

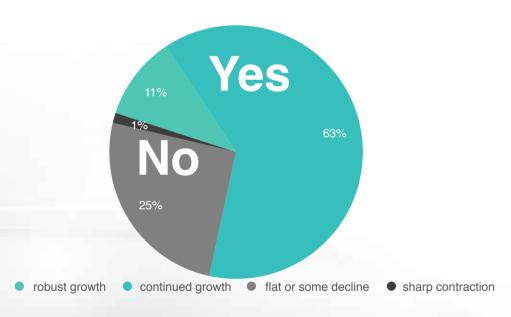


Search Simple would like to thank all respondents who made this survey report possible. We hope it provides some valuable insights and wish you a successful 2017.

Business Growth

Getting online is becoming more of a necessity than an option and all industries are seeking some form of digital integration to boost business growth this year and in years to come.

Q1 Do you anticipate business growth in 2017?



Positive Business Growth

Companies focused on digital services are more likely to see business growth than any other industry this year

-Cloud Service -Social Media

-eCommerce -Financial Technology

-Security Software

*the most common responses from our survey, not ranked in any way

Where respondents expect digital-focused positions to rise in their company, they also expect a positive growth in their business.

-Cloud Specialists -Cy

-Cyber Warfare Analysts

-Digital Marketing

-Social Media Strategists

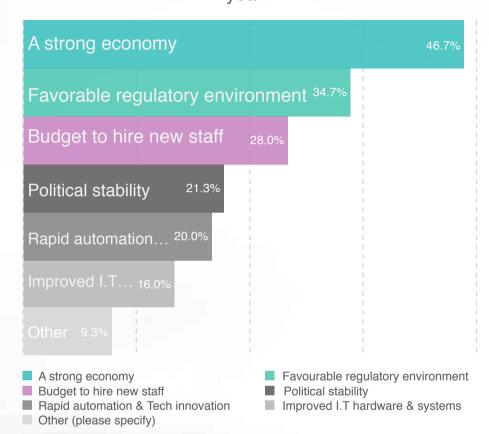
-Digital Security

Negative Business Growth

It may seem obvious, but the industries cited as least likely to do well this year are the non-digital companies. This includes companies that manufacture technology hardware. Only 16% of the respondents answered "improved I.T. hardware and systems" would benefit their companies. These responses suggest that treating Technology as one unified industry is now so broad of a term that it is perhaps meaningless.

^{**}the most common responses from our survey, not ranked in any way

Q2 What would benefit you most in your role this vear?



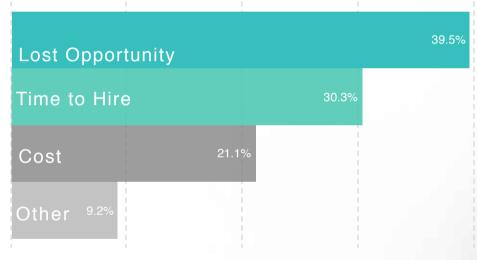
We were surprised to find 60% of the people who answered "budget to hire new staff" (Q3) also answered "lost opportunity" (Q2). This high correlation can be interpreted to mean larger investment hiring skilled talent provides greater long-term returns.

Biggest Factors When Hiring



- 1. Lost Opportunity (37.5%)
- 2. Time to Hire (32.5%)
- 3. Cost of hiring (20%)

Q3 What is the biggest consideration when hiring?



- Lost Opportunity because hiring the right talent is invaluable
- Time to hire the business/service/delivery is greatly impaired without the right person on-board quickly
- Cost hiring is based primarily on budget constraints
- Other (please specify)

Perceived Threats in 2017

Despite our respondents coming from a diverse number of backgrounds and countries. There was a common theme when identifying what poses the biggest challenge this year – Uncertainty.



America's 45th President, Donald Trump

Many voiced their opinions about the political tensions between America and China, and their relations with other countries as well. These tensions will likely affect markets and economies across the globe, which some fear may also adversely impact business opportunities.

China's economy and politics

Global trade imbalances, rising economic inequality, and accumulation of environmental issues are all obstacles President Xi Jinping will have to contend with this year. Ensuring political stability and mitigating economic risks will be a key challenge for globalization.

Uncertainty in Europe

Brexit has caused, and still is causing political instability throughout Europe, which will affect European markets.

The effects will become more visible as the UK formally starts the process to separate themselves from active participation of the EU. Which coincides with France and Germany entering an election year.

And yet, curiously:

63% of respondents in Indonesia chose "political stability", which is a higher percentage than in America, China or Europe where roughly half of those surveyed asked for a stronger economy and only 21% political stability.

Data Sources

Over the course of a month, we received 80 responses and used those statistics to analyze 2017 business trends. To contextualise these results, here are the respondents' top 5 countries / industries / functions.

Top 5 Countries	Top 5 Industries/Functions
1. Japan (20%)	1. Technology*
2. China (13%)	2. Consultant
3. Indonesia (10%)	3. Pharma
3. India (10%)	4. Government Policy
4. USA (9%)	5. Telecom
4. Singapore (9%)	5. Executive Search
5. India (6%)	

^{*}Broken down to Software & Services (25%), Technology Hardware & Equipment (12.5%), Semiconductors (12.5%), Not Specified (50%)

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