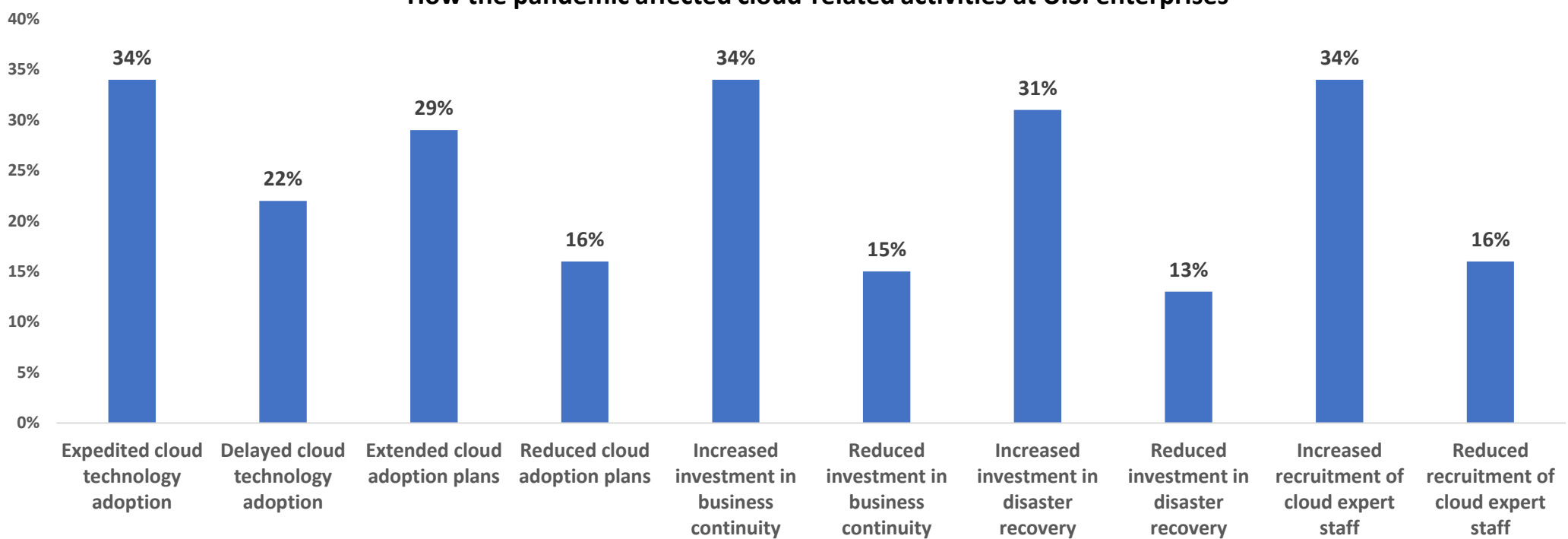Amdocs announced the findings from its *2020 Cloud Migration Trends Report,* which sourced insights from senior IT professionals in the U.S., UK and India. The data offers a better understanding of how enterprises have adjusted their cloud migration plans and investments in response to the pandemic's impact on their businesses.

1 More than 60% of enterprises in the U.S., UK and India expedited or extended cloud adoption plans

With flexibility and scalability now crucial to driving businesses forward, companies are accelerating the cloud migration plans they already had in place to differentiate themselves from competitors with increased agility and cost-efficient capabilities. Due to the pandemic's impacts, 63% of U.S. IT leaders have either extended or expedited their cloud adoption plans to not only enable a remote workforce, but ensure they can securely maximize the value of their data. UK IT leaders responded similarly with 64% but 78% of India's IT leaders reported an increased focus on cloud-based investments and planning. Moreover, 70% of India-based IT leaders reported their 2021 IT budgets would include at least a 10% increase in investments in solutions to enable remote work, which is 30% and 34% more than US and UK organizations, respectively. As these investments continue to increase and tech is adopted, reskilling and recruitment will be paramount to the ability of every enterprise to survive the today's cloud-based new normal.
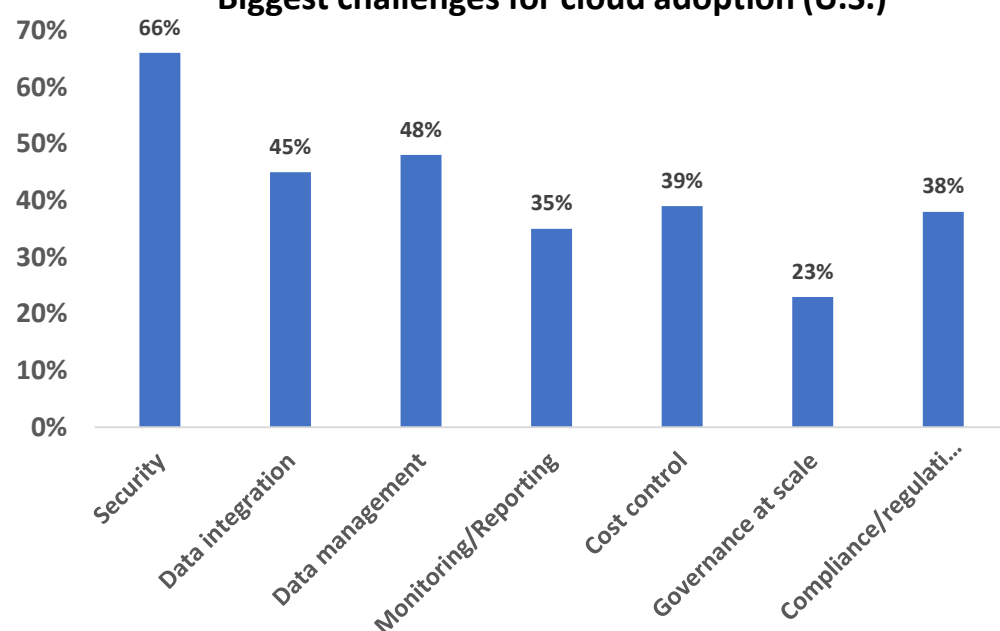
How the pandemic affected cloud-related activities at U.S. enterprises

Activity	%
Expedited cloud technology adoption	34%
Delayed cloud technology adoption	22%
Extended cloud adoption plans	29%
Reduced cloud adoption plans	16%
Increased investment in business continuity	34%
Reduced investment in business continuity	15%
Increased investment in disaster recovery	31%
Reduced investment in disaster recovery	13%
Increased recruitment of cloud expert staff	34%
Reduced recruitment of cloud expert staff	16%

2 Accelerated cloud migration plans have enterprises focused on solving security (60%) and data (45%+) challenges

More than 60% of the IT leaders we surveyed from all three regions stated that security was one of their biggest cloud-based challenges. Meanwhile, nearly half of U.S. IT said data integration and data management leaders (45% and 48% respectively) are some of the biggest challenges when running systems and monitoring workloads in the cloud. U.S. companies are recruiting for data experts to navigate those challenges, and 47% are reskilling employees on cloud-based data and analytics/data science. The focus on data was much higher for IT professionals in India, with 69% prioritizing training employees on cloud-based data and analytics skills.
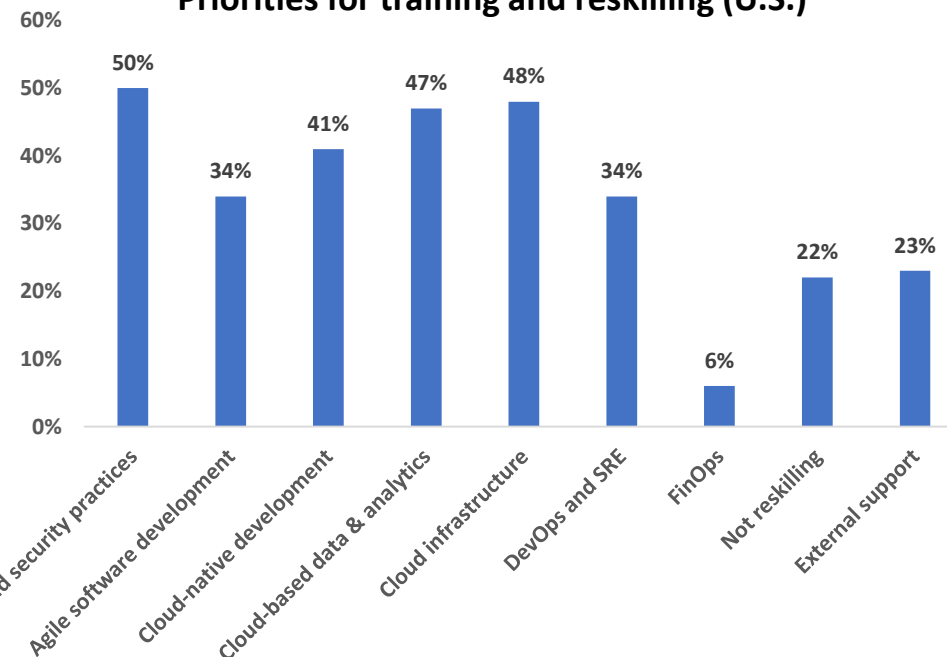
Biggest challenges for cloud adoption (U.S.)

Challenge	%
Security	66%
Data integration	45%
Data management	48%
Monitoring/Reporting	35%
Cost control	39%
Governance at scale	23%
Compliance/regulati...	38%

3 34% have increased recruitment of cloud-expert staff as part of reskilling and hiring efforts to navigate migration

As cloud investments and adoption drastically increase, enterprises must train their workforces on how to securely utilize cloud-based tools to maximize their value and potential. Despite increased investments in tools and training, 37% of IT leaders stated they think their company could either be doing more or haven't done enough to educate employees about cloud security risks. Fifty percent of IT leaders are currently reskilling/training employees on cloud security practices. While only 20% of companies stated a lack of skilled-professionals would hinder their cloud-adoption, 34% have already increased their recruitment of cloud-expert staff.

Priorities for training and reskilling (U.S.)

Priority	%
Cloud security practices	50%
Agile software development	34%
Cloud-native development	41%
Cloud-based data & analytics	47%
Cloud infrastructure	48%
DevOps and SRE	34%
FinOps	6%
Not reskilling	22%
External support	23%

*Source: August 2020 Dynata survey of 1,000 senior IT professionals in the U.S, UK and India.