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СТАТИСТИЧНІ ДОСЛІДЖЕННЯ ПАНДЕМІЇ COVID-19
ТА ЇЇ НАСЛІДКІВ

TRENDS IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF IT COMPANIES IN UKRAINE
IN THE CONTEXT OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

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In the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, people are increasingly using digital solutions, so the demand for IT products in these conditions is constantly growing. As a result of pandemic for the global business, the digitalization plan has to be accelerated by at least five years. According to Gartner forecasts, this year the cost of IT in the world, associated only with remote work, will amount to 332.9 billion dollars, which is 4.9% more than in the past. In total, companies will invest about \$ 3.9 trillion in IT solutions, which is 6.2% more than in 2020. The largest growth is expected in the software development segment – investments in it will be 8.8% higher than in 2020 [1].

In Ukraine, more than 1,600 companies provide IT services. A feature of this industry is also the presence of a large number of self-employed professionals. As of May 2020 (according to the Ministry of Justice) in Ukraine there were about 183,000 FOPs on IT NACE, while in 2019 this number was ~ 151,000, and in 2018 ~ 123,000. That is, compared to 2019 today, the growth of IT specialists today is + 22%, and if we take into account those who are employed in accordance with labor legislation – the total number of IT specialists exceeds 200,000 specialists [2].

The analysis shows that the IT sector in Ukraine has suffered less than other industries. This dynamic can be explained by the fact that the IT sector did not stop working during the quarantine period and was able to painlessly transfer employees to a remote format. On average, the number of remote vacancies on the market increased by about a third.

Prior to the coronavirus pandemic, the domestic IT sector grew by 25-30% annually. This year growth will not stop, but most likely will not reach last year's figures. Thus, the Ukrainian IT-industry has maintained its growth of 25-30% annually. Outsourcing has suffered the most in the field of information technology, especially that related to tourism. The growth of orders was felt, first of all, by game developers – in a number of companies things went even better than before the quarantine. The number of vacancies in the game development industry in April increased by 11%. In April, some IT-market players announced the postponement of certain projects or budget cuts. Companies focused on team optimization, operating costs,

and business processes. In April, about 98% of IT professionals worked at home. Exceptions were technical specialists who ensure the operation of the company's infrastructure.

One of the negative factors that significantly affected the industry was that the field of information technology in Ukraine focused on customers in Western countries, actively growing with them. Now, when these countries are suffering from a decline in production, the Ukrainian IT-industry may also face a drop in orders. There are global forecasts by Gartner to reduce global spending on IT-services by 8%. However, the cost of services of Ukrainian engineers is still one of the most competitive in the world and certainly almost the most competitive in Europe.

In 2021, the export of IT services is also growing – it brought more than \$ 5 billion to the Ukrainian economy in 2020, and became the largest category of exports of services in the country with a share of 8.3%.

At the same time, since the autumn of 2020, the Ukrainian IT sector has seen a rapid increase in demand for IT-specialists. If in December, according to the anonymous job search platform in IT Djinni, 16 thousand positions were opened, in May 2021 this figure exceeded 25 thousand vacancies. In general, over the past five years, the number of proposals has increased by 30%, and specialists - by 18%.

Experts identify several areas in the IT segment, whose popularity has grown due to the pandemic [2].

1) IT-security. This area has always been relevant, but the coronavirus has increased its importance. Due to the transition to remote work, many companies are concerned about data protection, so everything related to cybersecurity is growing. Those who for some reason did not introduce electronic document management, began to do so.

2) services for the population that help, for example, order delivery of food and ready meals, or buy online and so remain in demand among customers. For business, software that will allow you to be more efficient and organize your work outside the office to mitigate the losses from slowing down or stopping work will be crucial.

3) cloud systems. Today, users want to store information in the cloud without being tied to hardware.

4) intellectual work in development with the right of ownership. In the near future, this area will have the largest profits in the IT-industry.

Among the difficulties that stand out today in the Ukrainian IT-market, we can highlight the following:

1) "brain drain". It is difficult for Ukrainian IT companies to compete with the level of tasks and salaries of international companies. The surge in demand for IT-specialists has led to a violation of proportions – Ukrainian IT-companies want to hire their developers, but many of them work in foreign outsourcing companies, where their salaries are constantly growing.

2) lack of simplified taxation. In 2020, the Ministry of Finance announced the project "Action City" - a special legal regime for the IT-industry. Residents of the program will receive a special status and will be able to pay taxes at a special rate. According to the ministry, this will double the volume of the Ukrainian IT-market.

3) lack of a clear forecast of the industry.

Given the above, we can conclude that in 2021 the Ukrainian IT-market will grow both in terms of the number of employees and the number of investments. And if the growth rate continues for several years, the export of Ukrainian IT-services may increase by 50-100%.

Reference

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HOW COVID-19 PANDEMIC IS CHANGING THE WORLD: A STATISTICAL OUTLOOK

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The COVID-19 pandemic has affected all segments of the population. It presents an unprecedented challenge to public health, the global economy, and the functioning of the National Statistical Office (NSO). The economic and social disruption caused by the pandemic is catastrophic. Governments making decisions must have access to the best information and data available. This paper talks about the impact of the coronavirus pandemic on the functioning of the national statistical office, social and global economy. The world needs reliable data and statistics that are useful for decision-making throughout the different stages of the policy-making process. At a time when statistics are most needed, many statistical systems are lagging. It highlights the need to invest in data and analytics, sufficient resources, modernize operations, and upgrade infrastructure to provide flexibility.

Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) is an infectious disease caused by the severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) virus. Wuhan Municipal Health Commission, China, reported a cluster of cases of pneumonia in Wuhan, Hubei Province. A novel coronavirus was eventually identified[1]. The disease has since spread worldwide. The spread of the disease can be classified as endemic, epidemic, and pandemic. Endemic describes a disease that spreads at a constant level within a place or country without external inputs. It belongs to a particular people or country. An epidemic is a condition where a disease spreads rapidly to many people in a given population within a short period. An epidemic may be restricted to one location, like within a society, community, region, or country. A pandemic is a global epidemic of an infectious disease that spreads to more than one country, continent, or