

Operational Consistency as the Key to Hybrid Cloud Success

Cloud adoption is no longer about “cloud-first” or chasing the lowest price. Enterprises are learning through experience that performance, security, and operational consistency can drive more value than hourly savings on cloud resource cost. This infographic, based on custom research commissioned by AMD and executed by Enterprise Strategy Group, highlights the realities of hybrid and multi-cloud strategies, the challenges of Arm migration, and why architectural standardization is becoming a strategic advantage.

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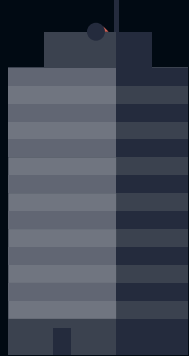
The New Reality of Hybrid and Multi-cloud

Companies are not only running their applications in multi-cloud environments; they are also actively moving workloads back and forth between clouds and on-premises locations. This continuous workload migration reflects a shift from “cloud-first” to “workload optimization-first,” where technical requirements and TCO drive placement decisions. Organizations are discovering that the right infrastructure choice depends on the specific workload characteristics, leading to increasingly sophisticated evaluation processes that go far beyond the simple comparison of hourly pricing.



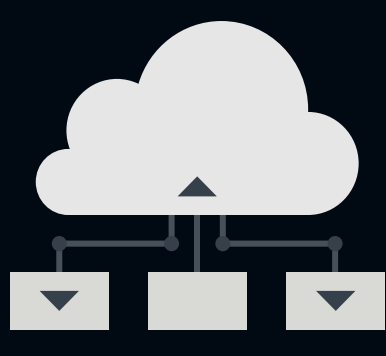
organizations reported
utilizing
2-3
clouds, on average

Source: Enterprise Strategy Group custom research commissioned by AMD, *Challenges With Workload Replatforming*, June 2025. (N=300). Page 9.



2/3
of organizations moved at
least one workload back on
premises

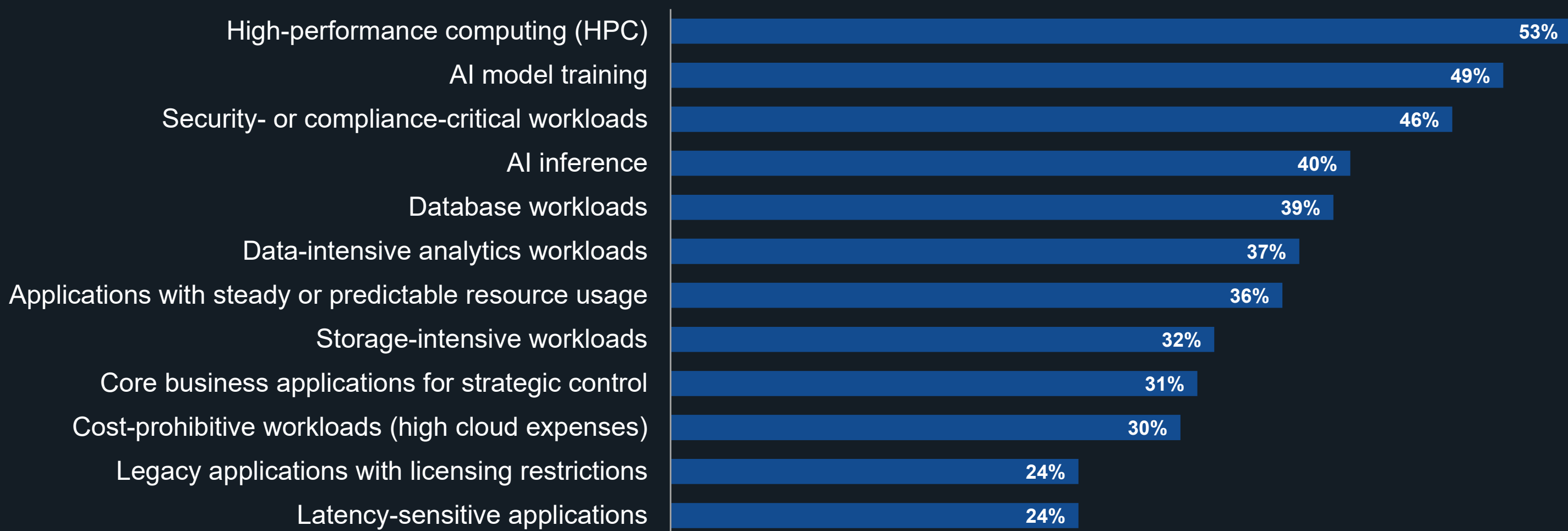
Source: Enterprise Strategy Group custom research commissioned by AMD, *Challenges With Workload Replatforming*, June 2025. (N=300). Page 19.



55%
of organizations reevaluated
workload placement between
clouds within the first 12 months

Source: Enterprise Strategy Group custom research commissioned by AMD, *Challenges With Workload Replatforming*, June 2025. (N=300). Page 22.

» Types of Repatriated Workloads



Source: Enterprise Strategy Group custom research commissioned by AMD, *Challenges With Workload Replatforming*, June 2025. (N=300). Page 20.

Why Cost Isn’t King

The cheapest instance price rarely delivers the best long-term value. While cloud providers often promote low-cost options—often Arm-based—many organizations find real-world costs exceed estimates, revealing a gap between projected and actual usage. Workload placement decisions are increasingly driven by performance, security, and AI support, all of which rank ahead of cost.

#1



AI support is the number one priority for workload placement, with security and performance close behind.

#4



Cost only ranks fourth among workload placement criteria.

Source: Enterprise Strategy Group custom research commissioned by AMD, *Challenges With Workload Replatforming*, June 2025. (N=300). Page 11.

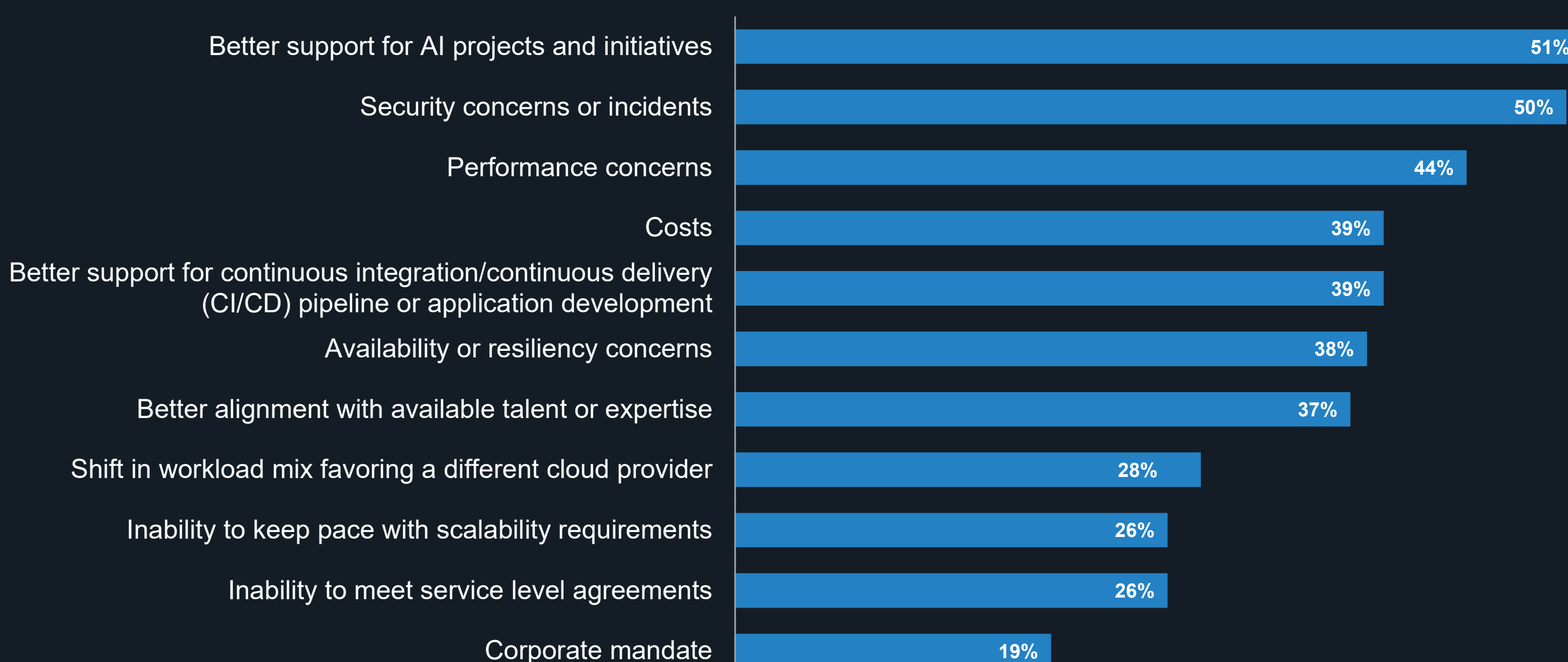
58%



reported higher-than-expected
cloud bills.

Source: Enterprise Strategy Group custom research commissioned by AMD, *Challenges With Workload Replatforming*, June 2025. (N=300). Page 12.

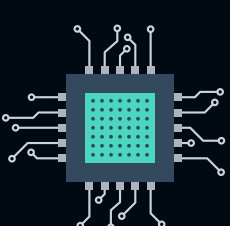
» Reasons for Evaluating a New Public Cloud Platform



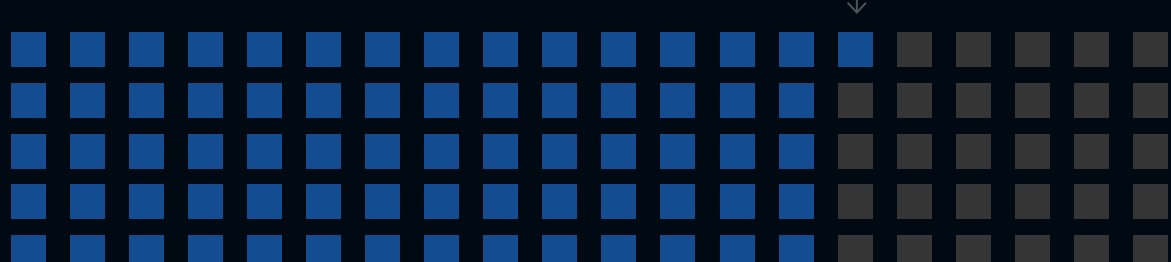
Source: Enterprise Strategy Group custom research commissioned by AMD, *Challenges With Workload Replatforming*, June 2025. (N=300). Page 11.

x86 Dominates Critical Workloads

Consistency is the pre-condition for operational excellence, as it enables the same teams to leverage the same tools, apply the same controls, and maintain predictable performance characteristics across hybrid environments. The x86 ecosystem’s decades of maturity translates into tangible operational advantages that are hard to ignore when deploying business-critical workloads.



71%
of organizations run most
or all workloads on x86.



Source: Enterprise Strategy Group custom research commissioned by AMD, *Challenges With Workload Replatforming*, June 2025. (N=300). Page 6.



83%
of organizations agreed that consistency
across cloud and on-premises will
simplify operations.



Source: Enterprise Strategy Group custom research commissioned by AMD, *Challenges With Workload Replatforming*, June 2025. (N=300). Page 26.



34%
of organizations reported
performance issues influenced their
decision to repatriate a workload to
an on-premises environment



28%
of organizations reported that
specialized hardware requirements
were key drivers for their workload
placement decisions.

Source: Enterprise Strategy Group custom research commissioned by AMD, *Challenges With Workload Replatforming*, June 2025. (N=300). Page 21.

Conclusion

There are three key factors that enable organizations to optimally take advantage of the hybrid multi-cloud:

- Standardize where consistency reduces complexity (tooling, observability, security).
- Diversify only when specialized architectures clearly deliver differentiated value.
- Continuously validate TCO beyond hourly rates.

Following these three factors can lead to a balanced approach that helps achieve operational consistency through strategic workload placement, helping reduce operational overhead while optimizing performance and cost efficiency across the entire application and infrastructure portfolio.

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