Five warning signs that you may have a public cloud spending problem

Cloud storage is one of the fastest-growing business resource demands on the planet

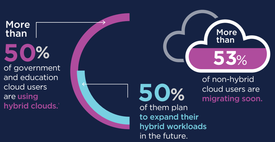
Over the next **5 years**, the global data sphere is expected to grow by

175ZB

Half of all that data is expected to reside in the **public cloud**.

The data stewardship challenge

Government and education IT leaders are embracing hybrid cloud for increased agility and speed of deployment. But without good data stewardship, costs can easily escalate out of control.



1. All data is from a July 2019 Center for Digital Government survey of 255 state and local government and education IT leaders.

Don't hit the panic button yet

Your organization will be just fine. Cloud offers the hope of exchanging the complexity of data center management for an easy monthly operating expense (opex) that provides virtually infinite scalability and flexibility.

But be wary: That opex can sneak up on you at the end of the month.

Let's talk about the five warning signs that you may have a cloud spending problem, and then we'll give you what you really came for: 10 ways you can immediately address out-of-control cloud costs, right now.

01. No one knows all the public cloud accounts the organization has open.

02. No one can fully explain the organization monthly cloud bills.

03. There's no way to trace approved purchases to initiatives or cost centers

04. All capacity is purchased at on-demand prices

05. No one is regularly reviewing consumption or egress efficiency

All organizations, regardless of size, can easily find themselves in these cloud storage quandaries. But it doesn't have to be like that.

Here are 10 tips to help you reduce your storage footprint and rein in spending.

1.

Remove unattached cloud storage

This one's a no-brainer—if you're not using the storage, get rid of it.

2.

Purchase the right storage tier

Consider both your performance and cost requirements when assessing storage tiers, balancing your needs with attention to budgetary targets.

3.

Rightsize underused storage volumes

Identify oversized volumes. Then create a new volume with the space you actually need, migrate the existing data, and delete the oversized volume.

4.

Downgrade storage according to required throughput

If throughput is low, downgrade it to a lower performance tier.

5.

Determine the level of redundancy needed for storage

Use business impact analysis and risk assessments to determine what's actually needed.

6.

Delete old snapshots

Establish a strategy around snapshot expiration.

7.

Manage outbound data transfer requests

Encourage users to store data as close as possible to where it's actually used, eliminating the need to move it somewhere else.

8.

Minimize cross-region and cross-zone data transfer

Host necessary data as geographically close to its user base as possible.

9.

Monitor storage pricing tiers

Try to stay within the constraints of your contract, while looking for ways to negotiate costs down according to increased usage overtime.

10.

Clean up incomplete uploads from storage

Back up incomplete uploads and then delete them.

It's imperative that you do something now

Resources to get you started

- No-frills guide to optimizing your cloud
- **Customer story:** State agency cuts costs, moves to the cloud, and modernizes with NetApp

Get performance benchmarks

Microsoft Azure — LEARN MORE

Google Cloud — LEARN MORE

aws — LEARN MORE

NetApp