Cybrary’s 2015 IT & Cyber Security Survey

Identifying trends among companies in the private and public sector regarding IT and cyber security training for 2015
Abstract

How concerned are companies when it comes to making sure their employees have received adequate IT and cyber security training? Are companies willing to allocate a significant part of their budgets for IT development? Have recent security threats caused companies to change how they feel about IT training?

When Cybrary polled over 400 senior-level technology professionals, we found that companies are indeed concerned about getting quality IT training, but are hindered in their quest by multiple factors.
Are you or your employees within your company in need of IT training?

- Yes, often: 2%
- No, not at the moment, but will soon: 21%
- No, not at the moment: 16%
- No, never: 61%
Does your company invest in IT training for its employees?

- Yes, only for those in IT: 34%
- Yes, for anyone who needs it: 41%
- No, but plan to: 8%
- No: 16%
How much of your company’s overall IT budget is dedicated to IT training?

- 46%: 1-10%
- 24%: 10-20%
- 12%: 20-40%
- 10%: 50%+
- 3%: Too expensive for our budget
- 5%: No need for IT Training; no budget
What is the greatest impediment to IT training with your company?

- Lack of management buy-in: 15%
- Lack of training options: 9%
- Lack of resources (time and staff): 35%
- Costs: 40%
What are the most important and/or popular areas for IT training in your company? (Select up to 3)
What characteristics do you think make for a great IT training program and/or environment? (Mark your top 3)

- Cost (get what you pay for): 18%
- Reputable company: 16%
- The content of the courses offered: 15%
- The professionals teaching the courses: 14%
- Accreditation: 14%
- Collaboration with other IT learners: 4%
- My peers have used it: 5%
- Ease of access to courses: 9%
- Volume & Variety of course offered: 5%
- My peers have used it: 5%
- Collaboration with other IT learners: 4%
- Cost (get what you pay for): 18%
- Reputable company: 16%
- The content of the courses offered: 15%
- The professionals teaching the courses: 14%
- Accreditation: 14%
- Collaboration with other IT learners: 4%
- My peers have used it: 5%
- Ease of access to courses: 9%
- Volume & Variety of course offered: 5%
How do you see the need for available IT training for you/your employees next year and beyond?

- Increasing: 56%
- Staying about the same: 25%
- Decreasing: 4%
- Hard to say, but definitely always changing: 15%
When it comes to spending on IT training measures for 2015, does your company plan to:

- Increase spending by 30%: 30%
- Decrease spending: 7%
- Spend the same amount as 2014: 33%
- Still haven't finalized 2015 budget: 30%
Of the IT skills listed below, which do you think will be the top two most desired by hiring managers in 2015?

- Security Compliance & Business Intelligence/Analytics: 45%
- Programming/app development & Database Admin: 33%
- Help desk/tech support & Mobile Apps & Device Management: 15%
- Networking & Project Management: 7%
Do you think overall costs and access to quality IT training will:

- Increase in 2015 & beyond: 55%
- Decrease in 2015 & beyond: 6%
- Will stay relative to what it is now: 20%
- Hard to say: 18%
Does your company plan to hire more IT staff over the course of the year?

- Yes: 43%
- No: 18%
- Not Sure: 39%
If there was a customizable online training environment that was free and met you and/or your staff’s training needs, would you use it?

- Yes: 70%
- Maybe: 24%
- No: 6%
If you answered “yes” to the previous question, do you think it would save your company money and resources?

- Yes: 56%
- Maybe: 23%
- No: 4%
- Not Sure: 9%
- N/A, No to Previous Question: 8%
What industry do you work in?

- Government: 36%
- Technology: 43%
- Manufacturing: 3%
- Finance: 6%
- Retail: 6%
- Healthcare: 6%

Total: 100%
Summary

IT training is important to the average company. However, considerable barriers in cost, time and management buy-in present issues in getting employees the quality training they need.

Interestingly, despite the lack of IT talent, the majority of companies aren’t increasing their IT spending budget for the year 2015. The majority of employees acknowledged the need for an increased IT budget, and ranked security compliance and governance as top skills desired by hiring managers for 2015.

When presented the question about using free resources for IT training, respondents were eager and enthusiastic, citing that it would save time, energy and most importantly, money.

The results of the survey indicate that the biggest thing preventing employees access to quality IT training is ultimately the expense. Cybrary conducted this survey from November, 2014–January, 2015.
About Cybrary

Cybrary is the world’s first free and open, online IT and cyber security training platform. Cybrary provides instruction in the form of self-paced, online videos that allow users to customize their learning based on their own needs.

Cybrary’s course library spans the following topics: Systems Administration, Network Administration and Cyber Security. Cybrary has over 25+ beginner, immediate and advanced-level courses for online study.

Cybrary is passionate about bringing forth a new revolution in the industry, one in which quality learning is accessible 24/7, free of charge.