



# Google Rehired 20% of Its 2025 AI Engineers from Former Employees – The Boomerang Trend Explodes

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## Summary

Google hired back many ex-employees for AI roles in 2025 – about 20% of new AI software engineers were "boomerangs" who left and returned. This is higher than previous years. The company pulled talent from rivals too. It shows the fierce battle for AI experts, with Google using its big pay and computing power to win people back.

## What It Means

The AI talent war is intense – companies like OpenAI, Meta, and Anthropic are fighting for the best brains. Google has a huge pool of past workers (especially after 2023 layoffs) to rehire quickly. Returning employees bring fresh ideas from competitors and know Google's systems already.

For workers, it means better deals and flexibility – leave, gain experience, come back stronger. For the industry, it highlights how expensive and competitive AI hiring is. Google stays ahead by paying top dollar and offering massive computer resources no startup can match.





## Key Takeaways

- 20% of Google's 2025 AI engineer hires were ex-employees returning
  - More AI talent came from direct rivals than in 2024
  - Boomerangs drawn by high pay and Google's huge computing power
  - Shows extreme competition in AI job market
  - Helps Google quickly fill roles without long searches
  - Trend likely to grow as AI race heats up
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## OurTake (2026 outlook) \* Speculative

Expect more "boomerang" hiring across Big Tech in 2026 as talent jumps for better offers.

Google could keep leading if it turns rehires into faster innovation.

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## References

CNBC, 2025  
Google Statements, 2025

CryptxAI publishes simplified AI and crypto briefings.

