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COVID-19 has had major short-term, and will have significant medium- and long-term, impacts on society and the way everyone works. However, the impact on the creation and analysis of data is more one of location rather than volume and so demand for data centres is only positively affected. – Terry Leggett, Senior B2B Analyst

This report looks at the following areas:

- How the market growth has been stimulated by the wider economic uncertainties surrounding both Brexit and COVID-19
- How edge computing will further expand the demand for data centres, supported by the ongoing rise of cloud computing
- Why 5G and the Internet of Things (IoT) will continue to drive the exponential growth of data generation and analysis
- Why the sector commands strong earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortisation (EBITDA) and therefore is a highly attractive investment to third-party financial operators

A data centre (sometimes spelled 'datacentre') is a centralised repository, either physical or virtual, for the storage, management and dissemination of data and information organised around a particular body of knowledge or pertaining to a particular business. A data centre is a dedicated space where companies can keep and operate most of the information and communication technology (ICT) infrastructure that supports their business, including the servers and storage equipment that run application software, and process and store data and content. For some companies, it might be a simple cage or rack of equipment. For others it could be a room housing a few or many cabinets, depending on the scale of operation.

Data centres are an increasingly critical part of the infrastructure for a digitised society. Digitisation, high-speed wireless networks, new data-intensive technologies and the growth of cloud computing have transformed the data centre from a few computing enterprises to a major industry sector. The sector continues to rapidly grow, offering business users the ability to migrate from a capital-intensive investment to a pay-as-you-go, scalable service, which has proved even more popular in the uncertain economic climate, created firstly by Brexit and now by COVID-19.

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DID YOU KNOW?

This report is part of a series of reports, produced to provide you with a more holistic view of this market



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