In numbers

Bigger but fewer UK deals characterise H1 as consumer and financial services dominate M&A, followed by TMT

UK M&A

£124.2bn

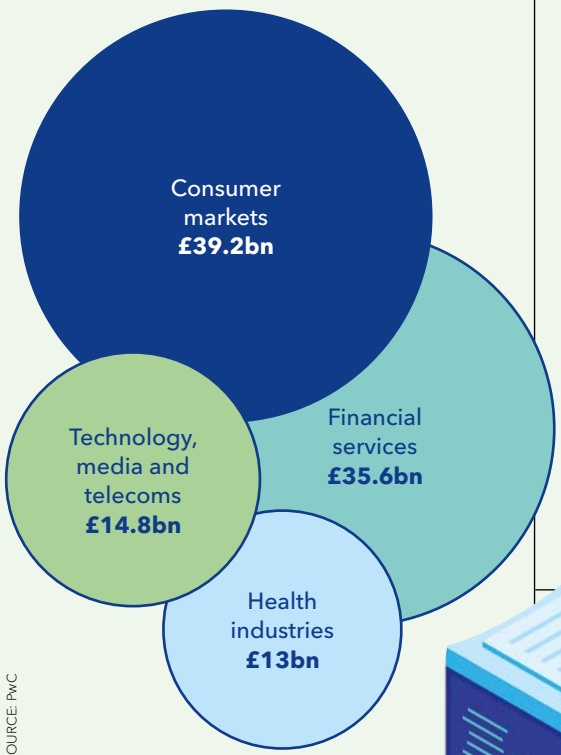
Value of UK M&A in first half of 2026 – up **107%** on H1 2025

-13%

Drop in number of UK M&A transactions in H1 2026 (**1,301 deals**) vs H1 2025 (**1,495 deals**)

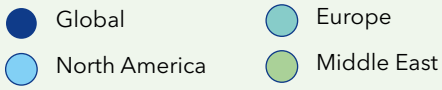
SOURCE: PwC

Busiest sectors for UK M&A, H1 2026

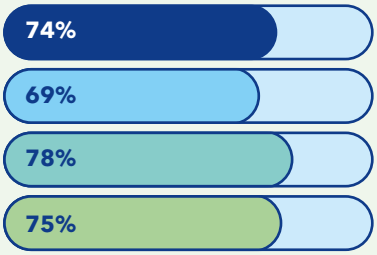


SOURCE: PwC

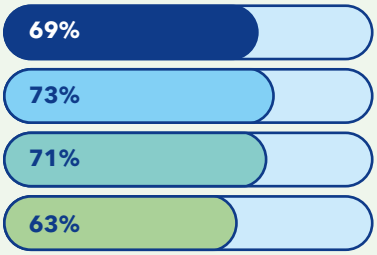
Major drivers for data centre corporate activity



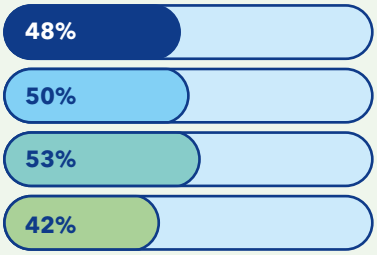
***Telcos** monetising data centre assets (including carve-outs/sale-leaseback)*



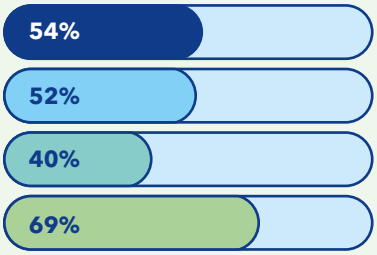
***Mergers** between data centre operators to generate synergies and/or scale*



***Other corporates** monetising data centre assets (including carve-outs/sale-leaseback)*



***Private equity/infrastructure** investors buying or selling*



SOURCE: ALIXPARTNERS 2027 DATA CENTER MARKET OUTLOOK – GLOBAL SURVEY OF 480 SENIOR EXECUTIVES

Data centres

62%

of those in data centre supply chain believe data centre M&A is attractive or soon will be, with carve-outs and sale-leasebacks most likely

SOURCE: ALIXPARTNERS 2027 DATA CENTER MARKET OUTLOOK – GLOBAL SURVEY OF 480 SENIOR EXECUTIVES

Mid-market businesses

50%

of UK mid-market businesses in London and the South East plan to expand over the next two years

42%

of UK mid-market businesses in the Midlands have plans to expand over the next two years

SOURCE: BDO (BI-MONTHLY TRACKER OF 500 UK BUSINESSES WITH £10M-£50M IN REVENUE)