



IT Investments, IT Spending, and IT Management Issues: A Post Pandemic Recovery

According to the data from the 2021 SIM IT Trends Study, Cloud Computing, Security, and Analytics/Business Intelligence and related technologies (such as Data Mining, Big Data, and Forecasting) continue to be the three largest IT investments of organizations. Overall, these rankings stayed relatively consistent except for Collaboration Tools which increased in 2020 from 16th to 8th position but dropped to 10th in 2021. The increased demand of collaborative technologies on 2021 was due to the rapid spread of COVID-19 and, specifically to the fact that most organizations were forced to move to working remotely. In this context, the drop of Collaboration Tools in 2021 can be explained as a signal of an anticipated return to normalcy.

Interestingly, the beginning of a post-pandemic recovery is visible in relation to personal and organizational IT management issues. Specifically, concerns about cost reductions for both IT and the business decreased, from 6th to 10th and from 8th to 13th respectively. These changes represent part of a larger trend suggesting IT operations and foci are rapidly returning to pre-pandemic levels. There is, however, an ongoing concern over recruiting and retaining critical IT personnel. Both organizations and IT leaders are more concerned about hiring and retention than they were in 2020.

Personal Benchmark Reports were sent to the 739 SIM members who participated in the 2021 IT Trends Study earlier this week. The Comprehensive Report, which includes a complete analysis of all data collected this year, will be released to all SIM members in November. We wish to thank SIM leadership and members for their ongoing support of the IT Trends Study and look forward to sharing the full results of the study soon.