

# Considerations for Cloud Success

According to Gartner Research, almost half of government organizations are actively using cloud services. Going forward, Gartner foresees double-digit growth in government use of public cloud services. But to achieve success in the cloud, governments need to ensure security, compliance and privacy.

## Cloud Spending on the Rise

**17.1%**  
growth per year through 2021<sup>1</sup>

## Defining the Terms



### Data Center Security:

Protecting the data center from theft, damage, destruction or misdirection



### Privacy:

The ability to protect personal information, meet applicable privacy regulations and demonstrate you control your data and know where it lives at all times



### Compliance:

The ability to prove you meet specific regulations

## Cloud Considerations

To achieve strong security, privacy and compliance in the cloud, state and local government agencies should balance what they need with what they are required to provide. Consider:

### What are Your Requirements?

For example, if you accept citizen payments, you'll need to comply with the Payment Card Industry Data Security Standard, which is an information security standard for organizations that handle branded credit cards from the major card schemes. Fully understand which security, privacy and compliance regulations apply to your agency.

### What is Your Budget?

You can implement the very highest levels of security, but costs increase concurrently. If you implement more than you need, you risk erasing any cost advantages you gained migrating to the cloud.

### What is Important to You?

Unlike federal agencies, state and local governments are not required to work with a FedRAMP-certified vendor. But if FedRAMP or a similar certification or control is important to you, it may be worth the investment.

### Do You Have the Right Tools?

Though cloud security, privacy and compliance is a shared responsibility, your cloud provider should offer tools to help you devise the best strategy, including privacy controls, audit logs, multi-factor authentication, penetration and vulnerability testing, and attestation reports.

*This information is part of the IBM Government Cloud Virtual Summit, a free, online event featuring 17 sessions with insightful keynotes, illustrative case studies and deep dives into job-critical topics for government leaders. To view any of these sessions, visit [www.govtech.com/ibmvirtualsummit](http://www.govtech.com/ibmvirtualsummit)*



<sup>1</sup> <https://www.gartner.com/smarterwithgartner/understanding-cloud-adoption-in-government/>