

Trends in Public Cloud Adoption

JANUARY 2026

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MOVING APPLICATIONS TO PUBLIC CLOUD

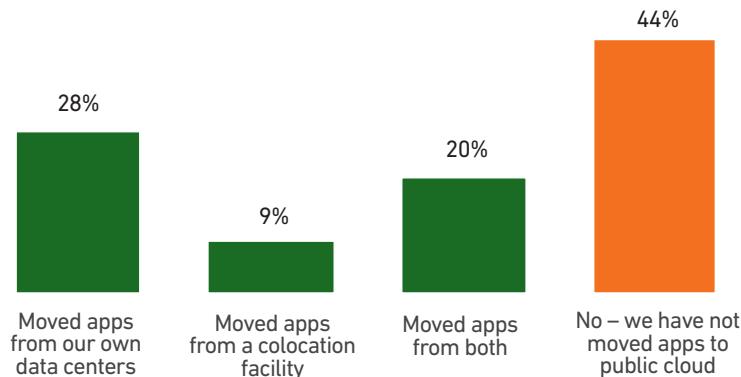
A clear majority (57%) say their organization has moved some of its applications to public cloud over the past 12 months, according to Uptime Institute's December 2025 Data Center Capacity and Cloud Survey.

By a considerable margin, *business applications* (67%) was the top app that is being moved to public cloud.

We note that *scalability/agility* (51%) is cited as the biggest benefit of moving applications to cloud.

Moving apps to public cloud: past 12 months

I. In the past twelve months, has your organization moved any of its production applications from your own data center or a colocation facility to public cloud? (n=247)

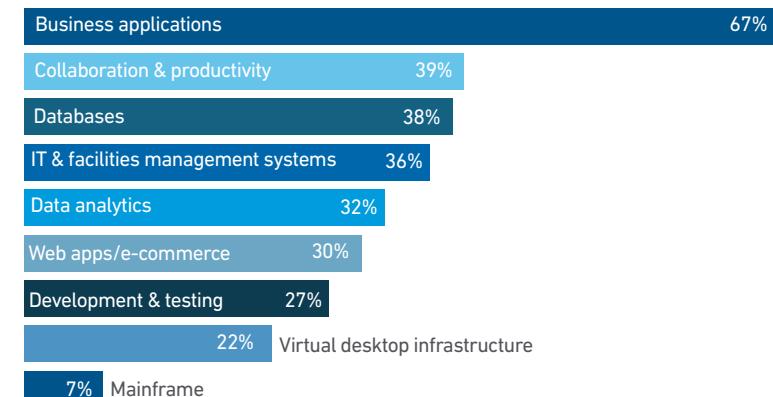


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Which apps have you moved to public cloud?

II. Which of these applications have you moved to public cloud from an on-premises data center or a colocation facility? Choose all that apply. (n=111)

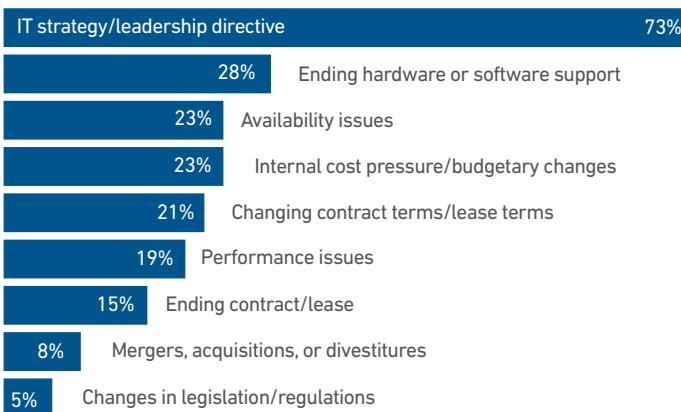


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Reasons for moving to public cloud

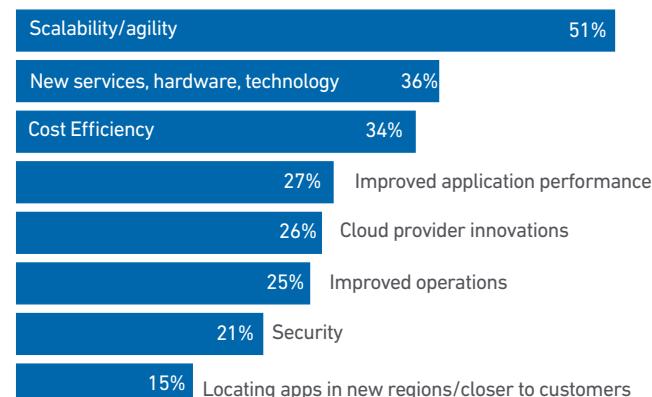
V. Which of these are reasons why your organization moved applications from your own data center(s) or a colocation facility to public cloud(s)? Choose all that apply. (n=111)



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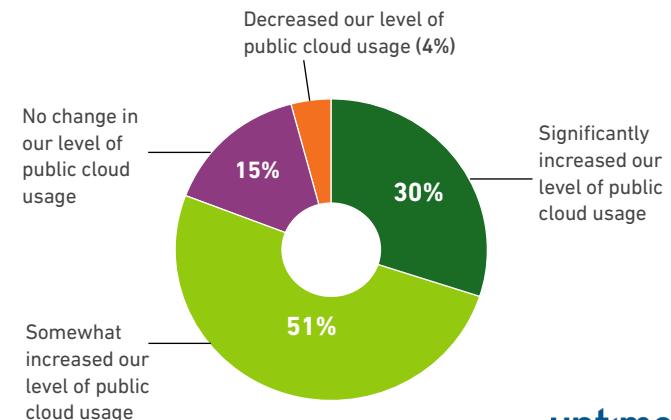
Benefits of moving to public cloud

III. Which of these are the primary benefits behind moving applications from your own data center or a colocation facility to public cloud? Choose no more than two. (n=104)



Overall impact of moving to public cloud

IV. Which statements best describes the overall impact on cloud adoption in your organization, as a result of moving certain applications to public cloud? (n=97)



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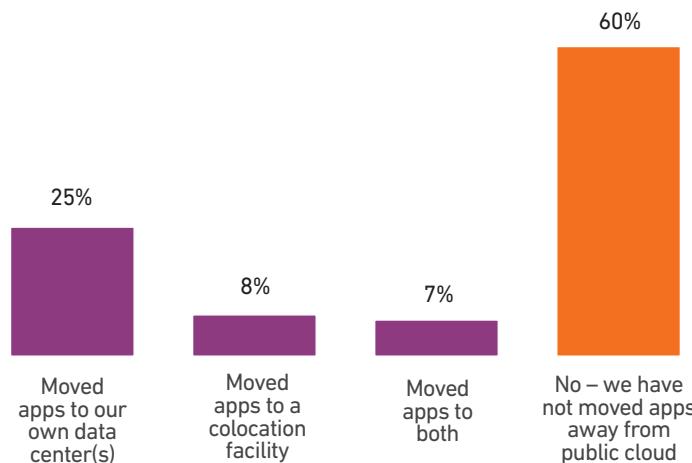
MOVING APPLICATIONS AWAY FROM PUBLIC CLOUD

We also asked owner/operators about moving apps away from public cloud and back to their own data centers. Two in five (40%) say they have moved some of their apps back over the past 12 months.

Business applications (56%) and *databases* (41%) were the top two applications moved away from public cloud. *Cost efficiency* (47%) was cited as the number one benefit of moving away from public cloud.

ABOUT THIS REPORT

Uptime Institute's December 2025 Data Center Capacity and Cloud Survey was conducted between 10/26/2025 and 12/8/2025 and had a total of 872 respondents. This report features results on data from 464 data center owner/operators responding to the survey.

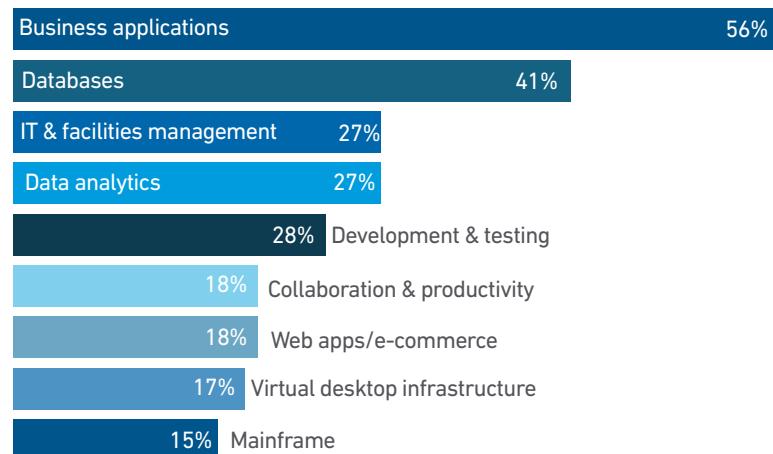


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Which apps have you moved away from public cloud?

VII. Which of these applications have you moved away from public cloud to an on-premises data center or a colocation facility? Choose all that apply. (n=66)



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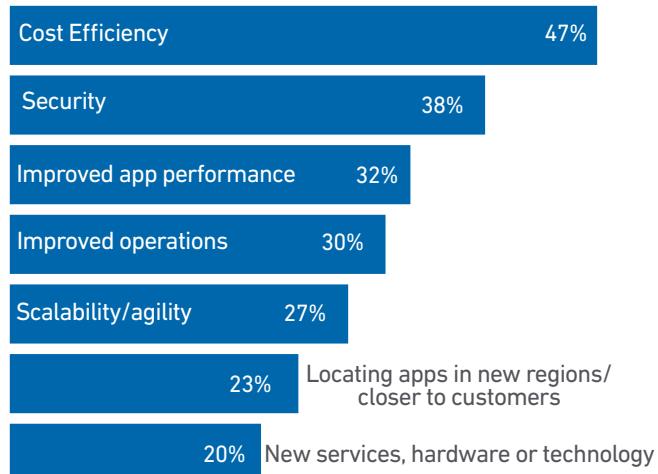
Reasons for moving away from public cloud

X. Which of the following best describes your organization's reasons for moving applications away from public cloud?? Choose all that apply. (n=65)



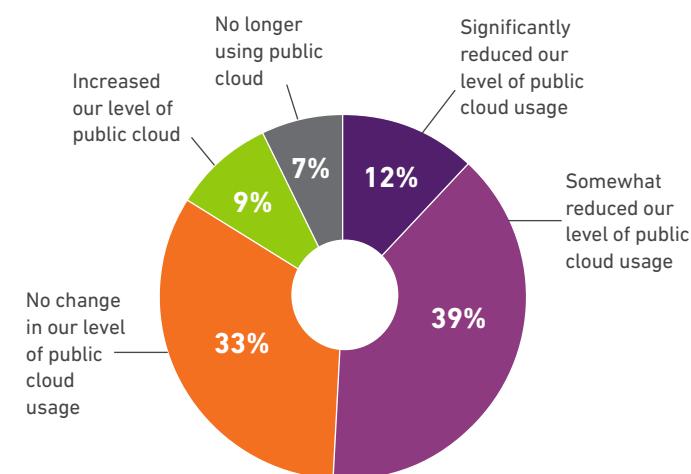
Benefits of moving away from public cloud

VIII. Which of these are the primary benefits behind moving applications away from public cloud back to your own data center(s) or a colocation facility? Choose no more than two. (n=66)



Overall impact of moving away from public cloud

IX. Which statement best describes the overall impact on cloud adoption in your organization, as a result of moving certain applications away from the public cloud? (n=57)

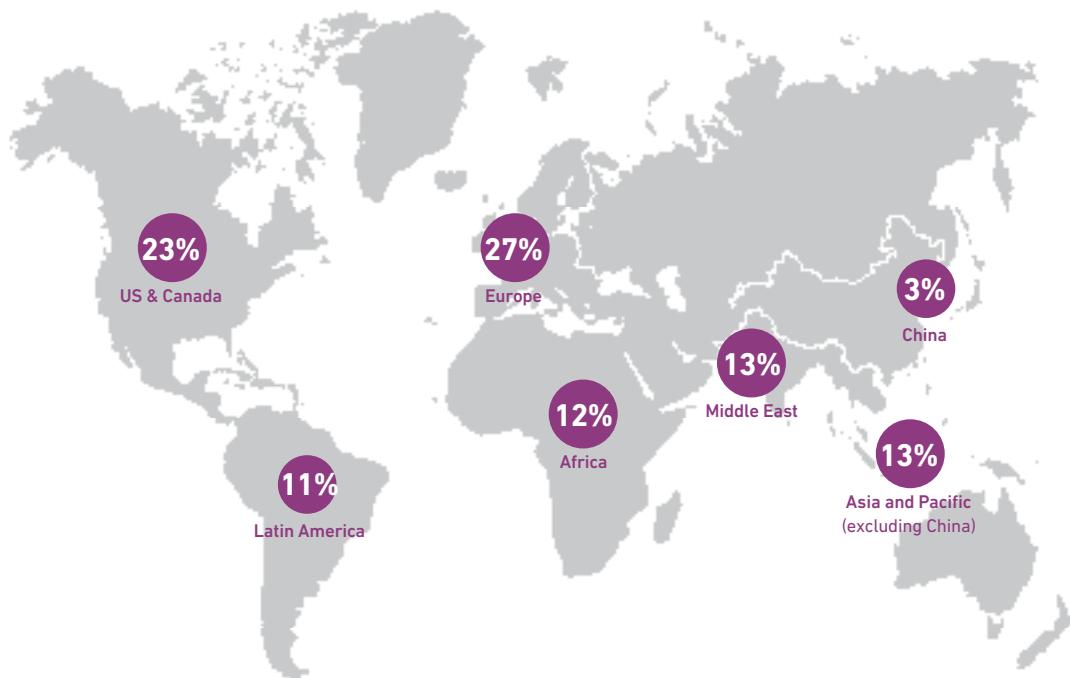


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Owner/Operator Respondent Demographics

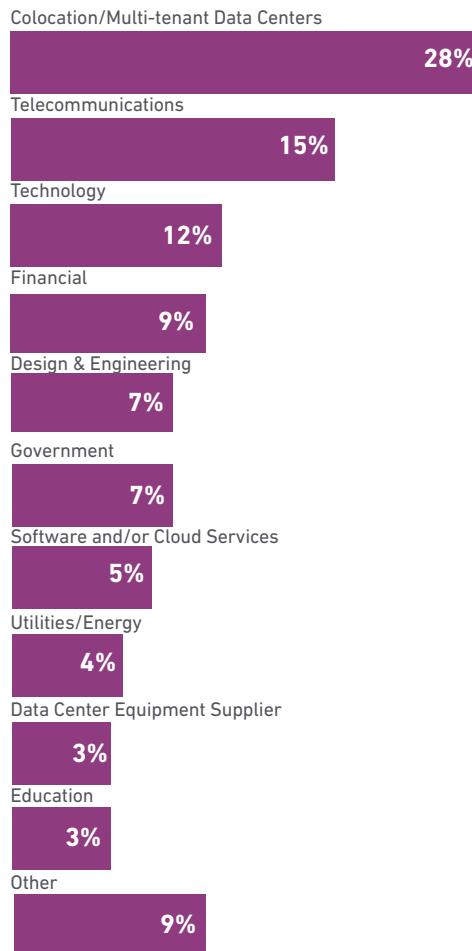
Respondents' location (n=464)



Digital infrastructure environment (n=464)

52%	Enterprise data center owner / operator
21%	Colocation provider
10%	Data center design or engineering firm
6%	Cloud / hosting provider
5%	Vendor / product supplier
6%	Other

Verticals (n=313)



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About Uptime Institute

Uptime Institute is the Global Digital Infrastructure Authority. With over 4,000 awards issued in over 122 countries around the globe, and over 1,100 currently active projects in 80+ countries, Uptime has helped tens of thousands of companies optimize critical IT assets while managing costs, resources, and efficiency.

For over 30 years, the company has established industry-leading benchmarks for data center performance, resilience, sustainability, and efficiency, which provide customers assurance that their digital infrastructure can perform across a wide array of operating conditions at a level consistent with their individual business needs.

Uptime's Tier Standard is the IT industry's most trusted and adopted global standard for the design, construction, and operation of data centers. Offerings include the organization's Tier Standard and Certifications, Management & Operations reviews and assessments including SCIRA-FSI financial sector risk assessment, the Sustainability Assessment, and a broad range of additional risk management, performance, availability, and related offerings.

Uptime Education training programs have been successfully completed by over 90,000 data center professionals, such as the much-valued ATD (Accredited Tier Designer) and AOS (Accredited Operations Specialist). The Uptime Education curriculum has been expanded by the acquisition of CNet Training Ltd. in 2023.

Uptime Institute is headquartered in New York, NY, with offices in London, São Paulo, Dubai, Riyadh, and Singapore, and full-time Uptime professionals based in over thirty-four countries around the world. For more information, visit uptimeinstitute.com.

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