Market Insights Update: IT Sector Trend

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Who We Are

About DRC Search
DRC Search is the executive search division of The Digital Recruitment Company, specialising in senior management and C-suite appointments. We partner with high-growth, investor-backed and transformation-focused businesses, helping them attract and retain leadership talent that drives growth.

Our Specialisms:

- All C-Suite & Leadership Roles: NED, Board Advisory, Chief Data, Chief Marketing, Chief Digital, Chief Information, Chief Technology, Chief Revenue, etc
- Non-Executive & Advisory Appointments: Access to our **exclusive NED Library** for board, growth, M&A and scale-up expertise.

Geographic Coverage: UK, East Coast US, and major European tech hubs.

About The Digital Recruitment Company
The Digital Recruitment Company was founded in London in 2010 and has become a leading provider of global recruitment solutions across the Technology, Marketing, Product, Data and Creative sectors.

The team focuses on mid-level to senior hires, providing permanent, freelance and fixed-term recruitment, as well as payroll management and market insight consulting.

What We Do

We work across the Technology, Marketing, Product & Data Sector in both the UK & Internationally. We aim to create long-lasting partnerships with our clients.

We work across the following specialisms:

Client Services, Sales, AI, Creative Software, Developers, Engineers, Data & Analytics, Executive Appointments, Innovation & Service Design, Insight & Research, CRM, Strategy, Tech & UX. Marketing, Media Planning & Buying, Performance Media, Project Management / Product Management.

We supply permanent hires, executive search, freelance & fixed term contracts and payroll management services.

Our Service

With our clients we work alongside them not to only recruit but to consult on the current market, how best to structure, hire and retain new Marketing, Creative, Technology, Sales, Digital & Data & Insights divisions.

Our service is split into two distinct services:

- **Initial consulting** - a scoping of your requirements and a follow up document putting forward our recommendations on market insights, department structure, salaries, packages etc - this is completely free of charge and does not come with any obligation to use us for the hiring.

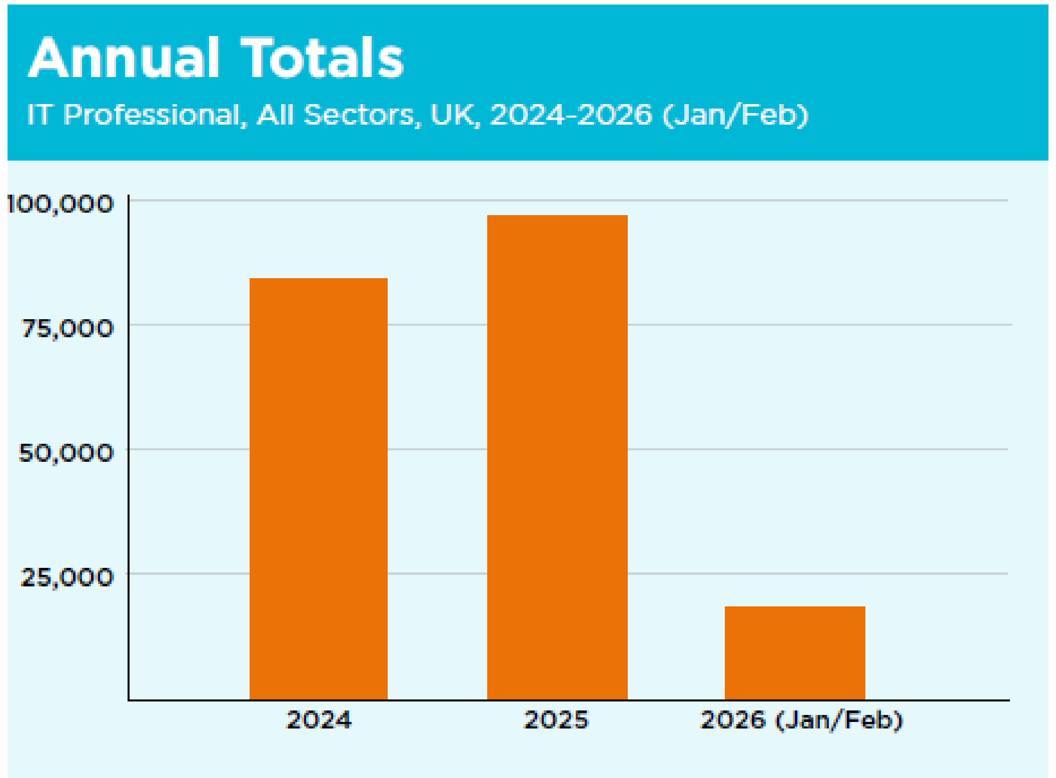
- **Recruitment & Retention** – delivery of a recruitment strategy and hiring plan to identify, attract and retain the ideal talent for your organisational culture and goals. Our fee structure is based upon the scale of any project.

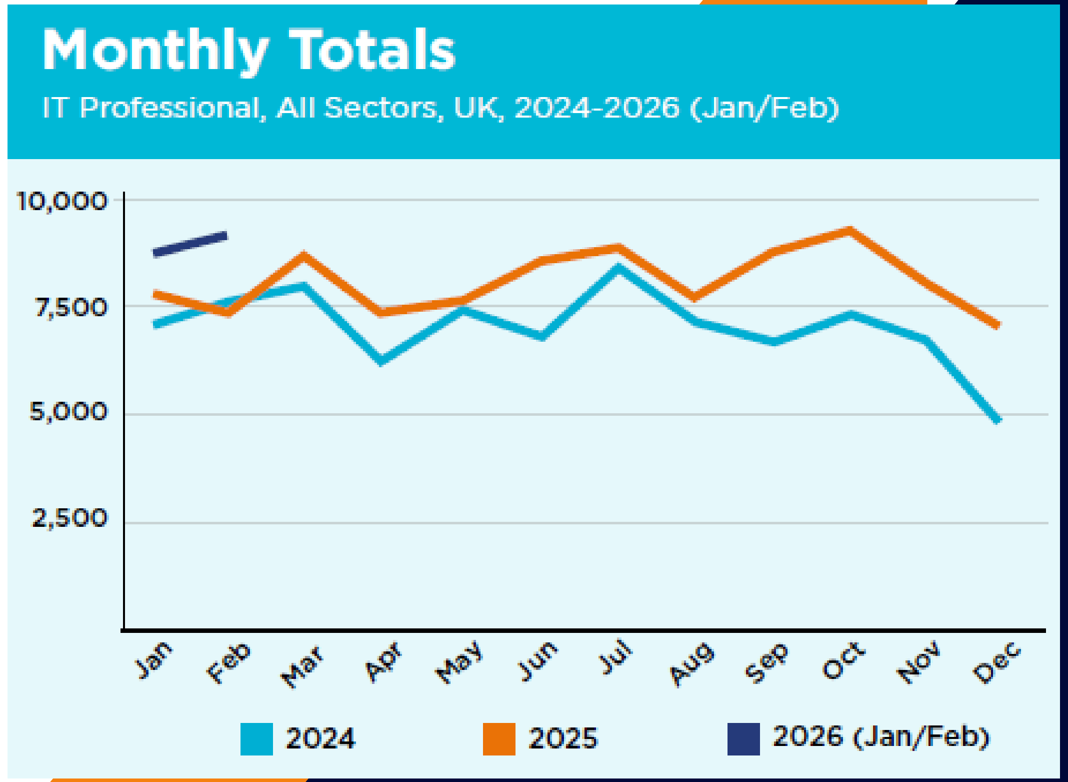
Our Purpose is to strengthen the target market so that the business will increase

IT Sector Overview

Demand for IT professionals across the UK strengthened further in 2025, reflecting continued digital investment across industries. Vacancies rose by 15.2% year-on-year, with momentum carrying into 2026. A total of 17,923 IT vacancies were recorded in January–February 2026, representing an 18.1% increase compared with the same period last year. This suggests that, despite broader economic caution, digital capability remains a priority for employers.

Monthly trends highlight a market characterised by fluctuations rather than steady expansion. Vacancies peaked in October 2025 at 9,226 roles, while December recorded the lowest level at 7,009. The sharpest increase occurred between February and March, with vacancies rising 17.6% month-on-month. Early 2026 data point to renewed strength, with February recording 9,163 vacancies, the strongest month so far this year.

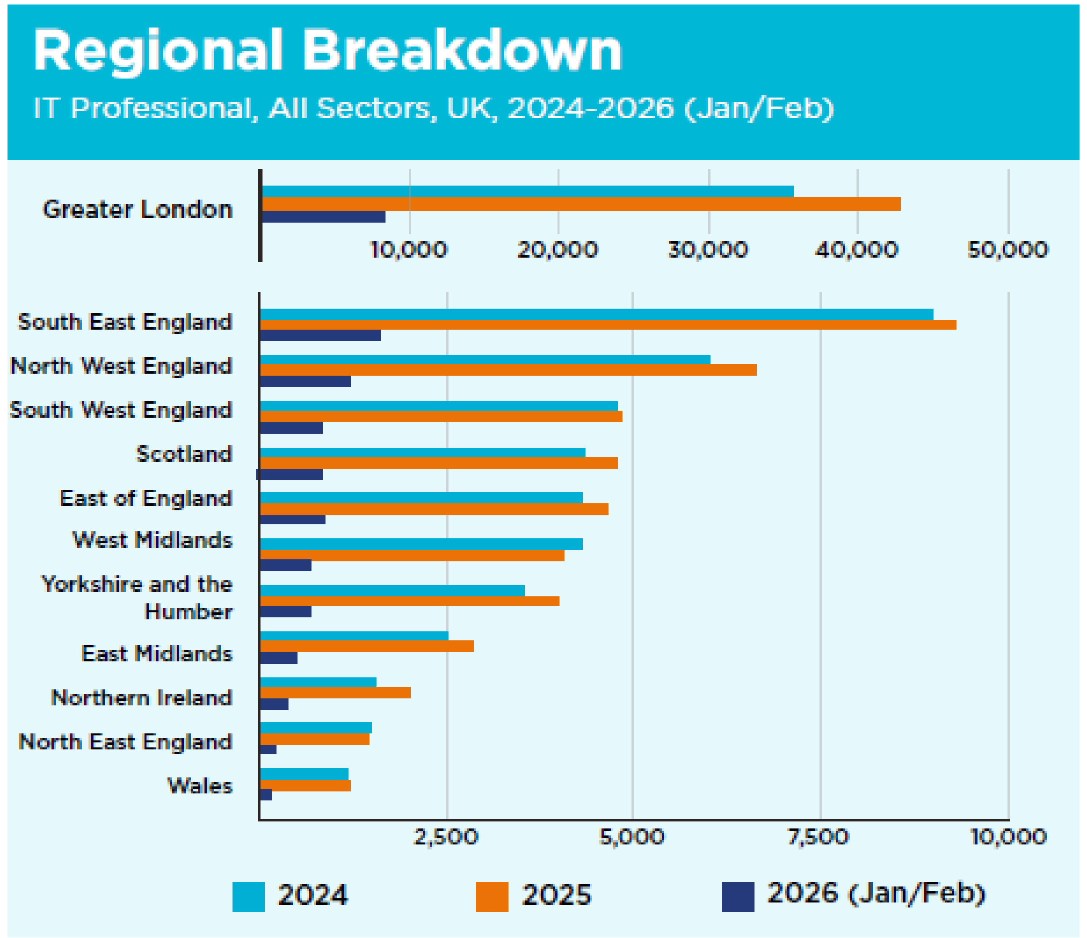


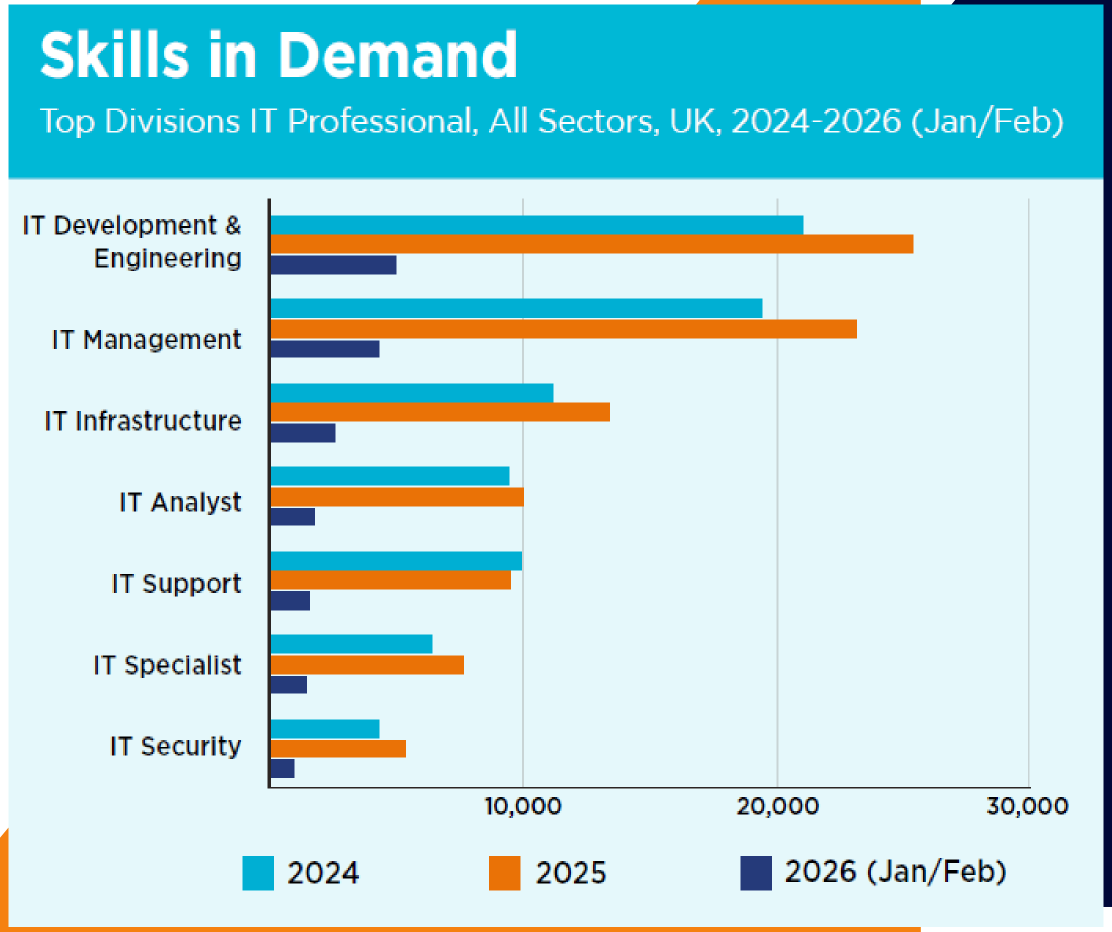


Quarterly performance reinforces this pattern. Q3 2025 was the most productive period, with 25,281 vacancies, a 7.8% increase over Q2. This was followed by a modest correction in Q4, where vacancies declined by 4.2%, suggesting a degree of normalisation after mid-year growth.

Regional distribution remains heavily concentrated. London continues to dominate, recording 42,850 IT vacancies in 2025, up 20.0% year-on-year. Its share of total vacancies rose to 44.3%, reflecting the capital's continued pull for digital talent. Growth has accelerated further in 2026, with vacancies up 25.6% in the first two months of the year.

Outside London, growth is more moderate but still positive. The North West recorded 6,651 vacancies in 2025, up 10.7%, though its share edged down slightly to 6.9%. Early 2026 shows a 9.3% increase. The East of England and Yorkshire and the Humber also expanded, with vacancies rising 9.8% and 13.3%



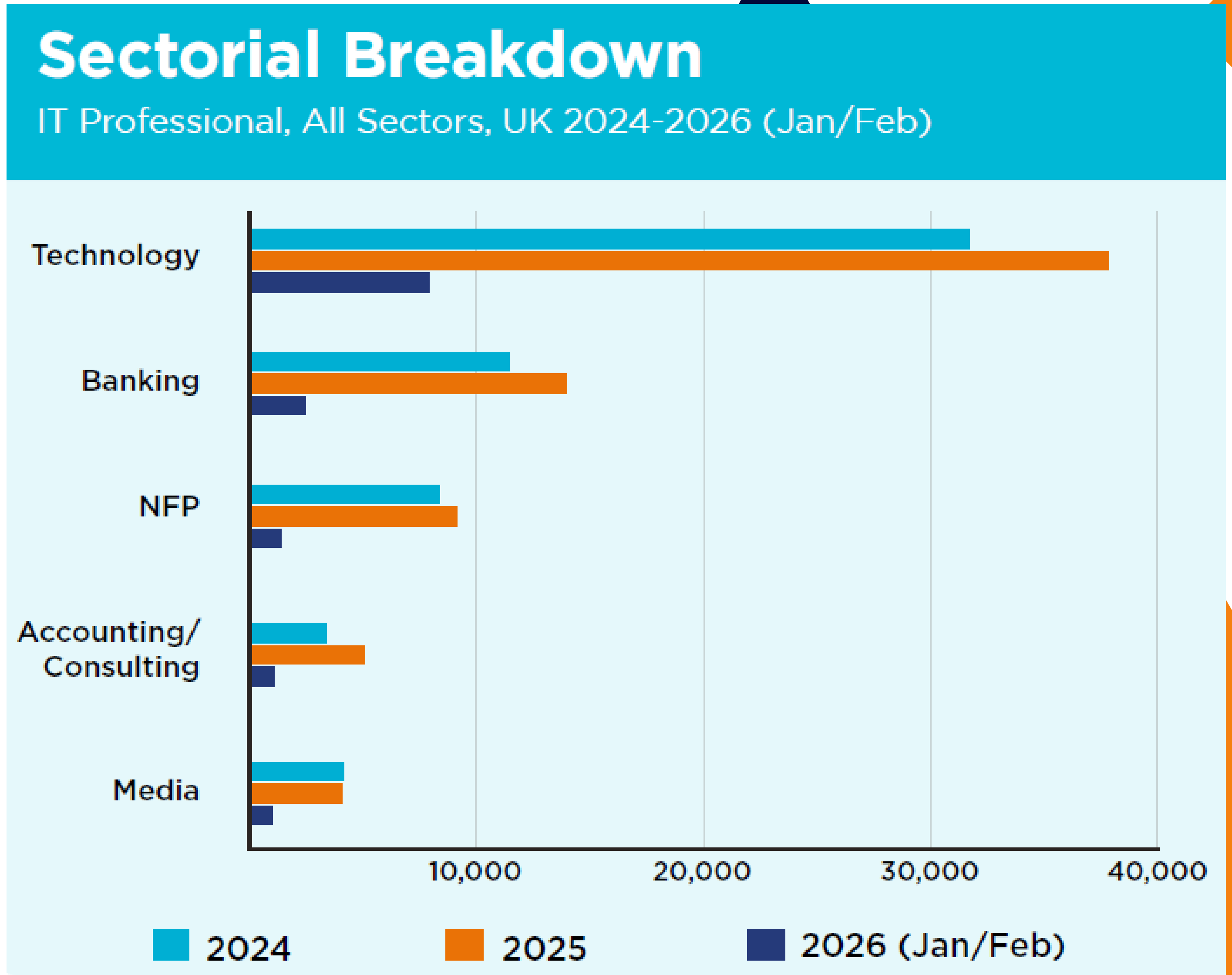


Sector Breakdown

respectively, while both regions recorded strong double-digit growth at the start of 2026. Northern Ireland stands out for its rapid expansion, with vacancies rising by 29.4% in 2025 and by a further 36.7% in early 2026.

At a functional level, demand is strongest in roles linked to development, infrastructure, and leadership. IT Development and Engineering recorded 25,358 vacancies in 2025, up 20.4%, with further growth of 31.1% in early 2026. IT Management and Infrastructure roles also expanded strongly, reflecting the need to scale and maintain increasingly complex systems. By contrast, IT Support roles declined by 4.4%, while Analyst roles saw only modest growth, indicating a shift towards higher-value technical capabilities.

Sector demand reflects similar dynamics. Technology accounted for 37,908 vacancies in 2025, up 19.4%, with strong growth continuing into 2026. Banking also expanded, with vacancies rising 21.5%, alongside significant increases in accounting and consulting. Media remained relatively flat, though early 2026 suggests a recovery.



Top Companies

IT Professional, All Sectors, UK, 2024-2026 (Jan/Feb)

Company	2024	2025	2026 (Jan/Feb)	2025/24
JPMorgan Chase & Co	1375	1904	366	38.5%
Barclays	690	1170	258	69.6%
Lloyds Banking Group	912	1096	223	20.2%
Google	390	519	159	33.1%
Capgemini	496	763	157	53.8%
Deloitte	212	487	154	129.7%
Wipro	205	496	146	142.0%
Microsoft Corp	529	493	122	-6.8%
BT	888	616	119	-30.6%
Visa	352	492	112	39.8%

At company level, growth is concentrated among large, technology-driven employers. JPMorgan Chase recorded 1,904 IT vacancies in 2025, up 38.5%, with continued hiring in early 2026. Barclays increased vacancies by 69.6%, while Visa and BAE Systems also reported strong growth. Firms such as PA Consulting and Amazon continue to recruit actively, reinforcing sustained demand for digital expertise.

The direction of travel is clear. Demand for IT professionals remains structurally strong, but increasingly focused on roles that deliver innovation, efficiency, and competitive advantage.

DRC Search

Thank You

"We hope you've enjoyed our Market Insight Survey. If you would like to discuss the survey or would like to work with us on your next hire or your next career move, then please get in touch.

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