

Digital Winchester district

Digital is a **priority sector** for the Winchester district's local economy. Being home to **global and national technology businesses** like Arqiva and IBM, the business ecosystem is ideal for relocating and start-up businesses to **grow and thrive within the district**.

There are over 7,500 digital businesses in Hampshire and the Isle of Wight and 57,600 employees. In 2026, there were 665 businesses within the Winchester district who are under the digital SIC codes:

- »»» The sector locally has a percentage employee share higher than the national average.
- »»» Over the last ten years, high growth digital businesses have increased by 160% and 56% increase within the last five years.
- »»» GVA growth in the district is highly driven by the digital sector and there is a demand for jobs.
- »»» Eight green tech companies. Ranging from renewable energy technology installation and electrical system installations to the building of indoor vertical farms.
- »»» In addition to the 665 digital businesses there are over 300 organisations providing services in film, TV, photography and radio production and distribution in the district.
- »»» The district regularly hosts film crews with the Cathedral and College being popular choices as well as the scenic South Downs National Park.



**£5.8
BILLION**

that's the estimated contribution of the **digital sector** to the Hampshire and Isle of Wight economy.



The district has a **strong business support ecosystem** and hosts a volume of vibrant and established networks, organisations and events, including:

Creative Network South, Business South, Hampshire Chamber of Commerce and Hampshire Digital.

The University of Winchester has an award-winning Business School with a **£50 million state-of-the-art digital and creative facility**.

On the district's doorstep are:

- **The University of Southampton's School of Electronics and Computer Science**
- **Zepler Institute**
- **Optoelectronics Research Centre (ORC)**
- **University of Portsmouth's Centre for Creative and Immersive eXtended Reality (CCIXR)**



Winchester
City Council