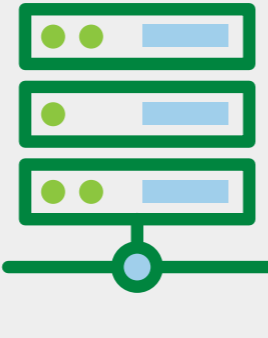


What IT pros *really* think about Ethernet

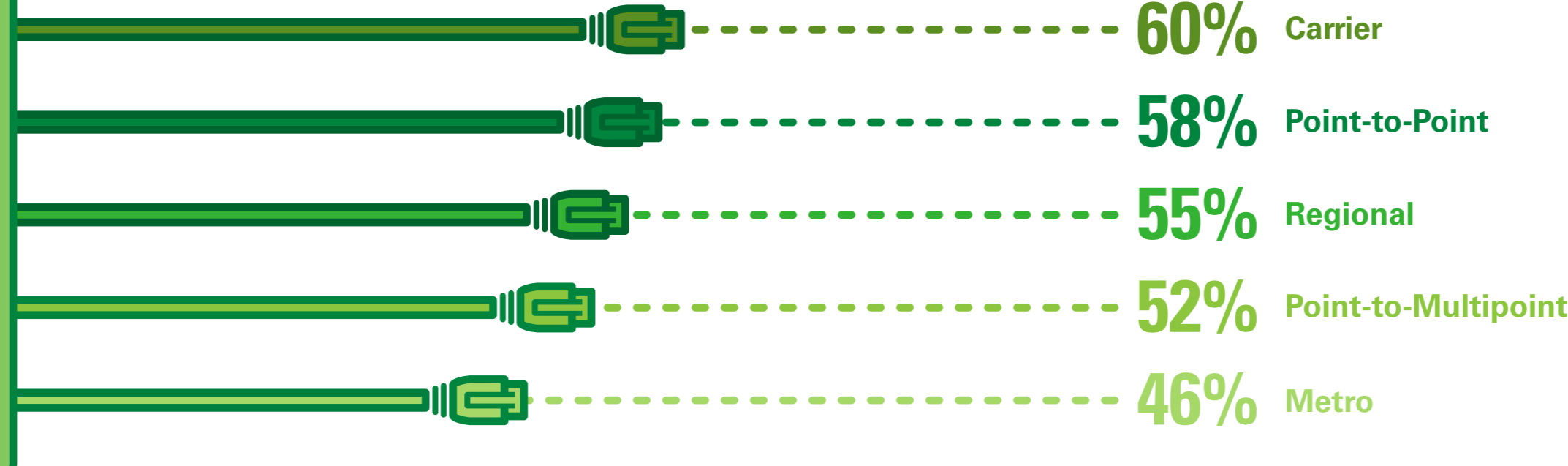


Ethernet is vital for SMBs needing to manage data growth and application performance—with enhanced security.

But what's the future for Ethernet? What do IT pros really think about its challenges and benefits? Spiceworks recently surveyed more than 250 IT decision-makers to find out.

The State of Ethernet, According to IT Pros

Ethernet continues to be a staple for connectivity. Here's how surveyed IT pros currently have it deployed:



Top applications/workloads supported by Ethernet:



Email



Databases



VoIP

But not everything's rosy when it comes to Ethernet deployments...

Bring on the Bandwidth

According to the Spiceworks survey, 81% of IT pros expect to need more bandwidth within the next **3 years**.



Top 5 challenges with current Ethernet solutions:



Speed/bandwidth limitations



Cost/ROI



Traffic control/isolation



Reliability/uptime



Scalability

What IT pros are saying about their Ethernet challenges:



"Speed and security. It usually comes down to these two issues."

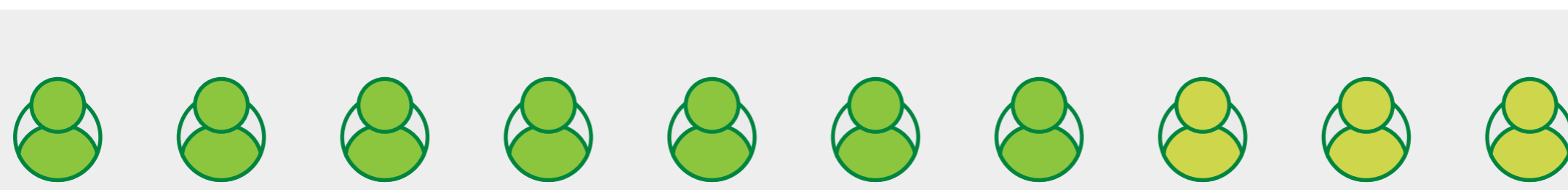


"My biggest complaint about our current Ethernet solution is the constant price fluctuation."

Delivering What IT Pros Need

Challenges aside, an overwhelming majority of IT pros are seeking new Ethernet solutions:

IT pros taking steps to address **future** bandwidth needs: **95%**



7 in 10 IT pros are currently researching and/or evaluating potential solutions/vendors

Top 5 benefits of Ethernet:



Increased efficiency/productivity



Increased performance/speed



Cost savings

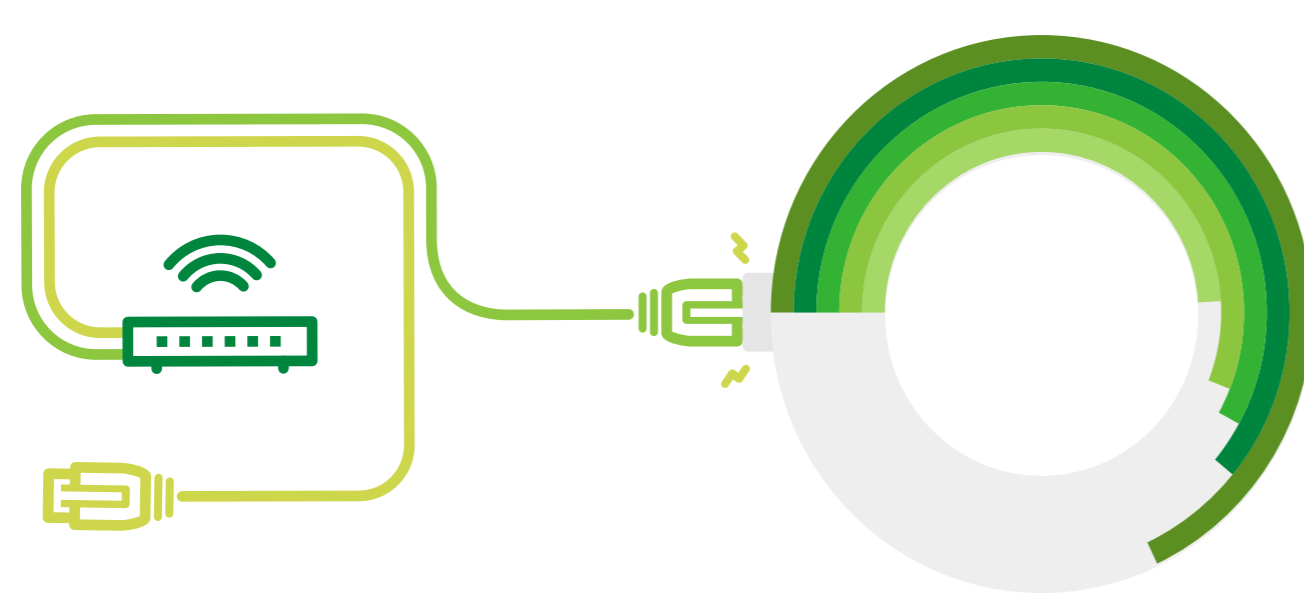


Improved security



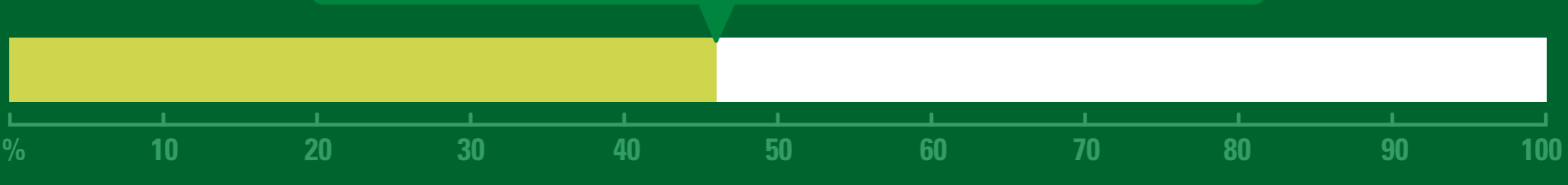
Increased reliability/connectivity

What do IT pros look for in their Ethernet solutions?



- 68% Enhanced security
- 61% Network integration
- 58% Bandwidth scalability
- 56% Private/dedicated connectivity
- 49% Enhanced scalability

Surveyed IT pros who prefer Ethernet as part of a networking solution from a single provider: **46%**



Connect to the Future with CenturyLink Ethernet Solutions

For organizations of all sizes, CenturyLink is the trusted, single-source provider of voice and networking solutions. Count on CenturyLink Ethernet Solutions to deliver high-performance, cost-effective connectivity without any hassles — so you can focus on what matters most to your business.

Spiceworks survey of 252 U.S. IT decision-makers on behalf of CenturyLink, June 2017.

Services not available everywhere. CenturyLink may change or cancel products and services or substitute similar products and services at its sole discretion without notice. ©2017 CenturyLink. All Rights Reserved. The CenturyLink mark, pathways logo and certain CenturyLink product names are the property of CenturyLink. All other marks are the property of their respective owners.



Learn more about what IT is saying about Ethernet.

DOWNLOAD THE TREND REPORT