Tech Nation 2017

Status:	**Closed**
Start date:	**2016-11-16**
End date:	**2016-12-06**
Live:	**21 days**
Questions:	**22**
Partial completes:	**27 (25.2%)**
Screened out:	**0 (0%)**
Reached end:	**80 (74.8%)**
Total responded:	**107**

Filter

Responded

2. Sheffield

Remaining respondents: **107 (100%)**

Welcome to Tech Nation 2017!

Tech Nation is the most comprehensive guide to the UK's digital tech ecosystem.

We know that ecosystems are driven by people like you and you are what make companies and communities thrive. This is why we want to hear directly from you. Specifically about your ecosystem; what's great, what's not so great, how could it be improved?

Whether you're part of a tech company or the local ecosystem (eg. accelerator, co-working space, university), we'd love to represent your views in Tech Nation 2017!

- One survey
- 10-20 questions (depending on your answers)
- 7 minutes (we've tested it)

Click here to start and be part of Tech Nation.

1. What is your role in the tech community?

Response	Total	% of responses	%
Work in a tech business	38		36%
Founder/CEO of a tech business	37		35%
Service provider (Consulting, Accounting, Legal, etc.)	13		12%
Other, please specify	9		8%
Academic/educator	8		7%
Investor	1		1%
Co-working space	1		1%
Startup incubator or accelerator	0		0%
Total respondents: 107 **Skipped question: 0**		0% 20% 40% 60% 80%	

2. Where is your company/organisation headquartered?

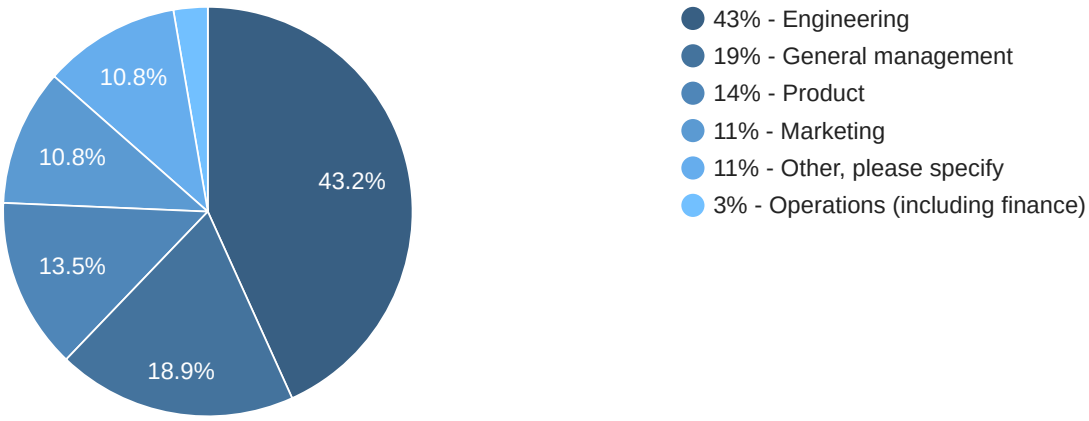
Response	Total	% of responses	%
Sheffield	107		100%
Other, please specify	0		0%
Wakefield	0		0%
South Gloucestershire	0		0%
Birmingham	0		0%
Lincoln	0		0%
Bolton	0		0%
Reading & Bracknell	0		0%
Bournemouth & Poole	0		0%
Stoke-on-Trent	0		0%
Bradford	0		0%
Worcester & Malvern	0		0%
Brighton	0		0%
Oldham	0		0%
Bristol & Bath	0		0%
Oxford	0		0%
Camborne	0		0%
Rotherham	0		0%
Cambridge	0		0%
Southampton	0		0%
Cardiff	0		0%
Swansea	0		0%
Coventry	0		0%
Wirral	0		0%
Derby	0		0%
Colchester	0		0%
Doncaster	0		0%
Middlesbrough	0		0%
Dudley	0		0%
Warrington	0		0%
Dundee	0		0%
Nottingham	0		0%
East Riding	0		0%
Plymouth	0		0%
Edinburgh	0		0%
Redruth	0		0%
Exeter & Newton Abbot	0		0%
Belfast	0		0%
Sefton	0		0%
Fife	0		0%

South Lanarkshire	0	0%
Glasgow	0	0%
Stockport	0	0%
Hull	0	0%
Sunderland	0	0%
Ipswich	0	0%
Truro	0	0%
Kingston-upon-Hull	0	0%
Wigan	0	0%
Kirklees	0	0%
Wolverhampton	0	0%
Leeds	0	0%
Barnsley	0	0%
Leicester	0	0%
Derry	0	0%
Liverpool	0	0%
Loughborough	0	0%
London	0	0%
Newport	0	0%
Manchester	0	0%
Peterborough	0	0%
Durham	0	0%
York	0	0%
Newcastle-upon-Tyne	0	0%
Aberdeen	0	0%
Norwich	0	0%

Total respondents: 107
Skipped question: 0

0% 20% 40% 60% 80%

3. What is your current role?



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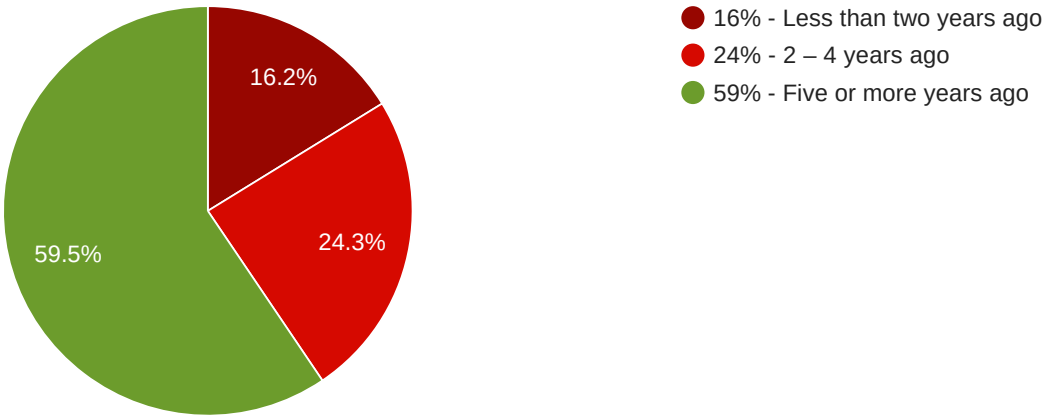
4. When was your company founded?



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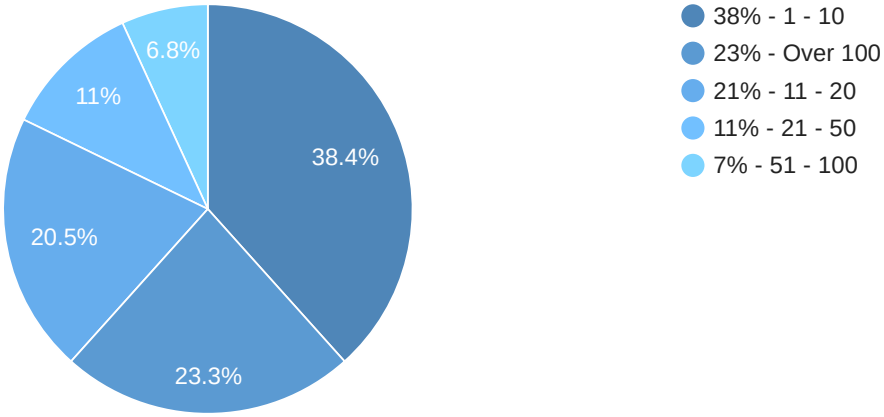
5. How many employees does your company have?



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6. How much of a challenge are the following to your company?

Sub-questions	Resp.	% of responses	avg	med	SD
Lack of supply of highly skilled workers	62	8 10 29 39 15	3.42	4	1.1
Low levels of awareness of a local digital industry	62	13 24 29 27 6	2.9	3	1.13
Poor transport infrastructure (e.g. roads, rail and air)	62	27 10 19 32 11	2.9	3	1.4
Limited opportunities to access finance	62	23 21 29 15 13	2.74	3	1.31
Poor digital infrastructure e.g. broadband	62	27 27 13 18 15	2.65	2	1.42
Limited supply of appropriate property on competitive terms	62	21 29 26 16 8	2.61	2	1.21
Regulation (e.g. data protection, employment law)	62	21 27 31 18 3	2.55	3	1.1
Retention of skilled workers	62	27 27 27 11 6	2.42	2	1.19
Lack of formal advice and mentoring (e.g. business, legal, accounting)	62	26 31 31 10 3	2.34	2	1.06

Average: 2.73 — Median: 3 — Standard Deviation: 1.26

- 1. Not a challenge
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5. A major challenge

7. To what extent are the following challenges for tech companies in your area?

Sub-questions	Resp.	% of responses	avg	med	SD
Lack of supply of highly skilled workers	22	45 27 27	3.82	4	0.83
Limited opportunities to access finance	22	18 36 23 23	3.5	3	1.03
Low levels of awareness of a local digital industry	22	9 14 32 36 9	3.23	3	1.08
Poor digital infrastructure e.g. broadband	22	5 27 32 27 9	3.09	3	1.04
Poor transport infrastructure (e.g. roads, rail and air)	22	14 18 32 23 14	3.05	3	1.22
Lack of formal advice and mentoring (e.g. business, legal, accounting)	22	18 9 36 32 5	2.95	3	1.15
Limited supply of appropriate property on competitive terms	22	14 27 27 23 9	2.86	3	1.18
Retention of skilled workers	22	9 23 50 9 9	2.86	3	1.01
Regulation (e.g. data protection, employment law)	22	27 36 32 5	2.14	2	0.87

Average: 3.06 — Median: 3 — Standard Deviation: 1.14

- 1. Not a challenge
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5. A major challenge

8. Approximately what percentage of the employees in your company ....

Sub-questions	Resp.	% of responses	avg	med	SD
UK residents by virtue of a visa	63	84 6 8	1.52	1	1.26
Are female in senior management/leadership roles	63	70 16 5 3 6	1.6	1	1.13
Are female	63	54 32 5 3 6	1.76	1	1.11
Are UK residents by virtue of a (non-UK) EU passport	63	56 6 30 6	2.25	1	1.51

Average: 1.79 — Median: 1 — Standard Deviation: 1.29

1. 0-25%
2. 26-50%
3. 51-75%
4. Over 75%
5. Don't know

9. When recruiting talent what are the primary challenges you face?

Response	Total	% of responses	%
Lack of relevant industry experience	31		50%
Looking for more pay than you can offer	24		39%
Difficulty targeting the right people	18		29%
Lack of cultural fit	17		27%
Lack of time	15		24%
Looking for a better package than you can offer	10		16%
Other, please specify	9		15%
Lack of a top tier investor	7		11%
Relocation/immigration difficulties	5		8%

Total respondents: 62
Skipped question: 22

0% 20% 40% 60% 80%

10. Which are the most effective methods for attracting talent to your organisation?

Response	Total	% of responses	%
Word of mouth	29		47%
Employee referrals	28		45%
Social media (e.g. Facebook, Twitter)	22		35%
Links with colleges / universities	20		32%
Your company website	18		29%
Search/recruitment consultants	13		21%
Online professional networks (e.g. Hackerrank, LinkedIn)	11		18%
Other, please specify	5		8%
Job boards (CareerBuilder, Monster, Glassdoor)	5		8%
Job search engines (e.g. Indeed, SimplyHired)	3		5%
Advertising in national or specialist press	1		2%
Through investors	0		0%
Careers fairs	0		0%
Total respondents: 62 **Skipped question: 22**		0% 20% 40% 60% 80%	

11. Do you offer any specific perks to motivate and retain employees (e.g. day off on birthday, free beer on Friday, a ping pong table, annual staff trip abroad)?

Respondents	62		58%
Skipped question: 22		0% 20% 40% 60% 80%	

12. How long do staff tend to stay with your company?

Sub-questions	Resp.	% of responses	avg	med	SD
In management/leadership roles	60	8 23 38 30	3.9	4	0.93
In junior or mid-level roles	60	3 12 35 18 32	3.63	3	1.14

Average: 3.77 — Median: 4 — Standard Deviation: 1.05

- 1. Less than a year
- 2. 1 – 2 years
- 3. 3 - 4 years
- 4. More than 5 years
- 5. Don't know

13. How would you rate your local area on the following?

Sub-questions	Resp.	% of responses	avg	med	SD
Overall quality of life	82	9 10 38 44	4.17	4	0.92
Cost of living	82	4 23 39 33	3.99	4	0.9
Tech sector growth potential	82	12 17 38 33	3.91	4	0.99
Strength of the digital economy	82	20 35 30 12	3.3	3	1
Transport infrastructure (e.g. public transportation, traffic congestion)	82	10 29 28 23 10	2.94	3	1.14
Talent supply	82	10 22 41 23 4	2.89	3	0.99

Average: 3.53 — Median: 4 — Standard Deviation: 1.12

- 1. Very poor
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5. Very good

14. Has your company ever taken advantage of any of the following support locally?

Response	Total	% of responses	%
Apprenticeship/ internship programmes	20		33%
Space in a co-working space	20		33%
Brand building activities (e.g. awards, media coverage)	20		33%
Business or marketing skills training	17		28%
Mentoring from experienced entrepreneurs	16		27%
Technical/research support from local universities	14		23%
Financial support/funding	13		22%
Technical skills training	10		17%
None of the above	9		15%
Place in an accelerator	4		7%
Place in an incubator	2		3%
Tech Nation Visa	0		0%

Total respondents: 60
Skipped question: 22

0% 20% 40% 60% 80%

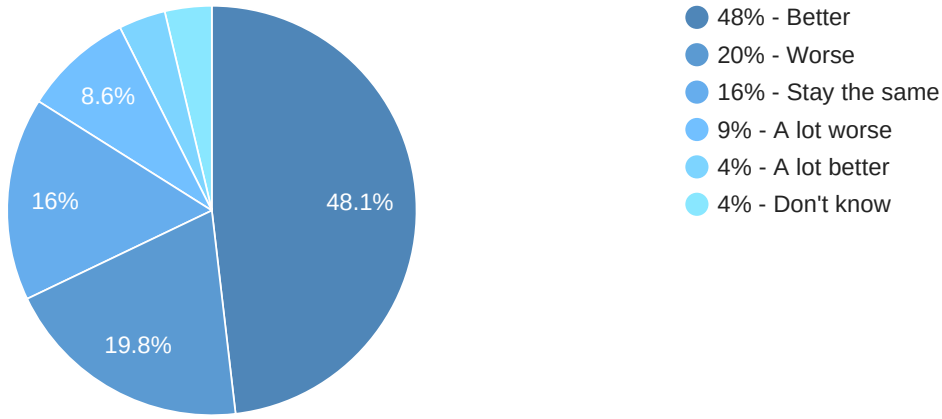
15. How useful have you found the following local support?

Sub-questions	Resp.	% of responses	avg	med	SD
Place in an accelerator	4	75 25	4.25	4	0.43
Mentoring from experienced entrepreneurs	15	20 40 40	4.2	4	0.75
Space in a co-working space	20	35 40 25	3.9	4	0.77
Apprenticeship/ internship programmes	20	5 40 35 20	3.7	4	0.84
Technical/research support from local universities	14	7 50 21 21	3.57	3	0.9
Place in an incubator	2	50 50	3.5	3	0.5
Business or marketing skills training	16	13 38 38 13	3.5	3	0.87
Financial support/funding	13	23 31 31 15	3.38	3	1
Brand building activities (e.g. awards, media coverage)	20	15 50 25 10	3.3	3	0.84
Technical skills training	9	11 56 33	3.22	3	0.63
Tech Nation Visa	0		0	0	0

Average: 3.64 — Median: 4 — Standard Deviation: 0.8

1. Very bad
2.
3.
4.
5. Very good

16. Over the next twelve months do you think the business environment for UK tech businesses will get better, get worse, or stay the same?



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17. As a result of Brexit, to what extent do you agree or disagree with the following?

Sub-questions	Resp.	% of responses	avg	med	SD
We will find it harder to attract talent	59	12 17 31 29 12	3.12	3	1.18
We expect to grow our operations in the UK	59	12 19 34 20 15	3.08	3	1.21
We will find it hard to retain talent	59	19 19 32 25 5	2.8	3	1.16
We anticipate improved access to new markets	59	25 29 29 10 7	2.44	2	1.17
We anticipate improved access to non-EU talent (India, US ...)	59	27 24 34 10 5	2.42	2	1.14
We are likely to move at least some of our operations out of the UK	59	49 10 27 7 7	2.12	1.5	1.28

Average: 2.66 — Median: 3 — Standard Deviation: 1.25

1. Disagree strongly
2.
3.
4.
5. Agree strongly

18. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

Sub-questions	Resp.	% of responses	avg	med	SD
Apprenticeships are an effective way for tech businesses to find new, tailor-made talent	52	4 10 33 35 19	3.56	4	1.03
I'm familiar with the changes being made by Government to the apprenticeship offer.	52	21 27 25 17 10	2.67	3	1.25

Average: 3.12 — Median: 3 — Standard Deviation: 1.23

1. Disagree strongly
2.
3.
4.
5. Agree strongly

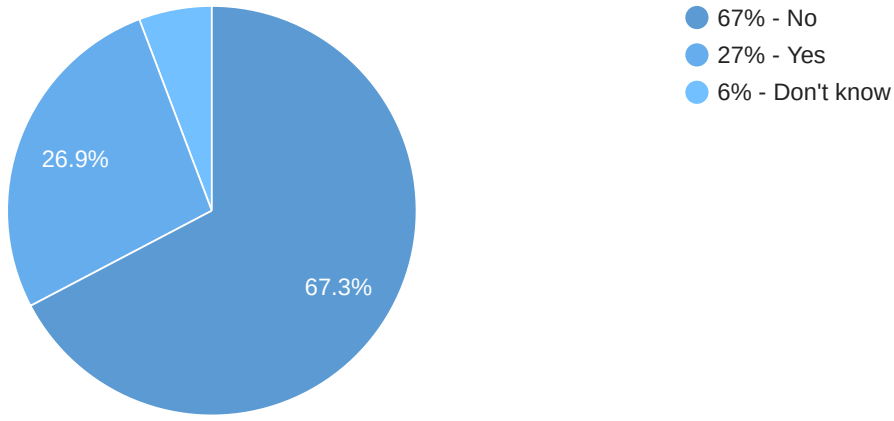
19. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

Sub-questions	Resp.	% of responses	avg	med	SD
The Government's new apprenticeship offer brings many new potential benefits to businesses.	32	3 / 47 / 25 / 25	3.72	3	0.87

Average: 3.72 — Median: 3 — Standard Deviation: 0.87

- 1. Disagree strongly
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5. Agree strongly

20. Does your organisation currently offer apprenticeships?



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21. We appreciate you helping us with this survey. If you would like to receive the Tech Nation 2017 Report, please enter your email address below before submitting your survey, otherwise type 'REF'.

Respondents	80	75%

Skipped question: 0