

CYBER SECURITY SKILLS GAPS ACROSS UK BUSINESSES IN 2021

KEY: All UK businesses in 2021

Large businesses (250+ staff) in 2021

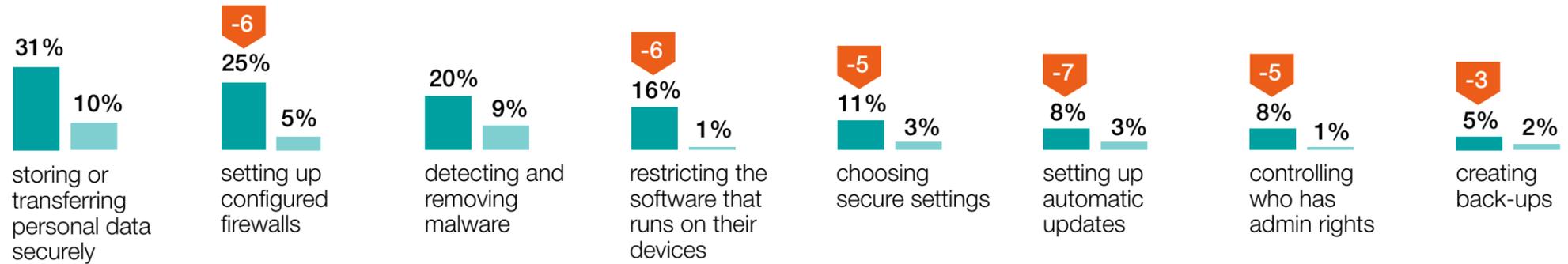
Orange arrows next to charts show the percentage point change from 2018 for all UK businesses

BASIC TECHNICAL SKILLS



50%
(around 680,000 UK businesses)
have a **BASIC** technical skills gap

They are **NOT CONFIDENT** at performing at least one of the following basic technical tasks (and do not outsource them):

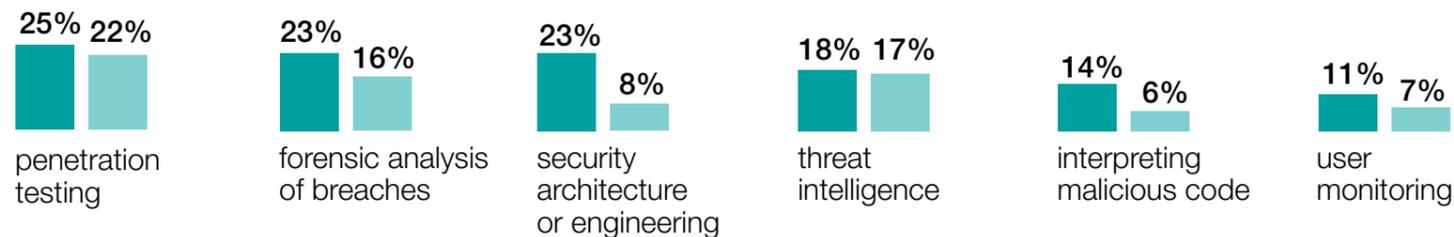


ADVANCED TECHNICAL SKILLS



33%
(around 449,000 UK businesses)
have an **ADVANCED** technical skills gap

They think at least one of the following technical tasks are important for their business, but are **NOT CONFIDENT** at performing them (and do not outsource them):



STAFFING AND TRAINING NEEDS



have cyber roles written into job descriptions

INCIDENT RESPONSE



18% / 32%
consider **INCIDENT RESPONSE** skills essential for their business

32% / 6%
are **NOT CONFIDENT** dealing with a breach



GOVERNANCE, REGULATION AND COMPLIANCE

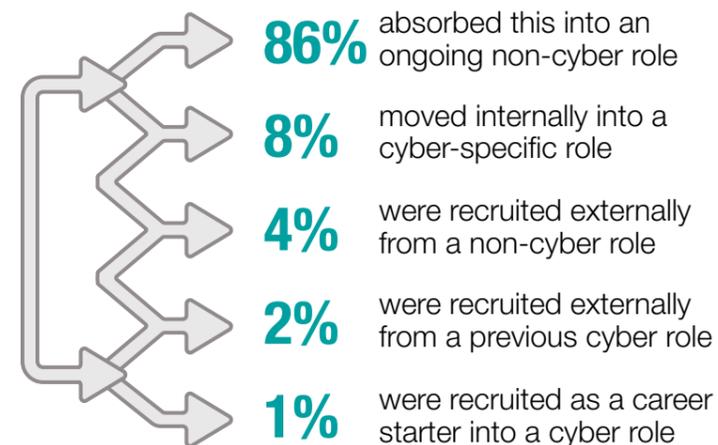


43% / **20%**
are **NOT CONFIDENT** developing cyber policies



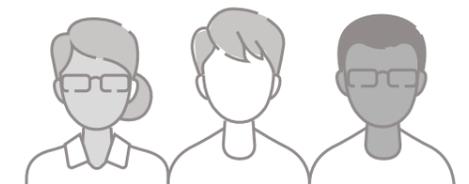
CAREER PATHWAYS*

Across all employees covering cyber functions:



18% / 34%

have done a formal cyber security training needs analysis



23% / 47%
have sent **staff in cyber roles** on relevant training in the last year

10% / 48%
have sent **wider staff** on cyber security training in the last year

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ABOUT THIS INFOGRAPHIC

The findings in this infographic come from the Understanding the Cyber Security Skills Labour Market 2021 study. This is a mixed-method study that Ipsos MORI has carried out on behalf of the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS).

The study includes a telephone survey of 965 UK businesses carried out from 6 August to 30 October 2020. Businesses of all sizes and sectors participated in the survey, except for sole traders and businesses in agriculture, forestry and fishing, who were ineligible. Data are weighted to be representative of the UK business population (excluding the ineligible groups). The sample of 965 incorporates 65 large businesses (with 250 or more employees).

The rest of the study involves:

- separate quantitative survey data for charities and public sector bodies
- a quantitative survey of cyber sector firms
- quantitative analysis of cyber security job vacancies
- qualitative research with large businesses, cyber sector firms and recruitment agents.

Trend data are taken from a comparable survey for DCMS carried out in 2018. We only display trends where there are statistically significant differences (i.e. in all other cases, responses have not observably changed across years, or we are asking a question for the first time this year). A full findings report and technical report have been published for each year on the GOV.UK website.

The 2021 study is available at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/cyber-security-skills-in-the-uk-labour-market-2021>.

* The percentages in the "Career pathways" section are rounded to the nearest whole number, so do not add to 100%.