In the summer of 2015, 3,500 institutions were invited to contribute data to the EDUCAUSE Core Data Service (CDS). This almanac summarizes data from a subset of responding institutions. Some publicly available data from the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS, www.nces.ed.gov/ipeds/) are used in calculating metrics. Reported statistics are either an estimated proportion of the population or an estimated median (rather than a mean). CDS participants can access data at www.educause.edu/coredata; non-participants can access other CDS resources at this site.
RESEARCH TECHNOLOGY SERVICES

0% Central IT research technology services spending as a percentage of total central IT spending
0.0 Central IT research technology services FTEs per 1,000 institutional FTEs
2% Institutions providing integrated IT support for research computing
28% Institutions planning to provide integrated IT support for research computing
  • TFLOPS capacity among institutions with high-performance computing

Most common IT-related research consulting and support services:
• Review and/or approval of other technical aspects of research projects (84%)
• Assistance in preparing research grant applications (80%)
• Review and/or approval of information security plans for research involving sensitive data (76%)

Services most commonly made available to external entities:
• Server hosting (16%)
• Access to specialized scientific apparatus (12%)
• Server management (12%)

Most commonly deployed research computing systems and technologies:
• High-performance local area network (48%)
• High-performance wide area network (40%)
• Specialized software support (40%)

DATA CENTERS

4% Central IT data center spending as a percentage of total central IT spending
0.2 Central IT data center FTEs per 1,000 institutional FTEs
30% Institutions using commercial data center services
23% Institutions participating in cross-institutional data center hosting
72% Institutions using SaaS to provide data center services
19% Institutions using PaaS to provide data center services
31% Institutions using IaaS to provide data center services
28% Institutions that tested data center disaster recovery plans in past year
9% Institutions with no data center disaster recovery plans in place

COMMUNICATIONS INFRASTRUCTURE

11% Central IT communications infrastructure spending as a percentage of total central IT spending
0.5 Central IT communications infrastructure FTEs per 1,000 institutional FTEs
55% Proportion of access points that are 802.11n
4% Proportion of access points that are 802.11ac
48% Ports that are PoE capable
7.0 Expected service lifetime of core/backbone network access layer (years)
0.4 Wired network hosts per wired network port
7.1 Wireless network hosts per wireless port
39% Institutions that provide ubiquitous cell service

* Sample size of fewer than 15 institutions

Services provided in student housing with data networks:
• Landlines in some or all rooms (60%)
• Managed streaming services (21%)

Communications infrastructure technologies most likely to be deployed soon:
• Unified communications and collaboration (27%)
• Softphones (26%)
• IPv6 (26%)

INFORMATION SECURITY

1% Central IT information security spending as a percentage of total central IT spending
0.1 Central IT information security FTEs per 1,000 institutional FTEs
58% Institutions with mandatory information security training for faculty or staff
24% Institutions with mandatory information security training for students
25% Institutions that are members of an authentication federation (e.g., InCommon)
76% Institutions that have conducted any sort of IT security risk assessment

INFORMATION SYSTEMS AND APPLICATIONS

19% Central IT information systems spending as a percentage of total central IT spending
1.4 Central IT information systems FTEs per 1,000 institutional FTEs

Systems most commonly vendor hosted (IaaS):
• Web content management (13%)
• Library (12%)
• Facilities management (11%)

Systems most commonly vendor managed (PaaS):
• Web content management (6%)
• Customer relationship management (CRM) (6%)
• Grants management: preaward (6%)
• Grants management: postaward (6%)

Systems most commonly vendor managed (SaaS):
• E-mail: student (63%)
• E-mail: faculty/staff (43%)
• Learning management (43%)

Systems most likely to be replaced in the next three years:
• Customer relationship management (CRM) (25%)
• IT service desk management (23%)
• Web content management (16%)

Systems most commonly mobile friendly:
• Learning management (64%)
• E-mail: faculty/staff (62%)
• E-mail: student (62%)