

2022 State of Federal Zero Trust Maturity

Merlin Cyber commissioned a study with MeriTalk, which surveyed more than 150 U.S. Federal Civilian and DoD agency security leaders about their zero trust efforts. Here are some of the key findings.

Download the full report at merlincyber.com/ztmaturity

The U.S. Federal Government is driving agencies to adopt zero trust.



Executive Order 14028
(May 2021)



DISA ZT Reference Architecture
(May 2021)



CISA's Zero Trust Maturity Model
(June 2021)

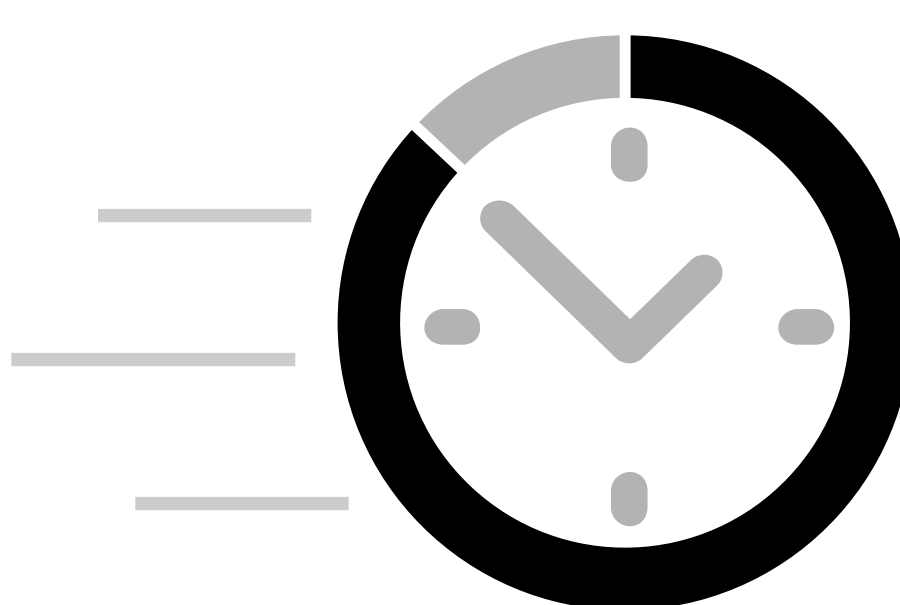


OMB's Federal Zero Trust Strategy
(September 2021)

While 92% of agencies say the recent federal initiatives have increased their confidence in implementing zero trust, there is trepidation.

75%

say that reaching optimal zero trust maturity will be a challenge



87%

feel that the government's directives push them to move too quickly

In addition, DoD and Fed Civ agencies have differing zero trust goals.

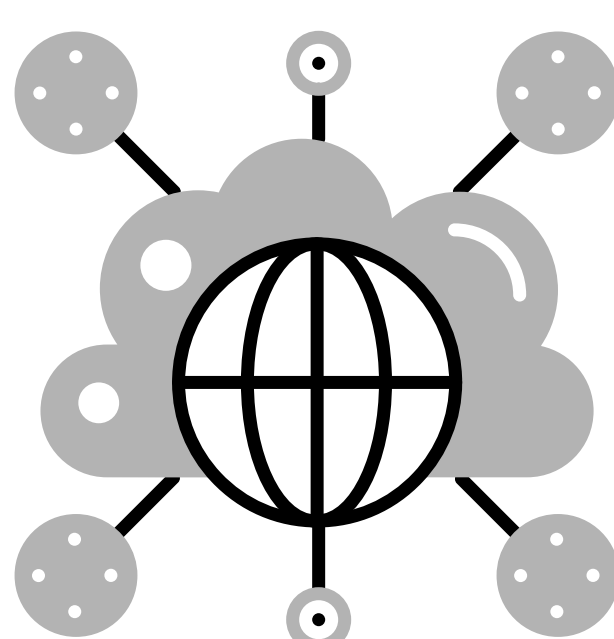
Intelligent automation is the most important zero trust goal for DoD agencies, but significantly less important for Fed Civ

49%

DoD

31%

CIV



Safe and robust use of cloud services are most important for Fed Civ agencies but far less important for DoD

DoD

38%

CIV

52%

Identity and Data are the highest-priority pillars for agencies.

71%



Identity

67%

CIV

75%

DoD

68%

CIV

63%

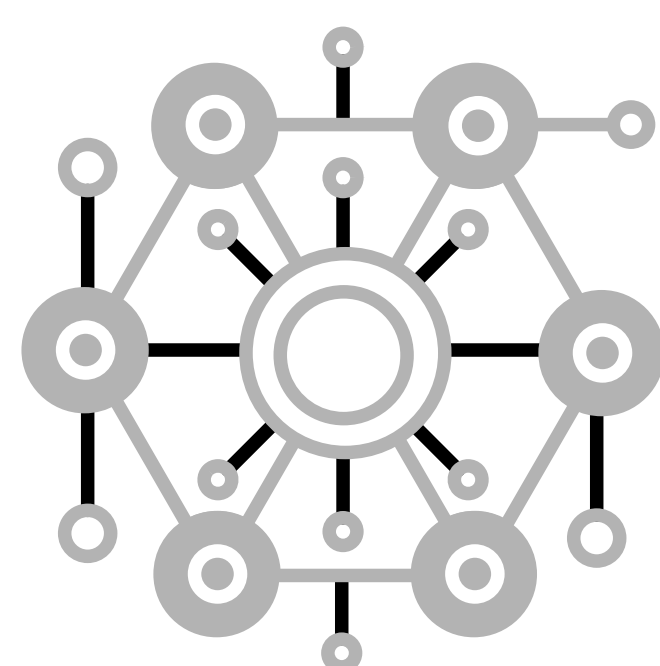
DoD

66%



Data

But when it comes to Applications, a stark contrast emerges.



63% DoD

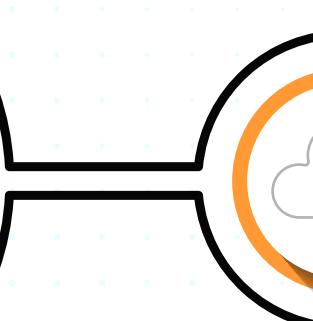
44% CIV

DoD agencies are significantly more likely to view the Applications pillar as important

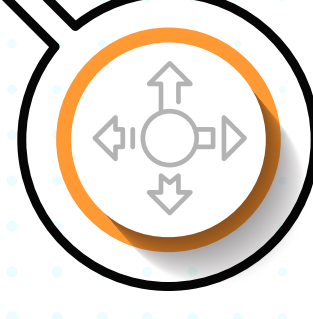
How should agencies best proceed?



Don't go it alone – partner with trusted advisors who can help prioritize the pillars and chart a course to optimal zero trust maturity



Consider cloud solutions with baked-in zero trust principles



Capitalize on momentum by minimizing competing priorities and cultivating a zero trust mindset throughout the agency

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