For most companies, digital transformation will require modernization of their data center infrastructure. The goal is to adopt a hardware and software technology stack that works across private data centers, hybrid cloud, and edge facilities. But it shouldn’t require you to jettison existing on-premises infrastructure. Rather, the idea is to build on those investments in a consistent fashion, to future-proof your infrastructure environments. Use this infographic to help set up that infrastructure foundation.

### Phase 1: Core HCI
The first step in the modernization effort is implementing “core” hyperconverged infrastructure (HCI), which consists of hyperconverged compute and storage implemented on-premises. Typically this consists of VMware vSphere server virtualization software along with vSAN storage virtualization software.

Core HCI puts you on the road to greater operational agility as compared to the traditional silo approach. Now you have server and storage infrastructure managed as a single entity, because vSAN is integrated with the vSphere hypervisor. With core HCI you start to gain the benefits of software-defined infrastructure. In addition to simplified management, the combination enables far faster deployment of compute and storage resources.

### Phase 2: Full-Stack HCI
The next phase in the modernization journey is full-stack HCI, which adds networking, management tools, and automation to the mix, enabling you to manage the entire stack as a single platform.

A simple way to achieve full-stack HCI is to adopt VMware Cloud Foundation, which encompasses an integrated environment of virtualized compute, storage, and networking – all with unified management.

### Phase 3: Hybrid Cloud
The final phase of the data center modernization effort, hybrid cloud, is the extension of your HCI environment to multiple private and public cloud environments and the edge. That requires an HCI stack that is compatible with hyperscale cloud providers and others, enabling IT to maintain visibility and management across both on-premises infrastructure and in the cloud.

You need a hybrid cloud foundation that delivers consistent infrastructure and operations wherever workloads are deployed. By modernizing your IT infrastructure, you can capitalize on the flexibility, scalability, and performance of private and hybrid clouds. First, you need to eliminate infrastructure silos so you can manage a single entity and bring cloud-like capabilities to your data center.

### Hybrid Cloud Is Here to Stay
It’s become clear that hybrid cloud is the new operating model for IT, but it also creates new challenges. Many new applications will be deployed to public cloud, and many existing applications will be migrated to public cloud. But not all of them. How will you manage a mix of VM- and container-based applications, deployed across a mix of data center, public cloud, and edge?

For more information, download the full 2020 roadmap to learn more, or visit our website to learn how VMware solutions can help you modernize your infrastructure for hybrid cloud and modern applications.

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**Survey Findings**

More than two-thirds (70%) of respondents to a recent VMware survey said they are actively engaged in public cloud migration, noting they plan to migrate 54% of their applications to the cloud. That means the remaining 46% will stay on-premises.

54% 46%