# All-in on **Cloud?**

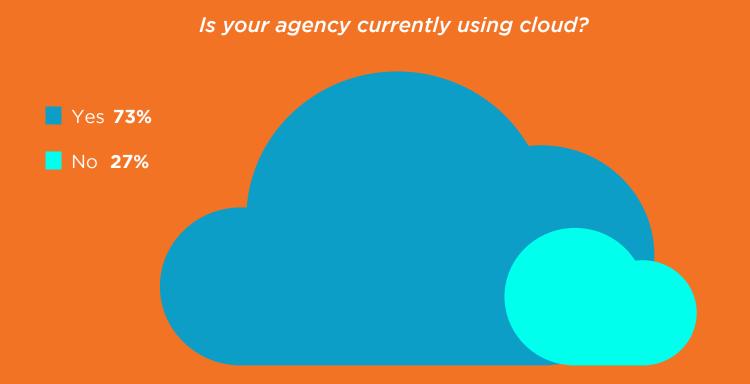
#### Not So Fast...

Between its Cloud First and Cloud Smart policies, the federal government has made a concerted effort to move applications and data to the cloud. In some cases, the public cloud can be more efficient and cost-effective than traditional on-premises systems. But in other cases, agencies have realized that the potential benefits of the public cloud need to be weighed against staffing requirements, performance expectations and overall costs.

To get a better understanding of these dynamics, GovLoop partnered with Nutanix and ClearShark to conduct a survey of nearly 70 federal government employees who are actively involved in IT infrastructure operations at their agencies. Below is what we learned along with considerations for your cloud architecture as you move forward.

#### **Cloud Makes Some Gains**

The federal government's efforts to promote cloud computing and overcome obstacles around procurement, security and workforce training have resulted in most agencies adopting cloud to some extent.



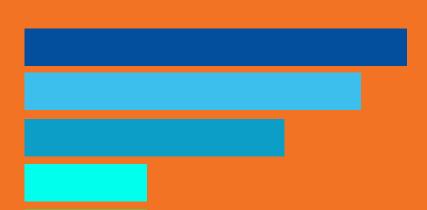
The primary drivers behind cloud adoption are improved service delivery – including self-service capabilities – and reduced infrastructure costs. These have been the selling points behind the public cloud from the beginning.

Which of these best describes the reason for your agency's move to cloud? (Select all that apply)

Improve service delivery and provide modern, self-service capabilities 56%

Reduce infrastructure costs 49%

Simplify complex and siloed IT in the data center 38% Free staff up for more innovative projects 18%

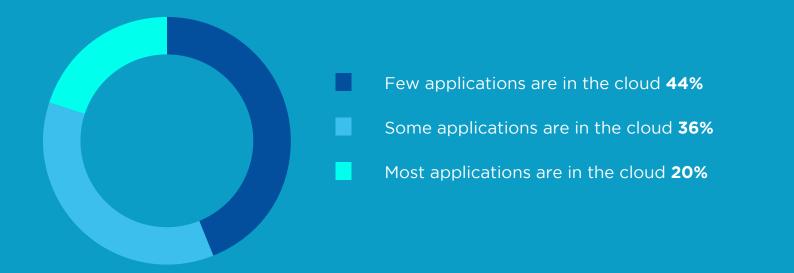


My agency is moving away from owning data centers 18% We are not considering a move to the cloud 9%

# Keeping Options Open

Ten years after the Cloud First policy and two years after Cloud Smart, few agencies have made a wholesale shift to the public cloud...

If yes, how would you describe the current state of cloud adoption at your agency?



Although the public cloud remains an important option, most agencies have determined that a hybrid approach - a combination of public, private and traditional data center resources - is the most flexible and practical format.

> What type of cloud deployment model is most prevalent at your agency?

- Hybrid cloud **43%**
- Government community cloud 23%
- Private cloud 21%
- Public cloud **13%**

# **A Cloud Reality Check**

During the last ten years, agencies have realized that migrating applications to the cloud is not as simple as they had hoped.

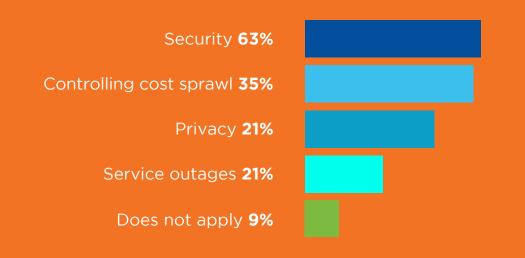
For the part of your agency that is running in the cloud, how would you describe the level of involvement and time staff spend managing the cloud infrastructure?



## **An Alternative** to the Public Cloud

The public cloud is a good platform for some applications, but it has not mitigated the need for modernizing IT infrastructure. Another approach is needed.

What are the most important elements of your data center modernization effort? (Select your top 3)



#### What do you feel the value of on-premise/agency-owned infrastructure is? (select your top 3)

Greater control when securing IT resources 68% Greater sense of visibility/ management over IT resources 66% Opportunities for greater customization **49%** 



Agencies are increasingly looking to hyperconverged infrastructure (HCI), which combines compute, storage, networking, and virtualization into simple building blocks, making IT infrastructure easier to procure, deploy, manage, and scale. 65% of respondents said their agencies were already using HCI or were considering it "as an option for moving to a more modern infrastructure."

The demand for HCl is expected to soar in the coming years, as organizations look to make their operations both more efficient and more secure. According to a **recent** study by Allied Market Research (AMR), the HCI market will see a compound annual growth rate of 30.7% between 2019 and 2026:

2018: **\$3.84 billion \$\$\$\$** 

According to AMR, the growth is being driven by a rise in requirements in disaster recovery and data protection as well as an interest in lowered capital expenditure (CapEx) and operational expenditure (OpEx).

### **HCI: Key Advantages**

Because HCI architectures rely on simple building blocks similar to those used by public cloud providers, they deliver many of the same benefits but with many additional advantages.

ClearShark and Nutanix have found that organizations leveraging a HCI software platform cite eight primary benefits:





#### **How Nutanix Helps**

Nutanix is a global leader in cloud software and hyperconverged infrastructure solutions. Federal organizations use Nutanix software to leverage a single platform to manage any app at any location for their private, hybrid and multicloud environments. Together with ClearShark, Nutanix has helped numerous Defense and Civilian organizations modernize their data centers and adopt a flexible cloud environment that meets their needs. See for yourself what all the excitement is about by taking Nutanix industry-leading hyperconverged infrastructure software for a no-obligation test drive by visiting https://www.nutanix.com/one-platform





