



Application Delivery Controller Study

Presented by Zeus Kerravala

Principal Analyst

Key Findings:

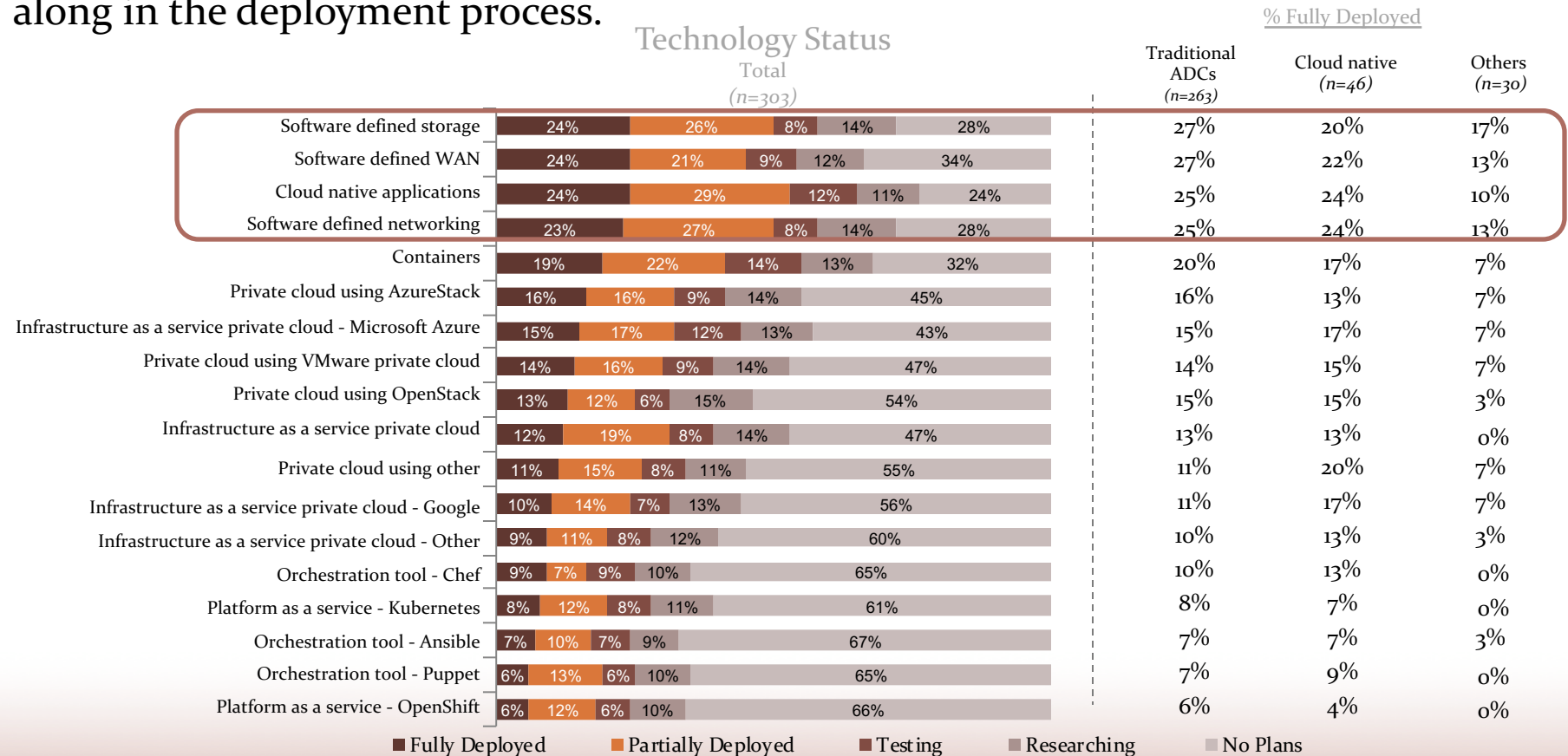
- Similar to what was noted in last year's study, “software defined technologies” and cloud native applications continue to be the areas furthest along in the deployment process.
- When drawing comparisons between the US and UK markets, it is noted that pushing applications to the cloud is greater among those in the UK, with close to 50% expecting to have half of applications in the cloud within 12 months, compared to only 29% in the US.
- Within a public cloud infrastructure, F5 is most often identified as the LB of choice.
 - F5 and Citrix are most commonly used ADCs
 - Cloud native ADCs showing strength in future purposes
- Regardless of market/segment, ‘security related issues’ are most commonly recognized as the greatest concern when utilizing cloud native ADC.

Key Findings:

- Although current satisfaction levels with providers are neutral to positive, a majority of respondents acknowledge they would be open to considering a change from their incumbent ADC vendor.
 - Respondents in the UK are more satisfied across all attributes tested than their respective US counterparts.
- For both the US and UK markets, many lack the ability to automate configuration changes to the ADC.
 - For those that do, Vendor Scripting and Cisco NSO continue to be the most commonly utilized tools.
- Within the US, the greatest barrier preventing further automation on ADC operations is most commonly related to internal processes. While in the UK, lack of skill and overall complexity are identified as the most common hurdles.
- Of the tasks performed on ADC, most can be addressed in minutes or days.
 - ADC changes have limited or no impact on application roll out and only account for minor delays regardless of market.
- As noted in the previous wave of research, automation and application analytics are the features that are most appealing to support their digital initiatives.
- For many, downtime is varied with a large number of respondents unsure of how much time was truly experienced in the previous year.
 - Although unsure, a majority indicated that downtime aligned with current SLA's for both the US and UK markets.

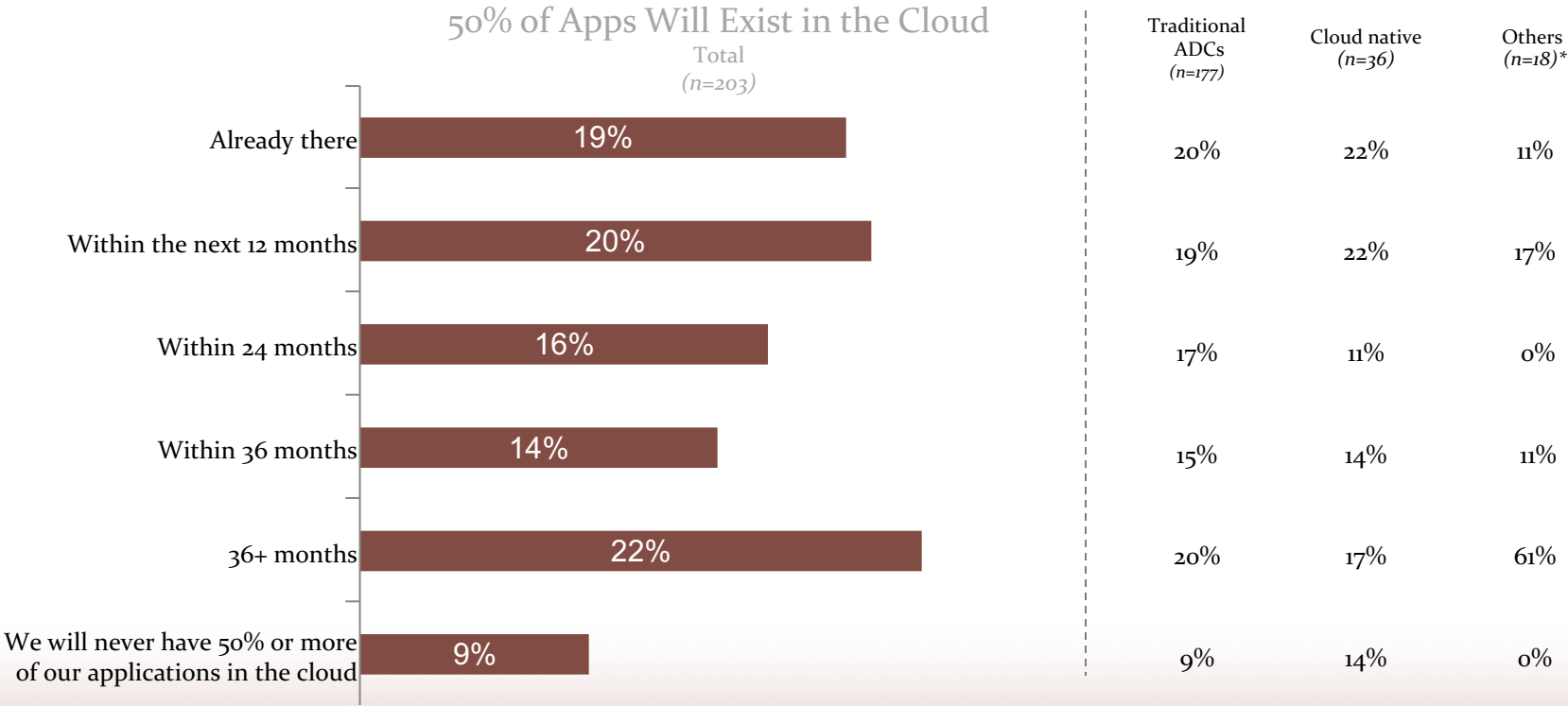
Global Total – US and UK Markets Combined

Areas like “software defined technologies” and cloud native applications are furthest along in the deployment process.



Q1. What is the status of the following technologies in your company?

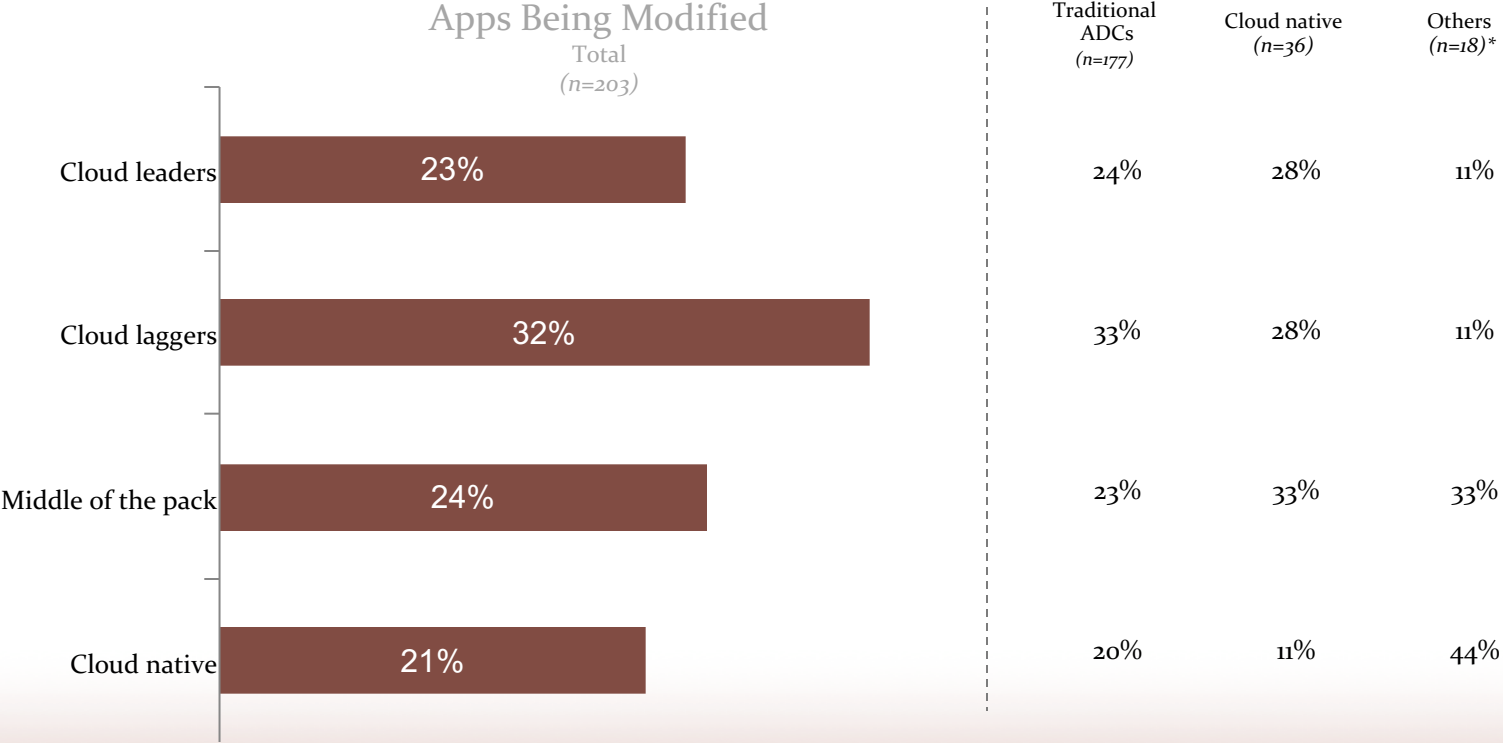
This audience is very diverse with regards to the time anticipated to get apps in the cloud. Roughly 20% don't even anticipate ever getting more than 50% in a cloud environment.



Q17. At what point will you have 50% of your applications in the cloud?

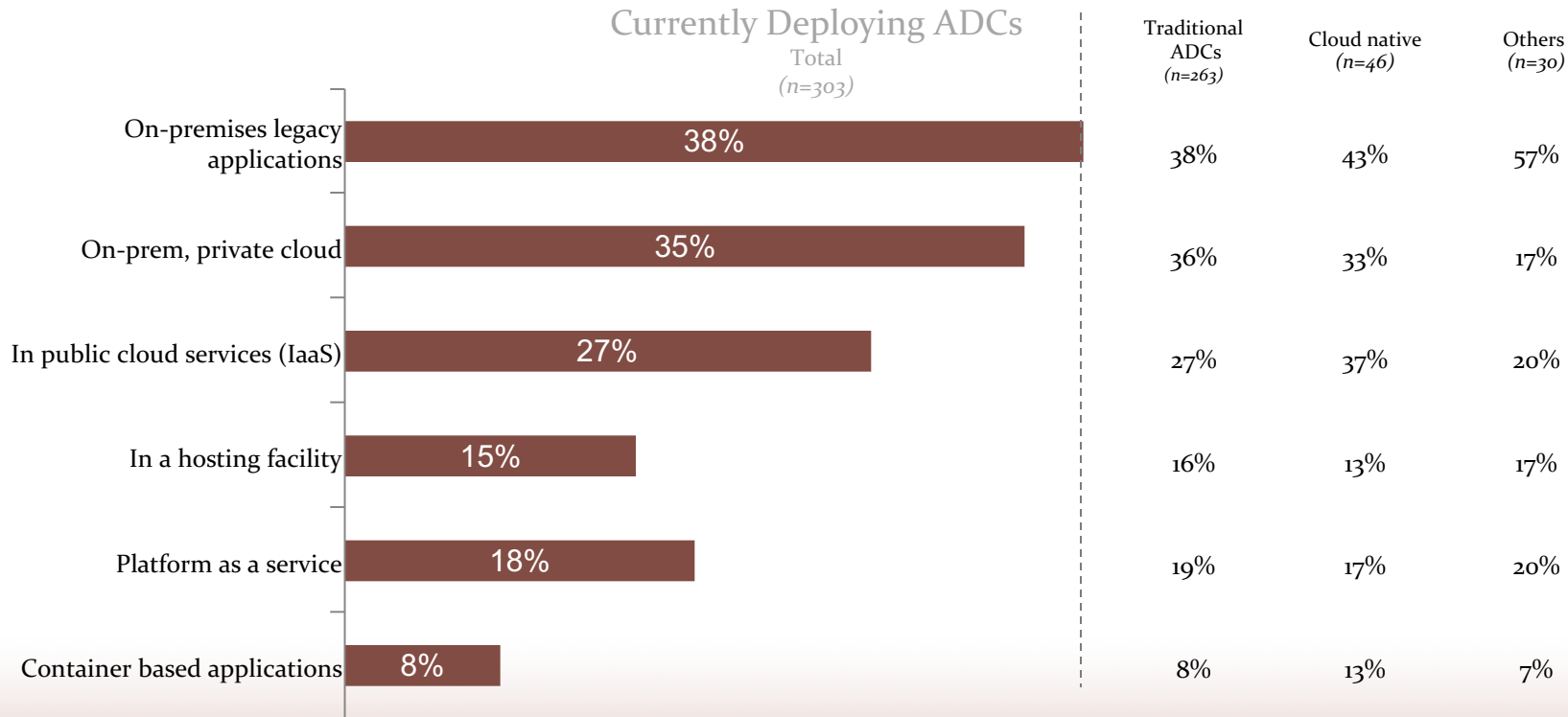
* Caution: Small sample size

Although ‘cloud laggards’ are identified with a slightly greater frequency, the applications that are being lifted and shifted, modified and replaced is scattered with no “clear” area of focus.

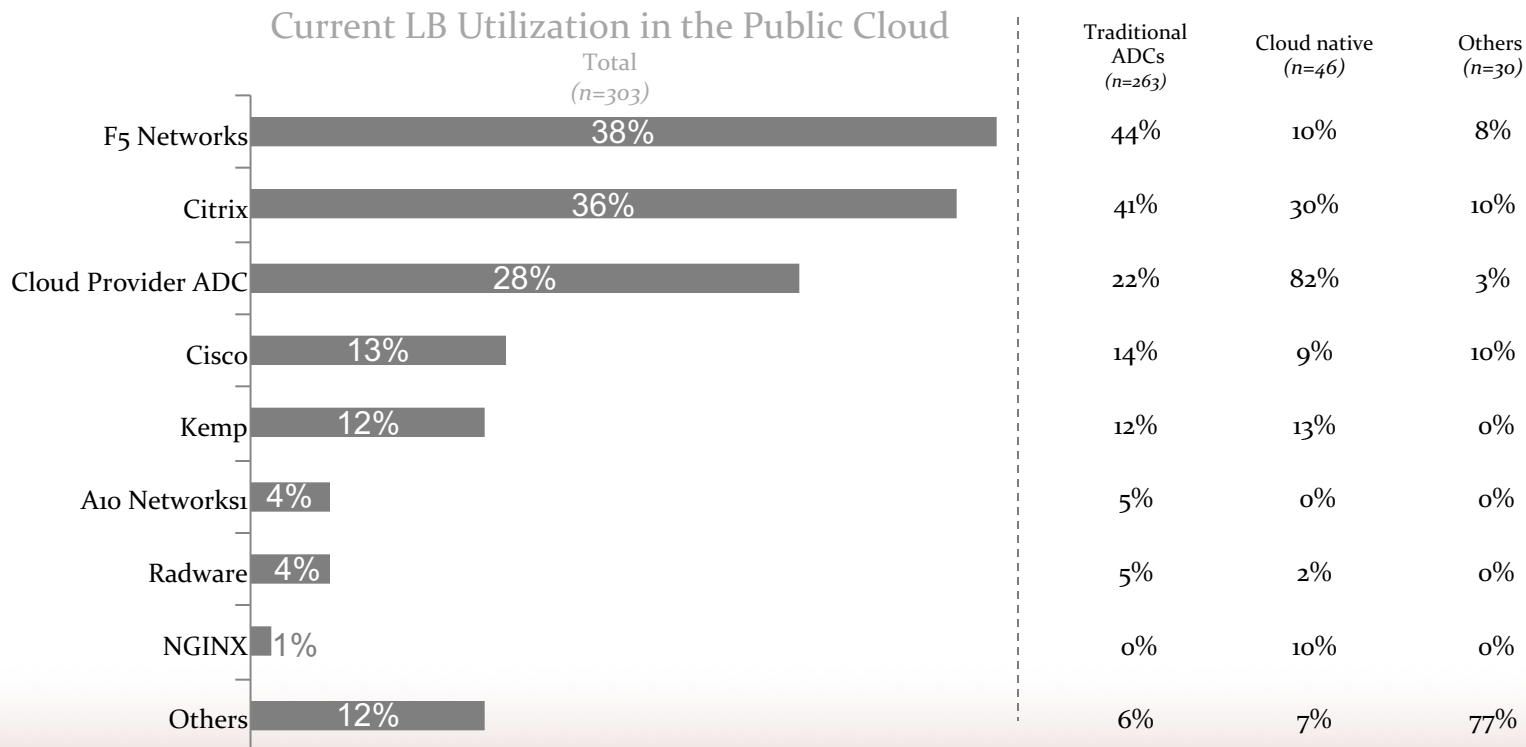


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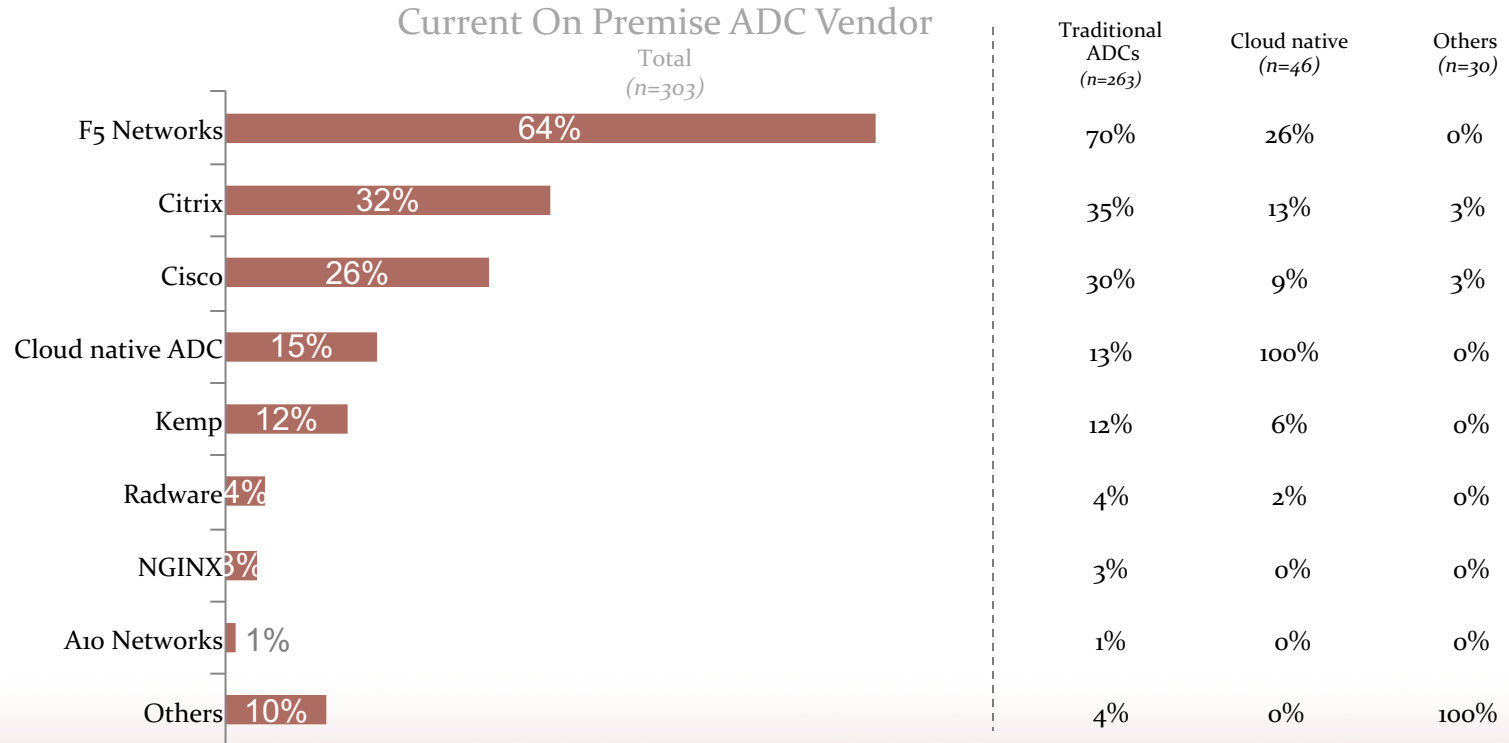
Most ADC deployment resides with on-premise legacy applications or on-premise private clouds.



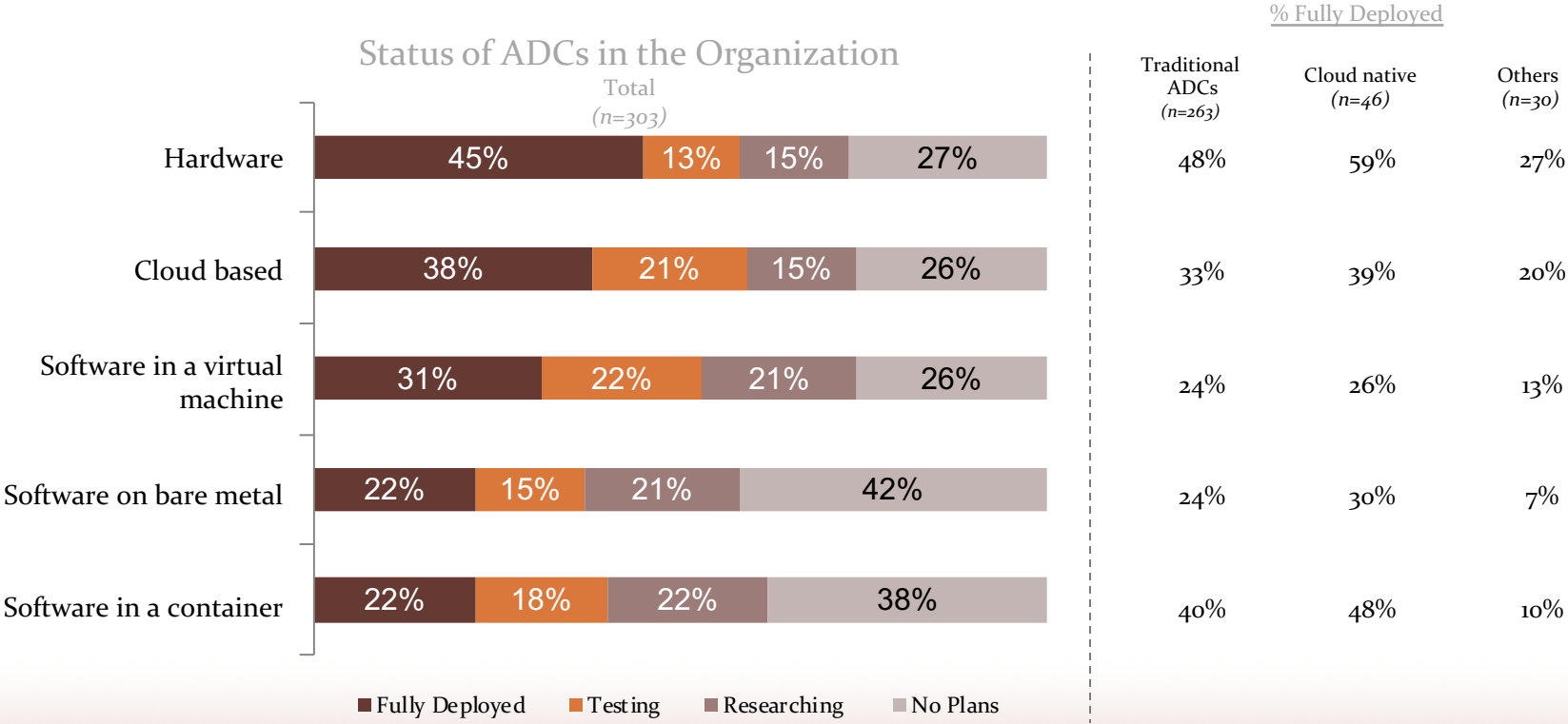
Among those currently utilizing a public cloud infrastructure, F5 Networks and Citrix are most often identified as the LBs of choice.



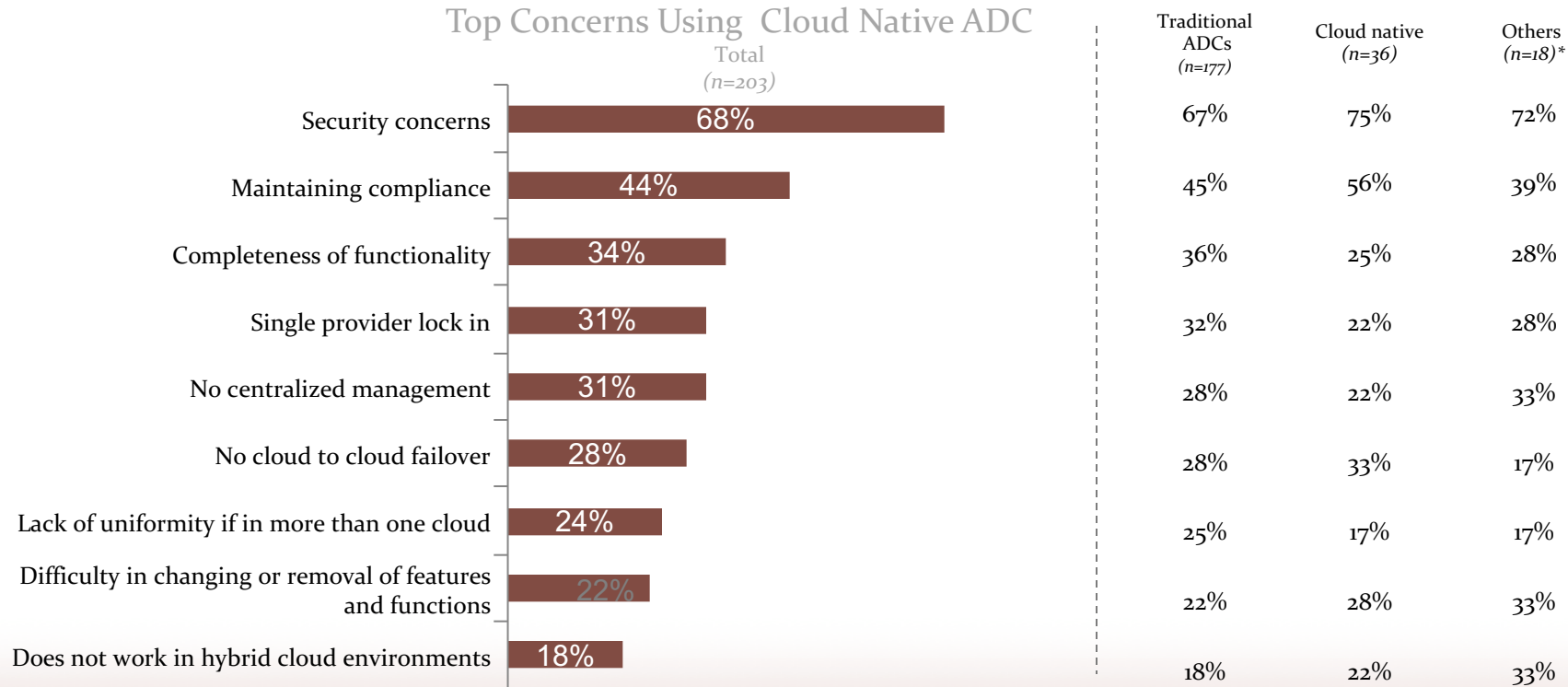
A majority of respondents identify F5 Networks and Citrix as the current vendors for on premise/ private cloud ADC.



Hardware ADCs are furthest along in the deployment process when compared to other areas in the organization.

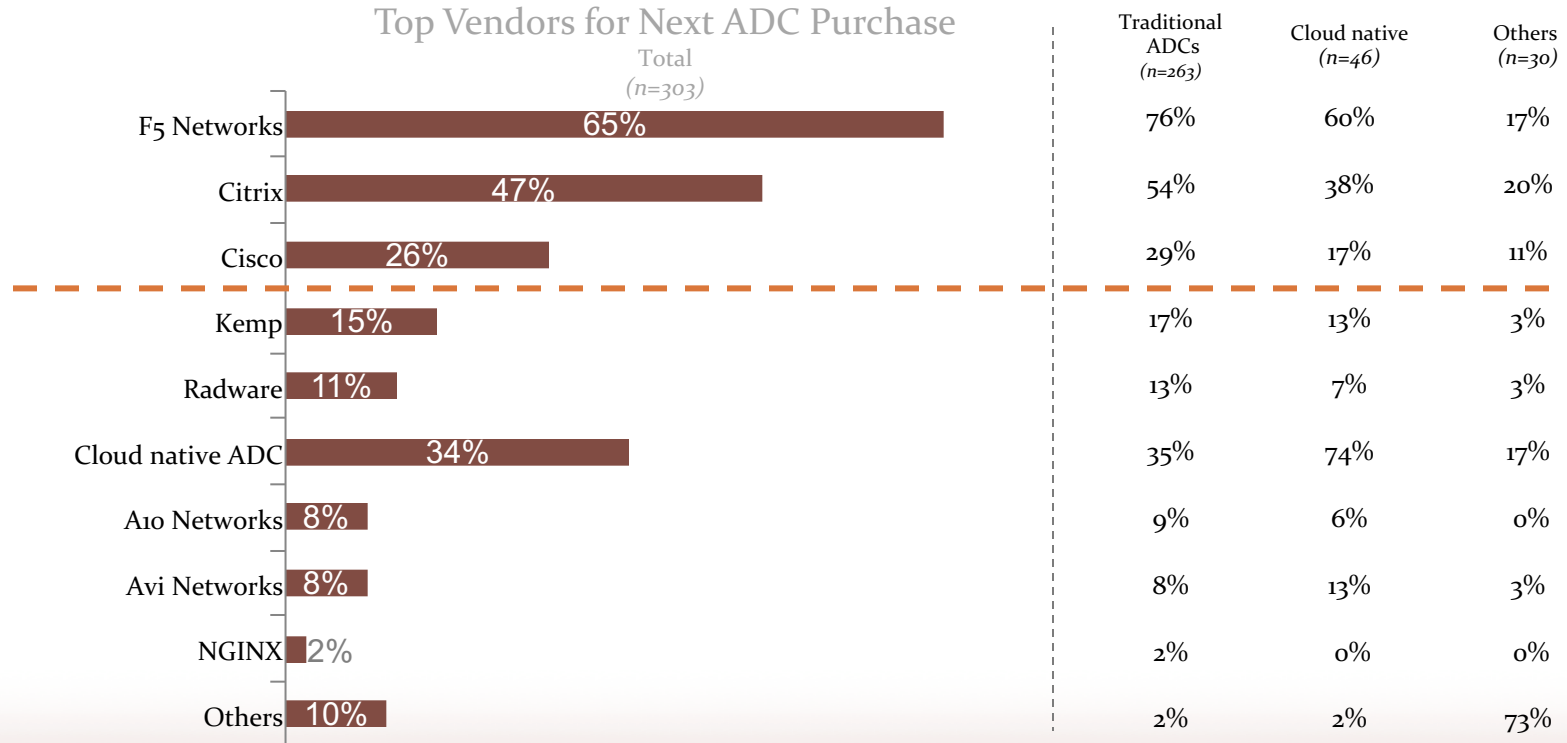


While many concerns are identified, security related issues are the most frequently mentioned among this audience.

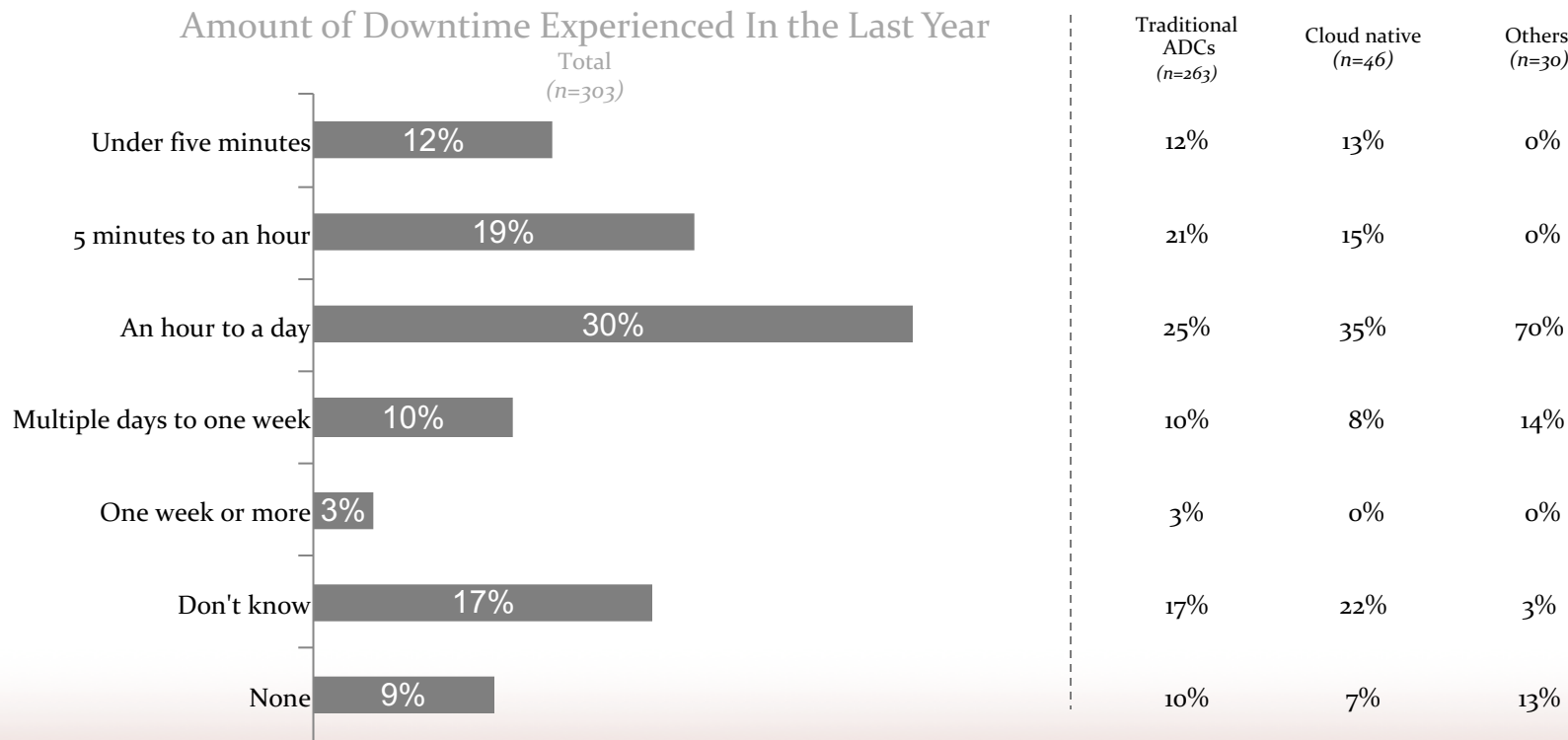


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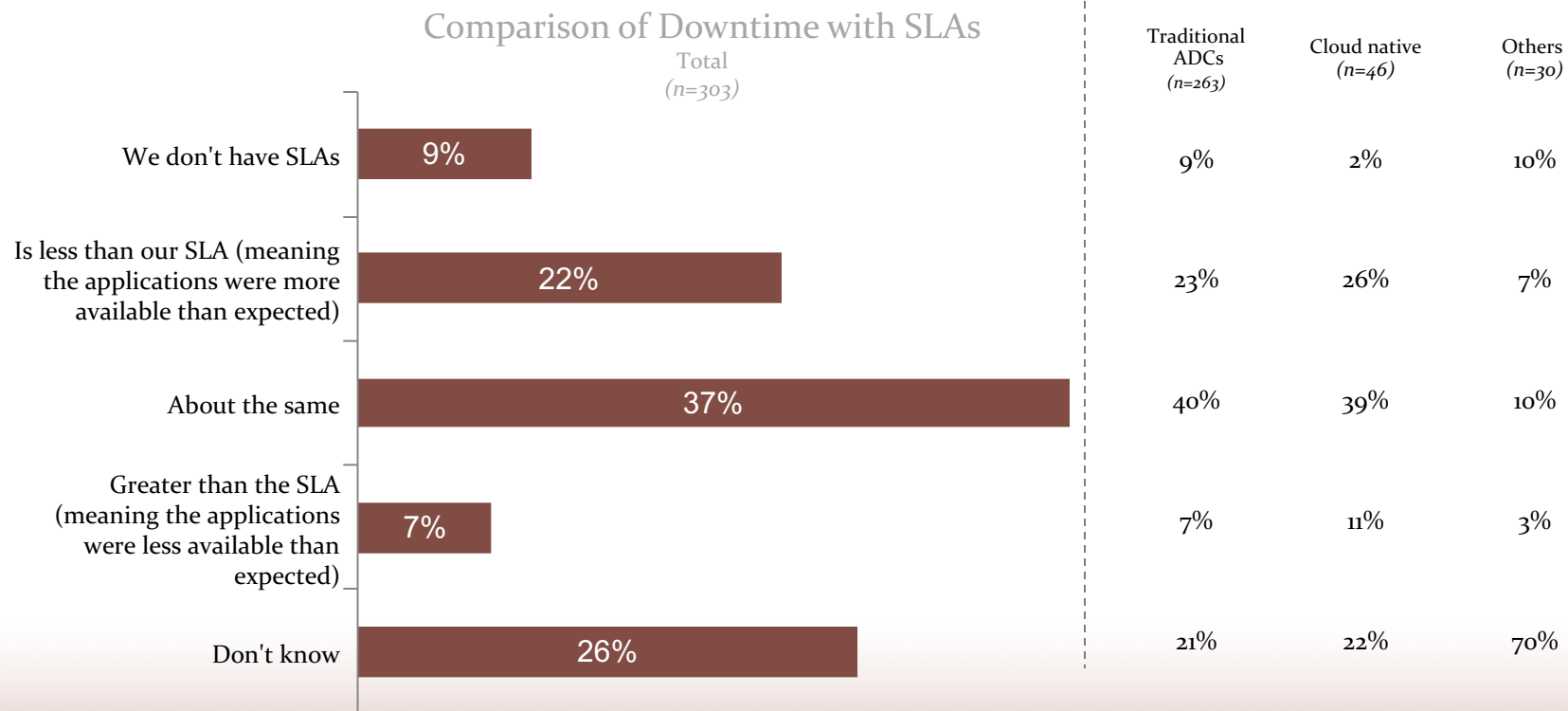
When considering vendors for future ADC purchases, Cisco, F5 Networks, and Citrix clearly stand above others when asked for “top vendor consideration”.



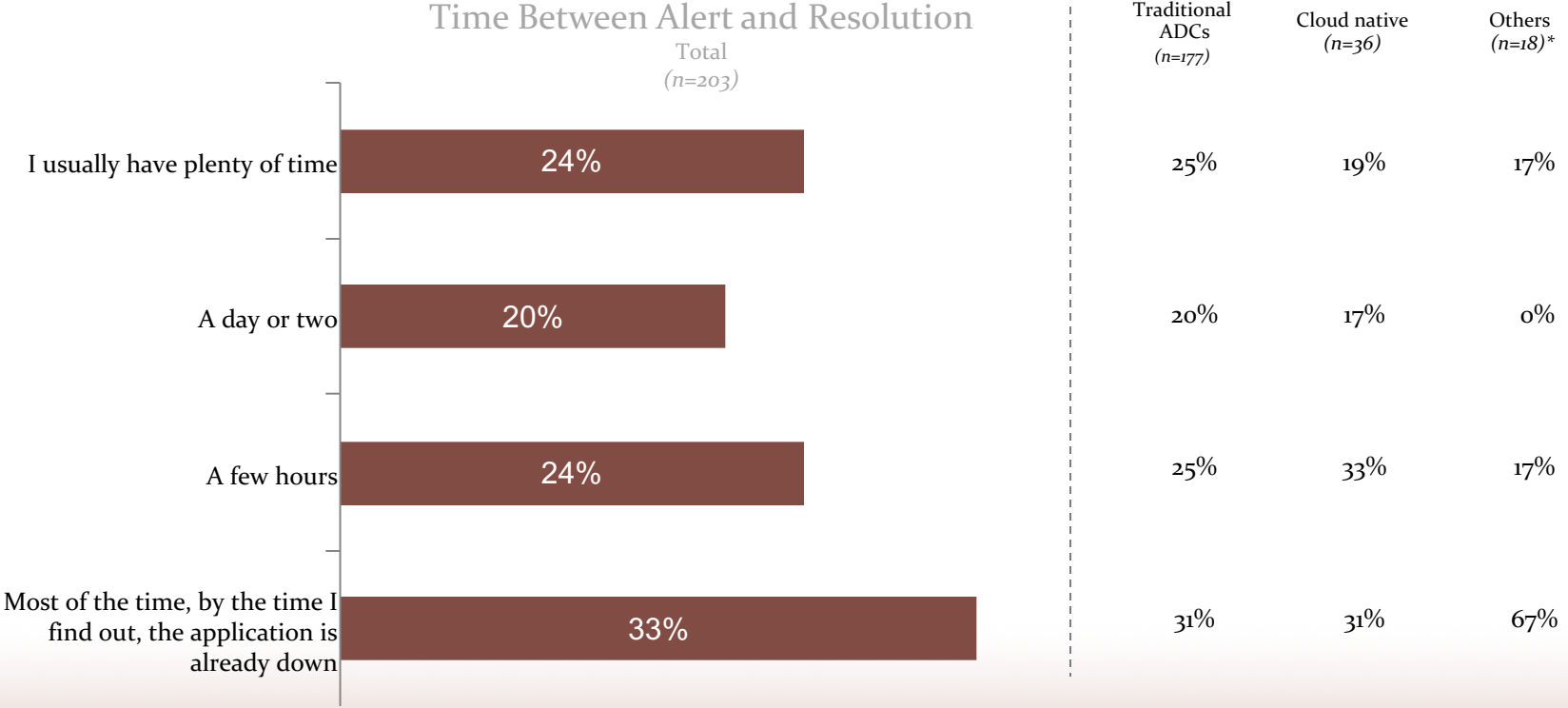
Downtime varies across this audience, with close to one-third unsure of how much time was truly experienced in the previous year.



When comparing downtime with SLAs, responses varied with close to one-quarter unsure of how the two truly compared.

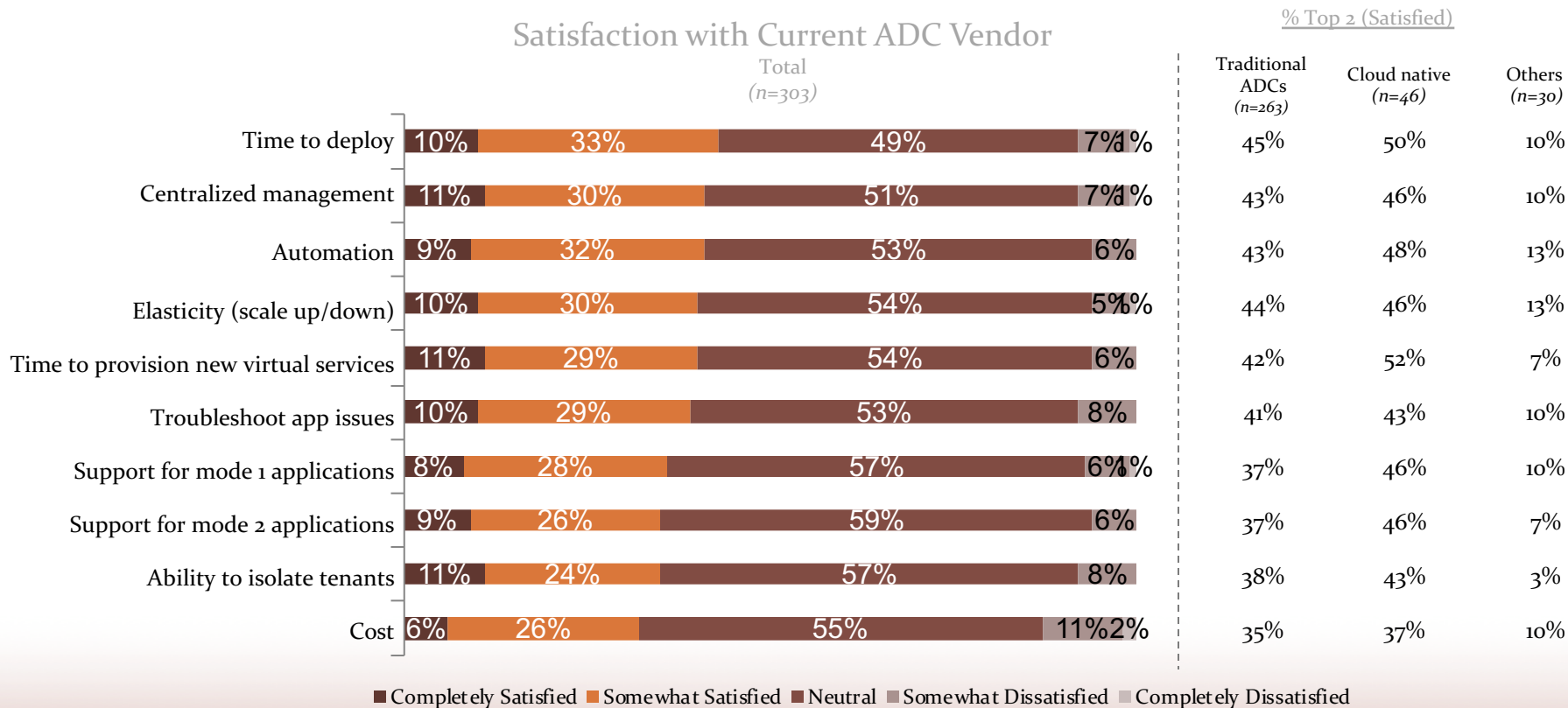


Time between alert and resolution is varied across this market, suggesting that each situation is unique and varied depending on the circumstances.

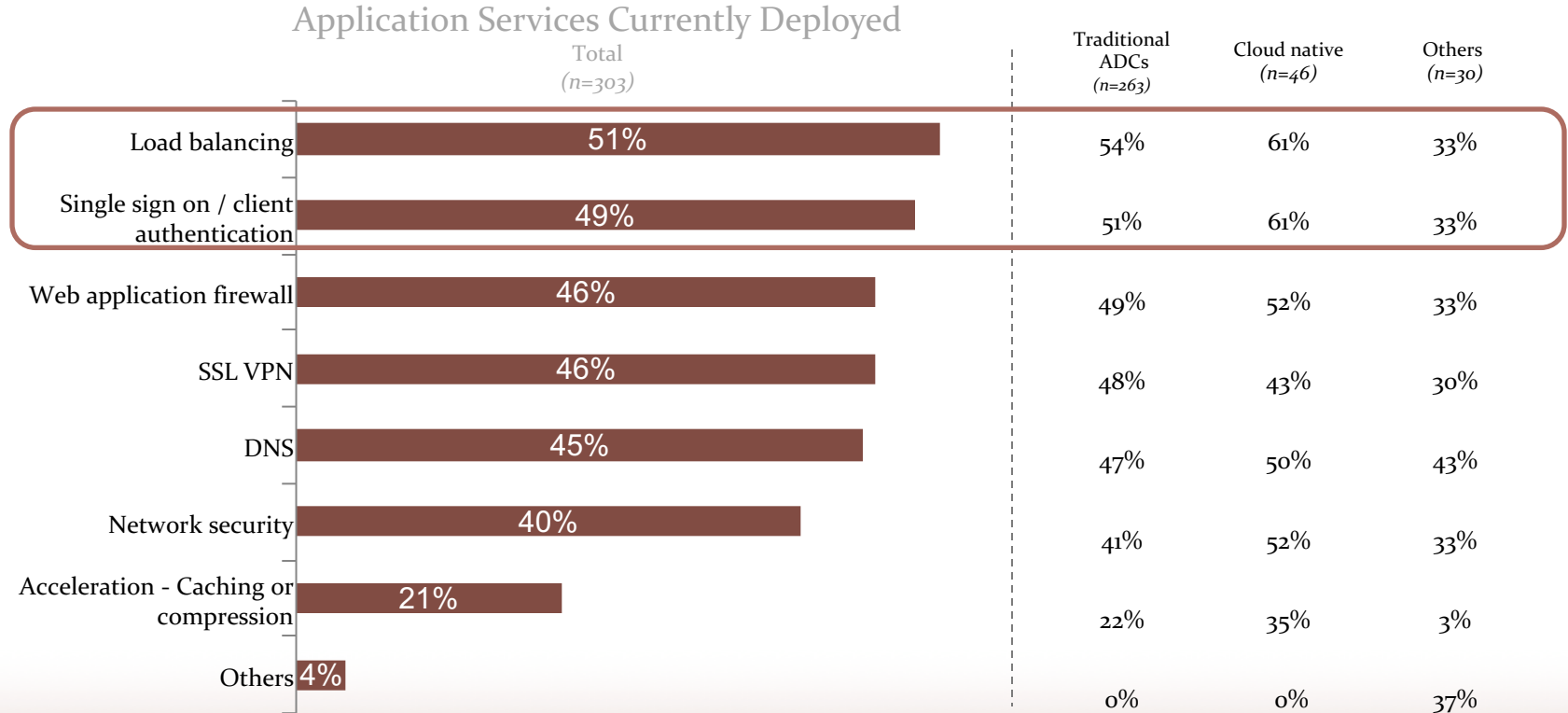


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Across the various attributes tested, satisfaction with current ADC vendors is generally satisfied with the majority stating “neutral” responses.

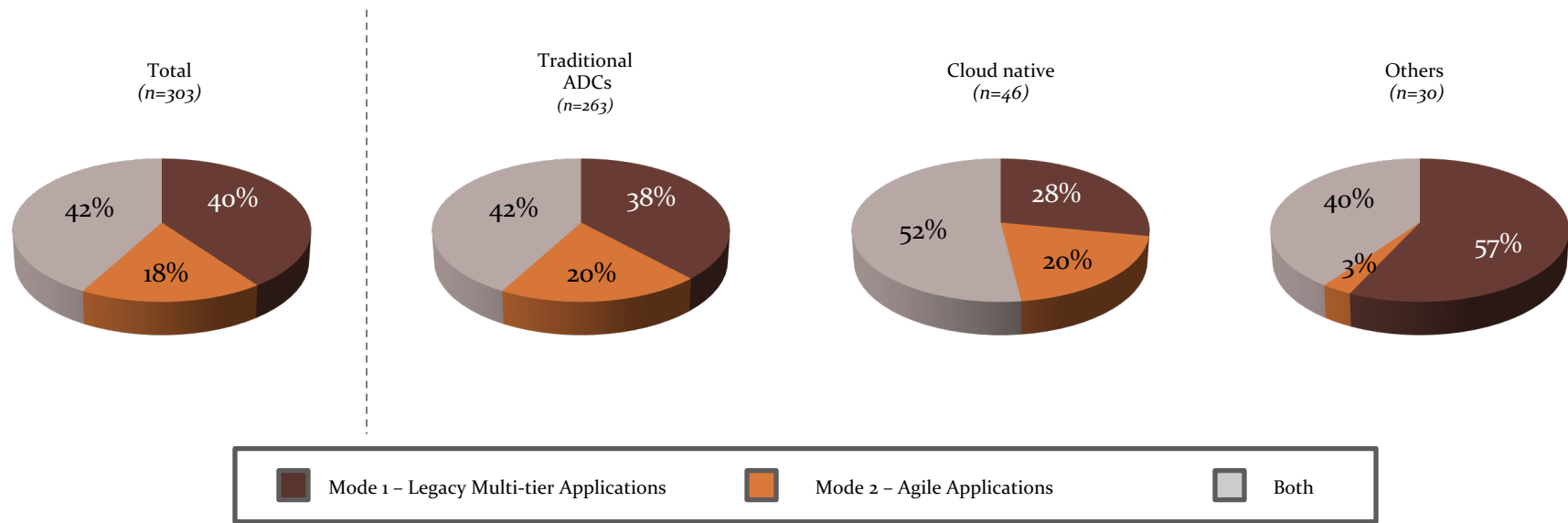


‘Load balancing’ and ‘single sign on/client authentication’ are the most commonly identified application services currently being deployed.

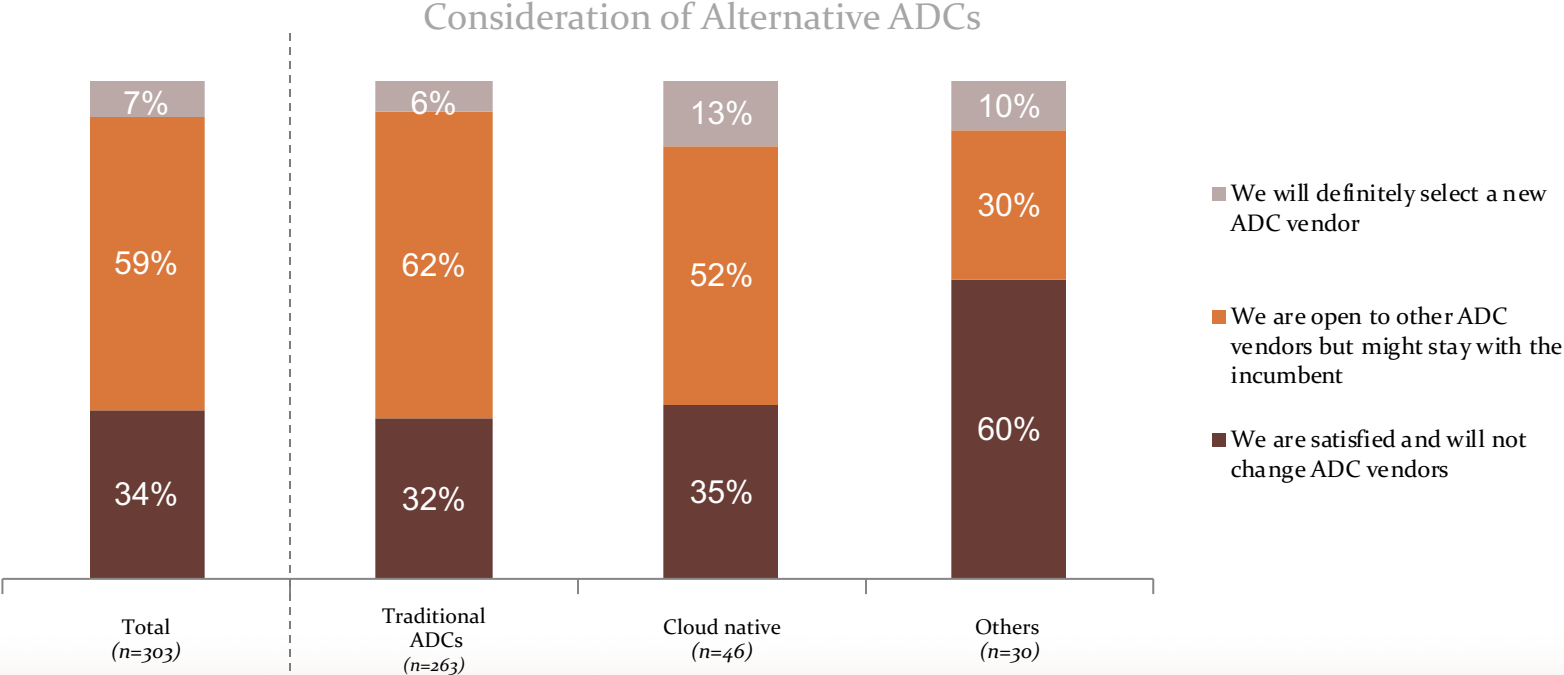


Both legacy multi-tier and agile applications are identified as being supported equally with ADCs.

Applications Currently Supporting with ADCs

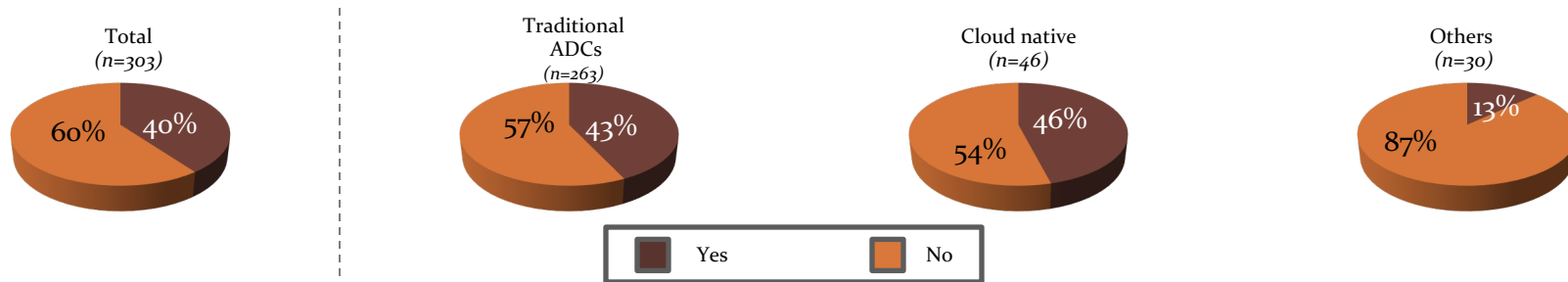


While some indicated being satisfied and will not consider changing ADC vendors, over half acknowledge they would be at least open to considering a change from the incumbent.



Most state they do not have the ability to automate configuration changes to the ADC. Among those that do, Vendor Scripting and Cisco NSO are the most commonly utilized tools.

Ability to Automate Configuration Changes to an ADC



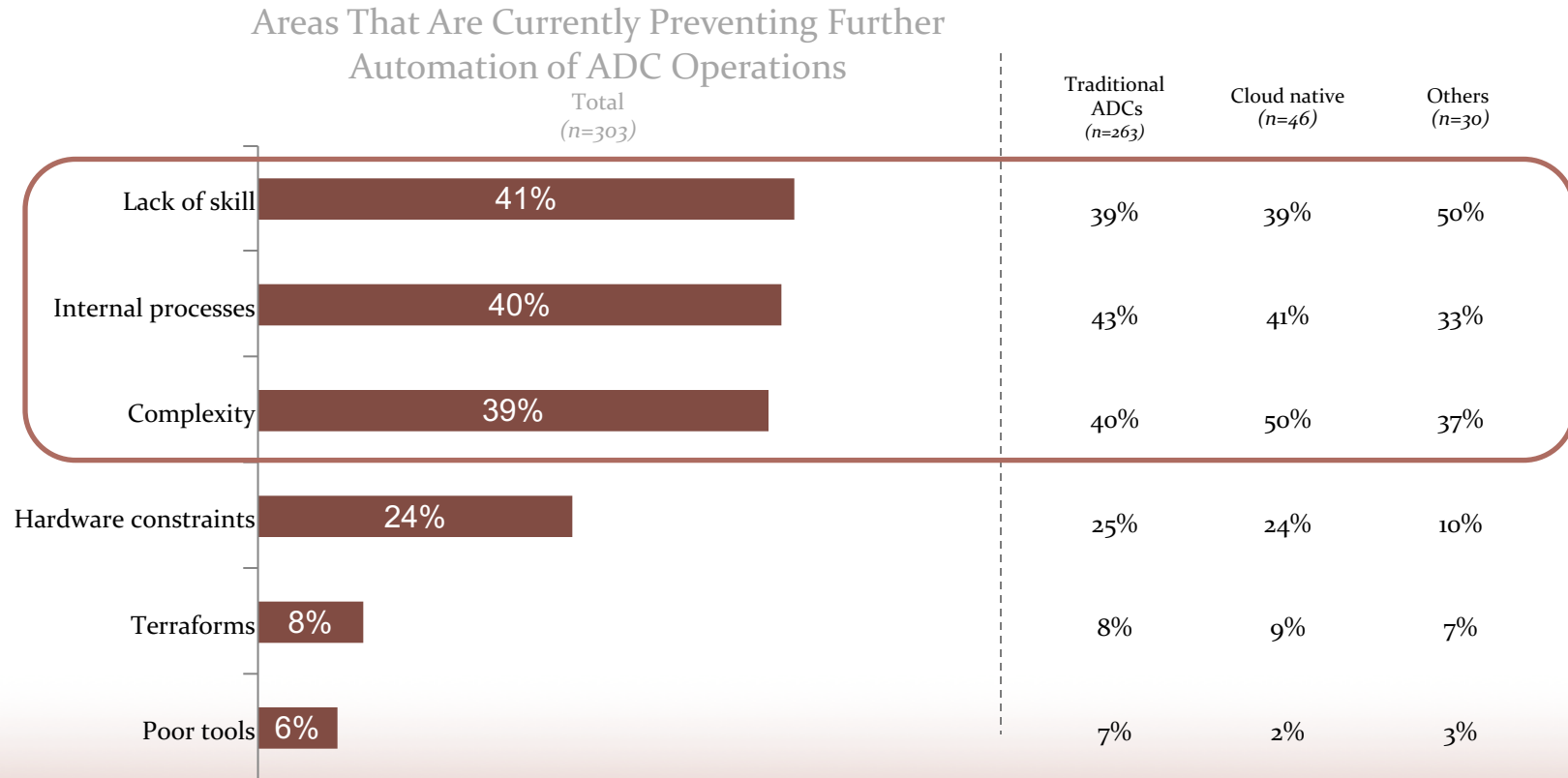
Automation Tools Utilized



Q10. Do you have the ability to automate configuration changes to an ADC?

Q11. What automation tools / frameworks do you use?

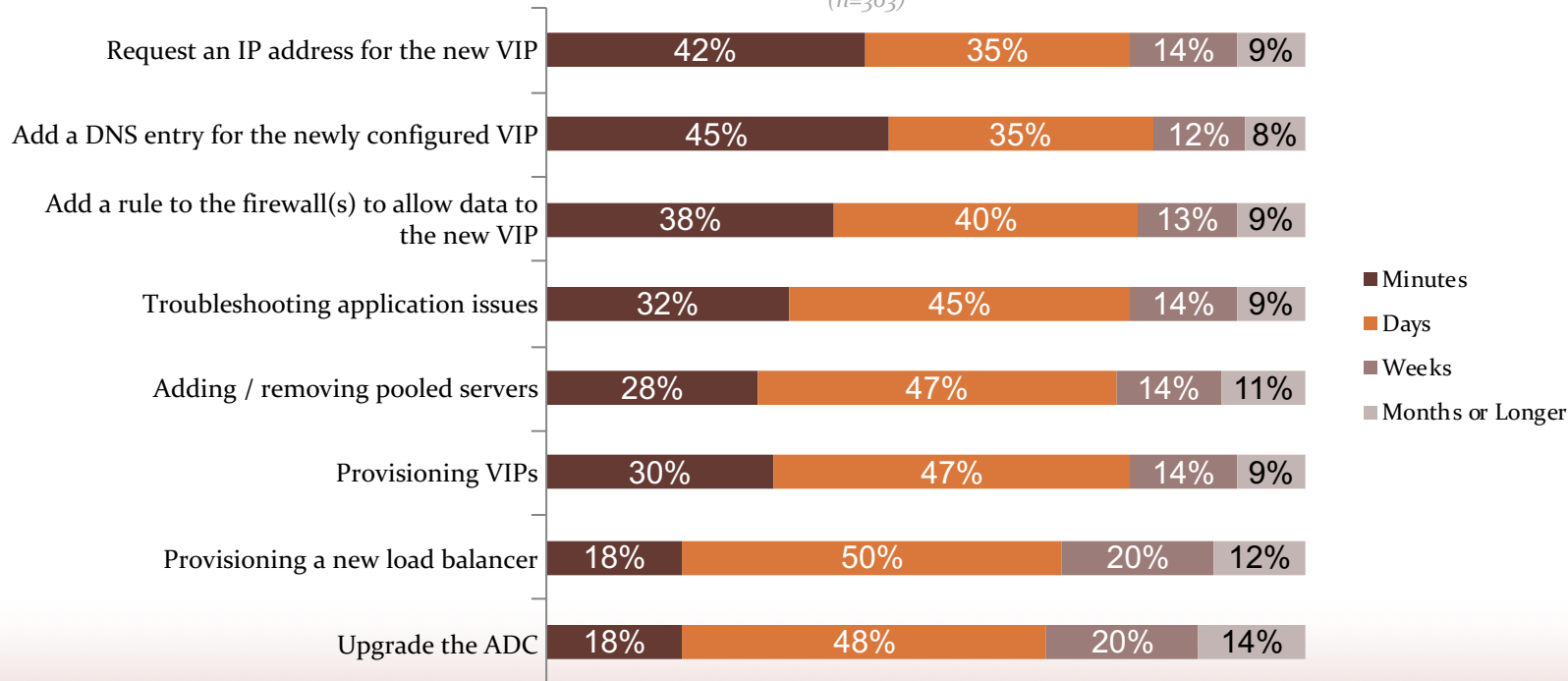
Lack of skill, internal processes, and complexity are most often identified as the greatest barriers preventing further automation on ADC operations.



For many of the tasks performed on ADC, most can be addressed in minutes or days – Adding DNS entries and requests for IP addresses require the least amount of time.

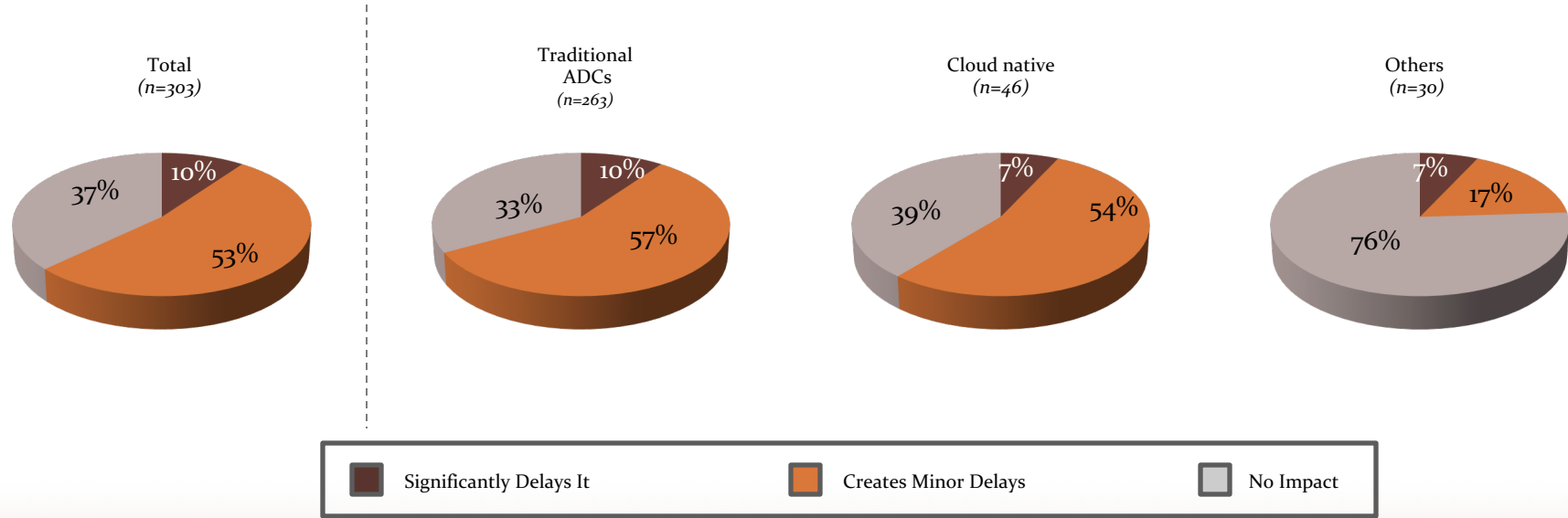
Time Required to Perform Tasks on ADC

Total
(n=303)

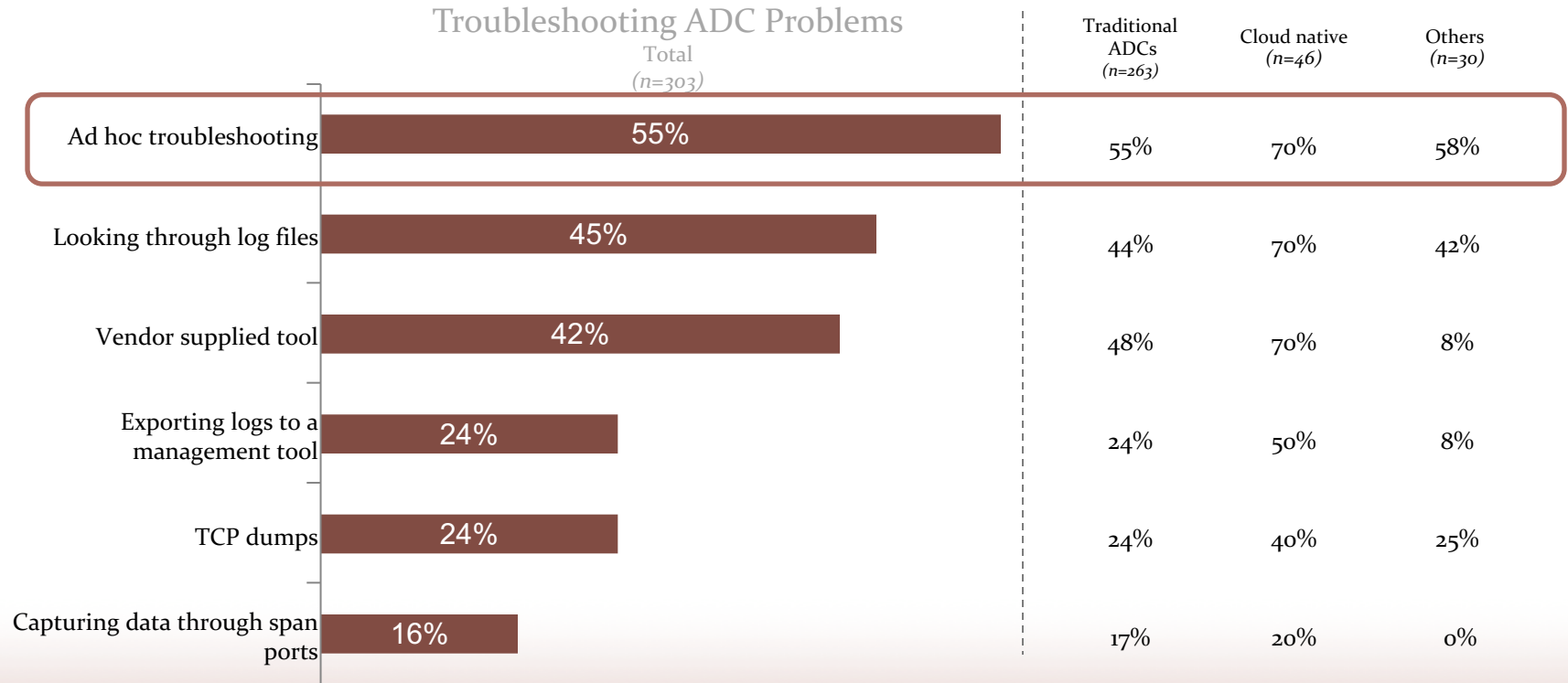


For most, ADC changes have limited or no impact on application roll out and only account for minor delays.

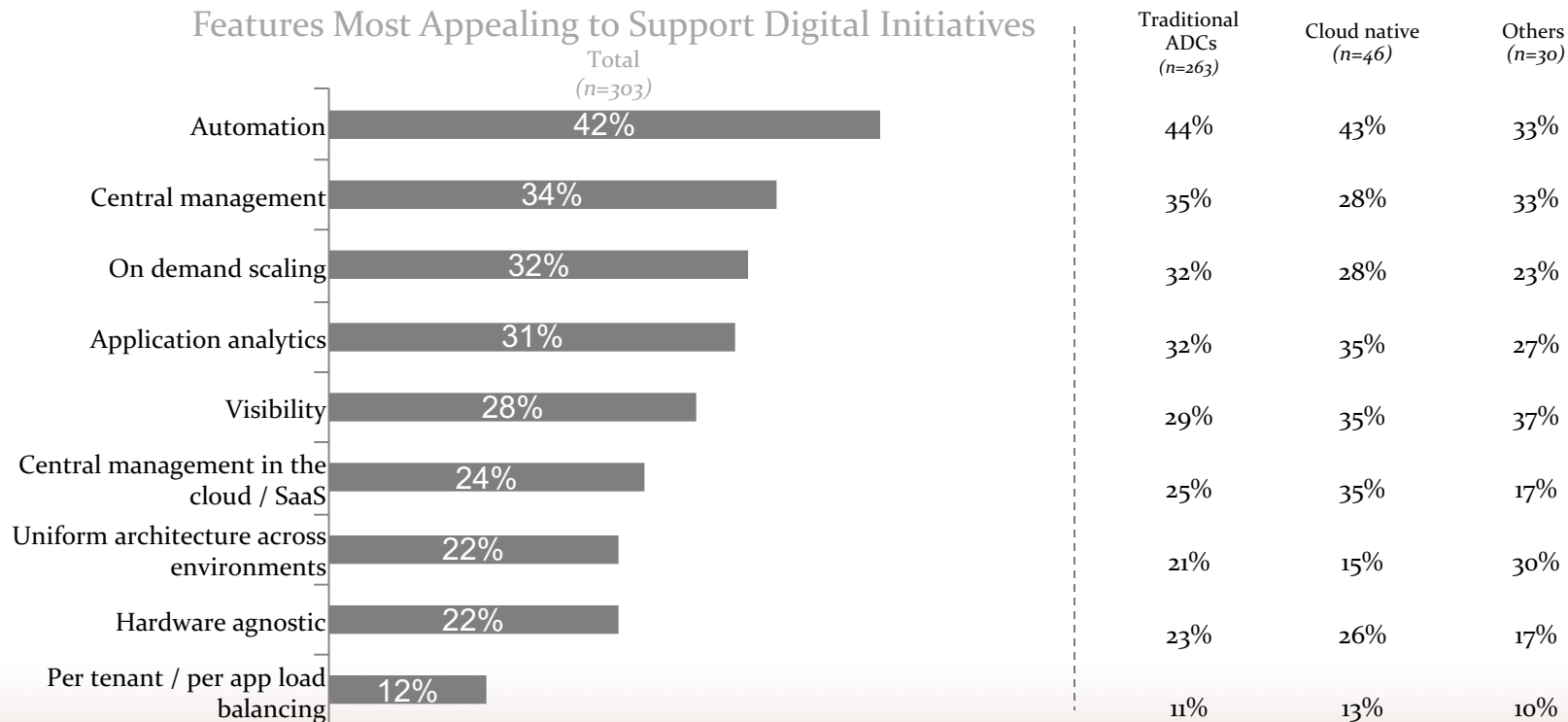
Speed of ADC Changes Impact on Application Roll Out



For more than half of this respondent base, ad hoc troubleshooting is the most common problem being addressed.

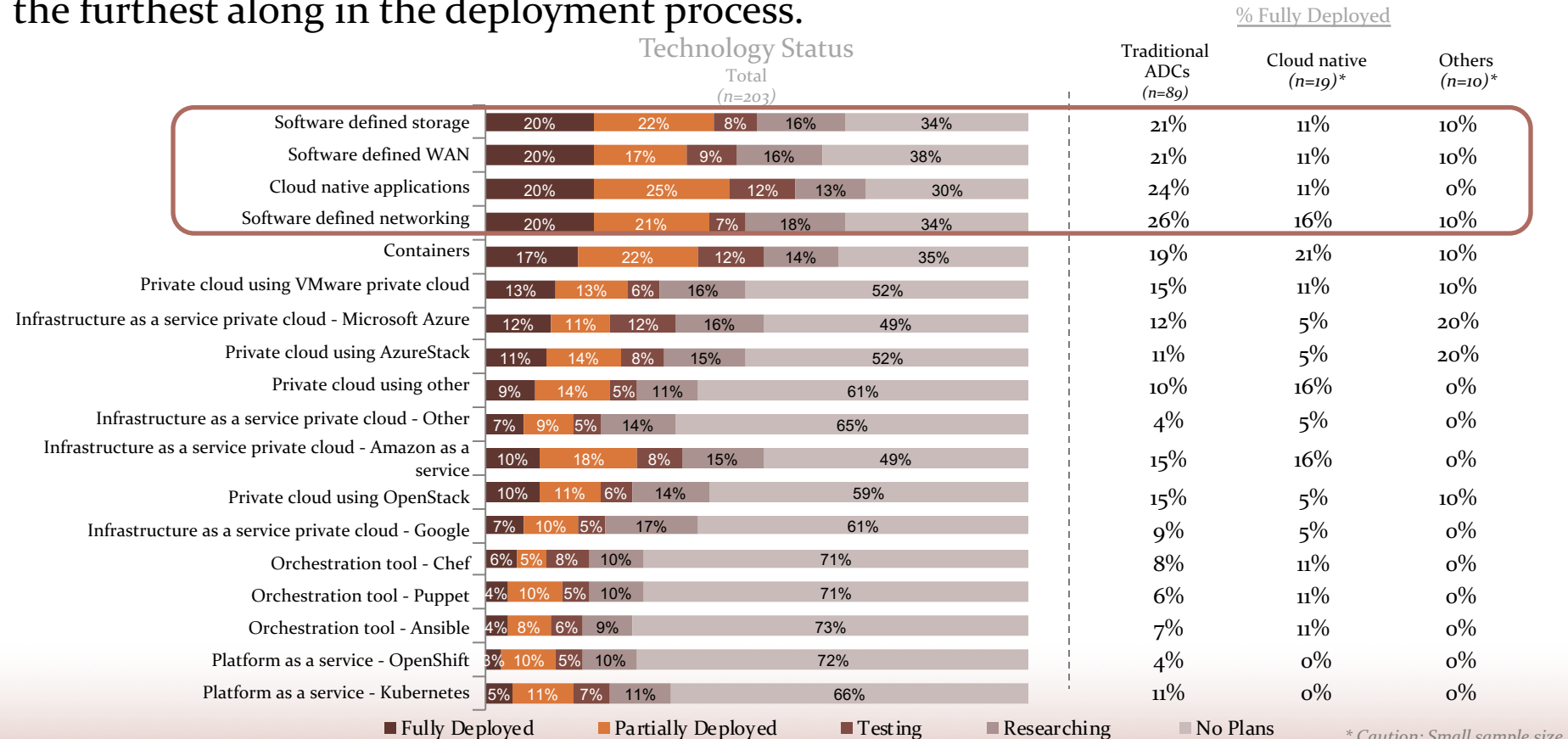


Automation and central management are commonly identified as the features that are most appealing to support digital initiatives.



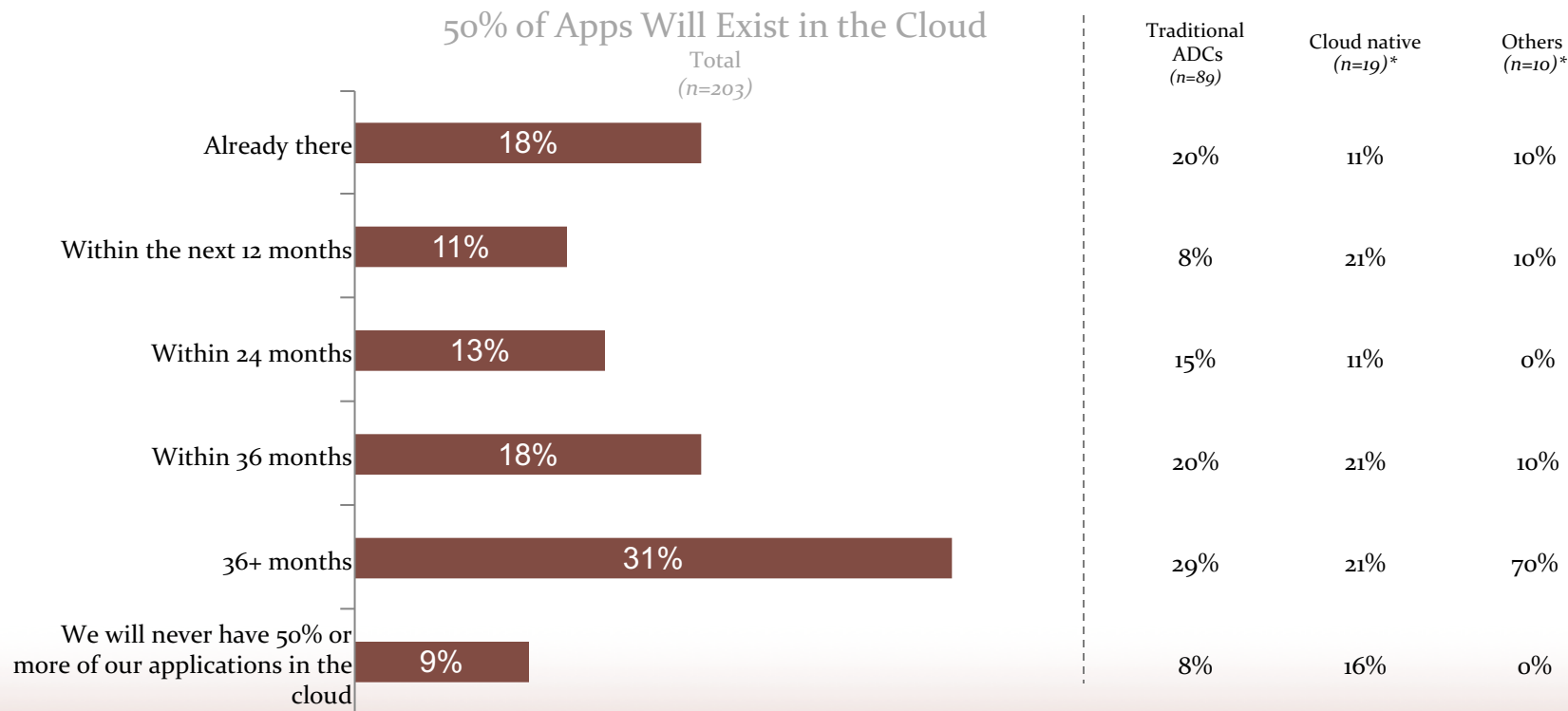
US Market Segment

Areas like “software defined technologies” and cloud native applications continue to be the furthest along in the deployment process.



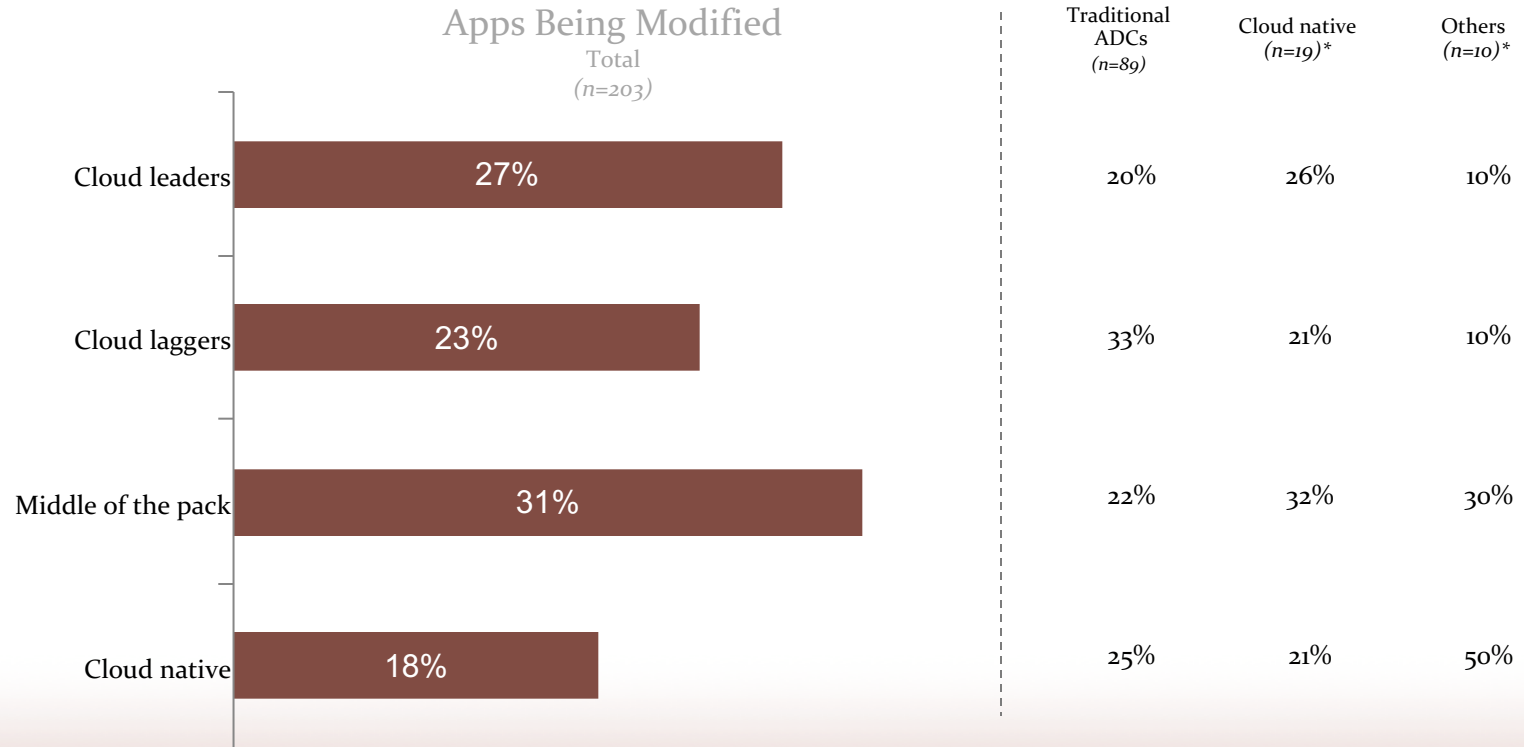
Q1. What is the status of the following technologies in your company?

The majority of this market does NOT expect to ever have 50% or more of their applications residing in the cloud.



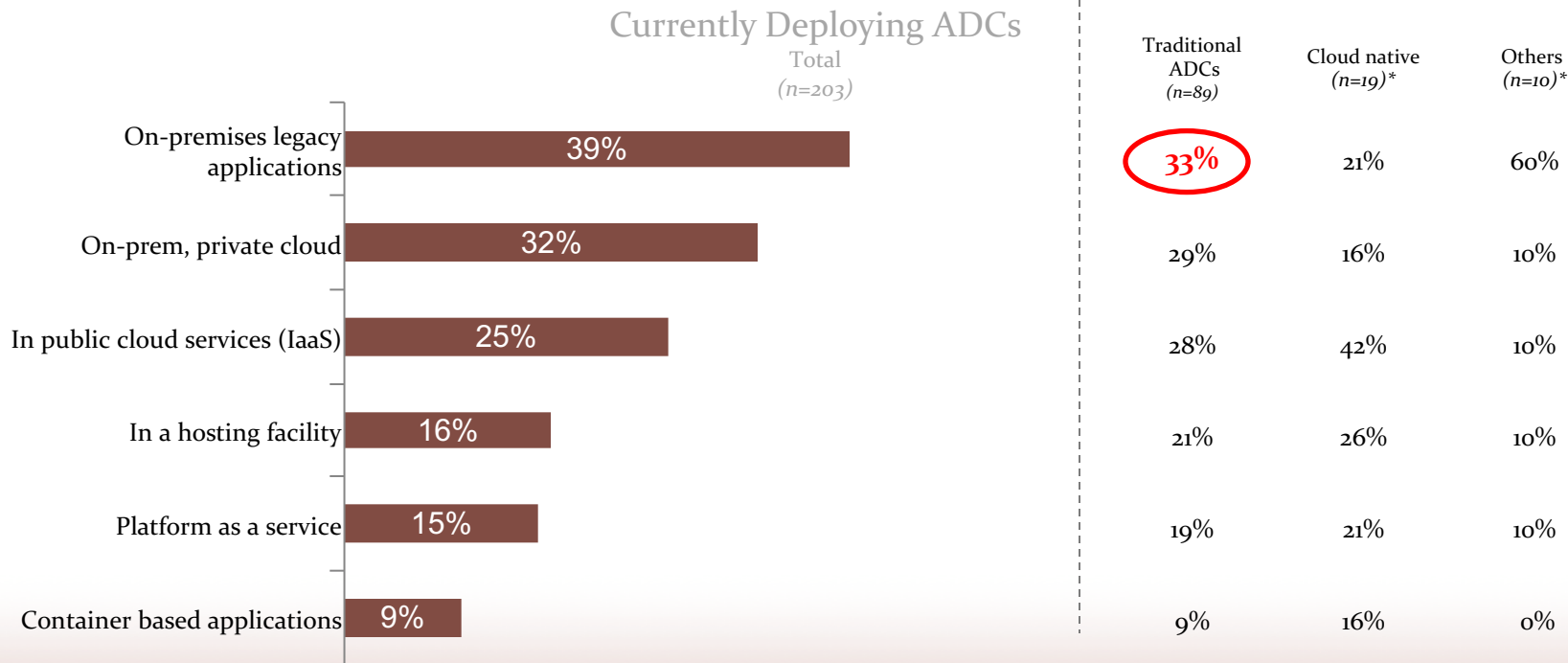
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Within this market, the applications that are being lifted and shifted, modified and replaced is scattered with no clear area of focus.



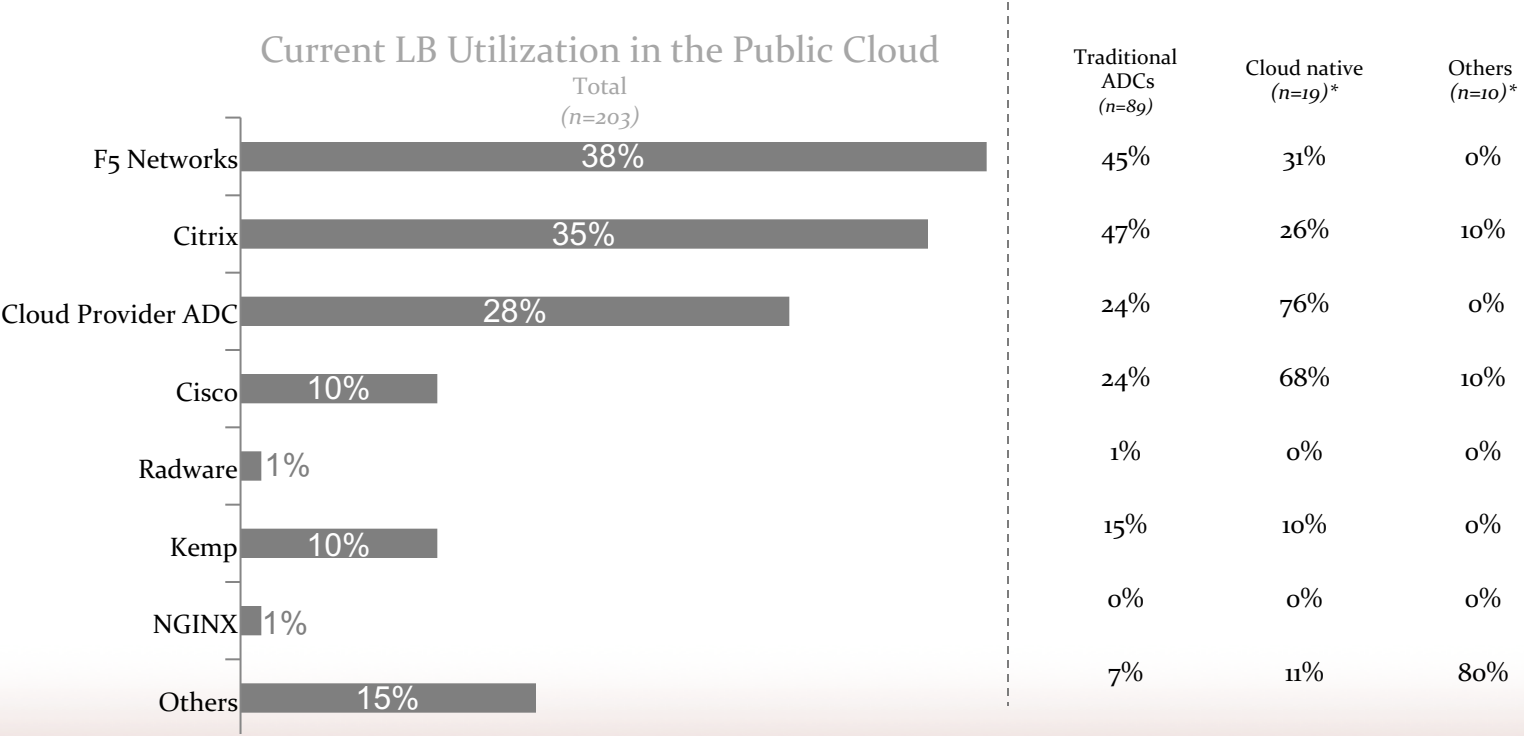
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The majority of respondents in this market indicate ADC deployment resides with on-premise legacy applications. For those with traditional ADCs, on-premise legacy apps are significantly lower when compared to last year's research.



Figures in **RED** indicate a statistically significant decrease when compared to the prior wave.
 Figures in **GREEN** indicate a statistically significant increase when compared to the prior wave.

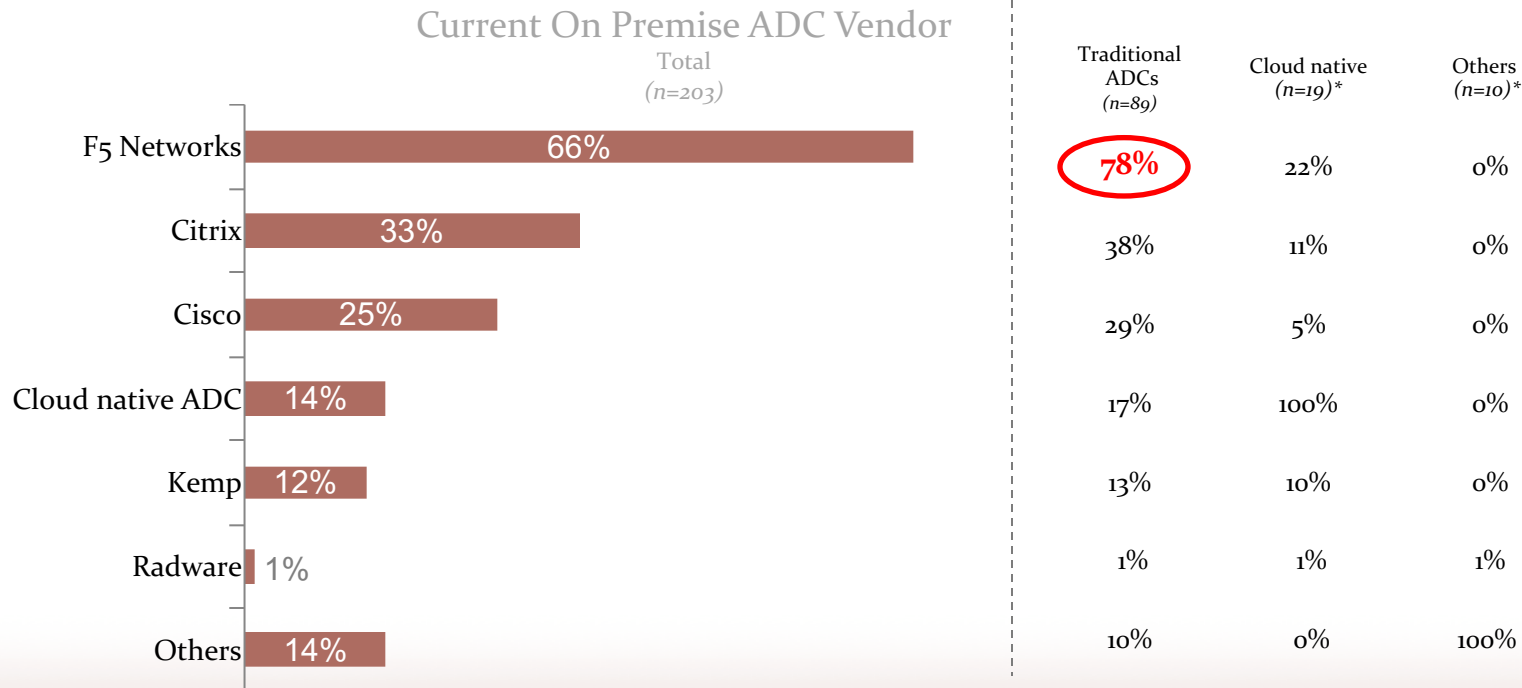
Among those currently utilizing a public cloud infrastructure, F5 is most often identified as the LB of choice.



Q2a If your company is using any public cloud infrastructure, what LBs are being used in the public cloud?

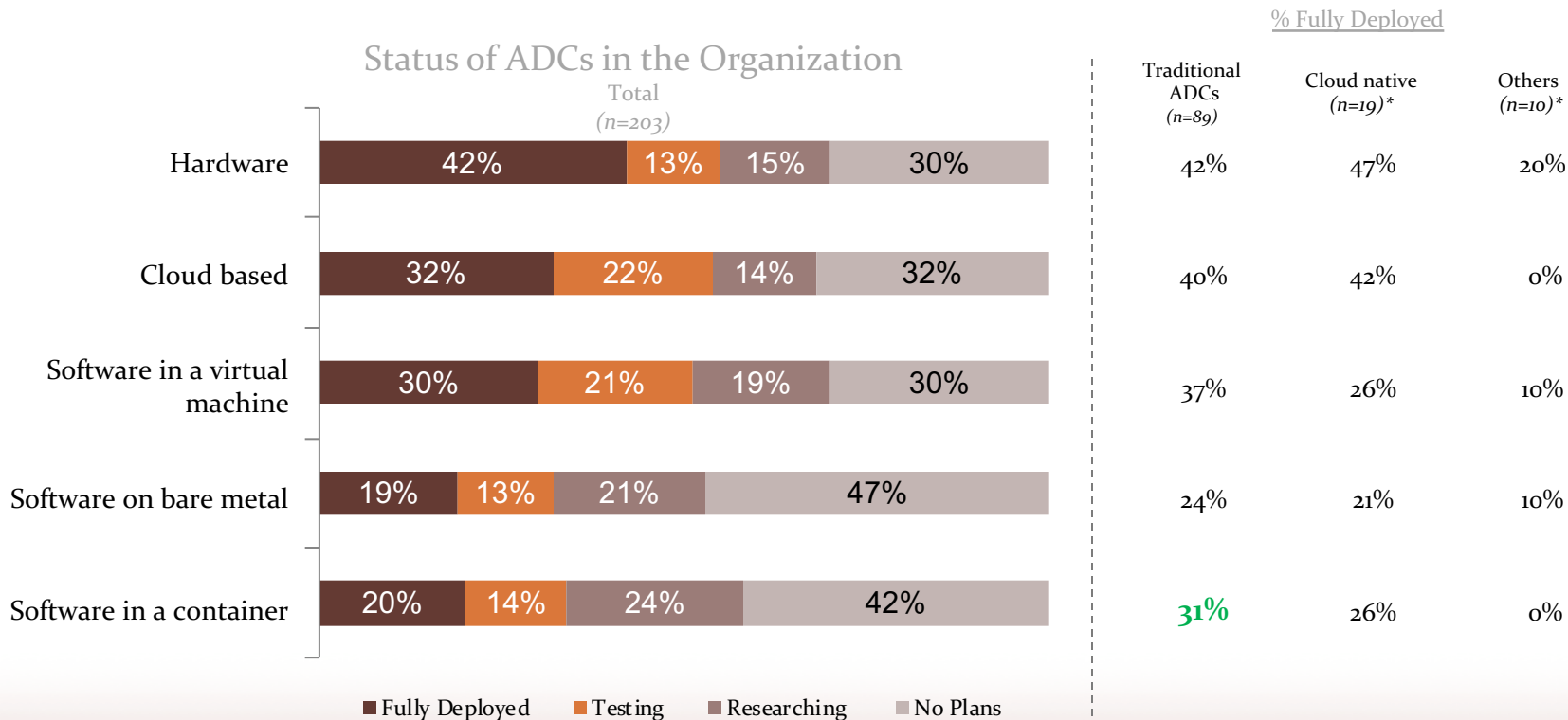
Figures in **RED** indicate a statistically significant decrease when compared to the prior wave.
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A majority of respondents identify Citrix and F5 Networks as the vendors for on premise/ private cloud ADC. However, those using traditional ADCs, indicate a significant decrease in Cisco utilization in this space when compared to the previous wave.



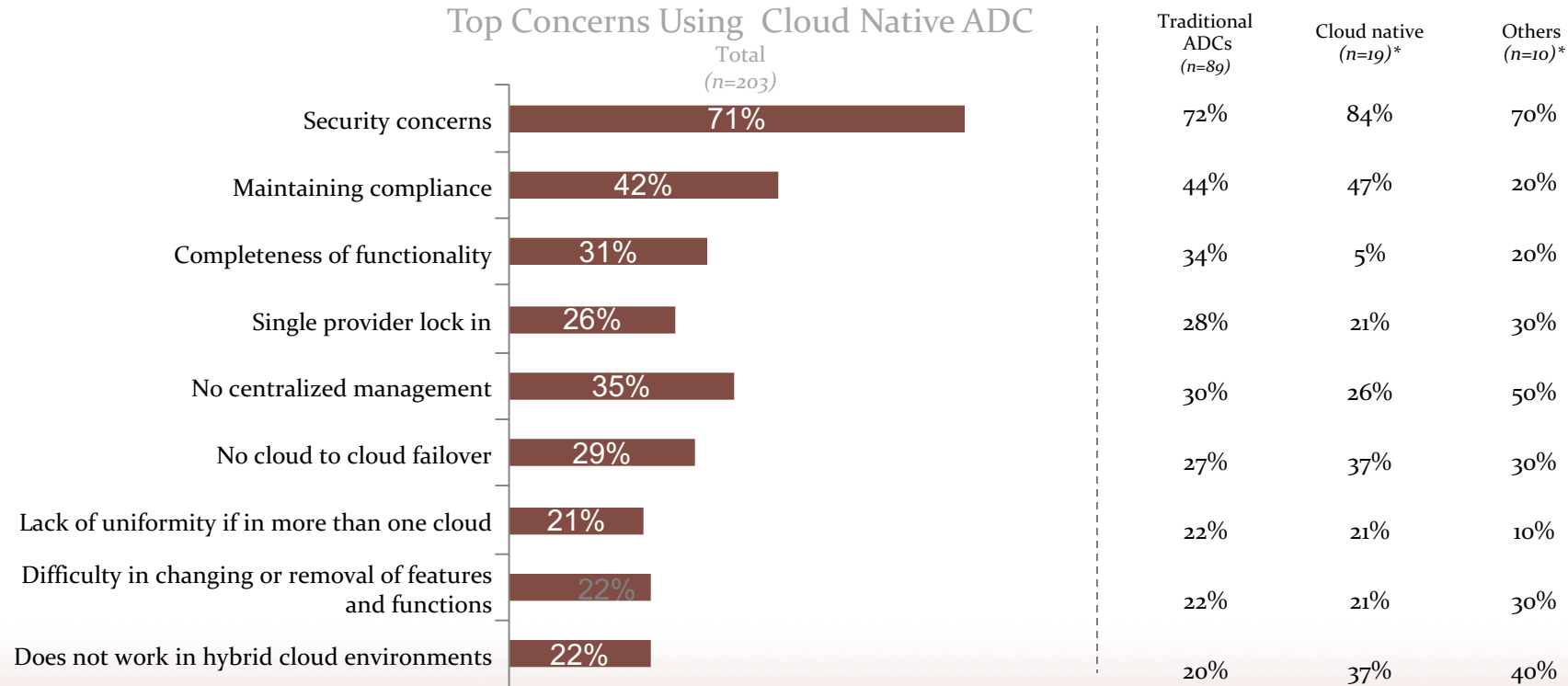
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Hardware ADCs are furthest along in the deployment process when compared to other ADCs in the organization.



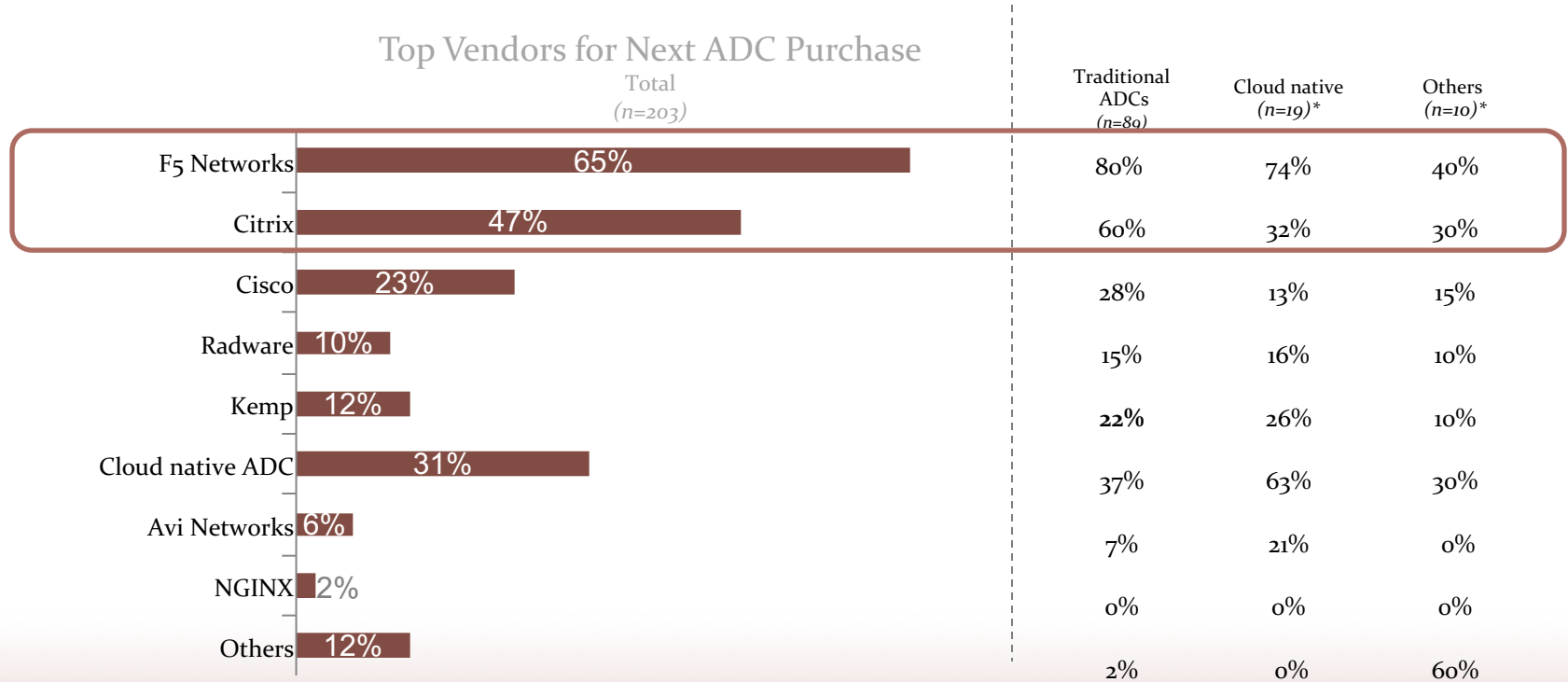
Figures in **RED** indicate a statistically significant decrease when compared to the prior wave.
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Security related issues were most commonly identified as the top concern with regards to utilizing cloud native ADC.



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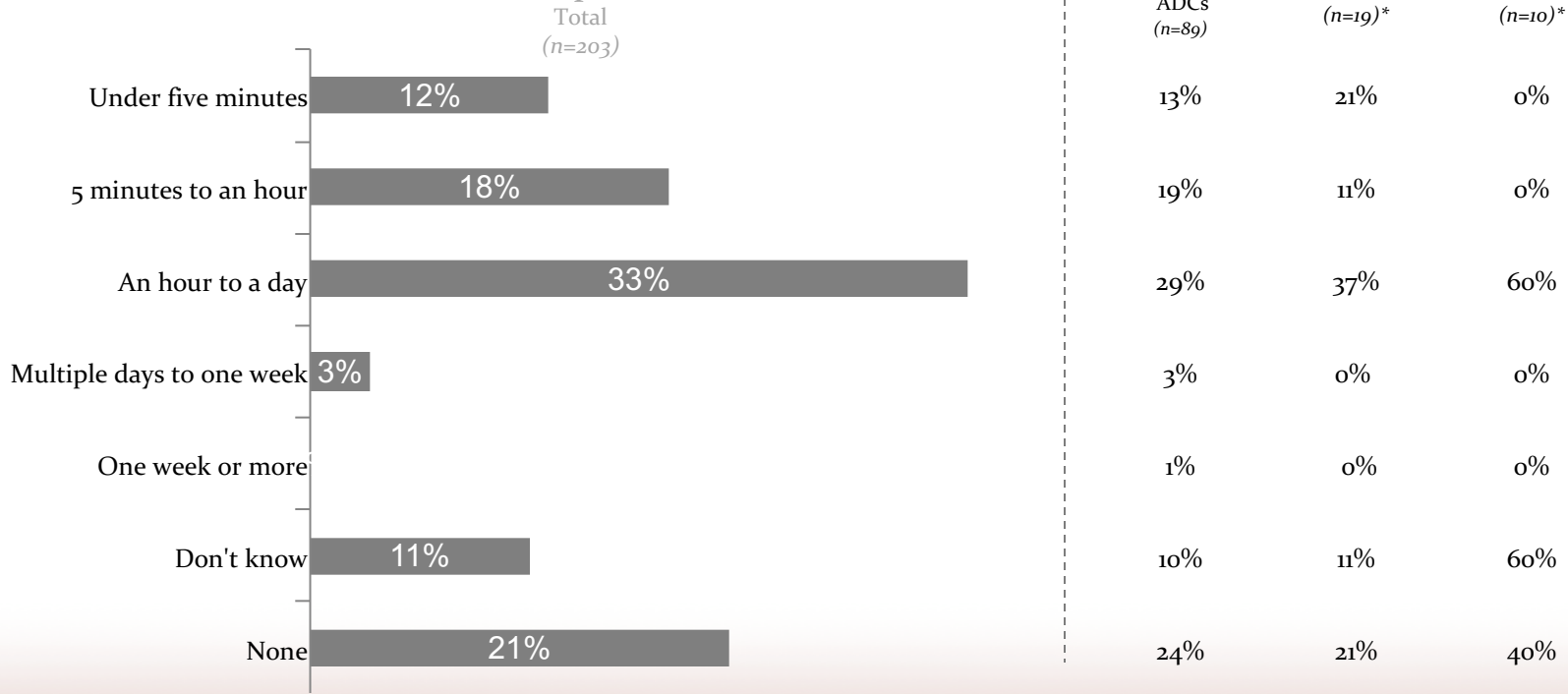
When considering vendors for future ADC purchases, Cisco and F5 Networks are most commonly identified as the vendors of choice. Those with traditional ADCs indicated significant increases among F5 and A10 Networks when compared to last year's research.



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Downtime is varied across this base, with the majority (one-third) unsure of how much time was truly experienced in the previous year.

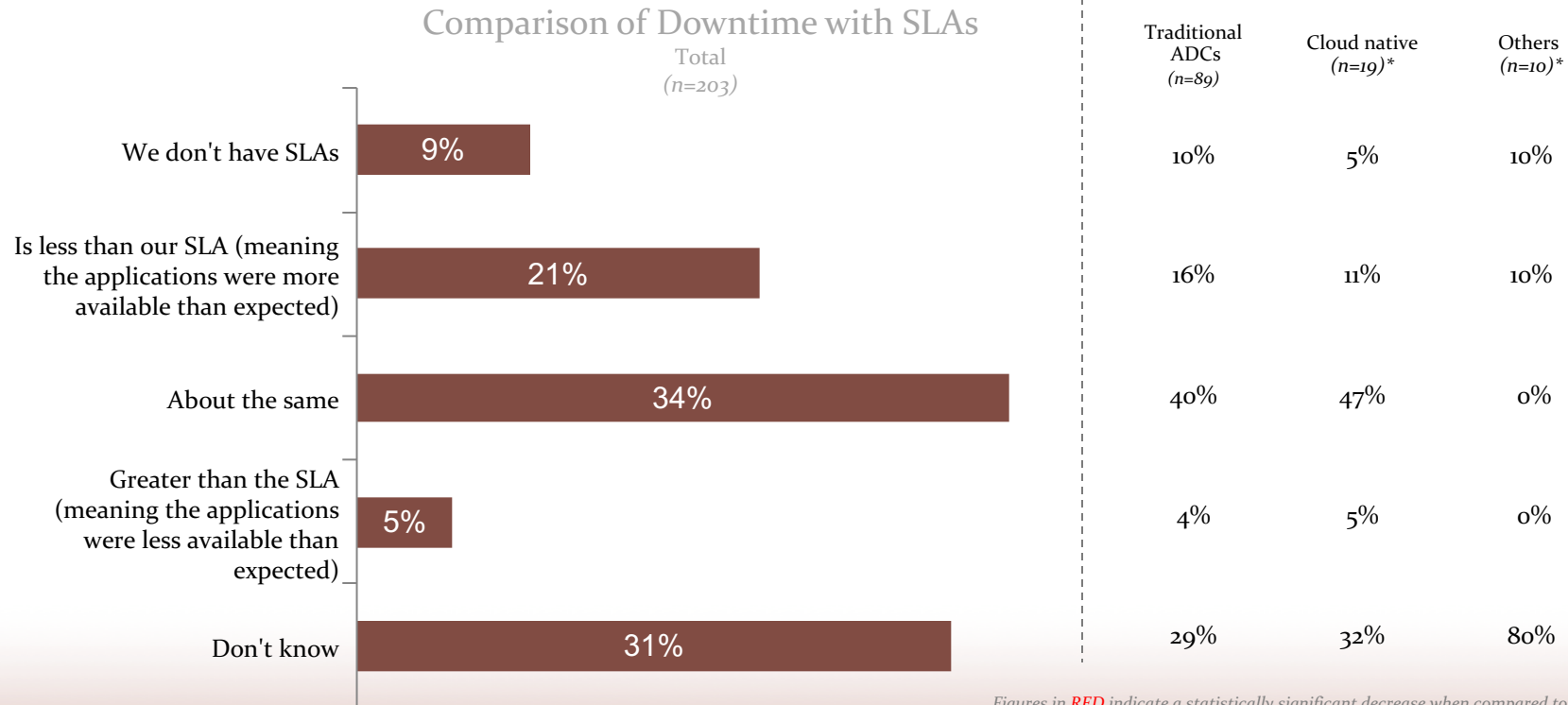
Amount of Downtime Experienced In the Last Year



Q5a How much total downtime did your mission critical applications have in the past year because of ADC related issues?

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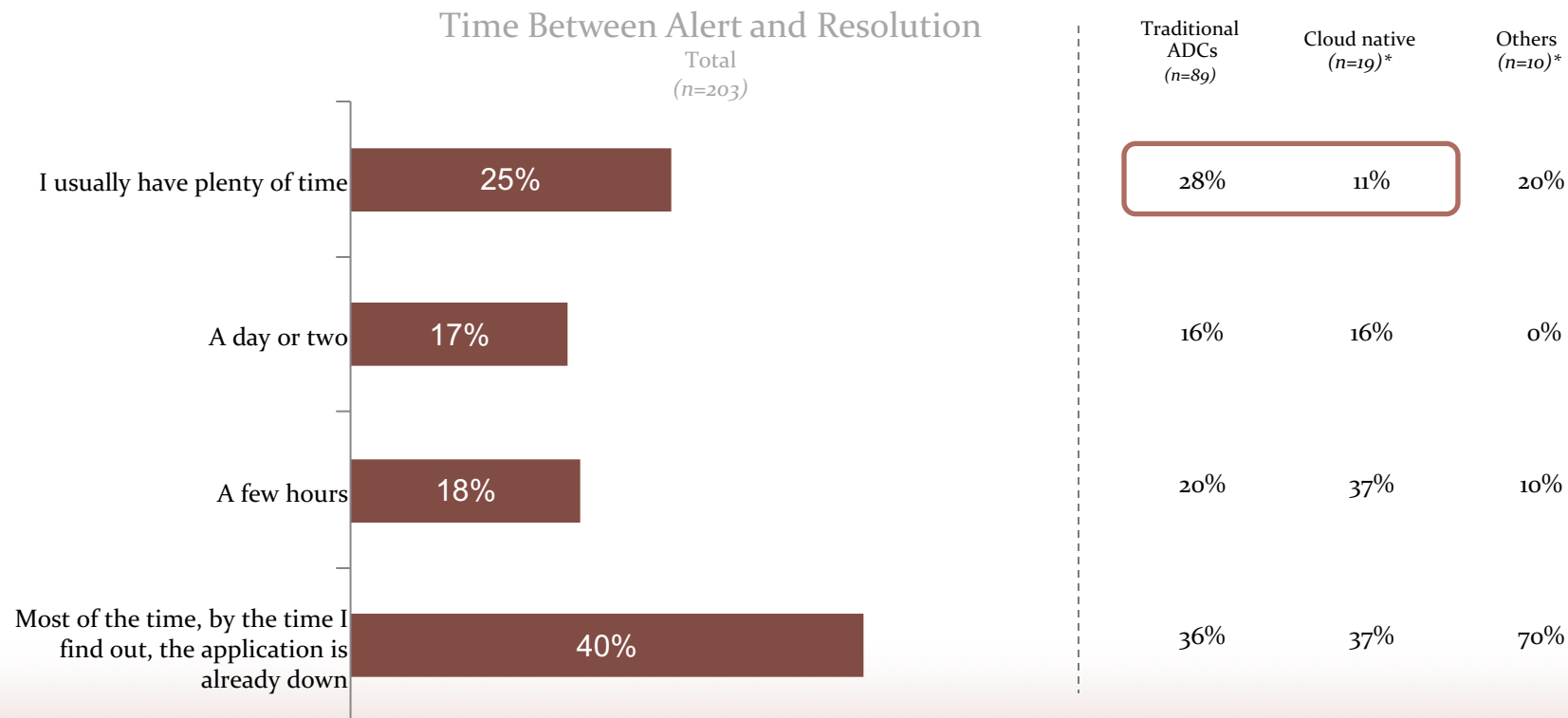
When comparing downtime with SLAs, one third identify that the two are 'about the same'.



Q5b How did this downtime compare to the internal SLAs for application uptime that you have with your company?

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Those who are in traditional ADC environments, are more likely to ‘have plenty of time’ for resolution when compared to their cloud native counterparts.

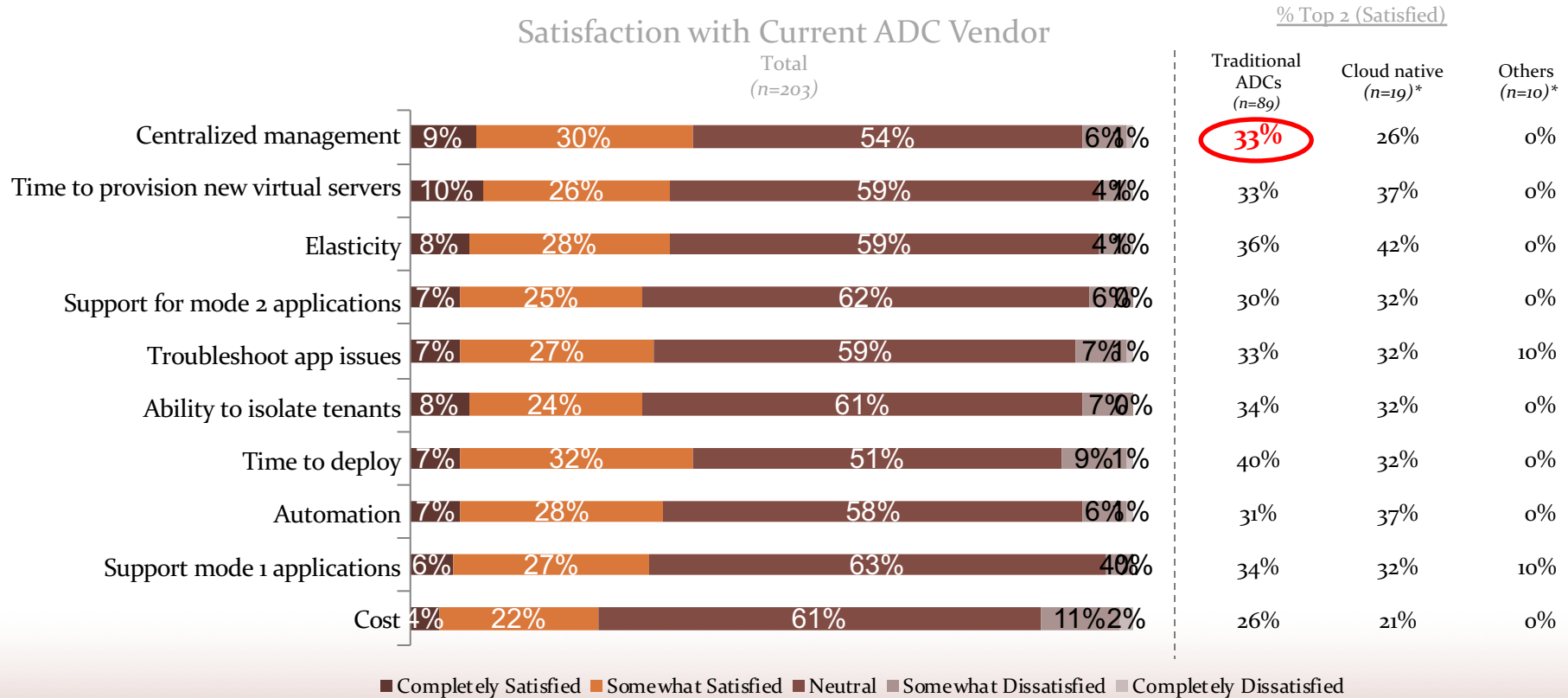


Q20. How much time do you have between the alert that an app is down and resolving the issues before downtime occurs?

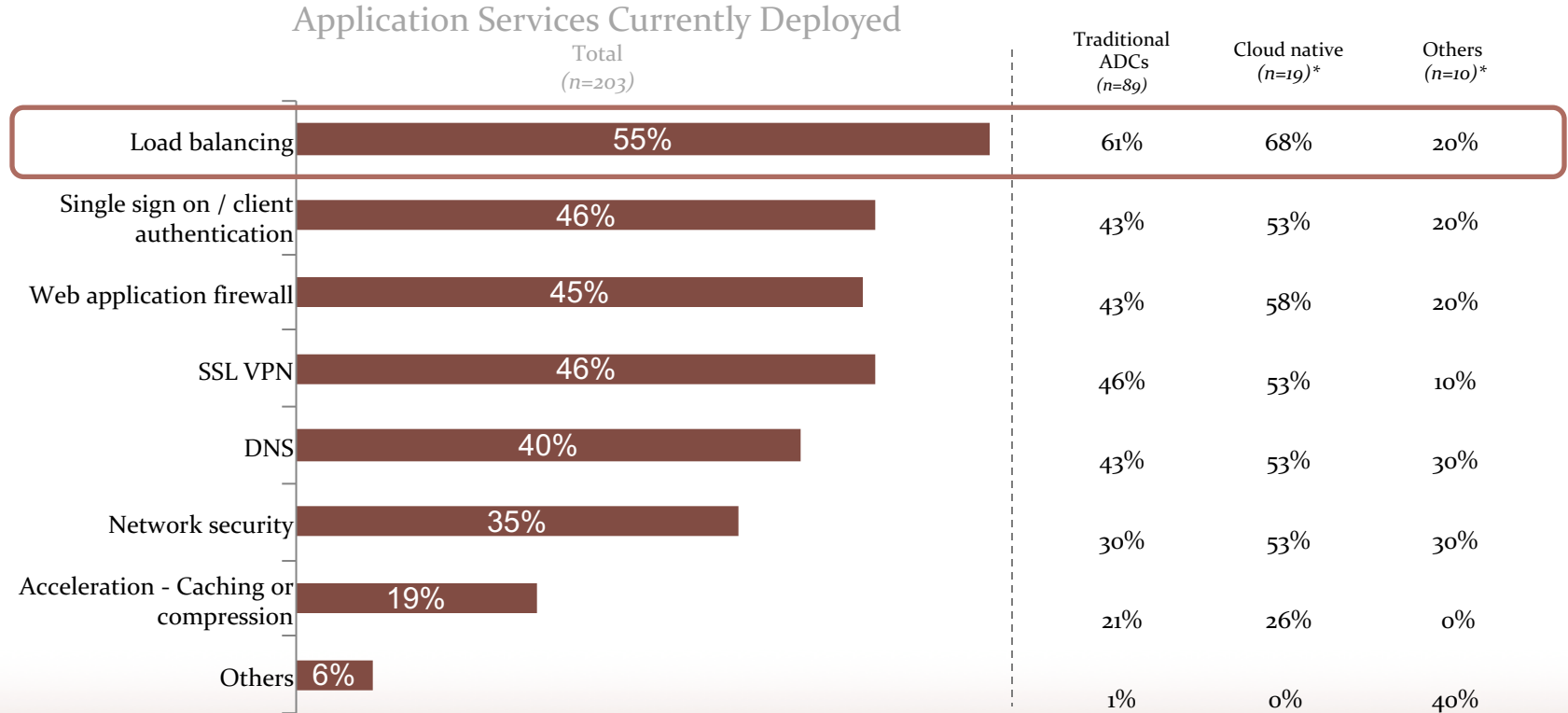
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Satisfaction levels across the various attributes tested remains generally neutral, a similar pattern to the prior wave of research.

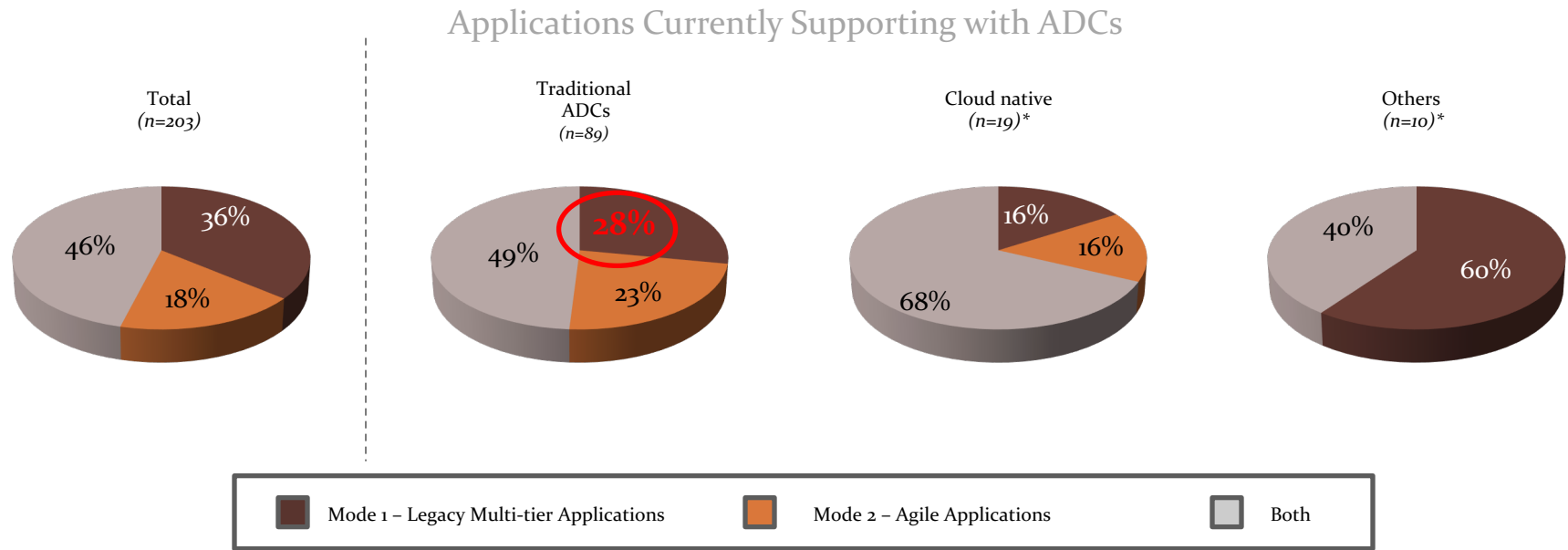


Load balancing is the most commonly identified application service deployed among this market.

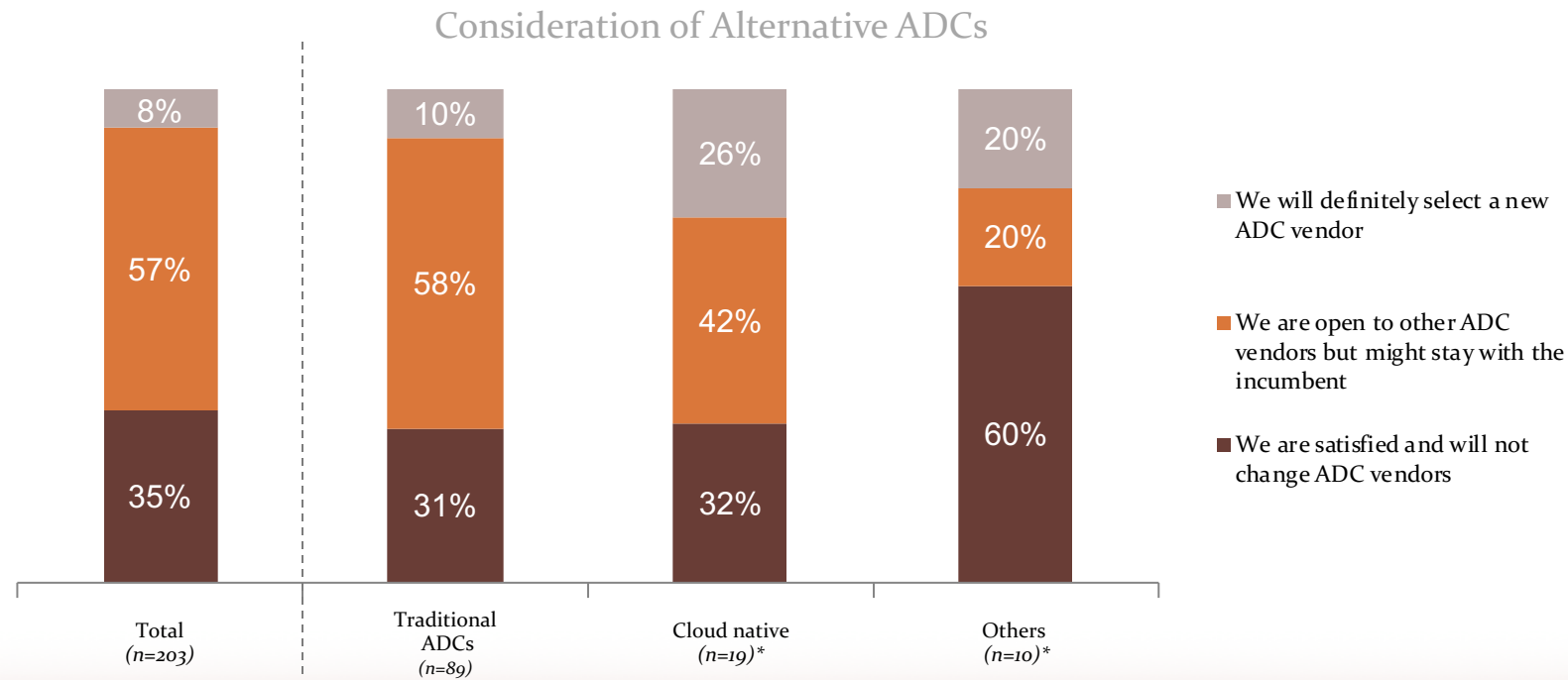


Figures in **RED** indicate a statistically significant decrease when compared to the prior wave.
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Both legacy multi-tier and agile applications are identified as being supported equally with ADCs. However, those in the ‘traditional ADC’ group showed significant decreases for support among legacy multi-tier applications when compared to the previous year.



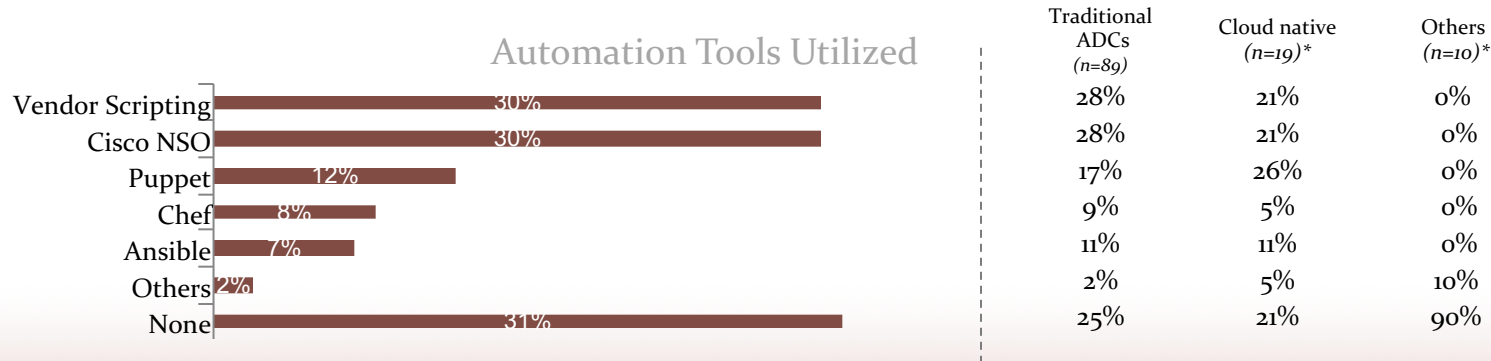
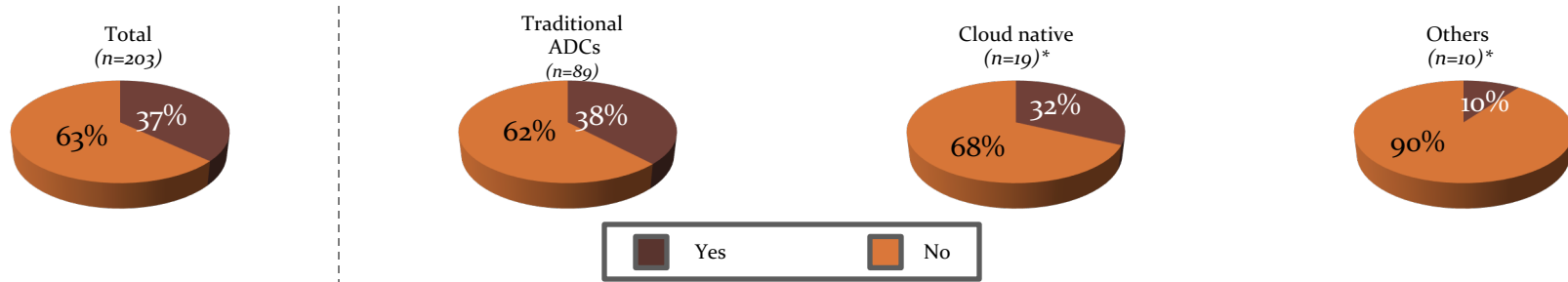
Although one-third indicated being satisfied and will not consider changing ADC vendors, over half acknowledge they would be open to considering a change from the incumbent.



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Many indicate they do not have the ability to automate configuration changes to the ADC. For those that do, Vendor Scripting and Cisco NSO are the most commonly utilized tools.

Ability to Automate Configuration Changes to an ADC



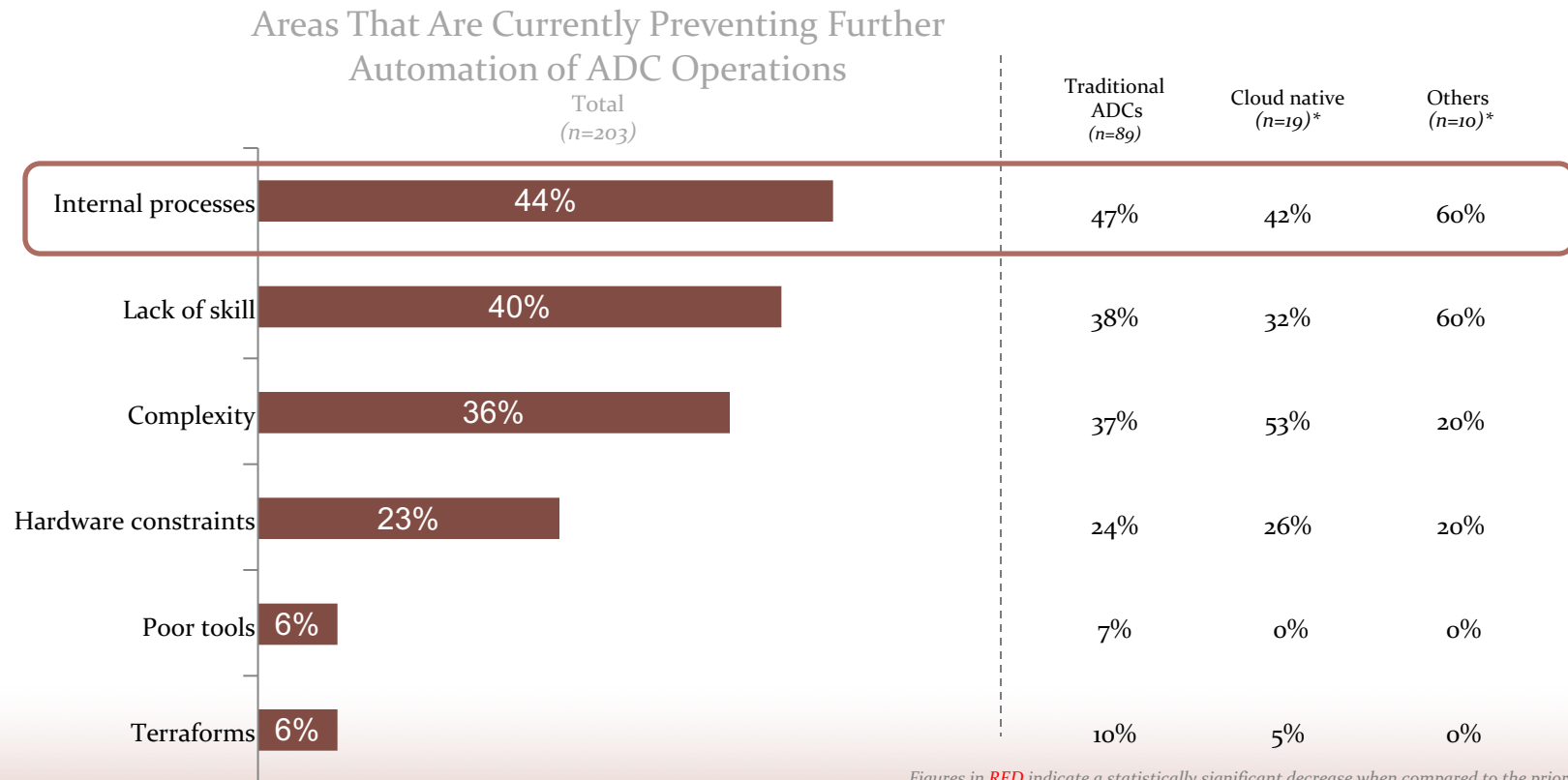
Q10. Do you have the ability to automate configuration changes to an ADC?

Q11. What automation tools / frameworks do you use?

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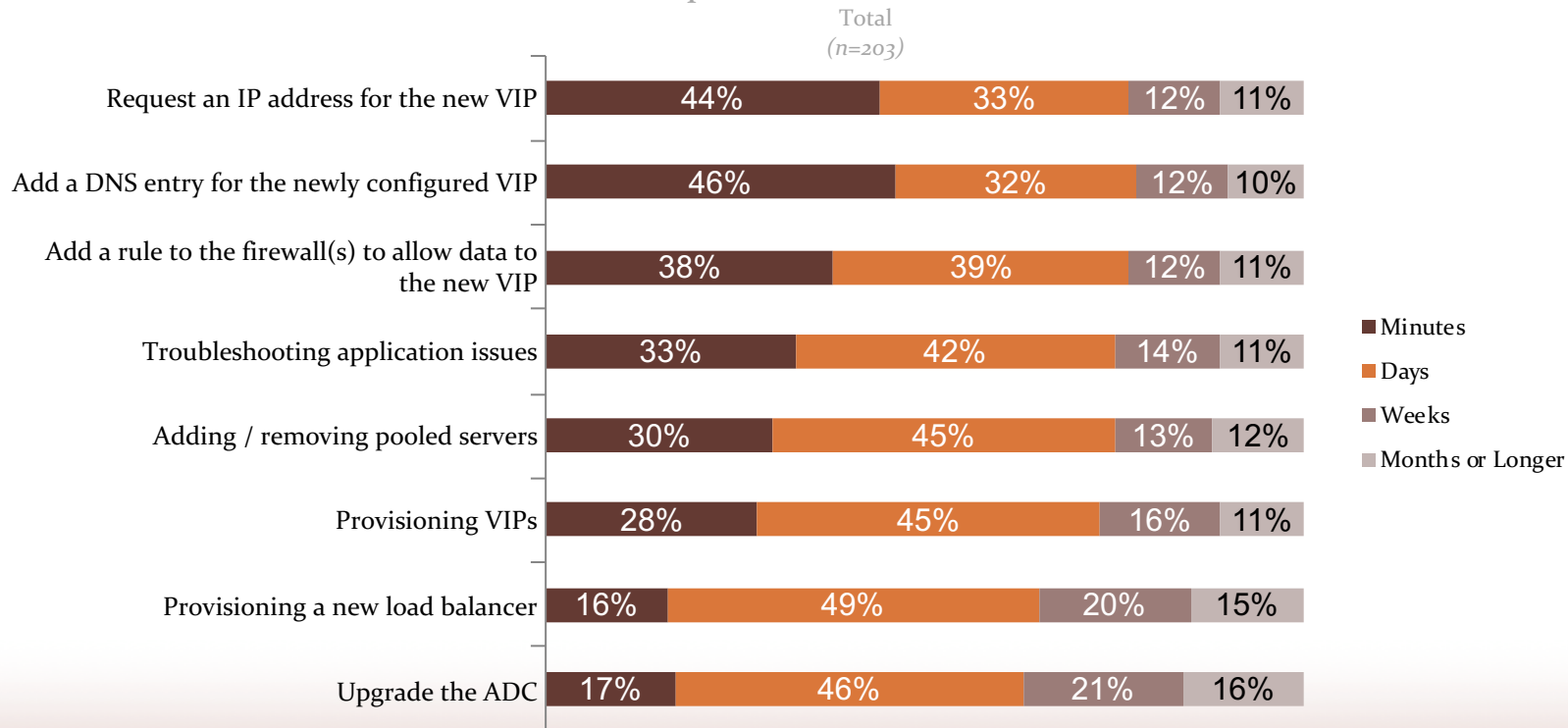
The greatest barrier preventing further automation on ADC operations is most often related to internal processes.



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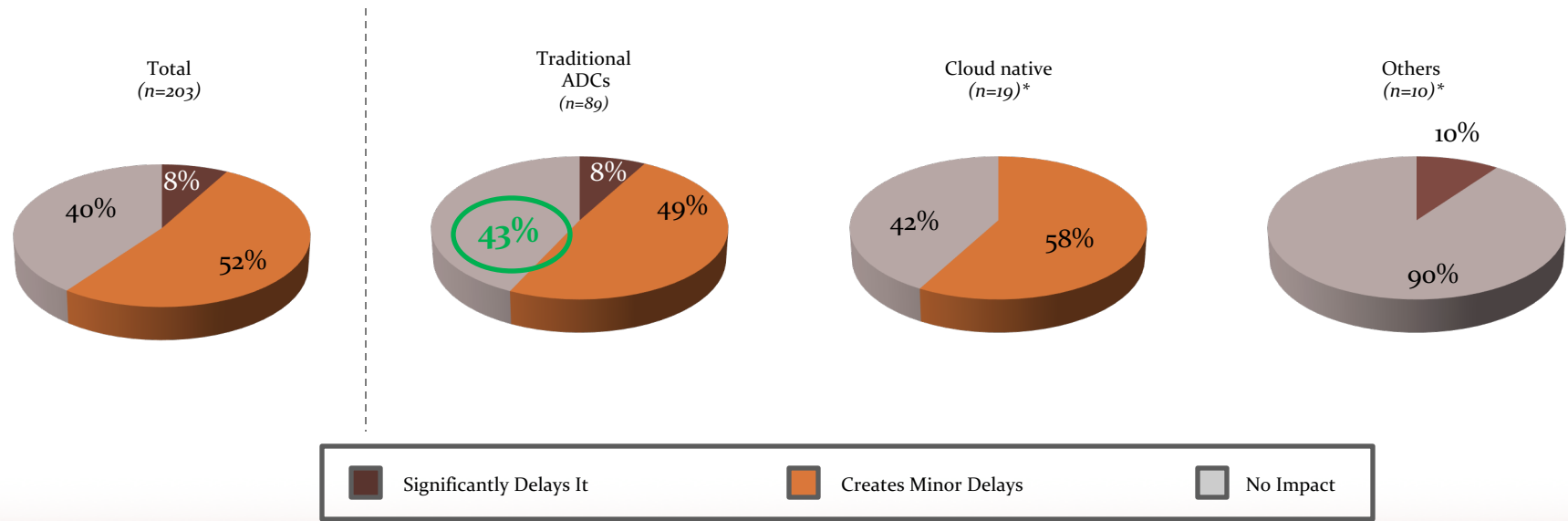
The majority of the tasks performed on ADC can be addressed in days or even minutes – upgrades to the ADC and provisioning of load balancers are identified as the most lengthy tasks.

Time Required to Perform Tasks on ADC



For roughly half, ADC changes have limited impact on application roll out and only account for minor delays. Those in the ‘Traditional ADC’ group, saw significant increase from the prior wave with regards to having “no impact” on roll out.

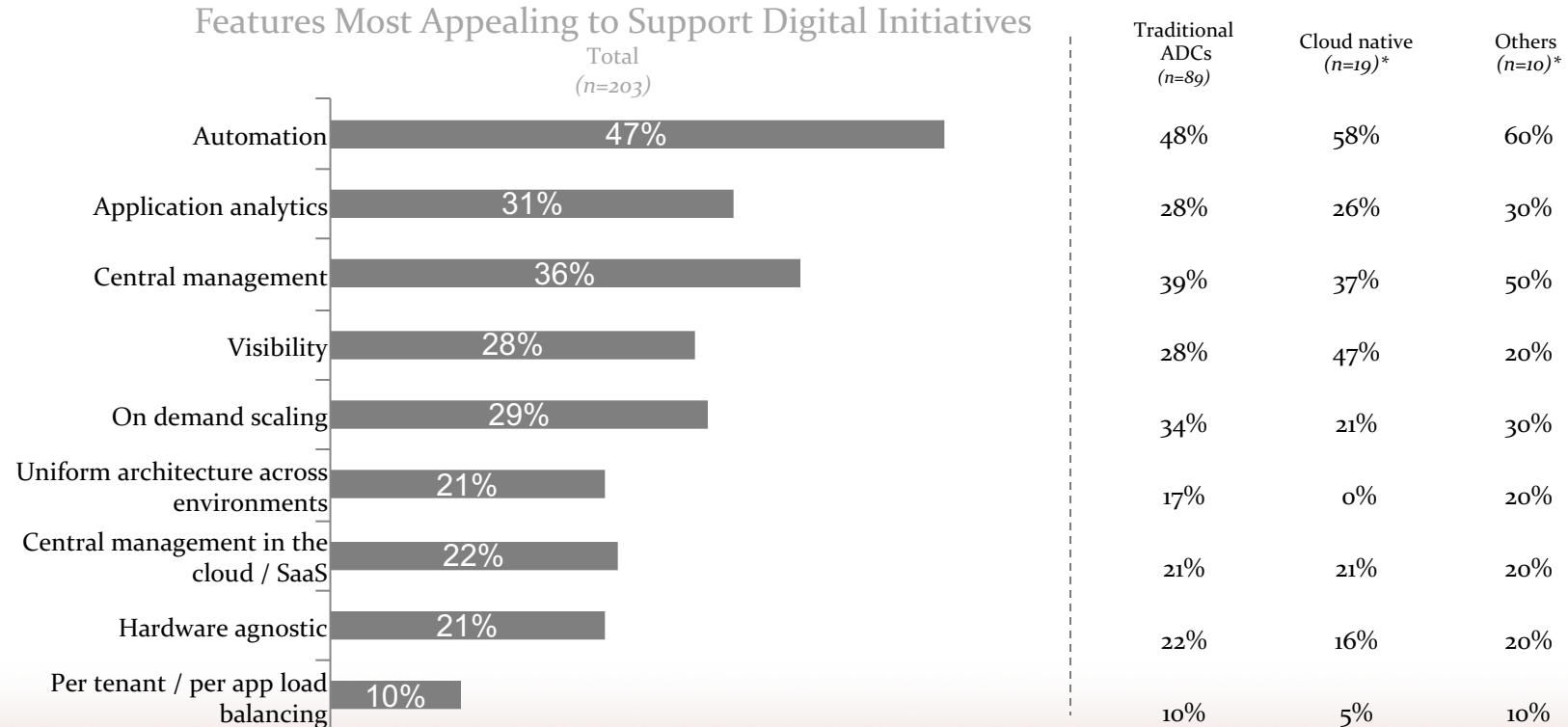
Speed of ADC Changes Impact on Application Roll Out



Q14. How does the speed at which you can make ADC changes impact the speed at which apps are rolled out?

Figures in **RED** indicate a statistically significant decrease when compared to the prior wave.
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Automation and central management are most commonly identified as the features that are most appealing to support digital initiatives.

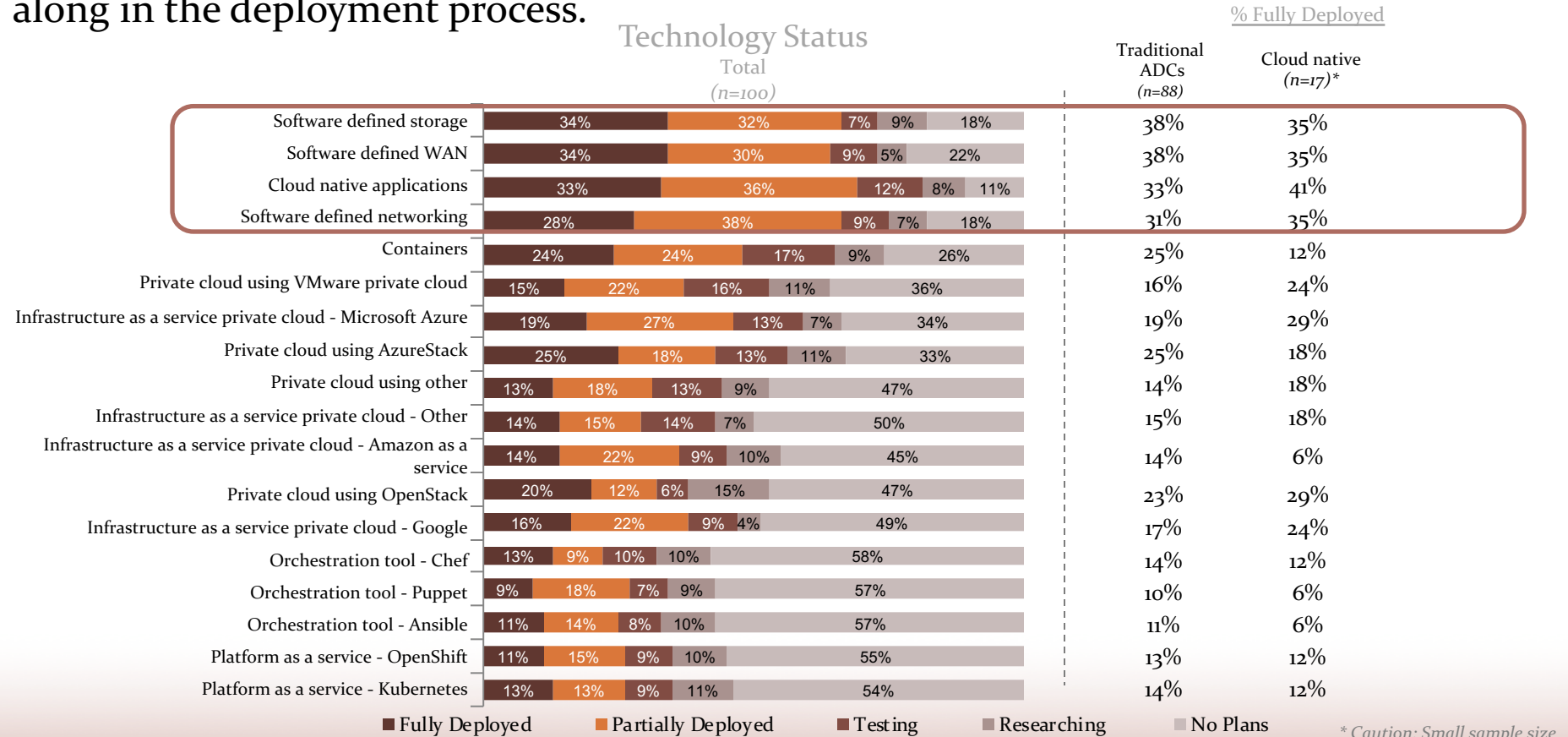


Q16. Please select up to 3 features that would be most appealing in your ability to support your digital initiatives.

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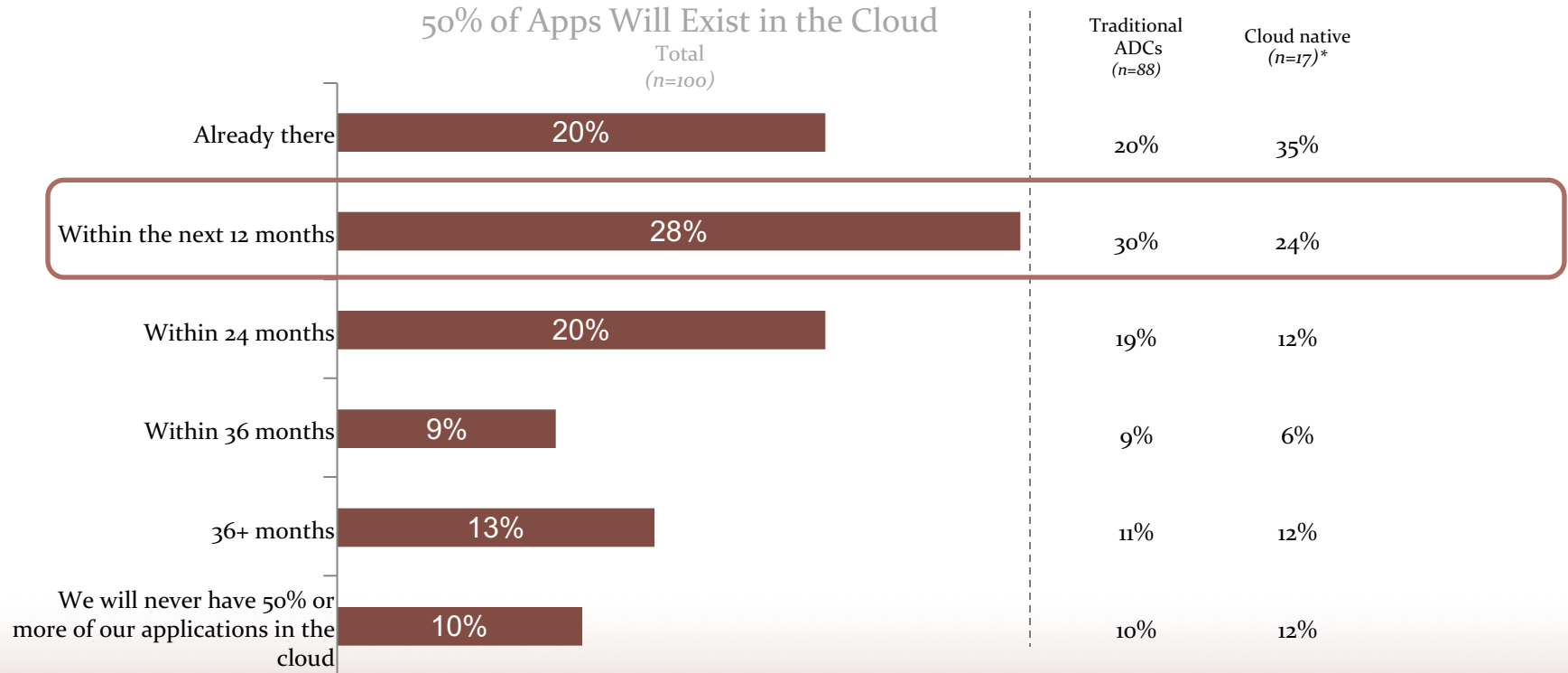
UK Market Segment

Areas like “software defined technologies” and cloud native applications are furthest along in the deployment process.



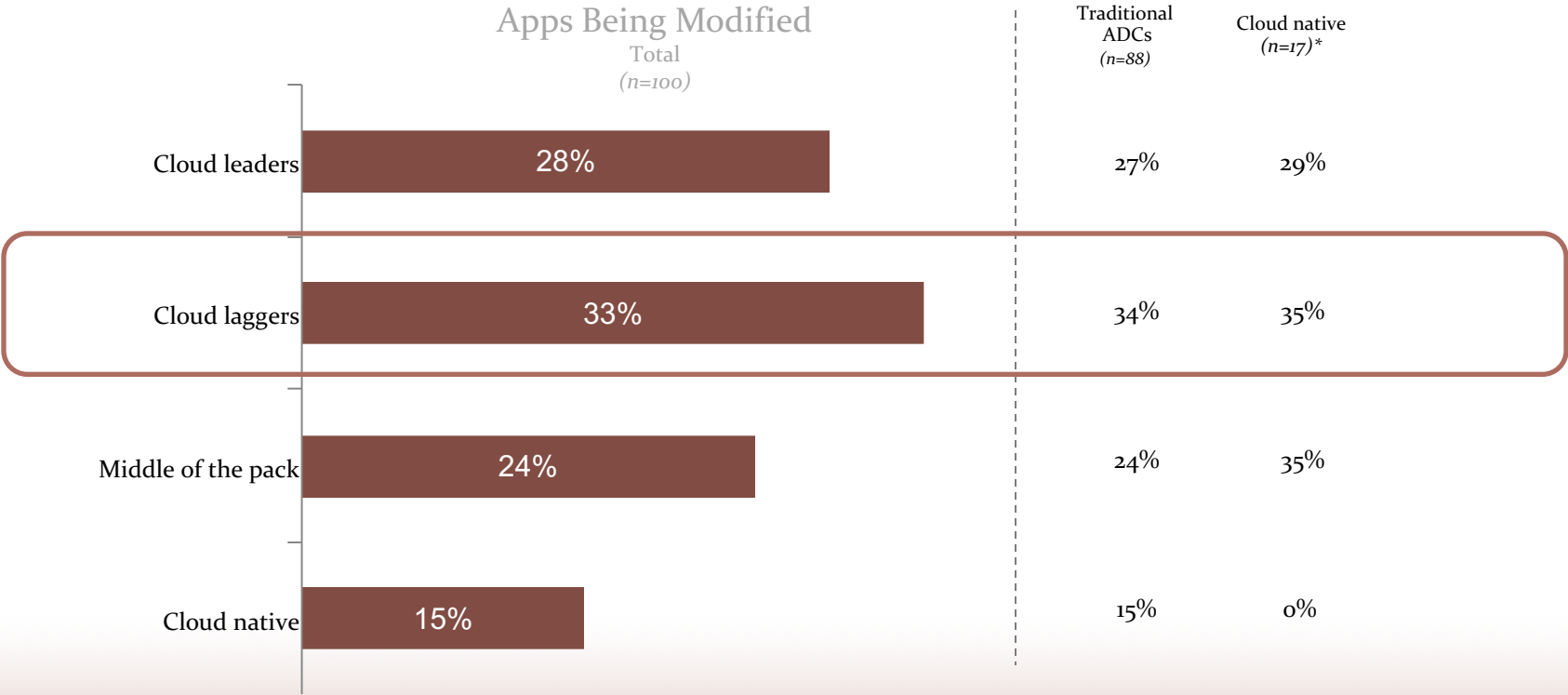
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Within this market, two thirds expect to have at least 50% of apps in the cloud in two years or less.



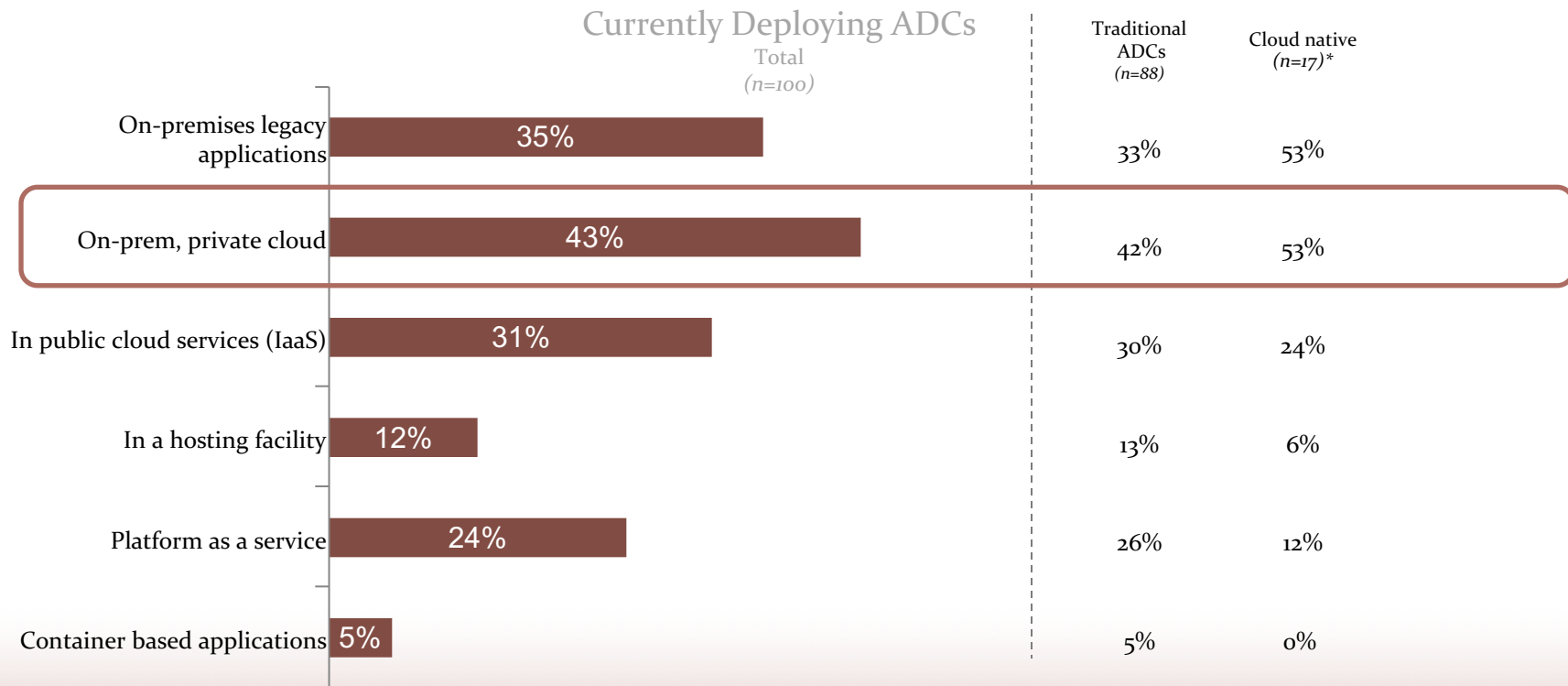
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Cloud laggards are most commonly identified as the applications that are being lifted and shifted, modified and replaced.



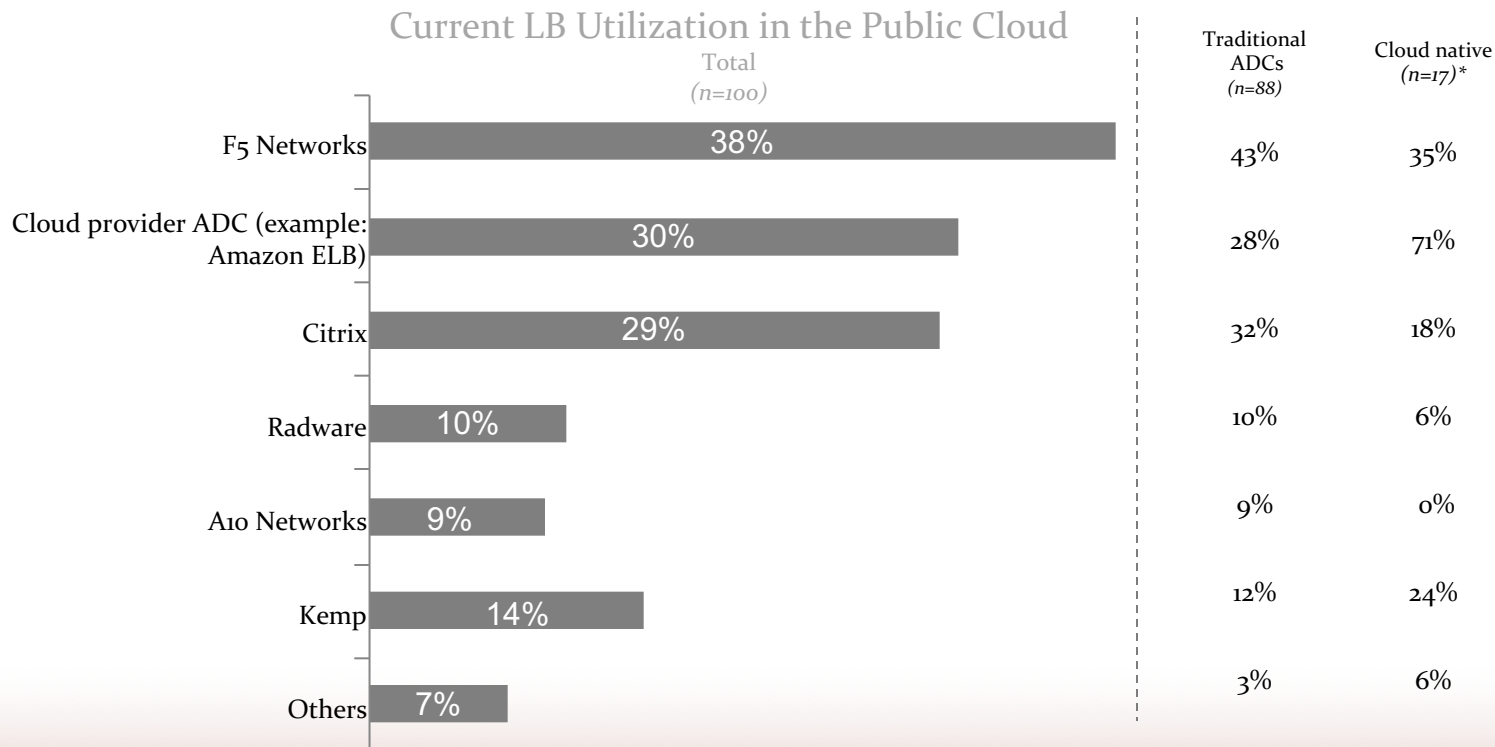
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For 4 out of 10 of the respondents in this market, most ADC deployment resides with on-premise private cloud applications.



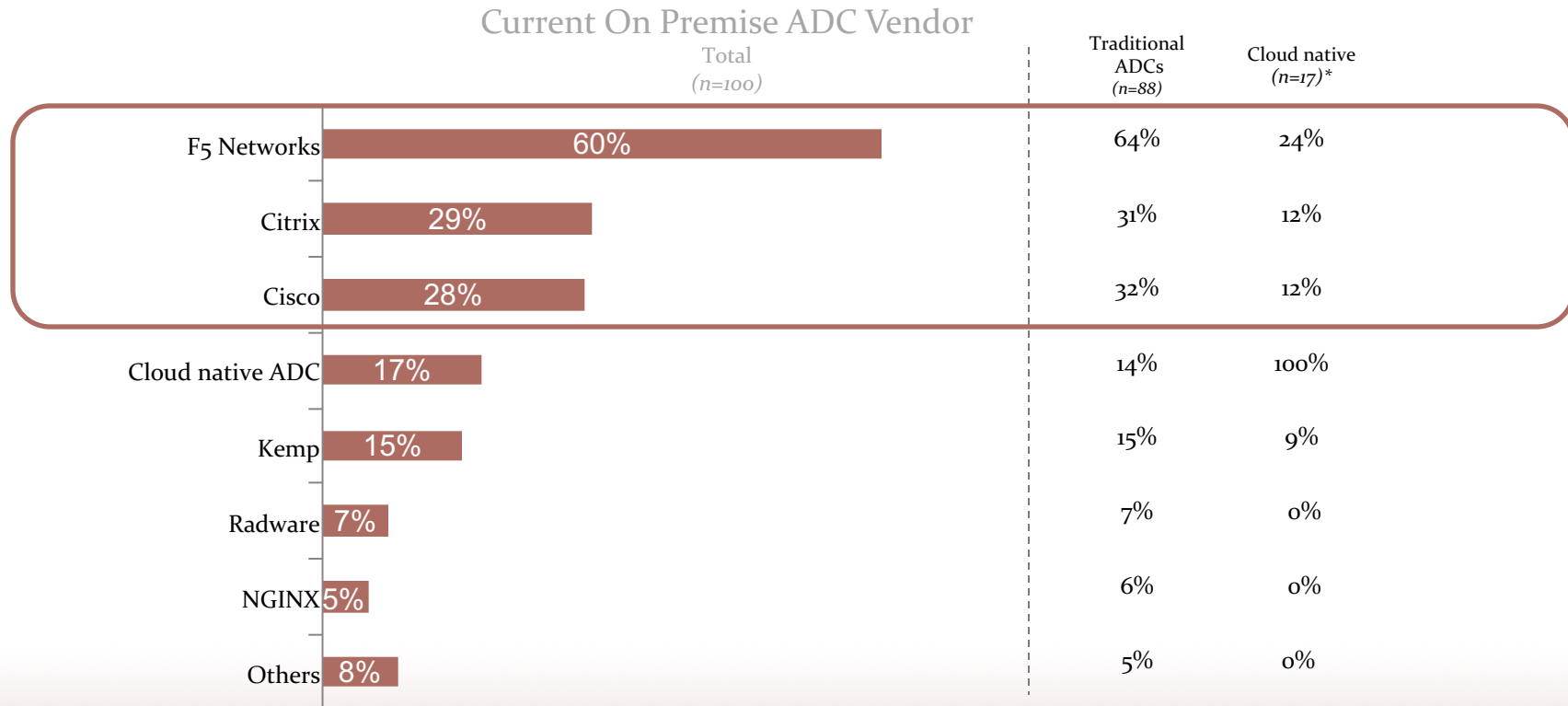
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Among those currently utilizing a public cloud infrastructure, F5 Networks is most often identified as the LB of choice.



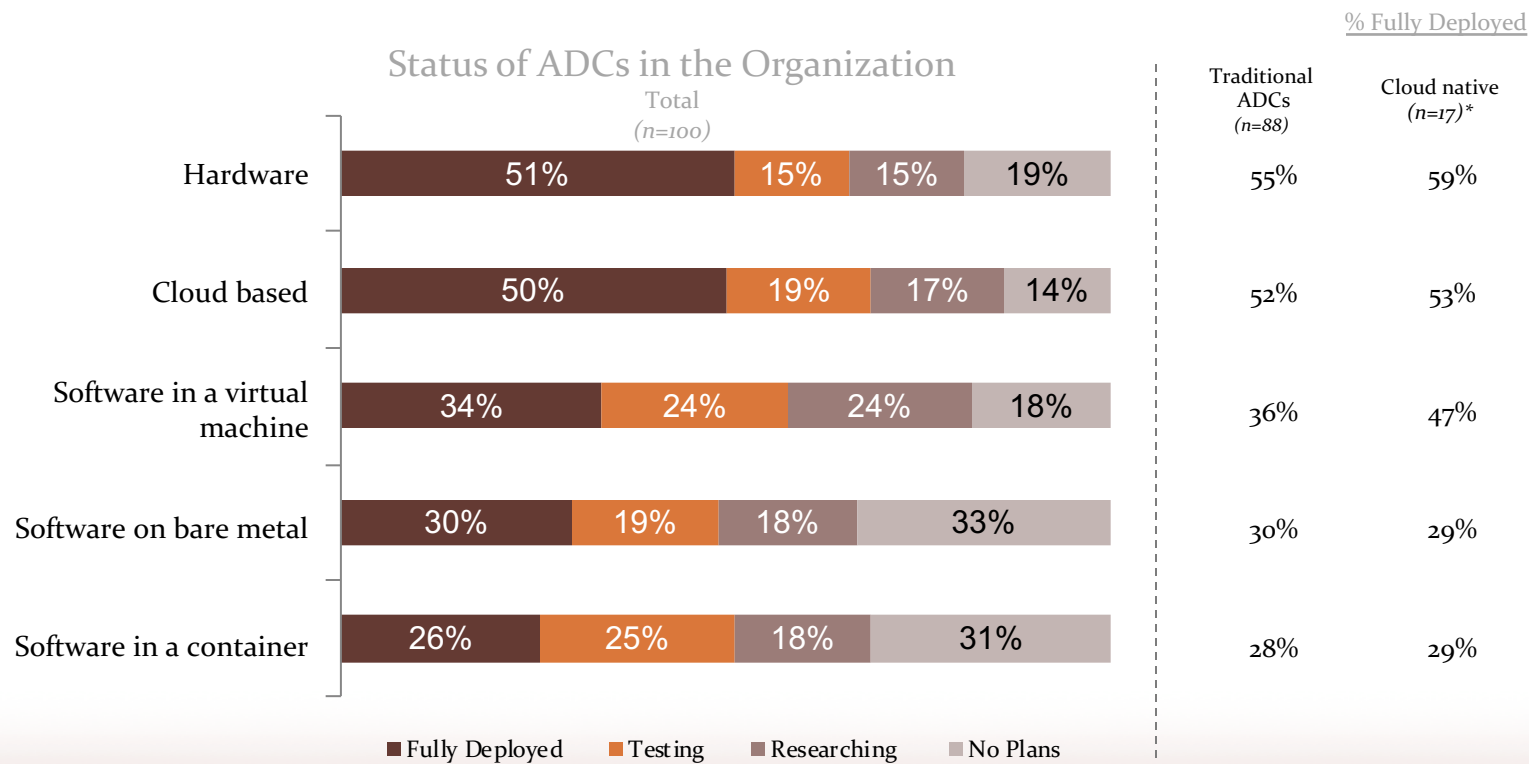
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F5 Networks, Cisco and Citrix account for the majority of the current vendors for on premise/ private cloud ADC within this market.



* Caution: Small sample size

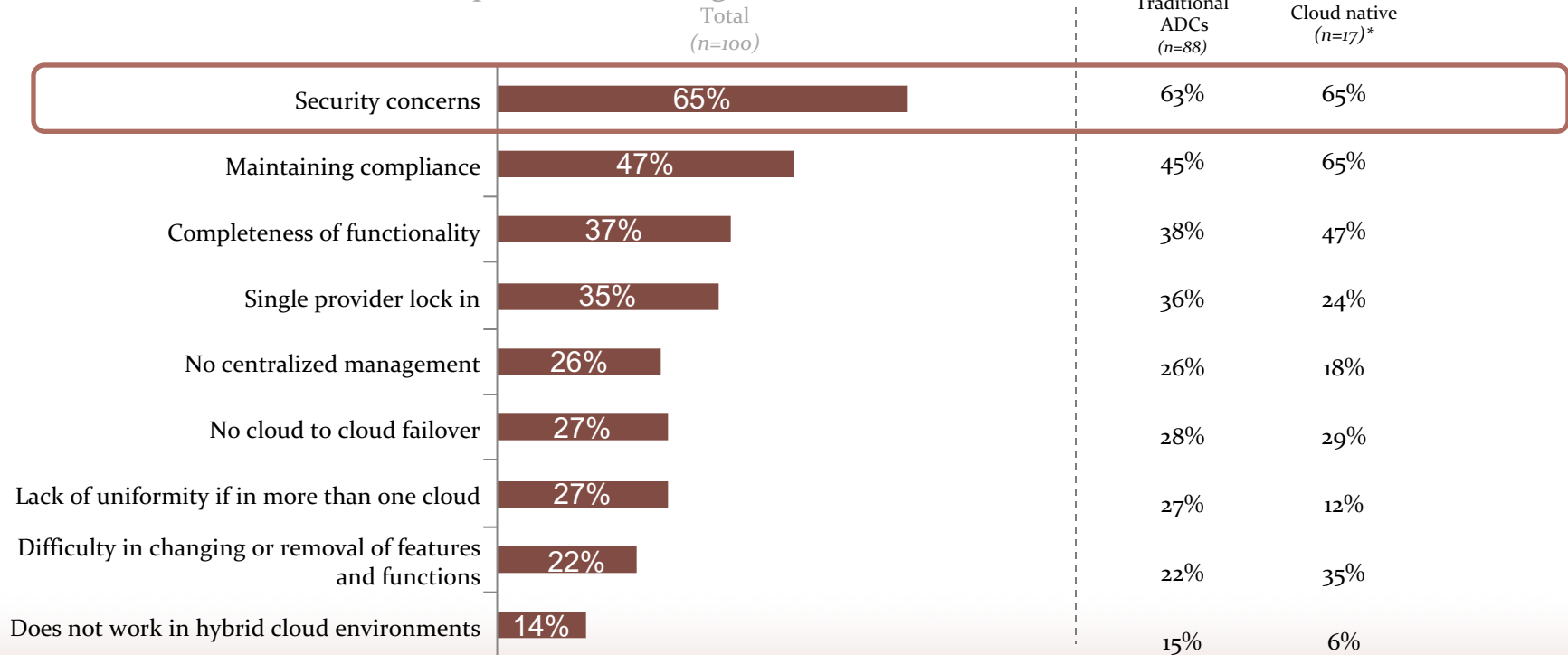
Hardware and cloud based ADCs are furthest along in the deployment process when compared to other areas in the organization.



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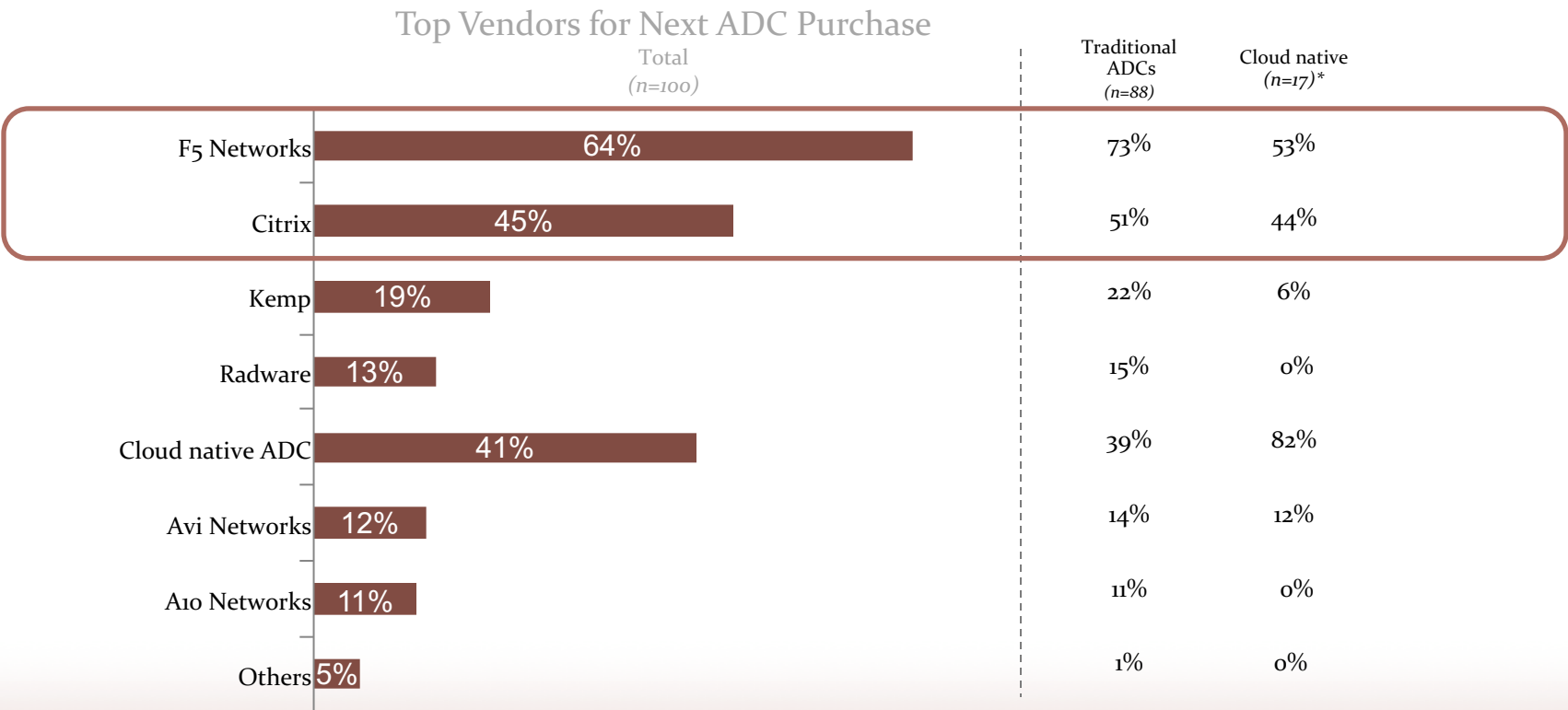
When asked about concerns with utilizing Cloud Native ADC, security related issues were identified by two-thirds of this segment.

Top Concerns Using Cloud Native ADC



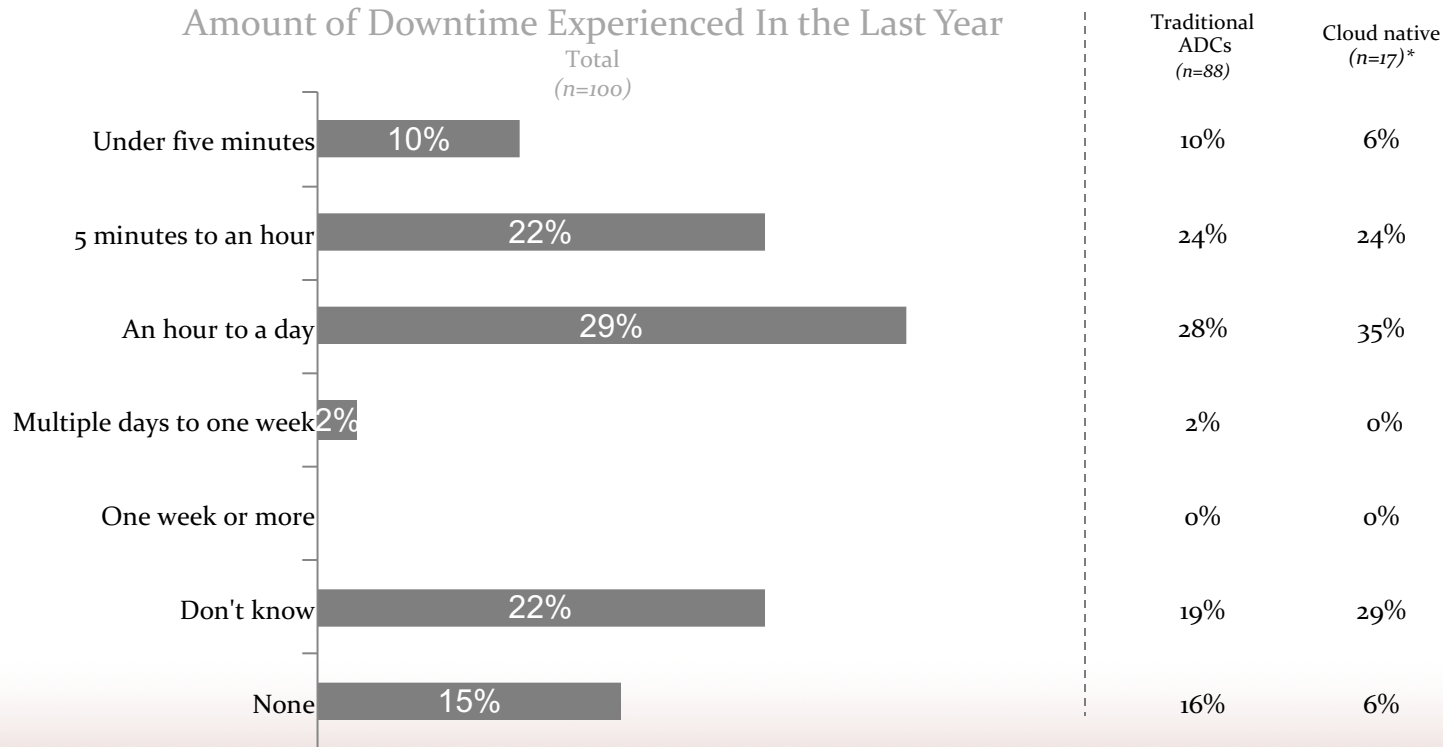
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When considering vendors for future ADC purchases, F5 Networks and Citrix are most commonly identified as the vendors of choice among this audience.



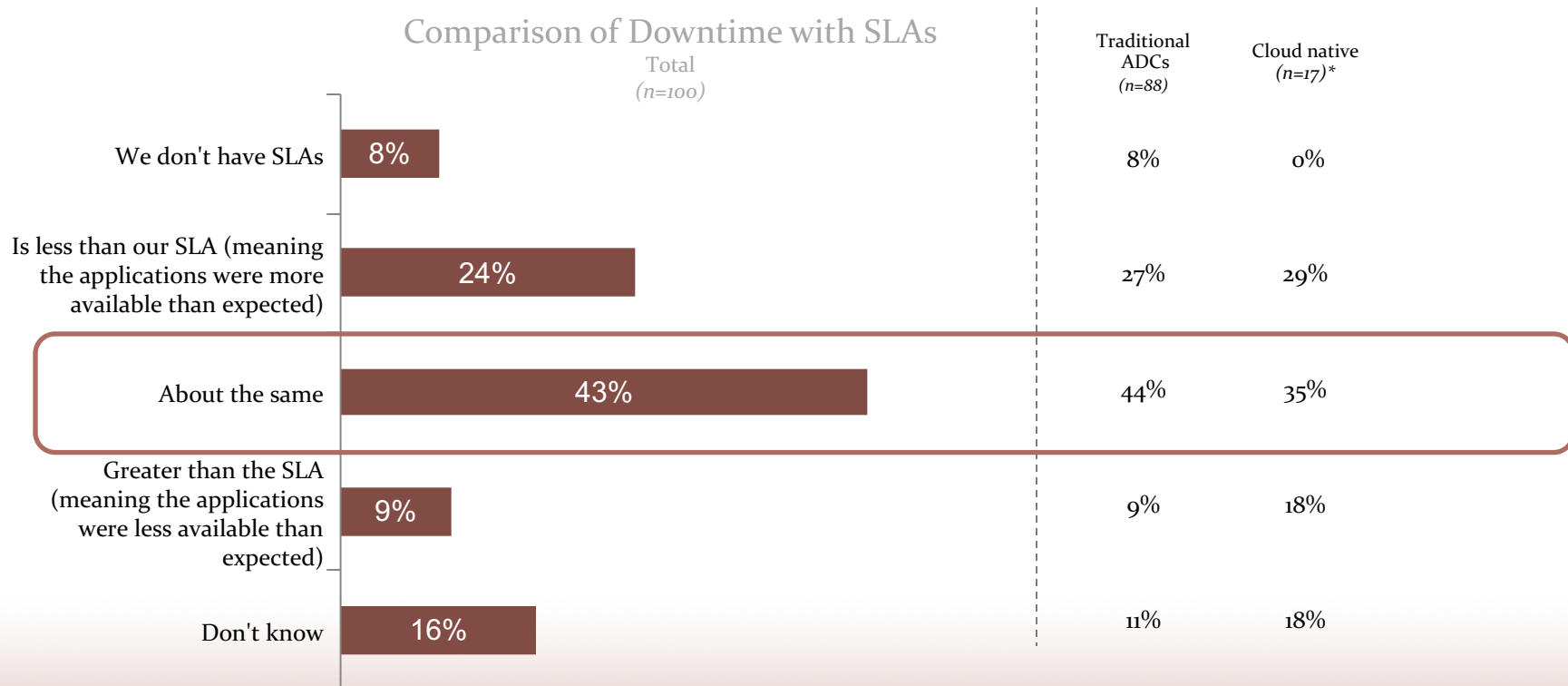
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For most, downtime is limited to less than an hour per day. Surprisingly, close to one-quarter are unaware of how much downtime was even experienced.



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When comparing downtime with SLAs, most recognize that the two align and are 'about the same'.



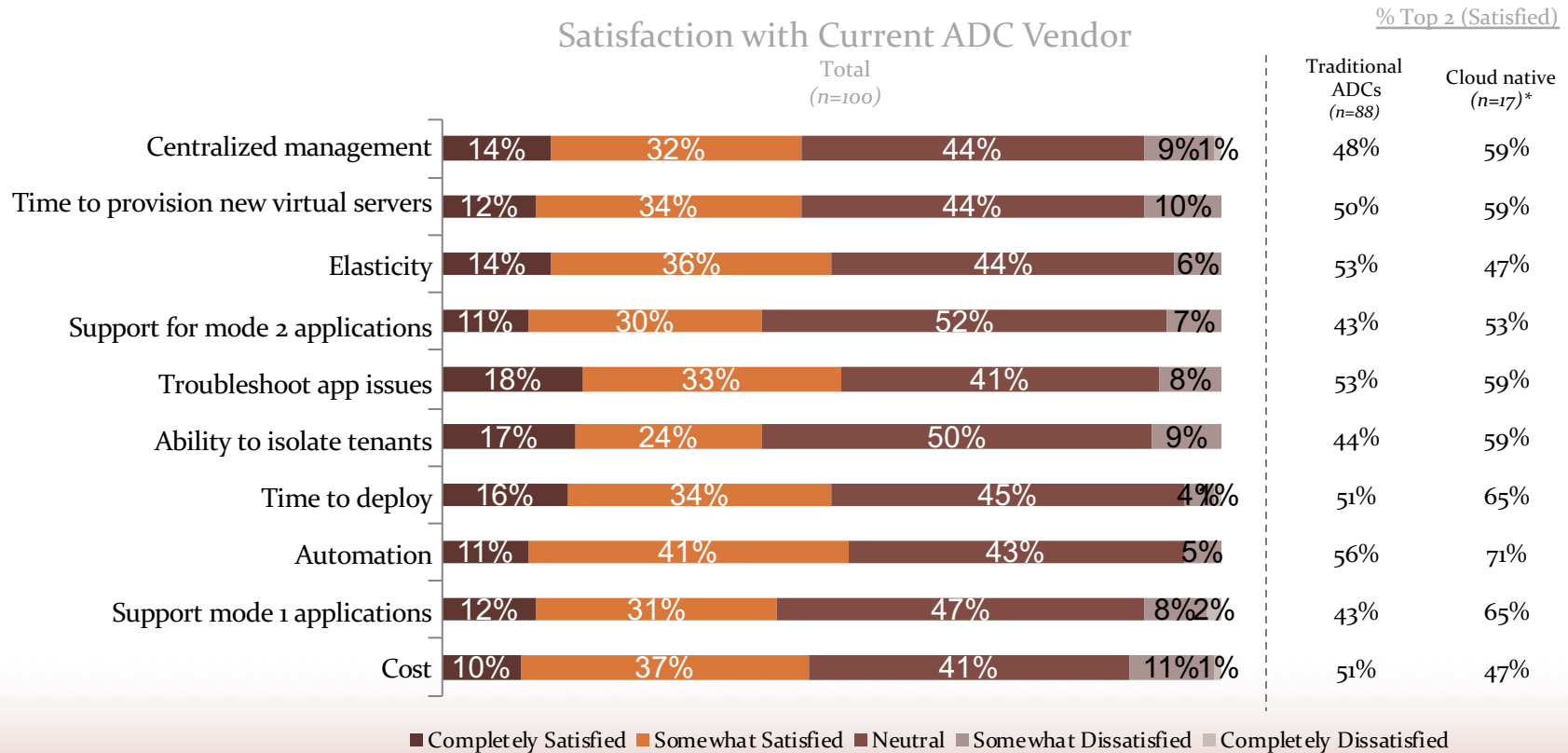
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Time between alert and resolution is varied across this market, suggesting that each situation is unique and varied depending on the circumstances.



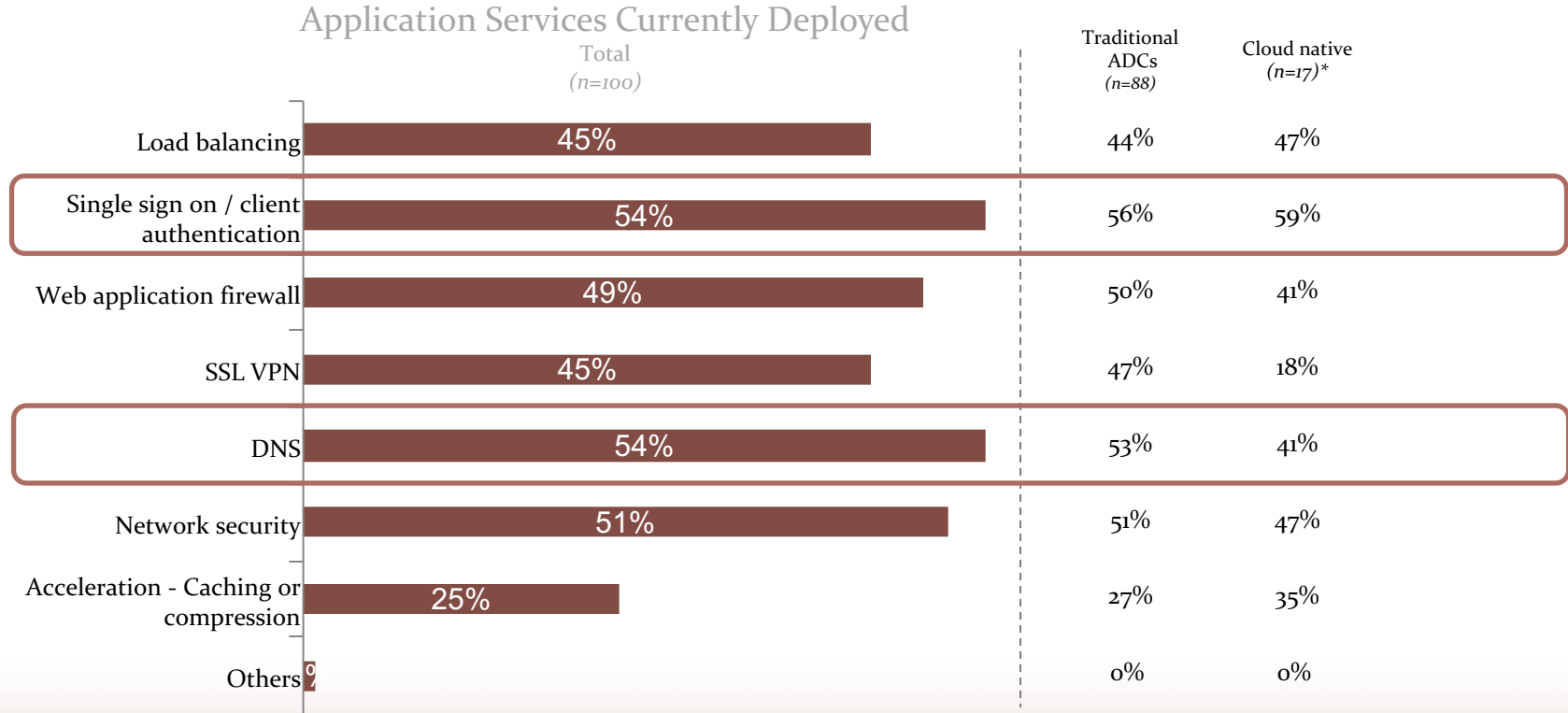
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Regardless of the attribute tested, most are at least somewhat satisfied with their current ADC vendor.



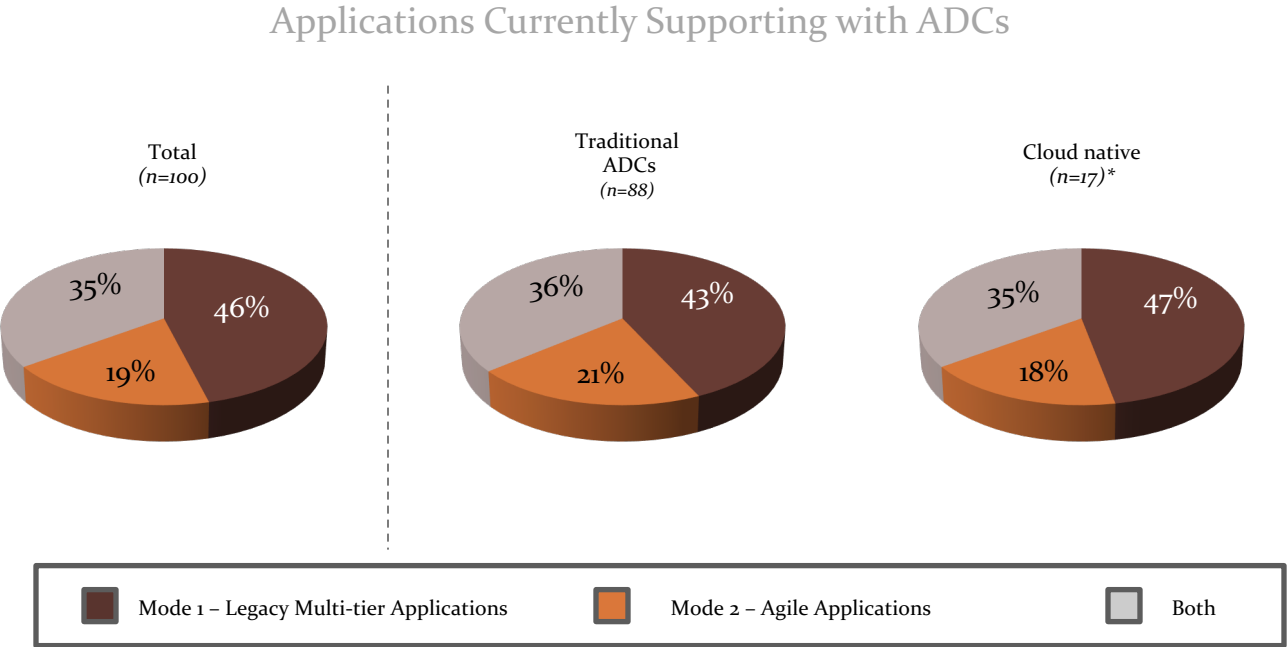
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‘Single sign on/client authentication’ and ‘DNS’ are the most commonly identified application services being deployed in the UK market.

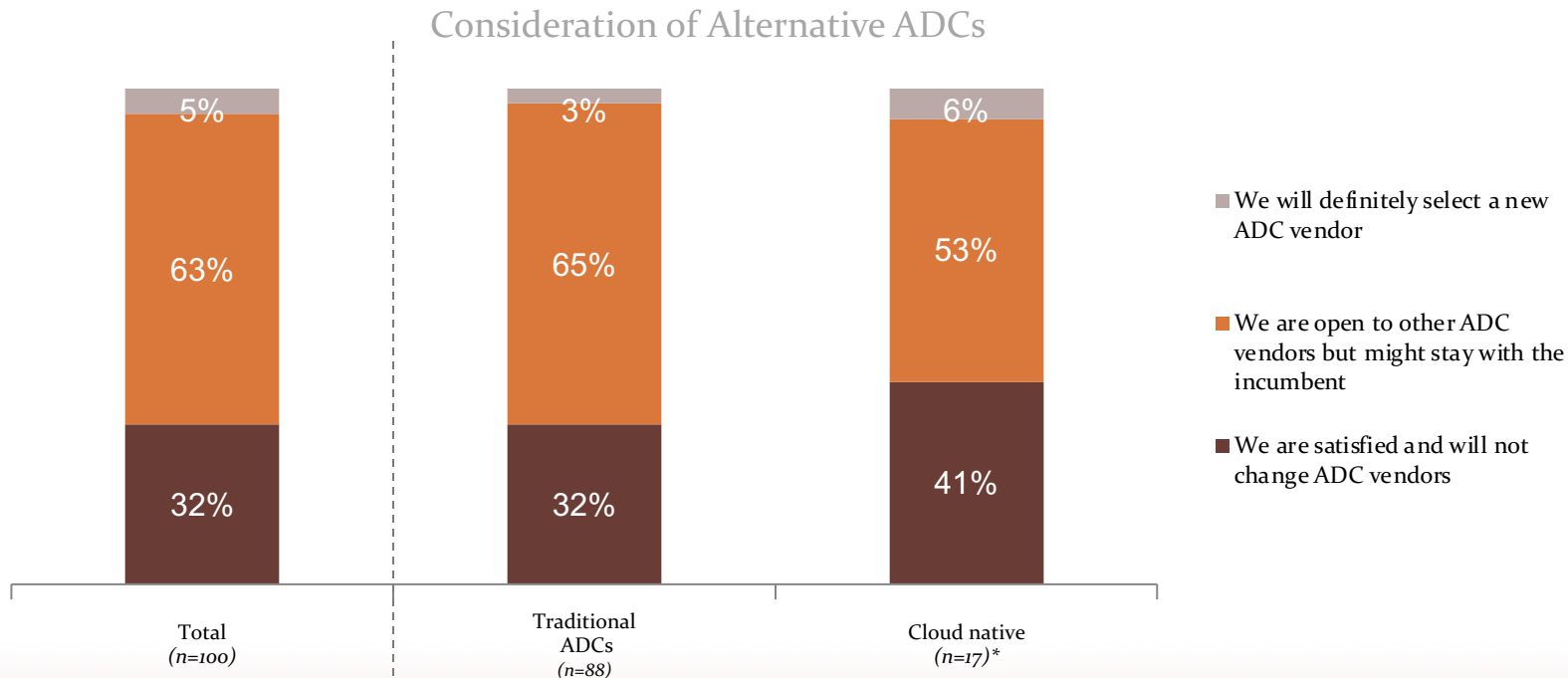


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Legacy multi-tier and agile applications are identified as being supported equally with ADCs.



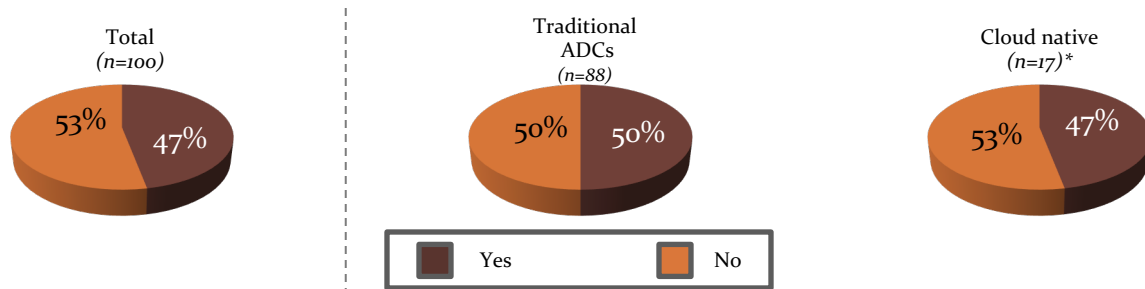
Across the UK market, nearly two-thirds of those surveyed acknowledge they would be open to considering a change from the incumbent vendor.



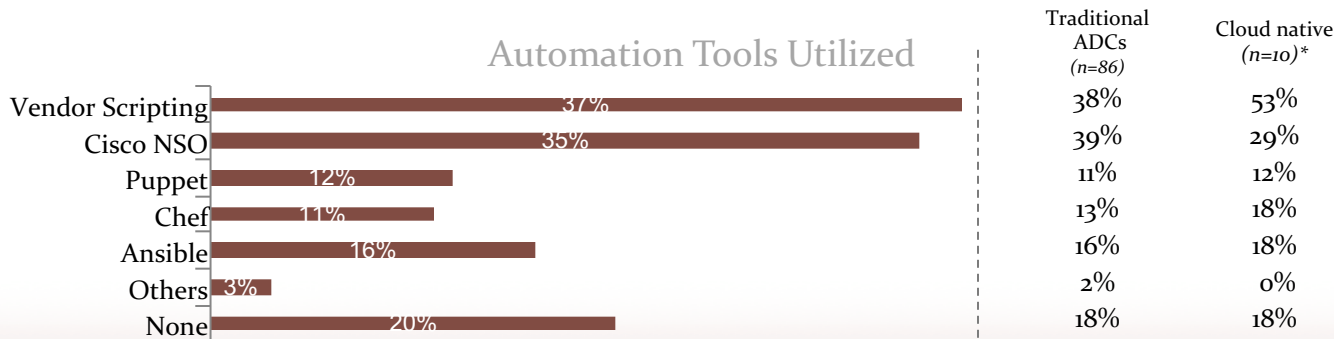
* Caution: Small sample size

Approximately half of those surveyed indicate they do not have the ability to automate configuration changes to the ADC. Among those that do, Vendor Scripting and Cisco NSO are the most commonly utilized tools.

Ability to Automate Configuration Changes to an ADC



Automation Tools Utilized

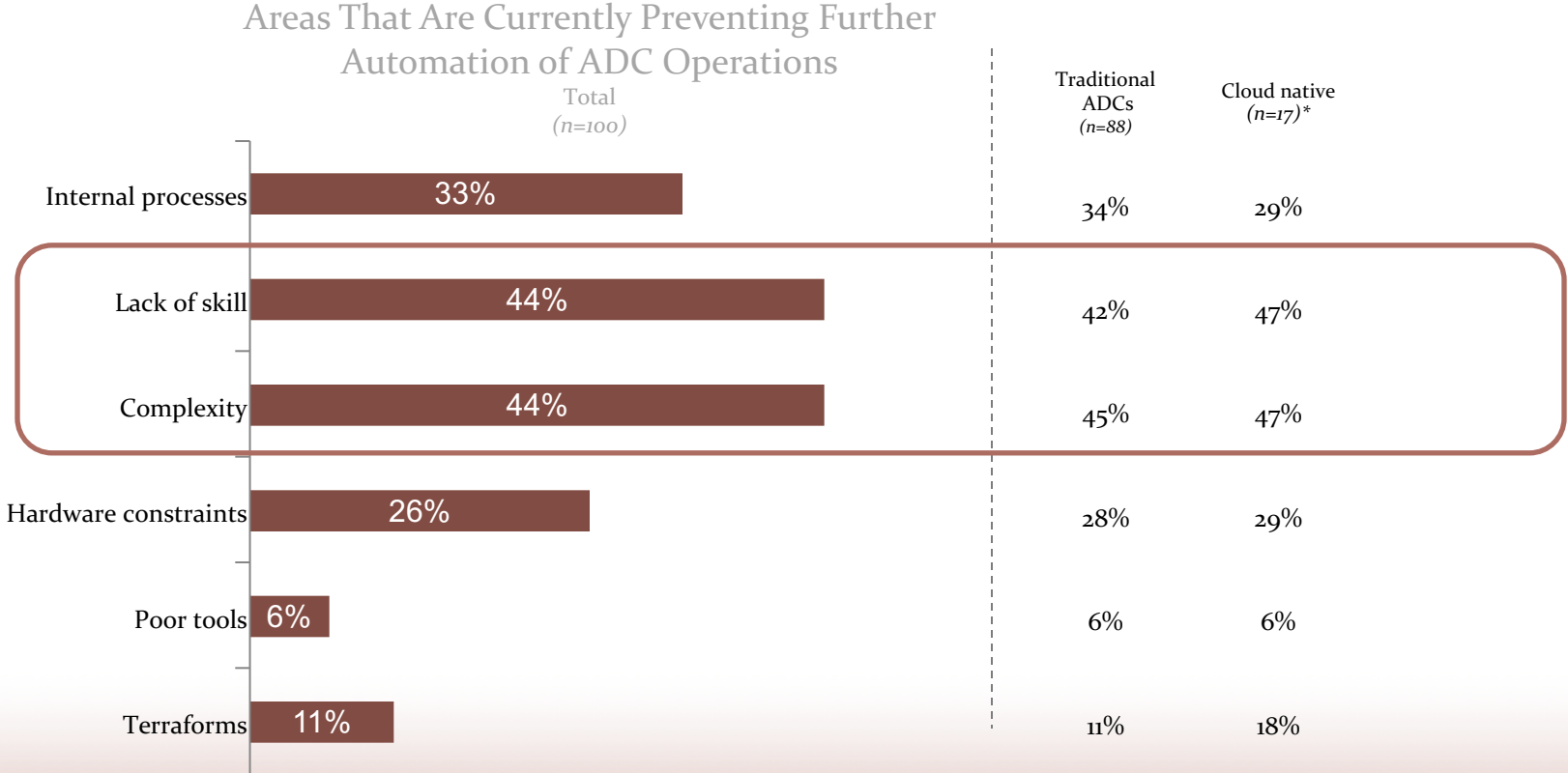


Q10. Do you have the ability to automate configuration changes to an ADC?

Q11. What automation tools / frameworks do you use?

* Caution: Small sample size

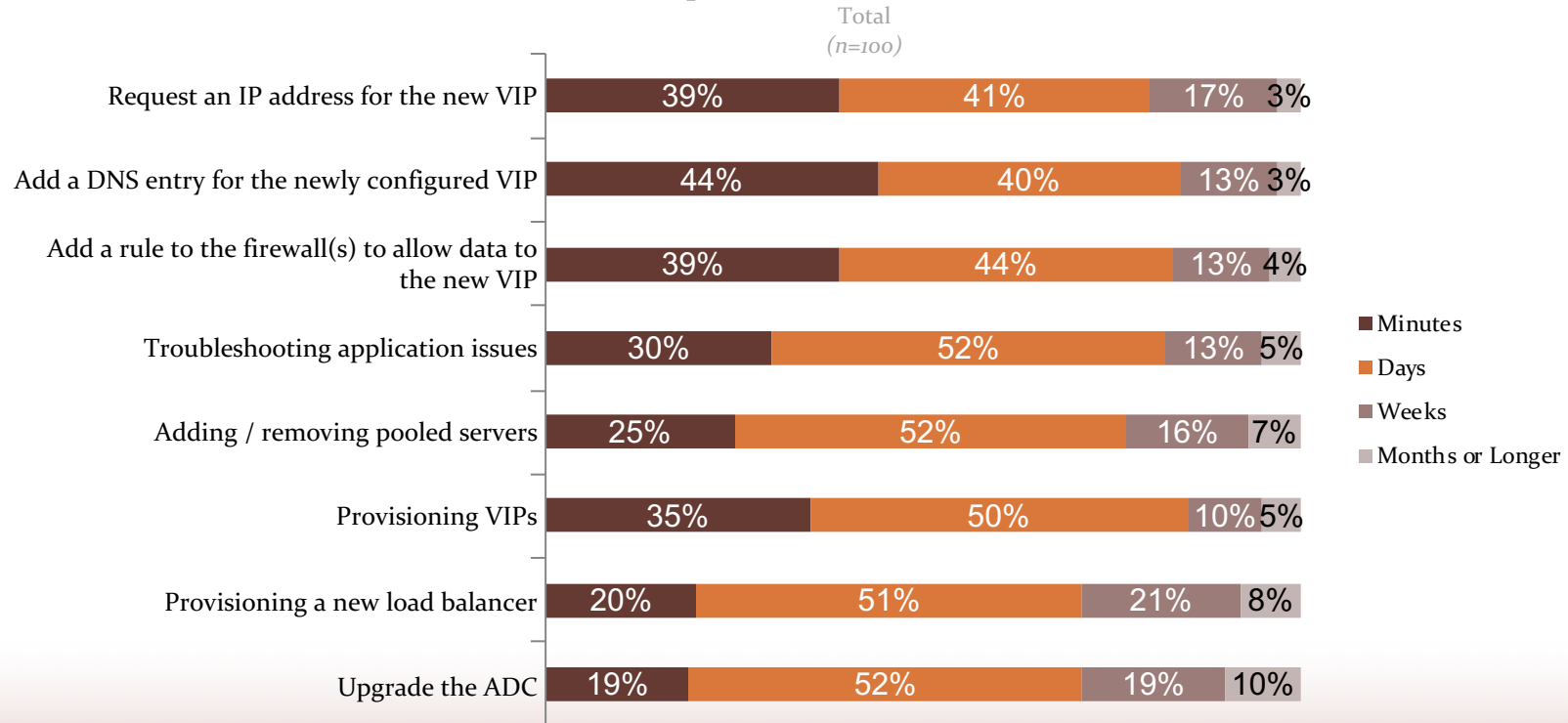
Lack of skill and overall complexity are most often identified as the greatest barriers preventing further automation on ADC operations.



* Caution: Small sample size

For the tasks performed on ADC, roughly two-thirds can be addressed in minutes or days.

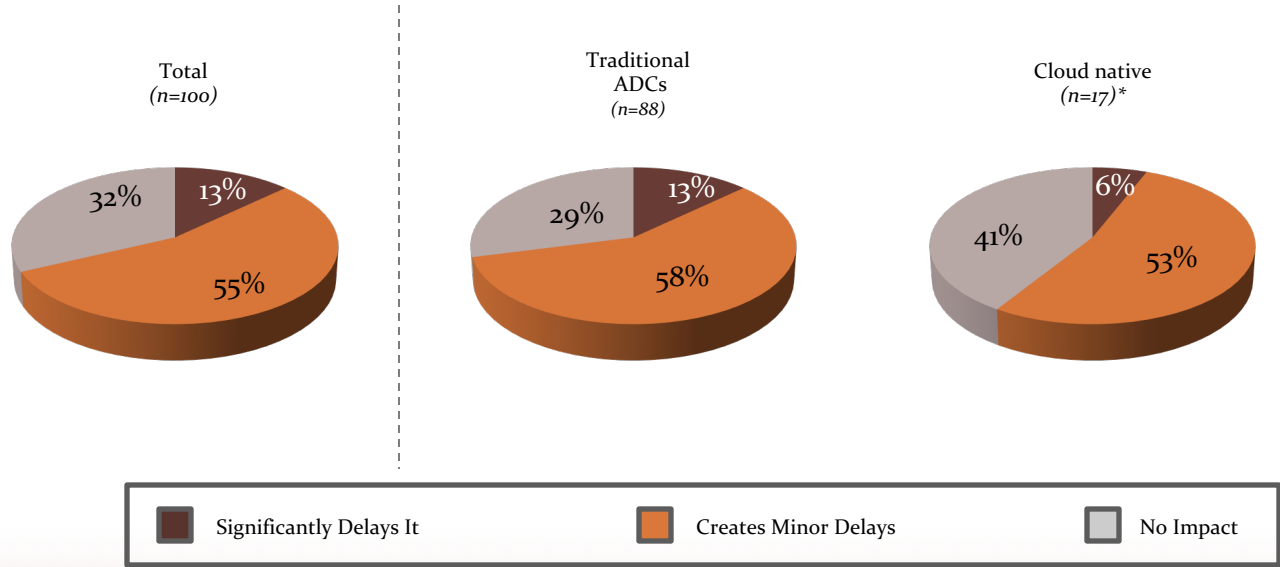
Time Required to Perform Tasks on ADC



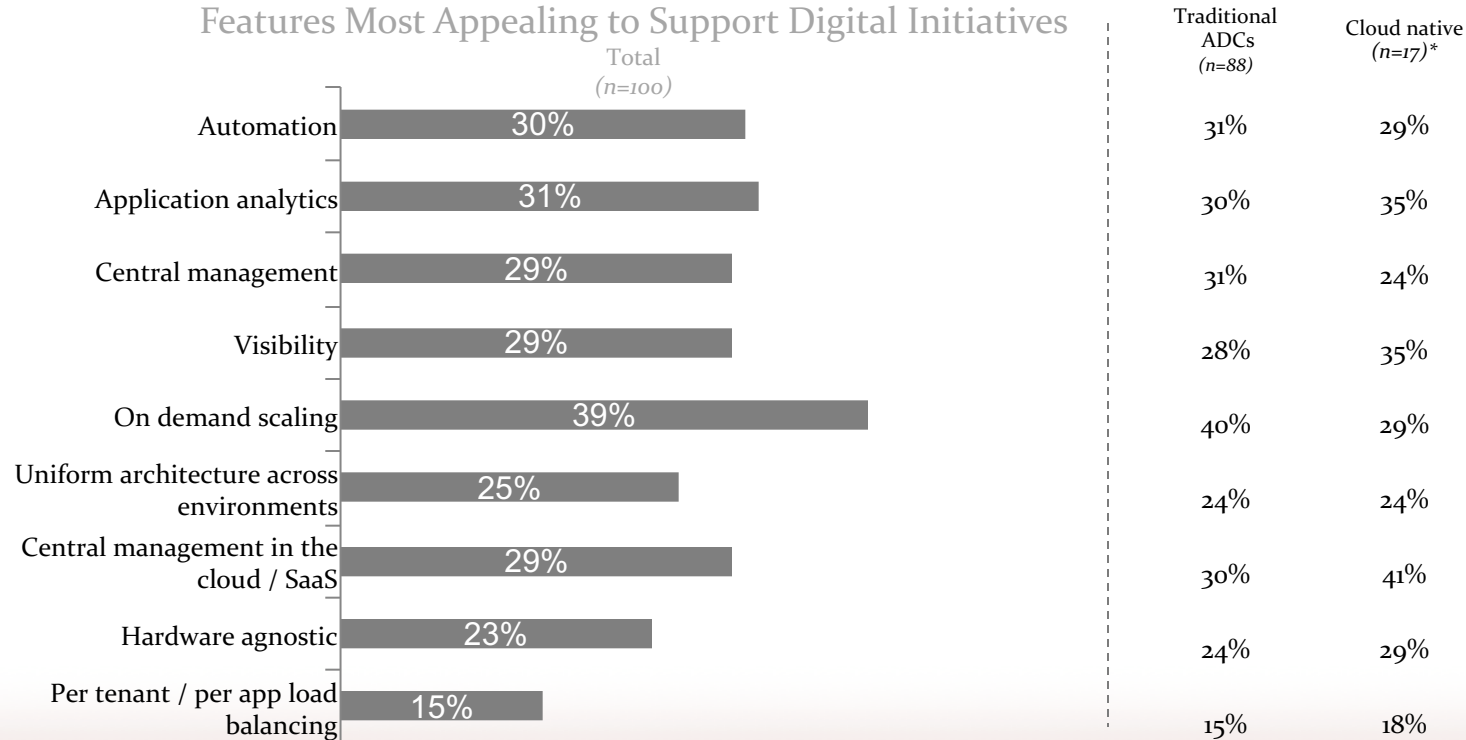
* Caution: Small sample size

The vast majority, over 80%, of ADC changes have limited impact on application roll out and only account for minor delays.

Speed of ADC Changes Impact on Application Roll Out



While many features are rated similarly, on demand scaling is recognized most often as the feature that is most appealing to support digital initiatives.



* Caution: Small sample size

Demographics

Industry	Total	US	UK
Banking	3%	3%	4%
Consumer	1%	0%	2%
Education - K -12	2%	2%	0%
Education - Higher Education	5%	7%	2%
Engineering	3%	1%	6%
Energy	1%	2%	0%
Consumer Goods	1%	0%	1%
Financial Services	6%	7%	5%
Government - federal	3%	3%	2%
Government - state	1%	1%	0%
Government - local	4%	4%	5%
Healthcare	9%	10%	5%
Insurance	4%	5%	2%
Manufacturing	12%	12%	12%
Real estate	1%	0%	1%
Retail	6%	4%	9%
Technology	26%	25%	28%
Telecommunications	5%	4%	7%
Transportation (Travel)	4%	3%	5%
Electronics	1%	0%	2%
Not-for-Profit	1%	2%	0%

Company Size	Total	US	UK
300-1000	18%	10%	33%
1001-2000	16%	17%	14%
2001-3000	9%	9%	8%
3001-5000	13%	14%	12%
5001-10000	11%	11%	10%
10000+	33%	38%	23%

Title	Total	US	UK
CIO	11%	7%	19%
Consultant	3%	2%	4%
IT Manager	40%	39%	42%
Network Engineer/Architect	9%	9%	10%
Other IT employee	33%	39%	21%
Other	4%	4%	4%