aws

Microsoft Workloads on Amazon Web Services

A leader in secure, reliable cloud solutions for Windows

Amazon Web Services (AWS) runs nearly 2x more Windows Server instances than the next largest cloud provider. AWS delivers high performance, breadth of services, reliability, and trusted security to support Microsoft applications and workloads.

Customers have been running Microsoft Workloads on AWS for over 11 years, and the number of AWS enterprise customers using Amazon Elastic Compute Cloud (Amazon EC2) for Windows Server has grown 5x since 2015.

You can select from a number of Windows Server versions, including the latest version, Windows Server 2019. In addition, AWS supports your needs for building and running Windows applications, including Active Directory, .NET, System Center, Microsoft SQL Server, Visual Studio, Windows desktop as a service, and the first and only fully managed native-Windows file system available in the cloud: Amazon FSx for Windows File Server.

Why AWS for Microsoft Workloads?

AWS gives you the platform you need to run Windows-based applications today and into the future. Windows on Amazon EC2 enables you to increase or decrease capacity within minutes, not hours or days. You can commission one, hundreds, or even thousands of server instances simultaneously.

Compared to the next largest cloud provider, AWS offers these advantages for Windows:

More Windows Server instances	More Regions with multiple Availability Zones (22 vs. 10)	More services offering encryption	Fewer downtime hours in 2018[1]	Higher performance for SQL Server on Windows
2x	2x	5x	7x	2x

[1] Based on downtime hours from 1/1/18 to 12/31/18, pulled directly from the public service health dashboards of the major cloud providers.

Key advantages over the competition

Broader and deeper functionality

AWS offers an extensive selection of cloud services, including 48 services where comparable options are simply not available on the next largest cloud provider. This includes deeper functionality for Windows, such as the AWS Deep Learning AMI for Microsoft Windows Server, and the first and only fully managed native-Windows file system available in the cloud with Amazon FSx for Windows File Server. We deliver more than 175 services offerings, with 1,957 new significant services and features released last year alone.

Greater reliability

We have an expansive global infrastructure for running workloads that require high availability: 69 Availability Zones (AZ) across 22 Regions. The AWS Region/AZ model has been recognized by industry analysts as the recommended approach for running enterprise applications that require high availability, and AWS provides more than twice as many Regions with multiple Availability Zones as the next largest cloud provider (22 vs. 10). This is one of the reasons why the next largest cloud provider had 7 times more downtime hours than AWS in 2018.

Gartner. | **AWS was ranked the top-rated Cloud IaaS market leader (Gartner, 2019) with 442% ROI when running Windows on AWS (IDC, 2019).**

More security capabilities

AWS offers 210 security, compliance, and governance services and key features—about 40 more than the next largest cloud provider. We also support 89 security standards and compliance certifications, including PCI-DSS, HIPAA/HITECH, FedRAMP, GDPR, FIPS 140-2, and NIST 800-171, which is meaningfully more than any other cloud provider. We offer encryption across 116 different AWS services—more than 5 times the next largest cloud provider.

Proven migration experience

AWS has a depth and breadth of experience over the last 10 years, helping thousands of organizations—including global enterprises such as Sysco, Hess, Sony DADC, Ancestry, and Expedia—migrate their Microsoft Workloads to the cloud. Our AWS Migration Acceleration Program (MAP), a proven methodology of best practices, is recognized by IDC as the most extensive library of cases covering thousands of successful migrations. Customers follow this methodology and apply a combination of unique tools and deep expertise from our partners, professional services, and support teams to help assess, right size, and move their Microsoft Workloads to AWS.

Faster performance

Testing from DBBest found that Microsoft SQL Server on AWS consistently shows 2 to 3 times better performance using HammerDB (a TPC-C-like benchmark tool) compared to the next largest cloud provider. ZK Research also points out that AWS has at least a 2X price/performance advantage over the next largest cloud provider when comparing the price of a workload, including storage, compute, and networking.

Lower costs

AWS helps customers lower their overall costs of running Windows in the cloud with a comprehensive family of Amazon EC2 instances and unique pricing models like Spot Instances, which can help customers save up to 90% on their Windows compute costs. Customer can also save money by moving their Microsoft licenses to dedicated hosts on AWS.

AWS Marketplace offers 39 categories and more than 4,800 software listings from more than 1,400 ISVs. The Amazon Partner Network (APN) is designed to support cloud adoption, migration, and modernization and includes:

- Optimization and License Assessment (OLA)
- Windows Rapid Migration Program (WRMP)
- Microsoft Modernization Program (MMP)

Partner specialization programs

- Microsoft Competency for Consulting and Technology partners
- Amazon EC2 for Windows Server Service Delivery Program (SDP)

Microsoft Workloads on AWS customer successes

More and more businesses are using the flexible, scalable, and secure infrastructure of AWS to run their Microsoft Workloads. Take a look at how customers have achieved business agility, cost savings, innovation, and high availability with AWS:

aws.amazon.com/partners/success/#windows

Tools and resources to get started

aws.amazon.com/windows

aws.amazon.com/partners/windows/

aws