UK CLOUD SNAPSHOT SURVEY 2017

RESULTS REPORT: SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH

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Introduction

Cloud has become the buzzword in not only the technology sector, but across all industries. As a result, the rate of cloud adoption is progressively increasing year on year as well as eighty percent of companies increasing their use of "cloud managed services"[1] . At the same time, the uncertainty regarding cloud adoption is also increasing due to the multitude of problems currently facing the UK. Such challenges include the implementation of GDPR, the uncertainty of Brexit and the unprecedented increase in cyber security attacks.

Serviceteam IT, in partnership with Doogheno, conducted a study to reveal the most significant challenges facing UK businesses and the trends in the use of the cloud in the UK.
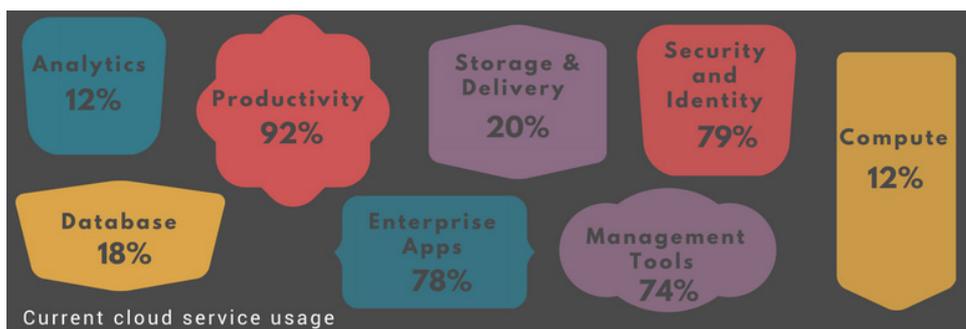
After extensive research Serviceteam IT are unaware of any report that addresses the challenges facing UK businesses in particular and the state of the cloud in the UK. Given the specificity of Brexit to the UK, we believe this report provides an important insight into the challenges facing UK businesses specifically and therefore fills an important gap in previous research publications.

Methodology

In order to obtain the data necessary for the completion of this research, a combination of in-depth interviews and a questionnaire was used to give both scope and depth to the research.

The **Cloud Snapshot Survey** was completed over a four-week period between the 14th of July and the 11th of August 2017. The sample size of over 1,100 individuals was drawn from a multitude of sectors including Insurance, Advertising and Marketing, Technology, Utilities and Scientific Research, and those holding positions with involvement in IT were targeted to ensure that valuable and insightful information was collected.

In addition, in-depth interviews were conducted with individuals that work within the IT sector to ensure a greater understanding could be developed regarding why they answered in the way they did.
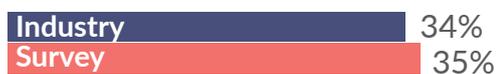

Analytics 12% Productivity 92% Storage & Delivery 20% Security and Identity 79% Compute 12% Database 18% Enterprise Apps 78% Management Tools 74%

Current cloud service usage

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1 https://www.ibm.com/blogs/cloud-computing/2017/02/companies-increasing-cloud-managed-services/

Key findings : Scientific Research

70% of respondents in your sector listed BREXIT as the biggest challenge to their IT plans over the next 3 years, as opposed to 63% of the broader range of respondents who instead cited GDPR.

| Industry | 70% |
| Survey | 19% |

Over a third of participants said that they have experienced an increase in cyber security incidents within the past 12 months.

| Industry | 34% |
| Survey | 35% |

96% of participants in your sector believe data sovereignty may be an issue after the UK has left the EU.
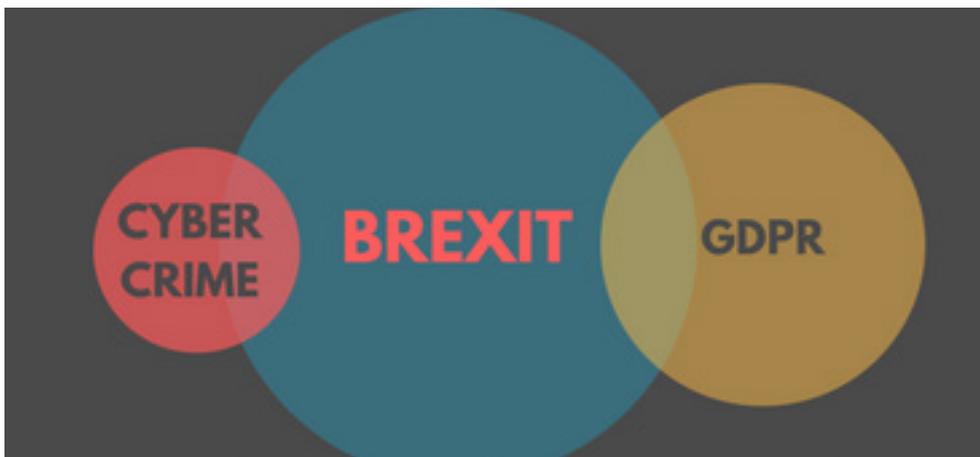
| Industry | 96% |
| Survey | 63% |

100% of respondents have moved up to 40% of their applications and services to the cloud and are considering further migration.

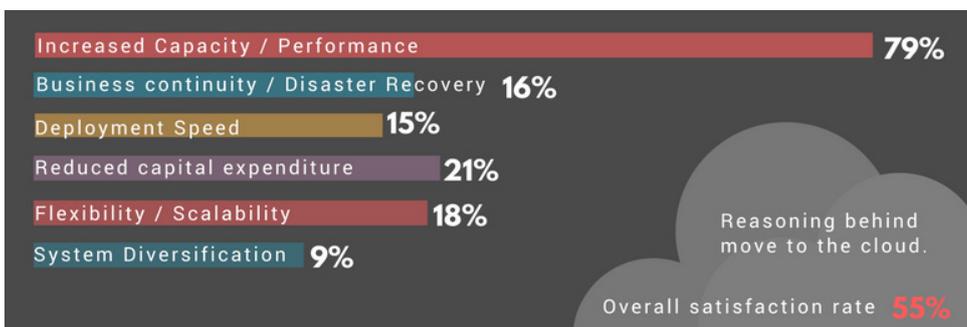| Industry | 100% |
| Survey | 63% |

82% of respondents in this sector highlighted security as a barrier to further cloud expansion. The average response across the entire sample was 46%.

| Industry | 82% |
| Survey | 46% |

96%

Believe that there may be data sovereignty issues as a result of Brexit.

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Hundreds of Scientific Research companies hold their headquarters or research facilities in the UK. 70% of respondents highlighted Brexit as presenting a significant challenge to their IT plans. This provides a similar result to that of the marketing industry. Additionally, 60.9% of respondents had not experienced an increase in cyber security incidents in the past 12 months, which correlates with the overall findings from this survey.

However, despite the fact that the majority of respondents from this sector had not experienced an increase in cyber security incidents, security was listed by 82% of respondents from this sector as a barrier to further cloud expansion. In addition to security, loss of control of data, uncontrolled variable cost, reliability and availability of data was all selected by the majority of respondents as barriers preventing further cloud adoption.

All of respondents from this sector are considering moving more apps and services to the cloud which correlates with the average respondents from this sector responding that they were 55% satisfied in regards to the cloud.

Conclusion

Our research has revealed that 93% of respondents overall use some form of cloud-based technology. On that basis it is clear that the cloud is not only prevalent in businesses but essential in terms of scalability and flexibility, continuity and speed of deployment.
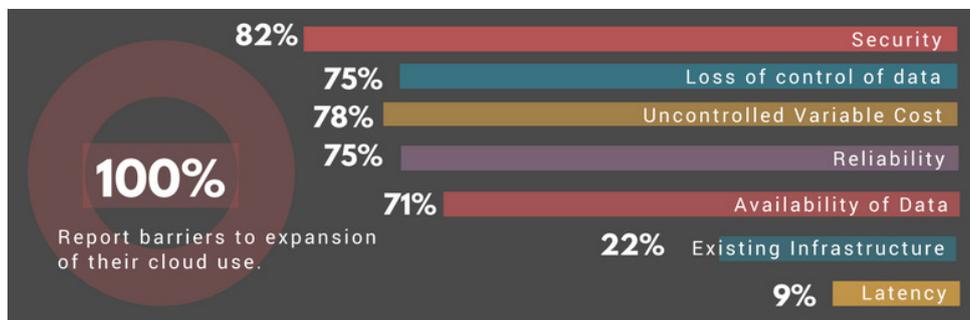
Our findings bring to light the concern businesses have regarding the external threats they face to their IT plans and also the barriers in which prevent them from expanding further use of the cloud.

Notably, one of the key findings reveals that businesses are mindful of the challenge which GDPR may pose and it appears to be a greater challenge to many firms than that of Brexit. The ambiguity surrounding Brexit has made it unclear as to whether this will be the greater challenge.

The Scientific Research industry in fact stands alone in citing Brexit as by far the largest factor causing concern in the next 12 month period. It is likely that Brexit will have an impact on the funding of this sector accross the board, its potential impact will already be of major concern to many.

As well as the challenge of GDPR, it was found that the greater number of respondents acknowledged security as the most important barrier to further expansion. These findings seem to be limited in terms of impact as in the Scientific Research sector 100% of respondents still said they are considering moving additional applications and services to the cloud.

In summary, the survey suggests that the cloud is being used in the UK by a growing volume of businesses for an array of functions. Alongside this, there is also an increase in the number of organisations beginning to initially adopt the cloud in their business despite the external threats posed by GDPR, Brexit and Cyber Security.

100%
Report barriers to expansion of their cloud use.

82% Security
75% Loss of control of data
78% Uncontrolled Variable Cost
75% Reliability
71% Availability of Data
22% Existing Infrastructure
9% Latency

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IT can be complex.
It's an ever changing world, with new technologies, new regulations and new threats.
At **Serviceteam IT**, we love it. (This can make us a little boring at parties).
Ask us about the latest cyber-security trends, the challenges of data sovereignty or low
latency connectivity, and we'll put the kettle on and open the biscuits.

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which is fair. Our professional team will work hard to bring you the benefit of their
knowledge and experience, and our flexible, can-do approach means nothing is impossible
if your pockets are deep enough. We're not the biggest, but our clients trust us, and believe
we are one of the good ones.

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