



Apple: Business Overview

June 2024



AMERICAS SEGMENT

FY2023 Revenue: \$162.6 Billion



EUROPE SEGMENT

(includes Africa, Middle East & India)

FY2023 Revenue: \$94.3 Billion



GREATER CHINA SEGMENT

FY2023 Revenue: \$72.6 Billion



JAPAN SEGMENT

FY2023 Revenue: \$24.3 Billion



REST OF ASIA SEGMENT

FY2023 Revenue: \$29.6 Billion



PRODUCT AND SERVICE OFFERINGS

Products
(FY2023 Revenue: \$298.1 Billion)

Services
(FY2023 Revenue: \$85.2 Billion)

iPhone
(FY2023 Revenue: \$200.6 Billion)

iPhone



Mac
(FY2023 Revenue: \$29.4 Billion)

MacBook

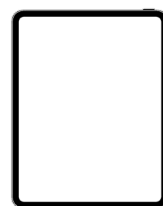


iMac



iPad
(FY2023 Revenue: \$28.3 Billion)

iPad



Wearables & Home Accessories
(FY2023 Revenue: \$39.8 Billion)

AirPods



Apple TV



Apple Watch



Beats by Dr. Dre



Apple Vision Pro



HomePod



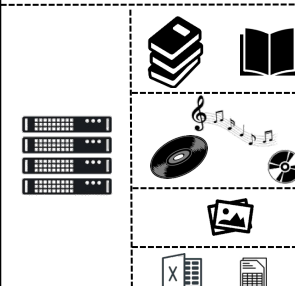
Advertising Services

Search Ads



Cloud Services

iCloud



Apple Care

AppleCare+



Digital Content

Arcade



Fitness+



Music



News+



tv+



Payment Services

Apple Card



Apple Pay



Apple Pay Later
(to be discontinued)



Apple Ecosystem

Apple Inc.
 One Apple Park Way
 Cupertino, California 95014
 Phone: (408) 996-1010 | Website: www.apple.com

Apple Inc. (a California corporation)

Debt Structure

Debt: \$106.6B @ 9/30/23 | Credit Ratings (Senior Unsecured Debt): Moody's: AAA; S&P: AA+

Working Capital	Other Debt/Segment Debt
Commercial Paper Program: Outstanding: \$6.0B Avg. Rate: 5.28%	2024-2062 Notes: \$101.3B @ 0.00% to 4.65% 2026-2053 Notes: \$5.2B @ 4.04% to 4.88%



Equity Structure

Equity
2023 Share Repurchase Program Authorized: \$30 Billion Remaining: \$74.1 Billion Expiration: None
Common Stock Authorized: 50.4 Billion Shares Issued and Outstanding: 15,552 Billion Shares Record Holders: 23,763

Governance

Board of Directors		
Arthur D. Levinson, Ph.D. (Chair, P)	Tim Cook	Alex Gorsky (N, P)
Susan L. Wagner (A, N)	Andrea Jung (N, P)	Committees: Audit and Finance (A), Nominating and Corporate Governance (N), People and Compensation (P)
Wanda Austin, Ph.D. (A)	Monica Lozano (A)	Ronald D. Sugar, Ph.D. (A)

Management Team		
CEO: Tim Cook	SVP, Machine Learning & AI Strategy: John Giannandrea	SVP, Retail: Deirdre O'Brien
SVP, General Counsel: Katherine Adams	SVP, Worldwide Marketing: Greg "Joz" Joswiak	SVP, Hardware Technologies: John Scouff
SVP, Services: Eddy Cue	SVP, Operations: Sabih Khan	SVP, Hardware Engineering: John Ternus
SVP, Software Engineering: Craig Federighi	SVP, CFO: Luca Maestri	COO: Jeff Williams

Corporate Matters

Operations	Software Engineering
Global Supply Chain	iOS, macOS and Siri Software Development
Product Quality	User Interface
Planning	Applications
Procurement	Frameworks
Manufacturing	Apple CarPlay
Logistics	Machine Learning
Product Fulfillment	AI Strategy
Supplier Responsibility Programs	Machine Learning Strategy
	Core Machine Learning Development
	Siri Technology Development

Operations

Americas (FY23 Revenue: \$162.6 Billion)	Europe (FY23 Revenue: \$94.3 Billion)	Greater China (FY23 Revenue: \$72.6 Billion)	Japan (FY23 Sales: \$24.3 Billion)	Rest of Asia Pacific (FY23 Revenue: \$29.6 Billion)
Regions: North America, South America	Regions: Europe, Middle East, Africa, India	Regions: Taiwan, Hong Kong	Regions: Japan	Regions: Australia, Thailand, South Korea, New Zealand, Indonesia, Vietnam
Offices: Corporate HQ Cupertino, CA; Austin, Texas; San Diego, California; Boulder, Colorado; Mexico City, Mexico	Offices: Europe HQ Cork, Ireland; Bengaluru, India; Paris, France; London, England; Istanbul, Turkey; Dubai, United Arab Emirates	Offices: Hong Kong; Shanghai, China; Taipei City, Taiwan	Offices: Tokyo, Japan	Offices: Sydney, Australia; Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia; Cotaia, Macao; Singapore; Bangkok, Thailand
Retail Stores: US - 273; Mexico - 2; Canada - 28; Brazil - 2	Retail Stores: United Kingdom - 40; Germany - 16; France - 20; Spain - 11; Italy - 17; UAE - 4; India - 2; Turkey - 3; Sweden - 3; Austria - 1; Switzerland - 4; Belgium - 1	Retail Stores: China Mainland - 46; Hong Kong - 6; Taiwan - 2	Retail Stores: Japan - 10	Retail Stores: Australia - 22; South Korea - 5; Singapore - 3; Thailand - 2; Macau - 2

Products (FY2023 Revenue: \$298.1 Billion)

iPhone (FY23 Revenue: \$200.6 Billion)	Mac (FY23 Revenue: \$29.4 Billion)	iPad (FY23 Revenue: \$28.3 Billion)	Wearables, Home and Accessories (FY23 Revenue: \$39.8 Billion)
Smart Phones Based on iOS Operating System	Personal Computers Based on macOS Operating System	Multi-Purpose Tablets Based on iPadOS Operating System	Wearables, Home, and Accessories (includes Apple-Branded and Third-Party Accessories)
Devices: iPhone 15 Pro, iPhone 15, iPhone 14, iPhone 13, iPhone SE, iPhone Accessories	Devices: MacBook Air, MacBook Pro, iMac, Mac mini, Mac Studio, Mac Accessories	Devices: iPad Pro, iPad Air, iPad mini, iPad Accessories	Devices: AirPods, AirPods Pro, AirPods Max, Apple TV 4K and Apple TV HD, Apple Watch Ultra 2, Apple Watch Series 9, and Apple Watch SE, Beats Headphone Products, HomePod, HomePod mini, Vision Pro, Accessories
Smart Phone Competition: Samsung, Huawei, Xiaomi	Laptop/Desktop Competition: Dell, HP, Lenovo, SONY	Tablet Competition: Google, Samsung, Amazon, Microsoft	Accessories Competition: Fitbit, Bose, Xiaomi, Samsung, Sony

Services (FY2023 Revenue: \$85.2 Billion)

Advertising Services	Apple Care	Digital Content	Payment Services
Includes Third-Party Licensing Arrangements and Apple's Advertising Platforms	Fee Based Service and Support Products Under Apple Care Brand	Platforms That Allow Customers to Discover and Download Applications and Digital Content, Some on a Subscription Basis	Payment Services, including a Co-Branded Credit Card and a Cashless Payment Service
Services: Search Ads, Meta, Amazon, Yahoo!	Services: AppleCare, AppleCare+, Technical Support, Apple Authorized Repair and Replacement, Extended Warranty Coverage	Services: App Store, Arcade, Fitness+, Music, News+, TV+	Services: Apple Card, Apple Pay, Apple Pay Later, Apple Pay Cashless, Contactless Payment Services
Cloud Services: Keeps Customer's Content Up-To-Date and Available Across Multiple Personal Computers	Services: iCloud (Cloud-Based Data Storage)	Subscription-Based Services: Video Game Subscription Service, Personalized Fitness Service, Curated Listening Experience With On-Demand Radio Stations, Apple News+, Apple TV+ (offers exclusive original content and sports)	Services: Apple Buy Now, Pay Later (consumer loans for purchases of Apple products), Apple Card (co-branded credit card with Goldman Sachs), Apple Pay (cashless payment service), Apple Pay Later (allows customers to split purchases into four equal payments over six weeks)
Ad/Cloud Services Competition: Google, Amazon, Microsoft	Warranty Competition: Progressive, Allstate	Digital Content Competition: Netflix, Max, Disney+, Hulu, Spotify, YouTube Music, Peacock	Payments Competition: PayPal, Amazon Pay, Samsung Pay

Business Segments

Retail and People	Finance and Accounting	Services	Legal	Services
Talent Acquisition, Talent Development, Apple University, Compensation, Benefits, Recruiting, Culture, Inclusion and Diversity, Business Partnership, Employee Relations and Experience	Accounting, Business Support, Financial Planning and Analysis, Financial Reporting, Treasury, Real Estate, Investor Relations, Internal Audit, Tax	iTunes Store, Apple Music, Apple Pay, Apple Maps, Search Ads, iCloud Services, Productivity and Creativity Apps, Worldwide Video Programming	Cyber Security, Corporate Governance, Antitrust, Intellectual Property, Litigation and Securities Compliance, Global Security, Privacy, Marketing, Global Marketing, Products Marketing, Product Management	Technologies: Silicon Engineering, Batteries, Application Processors, Storage Controllers, Sensors Silicon, Display Silicon, Chip Sets, Engineering, Hardware Engineering Team, Key Product Engineering (e.g., iPhone, iPad, Mac, and AirPods)

Supply Chain

Electronic and Other Components	Cellular Network Carriers	Retailers	Wholesalers	Resellers
Murata (ceramic capacitors), TDK (next generation small solid-state batteries), Qualcomm (electronic components such as power transistors and management modules), TSMC (semiconductor manufacturing), Broadcom (5G radio frequency components), LG Innotek (OLED screens), Samsung (OLED screens and DRAM), Micron (memory chips), Toshiba & Sharp (LCD panels), Corning (special Gorilla glass for smartphones), Goertek (speaker, acoustic components), Wistron (printed circuit boards), Hon Hai Technology (precision assembly services), Luxshare (Apple Vision Pro headsets and AirPods Pro), Jabil (electronic manufacturing and assembly services), Pegatron (assembly services)	AT&T, Verizon, Xfinity, T-Mobile, Charter, UScellular	Best Buy, Amazon, ODP, Target, Staples, Walmart	Apple Retail Stores, Apple Authorized Resellers	Apple Retail Stores, Apple Authorized Resellers

Key Company Data (as of 09/30/2023)

Share Data	Financial Highlights
NASDAQ Stock Exchange Ticker Symbol: AAPL	Results of Operations
Share Price: \$214.79 (06/18/2023)	Net Sales: \$383.2B
Earnings Per Share (Trailing 12 Months): \$6.4	Products: \$298.1B
Forward Annual Dividend: \$0.90/share	Cost of Sales: \$213.0B
Market Capitalization: \$3,291 (06/18/2023)	Products: \$189.3B
Resources	Services: \$24.9B
Employees: 161,000	Gross Margin: \$169.1B (43.31%)
Headquarters: Cupertino, California	Net Income: \$97.0B
Patents: 2,000+	Balance Sheet
Suppliers: Each year it releases a progress report outlining its supplier relationship efforts as well as a list of its top 200 suppliers, which account for 98% of its procurement.	Total Assets: \$352.6B
	Total Liabilities: \$290.4B
	Equity: \$62.1B
	Cash Flow
	From Operations: \$110.5B
	From Investing: \$3.7B
	Used in Financing: (\$108.5B)
	Financial Returns
	Return on Equity: 171.9%

Key Developments

- NVIDIA Graphics Processors:** In June 2024, Apple previewed AI-powered features for iPhone, iPad and Mac in the fall. Most are fueled by Apple's own Apple Intelligence proprietary technology, but the company will offer OpenAI's viral ChatGPT tool in a limited capacity—e.g., when Siri is activated and needs more assistance answering an inquiry.
- OpenAI Partnership:** In June 2024, Apple previewed AI-powered features for iPhone, iPad and Mac in the fall. Most are fueled by Apple's own Apple Intelligence proprietary technology, but the company will offer OpenAI's viral ChatGPT tool in a limited capacity—e.g., when Siri is activated and needs more assistance answering an inquiry.

Outside Relationships

Regulators	Capital	Suppliers	Customers
U.S. Regulation U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) (regulation of, and permits for, discharges, leaks, emissions, disposal, storage of particular matter, hazardous waste, and toxic substances in the water, air, and soil; Superfund cleanup requirement for contamination) U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO); U.S. Copyright Office; and ICANN (patent, copyright, trademark, service mark, and domain name registrations and renewals; safe harbor against copyright liability for linking, caching, hosting, third-party content) U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) (regulation of work practices, wage and overtime requirements; enforcement of anti-discrimination laws in hiring, workplace safety and civil rights; and OSHA workplace health and safety, and serious injury reporting) U.S. Internal Revenue Service (IRS) and State Tax Authorities (regulation of corporate income taxes, indirect taxes such as excise duty and sales/use taxes, payroll taxes, and withholding taxes) U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) and Federal Trade Commission (FTC) (enforcement of antitrust laws; enforcement of, and investigations under, fair trade and consumer protection laws; DOJ enforcement of laws regarding data privacy foreign corrupt practices; advertising and sales; prohibition of unfair or deceptive practices or claims in advertising) U.S. Department of the Treasury (enforcement of economic sanctions; money laundering regulations; restricted party transactions regulation; and Treasury economic sanctions) U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) (regulation of imports of raw materials, supplies and intermediate and finished goods; customs duties administration) U.S. Dept of Commerce (DOC), including Bureau of Industry and Security (BIS) / Export Administration (EA) (DOE tariffs and trade barriers; BIS regulation of export of intermediate and finished goods, raw materials, and supplies, information handling; EA export licenses) Consumer Protection (CPC) (regulation of distribution of certain material to children and collection of information from minors; product defects; product safety)	Public Debt Holders and Qualified Institutional Buyers Hedge Counterparties Commercial Paper Dealers and Lenders Bank Bond Financing Foreign Exchange and Interest Rate Derivatives Contracts Working Capital Financing Environmental, IP, Labor, Trad, Tax, and Consumer Safety, Business, and Antitrust Regulation	Filmed Entertainment Content Producers and Partners CBS YouTube Amazon Studios ROGERS Disney + abc COMCAST NBCUniversal WARNER BROS. DISCOVERY News Corp meredith HEARST CONDÉ NAST Major League Soccer (MLS) (in 2022, MLS granted an exclusive 10-year, \$2.5 billion license to Apple to distribute games) Major League Baseball (MLB) (in 2022, MLB granted Apple a 7-year license to broadcast games for US\$85 million per year (\$595 million total), including an annual \$55 million rights fee and \$30 million for Apple advertising)	Selected Professional Services Firms Ernst & Young (audit services) TBWA/Media Arts Lab (media services) MAL (media services) Capitol Tax Partners (lobbying services) Key Legal Services Providers SIDLEY AUSTIN LLP orrick (1.92%) WILMERHALL (1.92%) MORRISON FOERSTER Institutional Ownership 61.66%
U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (regulation of offers and sales of securities, material event disclosure and financial reporting requirements, and anti-bribery law record-keeping requirements) NASDAQ Global Select Market (listing, maintenance rules and corporate accountability rules) Nasdaq California Secretary of State (administration and enforcement of Delaware corporation law governing business entity formation and dissolution, shareholder, board and officer management duties, financial reporting, charter document amendments, mergers and acquisitions, and compliance penalties for non-compliance) Federal Communications Commission (FCC) (regulation of TV, satellite, radio, wire, and cable communications; broadband access; fair competition; radio secrecy; homeland security; and public safety; regulation of multi-channel video programming distributors)	Significant Shareholders Vanguard Group (8.60%) BlackRock Inc. (6.79%) Berkshire Hathaway (5.15%) BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY State Street Corporation (3.84%) STATE STREET Geode Capital Management (2.01%) GEODE Fidelity Management and Research (1.92%) Fidelity Institutional Ownership 61.66%	Significant Artificial Intelligence Relationships NVIDIA (accelerated computing graphic processing units for generative AI training) OpenAI (in June 2024, OpenAI and Apple announced a partnership to integrate OpenAI's ChatGPT generative AI service into Apple products and experiences in Apple products)	Significant Regulatory Relationships Alphabet-Owned Google (in exchange for Google's payment of an ~\$18 billion fee per year, Apple licenses the right to make Google the default search engine on Apple's Safari web browser) Alphabet Google License of Right to Make Google the Default Search Engine on Apple's Safari Web Browser Purchases of Apple Products (and Third-Party Products) and Services Using Apple Card, Apple Pay Later, and Apple Pay Cashless, Contactless Payment Services (consumers receive 3% cash back on purchases) Apple Pay Cashless, Contactless Payment Services Issuance of Apple Credit Cards (3% cash back on purchases) Apple Device Owners Apple Credit Card Holders Apple-Branded Credit Card Program Goldman Sachs Bank USA (issuing bank under Apple credit card program) Bank USA Mastercard (credit card network and payment processing services for Apple Card and Pay Later transactions) Bank USA Financial Services Arrangements

Data Activities

A UPSTREAM: DATA PRODUCTION

The Promise of Data. Many experts believe data (and particularly big data) hold the key to the future because of their ability to reveal patterns and connections that significantly improve lives from secure self-driving cars to more effective pharmaceutical treatments to more reliable weather forecasts enabling farmers to get better yields or predicting drought conditions. To understand how to harness the benefits of data, the starting point is to understand what data are, who generates data, and who collects data.

Data Creation. Data volumes have skyrocketed. From 2010 to 2020, the amount of data created, captured, copied, and consumed in the world increased from 1.2 trillion gigabytes to 59 trillion gigabytes, an almost 5,000% rate of growth! IBM estimates there are 2.9 million emails sent every second, 375 megabytes of data consumed by households daily, 20 hours of video uploaded to YouTube every minute, 24 petabytes of data processed per day by Google, and 73 products ordered on Amazon per second. More data was generated in the last two years than in the entire human history before that. The total amount of data created, captured, copied, and consumed globally is forecast to increase rapidly, reaching 180 zettabytes in 2025. We are swimming in a world of data.

Data Creators. Every individual, business, and government agency anywhere generates data:

- Each second of each day, individuals generate data. On Google alone, people submit 40,000 search queries per second, which amounts to 1.2 trillion searches yearly! Each minute, 300 new hours of video show up on YouTube. That's why there are more than 1 billion gigabytes (1 exabyte) of data on Google's servers! People share more than 100 terabytes of data on Facebook daily. Every minute, users send 31 million messages and view 2.7 million videos. Smart devices (for example, fitness trackers, sensors, and Amazon Echo) produce 5 quintillion bytes of data daily.
- Every business generates data (a) through its internal support functions (e.g., human resources, procurement, legal, accounting, R&D, sales and marketing) that tends to be similar across all business sectors and (b) arising from operations that are unique to its business sector (i.e., the products and services the company sells), such as healthcare (health insights, data on the effectiveness of different drug treatments, and improvements in emergency room care), banking (customer account balances, and loan delinquencies), entertainment media (the TV shows subscribers watched during peak viewing hours), retail (customer profiles and purchase histories and habits), energy and utility industries (sensors indicating turbine and engine performance), construction (building construction sequencing, and subcontractor scheduling), and transportation (train conditions and fuel consumption).
- In the U.S., the federal government is perhaps the most prolific generator of data, including weather, employment, and economic statistics, surveillance footage of foreign troop movements, the flight paths of asteroids and comets, the amount of government student loans outstanding, and data on the incidence of disease.

Data Collection. Although individuals, businesses and government agencies generate data for themselves (original data generation), each data generator is involved in collecting data from the other data generators, which itself is a form of data generation (secondary data generation). For example, a business will collect personal data from its customers in order to establish an online banking account, the government will request data from a pharmaceutical company to determine whether to grant approval for a new drug, and individuals will collect data from the government or a business in order to initiate litigation.

INDIVIDUAL DATA GENERATION

Individuals as Data Generators. People generate over five quintillion bytes of data each day via (1) web searches (1 billion each day), (2) operating content such as photos, videos and messages on social media (e.g., 300 million daily photo uploads), (3) email communications (594 billion emails per day), and (4) other means such as connected cars, IoT devices, and smart-home sensing and other apps.

Personal Health Data	Personal Financial Data	Personal Social Media Data	Personal Location Data	Personal Device Data
Medical records, insurance claims, fitness trackers, wearables/watches, and fitness trackers	Banking transactions, credit card statements, investment portfolios, and tax records	Text messages, social media posts, photos, and videos	GPS tracking, geotagging, and location-based services	Smartphone usage, app data, and device settings

Who Collects Individual Data (and Why)?

Government	Businesses	Individuals
Raise Revenue (Tax returns, withholding), Address Disputes (Wrongful loss, identity theft, credit reporting), Make Determination (Professional liability, workers' compensation, disability benefits), Protect Environment and Consumers (Product safety, environmental protection, consumer protection), Ensure Public Health (Food safety, drug safety, medical device safety)	Develop Products/Advertising (Customer preferences, pricing, strategy, targeting), Handle Disputes (Legal, insurance, contract), Build Employment Relationships (Recruitment, performance, training, development), Submit Government Reports (Tax, regulatory, industry compliance)	Build Relationships (Social networking, dating), Handle Disputes (Legal, insurance, contract)

BUSINESS DATA GENERATION

Business Sectors. Businesses are among the largest data generators and processors. Every company generates data (a) through its internal support functions that tends to be similar across all business sectors (e.g., HR data) and (b) arising from its business operations that are unique to its business sector (i.e., the products and services the company sells).

Internal Support Data	Product and Service-Specific Data	Internal Human Resources	Internal Sales	Internal Marketing
HR data, IT support, legal, accounting, R&D, sales and marketing	Product development, customer feedback, sales, and marketing data	Employee records, performance reviews, training, development	Customer acquisition, sales performance, market share	Advertising campaigns, brand awareness, customer engagement

Who Collects Business Data (and Why)?

Government	Businesses	Individuals
Raise Revenue (Tax returns, withholding), Address Disputes (Wrongful loss, identity theft, credit reporting), Make Determination (Professional liability, workers' compensation, disability benefits), Protect Environment and Consumers (Product safety, environmental protection, consumer protection)	Develop Products/Advertising (Customer preferences, pricing, strategy, targeting), Handle Disputes (Legal, insurance, contract), Build Business Relationships (Recruitment, performance, training, development), Submit Government Reports (Tax, regulatory, industry compliance)	Build Relationships (Social networking, dating), Handle Disputes (Legal, insurance, contract)

GOVERNMENT DATA GENERATION

U.S. Government as Public Data Generator. The government (consisting of the federal, 50 state, and over 3,000 local governments) is a prolific generator and collector of data needed to provide for the safety and welfare of U.S. citizens and matters of public interest, such as enforcing criminal and disclosure laws, evaluating trademark and patent applications, providing national security and border control, administering voter registration and social security benefits, tracking census data, and forecasting weather.

Internal Support Data	Internal Human Resources	Internal Sales	Internal Marketing
HR data, IT support, legal, accounting, R&D, sales and marketing	Employee records, performance reviews, training, development	Customer acquisition, sales performance, market share	Advertising campaigns, brand awareness, customer engagement

Who Collects Government Data (and Why)?

Government	Businesses	Individuals
Raise Revenue (Tax returns, withholding), Address Disputes (Wrongful loss, identity theft, credit reporting), Make Determination (Professional liability, workers' compensation, disability benefits), Protect Environment and Consumers (Product safety, environmental protection, consumer protection), Ensure Public Health (Food safety, drug safety, medical device safety)	Develop Products/Advertising (Customer preferences, pricing, strategy, targeting), Handle Disputes (Legal, insurance, contract), Build Business Relationships (Recruitment, performance, training, development), Submit Government Reports (Tax, regulatory, industry compliance)	Build Relationships (Social networking, dating), Handle Disputes (Legal, insurance, contract)

Data Transmission

D Connecting Streams: Data Transport

Upstream to Midstream to Downstream Round-Trip Process. Raw, unprocessed data will be transported from an individual's device (whether acting alone or for a business or government entity) to a data center, private cloud or public cloud and back again as refined data. This cycle is essentially a "round-trip" process, where data is effectively mined, shipped, refined, and shipped again. Although the round-trip process typically occurs in the blink of an eye, the transport of data (as with any shipping process that involves logistics) takes time.

Data Transmission. Data (called messages) will be transported by its sender to a recipient via:

- the internet; or
- radio wave transmission.

Internet Transmission: The internet is a worldwide computer network that connects computers and other devices. It is a local area network where data flows through a data connection (cable, fiber, or ethernet) to a local hub or modem and then to a Wi-Fi router for transmission to the consumer's wireless device.

Radio Wave Transmission: The electromagnetic spectrum includes forms of electromagnetic radiation, such as radio waves, infrared radiation, visible light, ultraviolet radiation, X-rays and gamma rays. The radio wave spectrum encompasses a wide range of electromagnetic frequencies (from extremely low frequencies to extremely high frequencies) used for wireless communication. It transmits and receives radio signals; devices use antennas to broadcast and receive signals. A radio wave transmitter converts information (such as sound or data) by varying their amplitude (AM) or frequency (FM). The receiving device then converts the radio wave back into the original sound or data. It prevents inter-frequency use from one another's communications. The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) allocates different portions of the radio spectrum to specific users (e.g., FM radio, AM radio, TV broadcasts, mobile phones).

B MIDSTREAM: DATA STORAGE & PROCESSING

Storage. Once generated, data will be stored until needed: on disks embedded in stationary and mobile computing devices (e.g., desktop and laptop computers, tablets, smartphones, digital assistants, wearables/watches, and fitness trackers).

In data centers operated by government agencies and business enterprises; or

In the cloud (i.e., mega-data centers operated by cloud service providers). Surprisingly, only a small percentage of newly created data (2%) is kept. Nonetheless, in line with the rapid growth of the data volume, the installed base of storage capacity is forecast to increase at a compound annual growth rate of 19.2%.

Computing (i.e., Analyzing and Processing). Over 99% of collected data never gets used or analyzed. Despite this tremendous waste of data, data that are ultimately used will be processed into more valuable products for their owners, such as:

- recognition for individuals;
- business insights on how to increase productivity and reduce costs, when to repair equipment, what goods to produce (and the price to sell them), or whether fraud may be occurring;
- Applications. Big data is only as useful as the ability to read it. Therefore, data generators and collectors need tools to analyze and read the data. Businesses use tools to extract data from business systems and integrate it into a repository, such as a data warehouse. Once in the warehouse, the data can be analyzed. Analytical tools range from spreadsheets with statistical functions to enterprise resource planning systems (ERP), customer relations management programs (CRM), payroll tools, and operational systems.

Edge to Core to Cloud. The applications can be located:

- On device (i.e., on the same computing device where the data are stored);
- On-premises (i.e., in a data center maintained by an enterprise at a central or core location);
- At the edge (i.e., at the location near where the data are generated);
- In the cloud (i.e., a data center operated by a cloud service provider, where over 30% of all stored data is uploaded); or
- Any combination of the above. Because the data landscape is more dispersed than ever, the modern organization requires IT solutions that capture and analyze data as they move from "edge to core to cloud."

Artificial Intelligence. The phenomenon of artificial intelligence (AI) refers to the development and deployment of computer systems and algorithms that can perform complex tasks typically requiring human intelligence. Today, the amount of data that is generated, by both humans and machines, far outpaces humans' ability to absorb, interpret, and make complex decisions based on that data. As a result, users of data are increasingly relying on AI for complex decision making. Specific applications of AI include expert systems, natural language processing, image recognition, speech recognition, content generation, and machine vision.

High-Performance Computing. Industry standard servers have been the backbone for multi-workload computing. However, with the explosion of data the desire to apply AI software and algorithms to the data, high-performance computing has become essential for compute-intensive workloads, such as AI (including machine learning and deep learning), data analytics, graphics and scientific computing, across hyperscale, cloud, enterprise, public sector, and edge data centers. Increasingly, the modern server is equipped to handle high-performance computing (HPC), processing data and performing complex calculations at high speeds. To put it into perspective, a laptop or desktop with a 3 GHz processor can perform 3 billion calculations per second. While that is much faster than any human can achieve, it pales in comparison to HPC solutions that can perform quadrillions of calculations per second. These HPC environments incorporate a suite of products, including AI technologies to train algorithms on large data sets that (1) learn patterns and make predictions or decisions without being explicitly programmed (machine learning) and (2) employ neural networks with multiple layers to handle complex tasks such as image recognition, natural language processing, and speech recognition (deep learning).

CLOUD COMPUTING

Public Cloud. The public cloud is defined as ready-to-use computing resources (e.g., servers, storage, and software) offered by a cloud service provider over the public Internet to anyone who wants to use or purchase them. Cloud service providers (typically one of the Big Tech companies, such as Amazon Web Services, Microsoft Azure, Google Cloud, and Microsoft Azure) offer their infrastructure (base of the infrastructure as a Service, their cloud-based platforms (PaaS or Platform as a Service), their applications (SaaS or Software as a Service), and their managed services (MaaS) for a minimal level of service) via a level fee, on an on-demand basis, allowing customers to pay only for usage for the central processing unit (CPU) and storage, or bandwidth they consume. Cloud services give users access to computing tools without the overhead of physical infrastructure and its associated maintenance and administration. Data centers where cloud workloads run. Cloud providers assume responsibility for all hardware and infrastructure, including maintenance and provide high-bandwidth network connectivity to ensure rapid access to applications and data. Public clouds can also be used for data processing and analytics on on-premises infrastructure and with an almost infinitely scalable platform.

Private Cloud. While a public cloud encompasses infrastructure, platforms, software, and storage services offered by a cloud service provider over the public Internet to anyone who wants to use or purchase them, a private cloud is a cloud service that is not the general public. The customer is responsible for the largest buyers of private cloud services. These services enable government agencies (and contractors supporting the U.S. government) to store more sensitive workloads securely into the cloud, modernize their technology, and save time and resources while meeting critical mission needs. Microsoft Azure, one of a handful of authorized private cloud service providers to the government, operates over 200 data centers worldwide.

Hybrid and Multi-Cloud. Most companies move into the cloud incrementally, putting some of their workloads on a public cloud or small private cloud to gauge the experience before taking the plunge, while relying on their own data centers to handle the bulk of their workloads. Others more committed to the cloud may store sensitive financial or customer information on a private cloud and use the public cloud for less sensitive resource planning applications. In other scenarios, these companies are operating in a hybrid cloud—a mixed computing, storage, and services environment. In a hybrid cloud, a company can choose IT services from various companies to avoid being locked in to one provider and to take advantage of the best-in-class services, including those related to data processing and analytics. A multi-cloud "in a multi-cloud environment, a company uses more than one cloud platform that each delivers a specific application. Governments and enterprises use multiple cloud vendors so they can choose IT services from various companies to avoid being locked in to one provider and to take advantage of the best-in-class services, including those related to data processing and analytics.

Cloud Computing Services:

- Infrastructure as a Service (IaaS): Compute, Storage, Networking, Firewall, Security, Data Center, Physical Hardware
- Platform as a Service (PaaS): Development Tools, Database Management, Software, Data Center, Physical Hardware
- Software as a Service (SaaS): Business Applications, CRM, ERP, HR, Marketing, Analytics, etc.
- Cloud Hosted Applications: CRM, ERP, HR, Marketing, Analytics, etc.
- Cloud Service Providers: Amazon Web Services, Microsoft Azure, Google Cloud, Oracle Cloud Infrastructure, VMware
- Cloud Housed Applications: CRM, ERP, HR, Marketing, Analytics, etc.
- Personal Applications: Email, Social Media, etc.
- Business Applications: CRM, ERP, HR, Marketing, Analytics, etc.

OFFICE COMPUTING

Data Center. The data center centralizes a business enterprise's shared IT operations for the purpose of storing, backing up, and recovering, managing, processing, and disseminating data and applications. It consists of (a) building or facility large enough to house energy-consuming IT equipment in a climate-controlled environment, (b) equipment and software to run IT operations and store data and applications ("compute"), (c) network servers, storage systems, networking infrastructure such as hubs, switches, routers, bridges, gateways, multiplexers, transceivers, and information security elements such as firewalls, VPN gateways, and intrusion detection systems, (1) support infrastructure (i.e., equipment and services) to securely sustain the host IT system availability and reliability possible (99.97 to 99.9995% availability) such as uninterruptible power supplies, environmental control systems, and physical security systems, and (2) operations staff to monitor and maintain the IT and infrastructure equipment on a 24/7 basis. Because they house the organization's most critical asset (data), data centers are crucial for daily operations and business continuity of an enterprise and are viewed as top priorities. There are 74 million data centers worldwide. Most in the public cloud; modern data center infrastructures have evolved from on-premises physical servers to virtualized platforms that support applications and workloads across multi-cloud environments.

On Work Device Computing: On work device computing is the practice of processing, storing, processing, and analyzing data near the device (i.e., where the data is generated) such as a personal computer, laptop, tablet, or smartphone. Although computing is mostly done through applications hosted in a data center or public cloud, some processing actions can be done entirely within the work device.

Edge Computing: Edge computing is the practice of processing, storing, processing, and analyzing data near the device (i.e., where the data is generated) such as a personal computer, laptop, tablet, or smartphone. Although computing is mostly done through applications hosted in a data center or public cloud, some processing actions can be done entirely within the work device.

Mobile Computing: Mobile computing is the practice of processing, storing, processing, and analyzing data near the device (i.e., where the data is generated) such as a personal computer, laptop, tablet, or smartphone. Although computing is mostly done through applications hosted in a data center or public cloud, some processing actions can be done entirely within the work device.

Selected Makers: AEM, AWS, Cisco Systems, Dell, EMC, HPE, IBM, Intel, Microsoft, Oracle, SAP, VMware, etc.

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PERSONAL COMPUTING

PERSONAL COMPUTING IN THE CLOUD: When a customer uses a cloud-based application (e.g., a document storage application such as Dropbox), the customer is allotted a certain amount of storage space in an online server system as the "public cloud." These customer data are stored and managed by cloud service providers (e.g., Amazon Web Services, Google Cloud Platform, and Microsoft Azure) and are accessible to the customer through the cloud service provider for users of its application. After the customer installs the Dropbox app on a personal computing device, any files that the customer stores locally on the device will be copied to the Dropbox server as well. If the customer makes changes to these files in one place, updates are automatically synchronized to the other.

PERSONAL COMPUTING ON DEVICE: Personal computing is the art of processing, analyzing, and storing data on personal computing devices (i.e., a device designed for only one person to use at a time). Although computing is often done through applications hosted in the public cloud, many data processing actions can be done entirely within the personal computer. Personal computers fall into several categories, differentiated by their size, desktop computers, laptops, smartphones, and tablets. A desktop computer is designed for desktop use and is seldom moved. Its essential components consist of (a) external parts such as a keyboard, a mouse, and a monitor and (b) internal parts, including the central processor (the brain), memory and storage. Desktop computers are on the expensive end of the cost spectrum and tend to be more powerful than their smaller relatives, can run a variety of applications, and can be enhanced with additional storage drives and memory. A laptop, or notebook, is portable and designed to hold up like a desktop. It carries and stores data on a hard drive, a solid-state drive, and memory. Laptops can run most software applications and are more expensive than tablets and smartphones. Laptops are not customizable or upgradable. A tablet is a portable computer consisting of a touch-sensitive screen mounted on a plastic frame with a built-in screen, keyboard, and pointing device. A tablet keyboard or pointing device, but a software-based keyboard appears on-screen when needed. Though convenient because of their portability, tablets have limited memory and storage and can run desktop computer applications. A smartphone is a mobile phone that has a touch-sensitive screen and runs "touch programs" for various applications. It is a small, handheld device that can be used for a variety of tasks, including communication, entertainment, and productivity.

Apple Platforms & Devices: iPhone, Mac, iPad, Apple Watch, AirPods, HomePod, Vision Pro, Apple TV, Apple Music, Apple News+, Apple Pay, Apple Card.

Apple Services: Search Ads, iCloud, iWork, Fitness+, Music, News+, TV+, Arcade, AppleCare+, Apple Pay, Apple Card.

ELECTROMAGNETIC SPECTRUM TRANSMISSION

Radio Wave Transmission: The electromagnetic spectrum includes forms of electromagnetic radiation, such as radio waves, infrared radiation, visible light, ultraviolet radiation, X-rays and gamma rays. The radio wave spectrum encompasses a wide range of electromagnetic frequencies (from extremely low frequencies to extremely high frequencies) used for wireless communication. It transmits and receives radio signals; devices use antennas to broadcast and receive signals. A radio wave transmitter converts information (such as sound or data) by varying their amplitude (AM) or frequency (FM). The receiving device then converts the radio wave back into the original sound or data. It prevents inter-frequency use from one another's communications. The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) allocates different portions of the radio spectrum to specific users (e.g., FM radio, AM radio, TV broadcasts, mobile phones).

Transmission Network Owners. The U.S. internet landscape features sites of fiber-optic cable that connects the country to the world. While many owners of the large fragments of these networks are well-known (AT&T, Comcast, Verizon), other less-well-known owners also play a vital role (e.g., Lumen Technologies and Cox Communications). There are over 2,500 internet service providers in the U.S., but nearly one-half provide wired connections, and only a few offer complete coverage across the entire country.

Data Transmission Sectors:

- Refined Data Transmission from Downstream Sector:** Wireless, Mobility Services, Wireless Data, Text and Email, Social Services, etc.
- Modified Data Transmission from Downstream Sector (Restarts the Transmission Cycle):** Wireless and Wireless-Enabled Products (Handsets, Wireless-Enabled Computers, Wireless Data Cards, Accessories), etc.

C DOWNSTREAM: DATA CONSUMPTION

Receipt and Consumption. Once refined data are received, government agencies, enterprises and individuals will consume the data in one or more forms. They can:

- let the data sit on their device unopened;
- delete the data from their device (e.g., junk mail, remove duplicate images and media) and then:
- Delete the data, or
- Store the data on the device, or
- work on the data, which restarts the data cycle of generation, processing, transmission, and consumption.

Internet Users. The global population is 7.9 billion people. There are over 5.47 billion active internet users, so they account for approximately 66% of the entire world's population. This also means that 2.7 billion people have no internet access. Approximately 7.5 billion people are projected to use the internet by 2030 when 500 billion devices will be connected to the internet.

DATA USAGE

Mobile Data. Mobile data (also called "wireless" or "cellular" data) is the distribution of digital data through wireless network and is how a person gets online when they are not on a wired or a wireless Wi-Fi connection. It is an invisible connection usually to a satellite or a nearby cell tower that allows people to use mobile devices and apps on their mobile devices.

Mobile is Not Wi-Fi. Data transmission by mobile is fundamentally different from Wi-Fi. With Wi-Fi, there is a data connection (cable, fiber, or ethernet) to a local hub or modem and then to a Wi-Fi router for transmission. The transmission signal is localized (say, 100 feet or 30 meters) of the router. In contrast, does not require the user to be in close proximity to the router.

Mobile Data Consumption. Most often, mobile data is used for:

- Emails, texts, and other messages all use mobile data. When users "take receipt" all will take a lot of data, while a short text message will take only a few bytes.
- Web browsing or surfing the Web on mobile devices. Because webpages tend to have large images or videos, but a lot of this browsing data is used up by ads and unseen tracking. Blocking this data not only removes unwanted content, but also can save phone data. Apps are likely the biggest data. Any app that needs to connect to the Web to update, refresh, or download will use cell data, including all social media and streaming apps (e.g., Facebook, X (formerly Twitter), Spotify, and Netflix) will require cell on some data.
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Top Application Categories by Data Consumption: High-Definition Video Streaming, Video Conferencing, Standard Definition Video Streaming, Social Media, Online Interactive Gaming, Music Streaming, GPS and Ridesharing.

THE SIZE OF DATA

The size of data is measured in bytes. Bytes are used to determine (a) the amount of computer storage assumed by data and (b) the volume of information that is sent over the internet in a given amount of time. For example, the average American uses about 7 gigabytes (GB) of mobile data per month. Most internet service providers (ISPs) will charge users if their internet usage goes over the amount of bytes transmitted by the user. World Internet bandwidth is measured in gigabytes, gigabytes, or even terabytes—everyday amounts of data that represent the sizes of, say, an email attachment, two hours of Netflix TV content streaming, or an entire photo library stored in Amazon Photos. However, because bandwidth is measured in gigabytes, gigabytes, or even terabytes—everyday amounts of data that represent the sizes of, say, an email attachment, two hours of Netflix TV content streaming, or an entire photo library stored in Amazon Photos. 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Data Activities

UPSTREAM: DATA PRODUCTION

A

The Promise of Data. Many experts believe data (and particularly big data) hold the key to the future because of their ability to reveal patterns and connections that significantly improve lives from secure self-driving cars to more effective pharmaceutical treatments to more reliable weather forecasts enabling farmers to get better yields or predicting drought conditions. To understand how to harness the benefits of data, the starting point is to understand what data are, who generates data, and who collects data.

Data Creation. Data volumes have skyrocketed. From 2010 to 2020, the amount of data created, captured, copied, and consumed in the world increased from 1.2 trillion gigabytes to 59 trillion gigabytes, an almost 5,000% rate of growth! IBM estimates there are 2.9 million emails sent every second, 375 megabytes of data consumed by households daily, 20 hours of video uploaded to YouTube every minute, 24 petabytes of data processed per day by Google, and 73 products ordered on Amazon per second. More data was generated in the last two years than in the entire human history before that. The total amount of data created, captured, copied, and consumed globally is forecast to increase rapidly, reaching 180 zettabytes in 2025. We are swimming in a world of data.

Data Creators. Every individual, business, and government agency anywhere generates data:

- Each second of each day, individuals generate data. On Google alone, people submit 40,000 search queries per second, which amounts to 1.2 trillion searches yearly! Each minute, 300 new hours of video show up on YouTube. That's why there are more than 1 billion gigabytes (1 exabyte) of data on Google's servers! People share more than 100 terabytes of data on Facebook daily. Every minute, users send 31 million messages and view 2.7 million videos. Smart devices (for example, fitness trackers, sensors, and Amazon Echo) produce 5 quintillion bytes of data daily.
- Every business generates data (a) through its internal support functions (e.g., human resources, procurement, legal, accounting, R&D, sales and marketing) that tends to be similar across all business sectors and (b) arising from operations that are unique to its business sector (i.e., the products and services the company sells), such as healthcare (health insights, data on the effectiveness of different drug treatments, and improvements in emergency room care), banking (customer account balances, and loan delinquencies), entertainment media (the TV shows subscribers watched during peak viewing hours), retail (customer profiles and purchase histories and habits), energy and utility industries (sensors indicating turbine and engine performance), construction (building construction sequencing, and subcontractor scheduling), and transportation (train conditions and fuel consumption).
- In the U.S., the federal government is perhaps the most prolific generator of data, including weather, employment, and economic statistics, surveillance footage of foreign troop movements, the flight paths of asteroids and comets, the amount of government student loans outstanding, and data on the incidence of disease.

Data Collection. Although individuals, businesses and government agencies generate data for themselves (original data generation), each data generator is involved in collecting data from the other data generators, which itself is a form of data generation (secondary data generation). For example, a business will collect personal data from its customers in order to establish an online banking account, the government will request data from a pharmaceutical company to determine whether to grant approval for a new drug, and individuals will collect data from the government or a business in order to initiate litigation.

MIDSTREAM: DATA STORAGE & PROCESSING

B

Storage. Once generated, data will be stored until needed:

- On disks embedded in stationary and mobile computing devices (e.g., desktop and laptop computers, tablets, smartphones, digital assistants, wearables/watches, and fitness trackers);
- In data centers operated by government agencies and business enterprises; or
- In the cloud (i.e., mega-data centers operated by cloud service providers). Surprisingly, only a small percentage of newly created data (2%) is kept. Nonetheless, in line with the rapid growth of the data volume, the installed base of storage capacity is forecast to increase at a compound annual growth rate of 19.2%.

Computing (i.e., Analyzing and Processing). Over 99% of collected data never gets used or analyzed. Despite this tremendous waste of data, data that are ultimately used will be processed into more valuable products for their owners, such as:

- Individuals, a photo collection or recommended music playlist, healthy diet plan, or exercise regime for individuals; and
- Businesses, insights on how to increase productivity and reduce costs, when to repair equipment, what goods to produce (and the price to sell them), or whether fraud may be occurring.

Applications. Big data is only as useful as the ability to read it. Therefore, data generators and collectors need tools to analyze and read the data. Businesses use tools to extract data from business systems and integrate it into a repository, such as a data warehouse. Once in the warehouse, the data can be analyzed. Analytical tools range from spreadsheets with statistical functions to enterprise resource planning systems (ERP), customer relations management programs (CRM), payroll tools, and operational systems.

Edge to Core to Cloud. The applications can be located:

- On device (i.e., on the same computing device where the data are stored);
- On-premises (i.e., in a data center maintained by an enterprise at a central or core location);
- At the edge (i.e., at the location near where the data are generated);
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- Any combination of the above. Because the data landscape is more dispersed than ever, the modern organization requires IT solutions that capture and analyze data as they move from "edge to core to cloud."

Artificial Intelligence. The phenomenon of artificial intelligence (AI) refers to the development and deployment of computer systems and algorithms that can perform complex tasks typically requiring human intelligence. Today, the amount of data that is generated, by both humans and machines, far outpaces humans' ability to absorb, interpret, and make complex decisions based on that data. As a result, users of data are increasingly relying on AI for complex decision making. Specific applications of AI include expert systems, natural language processing, image recognition, speech recognition, content generation, and machine vision.

High-Performance Computing. Industry standard servers have been the backbone for multi-workload computing. However, with the explosion of data the desire to apply AI software and algorithms to the data, high-performance computing has become essential for compute-intensive workloads, such as AI (including machine learning and deep learning), data analytics, graphics and scientific computing, across hyperscale, cloud, enterprise, public sector, and edge data centers. Increasingly, the modern server is equipped to handle high-performance computing (HPC), processing data and performing complex calculations at high speeds. To put it into perspective, a laptop or desktop with a 3 GHz processor can perform 3 billion calculations per second. While that is much faster than any human can achieve, it pales in comparison to HPC solutions that can perform quadrillions of calculations per second. These HPC environments incorporate a suite of products, including AI technologies to train algorithms on large data sets; (1) learn patterns and make predictions or decisions without being explicitly programmed (machine learning) and (2) employ neural networks with multiple layers to handle complex tasks such as image recognition, natural language processing, and speech recognition (deep learning).

DOWNSTREAM: DATA CONSUMPTION

C


Receipt and Consumption. Once refined data are received, government agencies, enterprises and individuals will consume the data in one or more forms. They can:

- let the data sit on their device unopened;
- delete the data from their device (e.g., junk mail, remove duplicate images and media) consume it, and then:
 - Delete the data, or
 - Store the data on the device, or
- work on the data, which restarts the data cycle of generation, processing, transmission, and consumption.

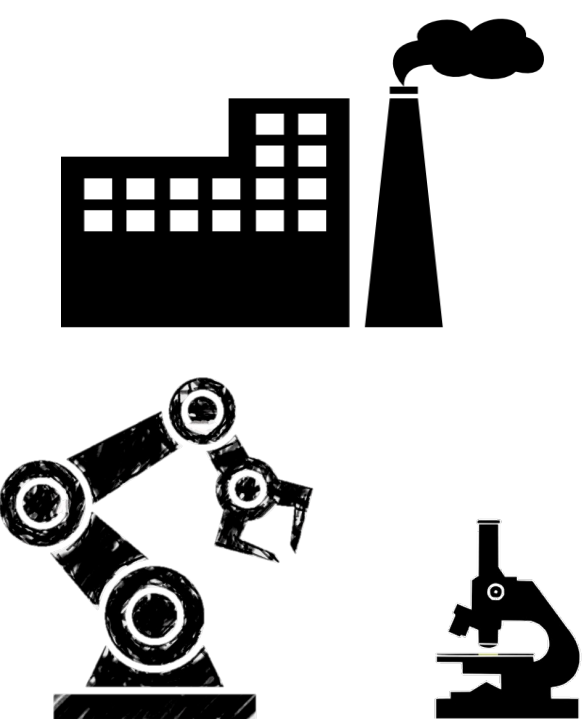
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Data Generation, Computing and Consumption

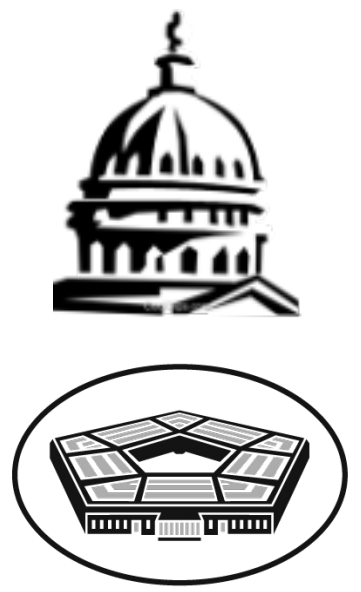
INDIVIDUAL DATA GENERATION



BUSINESS DATA GENERATION



GOVERNMENT DATA GENERATION




U.S. Department of Defense

ENTERPRISE COMPUTING

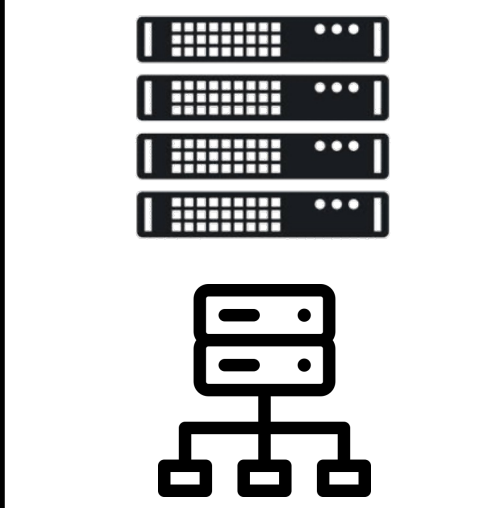
CLOUD COMPUTING

Cloud Data Center

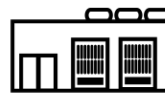


OFFICE COMPUTING


On-Premises Data Center



EDGE COMPUTING

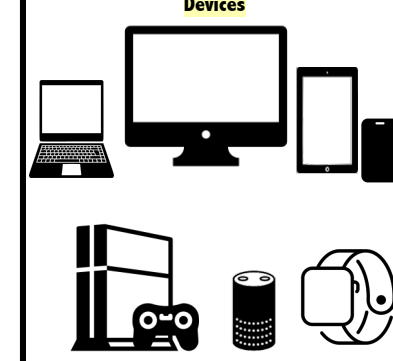


PERSONAL COMPUTING IN THE CLOUD



PERSONAL COMPUTING ON DEVICE


Devices





Personal Applications

Film and TV Streaming NETFLIX	Online Shopping	Music Storage and Organization
Dictionary and Language Translation	Calendar Service	Navigation / Maps
Social Media (Cloud-based Only)	eBooks Storage and Organization	Productivity (Spreadsheets, Documents, and Presentations)
Web Search	Photos Storage and Organization	Games Storage and Organization CALL-DUTY

Cloud, Data Center and Business Applications




SPREADSHEET


DATA ANALYSIS

Data Transmission

Connecting Streams: Data Transport

Upstream to Midstream to Downstream

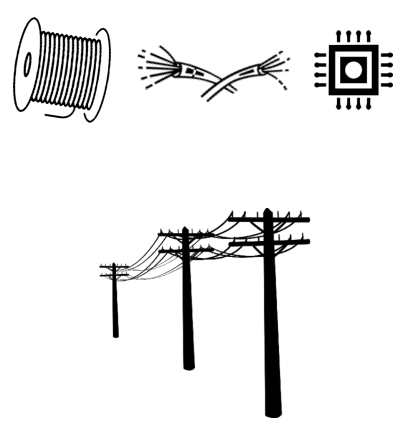
D

Round-Trip Process. Raw, unprocessed data will be transported from an individual's device (whether acting alone or for a business or government entity) to a data center, private cloud or public cloud and back again as refined data. This cycle is essentially a "round-trip" process, where data is effectively mined, shipped, refined, and shipped again. Although the round-trip process typically occurs in the blink of an eye, the transport of data (as with any shipping process that involves logistics) takes time.

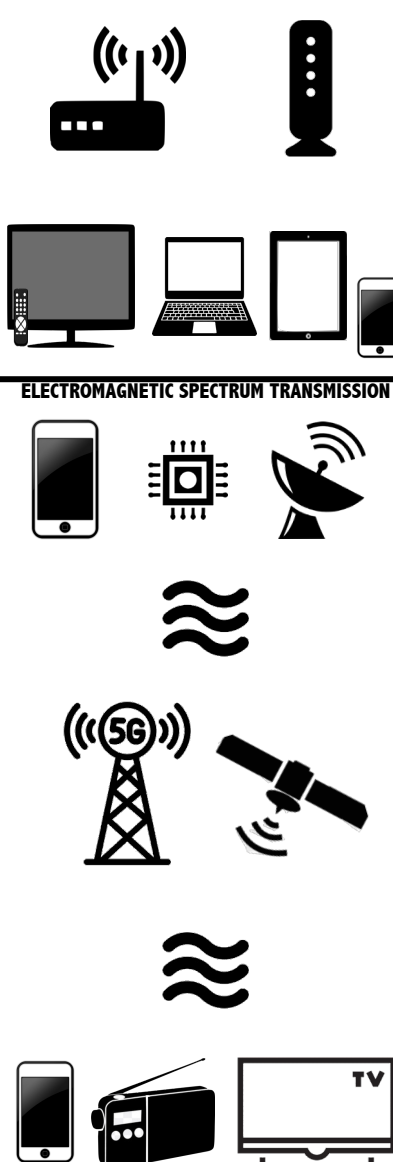
Data Transmission. Data (called messages) will be transported by its sender to a recipient via:

- the internet; or
- radio wave transmission.

BROADBAND/INTERNET TRANSMISSION



ELECTROMAGNETIC SPECTRUM TRANSMISSION



Data Transmission from Upstream Sector → **A**

Data Transmission to Midstream Sector → **B1**

Refined Data Transmission from Midstream Sector → **B2**

Refined Data Transmission to Downstream Sector → **C1**

Modified Data Transmission from Downstream Sector (Restarts the Transmission Cycle **A**) → **C2**



Data Activities

A UPSTREAM: DATA PRODUCTION

The Promise of Data. Many experts believe data (and particularly big data) hold the key to the future because of their ability to reveal patterns and connections that significantly improve lives from secure self-driving cars to more effective pharmaceutical treatments to more reliable weather forecasts enabling farmers to get better yields or predicting drought conditions. To understand how to harness the benefits of data, the starting point is to understand what data are, who generates data, and who collects data.

Data Creation. Data volumes have skyrocketed. From 2010 to 2020, the amount of data created, captured, copied, and consumed in the world increased from 1.2 trillion gigabytes to 59 trillion gigabytes, an almost 5,000% rate of growth! IBM estimates there are 2.9 million emails sent every second, 375 megabytes of data consumed by households daily, 20 hours of video uploaded to YouTube every minute, 24 petabytes of data processed per day by Google, and 73 products ordered on Amazon per second. More data was generated in the last two years than in the entire human history before that. The total amount of data created, captured, copied, and consumed globally is forecast to increase rapidly, reaching 180 zettabytes in 2025. We are swimming in a world of data.

Data Creators. Every individual, business, and government agency anywhere generates data:

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INDIVIDUAL DATA GENERATION

BUSINESS DATA GENERATION

GOVERNMENT DATA GENERATION

Data Transmission

D Connecting Streams: Data Transport

Upstream to Midstream to Downstream

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B MIDSTREAM: DATA STORAGE & PROCESSING

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ENTERPRISE COMPUTING

CLOUD COMPUTING

Hyperscale Data Center/Cloud Service Providers

OFFICE COMPUTING

Server OEMs

Networking Equipment OEMs

PERSONAL COMPUTING

PERSONAL COMPUTING IN THE CLOUD

PERSONAL COMPUTING ON DEVICE

Device Makers

Applications Developers

Cloud, Data Center and Business Applications Developers

DATA USAGE

C DOWNSTREAM: DATA CONSUMPTION

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INDIVIDUAL DATA GENERATION

Individuals as Data Generators. People generate over five quintillion bytes of data each day via (1) web searches (5 billion each day), (2) uploading content such as photos, videos and messages on social media (e.g., 300 million daily photo uploads), (3) email communications (294 billion emails per day), and (4) other means such as connected cars, IoT devices, and smartphone gaming and other apps)

Family Data (Family, baby, friends, wedding, family reunions, special occasions, and other special occasions)	Personal Health Data (Blood pressure data, sleep, heart rate data, medical history, blood test data, vaccinations, allergies, health insurance, height, weight)	Internet Data (Web search history (porn, YouTube, and entertainment websites), social media posts, account passwords, purchase history)	Consumer Spending Data (In-store and online spending on goods and services, product and service complaints)	Auto Data (Driving history, traffic violation and auto insurance, driving video footage, speed data, vehicle ID and other information, accident history, gas consumption, property value)
Food/Beverage Data (Food purchases, food preferences, food allergies, grocery lists, recipes)	Financial and Tax Data (Bank account, tax return, credit score, investment portfolio, budgets, home & auto loans and insurance, life insurance policy, account passwords, credit card usage)	Art (Music, writings, drawings)	Entertainment Data (TV viewing and streaming history, VCR recording, gaming, attendance at sporting event and concerts)	Exercise Data (Heart rate/workout data, steps, calories burned, sleep, etc.)
Communications (Text messages, emails, phone call data, voice mail)	Location Data (Personal location, device location, family tracking, movement tracking)	Work Data (Home address, gas consumption, property value, school district, zoning, home mortgage, home insurance)		

Illustrations

Who Collects Individual Data (and Why)?

Government	Businesses	Individuals
Raise Revenue (Tax returns, collections, funding allocations)	Develop Products/Advertising (Consumer analytics/preferences, telematics, pricing strategy, diagnosis, research)	Build Relationships (Friendships and social networking)
Make Determinations (Professional licenses/certifications, sex offender registry, voter registration, driver's license, vehicle registration)	Handle Disputes (Legal proceedings and discovery)	Order Supplies (Restocking)
Protect Environment and Consumers (Product investigations, clinical drug trials, environmental and consumer product safety regulation)	Employment Relationships (Application, drug tests, background checks)	Submit Government Reports (Taxes, legal reporting, subpoena response)
Ensure Public Health (Vaccine development, drug allocations, public recalls, research, product recalls)	Allocate Services (Census insights & demographics)	Process Card Payments (Credit, charge, debit processing)

Data Generation, Computing and Consumption

BUSINESS DATA GENERATION

Business Sectors. Businesses are among the largest data generators and processors. Every company generates data (a) through its internal support functions that tends to be similar across all business sectors (e.g., HR data) and (b) arising from its business operations that are unique to its business sector (i.e., the products and services the company sells).

Internal Support Data. Internal support data that are similar from one organization to another include human resources, environmental, health and safety, financial performance, customer relations, periodic sales, the company's annual plan and budget, contract management, and supply chain and procurement data. Because of these similarities, companies are able to select standard software and standard business information and produce the information, results, and insights required to manage the business effectively.	Product and Service-Specific Data. Product and service-specific data are unique to a business sector and relate to the goods and services made and sold by a company's operations (e.g., film and TV production, natural gas and petroleum products pipeline transportation, credit card payments processing, airline flight reservations, plant-based protein production, cold rolled stainless steel sheet production, data from a legal discovery process, etc.). Homegrown or customized applications may be required to manage and process forms of product and service-specific data.
Internal Human Resources (Personal employee data, compensation data, performance reviews, job postings/applications, diversity statistics)	Utility Service (Gas, Electric, Telecom, Water) (Account information, consumption data, payment history)
Internal Sales (Sales data, stock-keeping units, customs duties, customer lists, trade classifications, pricing, marketing programs)	General Industrials (Machine performance, consumption, utilization, downtime)
Internal Employee Safety (Death, serious injuries, workers' compensation claims)	Financial Services (Banking and Insurance) (Checking account data, history, loan data, credit cards data)
Internal Finance (Financial performance, debt, cash, tax and accounting positions, investments, budget/annual plan, audit reports)	Building and Construction (Housing demand data, housing profiles, blueprints)
Internal Supply Chain (Sourcing, logistics, inventory levels, warehousing)	Defense (Intelligence, surveillance, weapons performance)
Internal Research and Development (Product / process innovation, quality, testing, IP records)	Transportation (Navigation, traffic, repair and maintenance logs, weather data)
Internal Tech (Data centers, business software application licenses / subscriptions, IT infrastructure and devices, cloud computing)	Health (Patient diagnoses, medical records, drug clinical trial data)
Internal Legal (Regulatory filings, lawsuit filings/discovery, transactional due diligence, contracts, lobbying records, documents)	Social Media (Analytics, user insights, algorithms, advertising records)
	Other Industries (Education, food, retail and tech, professional services, entertainment, consumer staples, cloud computing/storage)

Who Collects Business Data (and Why)?

Government	Businesses	Individuals
Raise Revenue (Tax returns, withholdings)	Develop Products/Advertising (Consumer preferences, pricing strategy, research)	Process Payments (Credit, charge, debit)
Provide Domestic Security (Law enforcement, crime prevention, terrorist tracking, investigations, security clearances, surveillance)	Handle Disputes (Legal proceedings, discovery)	Order Supplies (Restocking)
Protect Environment, Consumers, Public Health (Product investigations/recalls, clinical drug trials, environmental and consumer product safety regulation)	Build Business Relationships (Registration, due diligence, credit evaluation)	Submit Government Reports/Taxes
Make Determinations (Approvals, licenses, permits, and registrations)		

GOVERNMENT DATA GENERATION

U.S. Government is Prolific Data Generator. The government (consisting of the federal, 50 state, and over 30,000 local governments) is a prolific generator and collector of data needed to provide for the safety and welfare of U.S. citizens and matters of public interest, such as enforcing criminal and disclosure laws, evaluating trademark and patent applications, providing national security and border control, administering voter registration and social security benefits, tracking census data, and forecasting weather.

Agriculture (Census, exports, IP, weather, climate)	Justice (Law/drug enforcement, animal reviews, prison management)
Communications (Spectrum allocation, broadcast licenses, complaints)	Labor (Wage/hour and injury reports, discrimination/labor complaints)
Consumer Product Safety (Safety standards, complaint tracking, research, investigations)	Museums (Museum collection, preservation, and research data)
Defense (Military forces, intelligence, defense systems, weapons)	Postal (Routes, addresses, postal codes, rates, vehicle fleet data)
Election (Voter data, campaign fundraising and reports)	Public Health (Biomedical research, disease prevention, food, drug and medical device approvals, Medicare/Medicaid)
Energy (Research, nuclear stockpile, wilderness energy transmission)	Social Security (Tax ID numbers, retirement, disability and survivor benefits)
Environmental Protection (Permits, pollution levels, superfund clean-up, investigations)	State (Arms control, diplomatic missions, foreign aid, human rights)
Homeland Security (Disaster aid, immigration, transport security, border control)	Transportation (Statistics, safety data, life economy, licensing, investigations, infrastructure development/maintenance)
Housing (Statistics, mortgages, housing assistance)	Treasury and Securities Markets (Public company reporting, broker-dealer/commodity trader regulation, bank examinations, deposit insurance, prohibited party lists, tax collections, treasury securities, statistics)
Interior (Indian affairs, wildlife, national parks/monuments, mining leases)	Veterans (Healthcare, rehabilitation, disability benefits, and burial data)

Who Collects Government Data (and Why)?

Government	Businesses	Individuals
Collect Intra-Government Data (Hearings/investigations, subpoenas, policy making, budgeting, funding allocation to states/localities)	Forecast Business (Economic, consumption and price data and trends)	Provide Cloud-Based Business Support (Hacking (Ransom))
Collect Inter-Government Data (Foreign government data collections from homeland government - confirm compliance with treaties, trade and defense agreements with allies, holding, terrorism, national security/surveillance of foreign governments and officials, understand military and weapons capability)	Establish Relationships (Registration)	Submit Government Reports (Taxes returns, financial and regulatory reporting)
	Order Supplies (Restocking)	Handle Disputes (Legal proceedings and discovery)
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MIDSTREAM: DATA STORAGE & PROCESSING

Storage. Once generated, data will be stored until needed. Cloud computing devices (e.g., desktop and laptop computers, tablets, smartphones, digital assistants, wearables/watches, and fitness trackers):

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Edge to Core to Cloud. The applications can be located:

- On device (i.e., on the same computing device where the data are stored);
- On-premises (i.e., in a data center maintained by an enterprise at a central or core location);
- At the edge (i.e., at the location near where the data are generated);
- In the cloud (i.e., a data center operated by a cloud service provider, where over 30% of all stored data is uploaded); or
- Any combination of the above. Because the data landscape is more dispersed than ever, the modern organization requires IT solutions that capture and analyze data as they move from "edge to core to cloud."

Artificial Intelligence. The phenomenon of artificial intelligence (AI) refers to the development and deployment of computer systems and algorithms that can perform complex tasks typically requiring human intelligence. Today, the amount of data that is generated, by both humans and machines, far outpaces humans' ability to absorb, interpret, and make complex decisions based on that data. As a result, users of data are increasingly relying on AI for complex decision making. Specific applications of AI include expert systems, natural language processing, image recognition, speech recognition, content generation, and machine vision.

High-Performance Computing. Industry standard servers have been the backbone for multi-workload computing. However, with the explosion of data the desire to apply AI software and algorithms to the data, high-performance computing has become essential for compute-intensive workloads, such as AI (including machine learning and deep learning), data analytics, graphics and scientific computing, across hyperscale, cloud, enterprise, public sector, and edge data centers. Increasingly, the modern server is equipped to handle high-performance computing (HPC), processing data and performing complex calculations at high speeds. To put it into perspective, a laptop or desktop with a 3 GHz processor can perform 3 billion calculations per second. While that is much faster than any human can achieve, it pales in comparison to HPC solutions that can perform quadrillions of calculations per second. These HPC environments incorporate a suite of products, including AI technologies to train algorithms on large data sets that (1) learn patterns and make predictions or decisions without being explicitly programmed (machine learning) and (2) employ neural networks with multiple layers to handle complex tasks such as image recognition, natural language processing, and speech recognition (deep learning).

CLOUD COMPUTING

Public. While a public cloud encompasses infrastructure, platforms, software, and services, it is accessible over the public internet to anyone who wants to buy them, private cloud services over the public internet to anyone who is offered over the internet (or who wants them or purchases them over a private internal network) to a select group of users. Cloud service providers (typically only select users such as U.S. Customs and Border Protection), as Amazon Web Services, Alphabet's Google Cloud, and Microsoft Azure.

Private. The private cloud is the infrastructure as a service (IaaS) or platform as a service (PaaS) or software as a service (SaaS) that is used by a single organization. The private cloud is a mixed computing, storage, and services environment made up of on-premises computing, private cloud, and public cloud services, with orchestration among them. The private cloud is a multi-cloud environment, enterprise use more than one cloud platform that each delivers a specific application. Governments and enterprises use multiple cloud vendors so they can choose IT services from various companies to (a) avoid being locked in to one vendor that might raise prices, (b) use what they perceive as the best-in-class capabilities from a particular cloud service provider, including those related to cloud storage, data analytics or artificial intelligence, or (c) ensure they have a backup in the event of an outage at a cloud service provider. The downside of this approach is "interoperability" - i.e., not having a platform or process in place to integrate various cloud services into a usable format, but many interoperability issues are available from companies such as IBM and Accenture.

Hybrid Multi-Cloud. Most companies move into the cloud incrementally, putting some of their workloads on a public cloud or small-scale private cloud to gauge the experience before taking the plunge, while relying on their own data centers to handle the bulk of their workloads. Others have committed to the cloud, may store sensitive financial customer information on a private cloud and use the public cloud to run their enterprise resource planning applications. In either scenario, these companies are operating in the hybrid cloud - a mixed computing, storage, and services environment made up of on-premises computing, private cloud, and public cloud services, with orchestration among them. The private cloud is a multi-cloud environment, enterprise use more than one cloud platform that each delivers a specific application. Governments and enterprises use multiple cloud vendors so they can choose IT services from various companies to (a) avoid being locked in to one vendor that might raise prices, (b) use what they perceive as the best-in-class capabilities from a particular cloud service provider, including those related to cloud storage, data analytics or artificial intelligence, or (c) ensure they have a backup in the event of an outage at a cloud service provider. The downside of this approach is "interoperability" - i.e., not having a platform or process in place to integrate various cloud services into a usable format, but many interoperability issues are available from companies such as IBM and Accenture.

Top Government Cloud Services Customers

U.S. Cabinet Departments (Health and Human Services, Veteran Affairs, Commerce, Energy, Homeland Security, Defense, Treasury, Justice)
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ENTERPRISE COMPUTING

OFFICE COMPUTING

Data Center. The data center centralizes a business enterprise's shared IT operations for the purpose of storing, backing up and recovering, managing, processing, and disseminating data and applications. It consists of (a) building or facility large enough to house energy-consuming IT equipment in a climate-controlled environment, (b) equipment and software to run IT operations and store data and applications ("core" infrastructure) that are used to support a business, (c) infrastructure such as hubs, switches, routers, bridges, gateways, multiplexers, transceivers, and information system elements such as firewalls, VPN gateways, and intrusion detection systems, (c) support infrastructure (i.e., power, cooling, and security) to sustain the system's availability and reliability possible - 99.97-100% (99.9995% availability) such as uninterruptible power sources, environmental control systems, and physical security systems, and (d) operations staff to monitor and maintain the IT and infrastructure equipment on a 24/7 basis. Because they house the organization's most critical asset (data), data centers are crucial for daily operations and business continuity of an enterprise and are viewed as top priorities. There are 74 million data centers worldwide. Use of the public cloud to centralize core infrastructure have evolved from on-premises physical servers to virtualized platforms that support applications and workloads across multi-cloud environments.

On Work Device

On work device computing is the act of processing, analyzing and storing data on a personal computing device, such as a desktop, laptop, tablet, or smartphone. Although computing is mostly done through applications posted in a data center or public storage space, some processing actions can be done entirely within the work device.

Key Data Center Equipment Categories

High-performance computing applications, mission critical, web, database, media, and email servers	Device Networks (Arista Networks, Cisco Systems, Citrix, Juniper Networks, Extreme Networks, HPE, IBM Systems, Huawei, Lenovo, Microsoft Servers, Net App)
Security (Firewalls)	Mobile Device Makers (Motorola, Oppo, Xiaomi)
Application Delivery Controllers (Load Balancers)	Stationary Device Makers (Fujitsu, Sharp (Technologies)/Iwate, Dell (Technologies)/Ward, Sony, Toshiba)
Storage Arrays (Primary, Data, and Unstructured Data Storage)	
Networking Equipment (Wired and wireless local area network (LAN) - WiFi access points, routers, switches, and related software, and software-defined wide area network (WAN))	

Key Data Center Applications Categories

Middleware and integration interface software that bridges an operating system and the applications running on it	App Developers (Adobe Systems, SAP, Oracle, IBM Systems, HPE, IBM Systems, Microsoft Servers, Dell (Technologies)/Schneider Electric)
Big Data, Machine Learning, AI (Algorithms)	Software Categories (Accounting, Billing, Business Intelligence/Data Visualization, CRM, ERP, HR, Project and Automation, Contract Management, Customer Relationship Management, Document Storage, Electronic Signatures, Enterprise Resource Planning, Expense Reports, High Volume E-Commerce / Payments, Marketing, Management, Project Management, Procurement and Supply Management, Purchasing, Order and Inventory Management, RFID Management)
Real-time Data Collection	Software Developers (Acer, Alphabet/Google, Cisco Systems, Dell (Technologies), Oracle, QAD, SAP, Zoho)
Workload Optimization	
Data Storage, Management, Backup & Recovery	
Data Center Performance Monitoring (Data center rack and floor space planning management, chilled water system, connectivity analysis, capacity utilization, network downtime, energy cost and utilization, tracking for physical, virtual, and cloud-based open applications, application interface (API) to enable two business application to communicate, temperature management, and KPI tracking)	

PERSONAL COMPUTING

PERSONAL COMPUTING ON DEVICE

Personal computing is the act of processing, analyzing, and storing data on a personal computing device (i.e., a device designed for only one person to use at a time). Although computing is often done through applications hosted in the public cloud, many data processing actions can be done entirely within the personal computer. Personal computers fall into several categories, differentiated by their size: desktop computers, laptops, smartphones, and tablets. A desktop computer is designed for desk use and is made up of several components: a central processor (CPU), external parts such as a keyboard, a mouse, and a monitor and (b) internal parts, including the central processor (the brain), memory, and storage. Desktop computers are on the expensive end of the cost spectrum and tend to be more powerful than their smaller counterparts. They can run a variety of applications, and can be enhanced with additional storage drives and memory. A laptop or notebook is portable and designed to fold up like a notebook for carrying and storage. It includes a built-in screen, keyboard, and pointing device (instead of a mouse). Laptops can run most software applications, and are more expensive than tablets and smartphones, but they are not customizable or upgradable. A tablet is a portable computer consisting of a touch-sensitive screen mounted on a plastic frame with a small computer components inside. It has no physical keyboard or pointing device, but a software-based keyboard appears on-screen when needed. Though convenient because of their portability, tablets have limited memory and storage and can run desktop computer applications. A smartphone is a mobile phone that has a touch-sensitive screen and can run applications (e.g., music and photo organizers, games, and a navigation program) but lacks power and is not customizable.

Personal Computing Devices

Devices	Selected Makers
Smart Phones	Integrated Manufacturers (Apple, Amazon, Alphabet/Google, Microsoft)
Tablets	Operating System Developers (Licenses to OEMs, For Internal Use) (Google, Amazon, Microsoft, Apple)
Printers	Original Equipment Manufacturers (Acer, Apple, Asus, Dell Technologies, Fujitsu, HP, Huawei, Lenovo, Samsung, Sharp, Sony, Toshiba, Xiaomi)
Gaming Consoles (PlayStation, Xbox)	
Wearables (Smart watches, fitness trackers, VR headsets)	
Laptops	Desktops
Digital Assistants (Amazon Alexa)	

Cloud Providers

Cloud Applications (Photo, music, contacts, calendars, mail, documents, ebooks, games)	Productivity (Email, spreadsheets, documents, presentations)
Cloud Storage (File Backup, File Sharing)	Navigation and Location Services
Cloud Storage (Photo, music, contacts, calendars, mail, documents, ebooks, games)	Social Media
Cloud Storage (File Backup, File Sharing)	Online Shopping
Cloud Storage (Photo, music, contacts, calendars, mail, documents, ebooks, games)	
Cloud Storage (File Backup, File Sharing)	
Cloud Storage (Photo, music, contacts, calendars, mail, documents, ebooks, games)	
Cloud Storage (File Backup, File Sharing)	
Cloud Storage (Photo, music, contacts, calendars, mail, documents, ebooks, games)	
Cloud Storage (File Backup, File Sharing)	

Cloud Service Providers

Publicly Available: Amazon Drive, Google Drive, Microsoft OneDrive Users Only: Apple (iCloud and Facebook)

DOWNSTREAM: DATA CONSUMPTION

Receipt and Consumption. Once refined data are received, government agencies, enterprises and individuals will consume the data in one or more forms. They can:

- let the data sit on their device unopened,
- delete the data from their device (e.g., junk mail, remove duplicate images and media) and consume it, and then:
- Delete the data, or
- Store the data on the device, or
- work on the data, which restarts the data cycle of generation, processing, transmission, and consumption.

Internet Users. The global population is 7.9 billion people. There are over 5.47 billion active internet users, so they account for approximately 66% of the entire world's population. This also means that 2.7 billion people have no internet access. Approximately 7.5 billion people are projected to use the internet by 2030 when 500 billion devices will be connected to the internet.

DATA USAGE

Mobile Data. Mobile data (also called "wireless" or "cellular" data) is the distribution of digital data through a wireless network and is how a person gets online when they are not on a wired or a wireless Wi-Fi connection. It is an invisible connecting link to a satellite or a nearby cell tower that allows people to visit websites and use apps on their mobile device. Mobile is not Wi-Fi. Data transmission by mobile is fundamentally different from Wi-Fi. With Wi-Fi, there is a data connection (cable, fiber, or ethernet) to a local hub or modem and then to a Wi-Fi router for transmission. The transmission signal is localized (say, in a house or cafe) and only available if the user is within close range (say 100 feet or 30 meters) of the router itself. Mobile or cell phone data, by contrast, does not require the user to be tethered to a local router.

Top Application Categories by Data Consumption

High-Definition Video Streaming (Netflix, Disney+, Prime Video, YouTube)	300 GB/hr
Video Conferencing (Zoom, Lync, Skype, Teams)	480 MB/hr
Standard-Definition Video Streaming (Netflix, Disney+, Prime Video, YouTube)	240 MB/hr
Social Media (Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat, TikTok)	80-840 MB/hr
Online Interactive Gaming (Steam, Origin, Roblox, PlayStation)	60 MB/hr
Web Browsing	60 MB/hr
Music Streaming (Spotify, Apple Music, SoundCloud)	30 MB/hr
GPS and Redshifting (Google Maps, Waze, Apple Maps, Uber, Lyft, Uberi)	

The size of data is measured in bytes. Bytes are used to determine (a) the amount of computer storage consumed by data and (b) the volume of information that is sent over the internet in a given amount of time. For example, the average American uses about 7 gigabytes (GB) of mobile data per month. Most internet service providers (ISPs) will charge fees to users of their internet networks based on the number of bytes transmitted by the user. Most internet users have used gigabytes, megabytes, gigabytes, or even terabytes - everyday amounts of data that represent the size of, say, an email attachment, two hours of Netflix TV content streaming, or an entire photo library stored on Amazon Photos. However, because the entire digital universe is expected to reach 180 zettabytes (ZB) by 2025, a 410% increase from the current size of 44 ZB, internet users will need to learn the measures of larger data sizes.

THE SIZE OF DATA

Symbol	Unit	Value	Size (in bytes)	Examples
b	bit	0 or 1	1/8 of a byte	The smallest unit of data that a computer uses to represent a binary decision (1 or 0), such as yes or no
B	bytes	8 bits	1 byte	One B is equal to a single text character (e.g., "w"), and 10 bytes would equal a word
KB	kilobytes	1,000 bytes	1,000 bytes	One KB is equal to a sentence, and 100 KBs would equal an entire page
MB	megabytes	1,000,000 bytes	1,000,000 bytes	One MB is equal to a download, and 100 MBs would equal an entire page
GB	gigabytes	1,000,000,000 bytes	1,000,000,000 bytes	One GB is equal to a song download, and 2 to 5 MBs = 7 minutes of video
TB	terabytes	1,000,000,000,000 bytes	1,000,000,000,000 bytes	130,000 photos
PB	petabytes	1,000,000,000,000,000 bytes	1,000,000,000,000,000 bytes	20 million file cabinets
EB	exabytes	1,000,000,000,000,000,000 bytes	1,000,000,000,000,000,000 bytes	How much data each person on Earth produces per year
ZB	zettabytes	1,000,000,000,000,000,000,000 bytes	1,000,000,000,000,000,000,000 bytes	As much information as there are grains of sand on all the world's beaches
YB	yottabytes	1,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000 bytes	1,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000 bytes	As much information as there are atoms in 7,000 human bodies

Data Transmission

Connecting Streams: Data Transport

Round-Trip Process. Raw, unprocessed data will be transported from an individual's device (whether acting alone or for a business or government entity) to a data center, private cloud or public cloud and back again as refined data. This cycle is essentially a "round-trip" process, where data is effectively mined, shipped, refined, and shipped again. Although the round-trip process typically occurs in the blink of an eye, the transport of data (as with any shipping process that involves logistics) takes time.

Modes of Transmission

Data Transmission. Data (called messages) will be transported by its sender to a recipient via:

- the internet; or
- radio wave transmission.

The Internet. The internet is a worldwide computer network (owned and operated by internet service providers (ISPs)) that transmits a variety of data and media across interconnected devices. Data are transmitted (on demand in the case of streaming services or online purchases) along the interconnected fiber optic cable networks owned by various ISPs to (1) the consumers' wired device or (2) to a local area network where data flows through a data connection (cable, fiber, or ethernet) to a local hub or modem and then to a Wi-Fi router for transmission to the consumer's wireless device.

Sender's Location

(i.e., Local Area Network or LAN for Individuals and Wide Area Network or WAN for Enterprises)

Recipient's Location

(i.e., Local Area Network or LAN for Individuals and Wide Area Network or WAN for Enterprises)

Internet Service Provider

(for Recipient)

(for Recipient)

(for Recipient)

(for Recipient)

(for Recipient)

(for Recipient)

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