

Accelerating DevOps Adoption in the Federal Sector!



Days are gone where the IT transformation and run for technology inclusion were limited to private sector. Now, governments across the world are in the game!

Changing public mindset, growing demand for quicker delivery of services and dire need to maintain an upper hand over the private players have led the public-sector organizations to go digital and tech-savvy.

Besides, the growing public demand for personal and professional environment has also moved world governments to move on quest for right technology deployment to offer safe, secure and quality public services. Out of this need appeared the trend of digital applications in the government sector!

Useful Link: [3 Factors That Decide Organizational Readiness to DevOps Adoption](#)

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Eventually, many US federal departments and agencies have already begun adopting agile workflows with collaborative techniques to ease their internal functioning, and [DevOps](#) appeared as a solution for many!

Now, let's take a look at **DevOps adoption trend** in the US government sector and how it helps gain technological edge:

DevOps Adoption Trend in the Federal Government

A survey by a renowned IT firm found some alarming results about the [DevOps adoption trend](#) among the public-sector employees.

While 79% of respondents in **US Financial Services** have adopted DevOps in some form and 75% of IT and Tech respondents, it is only 59% in the public sector.

Only 11% of respondents had no plans to adopt DevOps within two years, compared to 20% of those in the US Government sector.

Why DevOps in Government Services?

Government departments have been following traditional linear requirements wherein, developers write code for the service requirement and pass it on to the operations team for deployment.

Unfortunately, in the process, none of the two teams were aware of each other's ways of using the service and the resultant impact in the real-time, which could be violation of regulation, security and more causing the disruption.

Operations team can have a lookback to developers in case of a concern, but that turns out to be critical if the concern is significant and takes time to get fixed, which might consume the recovery time and hurt the workflow for next projects.

This gap between the two teams might be common even in private sector, but government departments are in fact more vulnerable to this scenario as they directly deal with laws, regulations and matters of public concern. So, it's imperative for the US Federal Government to adopt DevOps methodology.



Useful Link: [Database Development – The Secret Behind the Rising ‘DevOps Adoption’](#)

Security, A Prime Obstacle for DevOps Adoption

The ultimate need for creating safe, secure, innovative and qualitative digital solutions to ensure faster service delivery made government agencies plan **DevOps adoption**. However, privacy and security posed challenges for some government departments in adopting [DevOps solutions](#).

So, maintaining transparency of sensitive information as part of collaborative development is a real matter of concern!

Here are the ways to overcome the security challenges in DevOps implementation:

- The solution could be the creation of an integrated toolchain. Integrated toolchain coupled with a graphical mapping of the requirements associated with the data to be tested could be a solution to the above problem. Through this, the teams can visually map the test scenarios and proceed accordingly for creation, automation and optimization of test cases. Thus, they can provide either masked production data or the simulated data for testing, thus hiding actual sensitive information.
- Another key part is simulation of the application being worked on, which allows the development and test teams to integrate and run performance tests against virtual environment.
- The next level of quicker and quality delivery that [DevOps environment allows is automation](#). Automation integration across the toolchain takes the process away from heavy and lengthy scripts minimizing the chances of exposing sensitive data.

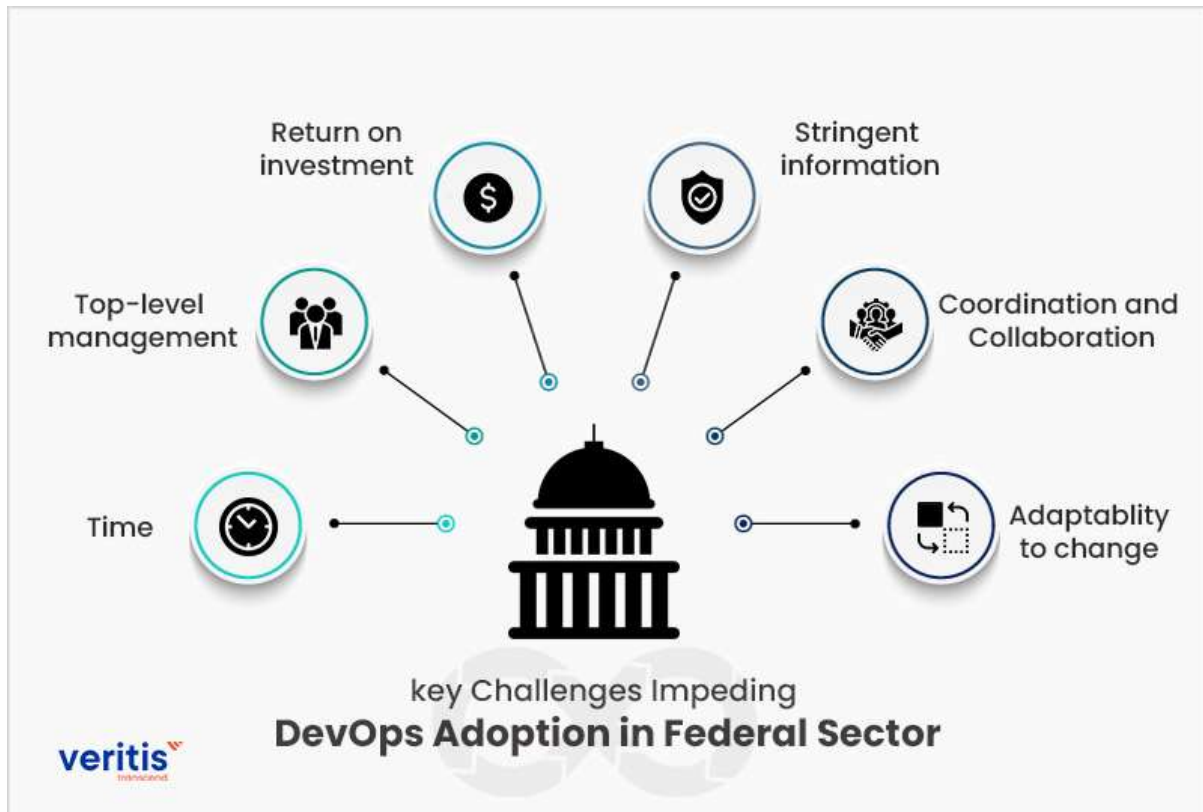
Usage of synthetic or masked data facilitates collaboration among Dev and Ops teams to work on life-like data without compromising sensitive information. And, such methods

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supported by effective DevOps practices can address the government sector's major concern of dealing with security and transparency in [DevOps implementation](#).

Other key challenges that government sector face in implementing DevOps include:



- Approval times associated with operation
- Top-level management support
- Less dependency on Return on Investment (ROI)
- Stringent information security policies
- Internal coordination and collaboration
- Adaptability to change

DevOps Strikes the Balance Between Speed and Quality

There might be a misconception that quicker delivery of services would sometimes compromise quality. That's not the case with DevOps as here two different teams that are key to final product work collaboratively with a clear understanding of each other's workflows unlike in the traditional approach where a single change poses threat to entire project.



While maintaining faster deliveries, DevOps also ensures quality by allowing solutions like automation, thus reducing manual errors by automating core deployment and development functions.

This is another major factor that comes as a value-addition in the form of DevOps for many government agencies in producing better end-products as part of their public services.

Digital Governance, A Growing Trend in the US Federal Sector

Digital transformation has really changed the way industries operate and further instigated government agencies also to look into technology deployment for offering their public services in a better way.

Flexibility, cost-savings, collaboration and the need for minimizing manual processes to save time have influenced the governments across the world, especially that of developed countries.

Eventually, few governments have already begun deploying new technologies even in the developing world and more are in the offing.

A recent Insight session organized by the OpenGovAsia, an initiative that promotes ICT transformation in public sector in Asia-Pacific, saw various senior technology leaders from government agencies pitching for advanced technology inclusion for better governance.

As part of the discussions, a strong pitch was made for the deployment of the trending technology services such as **Big Data Analytics**, **Internet of Things (IoT)**, **AI** and **DevOps** as a means to achieve effective governance across various areas

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such as healthcare, defense, transportation, [financial services](#), smart city development and civic management.

Deployment of [DevOps practices](#) was listed among keyways such as data-driven culture, agile and lean methods for successful use of data to address key business challenges.

Useful Link: [#10 Priorities Around Container Adoption in DevOps Lifecycle](#)

Eligibility to DevOps Adoption



A Federal agency's eligibility or ability to adopt DevOps can be assessed by following factors:

- Inclusion of members from multiple disciplines across technical teams
- Developers access to production-equivalent development environments
- Facility to move applications between environments with changes to their environment variables
- Application's ability to work on a self-service basis
- Availability of Platform-as-Service (PaaS) services



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- Quick turn-around time right from request submission to delivery of all components

Overall, DevOps can be a good solution for many government agencies that are striving to serve public with more fast and effective services powered by [new-age digital tools](#) and advanced technologies, provided the aforementioned requirements are met.

Conclusion

Though the ultimate objective of DevOps is to seamlessly integrate Dev and Ops, it's easier said than done. Many organizations, including private and public agencies, struggle to complete the full adoption journey – from a single application to the enterprise level.

Challenges and complexities vary at every stage, bogging down even the most promising efforts to scale the products and services through the entire scope of DevOps adoption. The bottom line: you need a holistic approach to realize [DevOps success](#). This is where the services of **Veritis** proves indispensable.

As a leading [DevOps services provider in the US](#), Veritis is catering to the technology needs of clients across all sectors. Whether you are a federal agency or a private enterprise, we have [DevOps solutions](#) customized to your specific business needs.

Our DevOps experts help you build a comprehensive strategy which guides your business through DevOps adoption and transformation, from application to enterprise.

Contact us and let us help you imbibe the new collaborative approach across your business processes.

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Key Takeaways:

- The US Federal Government sector continues to lag in its DevOps adoption, but the understanding and appreciation of the benefits it can bring is now widely recognized.
- The challenge for IT teams in the sector is to overcome the security challenges to maintain the upwards trend of adoption.
- Partnering with DevOps Services Providers like Veritis can help complete the full adoption journey.

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