

# Country view: United Kingdom

C-suite respondents in the UK think they spend less of their IT budget on cyber security than their peers – 7% of budget, compared to 10% worldwide – the lowest figure of any national grouping of C-suite executives.

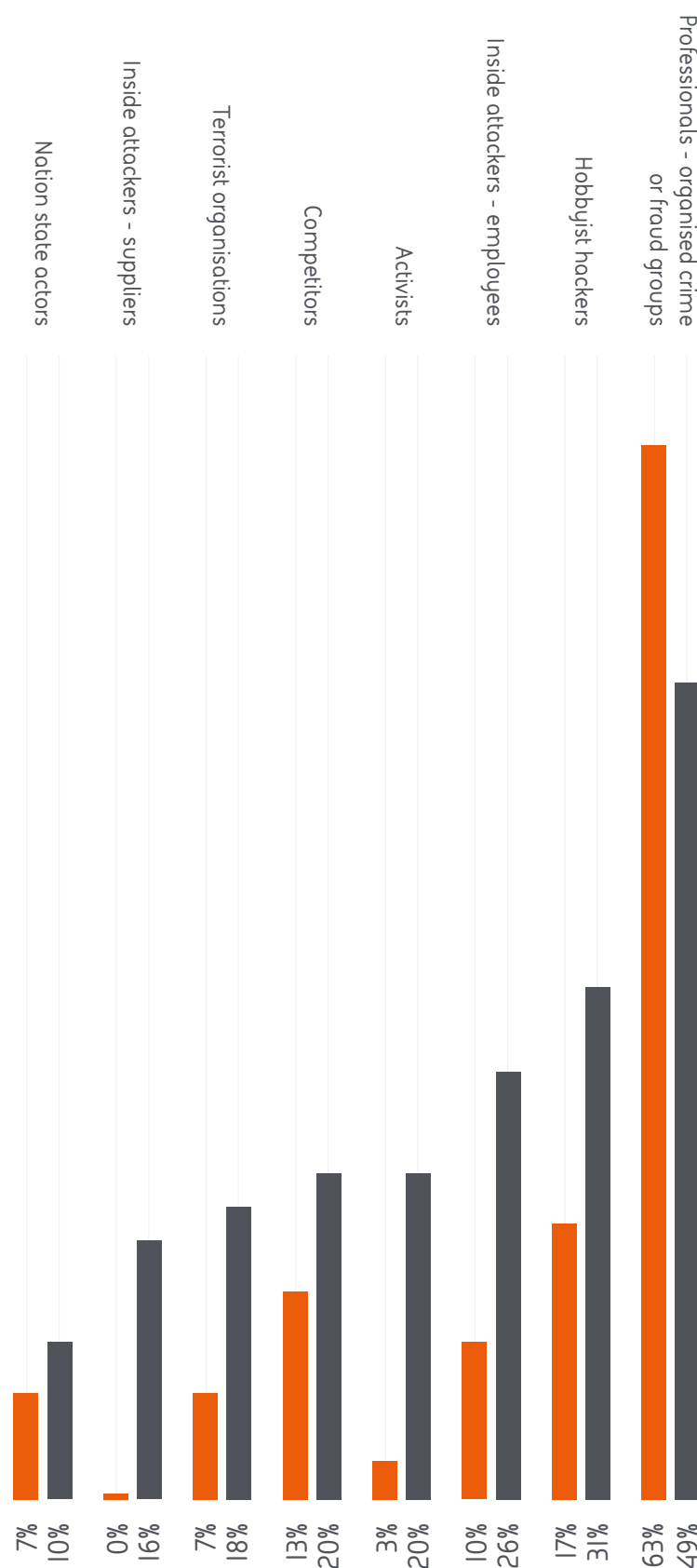
ITDMs in the UK are enthusiastic about the cloud, mirroring general C-suite enthusiasm for the idea; 37% of the ITDMs surveyed in the UK predicted they would increase spending on cloud services.

There was also a significant focus on organised attack groups amongst both ITDMs and executives in the UK. Professionals – organised crime or fraud groups – were regarded as the most likely threat actors, while ITDMs also picked hobbyist hackers as the second most likely attack source.

This is matched by recent findings from the UK's Office for National Statistics, which for the first time earlier this year included computer misuse in its annual Crime Survey for England and Wales. The survey recorded 5.6 million incidents involving fraud and computer misuse, and while the overall trend in crime in the UK shows a decline in reported offences from 1995 onwards, these statistics only incorporate cyber-related crimes for the first time this year.

UK ITDMs also point to some interesting reasons why an attack on their organisation might succeed. A breach from outside is the most likely reason – but ITDMs also cite insufficient investments in IT security (34%) supply chain vulnerabilities, outdated software and deliberate security breaches by an employee.

Another area of interest in the UK: the business leaders we spoke to argued almost overwhelmingly that the IT team in their organisation holds the ultimate responsibility for security breaches, with 47% holding their IT department accountable. In contrast, ITDMs believe their organisation's leader, senior management and the Board are responsible. The figures reveal a significant difference of opinion between these two groups, and likely some interesting future discussions about responsibility and accountability in the event of a successful attack.



MOST LIKELY SOURCE OF THREAT - UK



47% of C-suite respondents hold their IT department accountable for a breach



34% of ITDMs believe there is insufficient investment in IT security

