96% of IT Security Executives Consider PKI Essential to Zero Trust Architecture



As organizations move their security to the cloud, Public Key Infrastructure (PKI) and certificate management are the next focus for IT security leaders. They recognize it's essential to a successful Zero Trust security strategy, but until now most have not been using it.

Pulse and Keyfactor surveyed 100 IT security executives in North America to better understand their security priorities, the challenges of implementing a Zero Trust strategy, and how PKI certificate management can help.

Data collected from Jan. 25 - Feb. 18, 2021

Respondents: 100 IT Security Executives

AS SECURITY IS IMPACTED BY DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION, ORGS ARE ALLOCATING TECH BUDGET TO PKI AND CRYPTOGRAPHY IN 2021.

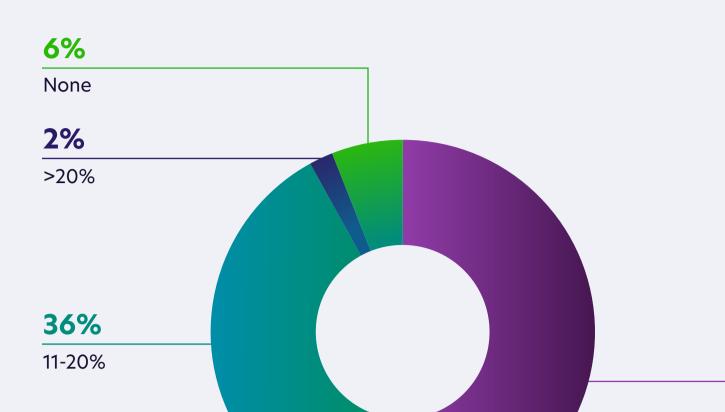
Cloud-first/cloud migration (72%) is the top priority for IT security leaders, followed by remote workforce (65%) and improved digital customer experience (46%).



What are the top 3 digital transformation priorities that will impact the security of your organization?

In 2021, the majority (92%) of organizations have allocated up to 20% of their tech budget to PKI and/or cryptography.



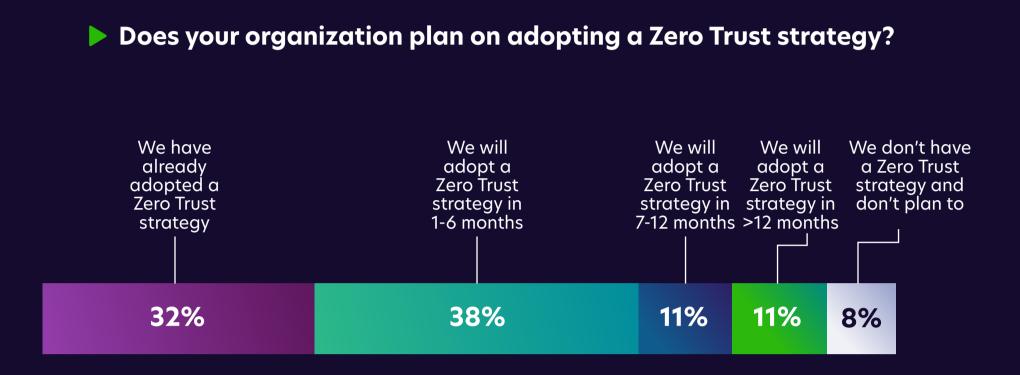


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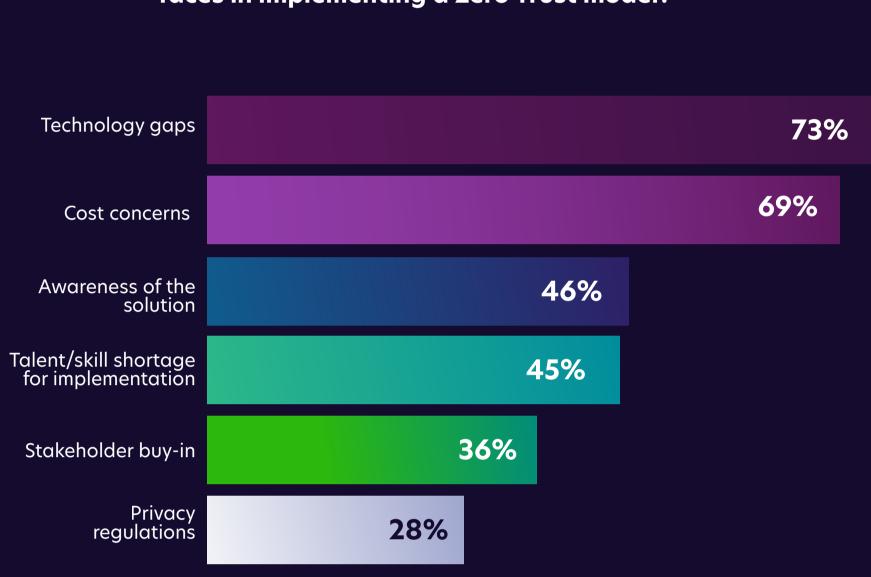
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TECH GAPS AND COST ARE CHALLENGES TO IMPLEMENTING ZERO TRUST, BUT IT'S LARGELY ON THE RISE AS IT MITIGATES RISK AND REDUCES COMPLEXITY IN THE STACK.

One-third (32%) of organizations have already adopted a Zero Trust strategy, with another 60% planning to in the next year.



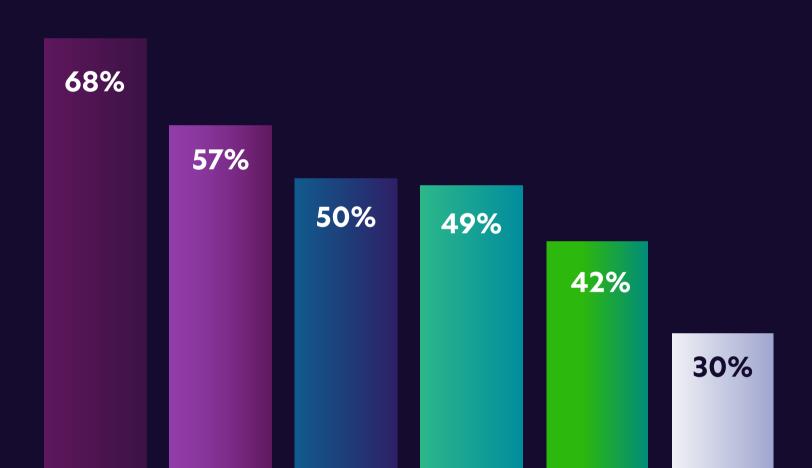
The biggest challenges in implementing a Zero Trust model are technology gaps (73%) and cost concerns (69%).



What are the top challenges your company faces in implementing a Zero Trust model?

The biggest advantages to having a Zero Trust strategy are that it mitigates security risk (68%), reduces complexity in the security stack (57%), and reduces the time it takes to detect a breach (50%).

What are the 3 biggest advantages to having a Zero Trust strategy?





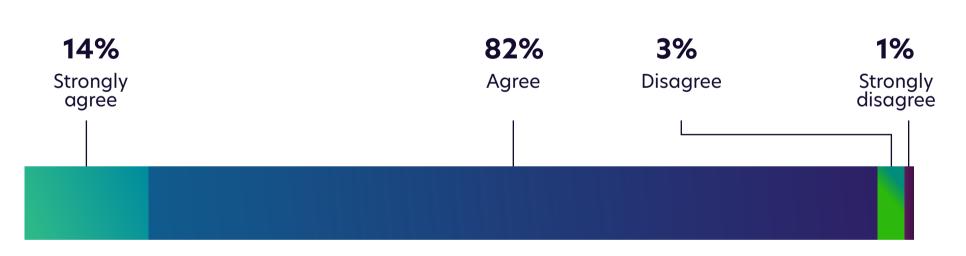
ALTHOUGH ADOPTION IS LAGGING, MOST EXECUTIVES AGREE PKI IS ESSENTIAL TO A ZERO TRUST SECURITY ARCHITECTURE.

Almost two-thirds (61%) of companies don't use PKI as part of their Zero Trust strategy.



However, the majority (96%) of IT security leaders agree that PKI and digital certificates are essential to Zero Trust.

To what extent do you agree PKI and digital certificates are essential to Zero Trust security architecture?



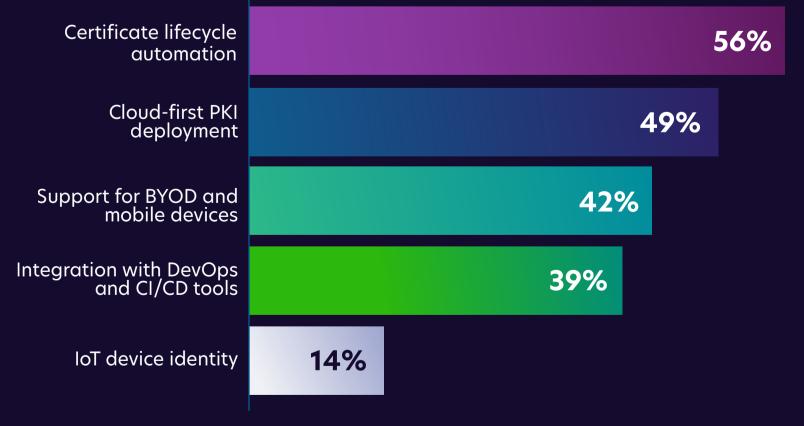
ORGANIZATIONS THAT HAVE IMPLEMENTED PKI ARE FOCUSED ON AUTOMATION AND MOVING TO THE CLOUD.

A quarter (24%) of organizations have automated their PKI and digital certificates, while another 71% are in the process of deployment or planning to.

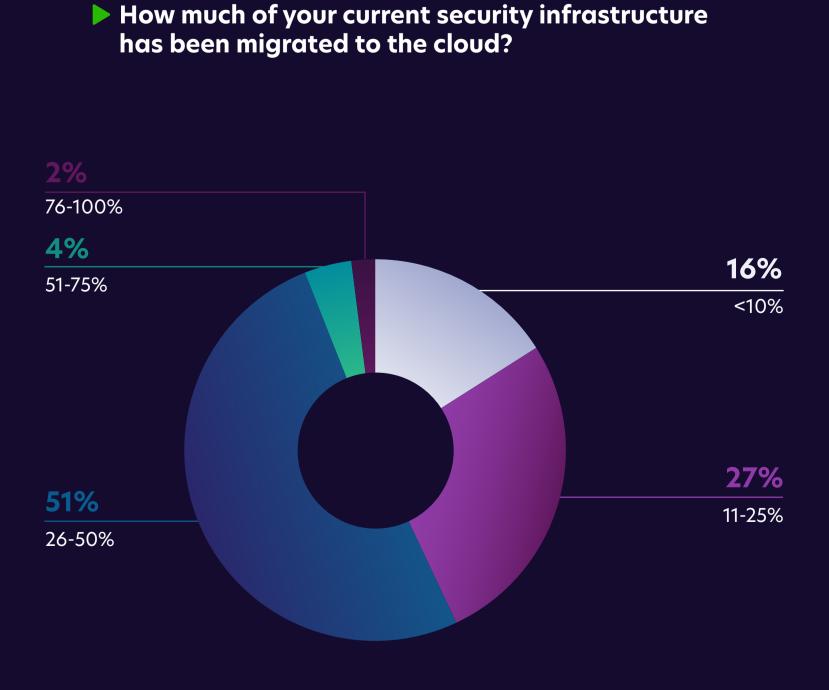


While visibility is the most important PKI capability, almost half (49%) of IT security leaders are also focused on a cloud-first approach.

Which of the following PKI and certificate management capabilities is most important to a successful Zero Trust strategy?



Over half (51%) of organizations have already moved up to 50% of their security infrastructure to the cloud.



RESPONDENT BREAKDOWN

