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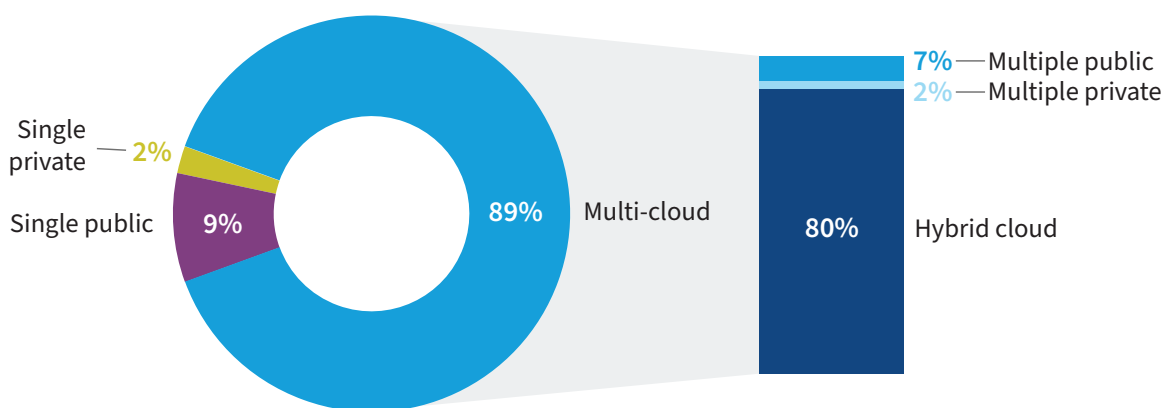
FLEXERA 2022 STATE OF THE CLOUD REPORT

Clearing up cloud chaos

To compete in today's game, organizations must have the cloud play a role in their strategy. Cloud adoption has already been expanding for several years, but as a post-pandemic world begins to take shape, new trends in cloud usage and consumer preferences are coming into focus.

## Multi-cloud remains the de facto standard

Organizations continue to have a strong affinity for a multi-cloud strategy—in fact, 89 percent of respondents indicated they're employing a multi-cloud approach. Most are taking a hybrid approach, combining the use of both public and private clouds.

- Single private 2%
- Single public 9%
- Multi-cloud 89%
- Multiple public 7%
- Multiple private 2%
- Hybrid cloud 80%

N=753
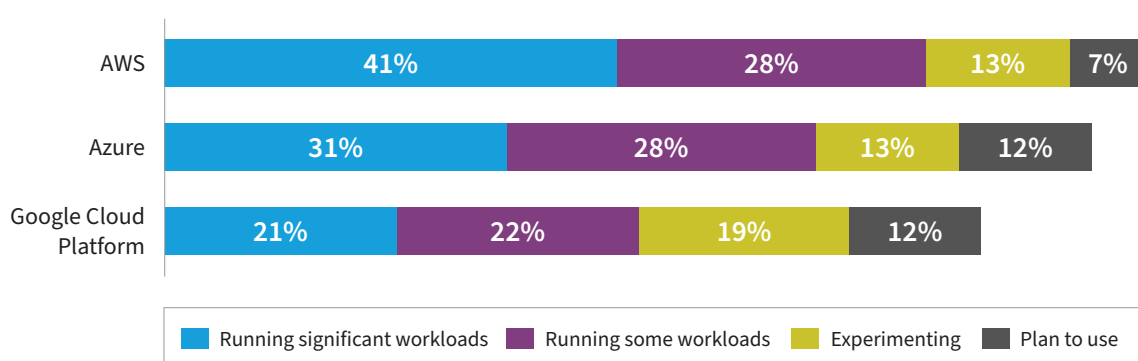
Microsoft Azure adoption surpasses AWS

For the first time in the eleven years of the survey, respondents' adoption of Azure as a public cloud provider has narrowly surpassed the former front-runner, AWS.

Azure		AWS		Google Cloud Platform	
73%	77%	77%	76%	47%	48%

■ 2021 ■ 2022
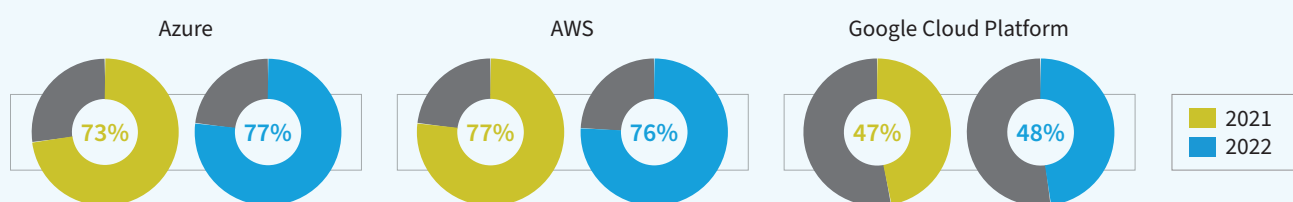
Respondents 2022 N=753, 2021 N=750
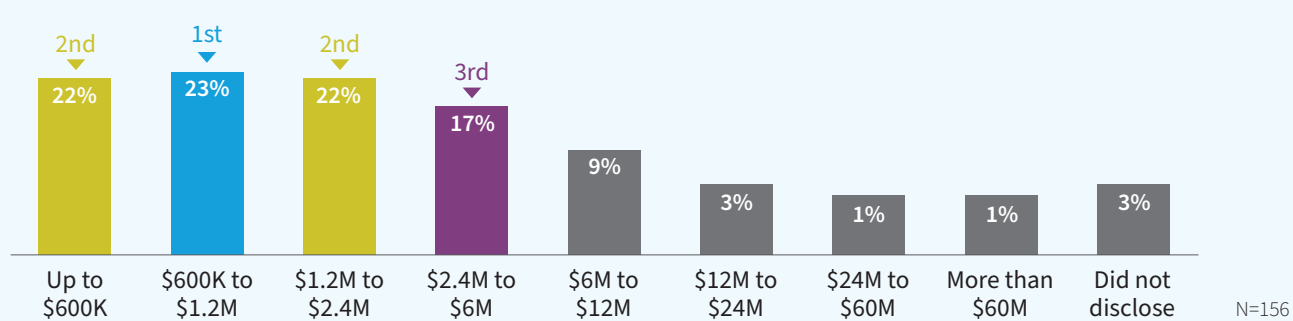
SMBs still prefer AWS

While adoption across all respondents showed a narrow lead for Azure, small to midsized businesses (SMBs) are still more likely to spend their cloud dollars on AWS rather than Azure.

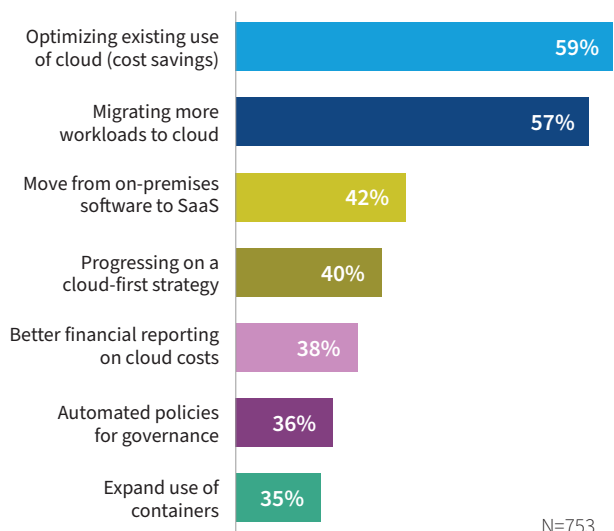|	Running significant workloads	Running some workloads	Experimenting	Plan to use
AWS	41%	28%	13%	7%
Azure	31%	28%	13%	12%
Google Cloud Platform	21%	22%	19%	12%

N=156

Cloud spend is increasing

The overall SMB spend on public cloud services substantially grew. Fifty-three percent are now spending $1.2 million annually—up from 38 percent last year.

| Up to $600K	$600K to $1.2M	$1.2M to $2.4M	$2.4M to $6M	$6M to $12M	$12M to $24M	$24M to $60M	More than $60M	Did not disclose
22% (2nd)	23% (1st)	22% (2nd)	17% (3rd)	9%	3%	1%	1%	3%

N=156

Increasing costs lead to a focus on savings

It's no surprise that with increased adoption comes the need for managing, controlling and optimizing the growing spend. For the sixth year in a row, the top initiative is optimizing existing use of cloud (cost savings).

- Optimizing existing use of cloud (cost savings) 59%
- Migrating more workloads to cloud 57%
- Move from on-premises software to SaaS 42%
- Progressing on a cloud-first strategy 40%
- Better financial reporting on cloud costs 38%
- Automated policies for governance 36%
- Expand use of containers 35%

N=753

Familiar challenges remain top of mind, while others rise

Any cloud journey comes with its own set of challenges—but some obstacles seem to be a constant. Once again, security was the top challenge for enterprises, and a lack of resources or expertise and managing spend were close behind. As public cloud adoption increases, the need for skilled staff increases as well. However, the talent pool appears to be expanding slower than the demand.

Challenges for enterprises in 2022

- Security 85%
- Lack of resources/expertise 84%
- Managing cloud spend 83%
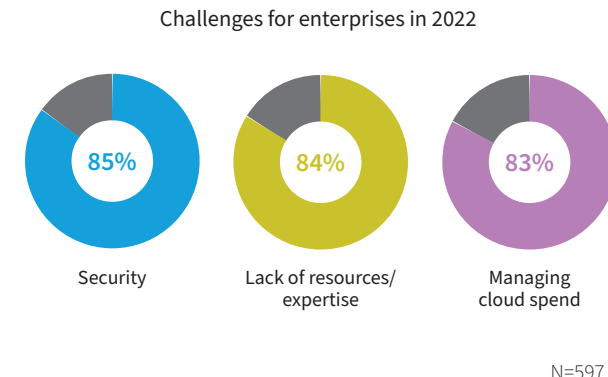
N=597

Navigate your cloud journey with confidence

One thing is certain: to remain competitive, organizations must make strategic decisions about cloud architecture, usage of public clouds and cost management. The siloed and disjointed approaches of yesterday won't be effective in today's fast-evolving digital world.

NEXT STEPS

Get the full *Flexera 2022 State of the Cloud Report* for more strategies to navigate your cloud journey

DOWNLOAD NOW

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Flexera delivers SaaS-based IT management solutions that enable enterprises to accelerate digital transformation and multiply the value of their technology investments. We help organizations **inform their IT** with definitive visibility into complex hybrid IT ecosystems, providing unparalleled IT insights that allow them to seize technology opportunities. And we help them **transform their IT** with tools that deliver actionable intelligence across an ever-increasing range of dimensions to effectively manage, govern and optimize their hybrid IT estate.

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