The current state of the mainframe is strong, and the outlook is even better.

Increased digital experiences and online transaction volumes are putting the mainframe front and center for many survey respondents. 63% said new greenfield and brownfield applications are critical to their business in 2021. 68% expect MIPS to grow—the highest growth outlook in the 15-year history of this survey. 67% of Extra-Large shops have more than 50 percent of their data on the mainframe. The current state of the mainframe is strong, and the outlook is even better. The faces of mainframe are changing. As more experienced mainframe professionals retire, a newer-in-career generation emerges. And as this experience gap continues to widen, the gender gap continues to narrow.

A new mainframe priority has risen to the top. While the mainframe has earned a reputation of a naturally secure platform, compliance and security has been identified as the number one priority for respondents this year with cost optimization a strong second. And, with a little over half of respondents (52 percent) having less than 10 years of mainframe experience, the marked increase (8 percent) in implementing AI and machine learning technologies in their mainframe infrastructure is a sound decision.

BMC's 2020 Mainframe Survey: Adapt, Automate and Secure

The largest study of its kind with over 1050 responses from mainframe executives and IT technicians, BMC's 15th annual mainframe study also delves into specific findings in the areas of:

- Compliance and Security
- Cost optimization
- Implementing AI/ML technologies
- Data recovery
- Staffing and skills
- Mainframe modernization
- DevOps
- AI and Machine Learning

To learn more about the mainframe priorities of your peers, read the full report at bmc.com/mainframesurvey

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