

Tech Nation Visa Report 2022 - launched today - reveals major contribution of global tech talent in the UK, and a surge in Tech Nation Global Talent Visa grants

Tech Nation today launches its [Visa Report 2022](#), revealing that nearly a fifth of tech founders based in the UK are non-UK nationals.

- Tech Nation's latest [Visa Report 2022](#) reveals 18% of all UK tech companies are founded by at least one non-UK national.
- These founders are accelerating the growth of the UK tech sector, as companies founded by non-UK nationals raised almost 23% of all UK tech VC investment (£8bn) in 2021.
- Almost 25% of the 2500+ individuals endorsed for the Global Talent Visa are founders, and the majority are high-value employees working to drive the UK's tech sector forward.
- Global tech talent is pouring into the UK, as Global Talent Visas endorsed by Tech Nation have already accounted for more grants in the first half of 2022 than in the entirety of 2021 (with 659 Global Talent Visas granted by Tech Nation in January - August 2022, up from 619 between January - December 2021).

8th September 2022: Tech Nation, the UK's growth platform for startups and scaleups, has today launched its [Visa Report 2022](#) to recognise and celebrate global tech talent in the UK.

The report reveals 18% of all UK tech companies are founded by (at least one) non-UK national.

These non-UK founders are accelerating the growth of the tech sector across the UK, with tech companies founded by non-UK nationals raising almost 23% of all UK tech VC investment (£8bn) in 2021.

Almost 25% of the 2500+ individuals endorsed for the Tech Nation Global Talent Visa are founders, and the majority are high-value employees working to drive the UK's tech sector forward.

Almost 40% of all Tech Nation Global Talent Visa endorsees are working in non-technical, tech roles and over a quarter of people endorsed for a Tech Nation Global Talent Visa are working in emerging areas of UK tech, such as AI, Cybersecurity and Data. Fintech continues to be a dominant talent magnet, with over 20% of people endorsed working in this UK strength sector.

A surge in Tech Nation Global Talent Visa grants

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Global tech talent is needed to fill record level of UK tech job vacancies, following record VC investment

Tech vacancies have increased on a month-by-month basis over the last year, from 145k roles advertised in May 2021 to 181k roles (as of May 2022).

In part, this boom in hiring is reflective of the growth seen in venture capital investment into UK tech companies in 2021, a 130% increase to just under \$41bn. 73% of investment into UK tech comes from overseas - up from 71% in 2021.

Gerard Grech, Founding Chief Executive of Tech Nation, said: “The UK’s record level of tech job vacancies demonstrates that the need for outside talent has never been greater. Even with our buoyant, currently well-funded and diverse ecosystem, the UK cannot afford to be complacent in the UK’s pursuit of international talent.”

Driving UK tech forwards

Tech Nation has been designated by the Home Office to endorse applications for the Global Talent Visa since 2014, enabling the best and brightest talent from around the world to come and work in the UK’s digital technology sector.

Launched in 2020, the Tech Nation Global Talent Visa has now received over 5,000 applications from 102 countries, with over 2500 highly talented individuals endorsed, and this year’s Visa Report 2022 aims to shine a spotlight on the scale and impact of their contributions to UK tech.

Today’s [Visa Report 2022 launch event](#) will showcase the scale, impact and composition of global talent in the UK tech sector. The event welcomes anyone with an interest in international talent and how the Tech Nation Global Talent Visa supports the high-skills needs of the UK economy, including applicants, alumni and wider leaders in our tech ecosystem.

Quotes:

Trecilla Lobo, SVP of People at [BenevolentAI](#), Tech Nation Board Member and Global Talent Visa holder, said: “The UK tech sector plays a big part in contributing to our diversity not just through its people but also through its innovative products that truly reflect our global marketplace. Despite the economic challenges, the UK tech sector continues to create opportunities and attract a diverse range of talent and skills and is a welcoming place where people can thrive, build and grow their careers.

Today’s report highlights how the Global Talent Visa programme continues to contribute to the success of so many tech scaleups to accelerate growth and create more opportunities, in a cost-effective and efficient way. I would encourage all tech companies to tap into this opportunity. It is a no brainer for any tech company that’s scaling fast.”

Isaac Oladipupo, Co-founder and CEO of [Afrilearn](#), said: “I grew up with the dream to make a positive transgenerational impact by leveraging technology to build global brands, and I started working purposefully towards it very early. I developed a strong desire to empower myself with

global exposure and world-class skills in a better economic system that I would normally not have access to back in Nigeria, and Tech Nation presented the timely opportunity to achieve this. Beyond its thriving tech ecosystem and great democratic values, the UK is a world-leading economy with the most welcoming environment for immigrants and tech talent globally.

I love working in UK tech because of the rare privilege it has afforded me to work with global tech companies and rub minds with some of the best brains in the world. It has also enabled me to scale the reach of our startup Afrilearn across Europe and beyond. Working in UK tech has increased the velocity of my ideas, products, and services beyond the limit of borders, more than I could ever imagine. Easily, the Global Talent visa has unlocked possibilities and opened me to a world without limits."

Anita Koimur, Co-founder and COO of [LiveFlow](#), said: "The UK's thriving tech scene is an attractive destination for innovative and creative minds from all over the globe. The concentration of high-profile talent and collaboration with world's top companies helps to build the company I've always wanted! I love how diverse and welcoming the country is, which means anyone can find a place here, no matter who they are or where they come from."

Peace Itimi, Head of Growth at [Hover](#), said: "Before I got my Global Talent Endorsement and Visa, whenever I thought about the UK, the word that came to mind was POSSIBILITIES. I decided to come to the UK because I was sure it would give me opportunities that I won't ordinarily and easily have: from ease of travel, to a diverse network of professionals to connect with, to work opportunities with some of the best companies and minds in the world. I have been in London for about 14 months now and I wasn't wrong. So much diversity, so much opportunity, so much possibilities. I'd be here for the long haul."

End

Notes to the editor:

About the Tech Nation Global Talent Visa:

The Tech Nation Global Talent Visa, officially known as the Global Talent Visa, enables the brightest and best tech talent from around the world to come and work in the UK's digital technology sector, contributing their cutting-edge expertise, creativity and innovation to maintaining the UK's position at the forefront of the global digital economy. It is not the only Visa for those looking to come and work in the UK. The Tech Nation Global Talent Visa is for founders and employees with technical or business backgrounds, including all tech sub-sectors like fintech, AI, cyber, and games. The visa is valid for up to 5 years, enabling you to work, change employers, or be self-employed, without the need for further authorisation. The Tech Nation Global Talent Visa can be extended to your immediate family members and after the initial visa period you can either apply for an extension or permanent settlement in the UK. If you are a talented or promising individual and want to work in the UK's digital technology sector, the Tech Nation Global Talent Visa is for you.

Read Tech Nation's Visa Report 2022: technation.io/visa-report-2022/

Join Tech Nation's Visa Report 2022 launch event: <https://technation.io/visa-report-launch-2022/>

Tech Nation Visa programme partner:

[Fragomen](#) is the immigration services partner of Tech Nation Visa, supporting applicants and alumni with immigration matters in the UK. Fragomen is a leading global firm dedicated exclusively to immigration services and its top-ranked UK team are recognised experts that have been at the forefront of immigration for many years.

Headline sponsors for the Visa Report 2022:

Tech Nation is delighted to have [Fragomen](#) and [HSBC UK](#) as sponsors for this year's Visa Report 2022, supporting incredible global tech professionals to join the UK tech ecosystem.

About HSBC UK:

At [HSBC UK](#), Technology firms are a key focus, and HSBC UK is proud to have banking relationships with over 80% of the FTSE 100 and FTSE 250 Tech companies, and over 50% of the Tech unicorns created in the last 2 years. HSBC UK is delighted to sponsor Tech Nation's Visa Report 2022, and to support the Technology ecosystem from the ground up, opening up a world of opportunity as they work with and support the Tech firms that are leading the change globally.

About Tech Nation:

Tech Nation is the leading growth platform for UK tech scaleups. Tech Nation fuels the growth of game-changing founders, leaders, and scaling companies so they can positively transform societies and economies. We provide them with the coaching, content, and community they need for their journey in designing the future. Tech Nation has years of experience facilitating and helping UK tech companies scale, both at home and abroad. Over 30 cohorts and 900 companies have successfully graduated from Tech Nation's growth programmes. Alumni include Skyscanner, Darktrace, and Monzo, as well as 3 of the UK's 7 new 'decacorns'; Revolut, Wise, and Farfetch.