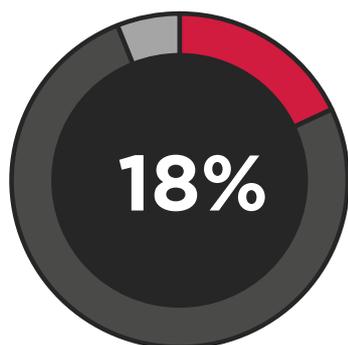


Big businesses are more likely to be hit by cyber-attacks, but all need to improve their security

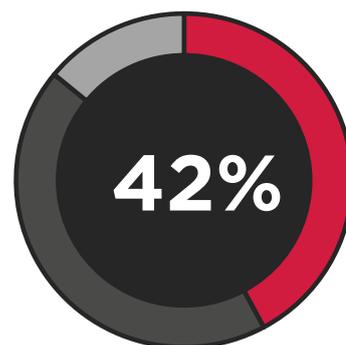
The British Chambers of Commerce (BCC) surveyed 1,285 business people from all regions of the UK online in January 2017 to understand how cybercrime is impacting on UK businesses.

One in five respondents say they have fallen victim to cyber-attacks in the past year.

Big businesses are far more likely than their smaller counterparts to be victims of attacks (42% of respondents with more than 100 staff, compared to 18% of respondents with fewer than 99 employees)



of respondents with fewer than 99 employees say they have been a victim of a cyber-attack in the last 12 months



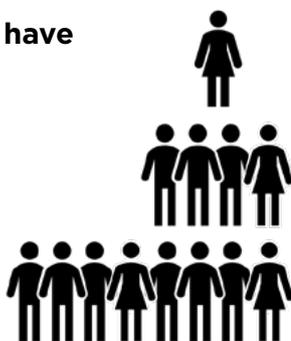
of respondents with more than 100 employees say they have been a victim of a cyber-attack in the last 12 months

Only a quarter (24%) of respondents have cyber security accreditations in place. Of these...

...only **10%** of sole traders have accreditations...

...**15%** of firms with 1 to 4 employees...

...and **47%** of firms with more than 100 employees.



Of the firms with cyber security accreditations in place...

49% believe they give their business a competitive advantage over rival companies

33% believe they help create a more secure environment for trading

“Cyber-attacks risk companies’ finances, confidence and reputation, with victims reporting not only monetary losses but costs from disruption to their business and productivity. While firms of all sizes – from major corporations to one-man operations – fall prey to attacks, our evidence shows that large companies are more likely to experience them.

Firms need to be proactive about protecting themselves from cyber-attacks. Accreditations can help businesses assess their own IT infrastructure, defend against cyber-security breaches and mitigate the damage caused by an attack. It can also increase confidence among the businesses and clients who they engage with online.

Businesses should also be mindful of the extension to data protection regulation coming into force next year, which will increase their responsibilities and requirements to protect personal data. Firms that don’t adopt the appropriate protections leave themselves open to tough penalties.”

Dr Adam Marshall

Director General, British Chambers of Commerce