Chaos Report

The CHAOS Ten

Executive Support	18
User Involvement	16
Experienced Project Manager	14
Clear Business Objectives	12
Minimized Scope	10
Standard Software Infrastructure	8
Firm Basic Requirements	6
Formal Methodology	6
Reliable Estimates	5
Other	5

Each factor has been weighted according to its influence on a project's success. The more points, the lower the project risk.

What makes a project successful? The original CHAOS study, conducted in 1994, identified 10 success factors. We have updated the CHAOS Ten for the year 2000. Although no project requires all 10 factors to be successful, the more factors that are present in the project strategy, the higher the level of confidence.

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Change for the worse in 2009

	1994	1996	1998	2000	2002	2004	2006	2009
Successful	16%	27%	26%	28%	34%	29%	35%	32%
Challenged	53%	33%	46%	49%	51%	53%	46%	44%
Failed	31%	40%	28%	23%	15%	18%	19%	24%

Assumed reasons:
      higher complexity
      greater time pressure