

2025 InformationWeek State of DevOps Report:

On the Job Market, DevOps Skills
Are Now a 'Must-Have'

More companies are buying into the idea of DevOps but aren't ready to pay for the reality. Other companies are all in and planning to hire new DevOps talent this year. Can they provide a landing place for jobless software development pros laid off in the AI craze?

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JFrog Perspective

Open-source Software Security: Key Considerations for DevOps + DevSecOps Professionals

By Paul Davis, US Field CISO, JFrog

Open source is a necessary component of how we build and ship software today. In fact, open source is present in 96% of commercial programs and in 2024 millions of new packages were added to public code registries. Open source speeds up development, fosters community innovation, and powers the backbone of countless consumer and business applications. In fact, according to research by Harvard Business School, without open-source software, companies would pay roughly \$8.8 trillion to build the software and platforms that run their business.

While there's no dispute that open source is critical to the industry's continued innovation, this key ingredient also comes with a growing set of security challenges as attackers learn to exploit the very openness that makes this ecosystem thrive. Over the last three years, software supply chain attacks have surged by 600%, with attackers increasingly targeting CI/CD pipelines, package managers, and public registries. More than 10 million individuals and 1,700 organizations were affected by open-source supply chain attacks in 2022 alone. The reality is clear: open source is indispensable, but it requires a new level of security vigilance.

Open Source: A Powerful Tool That Needs Guardrails

A 2023 report by Lineaje found that 82% of open-source software components come with a level of inherent risk, such as unpatched vulnerabilities, maintenance challenges or quality issues. Organizations often attempt to lock down usage

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JFrog Perspective

of dependencies to only approved and vetted packages, but in doing so stifle innovation and velocity. To hit deadlines, savvy developers find workarounds and these components are often added to projects without consistent tracking or ongoing security review, creating an opportunity for attackers to pounce.

Many DevOps pros are familiar with the “release fast or die” mantra. But when this mantra dictates your timelines, security sometimes takes a back seat. It can be tempting to push out a release to meet business goals and promise to patch vulnerabilities later. But the costs of delaying security are high—remediation of binary vulnerabilities after deployment can cost millions, and a business’s reputation can be severely damaged following a breach. The lesson is simple but critical: Addressing security early on in a developer-friendly way is far less costly than cleaning up in production.

What Developers and DevSecOps Teams Should Prioritize

Building secure software means weaving security into workflows without slowing down delivery. Here are three practical steps developers and DevSecOps teams can take:

- Stay proactive about dependency management. Don’t let outdated libraries become a weak link. Make it a habit to regularly review, update, and, when necessary, replace dependencies to deal with vulnerabilities before they can be exploited.
- Automate dependency review. Leveraging automated policies paired with rich security databases can accelerate software velocity and simultaneously improve security by shifting the demand from manual resources to intelligent tools.
- Verify the integrity of binaries. Trust is essential, but it shouldn’t be blind. Always be sure to verify the authenticity of third-party binaries and artifacts you use in your environment. This reduces the risk of including malicious or compromised packages in your pipeline.
- Embrace continuous monitoring. Automated vulnerability scanning integrated into your CI/CD pipelines allows you to catch security issues early. A continuous approach makes security part of the development rhythm, not an afterthought.

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JFrog Perspective

Many organizations are also rethinking their systems infrastructure to place a more secure buffer between developers and registries on the public internet. By using a central, curated repository that proxies public registries for all software artifacts, containers, and even ML models, teams have a single point of control where they can apply consistent security checks, curation, and scanning before components enter pipelines. This ultimately simplifies the developer experience and strengthens security across the entire software supply chain.

The Next Frontier: Open-Source ML Models

Developers might be more familiar with securing code libraries and binaries than they once were, but a new challenge has arrived: open-source machine learning models. ML models are often large and opaque, contain licensing challenges, and can contain hidden vulnerabilities that have been planted by malicious actors.

Unlike traditional code, ML models can be tougher to inspect, making them an attractive target for attackers looking to sneak into enterprise environments with harmful code. It's essential to treat ML models the same way as other software artifacts, including scanning them for vulnerabilities, verifying where they came from, and securely storing them before they're deployed.

Building a Secure Future for Open Source

Securing the software supply chain is more than a technical challenge. It's a mindset shift for how teams approach development. Simply put, security can't be a final checkpoint before release—it needs to be present at every stage, from the moment a dependency is considered to the final deployment in production. By proactively curating dependencies, verifying binaries, scanning continuously, and managing ML models responsibly, dev teams can help close the gaps that attackers are just waiting to exploit. Centralizing security checks can simplify this process, reducing risks while maintaining the speed modern development requires. By making security a core part of the development DNA, teams can continue to innovate quickly while protecting their organization, their users, and the broader digital ecosystem.

Want the latest on open-source risk and supply chain threats?

Get the [2025 Software Supply Chain State of the Union](#) report to uncover key trends and insights.



About Pam Baker



Pam Baker
Contributing Writer

A prolific writer and analyst, Pam Baker's published work appears in many leading publications. She's also the author of several books, the most recent of which is *ChatGPT for Dummies*. Pam is also a popular speaker at technology conferences and a member of the National Press Club, Society of Professional Journalists, and the Internet Press Guild.



Introduction

The developer pipeline may be eroding fast, swept away in a rising tide of layoffs. Since ChatGPT’s debut in 2022, businesses have eliminated thousands of software development and engineering jobs, including deep cuts at Microsoft this spring.

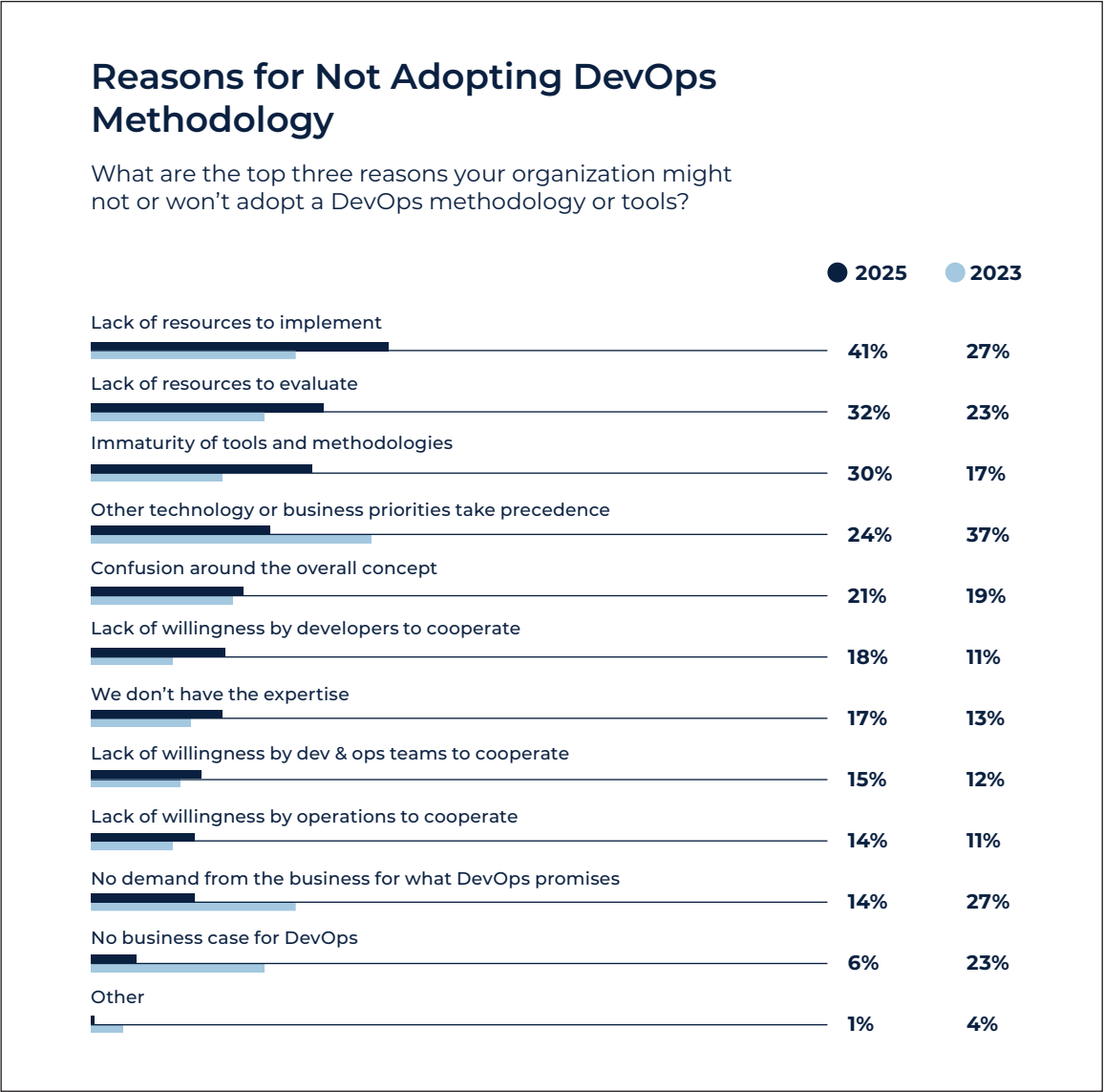
Struggling software developers needn’t lose all hope, though. Our 2025 InformationWeek State of DevOps Report shows that enterprises increasingly recognize the value of DevOps and still require dev professionals who bring it to life. It’s just easier said than done.

Respondents to our 2025 survey said their primary reason for not yet implementing DevOps is a lack of resources. Forty-one percent said they didn’t have the resources to implement DevOps, and 32% said they didn’t even have the resources to evaluate it **(Figure 1)**. That’s a stark shift from our 2023 survey, when the top reasons for opting out of DevOps were that other technology or business priorities took precedence and there was simply no demand from the business side.

Those who have already begun implementation still face obstacles, but the obstacles are evolving from “why” to “how.” When we asked respondents to name their key challenges in implementing DevOps, “difficult to justify ROI” as a top challenge plummeted from 25% in 2023 to just 14% in our 2025 survey, while “organizational complexity” rocketed from 26% to 43% **(Figure 2)**.

“We’re seeing interest and a sense of willingness to modernize with DevOps,” said Miguel Baltazar, vice president of Developer Relations at OutSystems, a

Figure 1



Note: Maximum of three responses allowed
Data: InformationWeek survey of 109 technology decision makers in June 2025 and 226 in June 2023



low-code platform that uses AI to develop custom apps and agents faster. “But scaling DevOps is a serious resource challenge, especially as teams face compounding pressures like talent shortages, legacy systems, and long to-do lists.”

Ironically, AI, which was once hailed as the solution to these woes, is often making matters worse. “Some organizations rely on AI coding tools to automate repetitive tasks,” Baltazar said, “but without experienced developers to validate, test, and maintain that code, you end up with unmaintainable or orphaned code that only adds to technical debt.”

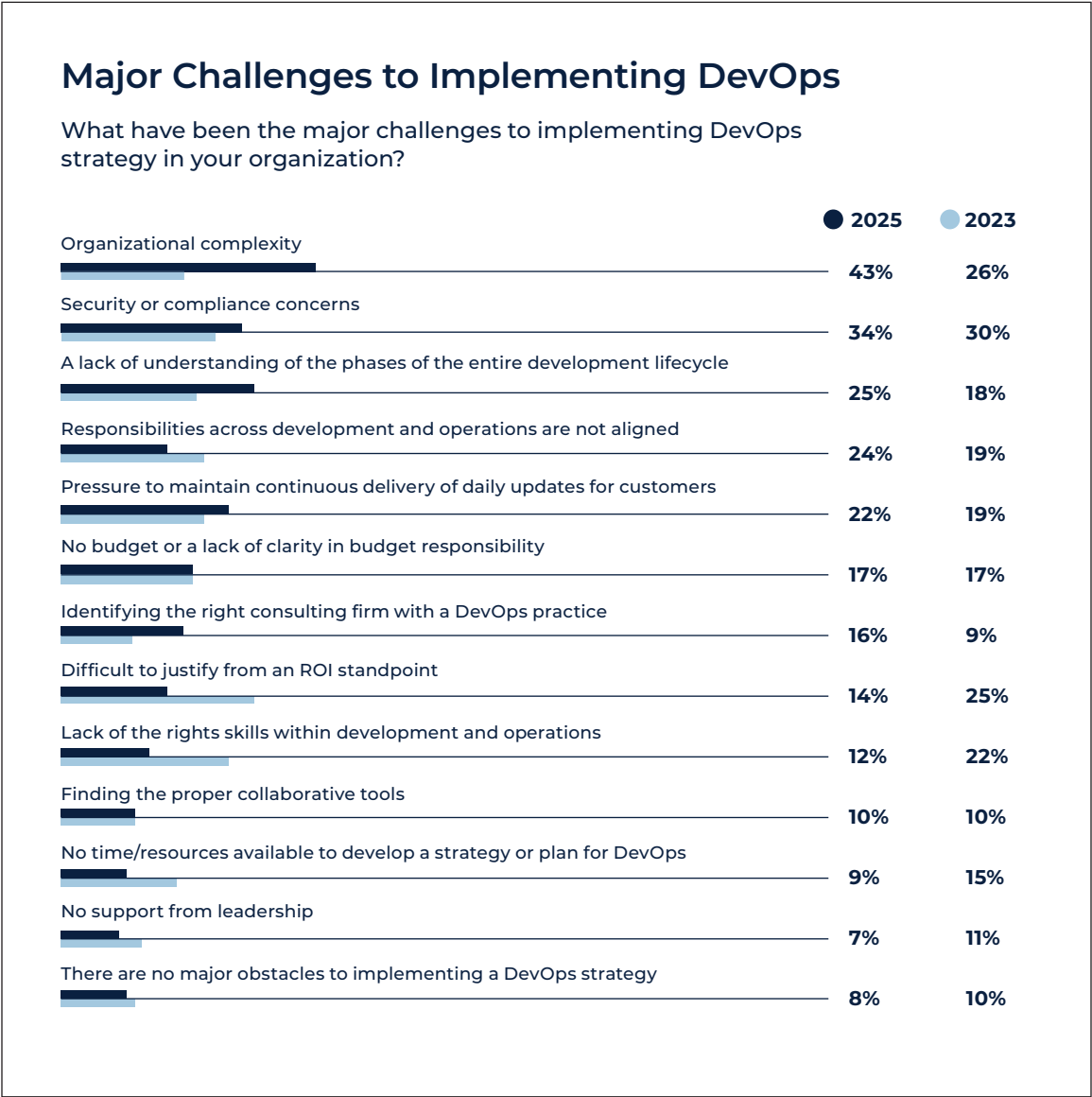
Quantifying job losses directly linked to AI is tricky, thanks to vague corporate explanations and mixed motives behind layoffs. Still, the impact is undeniable. Microsoft, for example, has cut around 15,000 roles, 40% of which were developers, and the company now generates up to 30% of its code with AI, according to reports by Bloomberg.

“The irony,” said Adam Robertson, head of AI infrastructure at Lemurian Labs, a developer of an accelerated computing platform tailored for artificial intelligence (AI) applications, “is that DevOps is all about doing more with less, but you still have to invest in the ‘less’ first.”

Too many companies, Robertson said, under-invest in the people and tooling needed to get DevOps right. “When results fall short, they blame the methodology instead of the implementation,” he said. “Meanwhile, the companies that did invest, those who trained their people, modernized their stacks, and embraced cultural change, are pulling ahead.”

So what personnel investments, cultural changes, and tooling updates are businesses making? Read on to see what survey respondents told us.

Figure 2



Note: Maximum of three responses allowed
Data: InformationWeek survey of 109 technology decision makers in June 2025 and 226 in June 2023



Research Synopsis

Survey Name: 2025 InformationWeek State of DevOps survey

Survey Date: June 2025

Primary Region: North America

Number of Respondents: 109 IT executives, IT management, IT staff, and development professionals who are involved in the purchase of technology at their companies. The margin of error for the total respondent base (N=109) is +/- 9.3 percentage points.

Methodology: InformationWeek surveyed 109 IT executives, IT management, AppDev, and IT staff professionals with questions about their organizations' adoption status of DevOps, the app dev process, and the challenges associated with DevOps adoption. The survey was conducted online. Respondents were recruited via email invitations containing an embedded link to the survey. The emails were sent to a select group of Informa TechTarget's qualified database; Informa is the parent company of InformationWeek. Nearly all respondents have an IT-related job title. Twenty percent have executive-level IT titles (CIO/CTO/CSO/CPO or VP), and 48% have IT management, IT architect, AppDev, DevOps, or engineer titles. Respondents represent companies of all sizes from more than 20 industry sectors. Informa TechTarget was responsible for all aspects of survey design, administration, data collection, and data analysis. These procedures were carried out in strict accordance with standard market research practices and existing U.S. privacy laws.



Executive Summary

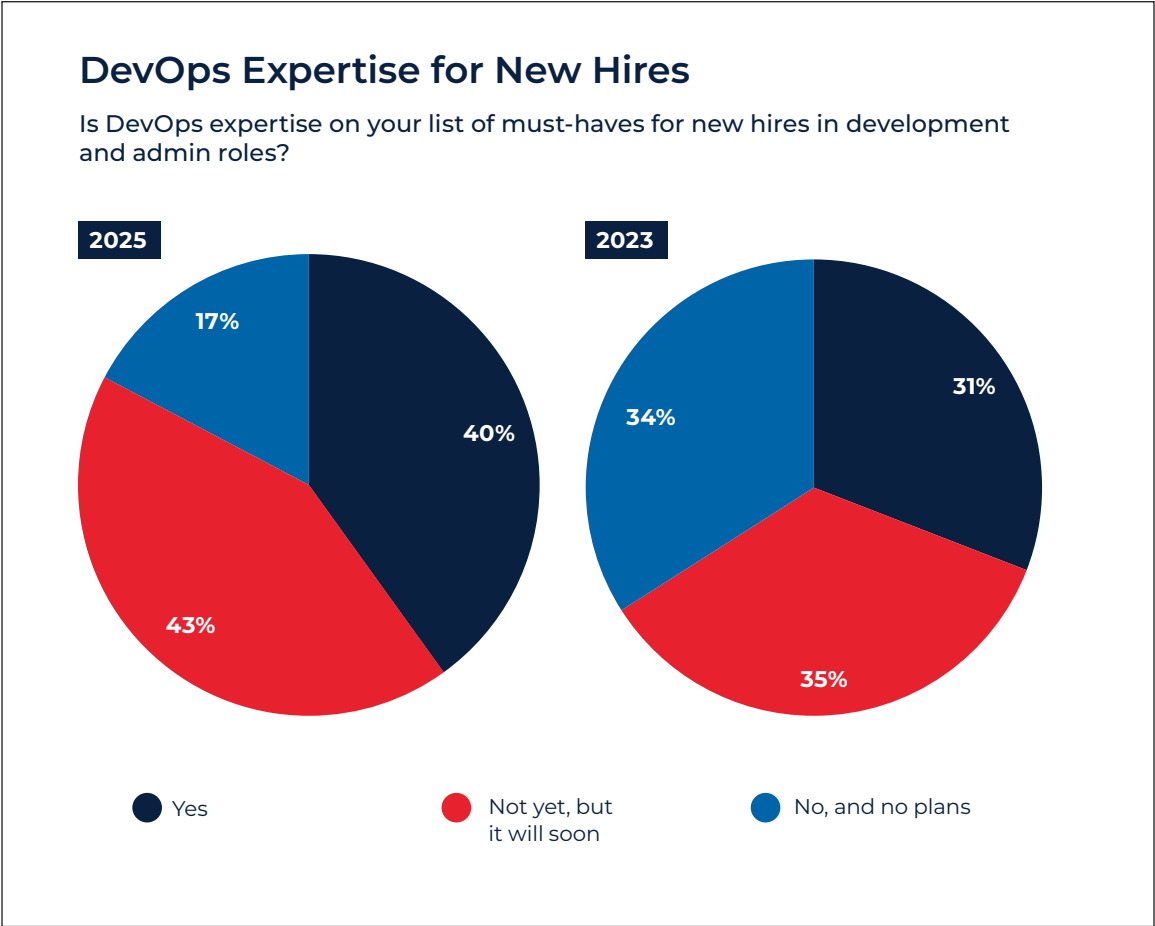
The 2025 InformationWeek State of DevOps survey indicates that enterprise leaders' attitudes toward DevOps are maturing...but have a long way to go. While 74% of our respondents said they use a DevOps approach for at least some software development, only 7% said they use DevOps exclusively.

"Yes, lack of resources, not lack of will, is the real barrier," said Marin Cristian-Ovidiu, a game developer and designer who is also CEO of OnlineGames.io, a free online gaming platform launched in 2020. "Most teams want to go full DevOps, but they're stretched thin managing legacy systems and firefighting day-to-day issues. DevOps requires tooling and mindset change, and that transition gets deprioritized when everyone's just trying to stay afloat."

Even so, 40% of our InformationWeek survey respondents said DevOps expertise is a must-have for new hires in development and admin roles, while another 43% said it will be required soon **(Figure 3)**. That's a substantial measure of hope for developers seeking jobs after a layoff. They at least know what skills to develop or improve to best help them score a regular paycheck. Meanwhile, employers know what to look for in developers who are most likely to bring savings and progress to their organizations.

Respondents are more impressed by an applicant's experience than training. While 61% said they would use certifications and training as ways to measure a potential hire's DevOps expertise, 76% said they'd be looking for on-the-job DevOps experience **(Figure 4)**.

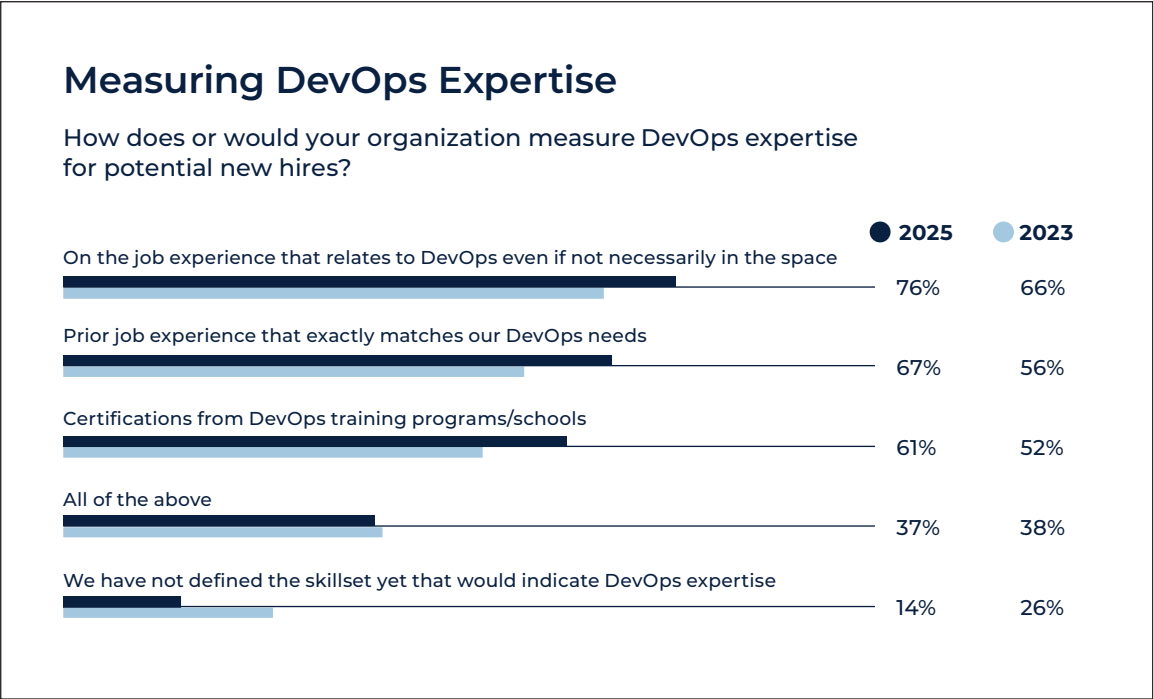
Figure 3



Data: InformationWeek survey of 109 technology decision makers in June 2025 and 226 in June 2023



Figure 4



Note: Maximum of three responses allowed
Data: InformationWeek survey of 109 technology decision makers in June 2025 and 226 in June 2023

Why bother? Respondents cite a variety of benefits from DevOps. The two top benefits this year are increased collaboration between departments at 51%, and improved quality and performance of deployed apps at 41%; a jump for both categories, up from 43% and 36%, respectively (**Figure 5**). Over one-third (39%) saw a reduction in time spent fixing and maintaining applications, in a slight uptick from 38% in 2023. Increased frequency of deployments rounded out the top four benefits at 31%, which was down from 37% in 2023.

Not everyone agrees with making DevOps a hiring requirement or a budget priority, however. Nor do all organizations stick with their original plans.

“It’s one of the most frustrating patterns I’ve seen repeated over the 15-plus years of my DevOps career,” said Adam Robertson, head of AI infrastructure at Lemurian Labs.

“I’ve watched countless executives nod enthusiastically in boardrooms when we talk about DevOps transformation,” he said. “They get it; they want the faster time-to-market, the improved reliability, the competitive advantage. But then we get into the weeds of actually making it happen, and suddenly it’s ‘Can we do it with the current team?’ or ‘What if we just use some automation tools instead of hiring?’ I’ve had CEOs tell me DevOps is a top priority while simultaneously refusing to approve headcount for the very people who would make it successful.”

It’s this survival mode of thinking about “getting more out of the people you have” that will worsen the situation over time. After all, there’s only so far you can push a developer team before an organization starts reaping negative returns.

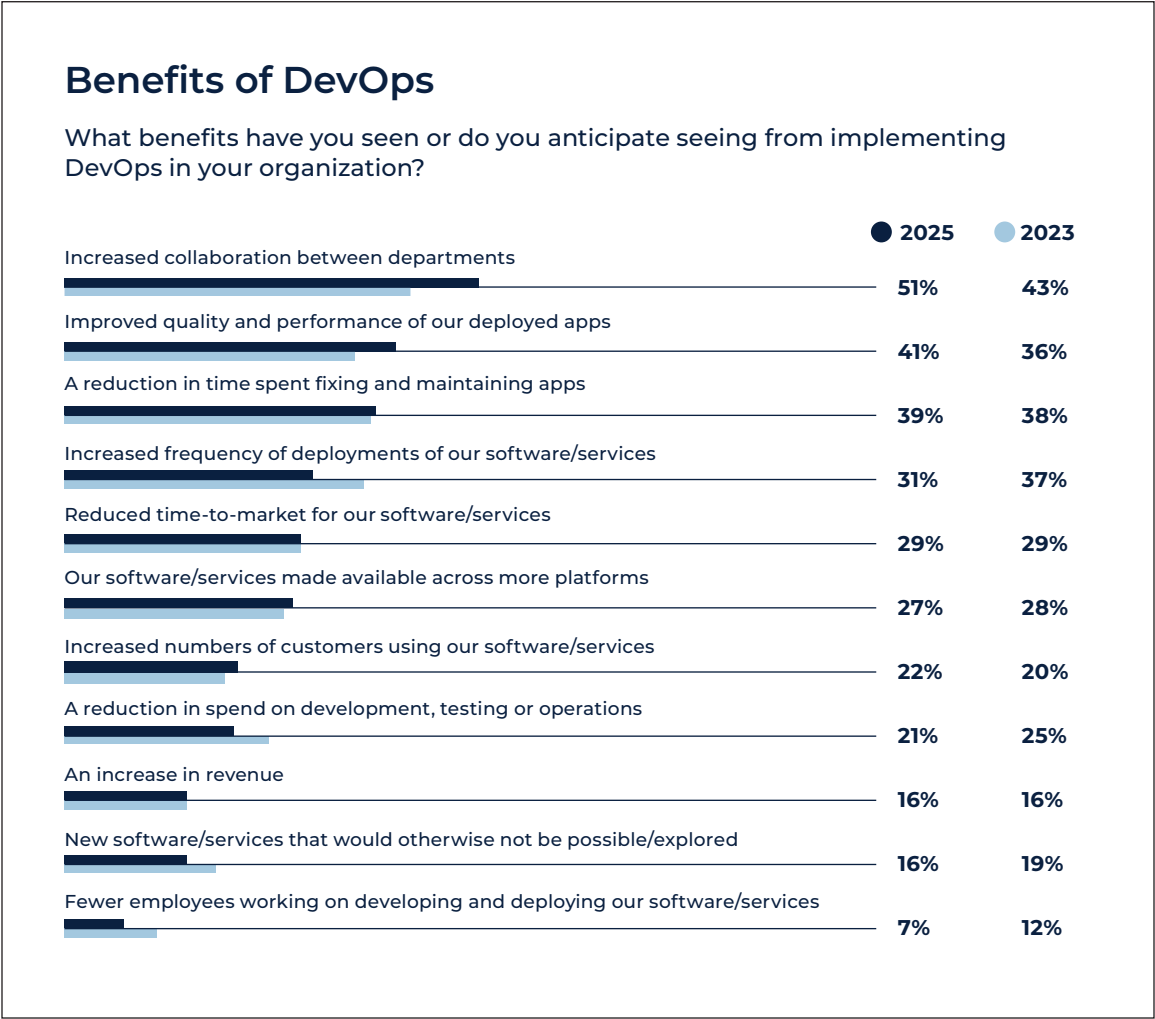


“Many teams are either busy fixing issues or are stuck maintaining outdated CI/CD pipelines; modernizing and experimenting are not options,” said Sonu Kapoor, Senior Angular Consultant and Architect with Sony Music Publishing USA. “It’s not a lack of belief; it’s a lack of bandwidth.”

“AIOps and DevSecOps seem to generate quite a bit of interest, particularly from leadership. However, it appears that most teams have not yet put these methods into practice,” Kapoor said. Two factors are at play here: ROI is hard to quantify, and learning curves are high. AIOps is viewed as quite abstract, and teams are hesitant to try to put it into practice without dedicated AI resources or SRE skills on hand, Kapoor added.

Finding the right consultants to compensate for talent shortages created by developer layoffs or new hire delays presents a stiff challenge, too, despite high ROI potential. Our survey respondents citing difficulty justifying DevOps from an ROI standpoint dropped this year to 14% from 25% in 2023, while difficulty trying to find the right consulting firm to help with implementing DevOps rose from 9% in 2023 to 16% this year.

Figure 5



Note: Multiple responses allowed
Data: InformationWeek survey of 109 technology decision makers in June 2025 and 226 in June 2023



Stretching Thin Teams Thinner: AIOps and DevSecOps

Organizations have varying degrees of interest in AIOps and DevSecOps. In June, 7% of survey respondents told us they still have no plans to integrate security with DevOps to create DevSecOps, while 29% said they are discussing or planning to do DevSecOps this year **(Figure 6)**.

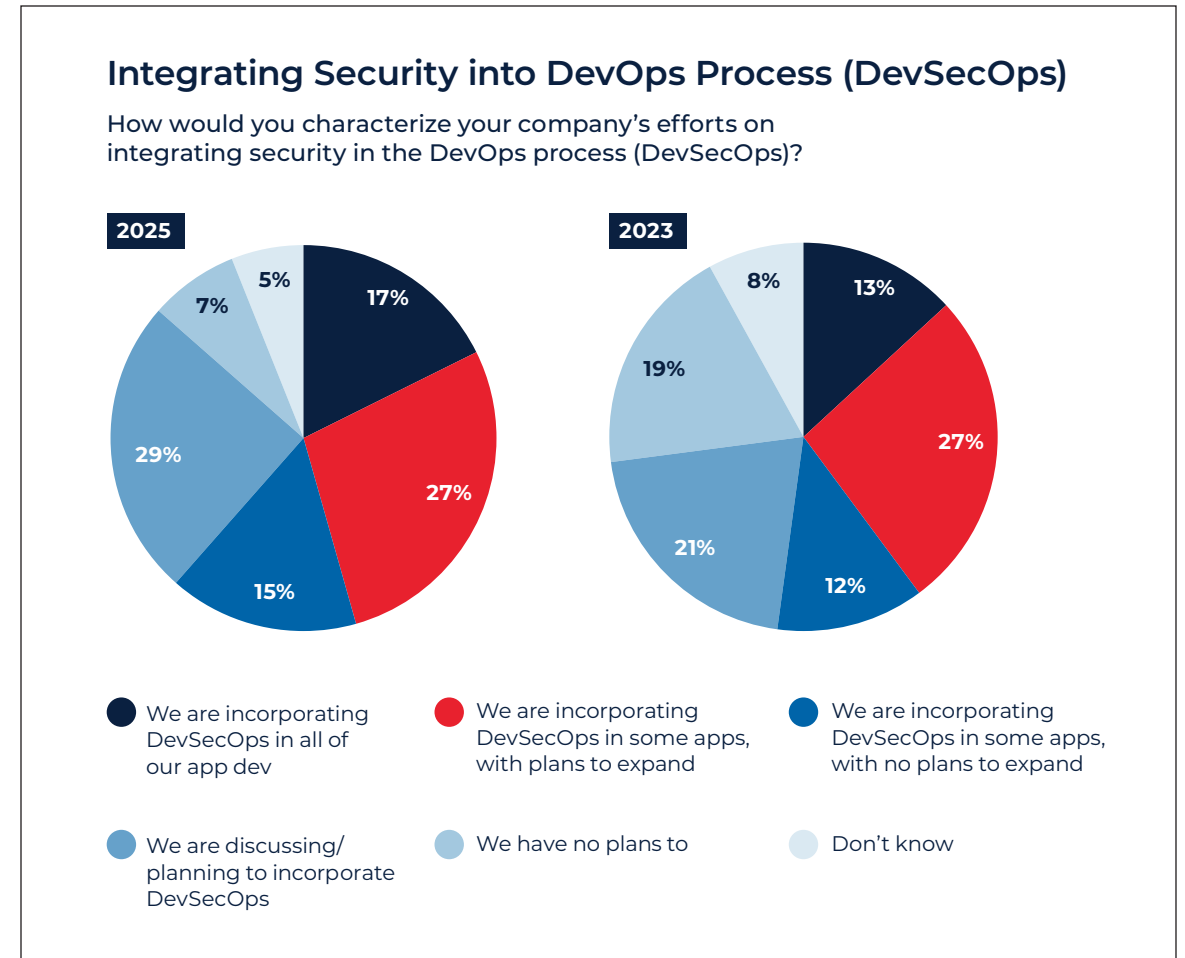
Twenty-seven percent are incorporating DevSecOps for some applications with plans to expand, while 17% are incorporating it into all their applications.

Incorporating security into the process is a high priority for respondents, particularly when hit by critical vulnerabilities. When respondents were asked how long it would take them to identify the developer or team responsible for addressing security issues such as the dreaded Log4Shell on impacted apps, about 4 in 10 (39%) said a “matter of hours” **(Figure 7)**. While 6% said less than 10 minutes, 2% estimated it would take more than several days.

“If a leader has to step in and figure out who is responsible for fixing a critical vulnerability, the organization already has deeper problems. This comes down to fundamentals like clear ownership, a living service catalog, and a culture where accountability is part of how the team operates every day,” said Bill Hineline, Field CTO at Chronosphere, an observability platform for microservices and containers.

“When a vulnerability like Log4Shell hits, the right teams should already know they own the response and act without waiting for a directive,”

Figure 6



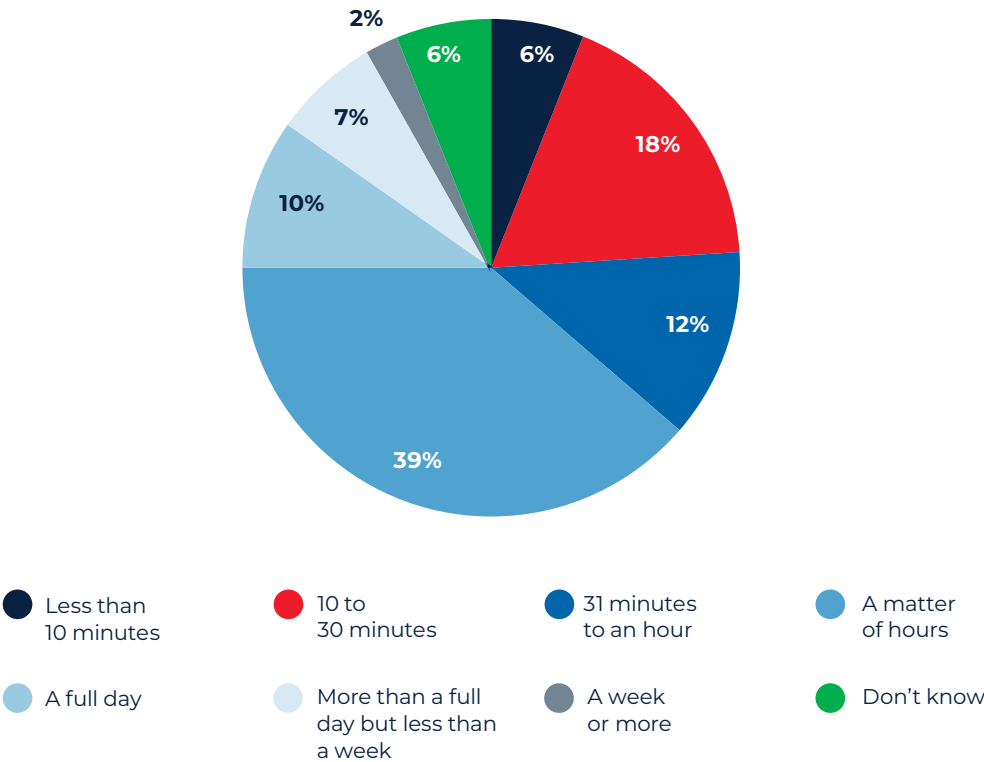
Data: InformationWeek survey of 109 technology decision makers in June 2025 and 226 in June 2023



Figure 7

Time to Update Affected Applications

If a security issue occurred impacting production apps, how long would it take you to identify the team or developer responsible to update all impacted apps to address the issue?



Hineline adds. “If that is not happening, it signals an organizational failure, not just a missing process. Great leaders do not waste critical time assigning work in a crisis. They build the right foundations ahead of time and focus on supporting their teams, clearing roadblocks, and helping them succeed when it matters most.”

Given the speed of response required to stop a major attack, what’s slowing down DevSecOps deployments?

“The fear of disrupting operations is at the core of inaction around AIOps and DevSecOps,” said Casey Corcoran, field CISO at Stratascale, a cybersecurity consultancy. “For DevSecOps, it is often the fear that the DevOps build/test/deploy/operate sequence will be slowed through inaccurately identified security risks, adding additional workload to already highly tasked teams.” For AIOps, the concern is that AI-based automated decision-making may lead to unpredictable results, while also being complex/costly to implement, requiring wide-ranging ingestion of data from disparate systems, building of AI/ML models, and expertise in IT operations.

At least DevSecOps has earned some chops in the field. AIOps, on the other hand, is a total newbie.

“AIOps is very much still in its infancy. In general, many practitioners are extremely apprehensive about any automation that can make changes in an environment without going through the traditional ITSM change review process,” said Alon Diamant-Cohen, Principal Consultant at Stratascale.” The thought of introducing an autonomous AI agent—even with strict guidelines and governance—does not fill me with confidence.”

Data: InformationWeek survey of 109 technology decision makers in June 2025



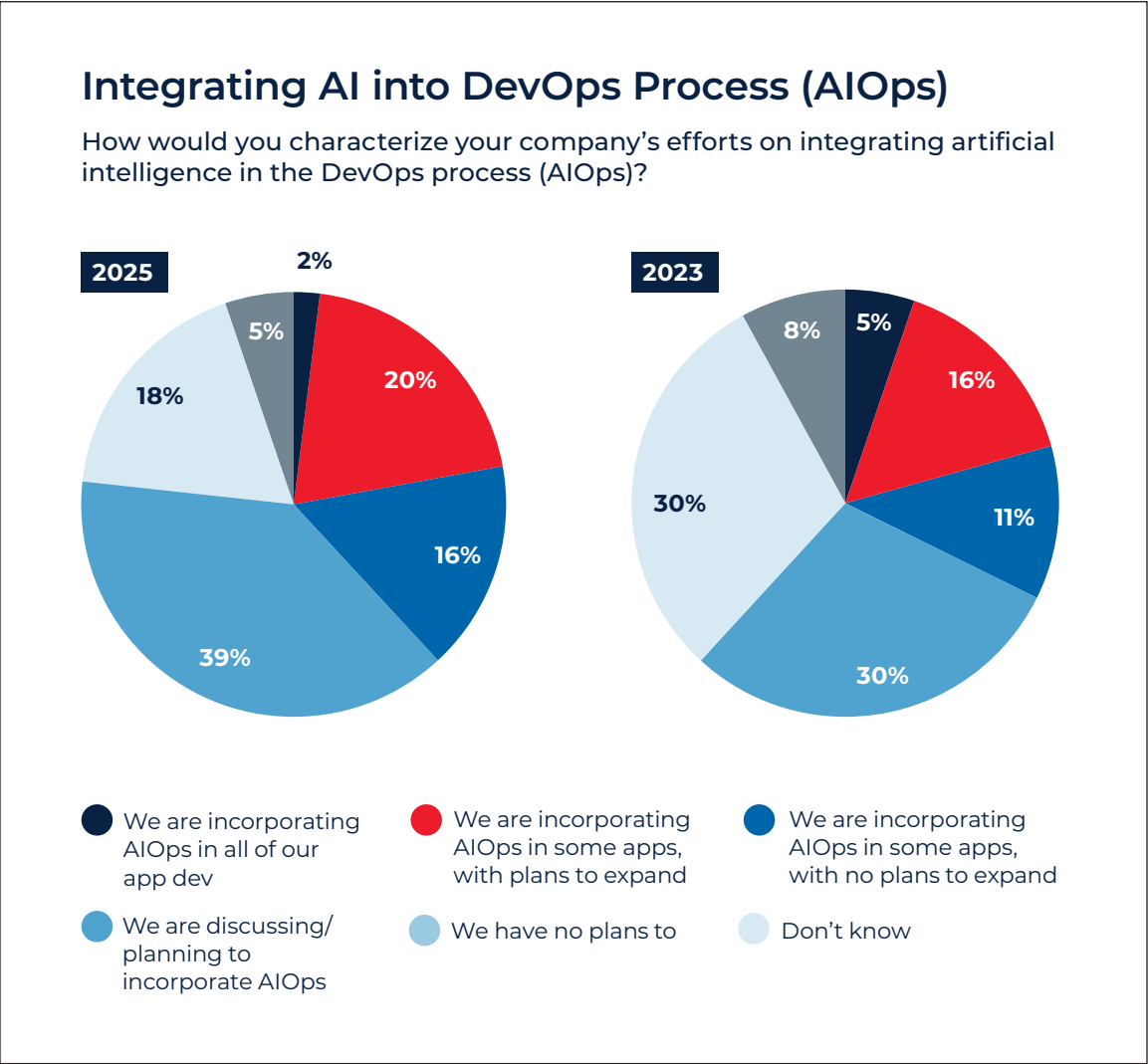
Only one in five (20%) survey respondents said they are incorporating AIOps in some applications with plans to expand, up from 16% in 2023, while over one-third (39%) are still in the discussion or planning stages **(Figure 8)**.

Pity the IT and DevOps teams as time marches on. Already strapped for time and resources, 50% of the InformationWeek survey respondents said general IT teams will have to shoulder the responsibilities for tooling and infrastructure to support AI/ML Model development for the next couple of years. More than one-third (36%) said these burdens will land on the shoulders of DevOps teams **(Figure 9)**. Both AIOps and DevSecOps will be serious burdens for these teams, even with AI’s help.

“For AIOps, the gap is primarily caused by a data and trust deficit. While the interest is born of necessity due to the unmanageable complexity and explosion of data in modern IT environments, adoption often stalls. This is because AIOps is a data-driven discipline, and its models are only as good as the data they’re trained on,” said John Petitt, CTO of Promevo, a Google-focused premier partner for Google Workspace, Google Cloud, and Google Chrome.

“For DevSecOps, the gap is caused by cultural and operational friction, despite security being a top investment priority for many IT organizations. The primary barrier is the perceived conflict between development velocity and security rigor, with security often seen as a bottleneck in the race to meet deadlines. A troubling report indicates nearly half of all organizations have knowingly deployed vulnerable code due to time pressure,” Petitt added.

Figure 8



Data: InformationWeek survey of 109 technology decision makers in June 2025 and 226 in June 2023



Growing Demands on Tool Requirements

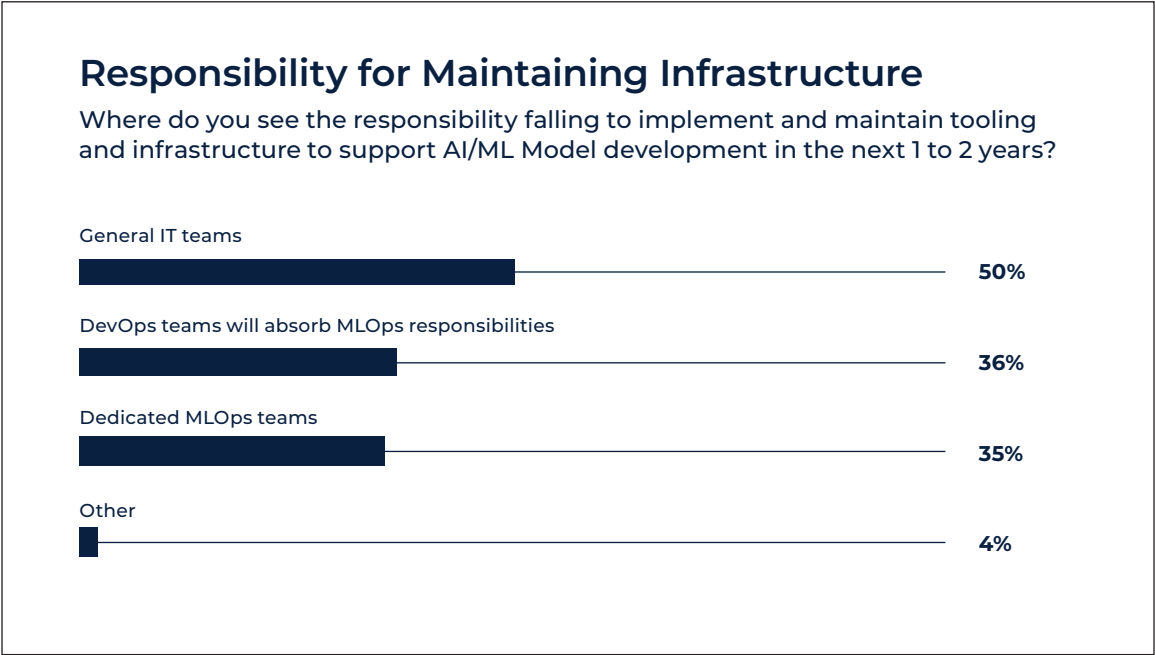
When it comes to purchasing new development tools, buyers and developer teams are looking for specific deployment methods to be supported.

“Look, if a tool doesn’t support multiple deployment strategies out of the box in 2025, I’m not even having the conversation,” Robertson said. “Blue-green deployments and canary releases are table stakes.” He expects seamless traffic shifting, automated rollback capabilities, and proper health checks. Rolling deployments should be smooth and configurable, not some afterthought. If it can’t handle feature flags integration for progressive rollouts, it’s probably built by people who’ve never had to deploy to production at scale, Robertson added.

“The real test is how well it integrates with Kubernetes—because let’s be honest, that’s where everything is running these days. I need native support for K8s deployment objects, proper understanding of ingress controllers for traffic management, and the ability to leverage service mesh capabilities for advanced routing,” Robertson added. “Tools need to play nice with GitHub Actions, ArgoCD, or whatever GitOps operator we’re running, and understand that our deployment state is declared through manifests and CRDs.”

That appears to be the consensus among developers, with some adding a few more pointed options in the pile of demands.

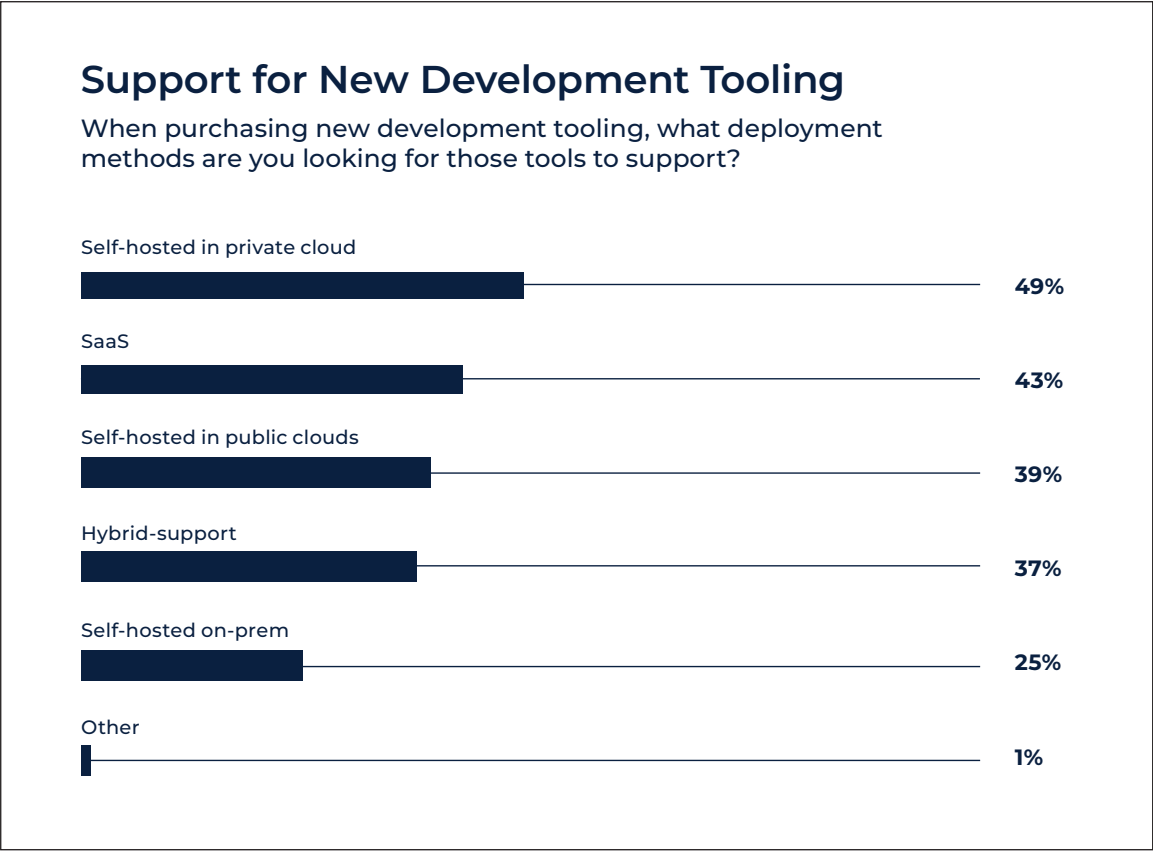
Figure 9



Note: Multiple responses allowed
Data: InformationWeek survey of 109 technology decision makers in June 2025



Figure 10



“First-class Kubernetes manifests, Terraform modules, and OpenTelemetry hooks must be native. A tool is incomplete if it cannot ship via container image, bootstrap through GitOps, and emit structured traces and security events that fold into a single observability backend,” said Nic Adams, Co-Founder and CEO at Orcus, a cybersecurity firm.

As to environments, nearly half (49%) of InformationWeek survey respondents want support for self-hosted deployments in a private cloud, while 43% expect the same for SaaS, and over one-third (39%) demand support for self-hosted in public clouds **(Figure 10)**.

“With cloud offerings, BYOC (bring your own cloud) is a must-have. Enterprises need full control over security, data locality, and SLA ownership without sacrificing managed simplicity. In many industries, however, self-managed is still the norm,” said Ben Gamble, Field CTO, Ververica, Unified Streaming Data Platform by the original creators of Apache Flink. “Any serious tool must support Kubernetes-native architecture, multi-tenant isolation, and declarative stateful operations. You can’t compromise on those pillars at scale.”

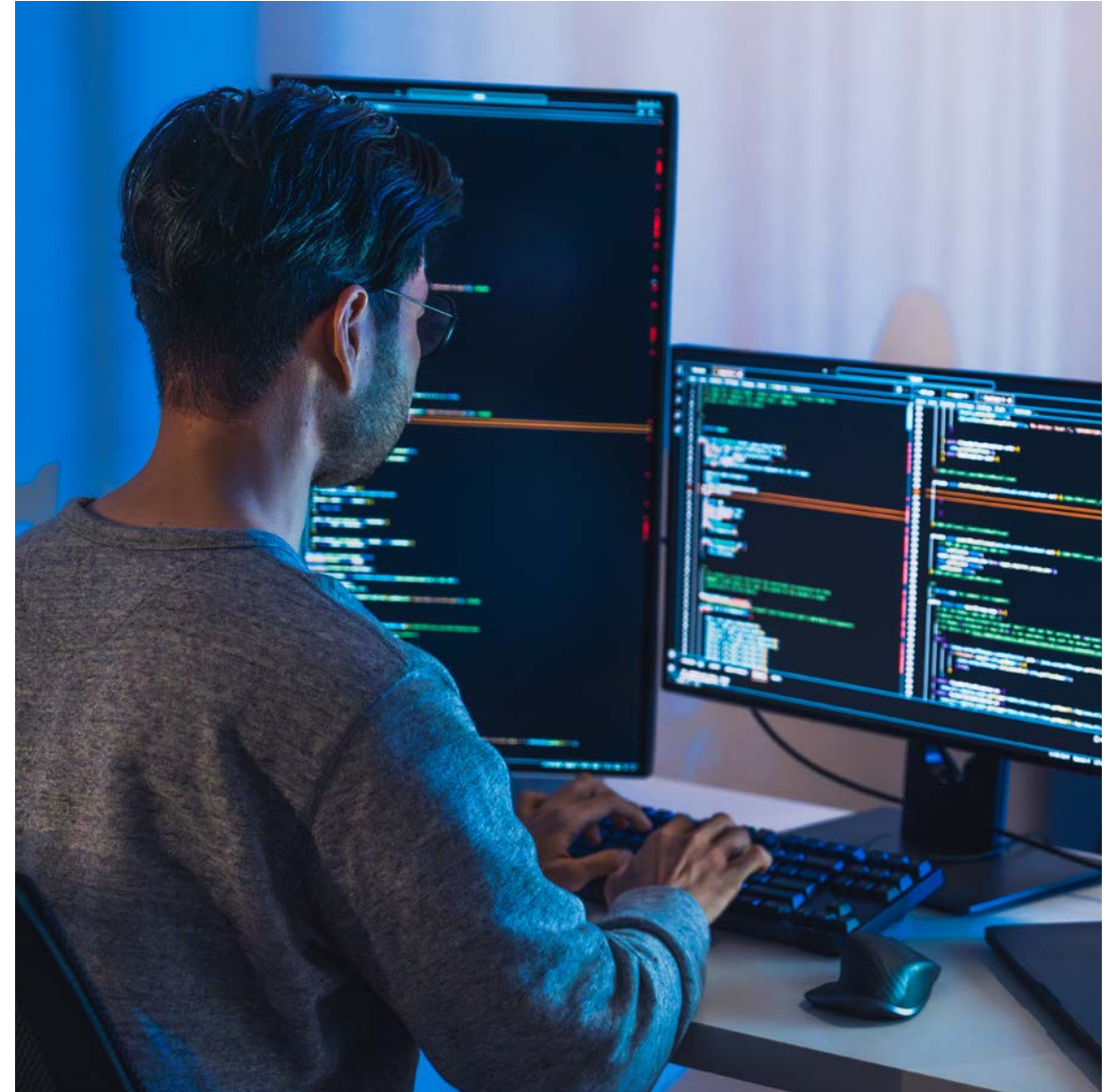
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Data: InformationWeek survey of 109 technology decision makers in June 2025



Conclusion

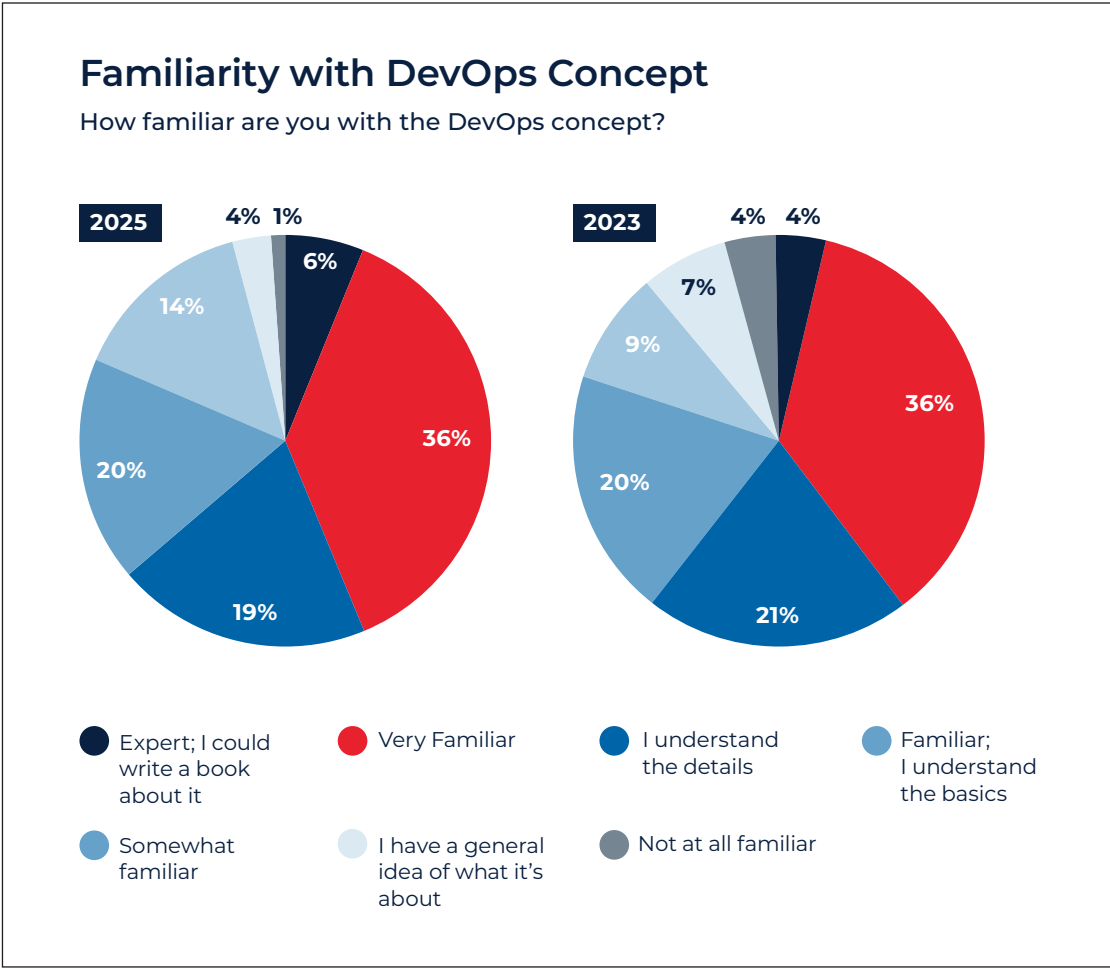
Enterprise appetites for DevOps (and DevSecOps and AIOps) may be growing as organizations better comprehend its benefits. Yet while some respondents will surely follow through with their stated commitments to invest in new DevOps talent, others will no doubt follow the hot trend of shedding IT staff.

Which tactic will lead to the most successful DevOps rollouts? That's a question we look forward to asking next year.



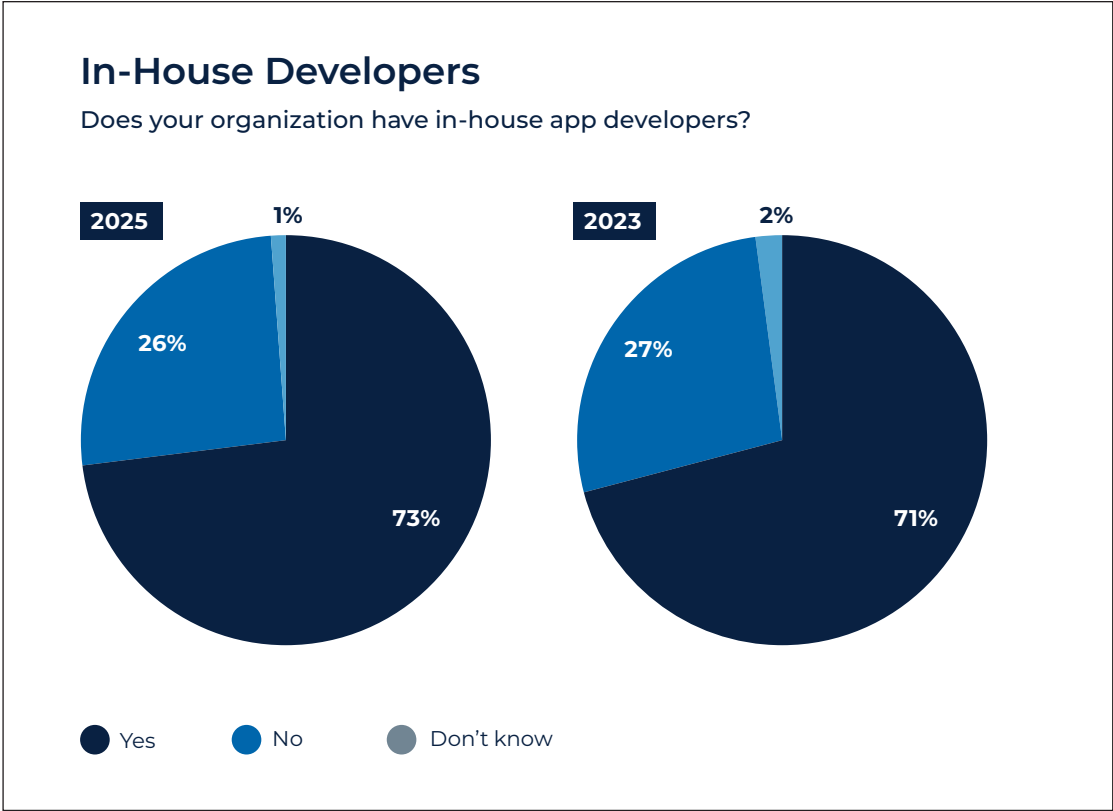
Appendix

Figure 11



Data: InformationWeek survey of 109 technology decision makers in June 2025 and 226 in June 2023

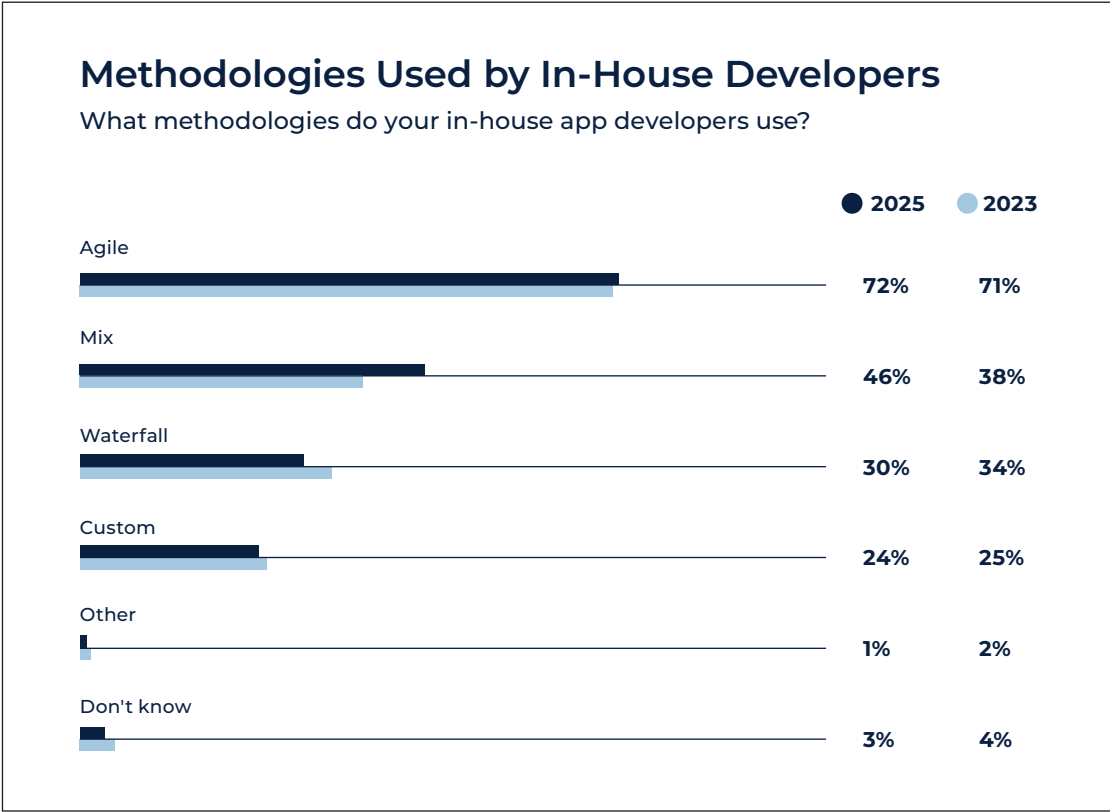
Figure 12



Data: InformationWeek survey of 109 technology decision makers in June 2025 and 226 in June 2023

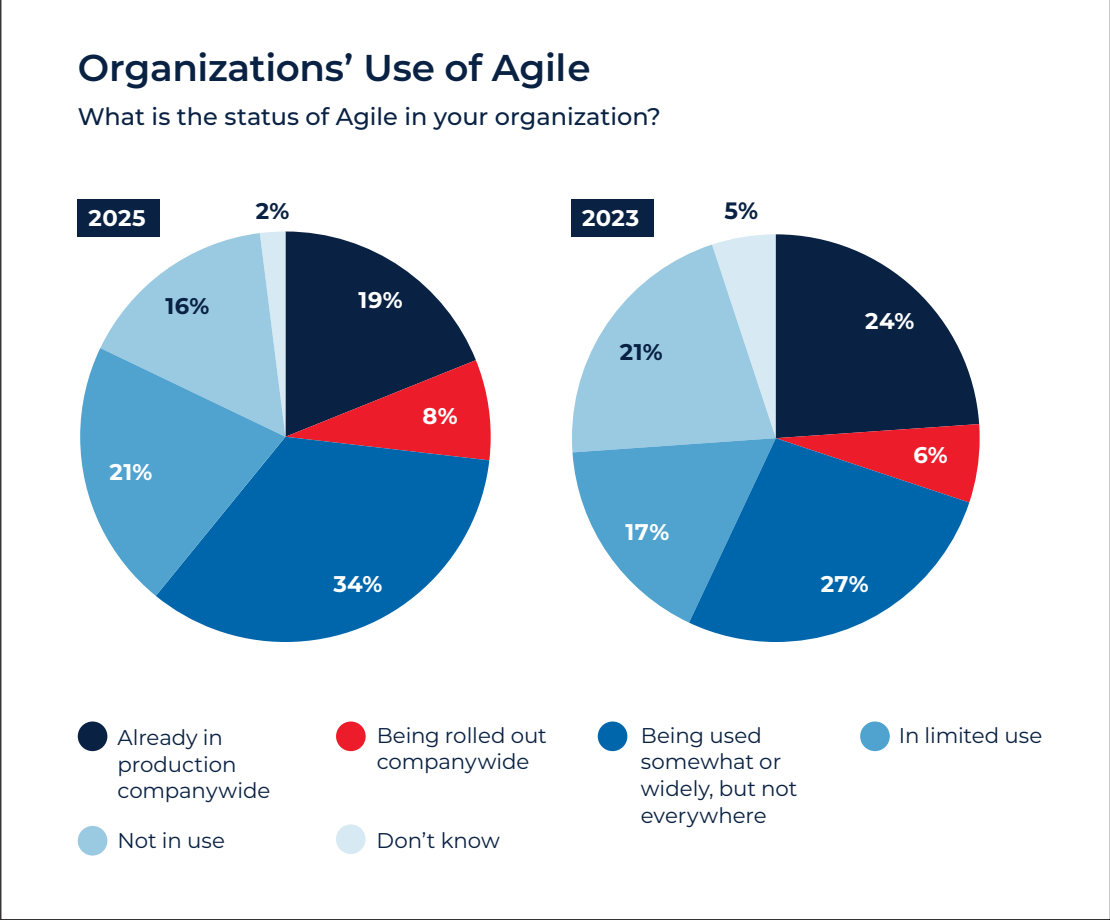


Figure 13



Note: Multiple responses allowed
Base: 79 and 160 respondents at organizations with in-house app developers
Data: InformationWeek survey of 109 technology decision makers in June 2025 and 226 in June 2023

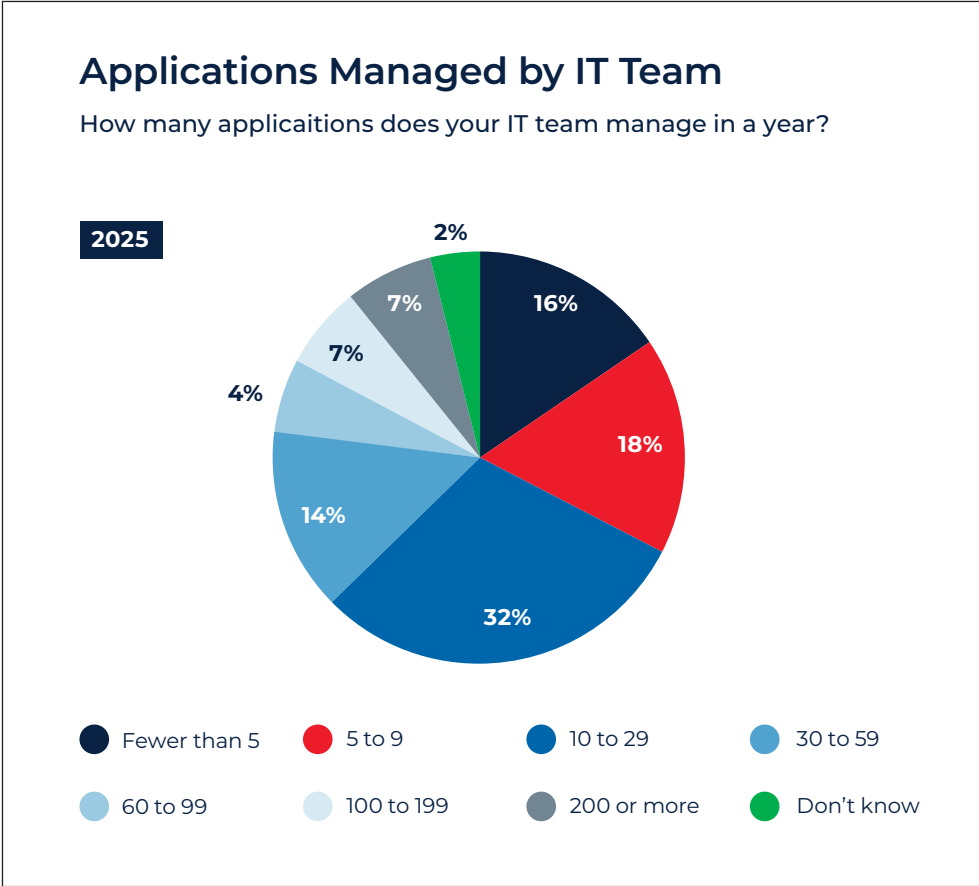
Figure 14



Data: InformationWeek survey of 109 technology decision makers in June 2025 and 226 in June 2023

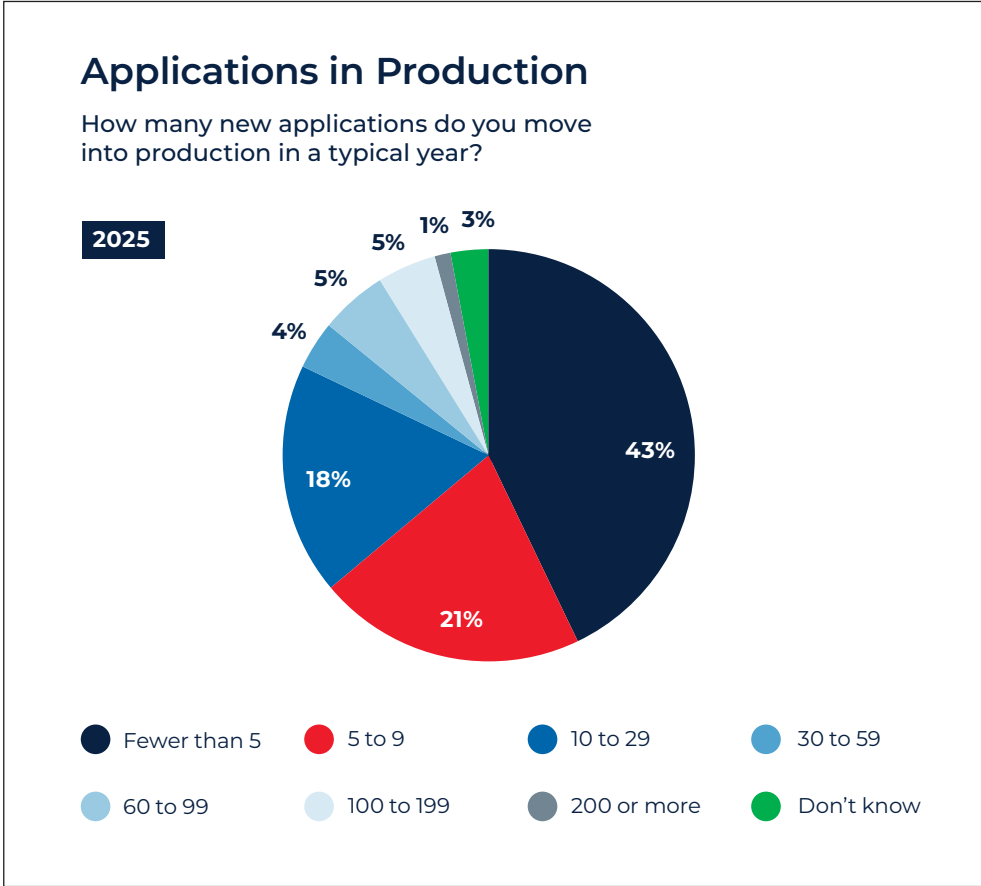


Figure 15



Data: InformationWeek survey of 109 technology decision makers in June 2025

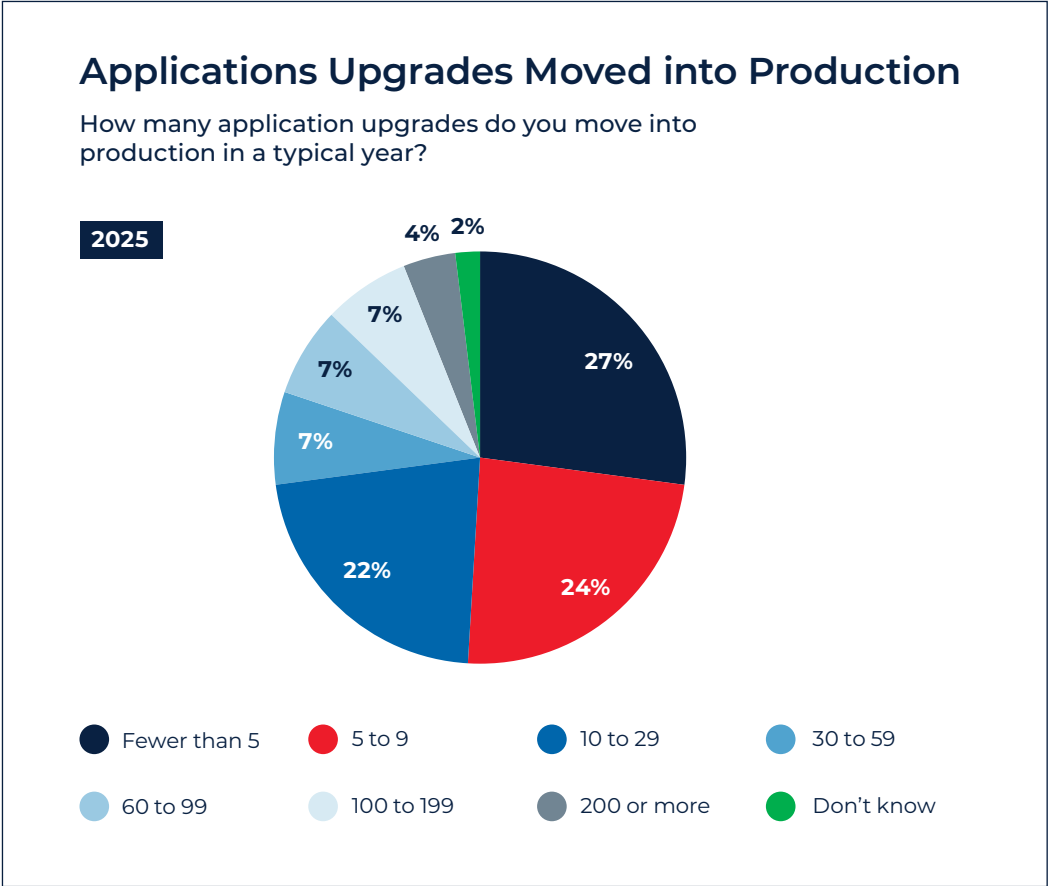
Figure 16



Data: InformationWeek survey of 109 technology decision makers in June 2025

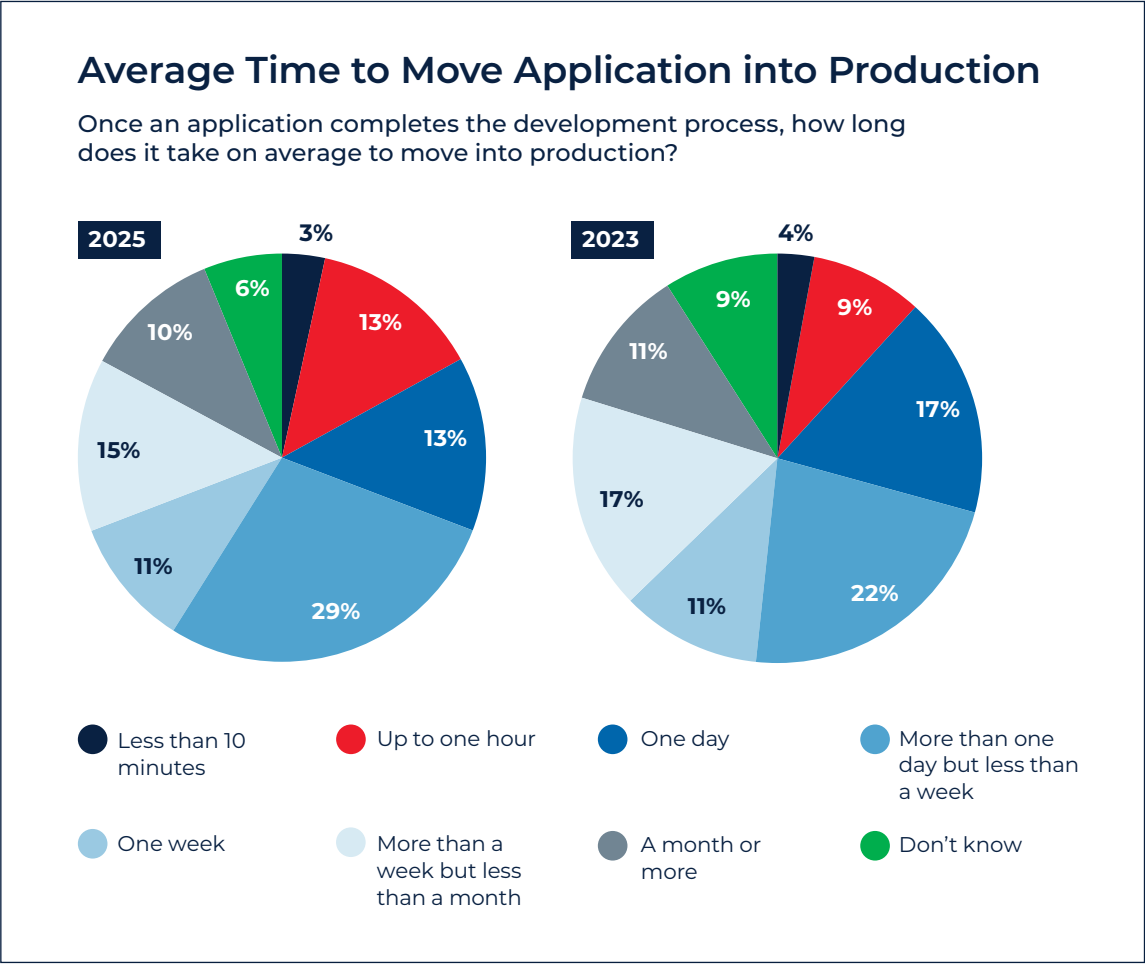


Figure 17



Data: InformationWeek survey of 109 technology decision makers in June 2025

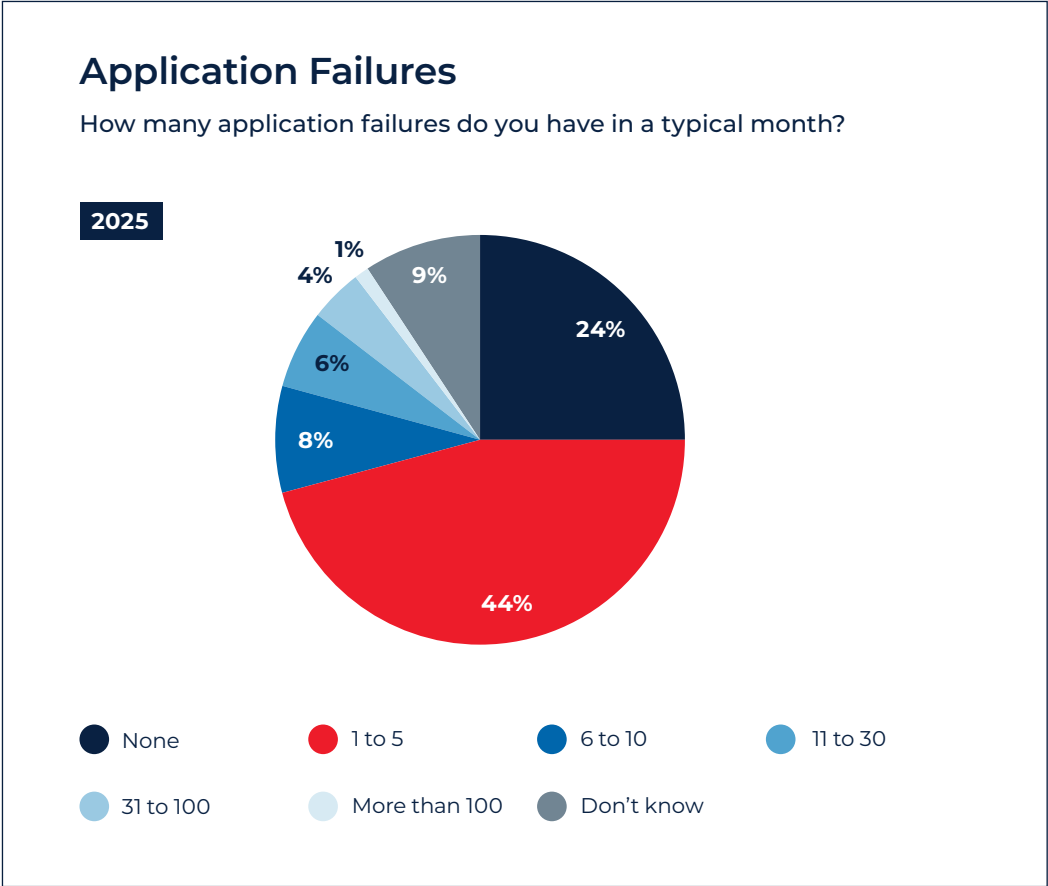
Figure 18



Data: InformationWeek survey of 109 technology decision makers in June 2025 and 226 in June 2023

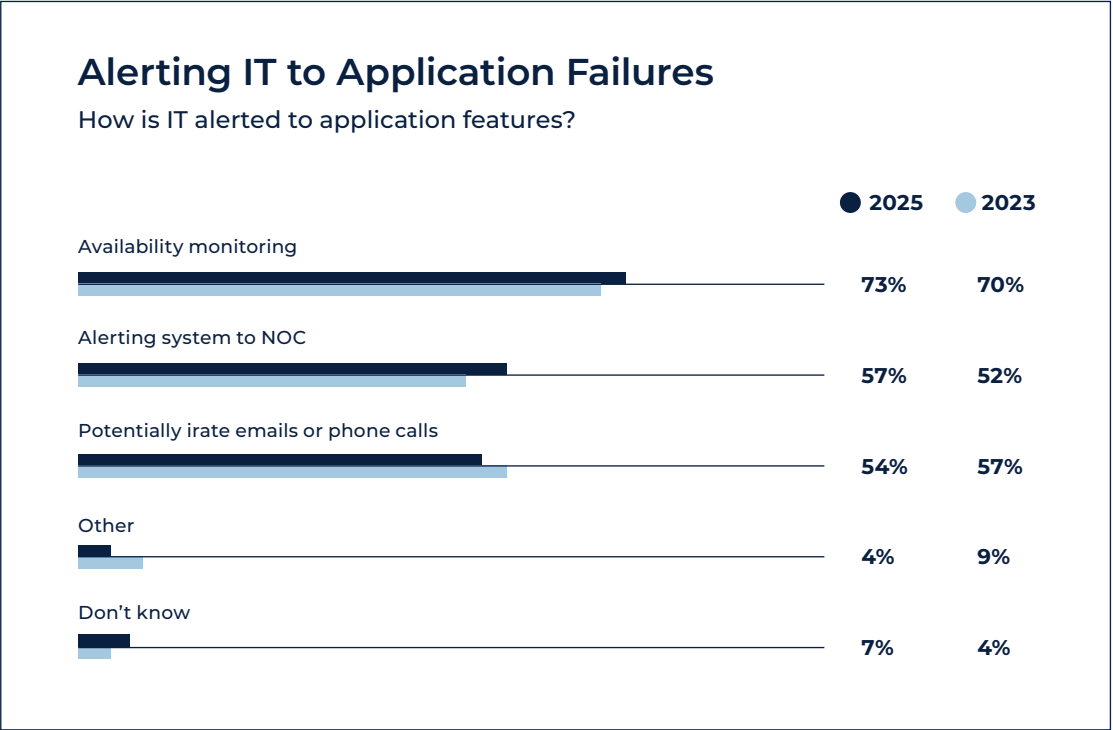


Figure 19



Data: InformationWeek survey of 109 technology decision makers in June 2025

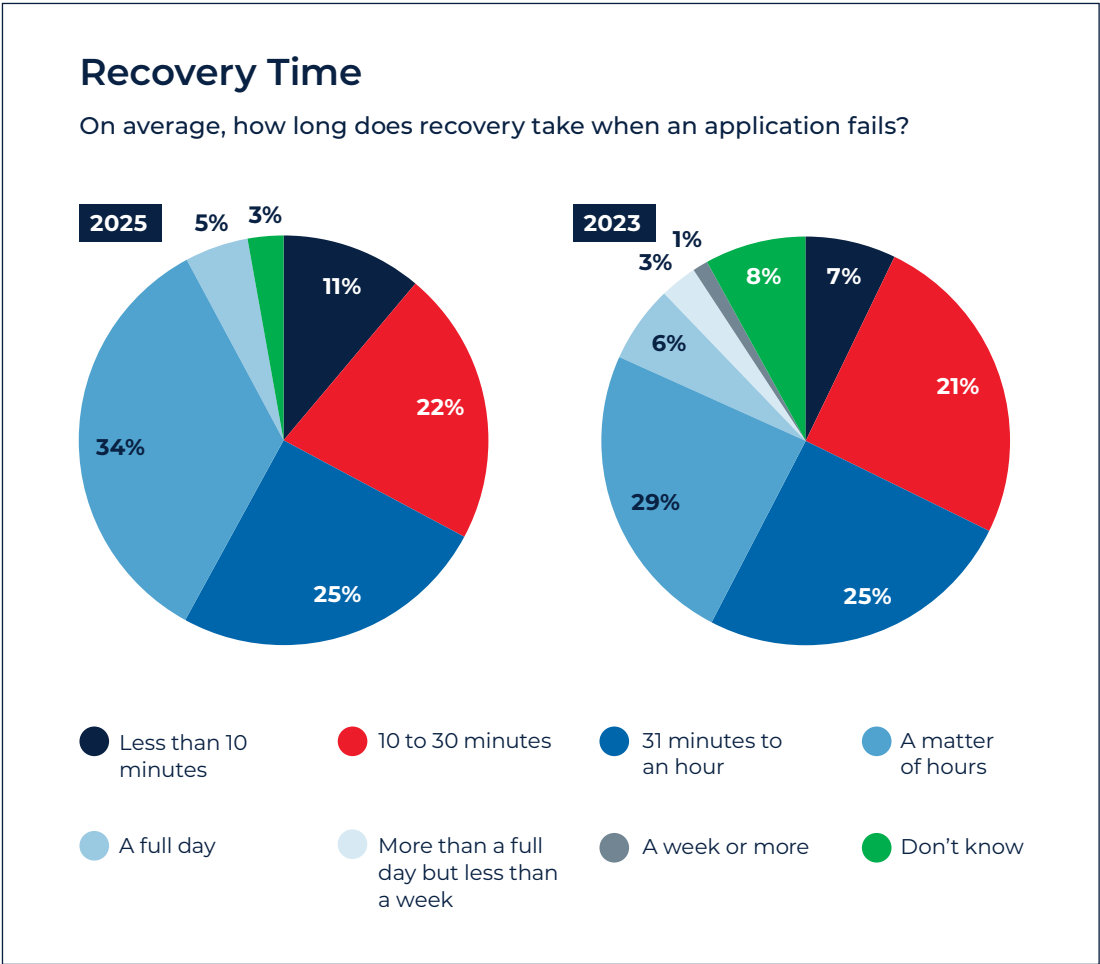
Figure 20



Note: Multiple responses allowed
Data: InformationWeek survey of 109 technology decision makers in June 2025 and 226 in June 2023

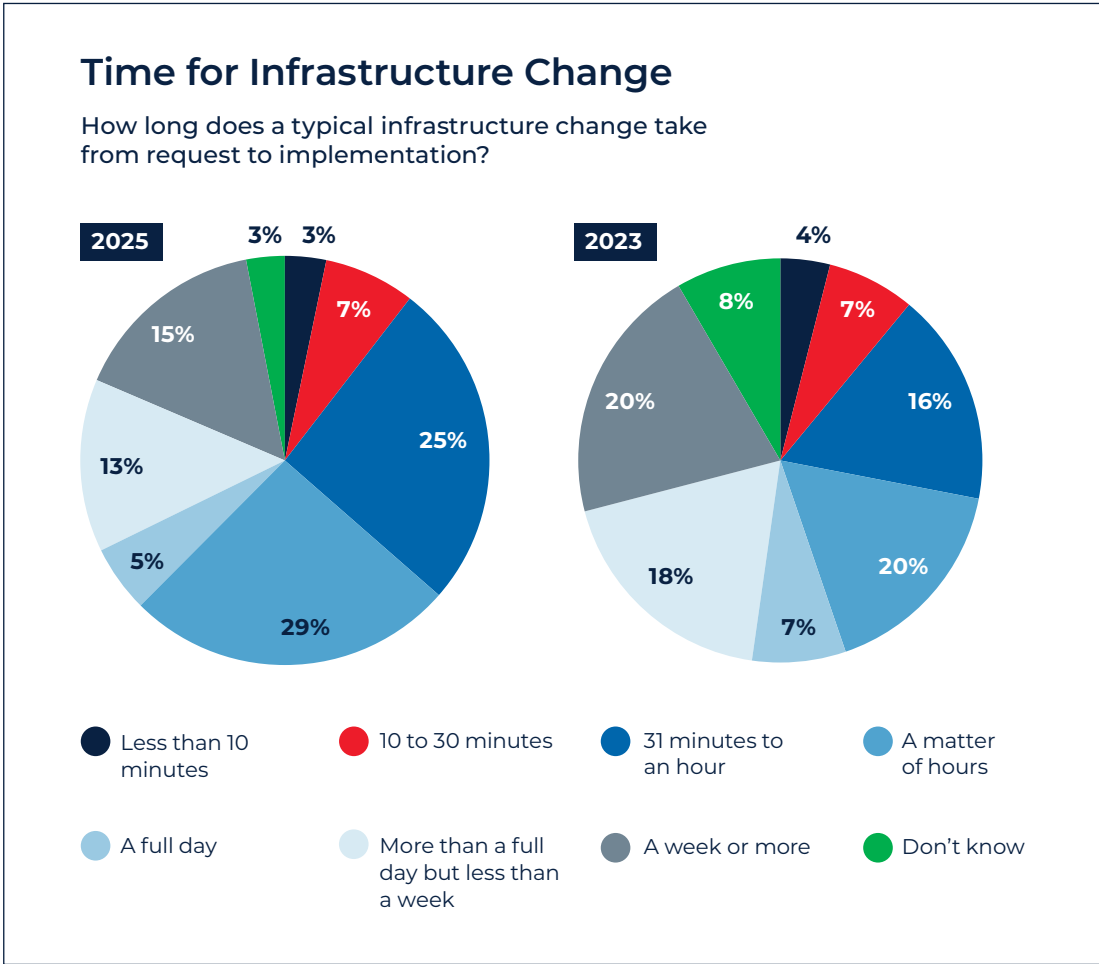


Figure 21



Data: InformationWeek survey of 109 technology decision makers in June 2025 and 226 in June 2023

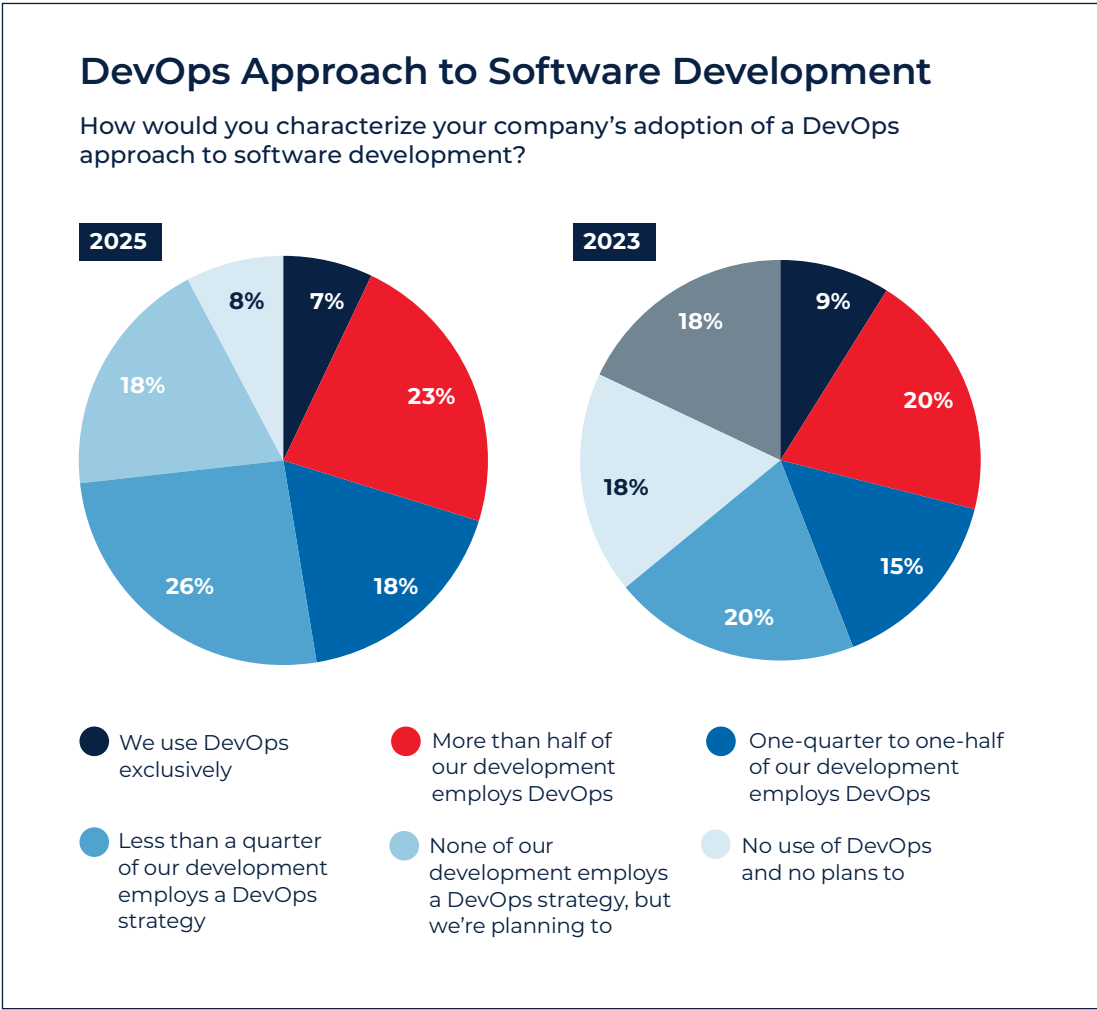
Figure 22



Data: InformationWeek survey of 109 technology decision makers in June 2025 and 226 in June 2023

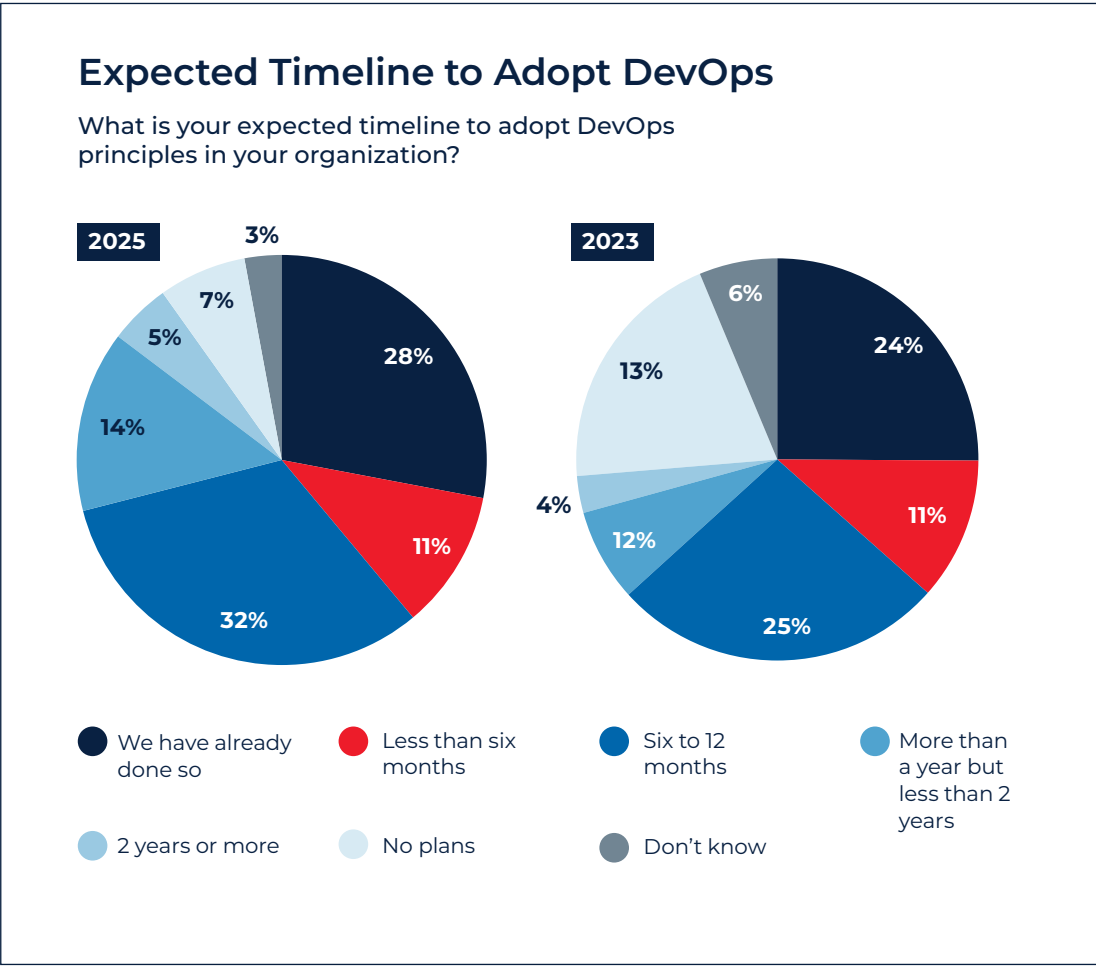


Figure 23



Data: InformationWeek survey of 109 technology decision makers in June 2025 and 226 in June 2023

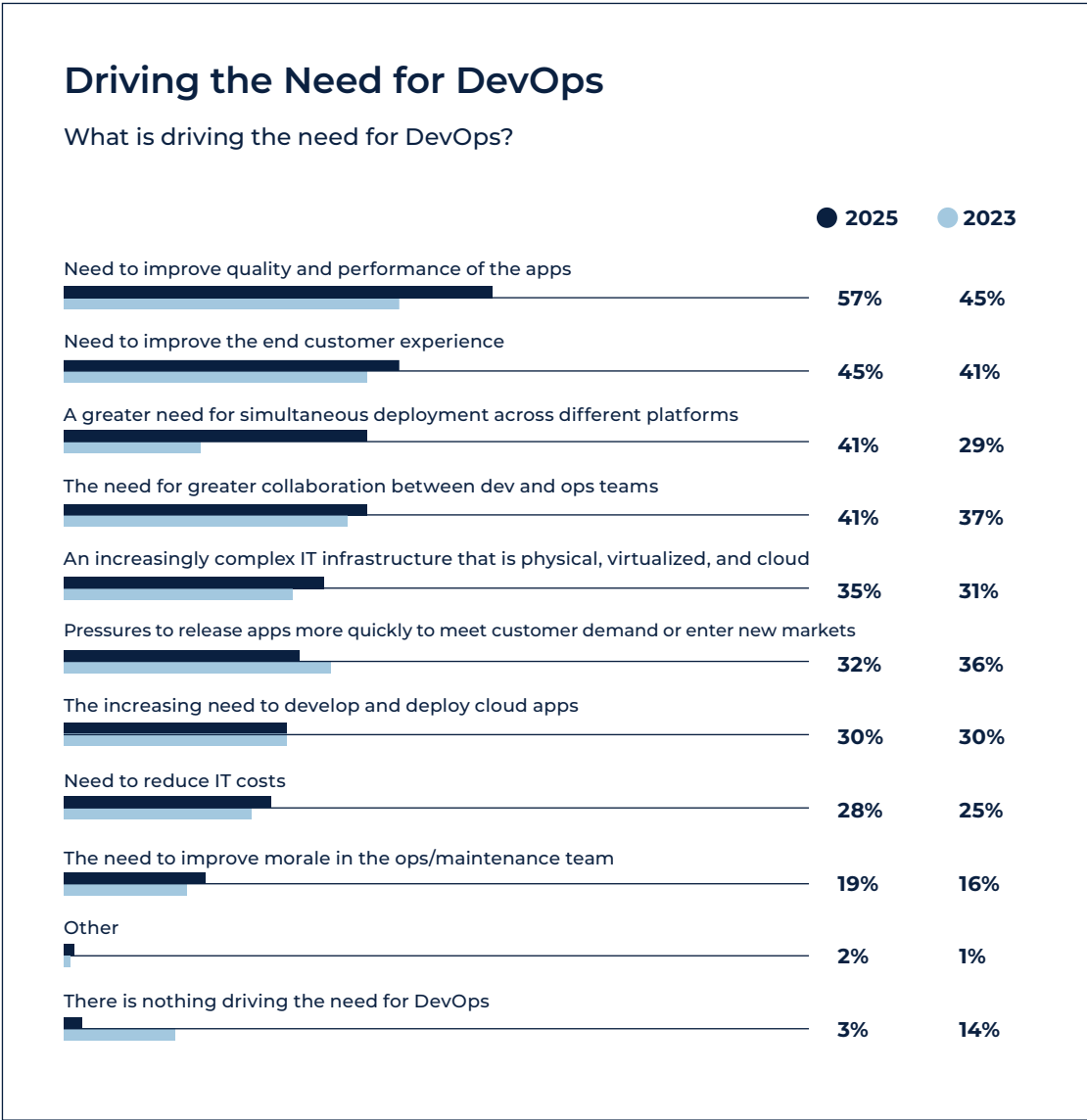
Figure 24



Data: InformationWeek survey of 109 technology decision makers in June 2025 and 226 in June 2023

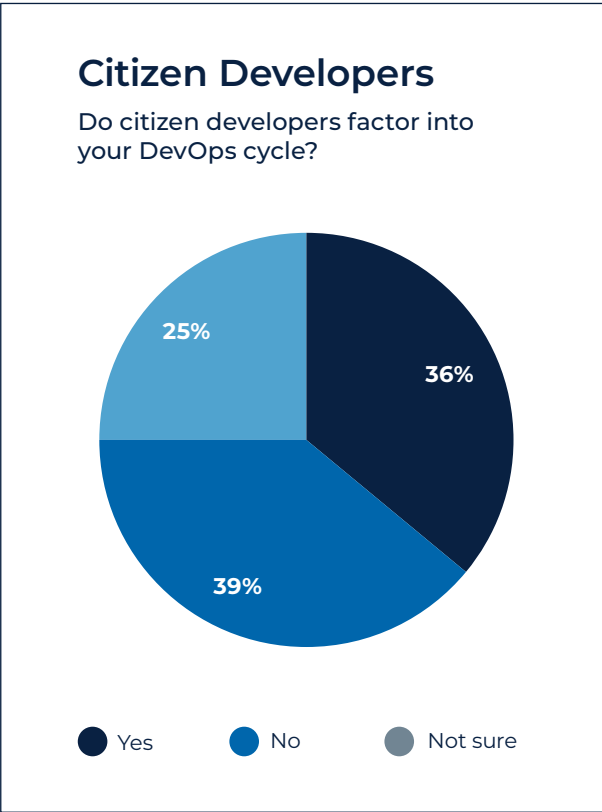


Figure 25



Note: Multiple responses allowed
Data: InformationWeek survey of 109 technology decision makers in June 2025 and 226 in June 2023

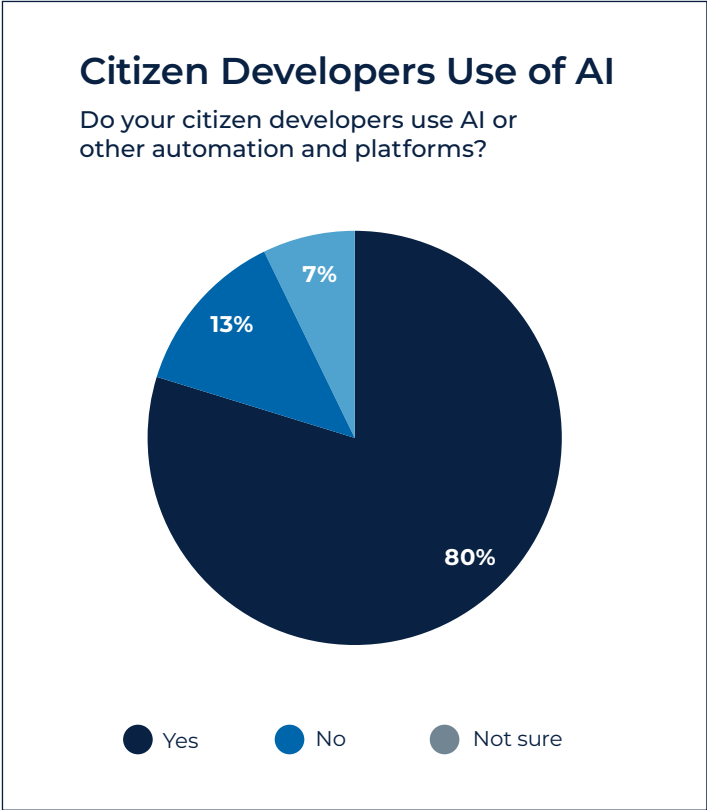
Figure 26



Data: InformationWeek survey of 109 technology decision makers in June 2025

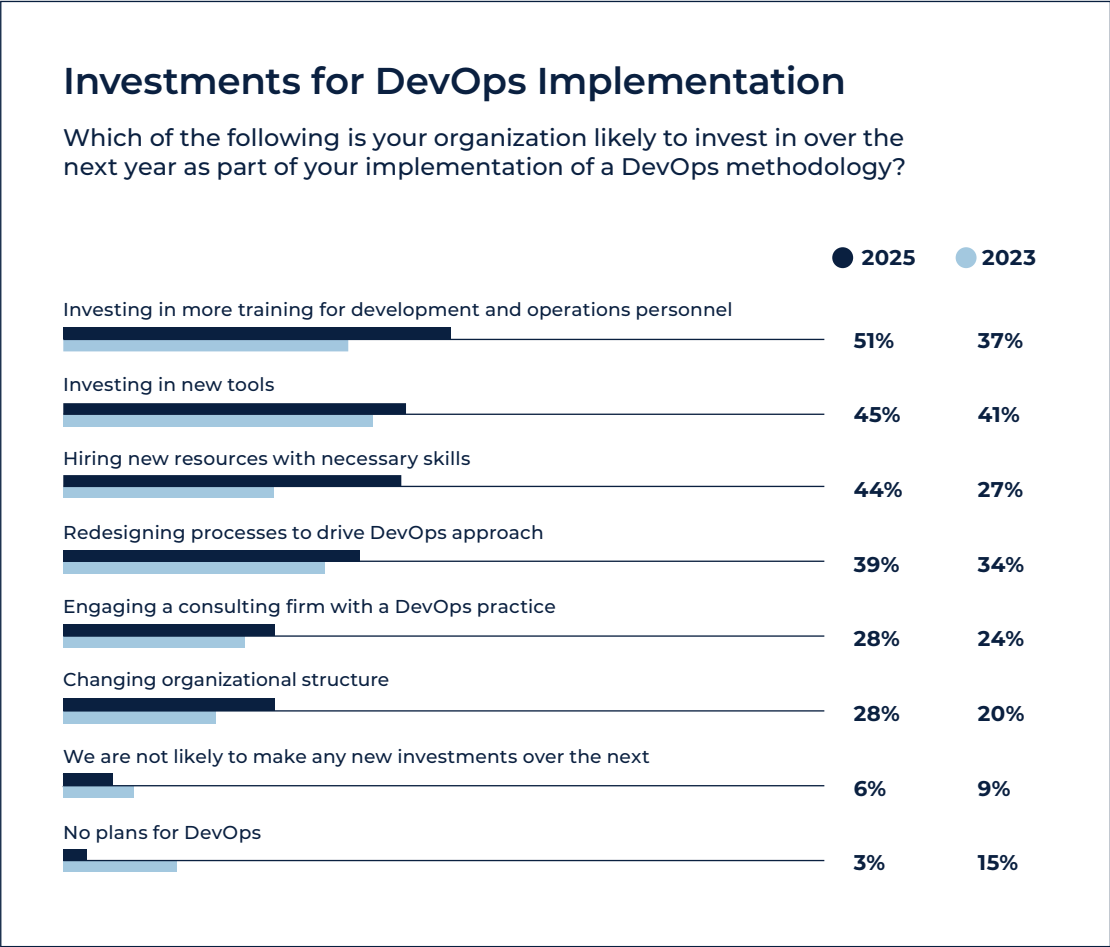


Figure 27



Data: InformationWeek survey of 109 technology decision makers in June 2025

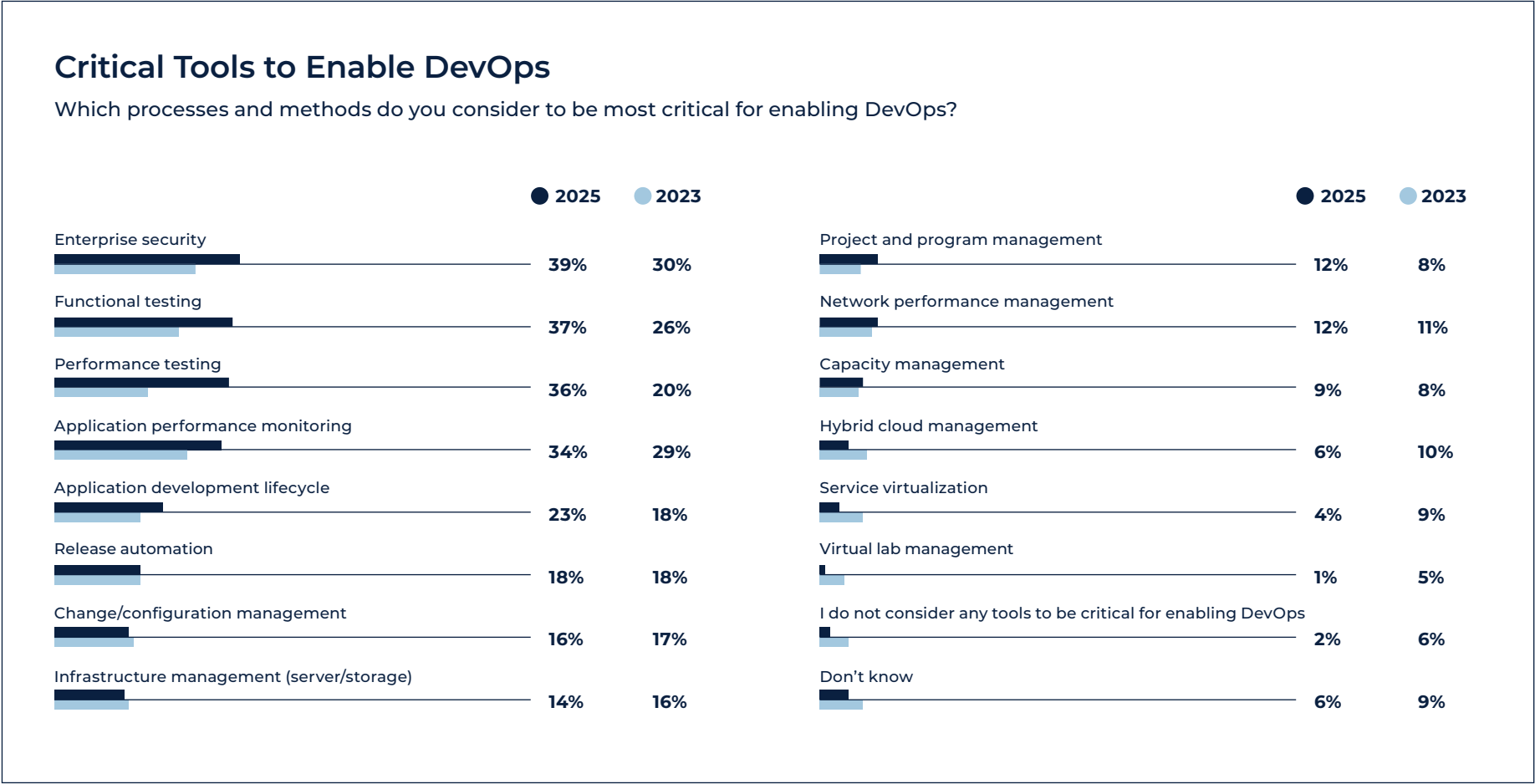
Figure 28



Note: Multiple responses allowed

Data: InformationWeek survey of 109 technology decision makers in June 2025 and 226 in June 2023

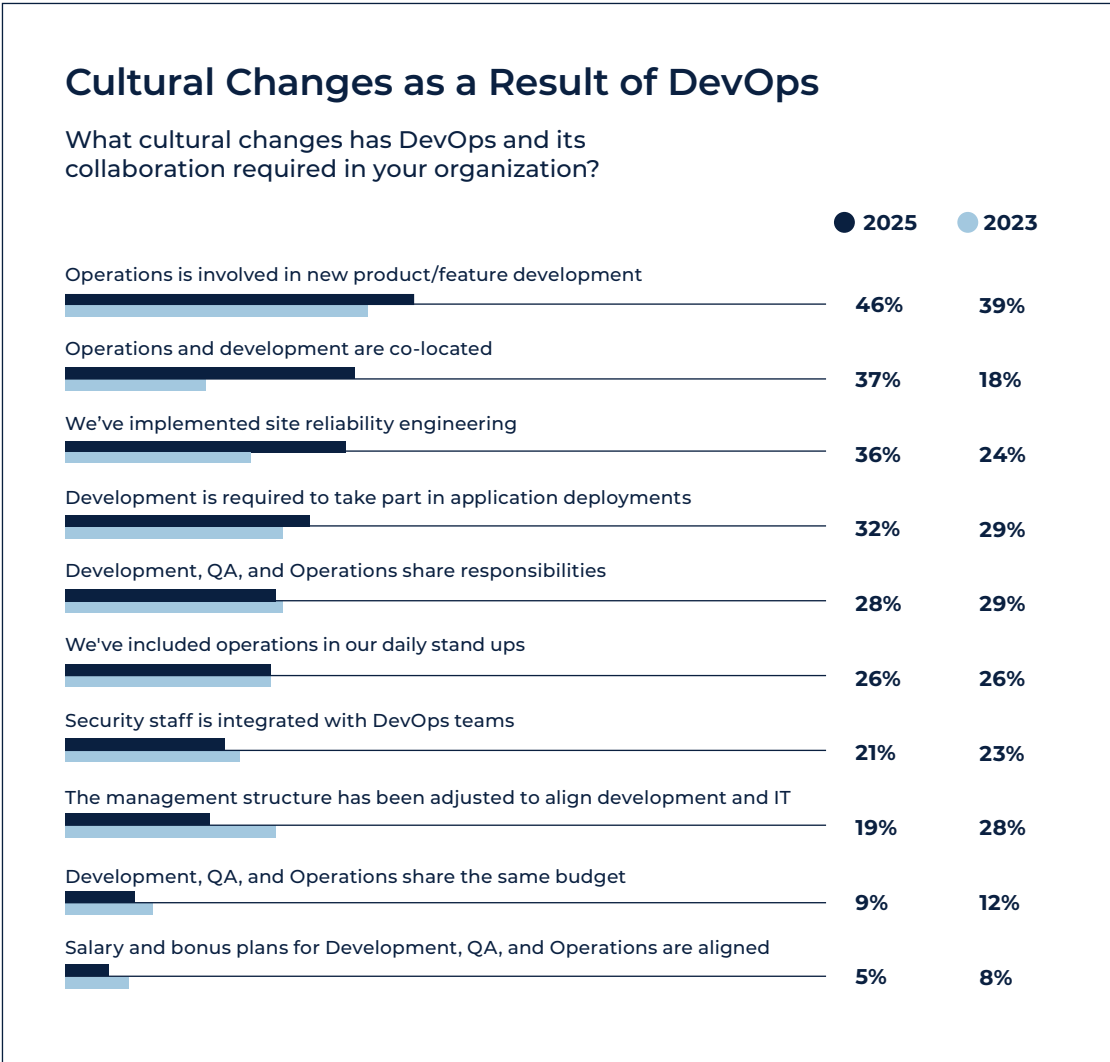
Figure 29



Note: Maximum of three responses allowed
Data: InformationWeek survey of 109 technology decision makers in June 2025 and 226 in June 2023

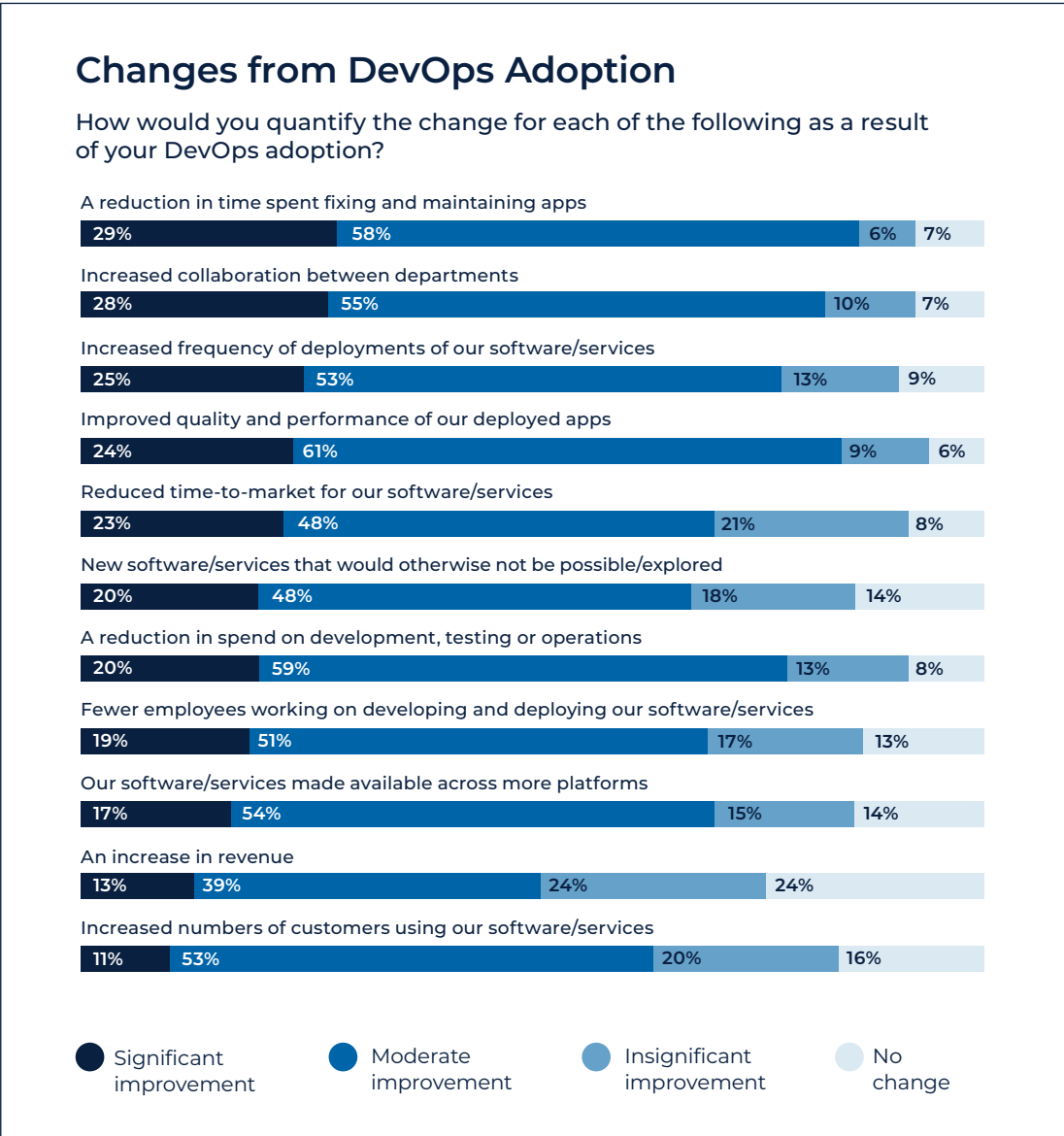


Figure 30



Note: Multiple responses allowed
Data: InformationWeek survey of 109 technology decision makers in June 2025 and 226 in June 2023

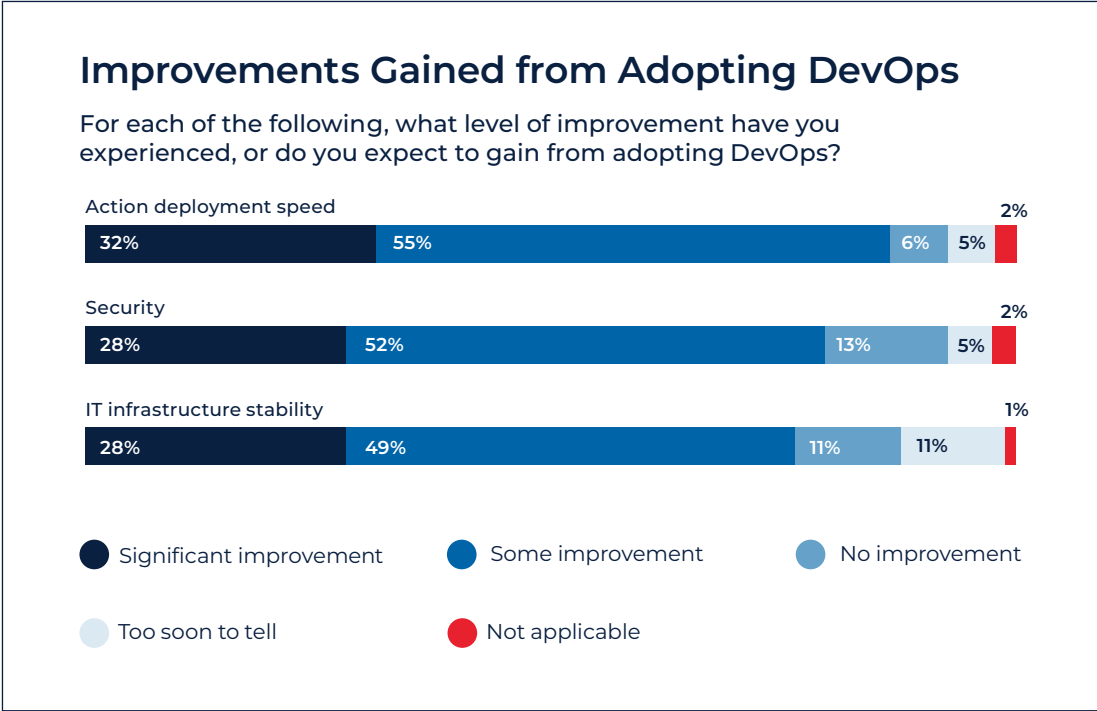
Figure 31



Data: InformationWeek survey of 109 technology decision makers in June 2025

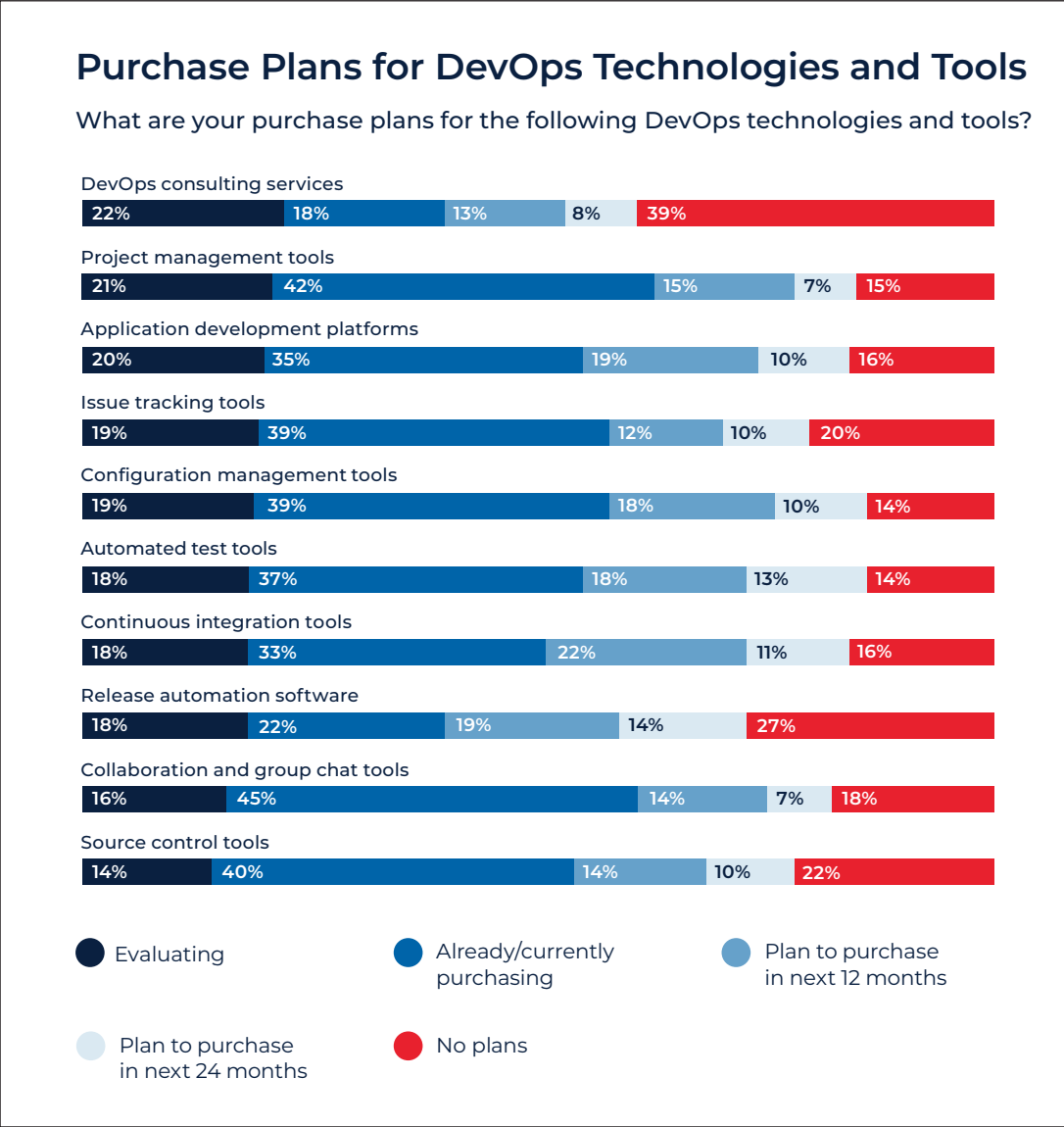


Figure 32



Data: InformationWeek survey of 109 technology decision makers in June 2025

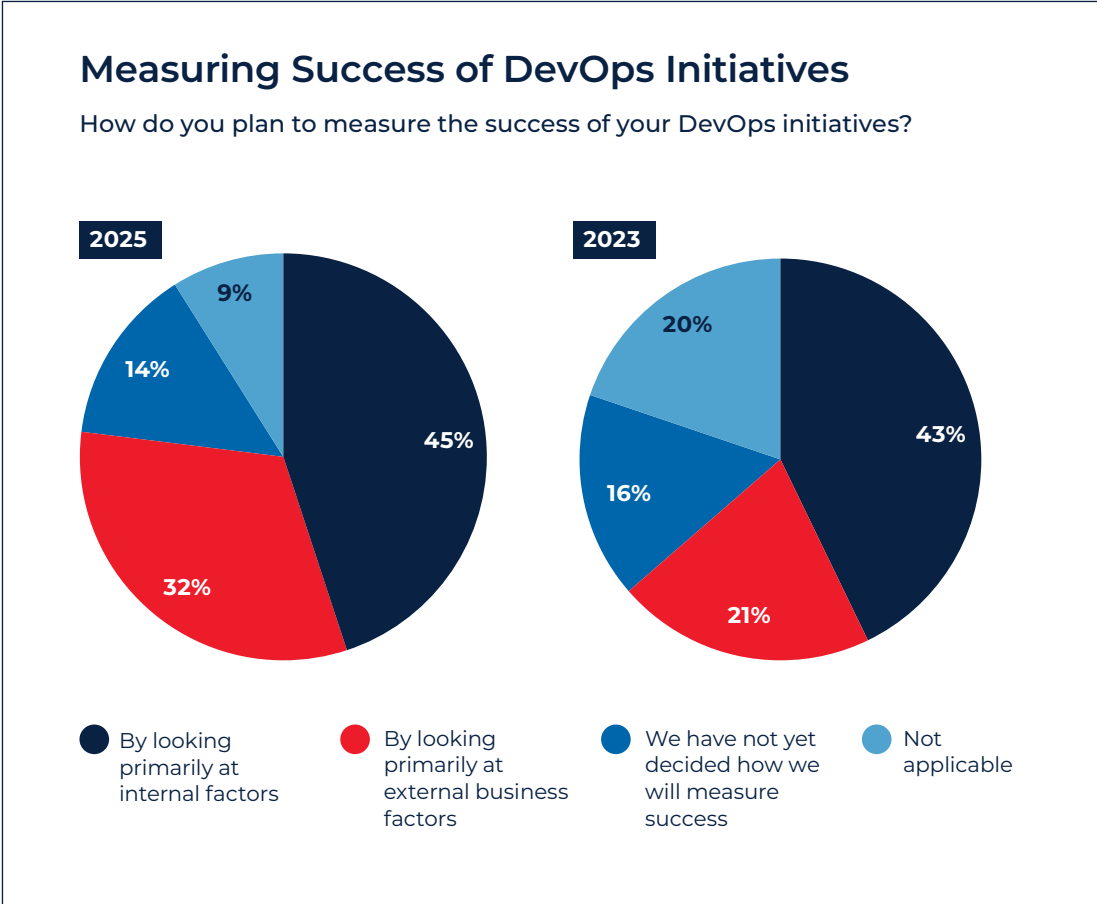
Figure 33



Data: InformationWeek survey of 109 technology decision makers in June 2025

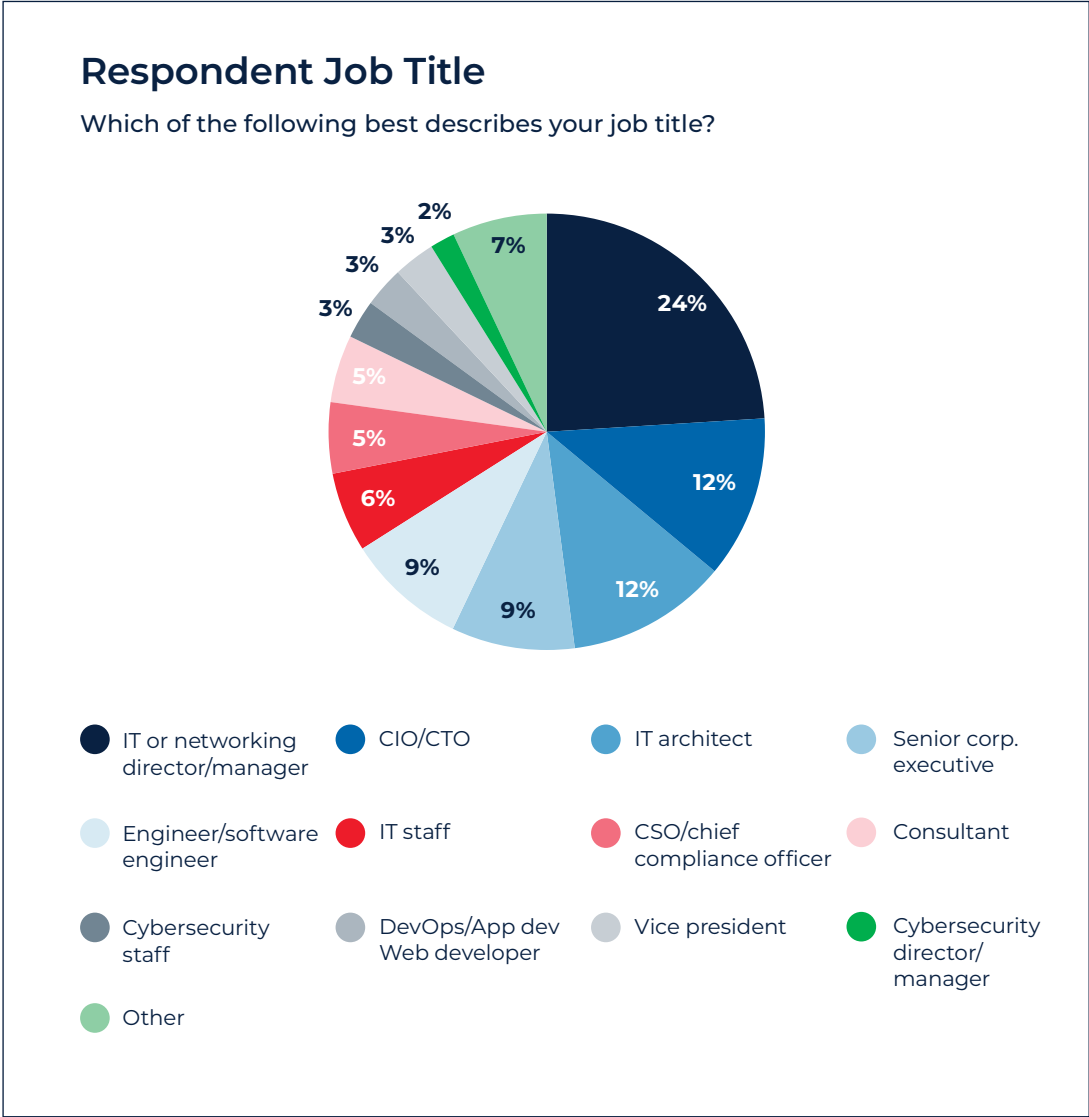


Figure 34



Data: InformationWeek survey of 109 technology decision makers in June 2025 and 226 in June 2023

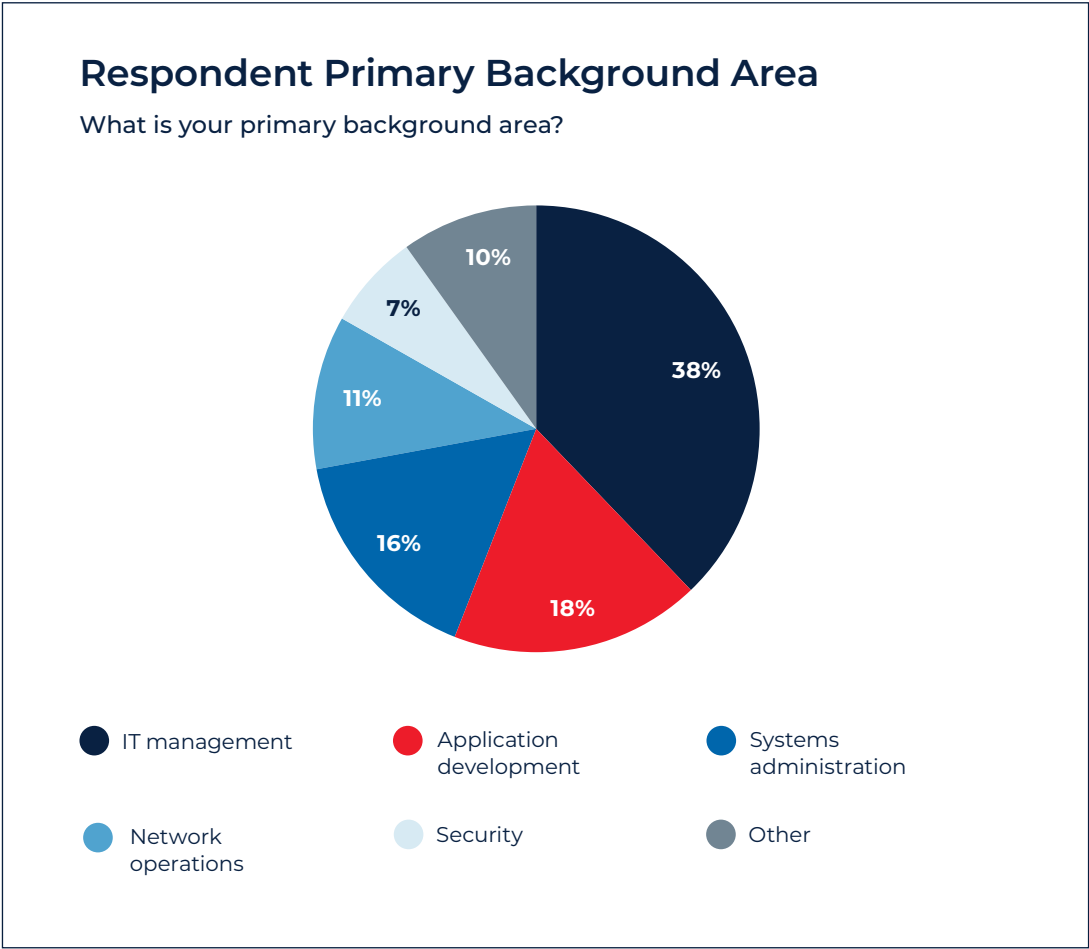
Figure 35



Data: InformationWeek survey of 109 technology decision makers in June 2025

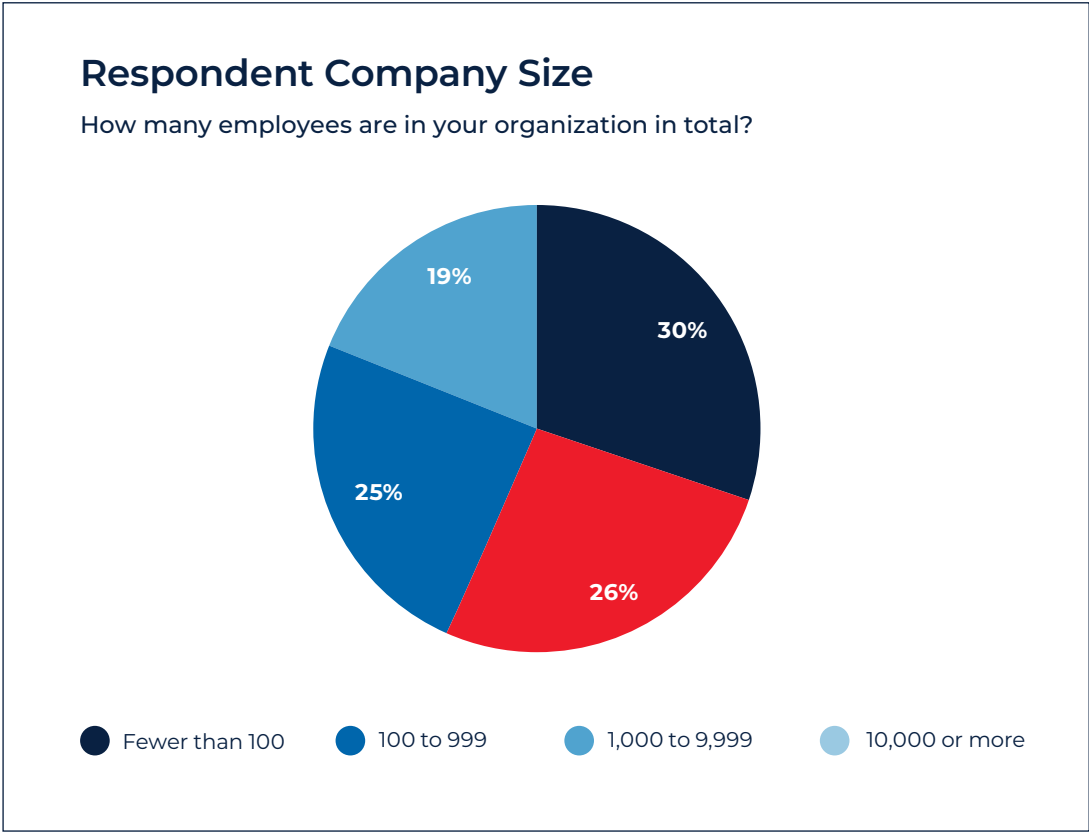


Figure 36



Data: InformationWeek survey of 109 technology decision makers in June 2025

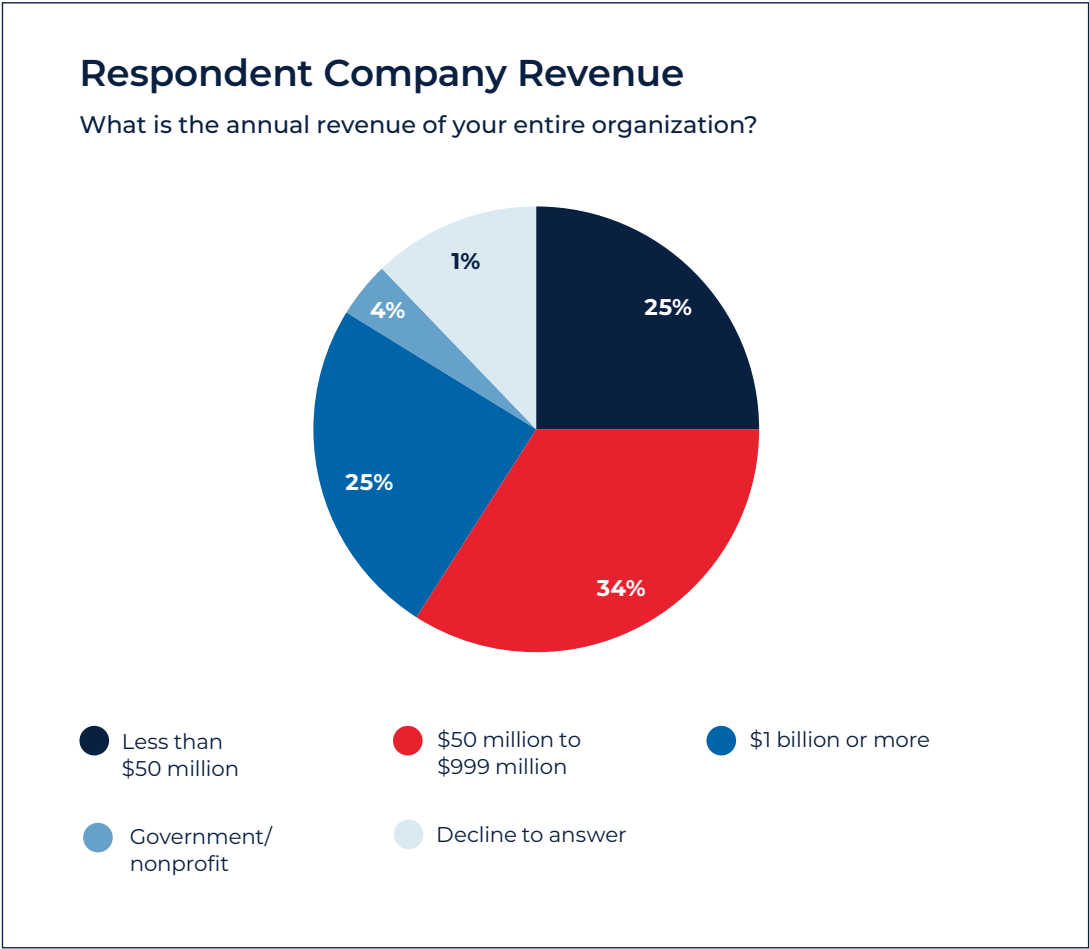
Figure 37



Data: InformationWeek survey of 109 technology decision makers in June 2025

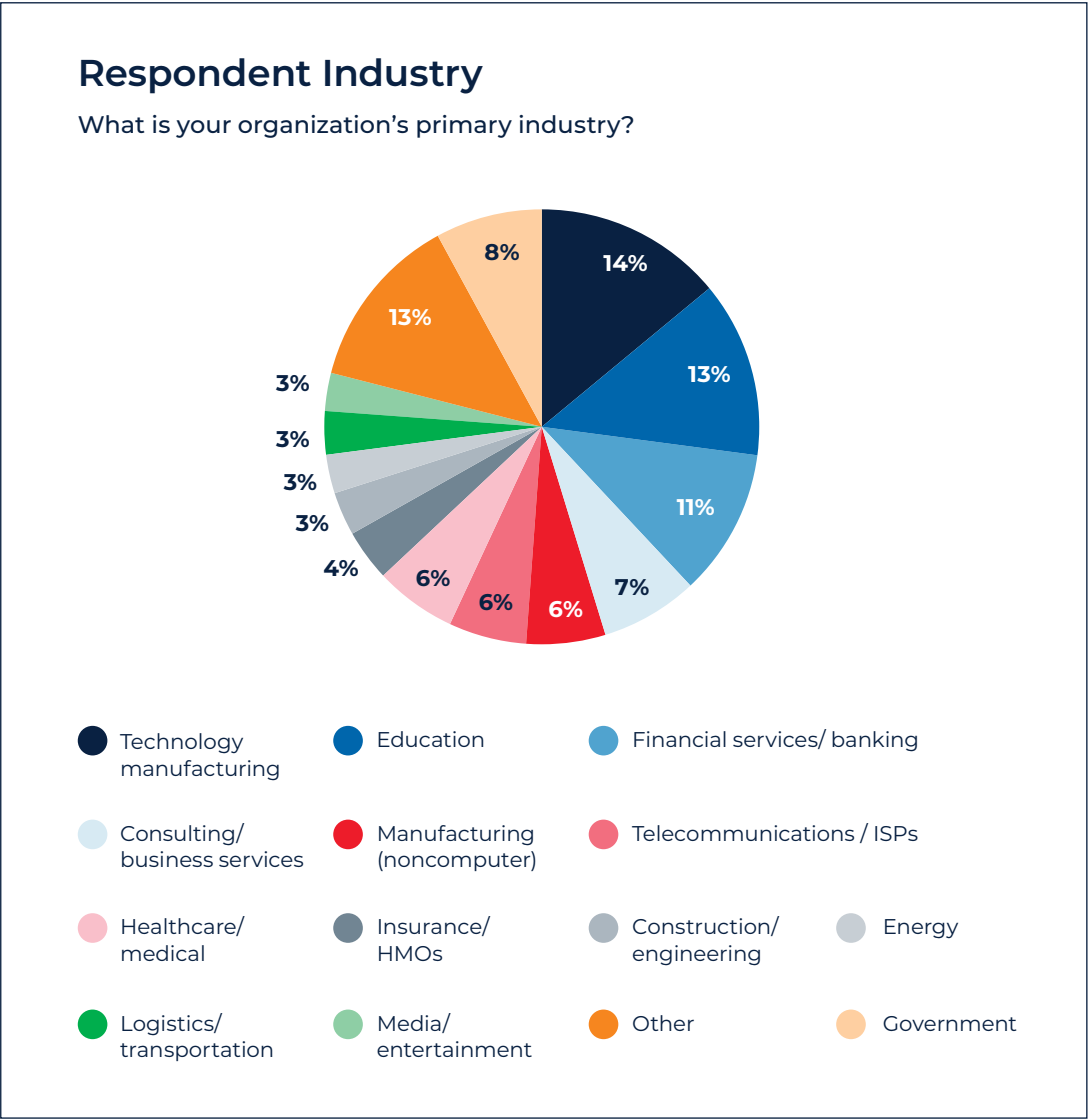


Figure 38



Data: InformationWeek survey of 109 technology decision makers in June 2025

Figure 39



Data: InformationWeek survey of 109 technology decision makers in June 2025