

citrix™

Public
Sector

Solution Brief

Citrix DaaS

Enabling Citrix Virtual Apps and Desktops workloads from a cloud-based management portal



With ransomware, and other malicious attacks, increasing rapidly, cybersecurity has become a top concern for government organizations. Just this past year has seen the release of multiple documents, such as the DoD Zero Trust Reference Architecture, Executive Order 14028 (Improving the Nation’s Cybersecurity), and the “Moving the U.S. Government Toward Zero Trust Cybersecurity Principles” memorandum. Across the various guidance provided are the reoccurring themes of reducing VPN dependency, increasing encryption, enabling multi-factor authentication (MFA), and leveraging vendor expertise by accelerating the migration to cloud.

The first three are problems Citrix has been solving for a very long time. Organizations can leverage Citrix to present published desktops and applications over a secure connection, without the need for a VPN, and without a requirement for data-at-rest. Access can be controlled by a variety of factors, such as CAC, PIV, and other authenticators. Citrix is now bringing this technology to a highly secured, government focused cloud, providing a Desktop-as-a-Service (DaaS) control plane, called Citrix DaaS.

Citrix DaaS on the Citrix Cloud Government platform enables you to manage and optimize Citrix Virtual Apps and Desktops workloads from a cloud-based management portal. It’s a flexible, simplified management platform that gives you full control over all your workloads, including deployment, regardless of whether they’re running on a government-grade cloud offering or your on-premises environments. It uses FedRAMP Moderate Baseline certified government infrastructure, making processes simple and ensuring security.

Citrix Cloud Government is isolated and separate from Citrix Cloud, allowing US government agencies and other public-sector customers to use Citrix DaaS in compliance with regulatory and security requirements. Citrix Cloud Government is a geographical boundary within which Citrix operates, stores, and replicates services and data for delivery of Citrix DaaS.

What are the benefits of Citrix DaaS?

Simplicity

Our streamlined interface makes it faster and easier to deploy Citrix Virtual Apps and Desktops solutions. You can build or transfer your desktop images for instant delivery to thousands of users.

Scalability

Use our simple web-based console to scale up or spin down resources as needed.



Security

Citrix Virtual Apps and Desktops on Citrix DaaS enables secure access from anywhere without exposing your internal networks. Only screen updates, mouse clicks, and keystrokes—not data—are sent across the remote connection, keeping your data safe.

Anywhere, any device

Provides a high-quality experience regardless of your users’ location, device, and network connection thanks to our real-time network and performance optimization technologies.

Always up to date

With our experts managing the cloud service, the management plane is always up to date with patches and maintenance allowing you to focus on what is truly important — patching and maintenance of your virtual workloads.

Cost Savings when using hyperscale clouds

Reduce the cost of hosting virtual workloads on hyperscalers by leveraging our advanced optimization, power management, and provisioning tools.

High-level Conceptual Architecture

Citrix DaaS Architecture

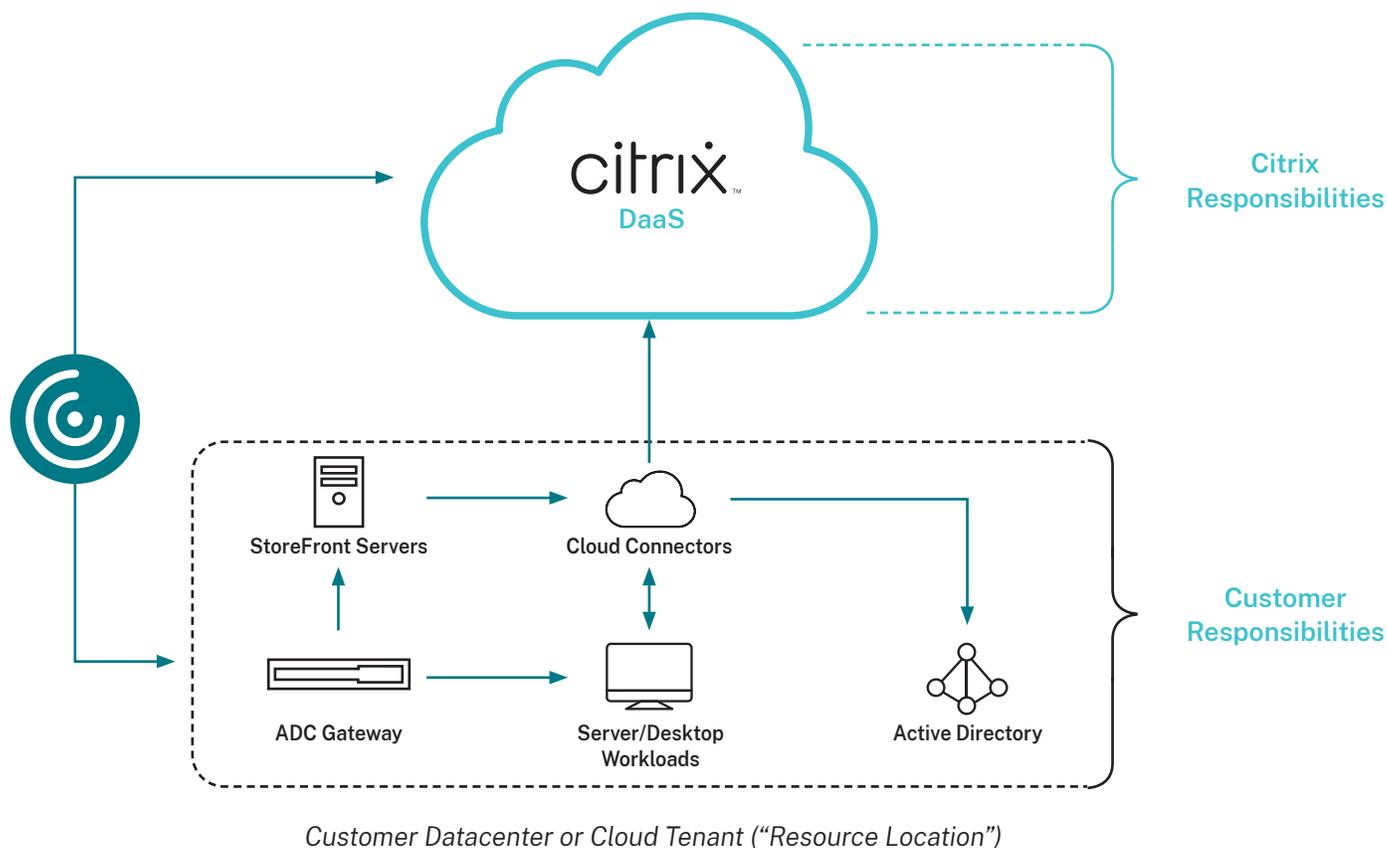
Citrix DaaS has been designed to provide fast and easy deployment while maximizing supportability and flexibility of integration into existing customer environments.

Citrix DaaS

Citrix DaaS on the Citrix Cloud Government platform is a DaaS (Desktop-as-a-service) solution that allows users to access desktops and applications residing in the datacenter or the cloud from any device across any network. The service integrates with all major commercial hyperscalers as well as all major on-premises hypervisors.

Citrix DaaS portal

The Citrix DaaS portal provides a highly scalable and feature-rich management console for administrators to manage their Virtual Apps and Desktops environment. The portal integrates with customers’ Active Directory or Azure Active Directory for secure, flexible authentication.



The portal also provides extensive monitoring capabilities and performance metrics to help administrators maintain an optimal experience for end users. Help desk employees can leverage the portal to troubleshoot user issues and remotely view user sessions. It also provides insight into key performance indicators such as connection failures, machine availability, and logon performance.

Microsoft Active Directory / Azure Active Directory

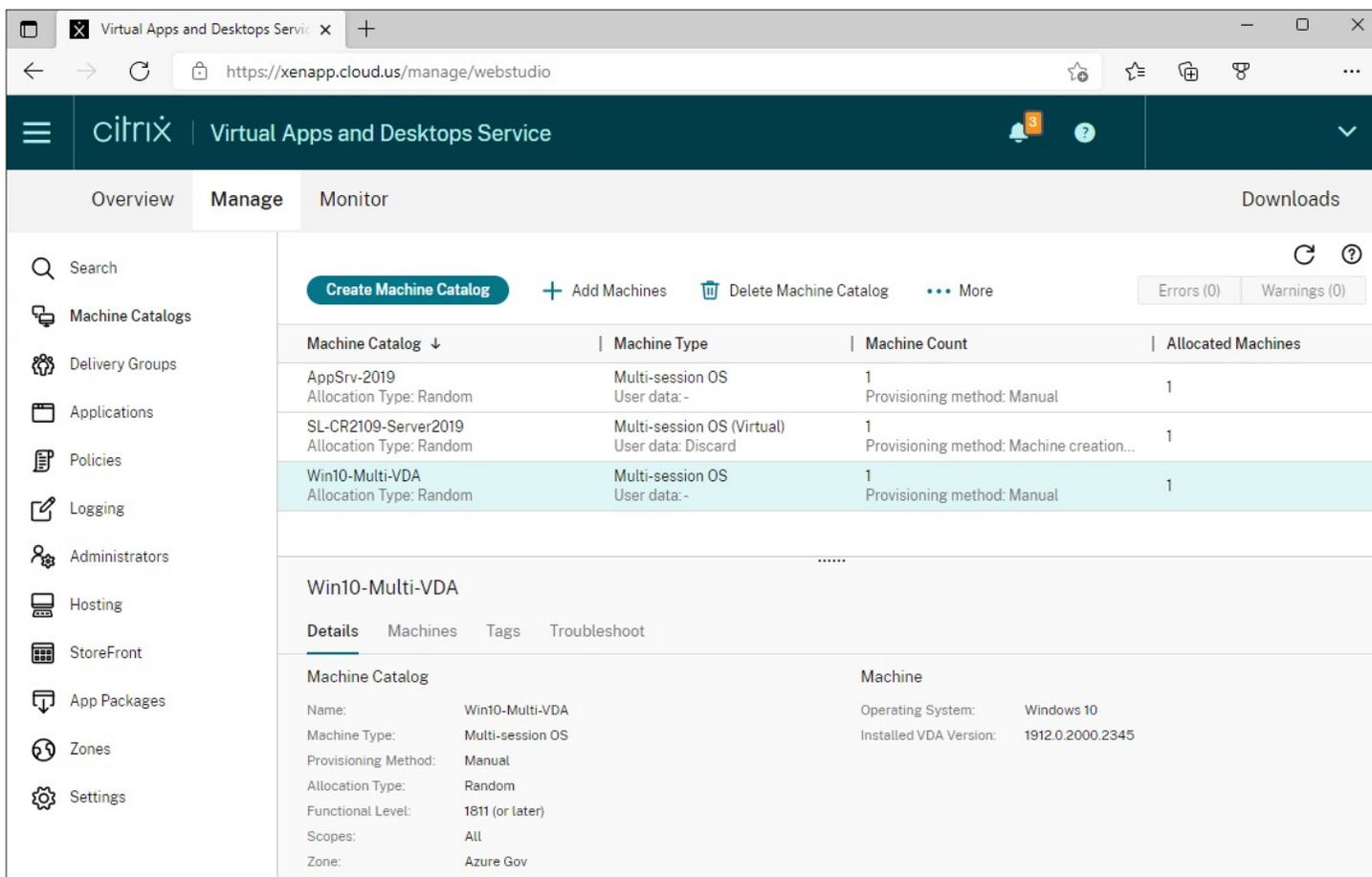
The Virtual Apps & Desktops environment leverages customers' existing Microsoft Active Directory and/or Azure Active Directory for user authentication and identity management.

Server/Desktop Virtual Machines

Apps and desktops published through Citrix DaaS can be delivered from any infrastructure, including customer on-premises, private cloud, or public/hybrid gov clouds. This ensures that workloads always reside on the right

infrastructure based on cost, geo-location, and security and regulatory requirements. The infrastructure from which apps and desktops are published is called a Resource Location and customers can integrate multiple Resource Locations across different on-prem and cloud infrastructure together into a single Citrix DaaS environment. Both single-session and multi-session Windows and Linux workloads can be delivered, maximizing your flexibility and lowering compute cost by leveraging highly scalable OS options such as Windows 10 multi-session on Azure Gov. The Virtual Delivery Agent (VDA) delivers the virtual app or desktop using the highly optimized and proven HDX protocol, enabling powerful features such as:

- High quality audio/video through Microsoft Teams and other real-time collaboration tools
- Complex 3D and graphically-intensive applications such as AutoCAD
- 60 fps full-screen video delivered to a 4K display on the user's endpoint



Citrix ADC Gateway

The Citrix ADC Gateway enables secure and reliable access to Virtual Apps and Desktops workloads from anywhere. The Gateway authenticates users using strong multi-factor authentication (including support for smartcards, SAML, FIDO 2, and others) and then proxies their connection to internal resources, providing single sign-on using Active Directory credentials or certificates. To maximize flexibility and ease of deployment, the Gateway can be deployed as a physical network appliance or as a virtual appliance running on any on-premises or cloud infrastructure.

Citrix StoreFront

Citrix StoreFront acts as an enterprise app store, aggregating all of the apps and desktops published to each user into an easy-to-navigate consumer-like experience. StoreFront includes additional self-service capabilities and can even deliver Virtual Apps and Desktops to end users through a browser without requiring any software installation on the users' endpoint.

Citrix Cloud Connectors

The Citrix Cloud Connector serves as a channel for communication between Citrix DaaS and customers' Resource Locations, enabling cloud integration without requiring any complex networking or infrastructure configuration. This removes the hassle of managing delivery infrastructure by integrating with resources such as Active Directory and on-premises hypervisors or cloud hyperscalers and automatically power managing app and desktop workloads to minimize cloud compute costs. All communication from the Cloud Connectors is outbound, so no firewall rules need be modified for their deployment and no traffic needs to be tunneled to the internal network.

Citrix Workspace App

Users connect to Virtual Apps and Desktops using the Citrix Workspace App, which can be installed directly on a user's endpoint or can be accessed via a browser for a clientless experience. Citrix Workspace App is a client application managed and deployed by customers, enables connections using HDX, a light weight, adaptive protocol that provides a high-definition experience for users over any network, even with limited bandwidth or poor network conditions. Workspace App also provides additional security by inspecting the user's endpoint to ensure that security controls are in place, adjusting policies as needed to prevent data leakage and block malware.

Next Steps

To schedule a briefing and demonstration of Citrix DaaS, reach out to our sales team [here](#).

Additional Resources:

[Citrix Workspace - FedRAMP Moderate VS High: What You Need to Know](#)

[Citrix DaaS Product Documentation](#)



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