

Microsoft datacentres in the

United Kingdom

Datacentres provide the physical infrastructure for the technology we depend on at work and in our personal lives

A datacentre building houses thousands of computer servers and data storage devices connected to the internet

Datacentres are part of everyday life

Whenever you open an app on your phone, join a virtual classroom or meeting, snap and save photos, or play a game with your friends online, you are using a datacentre.



These buildings are similar in size and appearance to a distribution warehouse.



Microsoft aims to build datacentres that are best in class in performance, reliability, safety, aesthetics, and sustainability.



Compared to many other industrial facilities, datacentres do not create significant noise pollution or have a significant impact on traffic flow or congestion.



Microsoft operates more than 300 datacentres in over 34 countries.



Email



Online shopping



Mobile apps



Online banking



File storage



Streaming videos

[Take a virtual tour of a datacentre](#)



Microsoft datacentres create local operations and construction jobs

Microsoft datacentres in the United Kingdom currently employ **101 people**.

We estimate it will take approximately **7.6 million work hours** and more than **1,836 jobs** during peak construction to complete construction of the new datacentres.

By the end of 2026, we project **246 full-time employees and contractors** will work across all operational facilities.

Datacentre operations

- Campus management
- People management
- Learning and development
- IT operations
- Mechanical engineers
- Electrical engineers
- Security contractors
- Building maintenance
- Critical environments

Construction jobs

- Electricians
- Plumbers and pipefitters
- Carpenters
- Structural iron and steel workers
- Concrete workers
- Earth movers

[Find Microsoft jobs in your community](#)



Taxes from Microsoft datacentre operations represent important revenue for national, regional, and local governments

Microsoft datacentres represent a capital-intensive investment and long-term commitment to the community. This investment grows the commercial property tax base, increasing revenue for municipal services that benefit local citizens.

Examples of country, provincial, and local taxes that support cities, municipal services, schools, and colleges include:



Property taxes

Collected annually once land is purchased.



Indirect taxes

From construction and operation expenses. Examples include VAT, GST, and sales tax.



Income taxes

From construction and operations workers.

Published April 2024. This document shares information we have as of the publication date, and it includes estimated information and projections. The information is provided as is and may change without notice.

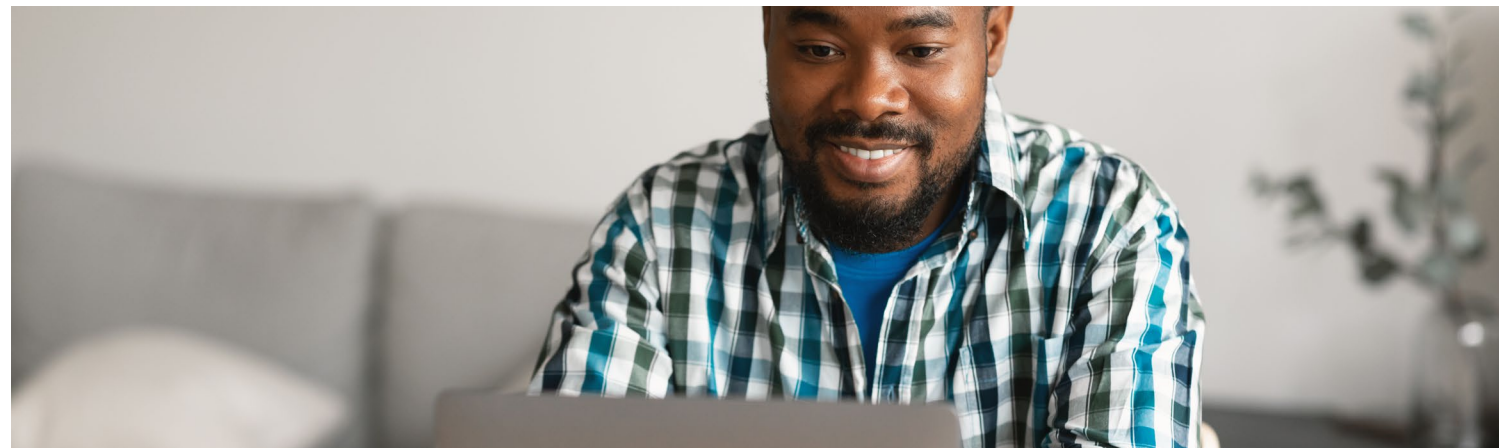
Microsoft is investing in the United Kingdom

Microsoft community investments support community-identified priorities across **14 projects** in the United Kingdom.

Investing in people of all ages through local skill-building programs

Building job skills in Generation Digital Bootcamps

With support from Microsoft, Generation delivered three IT Support and Data Analytics bootcamps in the London area in 2023. Generation aims to provide learners in their programs with increased access to stable jobs, better financial opportunities, improved medical benefits, and a well-rounded life balance. The bootcamps focus on an end-to-end learning curriculum with an emphasis on mentoring and support for continued success after graduation.



[Learn about the Generation Digital Bootcamps](#) >

Getting ready for the AI economy

Microsoft's commitment to digital skills in the UK

The expansion of the Get On programme builds on Microsoft's five-year initiative to help people build careers in technology. To date it has trained 1.1 million people in digital skills and helped over 30,000 people connect to tech job opportunities. The new suite of AI skilling resources is designed to harness the generative AI wave sweeping across industries.



[Learn more about the Get On programme](#) >

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Microsoft global commitments

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CARBON

Microsoft pledged to become carbon negative by 2030 and to remove historical carbon since its 1975 founding by 2050.

Microsoft will reduce Scope 1 and 2 emissions to near zero through energy efficiency work and by reaching **100 percent renewable energy coverage by 2025.**

Microsoft has also committed by 2030 to:

- Be free of diesel.
- Match 100 percent of electricity consumption, 100 percent of the time, with zero-carbon energy purchases.
- Reduce our Scope 3 emissions by more than half.

WATER

In 2020, Microsoft pledged to be water positive for our direct operations by 2030.

Through this commitment, we will replenish the water consumed by datacentre operations in water-stressed regions.

WASTE

In 2020, Microsoft announced enhanced goals for waste reduction, circular supply chains, and zero-waste certification. We are working towards our goal of **90 percent reuse and recycle of servers and components by 2025** through our first-of-a-kind Microsoft Circular Centers.

Microsoft is using **circular economy** principles in our datacentres by implementing reuse and comprehensive recycling programs.

By 2030, Microsoft datacentres will be zero waste



ECOSYSTEMS

Microsoft has committed to **protecting more land than we use for direct operations by 2025.**

Microsoft is committed to community investment, pollution remediation, and fair economic inclusion initiatives, as well as investment in clean energy, broadband access, and water replenishment initiatives.

United Kingdom

Datacentre operations sustainability investments

We're committed to providing a sustainable Microsoft Cloud, so we wanted to share information about how we take responsibility for our datacentre operations.

For Microsoft datacentres located in the United Kingdom we have included local sustainability investments and datapoints in support of meeting and exceeding our commitments around carbon, water, waste, and ecosystems.

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CARBON

We've committed to have **100% renewable energy coverage globally by 2025**.

In the United Kingdom, our datacentres will be designed for our backup generators to be powered by a **renewable biofuel that reduces net carbon emissions**.

WATER

Our facilities use **indirect evaporative cooling**.

Datacentre cooling water is typically **not treated with any chemicals or additives**.

When quality of the available water is not adequate for use in cooling systems, water treatment is pursued in the same way municipal drinking water is treated to remove excessive hardness or to prevent harmful bacterial growth.

Water from our cooling systems is discharged back to the local wastewater utility treatment plant, following local regulations.

This system is highly efficient, using **less electricity and a fraction of water used** by other water-based cooling systems, such as cooling towers.

WASTE

It takes five to six years from when a datacentre is operational to generate reusable assets. Once server volumes reach critical levels, a **Circular Center** will be deployed for equipment processing.

Globally, Microsoft **reuses or recycles 90%+** of end-of-life assets.

[Learn more about datacentre efficiency metrics including PUE and WUE](#)

