

IDC PERSPECTIVE

Why a Backup Strategy for Microsoft Office 365 is Essential for Security, Compliance, and Business Continuity

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EXECUTIVE SNAPSHOT

FIGURE 1

Executive Snapshot: Backup Strategy for Microsoft O365 is Essential for Security, Compliance, and Business Continuity

Email and collaboration is the most mature business process, and it is the most adopted software-as-a-service (SaaS) solution. This makes Microsoft Office 365 (O365) the center of business productivity, and ensuring data protection of O365 is imperative for security, compliance, and business continuity. A lack of O365 backup plan is a risky data strategy.

Key Takeaways

- 6 in 10 O365 users IDC spoke with at an event do not have a data protection plan for their O365 estates or rely on Microsoft's native capabilities.
- Microsoft's shared responsibility in O365 is limited to infrastructure — ensuring uptime, cloud service availability, basic retention, and physical and logical infrastructure security.
- While the data owner is ultimately responsible for data security, privacy, compliance, and recovery, enterprise-grade backup of O365 can give businesses the confidence to recover from security breaches, compliance exposure, and data loss.

Recommended Actions

- Make O365 backup a key priority.
- Ensure strategic and methodical adoption of the O365 suite with a backup environment to mitigate risks from SaaS lock-in.
- Be in complete control of business data, and lay the foundation to become data-driven.
- Consider enterprise-grade data protection and recovery features, automation, security, and integration between the O365 environment and your existing data protection environment when investing in backup solutions.

Source: IDC, 2019