

Information Governance and Cloud Migration



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Presented by
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(Or Maybe It’s the
Other Way Around)

About Steve Weissman



Steve Weissman – The Info Gov Guy™
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- Best practices consultant, industry analyst, and instructor for 25+ years
- Buyer/user advocate: first, last, and always
- Member, AIIM Company of Fellows
- Honoree, AIIM Award of Merit
- Inaugural Inductee, Information Governance Hall of Honor
- Host of “Speaking Of” and “Doing Information Right™” interview and commentary series on YouTube and podcasts
- Creator, Process Innovation Awards
- Co-Founder, Information Coalition (merged with ARMA)
- Past Board Member, BFMA International (merged with AIIM)

Governance and Migration

Which Comes First?

It Depends!

- Are you in IT or Records?



IT and Records

Same Objectives

- Availability
- Control
- Flexibility
- Support



Different Scope

- IT: Systems
- Records: Information

You Guys Need to Talk!

Preferably Sooner
Than Later



Migration: Not “If” But “When”

- Repository End-of-Life
- Post-Pandemic Residue
- Organizational Mandate
- Vendor Acquisition/Disappearance



Repository End-of-Life



an open access  journal



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Disappearing repositories: Taking an infrastructure perspective on the long-term availability of research data

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Keywords: infrastructure maintenance, research data, research data repository, scholarly record

ABSTRACT

Currently, there is limited research investigating the phenomenon of research data repositories being shut down, and the impact this has on the long-term availability of data. This paper takes an infrastructure perspective on the preservation of research data by using a registry to identify 191 research data repositories that have been closed and presenting information on the shutdown process. The results show that 6.2% of research data repositories indexed in the registry were shut down. The risks resulting in repository shutdown are varied. The median age of a repository when shutting down is 12 years. Strategies to prevent data loss at the infrastructure level are pursued to varying extent. Of the repositories in the sample, 44% migrated data to another repository and 12% maintain limited access to their data collection. However, neither strategy is a permanent solution. Finally, the general lack of information on repository shutdown events as well as the effect on the findability of data and the permanence of the scholarly record are discussed.

Post-Pandemic Residue

AWS, Azure, Cloud Computing, Google Cloud (GCP)

🕒 3 Mins Read



The Role of Cloud Computing in Supporting Remote Work After the Pandemic



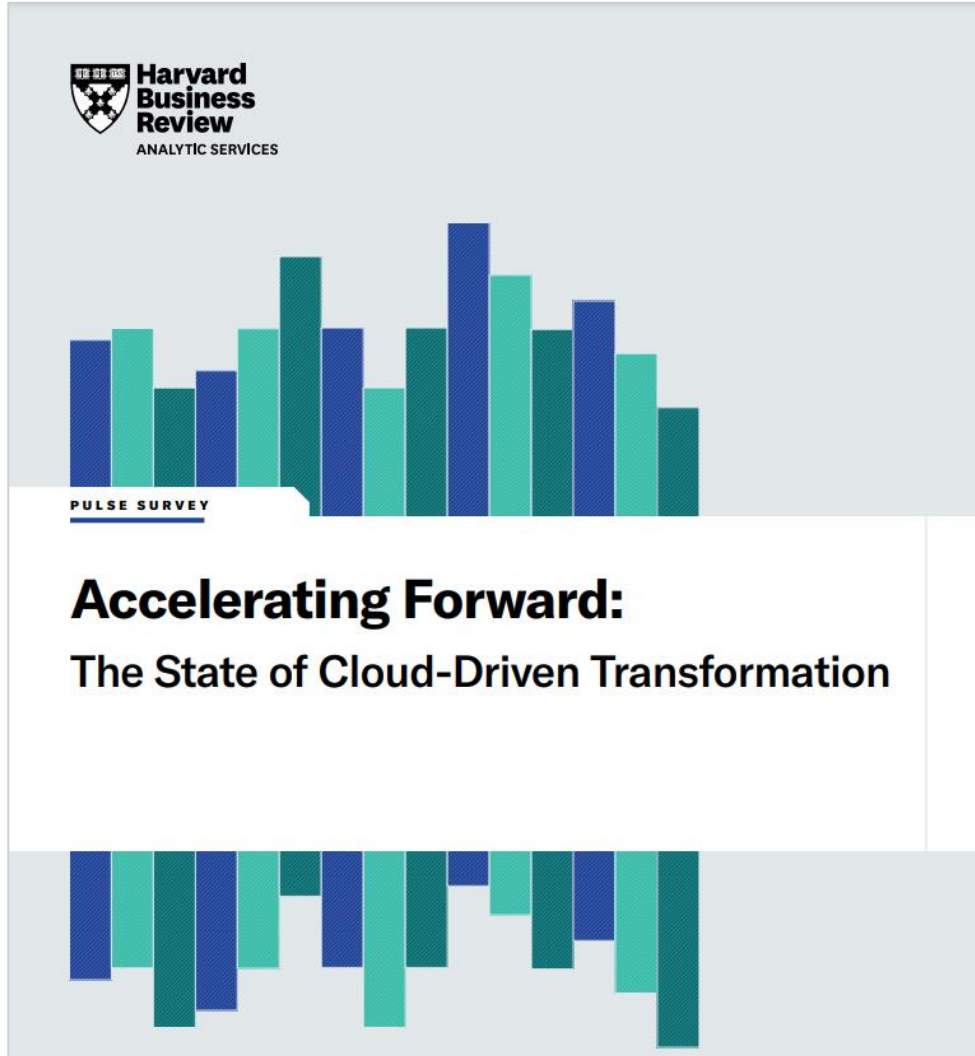
By Anirudh Singh

📅 August 22, 2024

Currently, 12.7% of full-time employees work from home, while 28.2% function under a mixed paradigm. Thus, even though the pandemic may be gone, there is still a growing need for cloud computing for remote work, and contemporary content cloud solutions are a vital lifeline for businesses that employ many remote workers.

By 2025, 32.6 million Americans—or around 22% of the workforce—are predicted to work remotely. Furthermore, cloud content management—which offers greater productivity and lower risk for companies that use remote workers—is well-positioned to play a significant part in this ongoing shift.

Organizational Mandate



“There’s one thing that’s clear: Unleashing the power of cloud has never been more urgent, with 67% of senior executives surveyed saying their organization has accelerated its plans for cloud adoption, up from just over half the year before. On top of that, organizations have doubled down on net-new cloud investments, with over half increasing their spend, compared to just under a third in 2020.”

Vendor Acquisition/Disappearance

Per Perplexity.AI

what percentage of information technology firms have been acquired since 2020

Answer Sources 20 1 task ↗

cooleyma

Cooley's 2024 Tech M&A Year in Review: We're So Back (It's So...

CRN crn.com

M&A Expert: 'Ongoing Healthy Appetite' For IT Services Deals I...

Bizclik Media Ltd

Top 10 technology mergers and acquisitions deals in 2022

+17 sources

There is no definitive percentage available for how many information technology firms have been acquired globally since 2020. However, recent industry reports provide some context:

- The IT services sector in North America saw 497 M&A transactions in 2024 and 557 in 2023, numbers that remain above pre-pandemic levels ².
- U.S. software M&A transactions accounted for 30.8% of global deal count in the first half of 2024, showing increased activity ⁵.
- Major technology M&A deals have continued at a healthy pace, with large firms and private equity driving much of the consolidation, especially in cloud services, cybersecurity, and niche markets ^{2 6}.

While these figures indicate robust acquisition activity, especially among larger and mid-sized firms, there is no published statistic quantifying the overall percentage of all IT firms acquired since 2020. The available data shows strong, steady deal volume, but the total proportion of IT firms acquired remains unreported in public sources ^{2 5 6}.

what percentage of information technology firms have gone out of business since 2020

Answer Sources 20 1 task ↗

statista

Biggest tech layoffs since COVID-19 worldwide 2020-202...

Exploding Topics

Startup Failure Rate Statistics (2025) - Exploding Topics

Small Business & Entrep...

Millions of Small Businesses Closed in 2020: The Long...

+17 sources

There is no exact published percentage for how many information technology firms have gone out of business since 2020. However, several data points provide context:

- Across all industries, up to 90% of startups eventually fail, with about 10% failing in the first year, 20% within two years, and 45% within five years. Technology startups have among the highest failure rates in the United States ².
- In 2020, nearly 30% of all small businesses in the U.S. closed at some point during the year, though not all closures were permanent and this figure includes all sectors, not just IT ³.
- High-profile tech company closures and layoffs have continued through 2024 and 2025, with examples of entire firms shutting down due to market pressures or failed business models ⁵.

While the failure rate for IT startups is high-potentially in line with the broader startup failure rate of 45% within five years-there is no specific statistic for IT firms alone since 2020. The available evidence suggests a substantial portion of IT startups have closed, but an exact percentage is not reported in public sources ^{2 3 5}.

Under the Gun is No Place to Be

“We’ll worry about that when the time comes.”



Governance-Related Considerations

Storage Costs

Service-Level Agreements

Process & System Interoperability



Storage Costs

From “Free” to HOW MUCH?!

Service-Level Agreements



*The code is more what you'd call
"guidelines" than actual "rules."*

Governance Heavy Lifts

Identify What Will Stay and What Will Go

Cull Like Crazy

Take Your Time

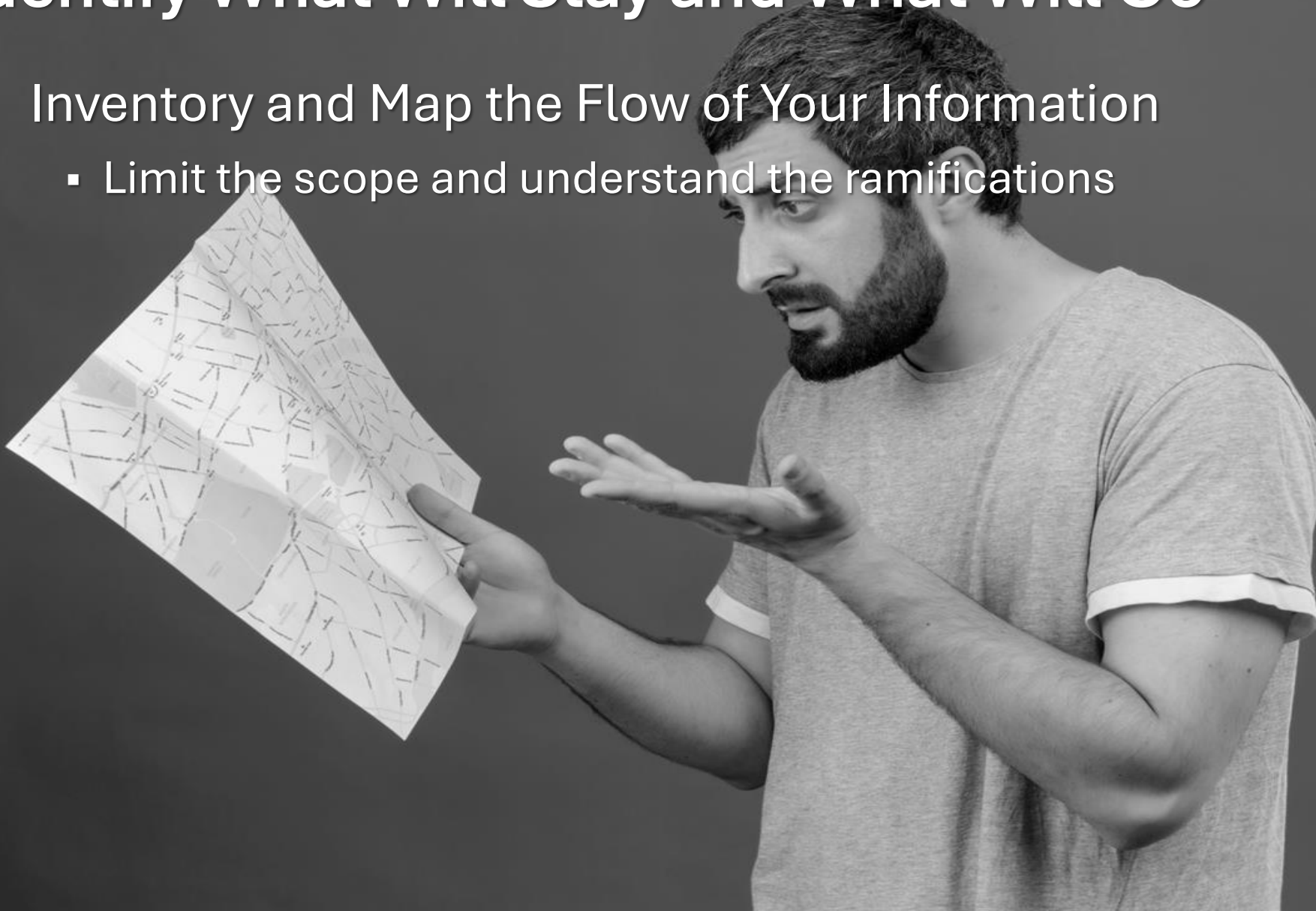
Review and Document Everything

Keep the Old Lights On

Identify What Will Stay and What Will Go

Inventory and Map the Flow of Your Information

- Limit the scope and understand the ramifications



Cull Like Crazy

Remove ROT, Dedupe, Apply Retention

- Avoid paying to “lift and shift” everything



Take Your Time

Move Data in Stages

- Test your migration process and technology



Review and Document Everything

For the “Children”



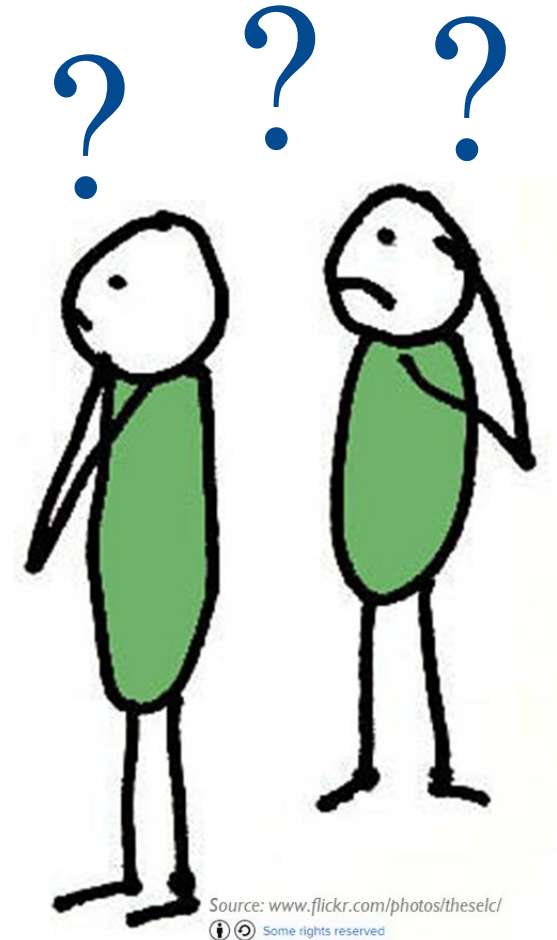
Keep the Old Lights On

Let the Prior System(s) Live ... for a While

- Prohibit access but let linger in case rollback becomes necessary
- Ensure all data is accounted for post-migration before deactivating

What Does This Mean for You?

- A. Your Job Just Got a Lot Harder
- B. Your Job Just Got a Lot More Interesting
- C. Your Job Just Got a Lot More Important
- D. Retirement is the Only Answer
- E. All of the Above





Helping You Get
The Most Value Possible
From Your Information

*To Reduce Risk
To Unlock Opportunity*

Governance
Consulting Services



- AI
- Privacy
- Security
- Migration (incl. cloud)

- Business Intelligence
- Compliance
- Policy/Process Standardization

- Findability
- Shareability
- Quality Assurance (e.g., accuracy, authenticity)

- User Adoption
- Vendor Selection
- Structured and Unstructured Data

Holly Group In a Nutshell

- Founded in 2009
 - Roots to 1990
 - Business-minded
 - Results-driven
- Holistic Analyses
 - Paper *and* electronic
 - Business *and* technology
 - Process *and* people
- Core Competencies
 - ✓ Maturity Modeling
 - ✓ Road Mapping
 - ✓ Policy/Process Standardization
 - ✓ Vendor RFPs / Selection
 - ✓ User Adoption / Change Management



Holly Group In a Nutshell

- Proven Best Practices

- ✓ Experience-driven
- ✓ Field tested
- ✓ Structurally cohesive
- ✓ Analytically consistent
- ✓ Continually enhanced

- Committed to Information Professionals Worldwide

- Association work
- Certification instruction
- Open Sourcing of intellectual property*
- Contributing to leading blogs and publications

* Including origination of what is now the ARMA Information Governance Implementation Model

