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hiring vacant roles. An active hiring environment has intensified in

Jul. 11, 2017

IT HIRING FORECAST SECOND HALF OF 2017



21%

of U.S. CIOs plan to add full-time professionals to their teams.

64%

of U.S. CIOs plan to hire only for open IT roles.

63%

say it's somewhat or very challenging to find skilled IT professionals today.

New Business Generates Hiring

31%

of CIOs say the greatest trend contributing to IT hiring in their area is more businesses moving to the area and creating jobs.

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Tech hiring is also driven by an increase in the following initiatives:



Digital marketing

25%



Cloud or big data

24%



Mobile

18%

Top Five Technical Skills In Demand



Database
management



Windows
administration



Desktop
support



Network
administration



Wireless network
management

Top Concerns for CIOs, Outside of Recruitment



23%

Upgrading existing systems
for business efficiency

22%

Maintaining security of IT systems and
safeguarding company information

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15%

Innovation and investing
in new technologies

Source: Robert Half Technology. Results based on telephone interviews with more than 2,500 CIOs from 25 major U.S. markets at companies with 100 or more employees.

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Technology hiring looks bright for the remainder of 2017, according to the Robert Half Technology IT Hiring Forecast and Local Trends Report. Twenty-one percent of U.S. CIOs surveyed plan to add full-time technology professionals to their teams, a five-percentage-point increase from the [first half](#) of the year.

“Whether you’re a recent graduate or experienced professional, it’s a good time to be a job seeker in the tech industry,” said John Reed, senior executive director of Robert Half Technology. “For employers, however, hiring remains a challenge in today’s competitive market. Tech leaders must make recruiting and retention a priority to attract and secure top talent.”

Hiring Plans & Challenges

Twenty-one percent of CIOs surveyed expect to add members to their teams in the second half of the year; another 64 percent foresee maintaining staff levels by only filling vacant roles. An active hiring environment has intensified competition for IT talent: 63 percent of IT executives said it’s somewhat or very challenging to find skilled technology professionals today.

New Business Generates Hiring

When asked about the greatest contributing factor to IT hiring in their area, nearly

one-third of respondents (31 percent) cited a growing number of businesses opening

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5. Los Angeles

According to CIOs, an increase in the following initiatives is also leading to tech hiring:

- Digital marketing (25 percent)
- Cloud or big data (24 percent)
- Mobile (18 percent)

Tech Skills in Demand

According to IT executives, the skills in greatest demand within their department include:

1. Database management (53 percent)
2. Windows administration (53 percent)
3. Desktop support (52 percent)
4. Network administration (51 percent)
5. Wireless network management (51 percent)

Top Concerns

When asked to name their top priority for the next six months, nearly one-quarter of CIOs (23 percent) said they'll be focused on upgrading existing systems for business efficiency. Other priorities include:

- Maintaining security of IT systems and safeguarding company information (22 percent)
- Staff retention (21 percent)
- Helping grow the business (19 percent)
- Innovation and investing in new technologies (15 percent)

“Keeping up with systems upgrades so business operations can run effectively is top

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