
**– CURRENT LANDSCAPE OF OPERATING SYSTEMS IN
CANADA AMONG CANADIAN FINANCIAL POST 800
COMPANIES –**



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This Angus Reid Group poll was conducted by telephone between May 1 and May 19, 1998 among 300 randomly selected companies from the Canadian Financial Post 800 list of companies on behalf of Microsoft Canada Co.

With a national sample of 300, one can say with 95 percent certainty that the results are within ± 5.8 percentage points of what they would have been had the entire adult Canadian population been polled. The margin of error will be larger within regions and for other sub-groupings of the survey population.

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Background

This Angus Reid Group poll was commissioned by Microsoft Canada Co. and was conducted by telephone among 300 randomly selected companies from the Canadian Financial Post 800 list of Canadian companies between May 1 and , 1998. With a national sample of 300, one can say with 95 percent certainty that the results are within ± 5.8 percentage points of what they would have been had the list been polled. The margin of error will be larger within regions and for other sub-groupings of the survey population.

Information systems decision-makers at 300 of the Canadian Financial Post 800 Companies were asked to indicate which computer platforms are used in their organizations. For the most part, Canadian Financial Post 800 Companies employ some combination of IBM or Macintosh personal computers (84%), mid-range or mini computers (73%), workstations (56%) and IBM mainframes (20%).

In addition, the mid-range or mini computer is the primary Information System Platform for a majority (53%) of these companies. These Financial Post 800 Companies also indicate that they use PCs (21%), mainframe computers (12%) and workstations (9%) as their primary Information System Platform.

Financial Post 800 Companies use a range of operating systems

WINDOWS 95, WINDOWS NT ARE MOST OFTEN NAMED PRIMARY OPERATING SYSTEMS

Among a range of operating systems that are employed by Financial Post 800 companies, the data indicate that 67% percent use Windows 95 and 64 percent use Windows NT. UNIX (45%), Novell

NetWare (40%) and Windows 3.11 or lower (19%) are also used by a relatively large proportions of these companies. (Because companies employ more than one system, totals exceed 100 percent.)

When respondents were asked to specify which system is considered their primary operating system, Windows 95 (25%), UNIX (20%) and Windows NT (19%) pull ahead of the others.

Windows NT among leading primary server operating systems

Windows NT and Novell NetWare capture the lion's share of the primary server market in Canada among Financial Post 800 Companies. Specifically, Windows NT is used as the primary server operating system among 35 percent of these companies and Novell NetWare is used by 32 percent. Lagging behind these two giants, UNIX holds 15 percent of the current market. In addition, leading the Canadian market, 59% of Financial Post 800 companies employ a Windows NT server.

Windows NT positioned to increase it's market share

One in five companies (20%) indicate that they intend to purchase and install a different primary platform within the next year. Six in ten (59%) of those planning to migrate to a new system indicate that they will switch to Windows NT. This compares to 16 percent who indicate that they will switch to UNIX and 7 percent who indicate that they will move to Novell NetWare.

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Tables

(Totals exceed 100% because respondents were able to provide more than one answer)

Which of the following computer platforms are in use within your organization?

| | |
|---|-----|
| Base: All respondents | 300 |
| | % |
| IBM Mainframes | 20 |
| Mid-range of Mini Computers | 73 |
| Workstations | 56 |
| IBM or Macintosh personal computers (PCs) | 84 |

Which of these do you consider to be your primary Information System platform

| | |
|-----------------------------|-----|
| Base: All respondents | 300 |
| | % |
| Mainframe computer | 12 |
| Mid-range of Mini Computers | 53 |
| Workstations | 9 |
| PCs | 21 |

Which operating systems are in use on these platforms?

| | |
|------------------------------------|-----|
| Base: All respondents | 300 |
| | % |
| Novell NetWare | 40 |
| Windows 3.11 or lower | 19 |
| Windows 95 | 67 |
| Windows NT | 64 |
| OS/2 | 9 |
| Mac OS | 9 |
| PC DOS or MS DOS (without Windows) | 13 |
| UNIX | 45 |
| Other | 36 |

Which of these do you consider to be your primary operating system?

| | |
|------------------------------------|-----|
| Base: All respondents | 300 |
| | % |
| Novell NetWare | 11 |
| Windows 3.11 or lower | 2 |
| Windows 95 | 25 |
| Windows NT | 19 |
| OS/2 | 3 |
| Mac OS | 1 |
| PC DOS or MS DOS (without Windows) | 2 |
| UNIX | 20 |
| Other | 27 |

Which of these do you consider to be your primary SERVER operating system?

| | |
|---|-----|
| Base: Those who have a primary operating system | 291 |
| | % |
| Novell NetWare | 32 |
| Windows NT | 35 |
| OS/2 | 1 |
| Mac OS | 1 |
| PC DOS or MS COS (without Windows) | 1 |
| UNIX | 15 |
| OS/4 | 5 |
| Other | 19 |

**Does your organisation intend to purchase and
install a different primary platform within the next year?**

| | |
|-----------------------|-----|
| Base: All respondents | 300 |
| | % |
| Yes | 20 |
| No | 78 |

To which operating system are you planning on migrating?

| | |
|--|----|
| Base: Intend to purchase and install a different primary platform | 61 |
| | % |
| Novell NetWare | 7 |
| Windows NT | 59 |
| OS/2 | 3 |
| UNIX | 16 |
| Don't Know | 15 |