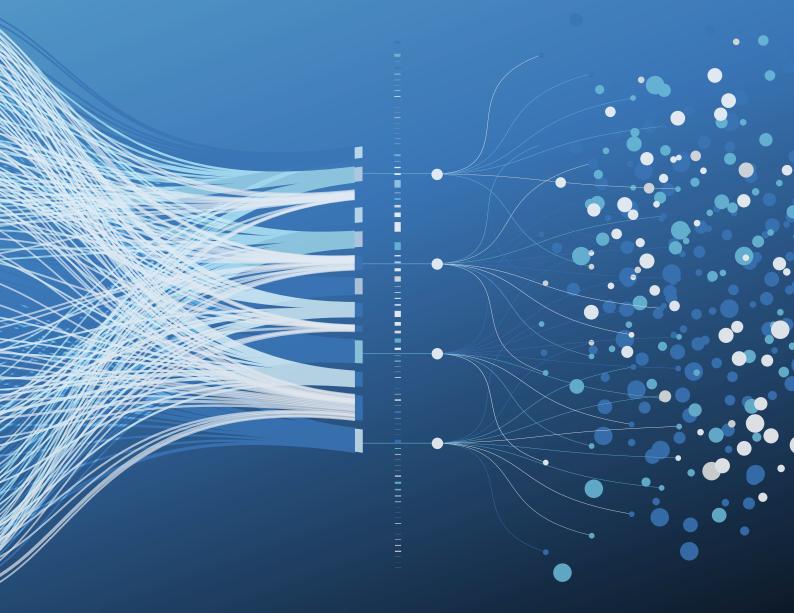
EXTRACT

The Consumer Products & Retail Consulting Market in 2021

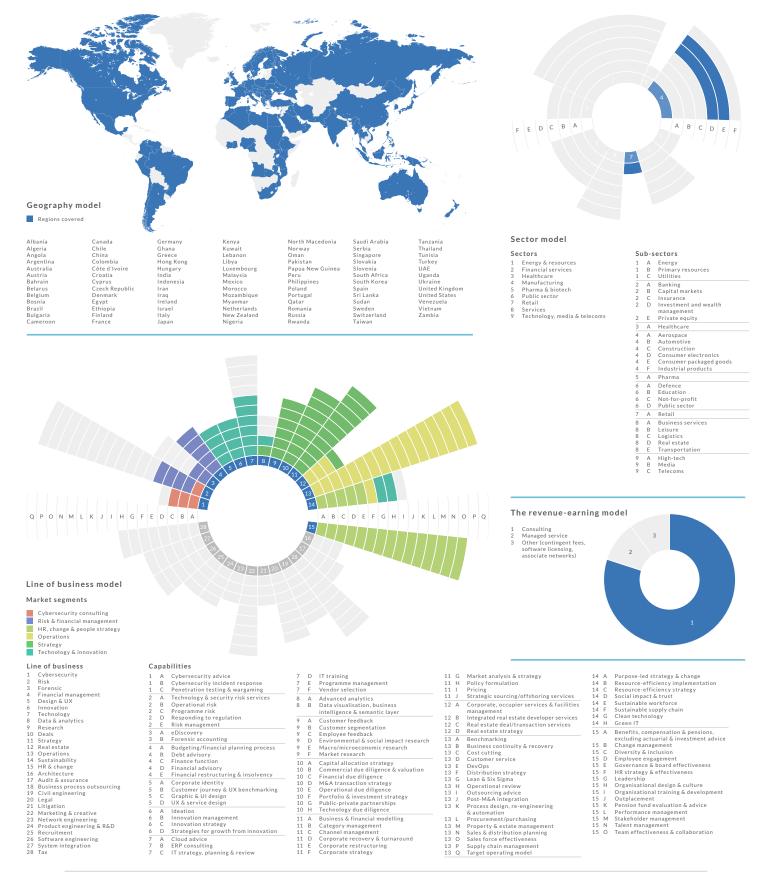
Market Trends Programme





What's included in this report

Our reports offer a wealth of market sizing, growth, and forecast data alongside engaging, in-depth analysis of the trends that matter. Using our highly flexible, multidimensional model we provide firms with robust, trusted data to make informed decisions about strategic investments and plan for the future.





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The consumer products & retail consulting market in 2021

Our forecasts for growth through the end of 2021.

Forecast for 2021 and 2022

About this report

Our report draws on four main sources:

- Our global data model covering the professional services market
- Our annual global client perception survey of senior end-users of consulting firms
- Our interviews with senior management consultants from a range of consulting firms
- Our in-depth desk research on the market

A detailed view of our methodology and more information about Source can be found below:

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The consumer products & retail consulting market in 2020

Consultants working in the consumer products & retail market had every reason to expect 2020 would be a good year. In 2019, they'd seen the market's growth clock in at an impressive 7.5% with revenues hitting US\$24,569m, and 2020 looked to be on a similar trajectory; with digital transformation, efficiency improvements, and M&A all driving significant demand.

Of course, fate took a hand in the form of the COVID-19 pandemic, and consultants' fortunes diverged according to the corner of the market they served. Clients who made or sold goods that met lockdown needs saw a surge of demand that drove many to accelerate their digitisation timelines, streamline operations, and bolster supply chains. Meanwhile, those in the business of producing and selling discretionary and luxury goods generally saw sales (and thus consulting budgets) plummet as consumers stayed home and counted their pennies. At the end of the day, consulting's winners and losers were nearly a wash: The consumer products & retail consulting market shrank 0.3% last year, making it one of the steadier—and therefore better—performers of 2020.

From the consulting segment point of view, the stand-out performerhere, as in other sectors—was the still-small cybersecurity market. Worth about US\$1,789m in 2020, cybersecurity consulting had a blockbuster year, growing nearly 27.2% in 2020. Much of this work was driven by the need to shore up consumer-facing offerings and to secure operations challenged by the sudden transition to remote working. Across the sector, incident response and penetration testing & wargaming were the most popular services as clients sought to fight off a pandemic-induced wave of cybercrime. New regulatory requirements aimed at protecting online consumers also drove demand for improved security in several markets.

Similar drivers were at play in the technology & innovation market, which generates the lion's share of consulting revenues in the sector (\$7,020m in 2020), and grew 3.9% last year. Clients desperate to keep the lights on sharply accelerated the digital transformation of both the storefront and back office, and demand for cloud, ERP, and more traditional IT services remained solid.

Clients who made or sold goods that met lockdown needs saw a surge of demand that drove many to accelerate their digitisation timelines, streamline operations, and bolster supply chains.



The client perspective

Despite ongoing uncertainty and other challenges of the pandemic, consumer & retail clients have more ambitious goals

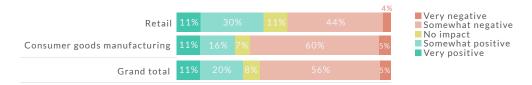
The pandemic has had a negative impact on the majority of consumer & retail companies and it's not over yet

As in other sectors, the fortunes of consumer & retail companies in the last 12 to 18 months have been mixed. Those making or selling consumer staples had the challenge of meeting significantly higher demand as lockdowns around the world changed the way we live, while those involved with discretionary and luxury goods often faced substantial drops in revenue.

Looking back now on what we all hope to have been the most difficult months of the pandemic, 61% of the clients we surveyed said that the crisis had a negative impact on their business, compared to 31% who saw it more positively. CPG companies were the worst hit, with 65% reporting a negative impacted versus 48% of retailers.

Figure 3

On balance, what impact did the COVID crisis have on your organisation as a whole?

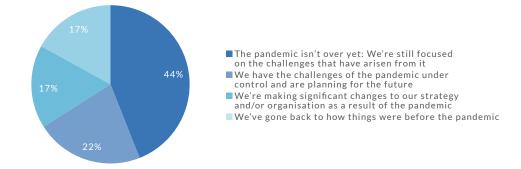


Large organisations were more likely to have been negatively affected-71% to 51% of upper mid-sized clients. Clients in Asia were more upbeat, with 53% seeing a positive impact overall, but there was considerable variation by country, with China and Japan having a more downbeat view than Singapore. The GCC and India were the most negatively impacted regions.

And for some companies, relief and recovery feels some way off. Only around one in six consumer & retail clients say that they've gone back to normal, while almost half say they're still focused on responding to pandemic-related challenges. CPG companies are more likely to say that things are back to normal, and retailers that they're in the process of making significant changes to their strategy and/or organisation as a result of the crisis.

Figure 4

How would you best describe how your organisation has responded to the challenges of the pandemic at the moment?



Consumer & retail clients are feeling more ambitious now, but less so than their counterparts in other sectors

Sixty-one percent of the consumer & retail clients we surveyed said that their organisations are more ambitious post-pandemic than they were before it. Although impressive when so many respondents think their organisations are still mired in responding to the crisis, it's a less positive picture than in other sectors, where 74% of respondents overall describe themselves as more ambitious. CPG manufacturers are slightly less optimistic, with 48% saying that they're more ambitious compared to 54% of retail clients, and 10% saying they're less ambitious (no retail client said this).

Figure 5



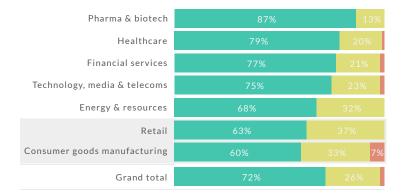
To what extent, if any, do you think your organisation has more ambitious goals than it did prior to the pandemic?

Lower level of ambition
About the same level of ambition
Greater level of ambition

Driving this more cautious picture across the consumer & retail sector overall is Europe, where just 45% of clients say their level of ambition is the same as it was pre-crisis and 7% say they're less ambitious. This isn't surprising: Past crises—the 2008 financial crisis being an especially good example—have typically seen a much faster recovery in the US than in Europe. US clients tend to be buoyed by higher levels of business confidence, a sense of optimism when it comes to technology being a universal and immediate panacea, and a strong underlying economy. Meanwhile, the Eurozone tends to see lower levels of economic growth, and senior executives in Europe tend to be more cautious around investment.

Figure 6

To what extent, if any, do you think your organisation has more ambitious goals than it did prior to the pandemic?

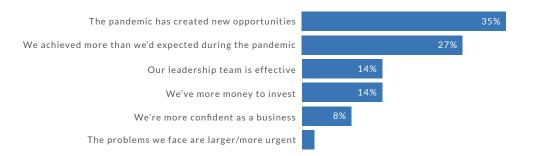


Lower level of ambition
About the same level of ambition
Greater level of ambition

The key factor driving greater levels of ambition isn't financial performance during the crisis: 49% of clients who say the pandemic had a negative impact on their organisations still say they're more ambitious as a result of it. Whether organisations are now more or less ambitious depends, instead, on the extent to which they believe the crisis created new opportunities for them and that they achieved more during the crisis than they'd anticipated. In other words, post-crisis ambition depends, not on economics, but on clients' own, strengthened belief in their ability to take advantage of even the most difficult of circumstances. By contrast, 80% of those who say their organisations are less ambitious than they were before the pandemic cite uncertainty as the main reason, suggesting that their leadership teams may not have learned one of the key lessons of the last 18 months: In the face of unprecedented uncertainty, almost any plan is better than no plan at all.

Figure 7

To what extent, if any, do you think your organisation has more ambitious goals than it did prior to the pandemic?



About this report

Methodology

Sources

Megamodel: our global data model

The quantitative market data in this report comes from our unique model of the global professional services market.

Rather than making high-level assumptions, this model has been built from the bottom up, sizing the market capability by capability—assessing how much work a firm earns delivering each professional capability within each sector and country. This results in a robust view of the size of the supply-side market, which can then be broken down to view the size of the market by country, sector, line of business, capabilities, and market segments.

This year's model has been expanded, with a new capability taxonomy and a much broader range of professional services firms included-all of which reflects convergence and other changes we see in the industry. For the purposes of this report we've focused on types of firm and market segments that broadly equate to traditional definitions of consulting. As a result of these changes to our methodology, there are changes to our market sizing data, which take into account that conventional consulting firms now compete in many non-consulting markets-in essence that their addressable market is larger. Historic data has been restated to match our new definitions. but the inclusion of new types of firm and additional services may also have an impact on growth rates.

Alongside this market segmentation, we also limit our market sizing and analysis to what we at Source call "big consulting"—work done by mid and large-sized firms (those with more than 50 people). Please note that we don't track the long, thin tail of work done by contractors and very small firms, as most readers of this report would not seek or be able to compete in this part of the market.

All of the data in the model is calibrated through extensive interviews with, and surveys of, professional services firms and their clients, allowing us to discuss broader trends in the market alongside detailed dimensions such as headcount. These interviews and surveys are supplemented with desk research, which allows us to assess the impact of wider macroeconomic trends on professional services. This, combined with our detailed modelling, results in a long-term view of the market that is able to support both historic and forecast data.

All figures given in this report are in US dollars. For reference, Source is using the following exchange rates in its reports this year:

US dollar to British pound US\$1 = £0.78

US dollar to euro US1 = 0.87

Client perspective

We carry out a client survey to help us build a rich picture of how different trends in the consumer products & retail sector are affecting clients' organisations and their use of consulting. One survey focuses on trends in consumer products & retail, providing detailed insights into the nuances of the market. For this, we surveyed 100 senior clients of consulting firms from across the consumer products & retail sector, all of whom work in organisations with more than 500 employees. This survey focuses on the following areas:

- How they expect to use consultants during 2021 and the first half of 2022
- Factors that affect the way clients work with consulting firms
- The ways consulting firms market themselves to clients and the impact this has on client decision making.

Figure 44

Respondents by organisation size

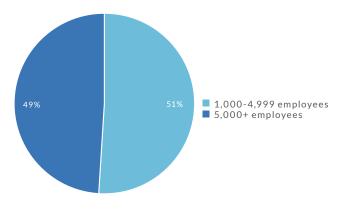
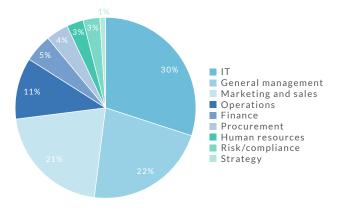


Figure 45

Respondents by function



In-depth desk research

We also conducted a thorough PEST analysis in the consumer products & retail sector that drills down into finer macroeconomic details on a holistic and sector-by-sector basis and allows us to fit our research into a wider macroeconomic picture.

Definitions of sectors and market segments

Our definition of management consulting includes a broad range of business advisory services, but excludes:

- tax advisory
- audit
- the implementation of IT systems
- the delivery of outsourced/offshored services
- HR compensation/benefits administration and technology

Where mergers and acquisitions work is concerned, consulting on deals is included (under strategy), but corporate finance fees on deals themselves are generally not included, although it is not always straightforward to separate the two.

For more information about how we classify consulting services and sectors, please see "Definitions of sectors and market segments".

Definitions of sectors and market segments

Sectors



Energy & resources

Energy Includes the exploration and production of energy, including oil, gas, coal, and renewables.

Utilities

Includes the delivery of electricity, gas, water, sanitation, and other related services.

Primary resources

Includes agriculture, chemicals and chemical products, commodities, forestry, fishing, metals, mining, and plastics.



Financial services

Banking

Includes retail banking, commercial banking, and lending.

Insurance

Includes general insurance (e.g., motor, home, pets, health-anything on an annual contract), life insurance, pension products, and retirement planning.

Private equity

Includes both consulting work for private equity firms and consulting work with private equity portfolio businesses.

Capital markets

Includes investment banking, trading of stocks and financial products, corporate finance, and broking.

Investment and wealth management Includes private banking, high net-worth banking, investment management, trust funds, the management of pension funds, and asset management.



Manufacturing

Aerospace

Includes space research and technology, the manufacture of aircraft, aircraft parts, rockets and other space equipment, and tanks and ammunition.

Automotive

Includes the manufacture of motor vehicles, industrial vehicles, and vehicle supplies and parts.

Construction

Includes surveying, architectural, and engineering services, heavy construction, house building, and the building of infrastructure

Consumer packaged goods

Includes the manufacture of clothes. foods, alcohol, tobacco, furniture, home furnishings, cleaning products, small arms, children's toys, and sports equipment.

Consumer and industrial electronics Includes electrical components, household and industrial appliances, commercial and professional equipment.

Industrial products

Includes industrial machinery, steel and metal products, and plastic products.



Pharma & biotech

Includes research into and the production of drugs, biological products, medicinal chemicals, and life sciences.

Healthcare

Includes private and publicly-funded healthcare, hospitals, laboratories, and medical equipment.



Public sector Government

Includes federal/national, state/regional, local government, emergency services, justice, social services, public transport, and conservation.

Education

Includes public and private schools, universities, and libraries.

Defence

Includes national security and consulting around defence issues.

Not for profit

Includes non-commercial research organisations, religious, political and professional membership organisations, trusts, labour unions, and business associations.



Retail

Includes the selling of clothes, food, consumer goods, and automobiles.



Services

Logistics

Includes warehousing, storage, packing and crating, and distribution including cargo, freight, and haulage.

Business services

Includes services relating to law, accountancy, IT maintenance, security systems, advertising, employment agencies, and vehicle leasing.

Leisure

Includes museums, art galleries, theatre, golf courses, hotels, hospitality, travel agencies, restaurants, and bars.

Real estate

Includes estate agencies and operators of residential and commercial buildings.

Transportation

Includes private and people-related transportation, including airlines, airport management, train operators, rail infrastructure management, water transportation, courier services, and private bus services.

Technology, media & telecoms Telecoms

Includes telephone, mobile, digital, and other communication services.

High-tech

Includes IT-related devices, computer and computerrelated devices, audio and video equipment, broadcasting and communication equipment.

Media

Includes radio, television, and digital broadcasting stations and services as well as printing and publishing of newspapers, periodicals, and books.

Market segments

We've taken the lines of business and capabilities from our taxonomy that broadly align with traditional definitions of consulting and divided them into market segments that include the following. Please note that for some lines of business, for example, forensics, we've taken a subset of the relevant capabilities and excluded others.



Technology & innovation

Ideation, Innovation management, Innovation strategy, Strategies for growth from innovation, Cloud advice, ERP consulting, IT strategy, planning & review, IT training, Programme management, Vendor selection, Clean technology, Green IT, Corporate identity, Graphic & UI design, UX & service design, Customer journey & UX benchmarking, Data visualisation, business intelligence & semantic layer.



• Strategy

Capital allocation strategy, Commercial due diligence & valuation, Financial due diligence, M&A transaction strategy, Operational due diligence, Portfolio & investment strategy, Public-private partnerships, Technology due diligence, Business & financial modelling, Category management, Channel management, Corporate recovery & turnaround, Corporate restructuring, Corporate strategy, Market analysis & strategy, Policy formulation, Pricing, Strategic sourcing/offshoring services, Real estate strategy, Environmental & social impact research, Macro/microeconomic research, Market research. Customer feedback. Customer segmentation, Employee feedback, Advanced analytics, Sustainable investment.



Cybersecurity consulting

Cybersecurity advice, Cybersecurity incident response, Penetration testing & wargaming, Technology & security risk services.



HR, change & people strategy

Benefits, compensation & pensions, excluding actuarial & investment advice, Change management, Diversity & inclusion, Employee engagement, Governance & board effectiveness, HR strategy & effectiveness, Leadership, Organisational design & culture, Organisational training & development, Outplacement, Pension fund evaluation & advice, Performance management, Stakeholder management, Talent management, Team effectiveness & collaboration, Resourceefficiency strategy, Purpose-led strategy & change, Resource-efficiency implementation, Social impact & trust.



Benchmarking, Business continuity & recovery, Cost cutting, Customer service, DevOps, Distribution strategy, Lean & Six Sigma, Operational review, Outsourcing advice, Post-M&A integration, Process design, reengineering & automation, Procurement/ purchasing, Property & estate management, Sales & distribution planning, Sales force effectiveness, Supply chain management, Target operating model, Sustainable supply chain, Corporate, occupier services & facilities management, Integrated real estate developer services, Real estate deal/transaction services.

Risk & financial management Operational risk, Programme risk, Responding to regulation, Risk management, Budgeting/ financial planning process, Debt advisory, Finance function, Financial advisory, Financial restructuring & insolvency, eDiscovery, Forensic accounting.

About the authors

Fiona Czerniawska

A Co-founder and Managing Director of Source, Fiona is one of the world's leading commentators on the management consulting industry. Since founding Source in 2007, she has been bringing this expertise to bear on our clients' most pressing strategic projects and business issues. Fiona has published a dozen books on consulting topics, including two for The Economist: Business Consulting: A Guide to How it Works and How to Make it Work and Buying Professional Services.

She has more than 20 years' experience as a management consultant, working primarily in the areas of marketing and strategy. She was previously in charge of strategic planning for EY in the UK and has worked in the consulting practice of PwC. Fiona also has a PhD in 17thcentury French art and lives in hope that it will be of practical use in business someday.

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Programme schedule for 2021

Reports 2021		Market Trends Programme	Client Perception Studies	Emerging Trends Programme
Q1	January	Forecasts for 2021 US GCC UK Nordics Canada	UK US	
	February		Germany Financial Services	
	March		Healthcare & Pharma GCC France	Buying and Selling
Q2	April	France DACH Australia Southern Europe	Nordics Energy & Resources Technology, Media & Telecoms	
	May		China Japan	Digital, Transformed?
	June			
Q3	July	China Benelux South America South East Asia India Japan Eastern Europe & Russia Africa Energy & Resources Financial Services		
	August		Perceptions of Risk Firms Perceptions of Tax Firms	Consulting's New Talent Crisis
	September		Perceptions of Audit Firms	
Q4	October	The Global Tax Advisory Market The Global Risk & Cybersecurity Services Market Healthcare & Pharma Technology, Media & Telecoms Consumer Products & Retail Planning for Growth in 2022		
	November			Building a Trusted Brand
	December			

Please note that with the purchase of all Market Trends reports in 2021, you will also gain access to a monthly video summary on the global market, presented by Fiona Czerniawska.

White	A powerful research tool that allows subscribers to keep up to date with the
Space	latest content being produced and maximise their return on investment.
	A series of reports that analyse the quality and effectiveness of thought
	leadership are published throughout the year.



About us

Source analyses the way in which economic, business, behavioural, and technology change drives how organisations use professional services, and the implications that has for professional services firms.

Since its inception in 2007, Source has invested in sophisticated, proprietary research techniques that not only provide unique insights on current and future trends in the market, but also provide a better and faster solution than you would be able to reach yourself.

Our analysis and recommendations are derived from data and experience, and we use our team's extensive knowledge of the industry to provide actionable and clear conclusions on the best course of action for you and your firm. Our insights have underpinned some of the biggest strategic investment decisions made by professional services firms around the world.

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Our custom work

In addition to our report programmes, we also provide custom advice and research-led consulting services to the world's biggest and most successful professional services firms, helping them identify the best areas for investment and plan their strategic responses.

Among other things, our work includes:

- Deep market and competitor analysis
- Acquisition strategy
- Proposition strategy and development
- Brand and client sentiment analysis
- Thought leadership and content strategy, development, and review

For more information about any of these, please visit our website or get in touch.