September 2025

The State of Enterprise Java:

2025 Jakarta EE Developer Survey Report

Introduction

Welcome to ***The State of Enterprise Java: 2025 Jakarta EE Developer Survey Report***. Each year, this survey provides the Java ecosystem with a clear view into the priorities, requirements, and perceptions of enterprise developers worldwide. It tracks technology adoption and sentiment while helping stakeholders understand how cloud native Java is evolving and what that means for strategies and business decisions.

The technologies highlighted in this survey, including Jakarta EE, Spring/Spring Boot, and MicroProfile, should not be seen strictly as competitors. In many cases, they complement each other. For example, both Spring/Spring Boot and MicroProfile build on Jakarta EE specifications. Our analysis focuses on market presence and adoption trends rather than head-to-head comparisons.

This year's survey drew **1,703 participants**, a **20% increase** over 2024, and reflects one of the most comprehensive community-driven views of enterprise Java today. Responses were collected between March 18 and June 5, 2025, and promoted broadly across channels, including:

- Jakarta.ee website, newsletters, blogs, and social media
- Our Chinese, Japanese, Spanish, and Portuguese communities
- Jakarta EE Ambassadors, JUG leaders, and Java Champions

This year's survey saw significantly higher participation from the Chinese developer community (an 18% increase compared to 2024), which may have influenced certain results with stronger representation from Asia Pacific.

We thank everyone who participated in shaping this year's insights. The findings represent the voices of a vibrant global community and provide valuable perspective for anyone invested in the future of enterprise Java.

Executive summary

- **Jakarta EE momentum grows:** Jakarta EE now edges past Spring in adoption (58% vs. 56%), showing its role as the top Java framework for building cloud native applications. This shift may be influenced by increased awareness that Spring is built on some of Jakarta EE specifications, as well as the survey's distribution within Jakarta EE community.
- **Jakarta EE 11 adoption:** Already at 18% of respondents, showing strong traction across regions and company sizes as developers move away from older Java EE versions.
- **Java version shifts:** Java 21 adoption surged to 43% (from 30% in 2024) suggesting faster movement to newer versions, while Java 17 and Java 8 declined. Java 11 saw renewed growth to 37% (from 30%).
- **Cloud migration strategies:** Lift-and-shift remains the leading approach, but strategic uncertainty is growing as many explore modernisation options.
- **Community priorities:** Cloud native readiness and faster specification adoption top the agenda, alongside steady interest in innovation and Java SE alignment.

Key Takeaways

Key Takeaway 1

Jakarta EE is strengthening its position as the foundation for cloud native Java frameworks

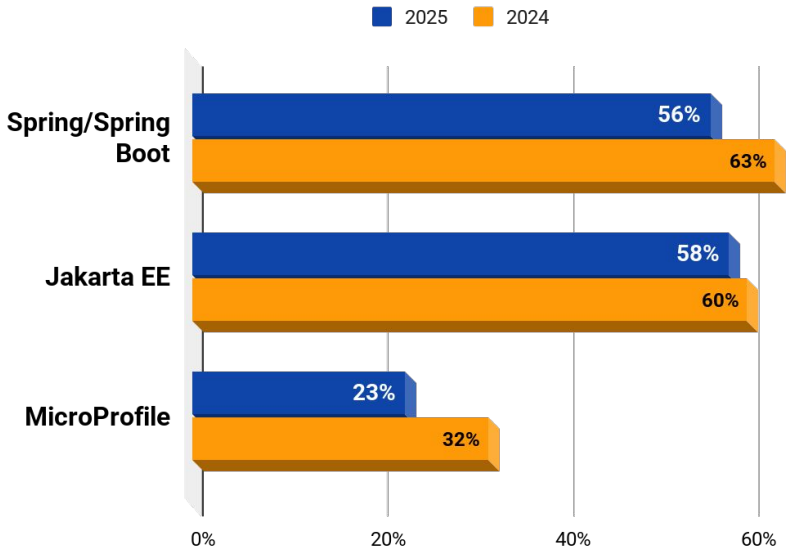
In 2025, Jakarta EE adoption stands at **58%**, just ahead of Spring/Spring Boot at **56%**. This reverses 2024 results, where Spring led by 3 points (63% vs. 60%).

Momentum is fueled by the release of **Jakarta EE 11** and renewed ecosystem engagement.

Awareness is growing that **Jakarta EE underpins popular frameworks like Spring**.

MicroProfile usage dropped to 23% (from 32% in 2024), which may reflect overlap with newer Jakarta EE features, a shift toward simpler approaches, or interest in other microservices technologies.

Note: While these findings show strong momentum for Jakarta EE, results may reflect some respondent bias due to the survey's distribution within Eclipse Foundation and Jakarta EE communities.



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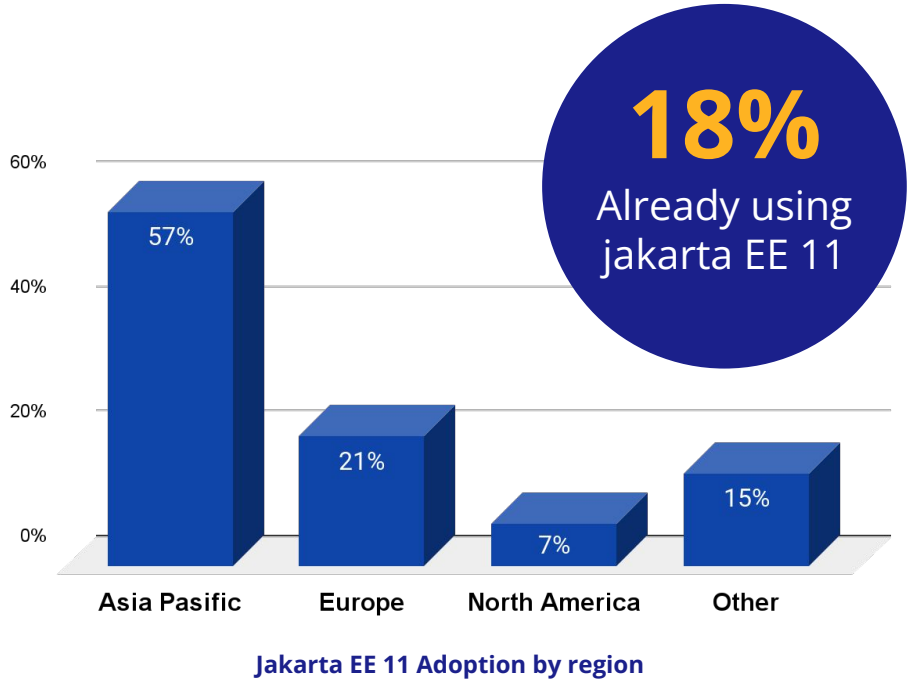
Key Takeaway 2

Jakarta EE 11 is seeing rapid, early adoption across the global enterprise spectrum

Despite Platform being released after the survey closed (5 June), **18% of respondents already report using Jakarta EE 11**, based on Core and Web Profiles released between December 2024 and March 2025.

The trend reflects a **shift in developer behaviour**: adoption now occurs as soon as Core and Web Profiles are available, thanks to the community's more flexible, staged release model that accelerates innovation.

Adoption is balanced across company sizes: 51% of adopters are from organisations with fewer than 500 employees, while **19%** are from enterprises with over 10,000 employees.



Jakarta EE 11 Adoption by region

Key Takeaway 3

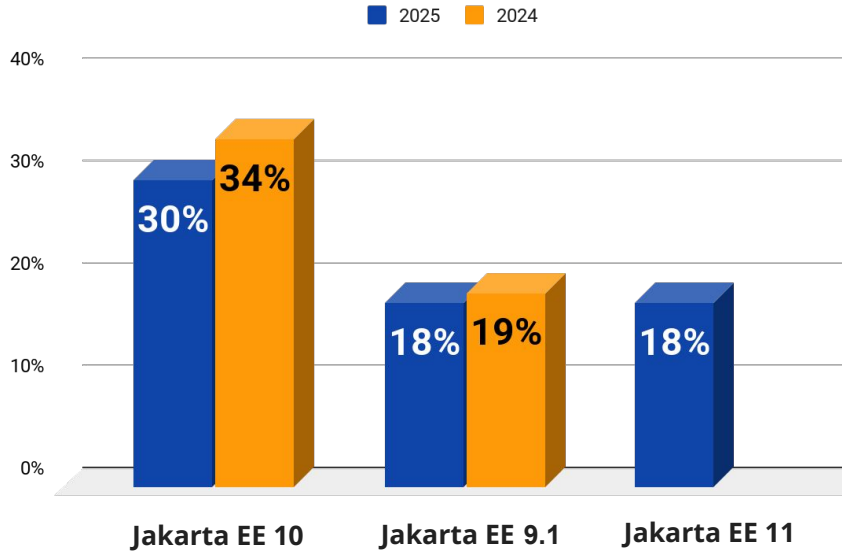
Developers are moving on from older Jakarta EE/Java EE versions

Adoption of Jakarta EE 10 and 9.1 dipped slightly in 2025 as many users upgraded to Jakarta EE 11.

This shows developers are **transitioning faster to new versions**, spending less time on older releases.

The trend reflects a **maturing community** with growing confidence in Jakarta EE's frequent, predictable release cycle.

Meanwhile, Java EE 8 adoption remains steady at 40%, but the overall trend highlights a gradual shift toward Jakarta EE.



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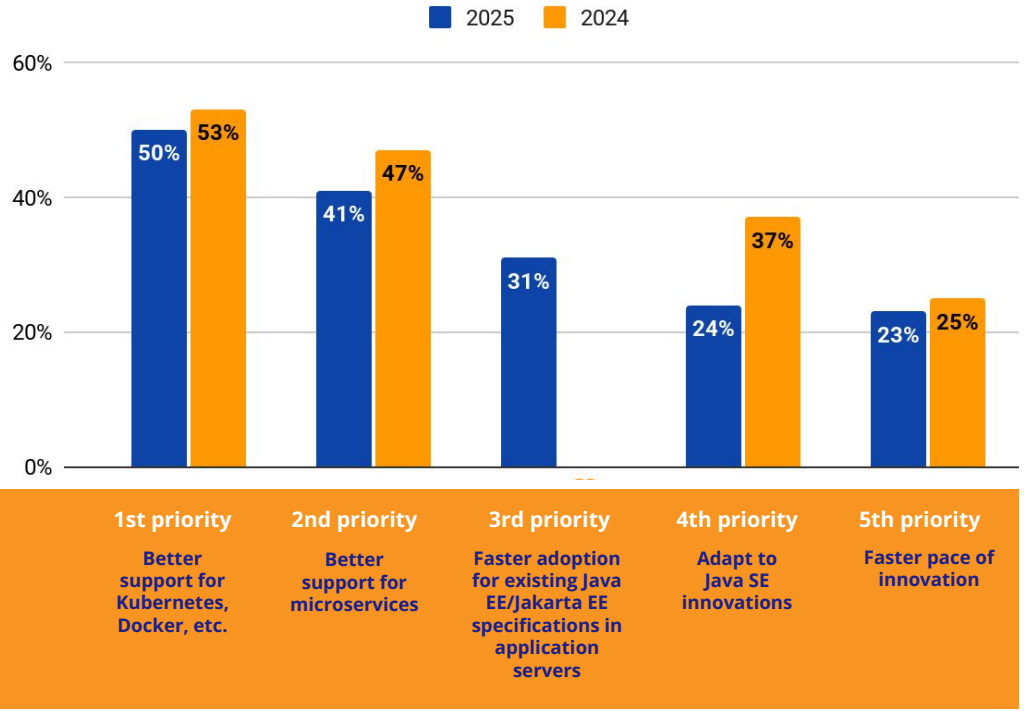
Key Takeaway 4

The community is prioritising cloud native readiness and faster implementation of Jakarta EE specifications



New urgency: Faster adoption of Jakarta EE specifications in application servers now ranks third (31%).

Developers want **practical Kubernetes features** such as health checks (34%), app configuration/secrets (30%), and metrics/telemetry (25%).

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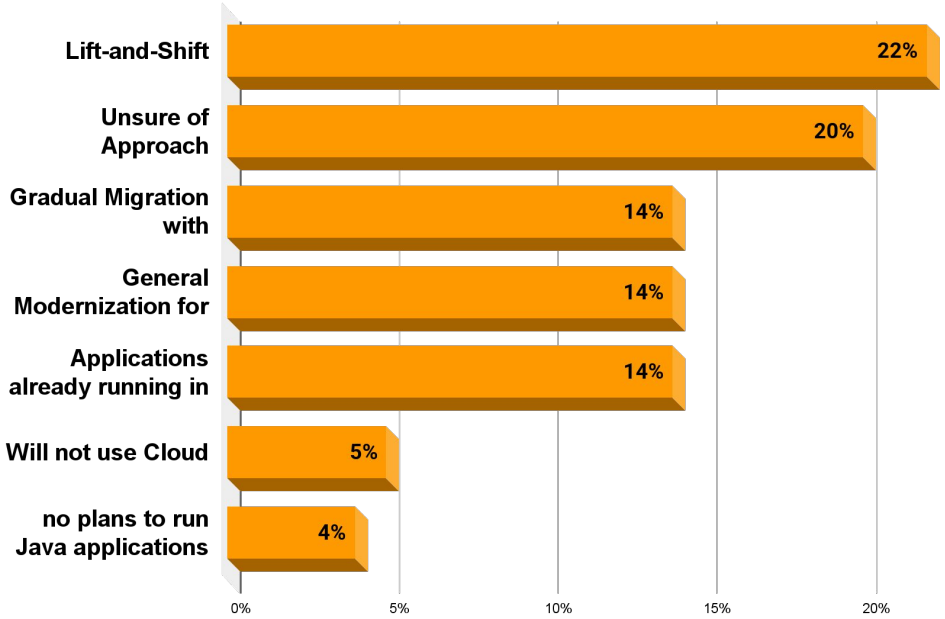
Key Takeaway 5

Cloud migration is accelerating, but many Java teams are still uncertain



Uncertainty rising: 20% (vs. 11% in 2024) are unsure of their approach.

Cloud resistance shrinking: only 5% won't use cloud (down from 8%), and 4% have no plans to run Java apps in the cloud (down from 8%).

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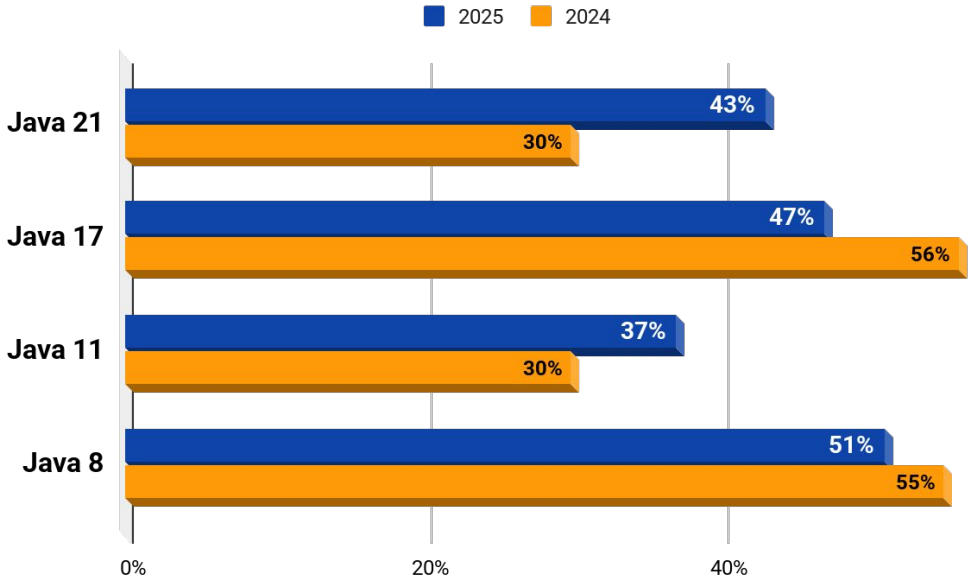
Key Takeaway 6

Developers are rapidly adopting Java 21 while gradually retiring older versions, signaling a steady shift toward newer LTS releases

Overall, organisations are balancing stability with progress: retiring legacy versions while consolidating around modern, supported LTS releases.



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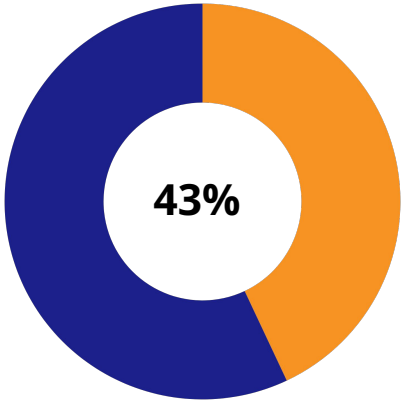
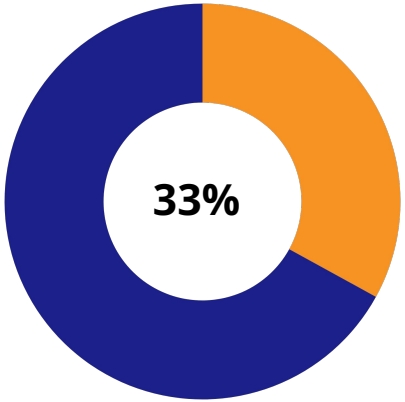
Key Takeaway 7

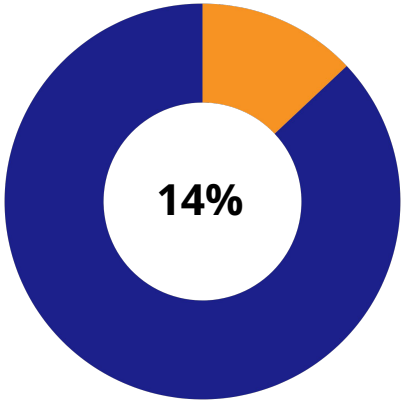
Hybrid remains the leading cloud architecture, while microservices adoption grows and monoliths continue to decline



Hybrid dominates
at 43% (down slightly from 46% in 2024), reflecting the need to balance modern and legacy systems.



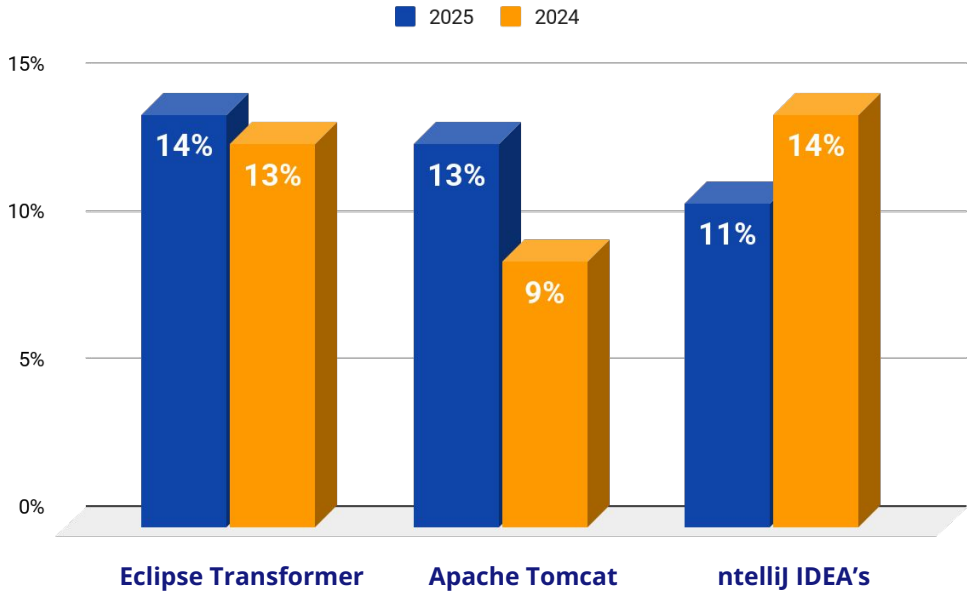
Microservices rising
(up from 31% in 2024), showing steady momentum toward modular, cloud native development.



Monoliths shrinking
(down from 18% in 2024), underscoring the ongoing move toward modernisation.

Key Takeaway 8

Use of migration tools is growing, though many developers still rely on manual approaches



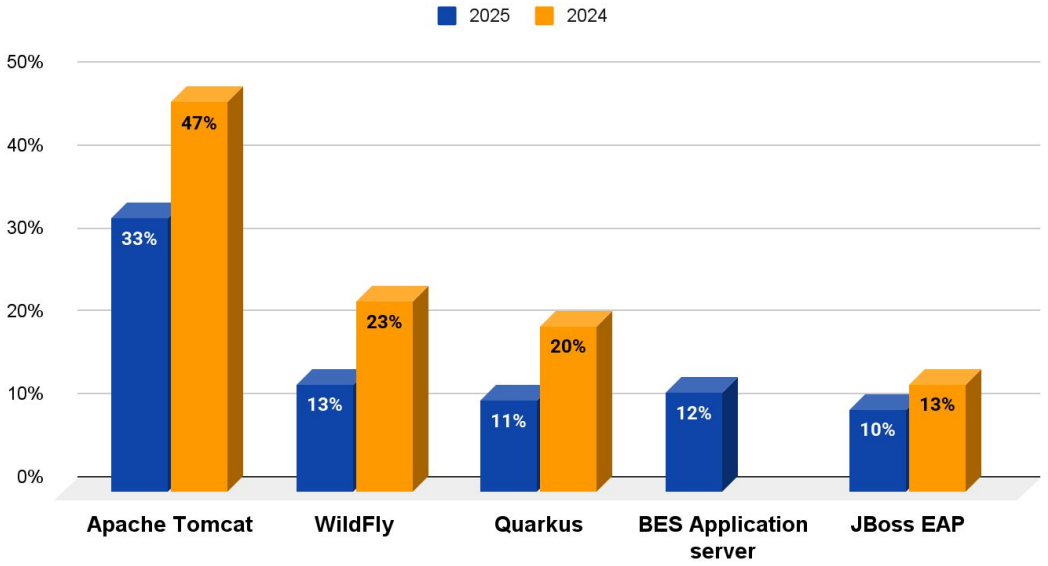
32% report not using any tooling, down from 40% in 2024, signaling increased awareness and adoption.

Key Takeaway 9

Runtime preferences are shifting, with Tomcat still leading, regional adoption rising, and Quarkus and WildFly seeing declines

BES Application Server entered the top five at 12%, reflecting stronger participation from Chinese developers.

Shifts suggest organisations are consolidating on lighter, stable runtimes like Tomcat or relying more on managed cloud services.



Note: BES Application server was not listed in 2024

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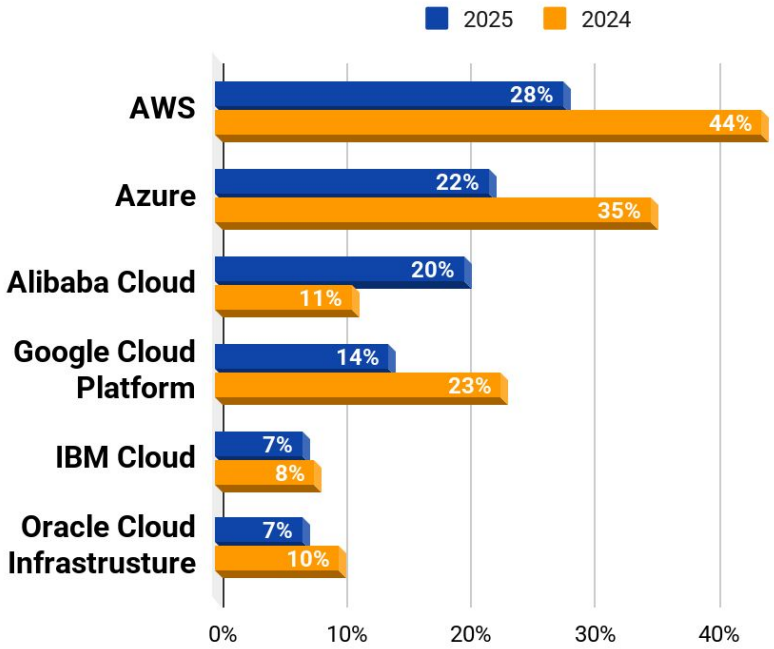
Key Takeaway 10

AWS and Azure remain top cloud platforms, but both declined as Alibaba Cloud surged in adoption

Alibaba Cloud rose sharply to 20% (from 11%), likely due to stronger survey participation from the Chinese community.



Demographics

Q1: What best describes your role?

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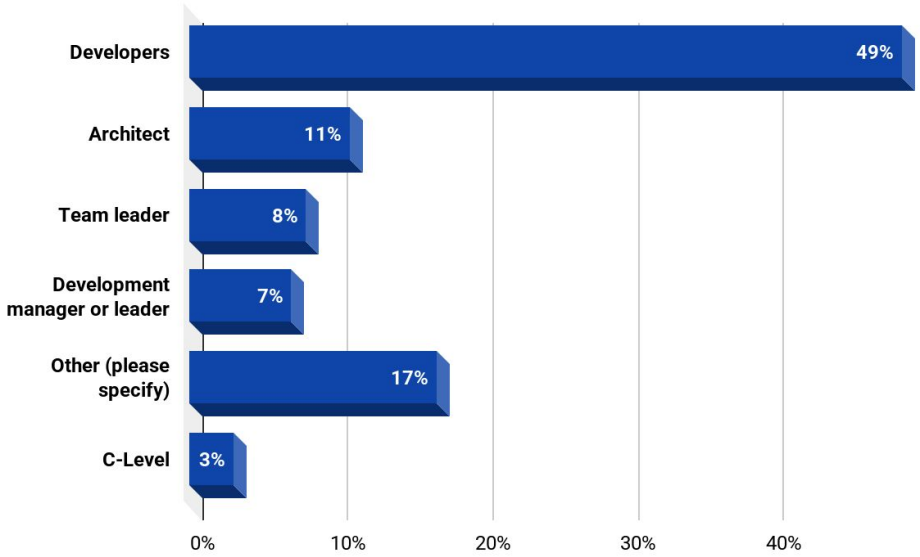
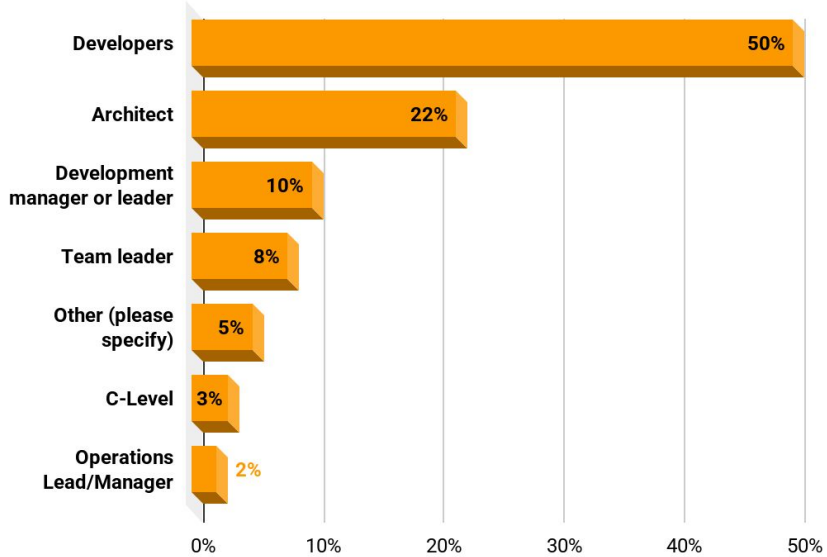


2024 Survey:



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Q2: How many employees work in your organisation?

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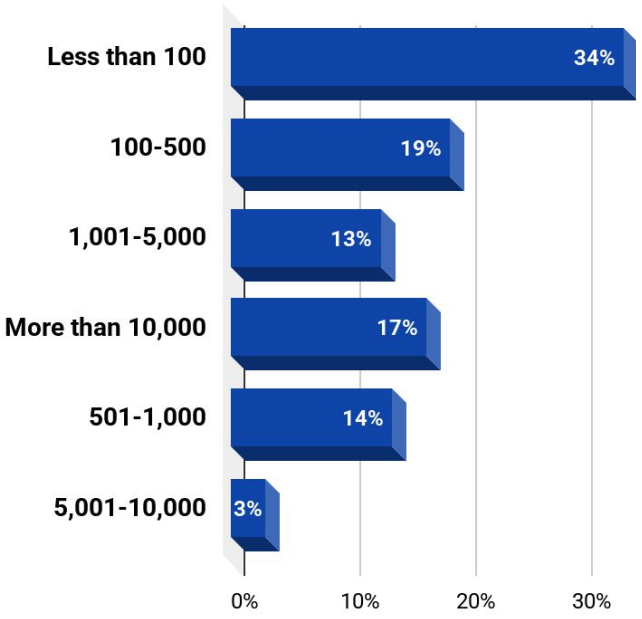
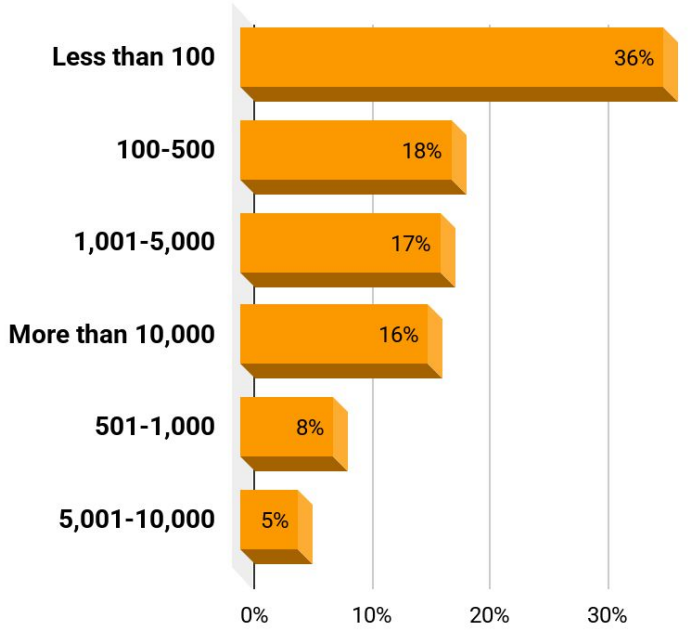
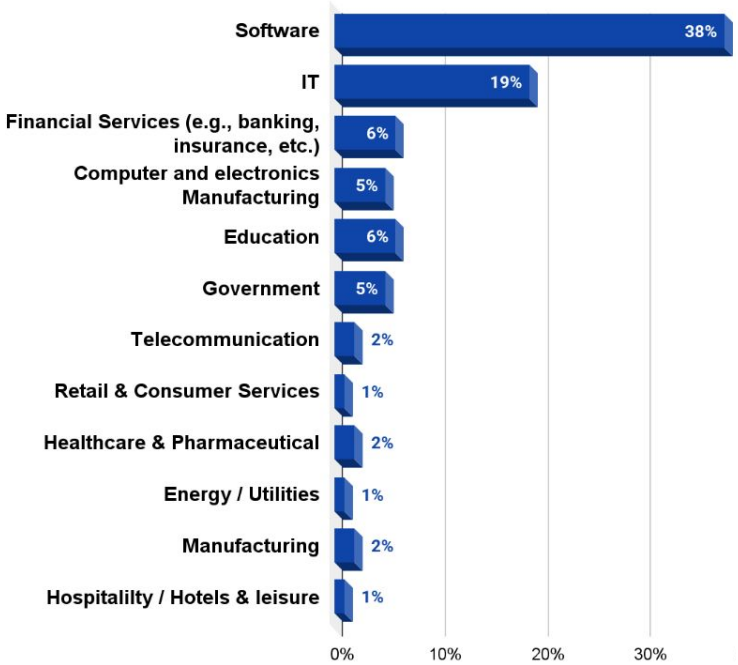


2024 Survey:

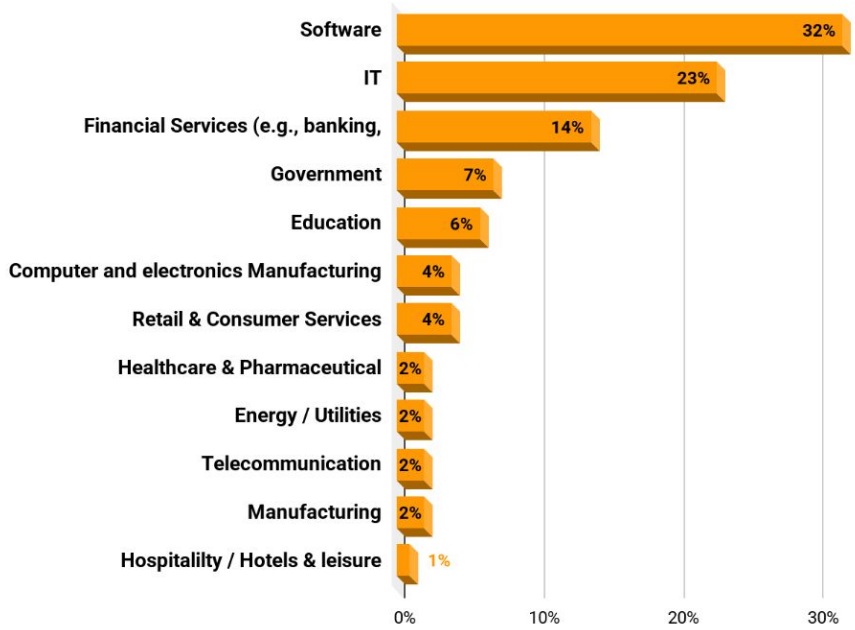


Q3: What industry do you work in?

2025 Survey:

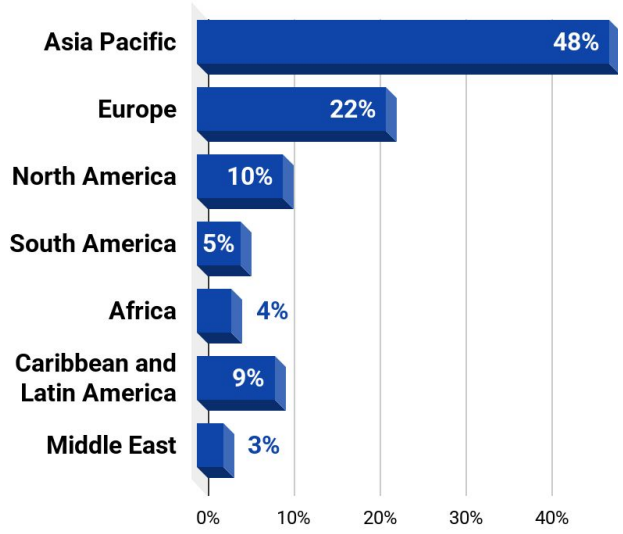


2024 Survey:

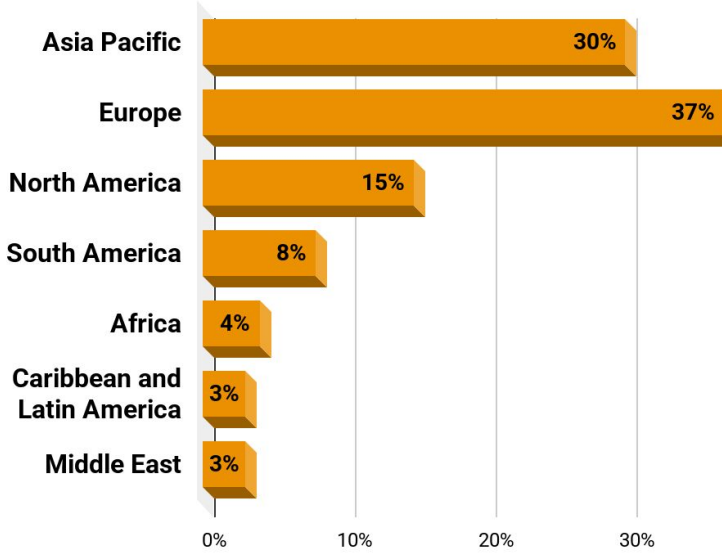


Q4: What region are you personally located in?

2025 Survey:



2024 Survey:



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