

IT Mandate: Evolve to Match Expanded Business, Security Roles

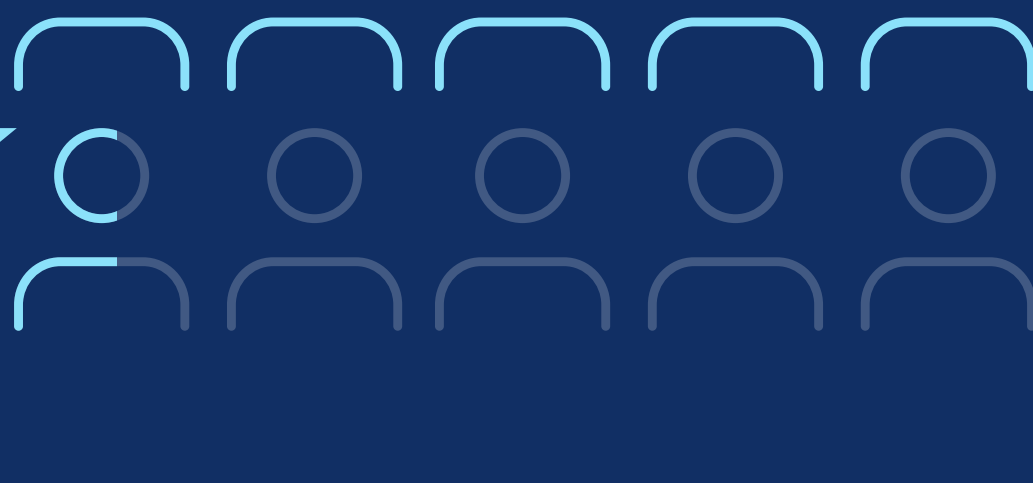
In view of digital transformation, modernization, and growing synergy between IT and business leaders, it's time to reassess IT's adequacy, capability, and vision for security.



Time for change

IDC asked: Is it time to stand back and reassess IT's strategy?

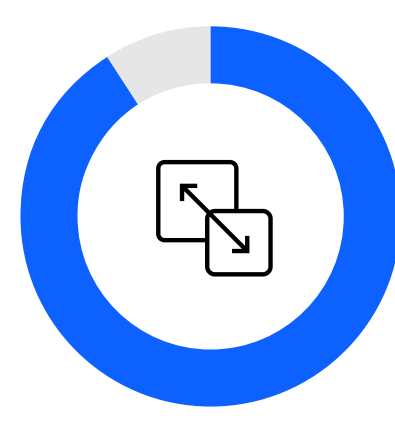
66% said a reassessment would be "the most important" or a "very important" activity.¹



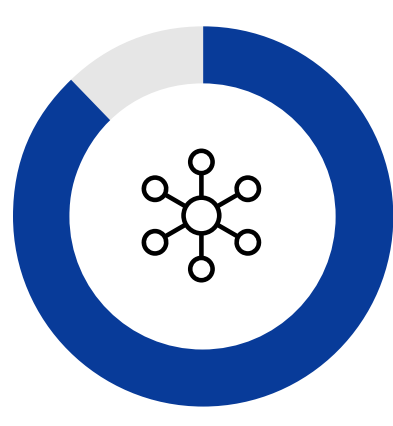
IT leadership knows that for IT to deliver, it is time to reassess IT's adequacy, capability, and vision.

Drivers for change

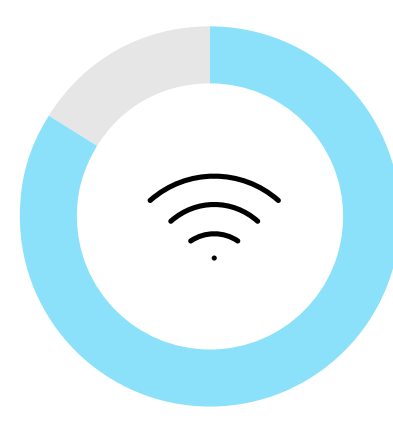
IT leaders are rethinking their network strategy. Here's why:



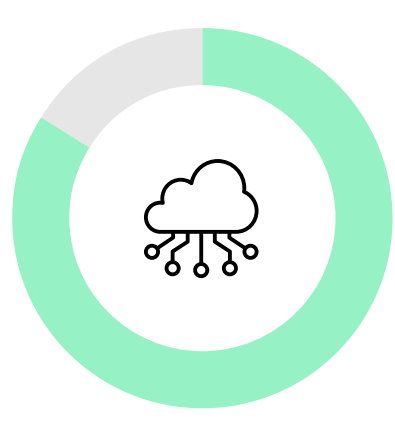
91%
Growing integration of networks and security



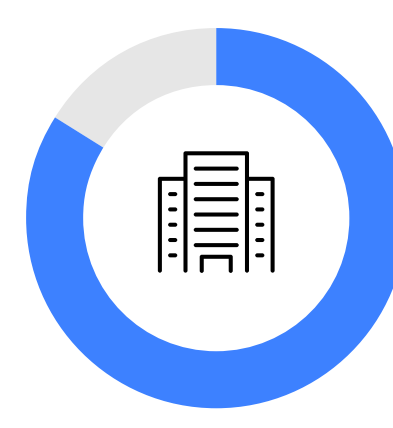
88%
Rapid adoption of digital technology throughout the business



84%
Need to support remote access



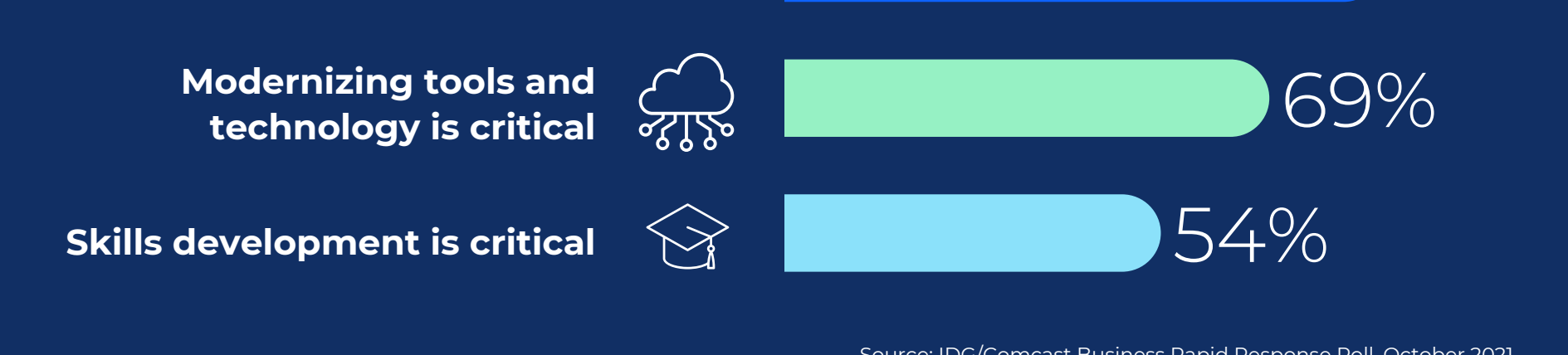
84%
Growing use of cloud environments



84%
Business growth/expansion

Source: IDC/Comcast Business Rapid Response Poll, October 2021

Important areas to rethink:



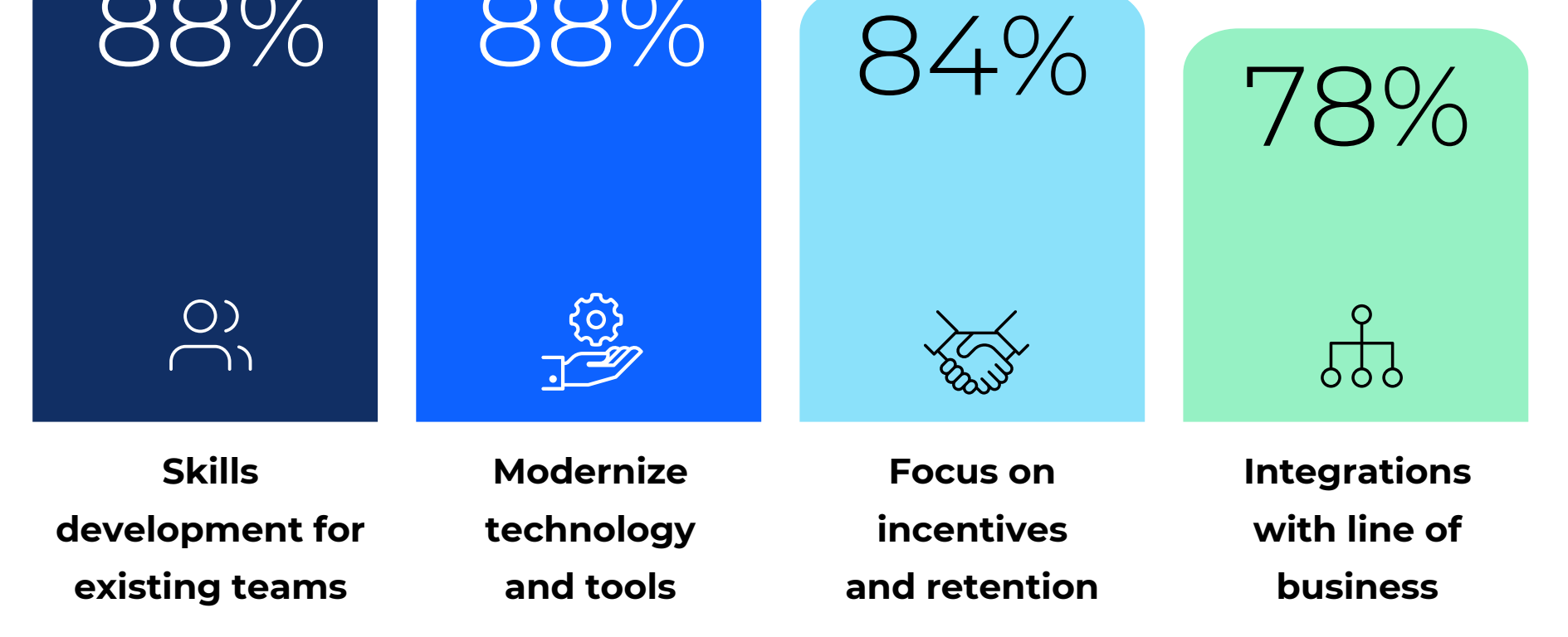
Source: IDC/Comcast Business Rapid Response Poll, October 2021

Over the next three years, the overall percentage of business that is "digital" is forecast to increase by 54%.



The skills question

IT will focus on developing the skill sets of existing teams, providing upgraded technology, and improving conditions to retain them in 2022.



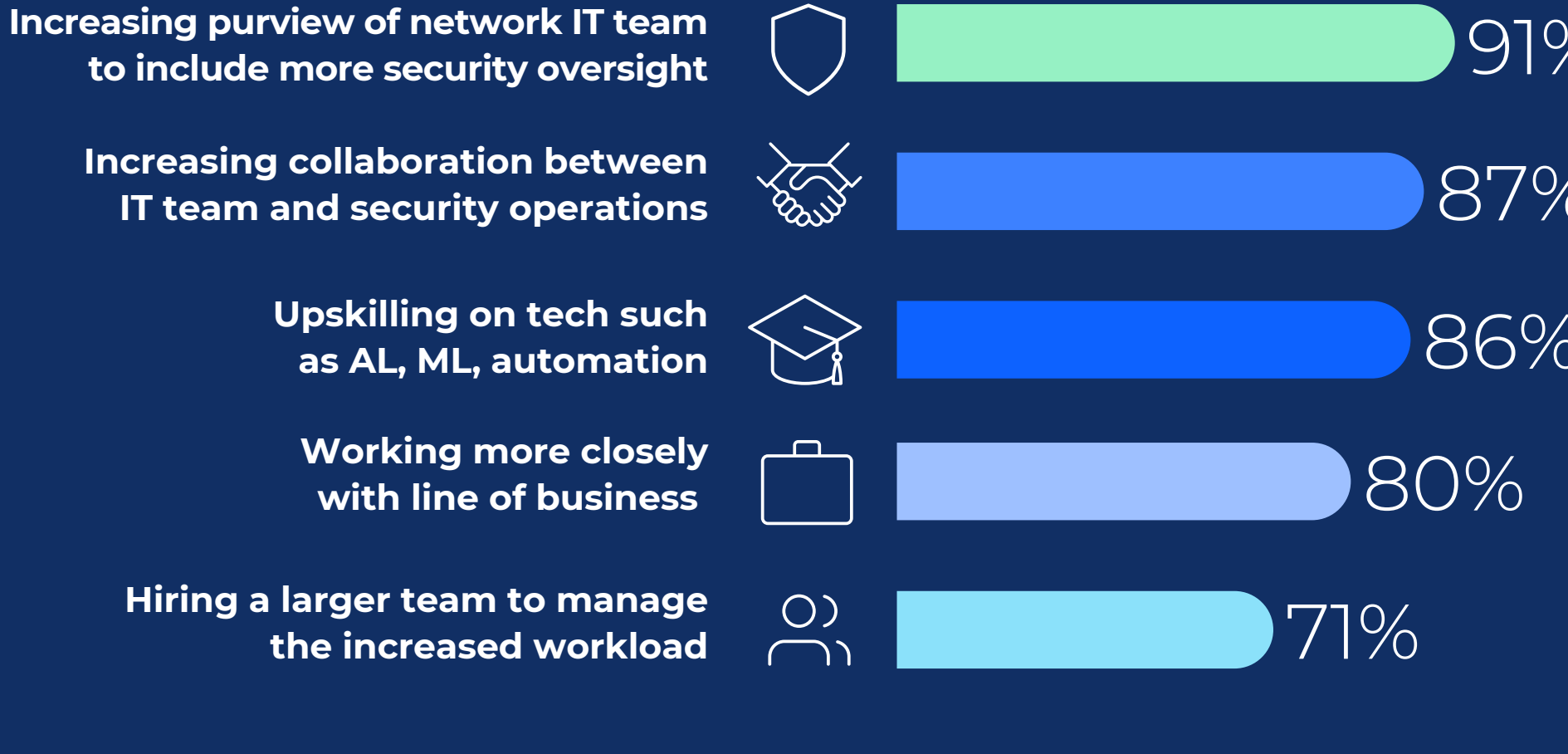
Source: IDC/Comcast Business Rapid Response Poll, October 2021

Shifting roles for better security

Network teams will be given more leeway in security oversight and will be encouraged to cooperate more closely with secops.



What is your IT team doing differently to improve the security of your network and business applications?



Source: IDC/Comcast Business Rapid Response Poll, October 2021

Conclusion: The CIO's expanding role

The most important role of the CIO is still as a technology leader (44%), but innovation, transformation, and strategy are expanding.²



IT leaders must bring network and security teams together to tackle the challenge of protecting their business.

CIOs need to meet demands for easy but secure availability of information that will drive better business decision-making.



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Sources:
¹ IDC/Tech Talk Summits Survey, June 2021
² IDC CIO Sentiment Survey, June 2021