

Examining the New Normal: IT in 2021

COVID-19 impacts on budget, project pipeline, and human capital

66,581 respondents shared their organisations' response to the impact of a turbulent year and highlighted the future expectations of IT efforts.

Here are our top five takeaways:

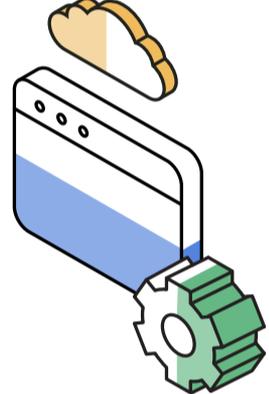
Only 21.3% Unchanged



Only 21.3% of IT projects remain unaffected. Critically, about half of respondents reported that projects are either paused or reduced in scope. This requires teams to think outside the box to find alternative solutions.

Infrastructure Projects Prevail

Of the projects that are on track for the new year, 72.5% are focused on infrastructure initiatives across the cloud and data centre, while only 27.5% will have cybersecurity on their radar. Accelerating of cloud and infrastructure projects without proper security consideration will leave organisations susceptible to greater risk.



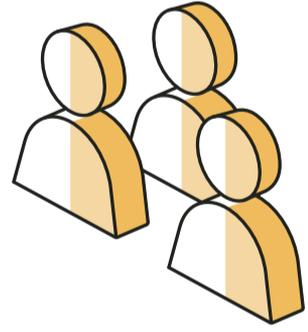
41.2% Expect Budget Cuts



Budget cuts are anticipated. IT will need to save, looking beyond incumbent technologies at newer, next-gen options with different deployment and billing models that can accommodate reductions in budget - while still delivering on proposed outcomes.

50% Lose Headcount

Half of respondents report some level of IT headcount reduction as a result of COVID-19. Fewer resources and specialisations mean those remaining will need to look for tools that don't require unique, often expensive, skills. Operationally simple technologies will facilitate team generalists required to wear many hats.



Expectation Mounts



52.7% of respondents believe that despite budgetary and headcount-related challenges, they are expected to advance IT in the coming year. Smart IT teams must reimagine how best to approach IT in the age of COVID-19 to deliver more with less.

Looking to reimagine your approach to IT security in 2021 to support these or other challenges? Consider micro-segmentation with Illumio Core.

Deploy fast on any private or public infrastructure, create fine-grain micro-segmentation policy with no specialized skills in minutes, and control cost via per-workload pricing to support targeted security initiatives on a pay-as-you-grow basis. Illumio's unique approach makes it faster, safer, and more cost-effective than ever to lock down your critical assets.

Learn more at <https://www.illumio.com/solutions/micro-segmentation>