

Briefs: IT spending seen rising 5 percent in 2006

January 4 2006

Information-technology investments are likely to increase by 5 percent this year, according to research group IDC.

Companies "were down on the future right after Katrina, and it showed in our surveys," said John Gantz, the group's chief research officer. "Then last month they more than doubled their spending outlook when users realized the economy was still perking along. This month they came back to earth. Small business executives were especially realistic."

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Citation: Briefs: IT spending seen rising 5 percent in 2006 (2006, January 4) retrieved 26 April 2024 from <https://phys.org/news/2006-01-percent.html>

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