

20 QUESTIONS FOR DATA CONTINUITY PLANNING

Data continuity is a holistic data management strategy that encompasses an organization's ability to function during an incident and its ability to recover after.



UNDERSTANDING DATA DISRUPTION

Impact of Data Disruptions

Cause: Power outages 75%¹
Impact: Major airline losses = \$112M²

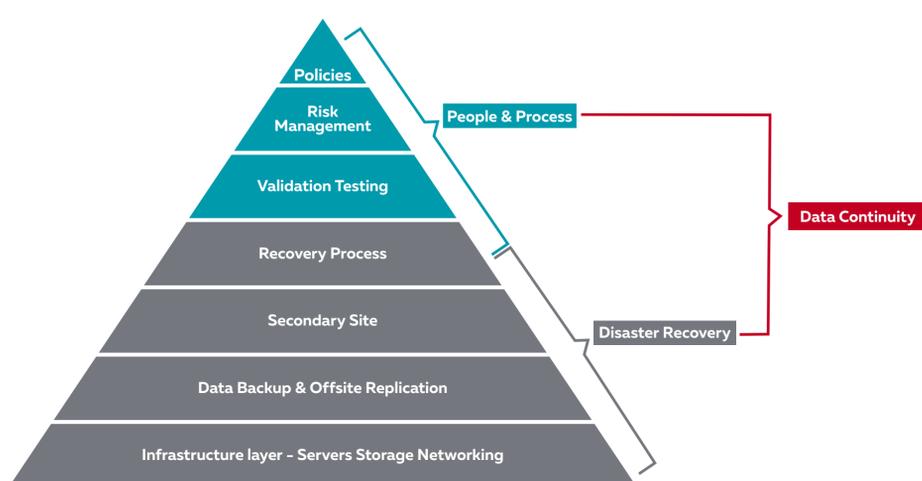
Cause: Hardware error 53%³
Impact: IRS = 20M taxpayers impacted⁴

Cause: Cyberattack 34%⁵
Impact: Logistics carrier losses = \$300M⁶

Elements of a Data Continuity Plan

- Hardware
- Data security
- Software & cloud
- Expertise & leadership
- Planning & documentation

Data Continuity and Disaster Recovery



MINIMIZING DATA DISRUPTIONS: 20 QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

8 in 10⁷ IT Leaders: Experienced data continuity incidents between 2015–2017 that required a disaster recovery plan. Questions to ask as you build your plan:

- 1 What are your most critical workloads?
- 2 Have you prioritized RPO/RTO goals for each of your workloads?
- 3 Do you have a plan for redundant power and networking?
- 4 Can you access expertise and support to react to outages?
- 5 Have you documented actions to take in the event of a system outages?
- 6 Have you documented how to restore from the failover back to normal operations?
- 7 What is your budget for Data Continuity and DR?
- 8 What key resources are needed to put together your data continuity plan?
- 9 Which departments support your resourcing needs? Which departments will oppose?
- 10 Will you build your DR site remote, on-premises or in a 3rd party provider?
- 11 Considered a 3-site copy backup model for production, on-premises and off-premises?
- 12 Ascertained if the DR infrastructure for each workload needed is hot, cold or warm?
- 13 Evaluated how far the DR site should be from your primary site?
- 14 Listed out the hardware that you have on-premises that needs to be protected?
- 15 Have you evaluated the software that you have on-premises to be protected?
- 16 Have you evaluated the security protocols in your environment?
- 17 Have you calculated the ROI from having a data continuity plan?
- 18 Have you evaluated different disruption scenarios?
- 19 Do you have a training plan for your teams to execute your data continuity plan?
- 20 Have you prepared an annual testing schedule for your DR plan?

For help building out or supporting your data continuity and disaster recovery goals, visit <https://www.rackspace.com/solutions/disaster-recover>

SOURCES:

- ¹ <https://www.zetta.net/resource/state-disaster-recovery-2016>
- ² <https://www.networkworld.com/article/3200105/data-center/british-airways-outage-like-most-data-center-outages-was-caused-by-humans.html>
- ³ <https://www.zetta.net/resource/state-disaster-recovery-2016>
- ⁴ <http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/nationworld/ct-irs-blames-tax-day-glitch-20180418-story.html>
- ⁵ <https://www.zetta.net/resource/state-disaster-recovery-2016>
- ⁶ <https://www.cnn.com/2017/08/16/maersk-says-not-petya-cyberattack-could-cost-300-million.html>
- ⁷ <https://www.gartner.com/doc/3834668/survey-analysis-it-disaster-recovery>



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