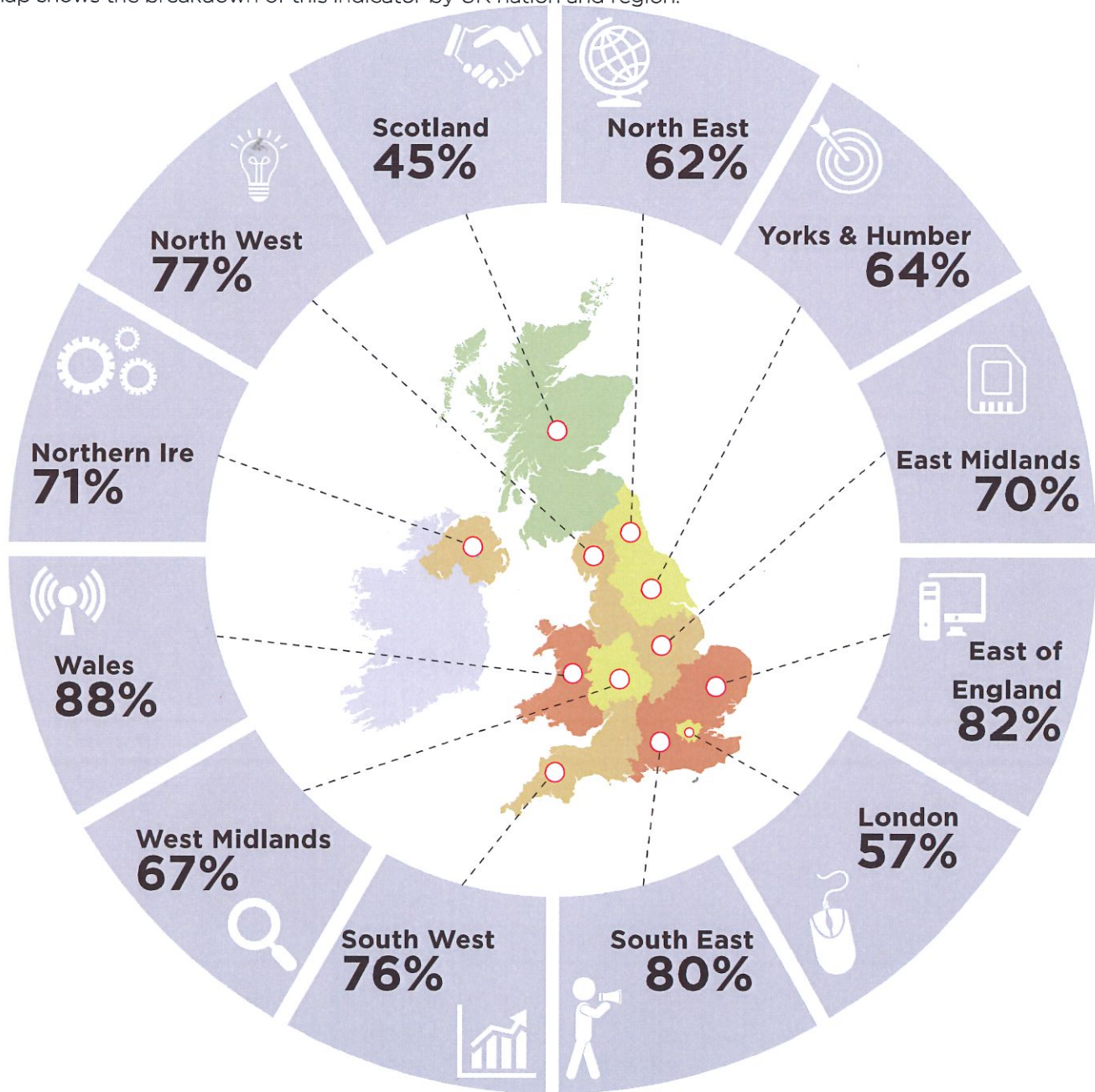


BRITISH CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE

RECRUITMENT DIFFICULTIES

In Q4 2017, 50% of service sector firms reported that they had attempted to recruit employees. Of these firms, 71% said they faced recruitment difficulties, the highest proportion since records began. Professional/managerial staff were the most difficult category of employee to recruit. The below heat map shows the breakdown of this indicator by UK nation and region:



The regions and nations which saw the largest percentage of service sector firms facing recruitment difficulties were Wales (88%), East of England (82%) and the South West (80%). The regions and nations which saw the fewest service firms report difficulties were Scotland (45%), London (57%) and the North East (62%).