

Disaster recovery planning process still a hit-or-miss affair

Nearly half of the companies we recently surveyed still don't have a disaster recovery planning process in place. Those that do are generally confident their plans will work if needed, with 63% expressing "moderate" confidence and 20% saying their confidence level is "high."

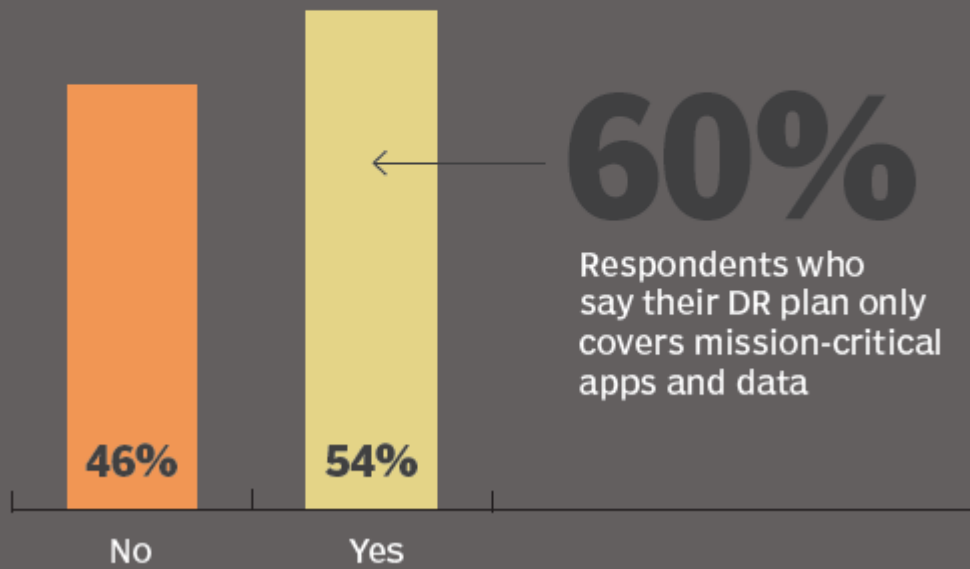
But our [data protection survey](#) also reveals that testing of disaster recovery (DR) readiness is spotty at best, with half of the respondents reporting that they either don't have a [set testing schedule](#) (10%) or test just once a year (40%). Most (60%) say their [DR planning process](#) covers only mission-critical applications.

Looking under the hood of companies' DR plans, we find that 60% use [some form of disk-based backup](#), 47% [use remote replication](#) and 40% still rely on [good old tape](#). Thirty-seven percent send tapes off site to a vaulting or storage service. And while there's been plenty of talk about DR being the new killer app for cloud storage and computing services, it's apparently taking a while to catch on, as only a handful of respondents use online vaulting (10%) or [cloud backup services](#) (7%) as part of their DR planning scenarios. But 29% say they [plan to purchase outsourced DR services](#) within the next 12 months, which presumably would include cloud-based DR as well as online vaulting. Those who are considering cloud-based DR purchases have high standards; for them, the most important factors when evaluating these products and services are:

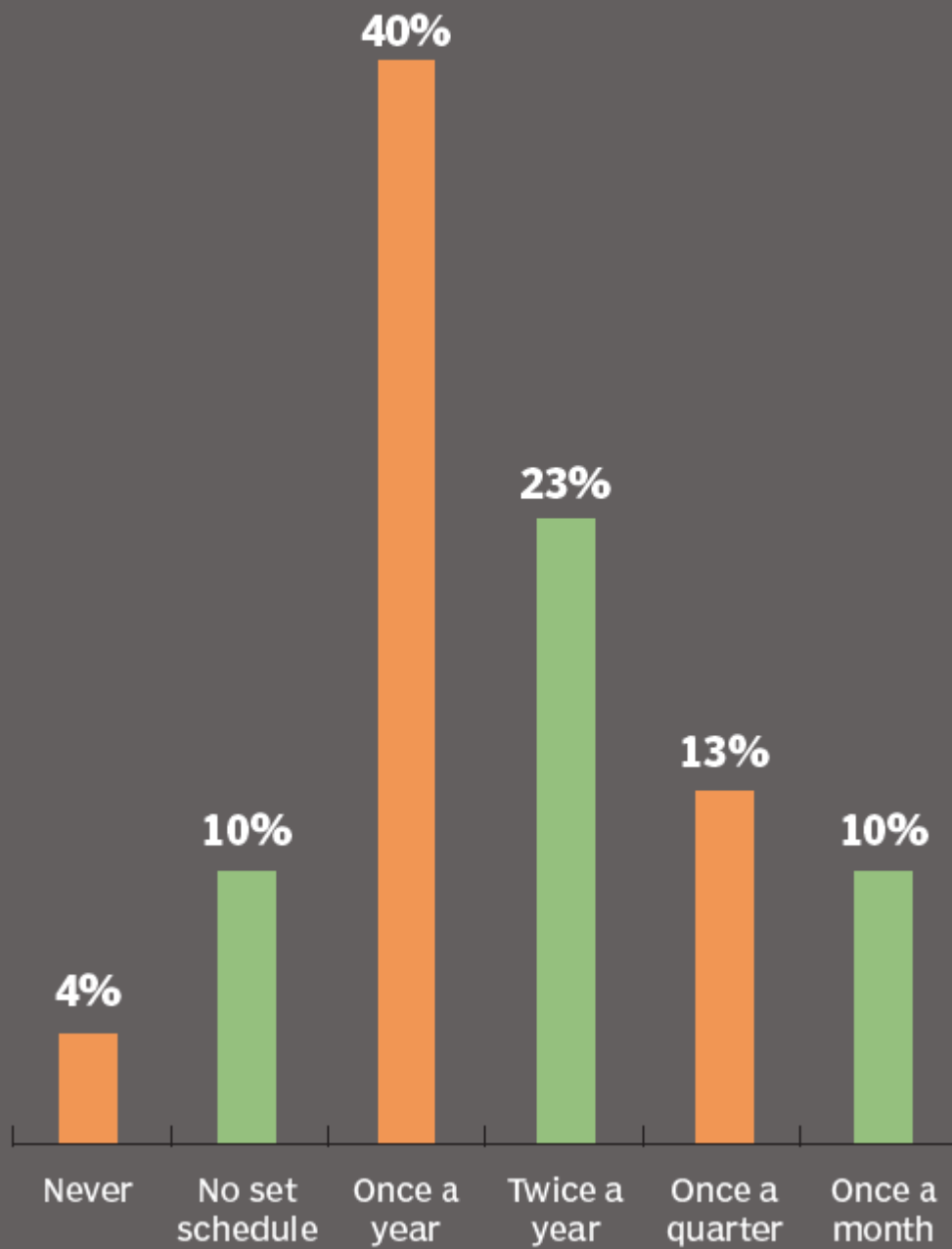
- Price (71%)
- Promised recovery time (71%)
- Reputation/reliability of the vendor (65%)
- Ease of use (65%)
- Autonomy/control of their company's data (59%)
- Compatibility with existing backup/storage infrastructure (41%)
- Ability to outsource tasks/responsibilities (29%)

When shopping for tape, disk or [cloud technologies for disaster recovery](#), the top priority is that the product or service can meet current and future capacity requirements (83%). Price is important, too, with 79% saying the cost of a solution is a key concern. Sixty-two percent first consider whether a product or service can meet their [RTO/RPO requirements](#), while the main consideration for 59% of those surveyed is that the DR technology is compatible with their firm's existing infrastructure.

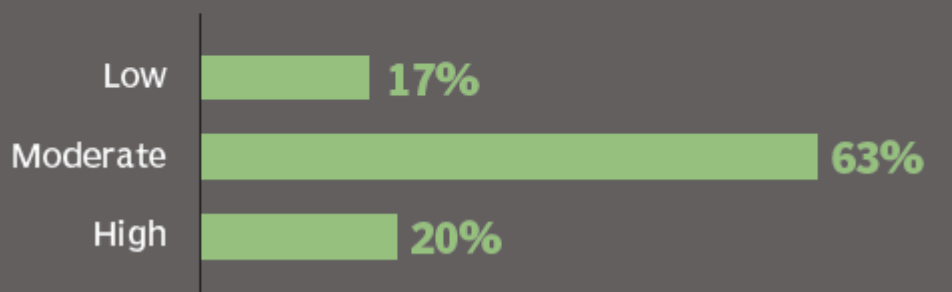
➔ **Does your organization currently have a disaster recovery plan in place?**



➔ **How often do you test your DR plan?**



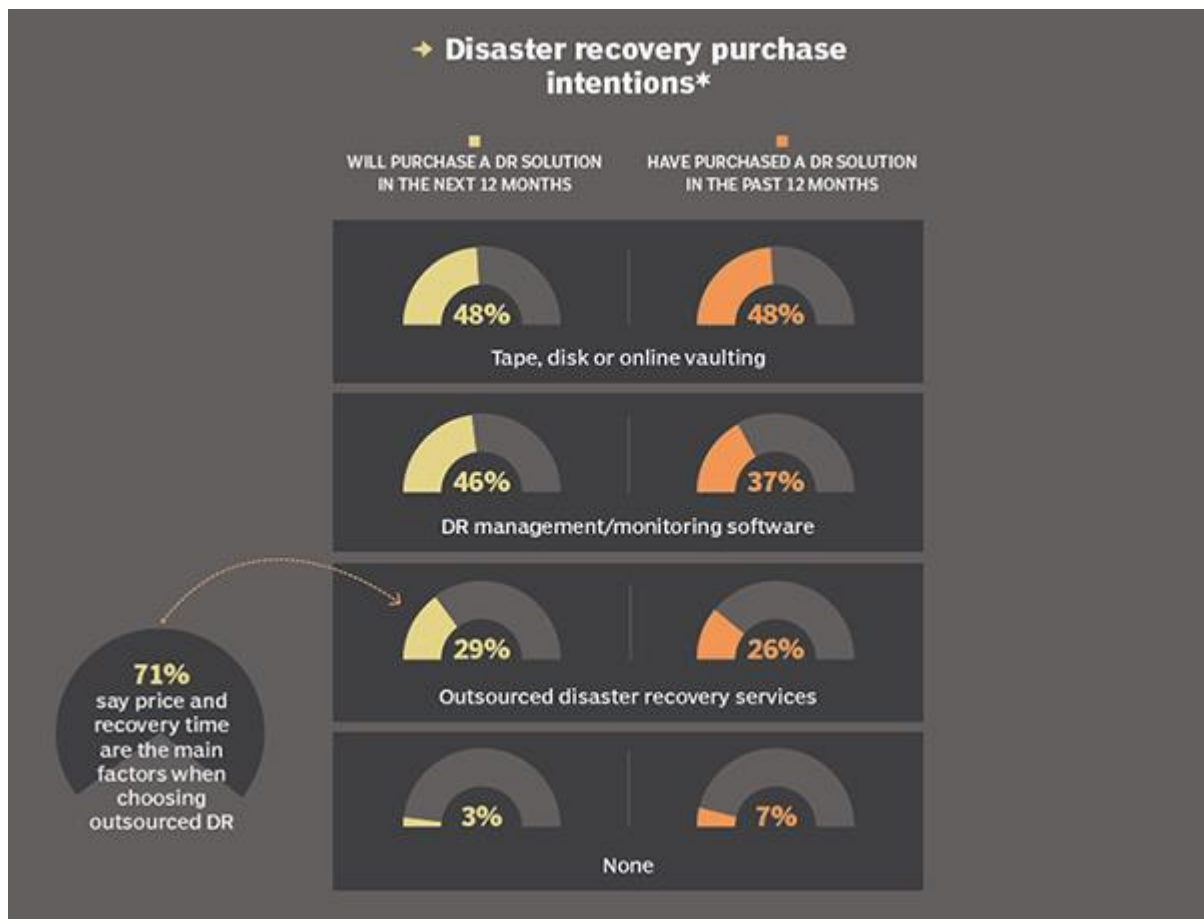
➔ **What is your level of confidence in your organization's DR plan in the event of an emergency?**



➔ **Technologies/Practices currently
used in DR plans***



* MULTIPLE SELECTIONS PERMITTED, BOTH CHARTS



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