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For the Complete Technology & Database Professional

2019 IOUG DATABASES IN THE CLOUD SURVEY

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Database systems have been part of corporate data centers for decades, and substantial infrastructures have been built around them to assure their security, resiliency and ability to support mission-critical applications. Now, much of the technology required to keep delivering business value is available in the cloud, which is fast becoming the de facto method of data deployment. Already, one-fourth of corporate data is being maintained by cloud providers, and data managers intend to move as much of their data environments into the cloud as soon as possible.

These are some of the findings of a new survey 202 data managers and professionals, conducted among members of the Independent Oracle Users Group (IOUG). The survey, fielded by Unisphere Research, a division of Information Today, Inc., in partnership with Amazon Web Services, covered a broad sample of company types and sizes.

Respondents were asked about their most recent database project—whether it was an upgrade, migration or addition of new functionality—and if it was in the cloud or on-premises. They were then asked about their most recent cloud-based database project. In some cases, these were one in the same.

The following findings came to light in the survey:

- On average, one in every four bytes of enterprise data is now managed by public cloud providers. This will increase, but hybrid cloud is the model for most.

- Scalability is the most oft-cited benefit seen in the cloud. At the same time, structural concerns dominate the tops of data managers' lists for moving to cloud.

- Close to half of new database projects are going to public cloud providers. While most database projects are still on-premises, these will soon be in the minority.

- Cloud now involves upgrading current systems as much is it about new systems. Most cloud-based database deployments are coming out of on-premises environments.

- Cloud-based data functions are no longer at the periphery of enterprises—many are now supporting core enterprise applications.

- Hybrid is the arrangement going forward, as enterprises seek to leverage the best of what public cloud has to offer in combination with existing on-premises assets.

- Integration, skills and security were the three most pressing issues encountered during cloud migration processes.

Many of the executives and professionals participating in the survey are enthusiastic about the advantages cloud can bring to their enterprises. "The greatest value is that cloud offers cheap and cost effective storage capacity and reduced the need to have power on-premises," according to one respondent. "It also allows access to the database anywhere in the world where there is access to the internet."

There is definitely "value added to a data environment," another respondent agrees. "The flexibility with amounts of storage, memory and access speeds has been incredible. We need more computing power...we just turn up the dial, and turn it down when we're done."

On the following pages are the results of this comprehensive survey.