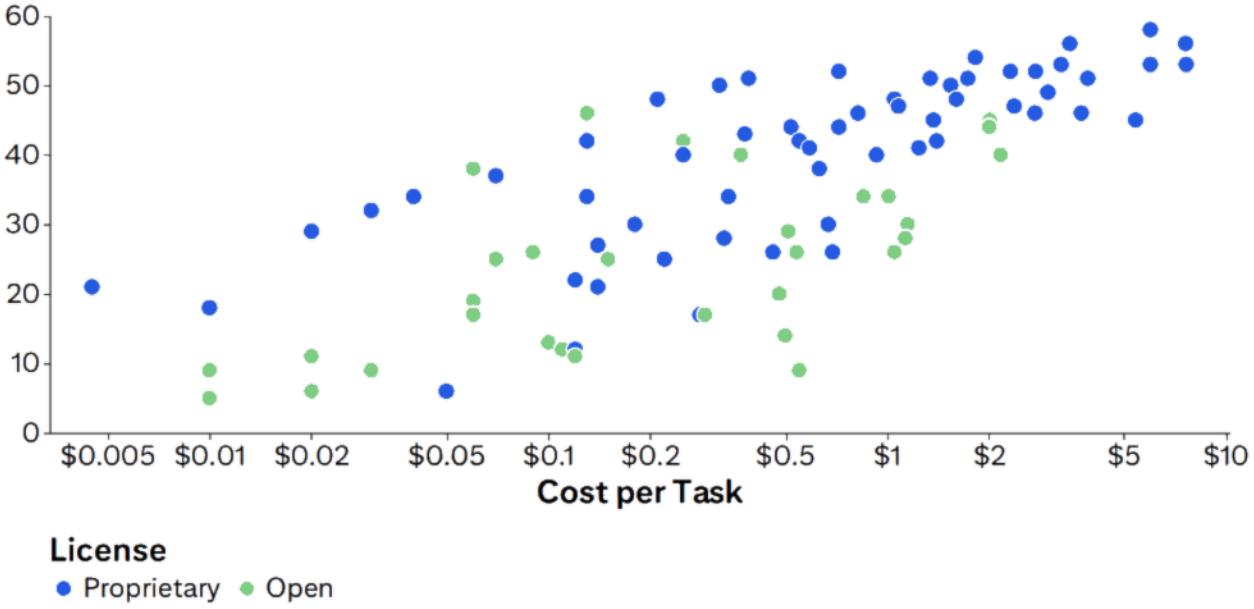
Source: Citi Research, Vercel

Figure 10. OpenRouter Token Volume Shares



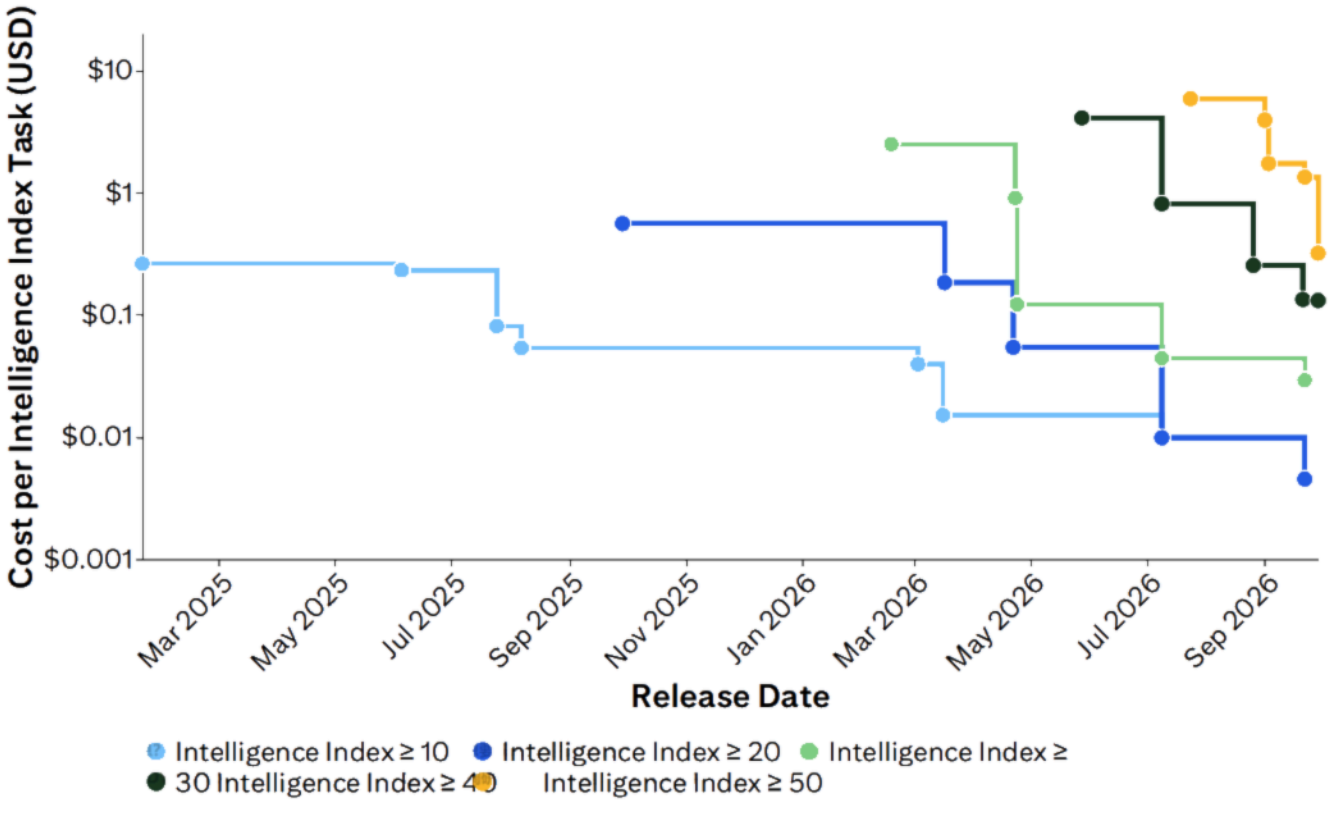
Source: Citi Research, OpenRouter

Figure 11. AA Intelligence Index v. Cost per AA Intelligence Index Task by License



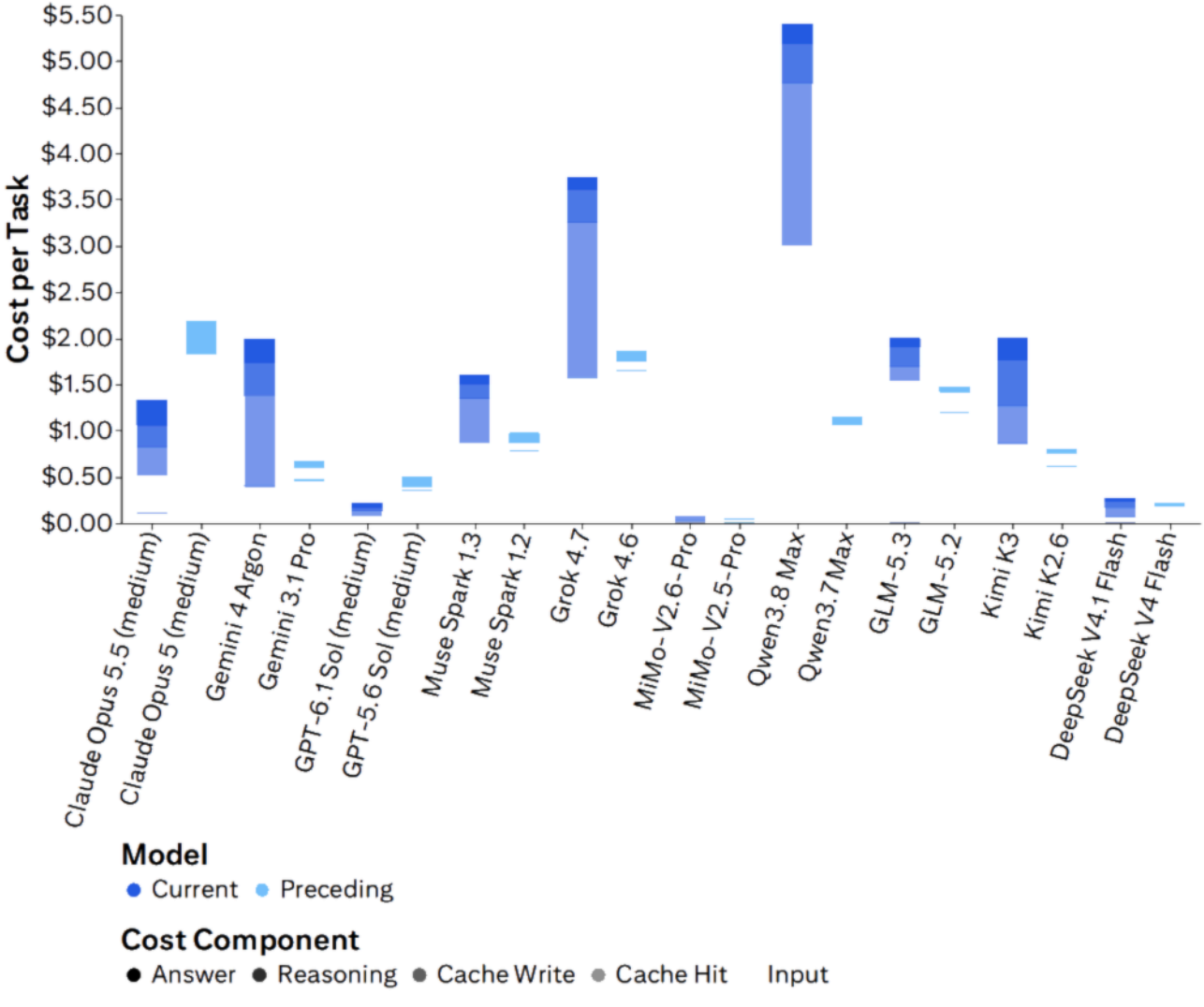
Source: Citi Research, Artificial Analysis

Figure 12. Intelligence Over Time v. Blended Price



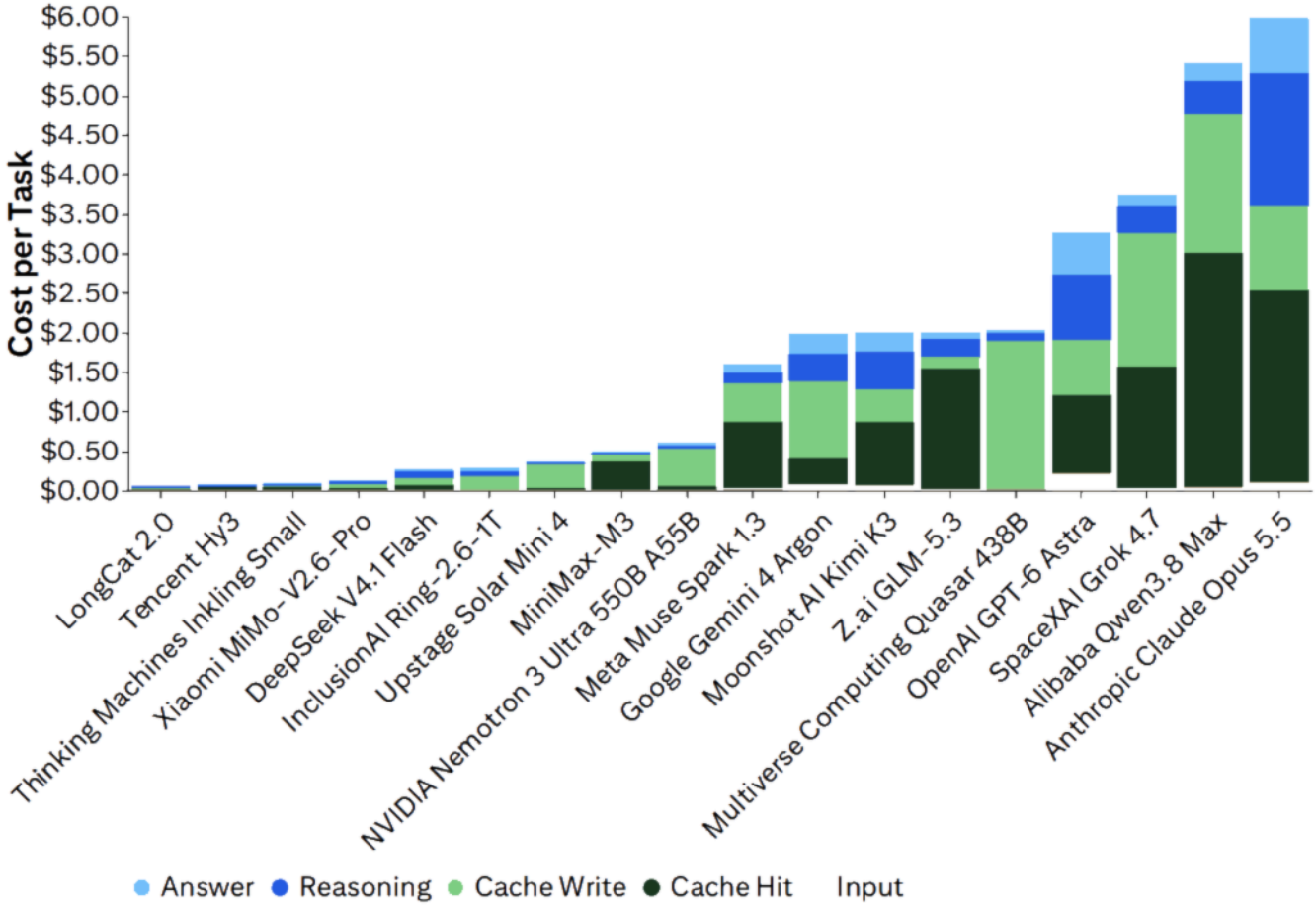
Source: Citi Research, Artificial Analysis

Figure 13. Cost per AA Task for Current Versus Prior Models



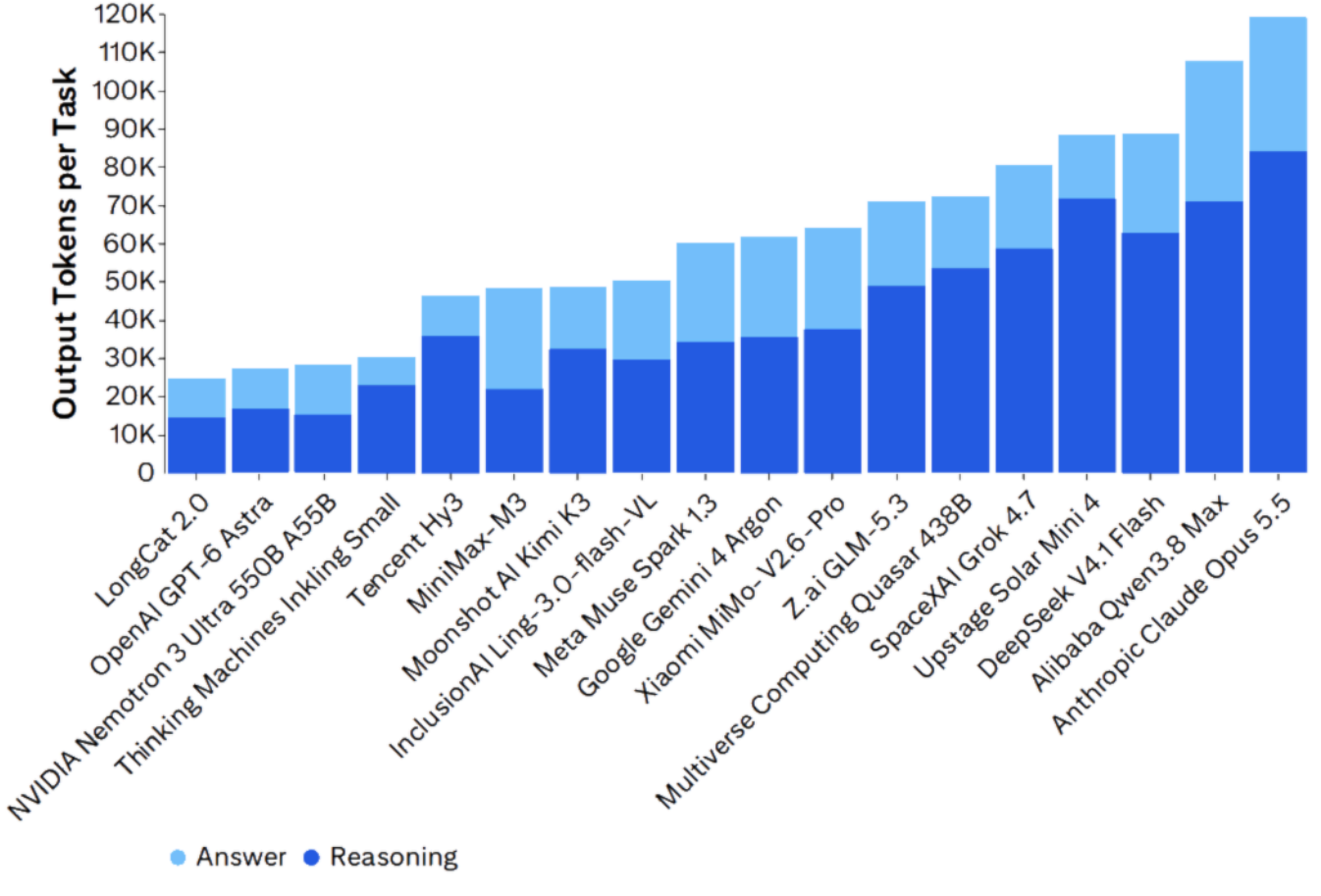
Source: Citi Research, Artificial Analysis

Figure 14. Cost Breakdown per AA Task



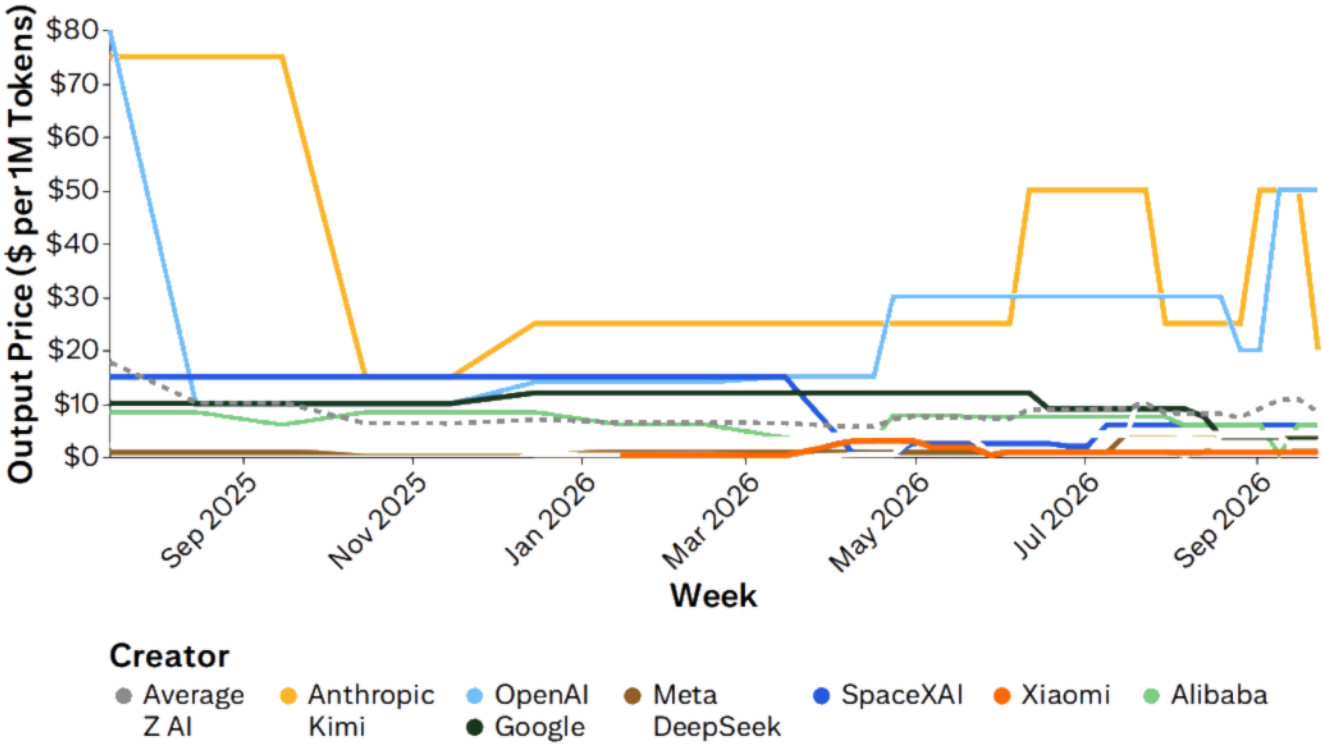
Source: Citi Research, Artificial Analysis

Figure 15. Output Tokens per AA Task



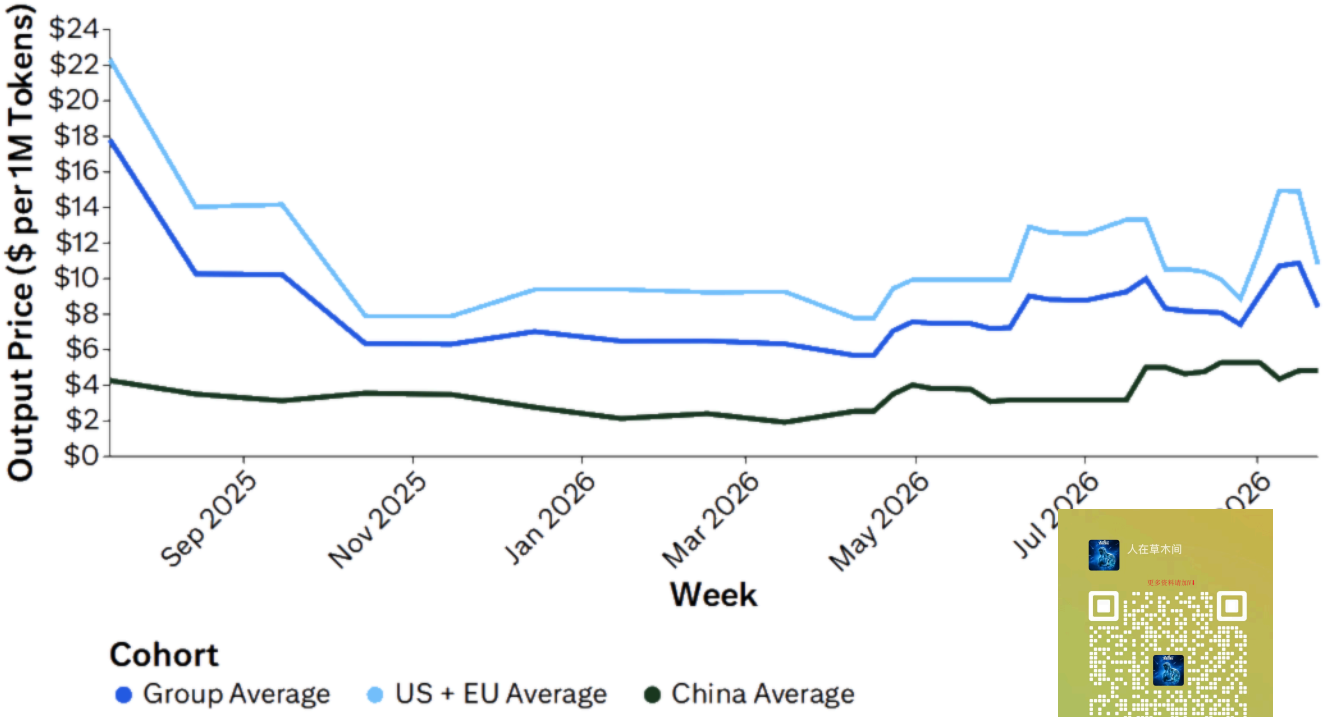
Source: Citi Research, Artificial Analysis

Figure 16. Output Token Pricing by Creator



Source: Citi Research, Artificial Analysis

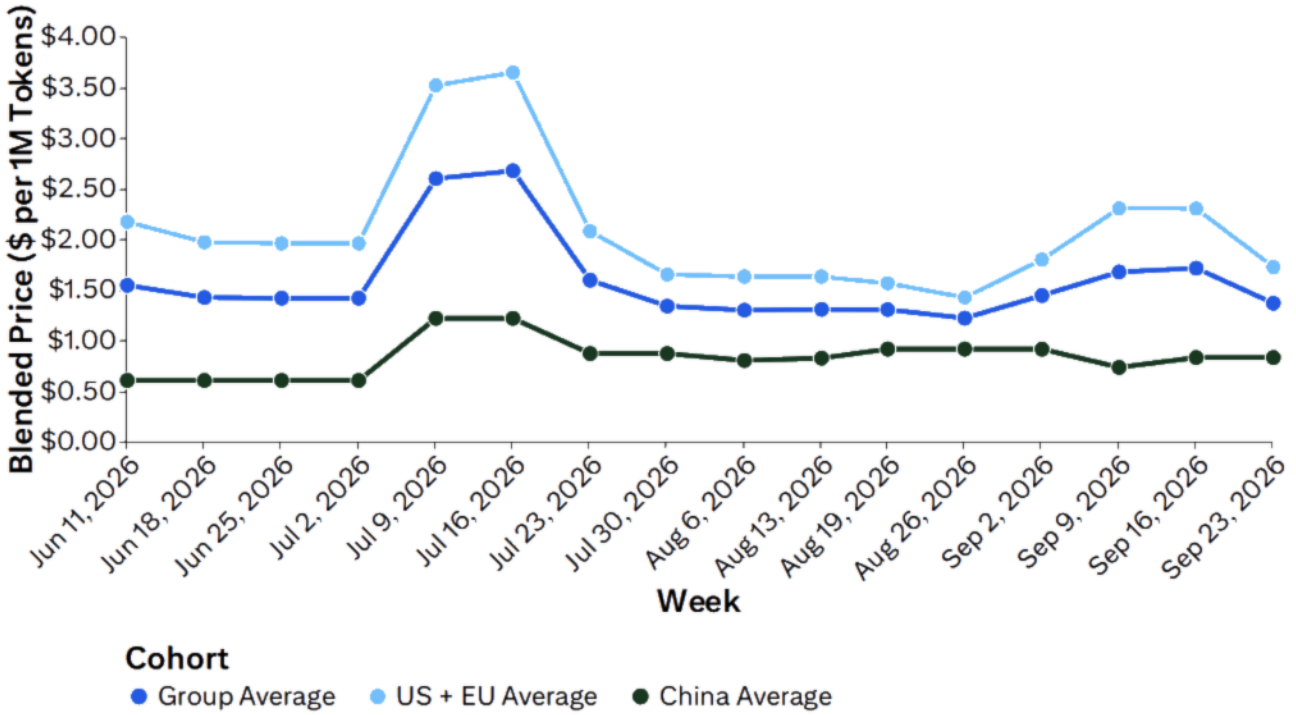
Figure 17. Output Token Pricing



人在草木间

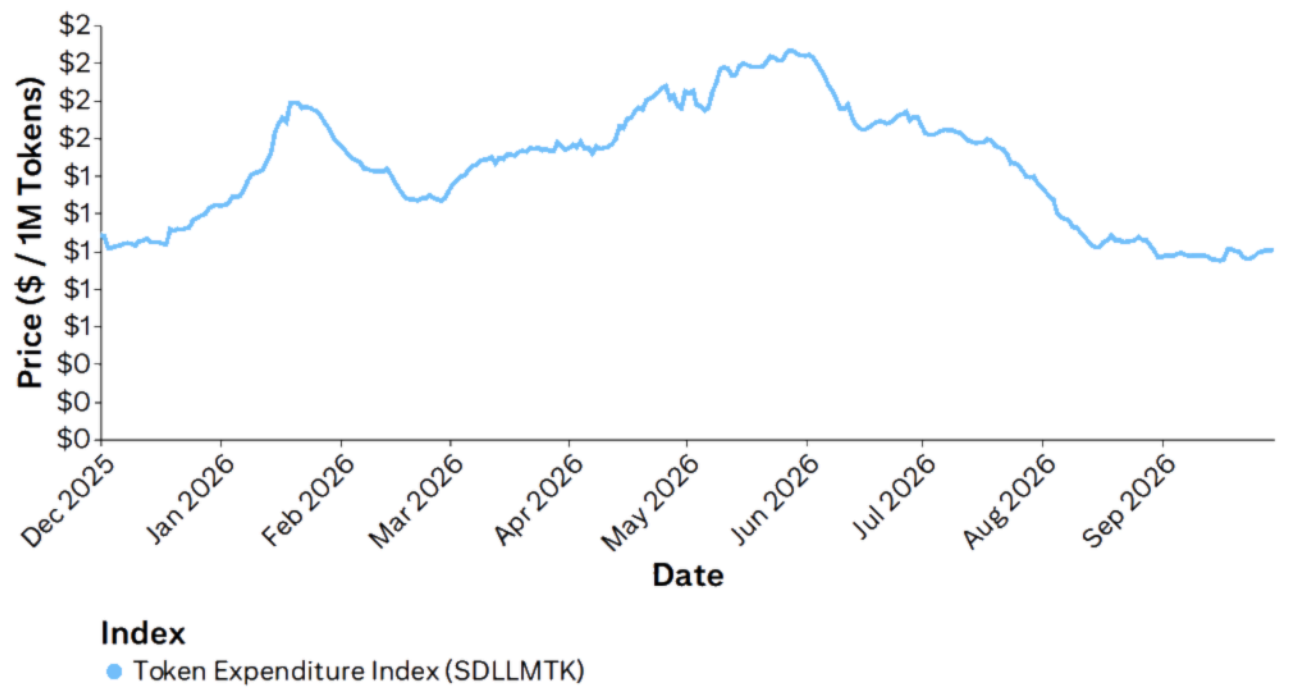
Source: Citi Research, Artificial Analysis

Figure 18. Blended Token Pricing



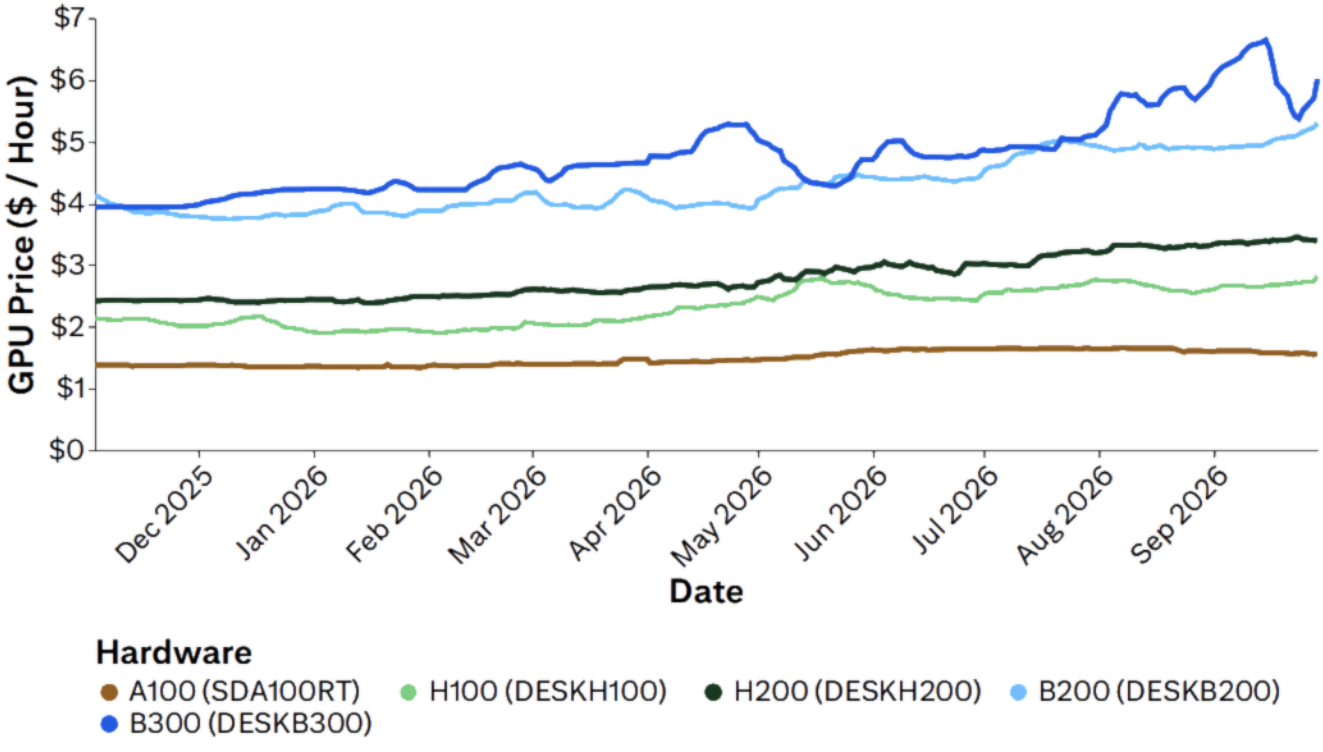
Source: Citi Research

Figure 19. Silicon Data Token Expenditure Index



Source: Citi Research, Bloomberg

Figure 20. Rental Pricing for GPUs



Source: Citi Research, Bloomberg

Figure 21. Recent Notes from Our Team

AI Industry Model	September 3, 2026	Artificial Intelligence: AI Industry Model Update
Deep Dives	September 7, 2026	Space Exploration Technologies (SPCX.O): Potential for $900+; Initiating at Buy
Deep Dives	January 21, 2026	Artificial Intelligence: OpenAI - Architecting the Abstraction Layer for Everything
Deep Dives	August 25, 2026	Artificial Intelligence: AI - The Information Trust Apex Technology
ROI on AI	October 1, 2026	Artificial Intelligence: ROI on AI - The Future of Open Is More Control than Cost as Frontier Labs Pull Ahead
ROI on AI	August 4, 2026	Artificial Intelligence: ROI on AI - Consensus Is Still Underestimating AI Revenues & Returns
ROI on AI	April 30, 2026	Artificial Intelligence: ROI on AI - Backlog Acceleration Drives Continued Confidence in Investment Returns
ROI on AI	February 6, 2026	Artificial Intelligence: ROI on AI - Growth Acceleration & Returns Drive Capex Revisions
Citi's Inference Ahead	September 26, 2026	Artificial Intelligence: Citi's Inference Ahead - The Efficiency Dividend
Citi's Inference Ahead	September 18, 2026	Artificial Intelligence: Citi's Inference Ahead - Where Intelligence Compounds
Citi's Inference Ahead	September 14, 2026	Artificial Intelligence: Citi's Inference Ahead - Reasserting the Western Frontier
Citi's Inference Ahead	September 4, 2026	Artificial Intelligence: Citi's Inference Ahead - The Efficiency Frontier
Citi's Inference Ahead	August 31, 2026	Artificial Intelligence: Citi's Inference Ahead – The Intelligence Flywheel
Citi's Inference Ahead	August 21, 2026	Artificial Intelligence: Citi's Inference Ahead - Investing in Open Models
Citi's Inference Ahead	August 14, 2026	Artificial Intelligence: Citi's Inference Ahead - Holding Back the Frontier
Citi's Inference Ahead	August 7, 2026	Artificial Intelligence: Citi's Inference Ahead - From Buildout to Monetization
Citi's Inference Ahead	July 31, 2026	Artificial Intelligence: Citi's Inference Ahead - Pricing, Financing, Routing, and Securing
Citi's Inference Ahead	July 24, 2026	Artificial Intelligence: Citi's Inference Ahead - Constraints v. Capabilities
Citi's Inference Ahead	July 19, 2026	Artificial Intelligence: Citi's Inference Ahead - Open Reaches the Frontier
Citi's Inference Ahead	July 10, 2026	Artificial Intelligence: Citi's Inference Ahead - Models, Robots, & Capitals
Citi's Inference Ahead	June 26, 2026	Artificial Intelligence: Citi's Inference Ahead - Open Source Moment
Citi's Inference Ahead	June 19, 2026	Artificial Intelligence: Citi's Inference Ahead - Open v. Closed
Citi's Inference Ahead	June 14, 2026	Artificial Intelligence: Citi's Inference Ahead - Bridging the Gaps
Citi's Inference Ahead	June 10, 2026	Artificial Intelligence: Citi's Inference Ahead - Rationing Comes for Us All
One-Off Pieces	September 14, 2026	Artificial Intelligence: Pacing Calls Attempt to Shape Regulation
At the Edge	June 11, 2026	Artificial Intelligence: At the Edge - Verification, Agents, and the Infrastructure Around Them
Commentary on Conferences and Events	October 2, 2026	US Application Software - Decagon Dialogues Showcases a More Connected Platform with Expanding Uses
Commentary on Conferences and Events	September 10, 2026	Artificial Intelligence and Systems Software: Enterprise AI Islands - Day 3 Takeaways from Citi's Global TMT Conference
Commentary on Conferences and Events	September 10, 2026	Artificial Intelligence: Orbital Compute, Starcloud - Day 3 Takeaways from Citi's Global TMT Conference
Commentary on Conferences and Events	September 10, 2026	Artificial Intelligence: Context for Enterprise AI, Cohere - Day 2 Takeaways from Citi's Global TMT Conference
Commentary on Conferences and Events	September 9, 2026	Artificial Intelligence: AI's Open Models: Poolside - Day 2 Takeaways from Citi's Global TMT Conference
Commentary on Conferences and Events	September 9, 2026	Artificial Intelligence: AI's Evolution: Perplexity - Day 2 Takeaways from Citi's Global TMT Conference
Commentary on Conferences and Events	September 9, 2026	Artificial Intelligence: Powering AI: Commonwealth Fusion Systems - Day 2 Takeaways from Citi's Global TMT Conference
Commentary on Conferences and Events	September 9, 2026	Artificial Intelligence: State of the Market - Day 2 Takeaways from Citi's Global TMT Conference
Commentary on Conferences and Events	September 8, 2026	Artificial Intelligence: Uniphore - Day 1 Takeaways from Citi's Global TMT Conference
Commentary on Conferences and Events	September 8, 2026	Artificial Intelligence: Genspark and Cresta Intelligence - Day 1 Takeaways from Citi's Global TMT Conference
Commentary on Conferences and Events	September 8, 2026	Artificial Intelligence: Implementing AI & Robotics Wonder - Day 1 Takeaways from Citi's Global TMT Conference
Commentary on Conferences and Events	September 8, 2026	Artificial Intelligence: Enterprise Technology Leadership Keynote - Day 1 Takeaways from Citi's Global TMT Conference
Commentary on Conferences and Events	August 31, 2026	Global Technology & Communications, Citi's 2026 Global TMT Conference Preview - Key Tech Themes to Watch
Commentary on Conferences and Events	July 8, 2026	Artificial Intelligence: AI Insights from Citi's Space & AI Virtual Teach-In
Commentary on Conferences and Events	July 8, 2026	Artificial Intelligence: Bottlenecks Remain for Scaling Physical AI, But n Progressing
Commentary on Conferences and Events	June 15, 2026	Artificial Intelligence: Takeaways from the Research and Applied AI Summit
Collaborative Pieces	September 29, 2026	Space Exploration Technologies (SPCX.O): Starship Flight 14 Top Takes
Collaborative Pieces	September 14, 2026	Continual Learning to Fuel HBM/eSSD Demand (AI Training/Inference)
Collaborative Pieces	September 3, 2026	Multi-Asset: Data Center GAINs (Gen AI Names) - Born to Run: Still Early in the Multi-Year AI Investment Cycle
Collaborative Pieces	August 9, 2026	Space Exploration Technologies (SPCX.O): 2Q26 Model Update, Reiterate $200 Price Target
Collaborative Pieces	August 6, 2026	Takeaways on Starlink's Mobile Strategy & Implications for the Category
Collaborative Pieces	August 4, 2026	Space Exploration Technologies (SPCX.O): 2Q26 Strong Start to Multi-Year Catalyst-Rich Arc
Collaborative Pieces	July 30, 2026	US Application Software, 2Q26 CFO Survey - Measured Optimism with Clear Commitment to AI
Collaborative Pieces	July 19, 2026	EM Equity Strategy Compass: 2H26 Outlook - The Broadening Question
Collaborative Pieces	July 10, 2026	Global Equity Quarterly: Back to the Broadening Debate
Collaborative Pieces	July 1, 2026	North America: Road Ahead 2H26
Collaborative Pieces	July 1, 2026	North America Internet: Meta Compute Unlocks Capacity (and FCF) for Meta's e Ambitions

Source: Citi Research

Figure 22. Sector-Specific Notes on AI

Hardware and Semis	August 4, 2026	ON Semiconductor (ON.O): "Beat & Raise" as AI Data Center Revenue Accelerates
Hardware and Semis	August 3, 2026	US Semiconductors and Semiconductor Equipment: Earnings so Far...Estimates Up, Stocks Down; Buyers of AMD, TXN, & AMAT
Hardware and Semis	July 16, 2026	TSMC (2330.TW): AI demand keeps accelerating; Upside surprise on further capex increase
Data Centers	July 23, 2026	US Engineering & Construction - 2Q26 E&C Preview – E&C Growth Cycle Still Durable
Data Centers	July 17, 2026	Asia Communication Infrastructure: 800VDC Architecture for Next-Generation AI Data Centers
Data Centers	July 2, 2026	US Industrial Technology & Mobility: Takeaways from Construction Economist Call
Internet	July 24, 2026	North America Internet - 2Q26 Preview: RDDT, PINS, SNAP, CVNA, and DASH
Internet	July 22, 2026	Alphabet Inc (GOOGL.O) - 1st Impression: AI Momentum Drives Cloud Accel & Backlog, Search & YT Momentum Continues
Internet	July 1, 2026	North America Internet: Meta Compute Unlocks Capacity (and FCF) for Meta's e Ambitions
Software	July 31, 2026	US Internet and Software - 2Q26 Cloud Compare: Revenues Accelerate Amid Rising Capex Tide
Software	July 23, 2026	US Application Software - Expecting Diverging Trends Across 2Q Front Office Software Earnings
Software	July 9, 2026	US Software: Themes into 2Q26 Software Earnings - AI Drives Improvement in Spending; Remain Selective
Industrials	July 27, 2026	ITG Inc (ITG.O) - FTTH + Data Center Tailwinds Driving Growth: Initiate Buy/High Risk
Industrials	July 2, 2026	US Industrial Technology & Mobility: Takeaways from Construction Economist Call
Industrials	June 23, 2026	US Industrial Technology & Mobility - Automate 2026 Takeaways: Automation Momentum Remains Constructive
Utilities	June 16, 2026	Overcoming Gridlock 2.0: Solving Power Bottlenecks to Drive AI & Energy Security
Utilities	June 8, 2026	US Diversified Utilities: Crowd Metrics Moving Up; Taking Closer Look at Consensus Trades
Utilities	April 22, 2026	US Electric Utilities: Citi's AI Summit Takeaways for US Power/Utilities
Economics	August 3, 2026	US Economics - ISM Manufacturing boosted by AI tail-wind
Economics	July 9, 2026	Research @ Citi Episode 83: AI's Mid-Year Review - The Token Bottleneck
Economics	June 25, 2026	Global Economic Outlook & Strategy: The Resilient Global Economy - Cascading Supply Shocks
Corporate Credit	July 29, 2026	The Speculative Grade Beat - Underweight AI – Uncertainties Rising, Credit Not Adequately Compensating
Corporate Credit	July 24, 2026	The High-Grade Beat - Hyperscaler High Tide
Corporate Credit	July 7, 2026	US High-Grade Credit: AI and Credit Markets - The Buildout, The Risks, and How to Price Them
Miscellaneous	July 24, 2026	Emerging Markets Economic Outlook & Strategy - Artificial Intelligence and the EM Growth Divide
Miscellaneous	July 8, 2026	Global Theme Machine: Theme Leadership Shifts as Technology Improves but Healthcare Themes Lead Returns
Miscellaneous	June 10, 2026	Global Theme Machine: AI and Industrial Themes Extend Their Lead
CFO Survey	July 30, 2026	US Application Software: 2026 CFO Survey: Measured Optimism with Clear Commitment to AI
CIO Survey	July 9, 2026	Global Technology & Communications: Citi CIO Survey: IT Budgets Improve As AI Moves Higher In Priority
CIO Survey	April 9, 2026	Global Technology & Communications: Citi CIO Survey: IT Budgets Moderate Post 4Q Budget Flush
CIO Survey	January 12, 2026	Global Technology & Communications: Citi CIO Survey: Global IT Budgets Accelerate on Potential 4Q Budget Flush
CIO Survey	October 14, 2025	Global Technology & Communications: Citi CIO Survey: IT Budgets Move Below Historical Levels with US Weakening
CIO Survey	July 15, 2025	Global Technology & Communications: Citi CIO Survey: IT Budgets Moderate As Cyber Regains Top Priority
CISO Survey	June 9, 2026	North America Systems Software: On the Ground at Gartner Security Summit - Fresh Diligence on AI Security Trends
CISO Survey	January 12, 2026	North America Systems Software: State of Enterprise Cybersecurity Spending; Vol. V
CHRO Survey	July 9, 2025	US Application Software: 2025 CHRO Survey: Slow but Steady - HR Budgets Resilient in the Face of Macro Noise
Automation Survey	June 18, 2026	Global Industrials: 7th Proprietary Automation Survey Signals Encouraging Demand Outlook

Source: Citi Research

Advanced Micro Devices

(AMD.O; US$615.73; 1; 01 Oct 26; 16:00)

Valuation

Our TP on AMD is $575. We value AMD using SOTP analysis with data center GPU/CPU biz at $267/$207 (27/25x 2028 PE), client $31 (15x), gaming $2 (6x), embedded $29 (20x), and net cash per share ~$40. Our target PE multiples are in-line with respective peer group averages.

Risks

Competition: AMD competes directly with Intel in the microprocessor market. Consequently, any fluctuations in market share between AMD and Intel could result in risk to our estimates. AMD competes directly with NVIDIA in the graphics and AI GPU market. Consequently, any fluctuations in market share between AMD and NVIDIA could result in risk to our estimates.

PC End Market: AMD derives roughly 30% of sales from the PC industry, which is highly dependent on IT spending. Therefore, any major uptick/downtick in IT spending could result in upside/downside to our estimates and rating for AMD.

Valuation: While AMD is currently trading slightly above its historical range, revisions to consensus revenue estimates could result in high volatility to AMD stock.

Tender Offer: Any public or private tender offer for all or part of AMD's business could drive the stock higher and cause us to re-assess our rating.

If the impact on the company from any of these factors proves to be greater than we anticipate, the stock will likely have difficulty achieving our target price. However, should they be less than anticipated, the stock could trade above our target price.

Applied Materials Inc

(AMAT.O; US$529.3; 1; 01 Oct 26; 16:00)

Valuation

We value AMAT at $710 using a 28x P/E multiple on 2028E EPS. We view a 28x multiple, above AMAT's 3-year average multiple of 21x, as appropriate given multi-year WFE upcycle, secular tailwinds, and incremental AI data center investment.

Risks

Downside risks to the achievement of our target price include the following: 1) As fab utilization and capital equipment orders are closely linked to the stock price, any material differences to our supply/demand model (e.g. demand drops suddenly, or supply increases more rapidly than we predict) may cause

our valuation methodology to be inaccurate. 2) As the market share leader in multiple sub-segments of semiconductor equipment, AMAT is uniquely positioned to capitalize on inflections as well as face tough competition from large peers in industry cycles.

ITG Inc

(ITG.O; US$7.02; 1H; 01 Oct 26; 16:00)

Valuation

Our $17 target price reflects a ~10x EV/EBITDA multiple on our ~$252mn FY27E adj. EBITDA estimate. We believe a discount to peer average is warranted given ITG's high customer concentration, elevated net leverage, and limited public track record. That said, we see potential for multiple expansion over time as the company executes its growth strategy and diversifies its revenue base.

Risks

We rate ITG High Risk given the following primary factors: ITG has the highest customer concentration across our broader coverage and recent IPO/limited trading history.

Other risks associated with ITG that could impact the stock performance and its ability to reach our target price include: elevated net leverage could limit near-term incremental M&A; execution risk related to integrating multiple recent acquisitions (7 acquisitions in 2025 out of 22 since 2019); and historical telco capex cyclicality.

Space Exploration Technologies

(SPCX.O; US$148.07; 1; 01 Oct 26; 16:00)

Valuation

We derive our $200 base-case price target for SPCX using the average of three valuation methods: 1) 2027E growth adj. multiples (EV/Revenue/Growth and EV/EBITDA/Growth) for the "Trillion-Dollar Comps" (a basket of similar trillion-dollar+ market caps); 2) sum-of-the-parts (SOTP) valuing Space, Connectivity, and AI separately using 2027E growth adj. multiples (EV/Revenue/Growth and EV/EBITDA/Growth) for industry-specific comparable companies; and 3) 2030E comparable company multiples (EV/Revenue and EV/EBITDA) for the "Trillion-Dollar Comps" (a basket of similar trillion dollar+ market caps).

Risks

Risks to our thesis, which could impede the shares from reaching our price target, include headwinds to the launch segment which reference the failure to demonstrate rapid reusability on Starship, lack of launch infrastructure, and regulatory headwinds from the FAA and other government organizations.

The failure to rapidly gain market share in Starlink mobile, as well as

demonstrate the ability to create AI orbital satellites capable of compute, also presents risks to SPCX.

Texas Instruments Inc

(TXN.O; US$281.31; 1; 01 Oct 26; 16:00)

Valuation

Our target price of $345 is based on 26X C28E EPS, roughly in line with its 5-year trading multiple.

Risks

We note the following upside/downside risks to our target price:

End Market: Texas Instruments derives roughly 40% of sales from the industrial end market. Therefore, any major downtick or increase in the industrial end market could result in downside/upside to our estimates and rating for TI.

Competition: Texas Instruments competes with Analog Devices, Microchip, NXP and others in the analog market. Consequently, any loss of market share could result in downside/upside risk to our estimates and rating to TI.

Product Obsolescence: Texas Instruments spends a smaller percentage of its revenue on R&D compared to its competitors. Consequently, if TI fails to develop future products suitable for its customers, it could result in downside risk to our estimates and rating.

Inventory Risk: Texas Instruments sells roughly 35% of its products through distributors. Thus, any major inventory corrections in the distribution channel could result in downside risk to our estimates and rating.

Semiconductor Cycle: TI has broad-based exposure across multiple products and end markets. Therefore, if the overall semiconductor market enters a downturn, it could result in downside risk to our estimates and rating.

Macroeconomic: Texas Instruments' geographic exposure spans multiple geographies including the U.S., Europe, and Asia. As a result, any prolonged macroeconomic downturn could result in downside risk to our estimates and rating.