

FEDERAL IT IN FLUX:

WHAT'S SHAPING FY26

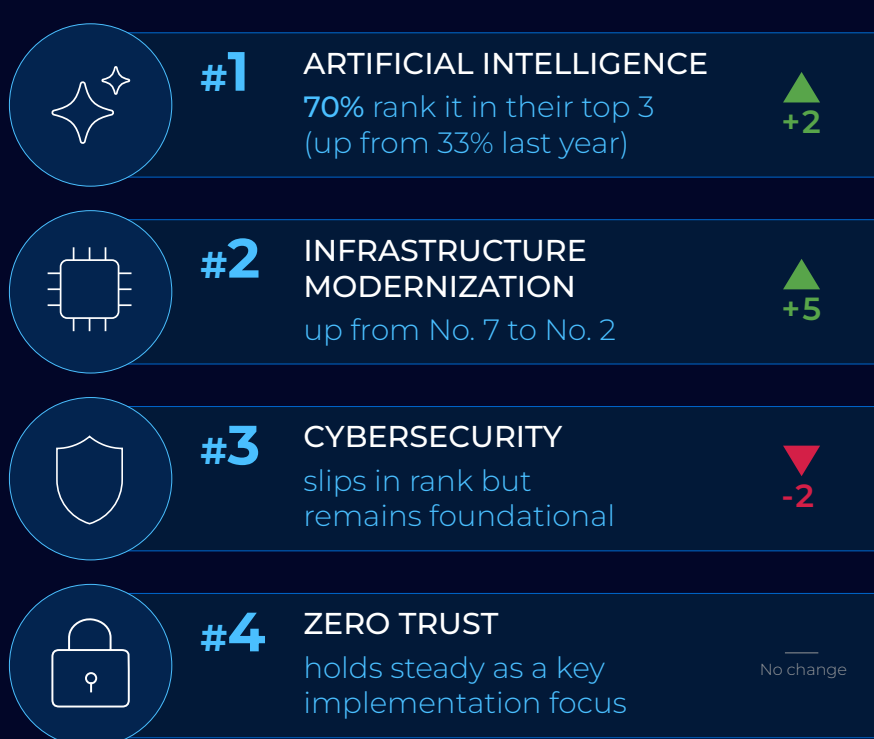
MeriTalk's second annual **Federal CIO Forecast** examines shifting priorities and pressures, based on insights from 10 federal CIO offices.

Underwritten by:



Priorities shake-up: AI is everything

CIOs: What are your top technology priorities for FY26?



Cost cutting takes center stage

100%

of CIOs are **actively cutting costs**

80%

face formal **savings mandates**

Top tactics:

- System consolidation
- AI-driven automation
- Enterprise licensing
- Shared services

The administration effect



80%

say the new administration has **positively shaped** their IT strategy

90%

say adopting an **enterprise mindset** is good for fed IT

“The pace of government isn't always fast, but it's faster than it's ever been.”

– Federal CIO

What CIOs need now



Flexible, sustained funding models



Infrastructure to support AI development



Clear authority and autonomy for CIOs

Download the full report for direct quotes, deeper insights, and bold FY26 predictions from top federal IT leaders.