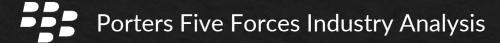


BADM 543: Technology Strategy





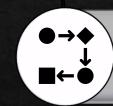
Threat of Entry: MODERATE

High capital requirements
Brand loyalty of incumbents
Emergence of cost-effective players



Supplier Power: MODERATE

Dependence on key component suppliers Commoditization of parts Multiple supplier options



Threat of Substitutes: HIGH

Emergence of tablets, wearables Cloud-based solutions reducing hardware dependence



Buyer Power: HIGH

Numerous alternativesDemand for innovationCompetitive pricing



Industry Rivalry: **VERY HIGH** 

Dominance of major brands
Rapid innovation cycles
Aggressive marketing and pricing strategies



Focus

**Software Transition** 

Execution

# VRIN Analysis: BlackBerry's Key Resources & Capabilities

					BlackBerry
Resources	V	R	I	N	S/W (Strategic Role or Weakness)
Secure Messaging Tech	<b>✓</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>✓</b>	<b>✓</b>	S: Legacy strength that still builds trust in high-security sectors (e.g., gov, finance)
Operating System	<b>✓</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>✓</b>	<b>✓</b>	S: Core to BlackBerry's presence in auto, medical, and embedded markets
Cybersecurity	<b>✓</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>✓</b>	<b>✓</b>	S: Powers BlackBerry's new identity in proactive, Al-based threat protection
Brand Reputation	<b>✓</b>	X	X	X	W: Recognized brand, but no longer creates differentiation or loyalty in the modern tech space
Capabilities	V	R	I	N	S/W (Strategic Role or Weakness)
Enterprise Client Network	<b>✓</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>✓</b>	<b>√</b>	S: Long-term B2B relationships are sticky, especially in defense and enterprise sectors
Security-First Product	./	./	./	./	S: Deep specialization enables differentiation from generic competitors

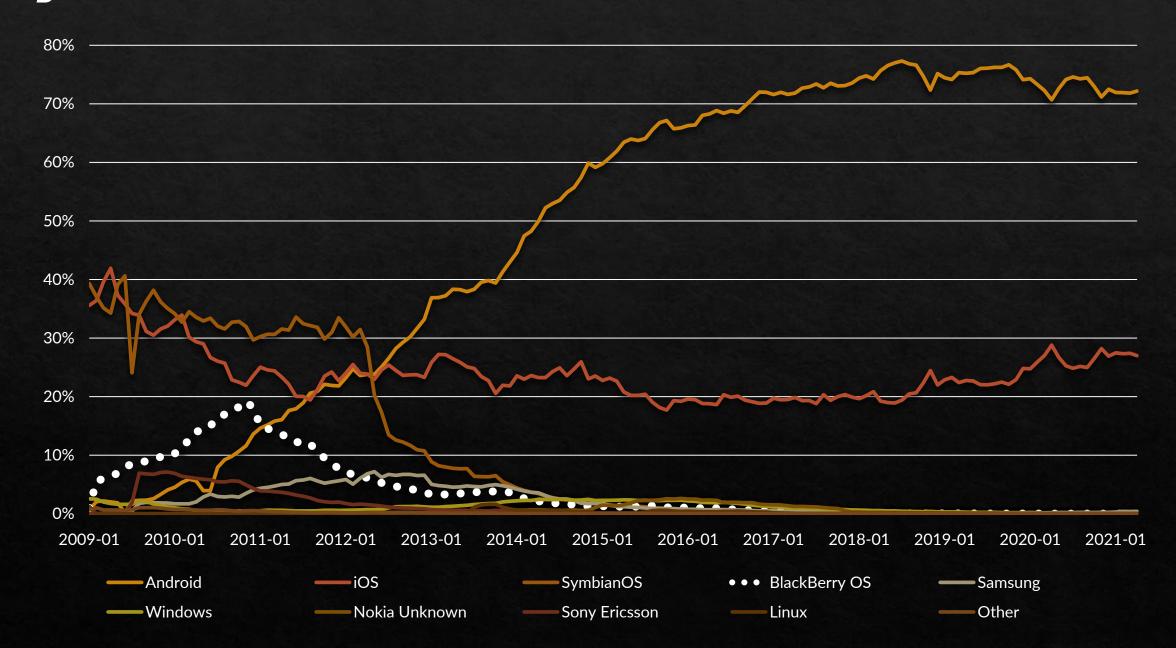
in B2B security

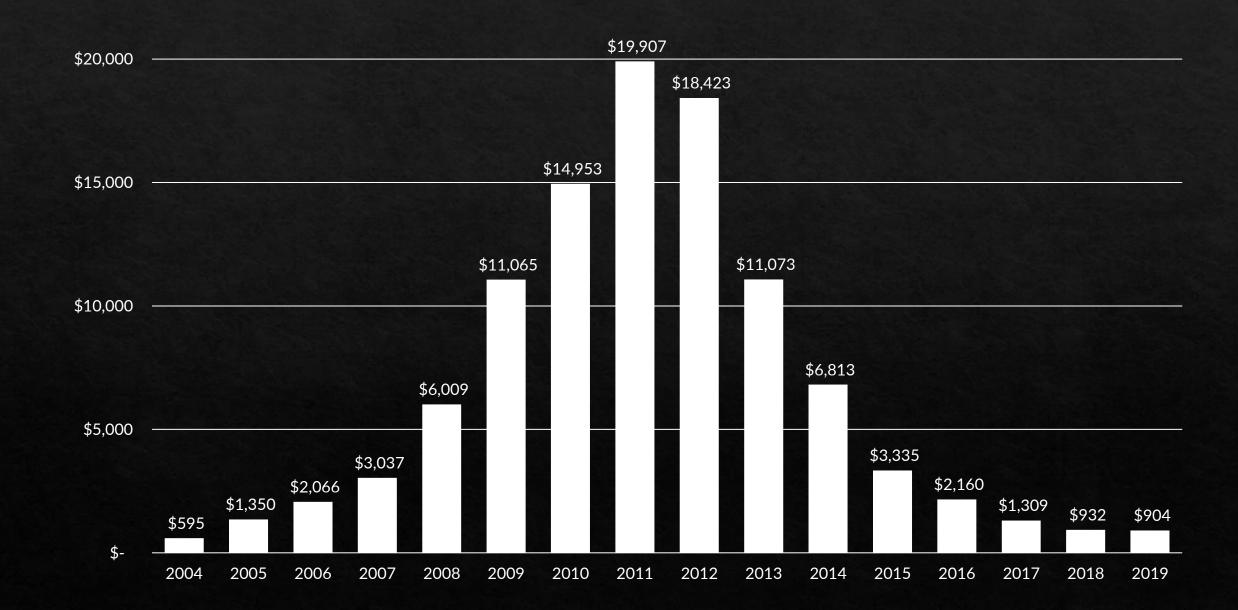
but uneven

W: Still catching up to leaders in scale and reach; execution is improving



## Mobile Operating System Market Share 2000 - 2021





#### BlackBerry

How could BlackBerry
have responded
strategically to shifting
industry dynamics to
sustain its dominance in
the smartphone market?

#### What Went Wrong

- 1. Ignored touchscreen trend Clung to keyboard devices while
- 2. Apple redefined UX Weak app ecosystem Couldn't compete with iOS/Android app availability
- 3. Enterprise-only mindset Overlooked rising consumer demand and lifestyle features
- 4. Complacency Believed early success and enterprise loyalty were enough

#### Why This Matters

- 1. Market share dropped from 43% (2010) to near-zero within five years
- 2. Missed the shift from business tool  $\rightarrow$  lifestyle platform
- 3. Rivals (Apple, Samsung, Google) created sticky, ecosystem-based models
- 4. Case shows how ignoring customer trends and innovation delays can destroy market leadership

### **#1: Early Pivot to Touchscreen Smartphones**

BlackBerry would rework its hardware design and software UI to prioritize full-touchscreen devices in response to Apple's iPhone launch.

Pros:

Aligns early with consumer preference shift (post-iPhone)

Maintains relevance in fast-growing smartphone category

Potential to lead a niche in business-grade touchscreen devices



Cons:

Risk of alienating core business users loyal to keyboard

Requires major investment in R&D and OS redesign

Internal resistance to change could slow execution

### #2: Invest Heavily in App Ecosystem

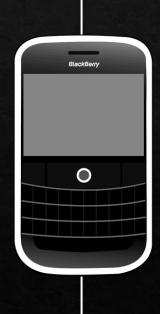
BlackBerry would create developer incentives and an app store infrastructure to compete with iOS and Android ecosystems.



Meets rising demand for app-driven user experience

Boosts platform engagement and customer retention

Attracts developer community and third-party innovation



Cons:

Late start makes catching up to iOS/Android difficult

Demands long-term investment with delayed returns

Risk of fragmented user experience if poorly executed

### #3: Double Down on Enterprise Software & Security

BlackBerry would exit consumer hardware earlier and double down on software, QNX, and Al-driven security for enterprise clients.

Pros:

Builds on BlackBerry's core assets: QNX, security, enterprise trust

Lower competition compared to consumer mobile

Reinforces credibility in regulated industries (gov, healthcare)



Cons:

Smaller market size than consumer tech

Less public visibility and slower scaling potential

May signal retreat instead of transformation

### **Recommended Strategy: Two-Phase Pivot Strategy**

**Phase 1:** Compete in the smartphone market by embracing touchscreen design and an app ecosystem

Phase 2: Proactively shift to enterprise software and security once consumer decline becomes evident