

DETAILED FINDINGS

From The Benchmark Report:

SAP ERP Migration and Transformation 2026

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RESEARCH PARTNER

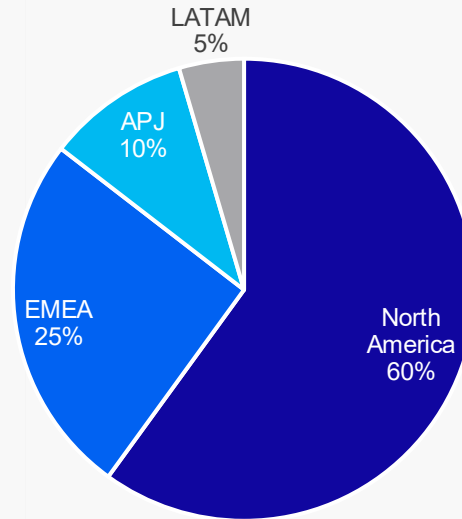


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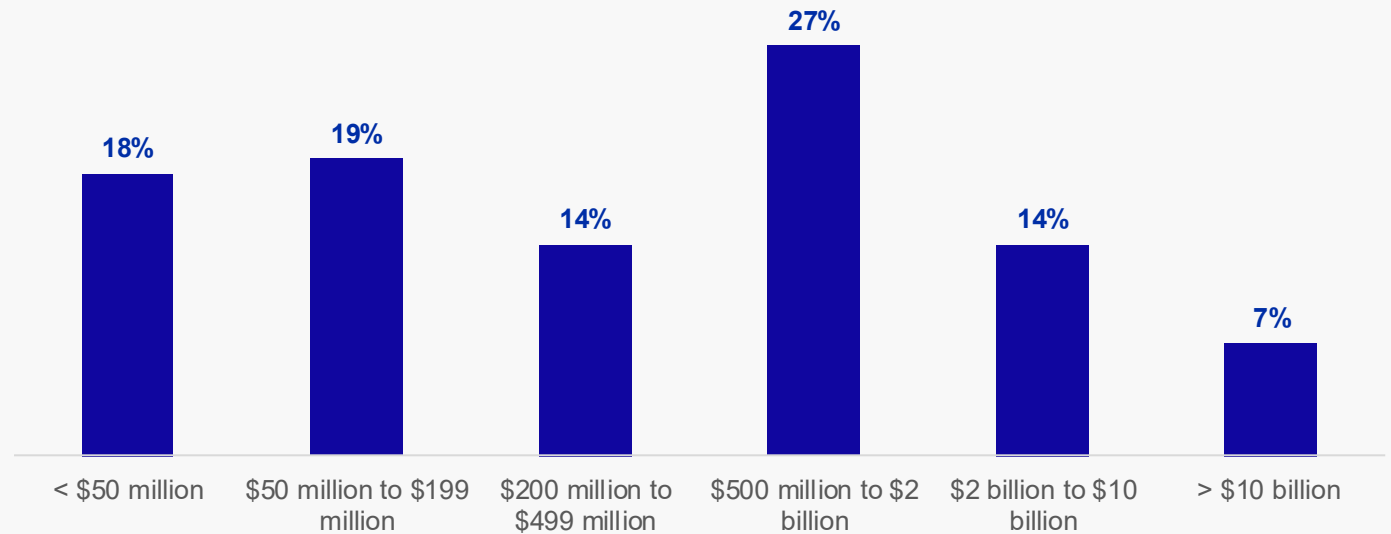


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Between December 2025 and March 2026, SAPinsider surveyed 296 community members to gain deeper insights into their use of cloud ERP and their plans for the move to SAP S/4HANA. The survey explored their current adoption status, whether they have switched to SAP S/4HANA, and the internal and external factors most impacting their migration and transformation plans.



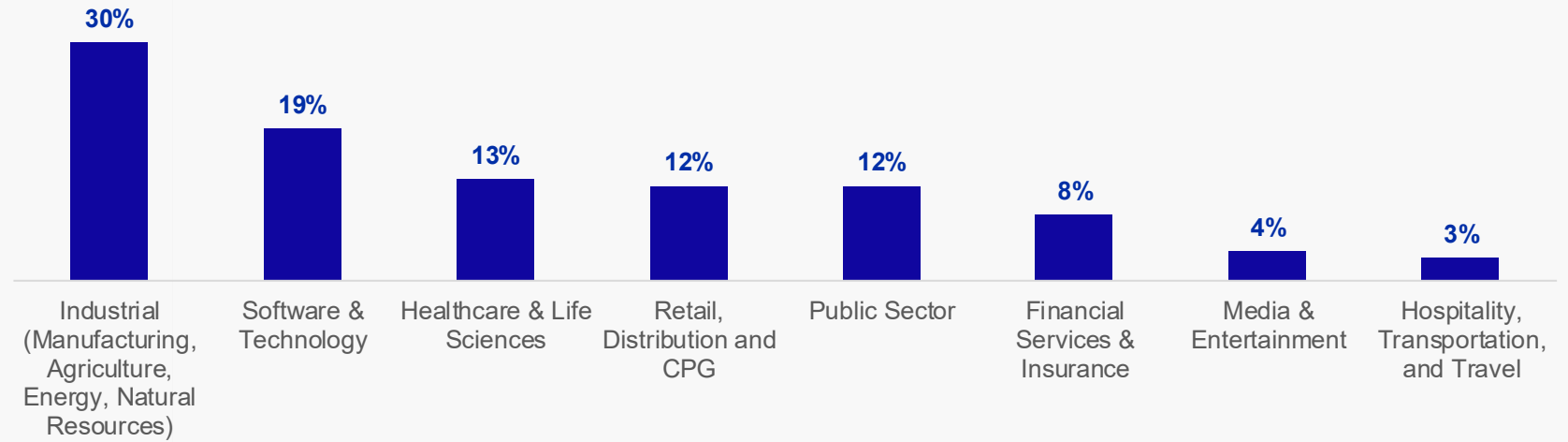
Revenue



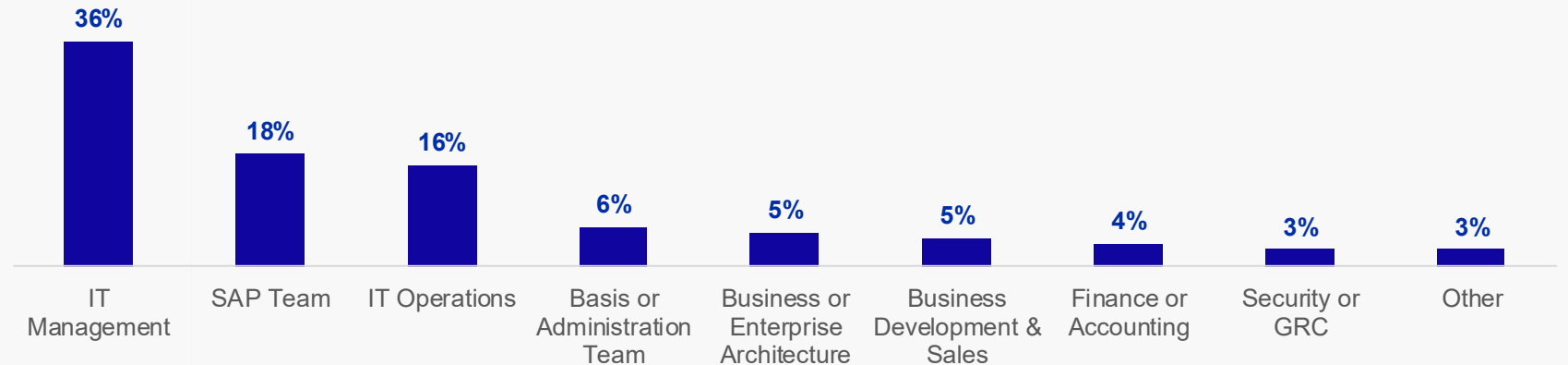
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The participants were also asked about their organizational roles and the market sector in which their organizations operated.

Industry



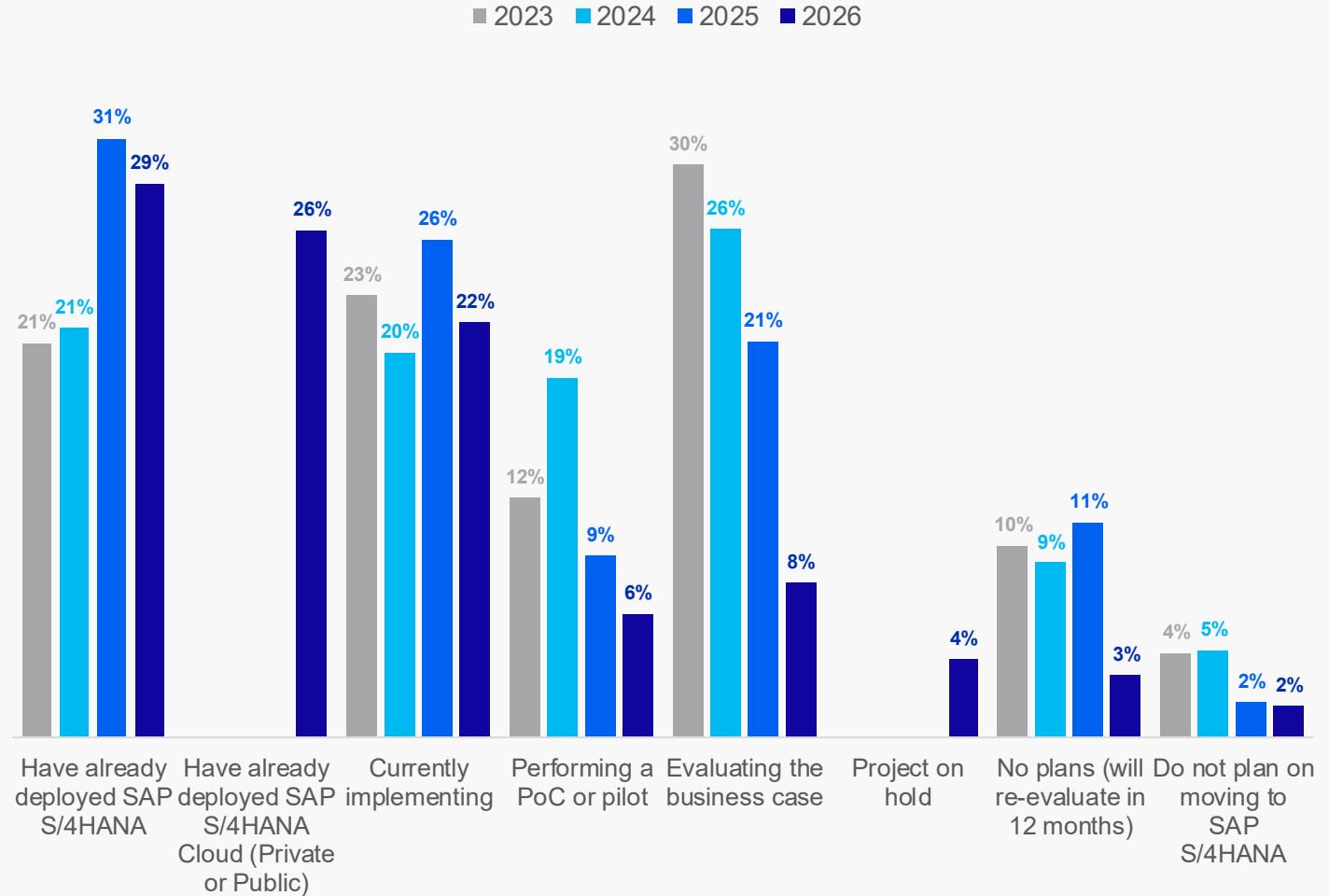
Role



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Continuing trends observed over the past year, there has been a significant acceleration in the number of organizations reporting that they have deployed SAP S/4HANA or SAP S/4HANA Cloud (this year being listed as a separate answer choice). While many are still in the implementation or even evaluation process, few report having no plans for any sort of adoption or transition. With 2027 fast approaching, organizations must start executing if they are to have any hope of transitioning before the end of mainstream maintenance.

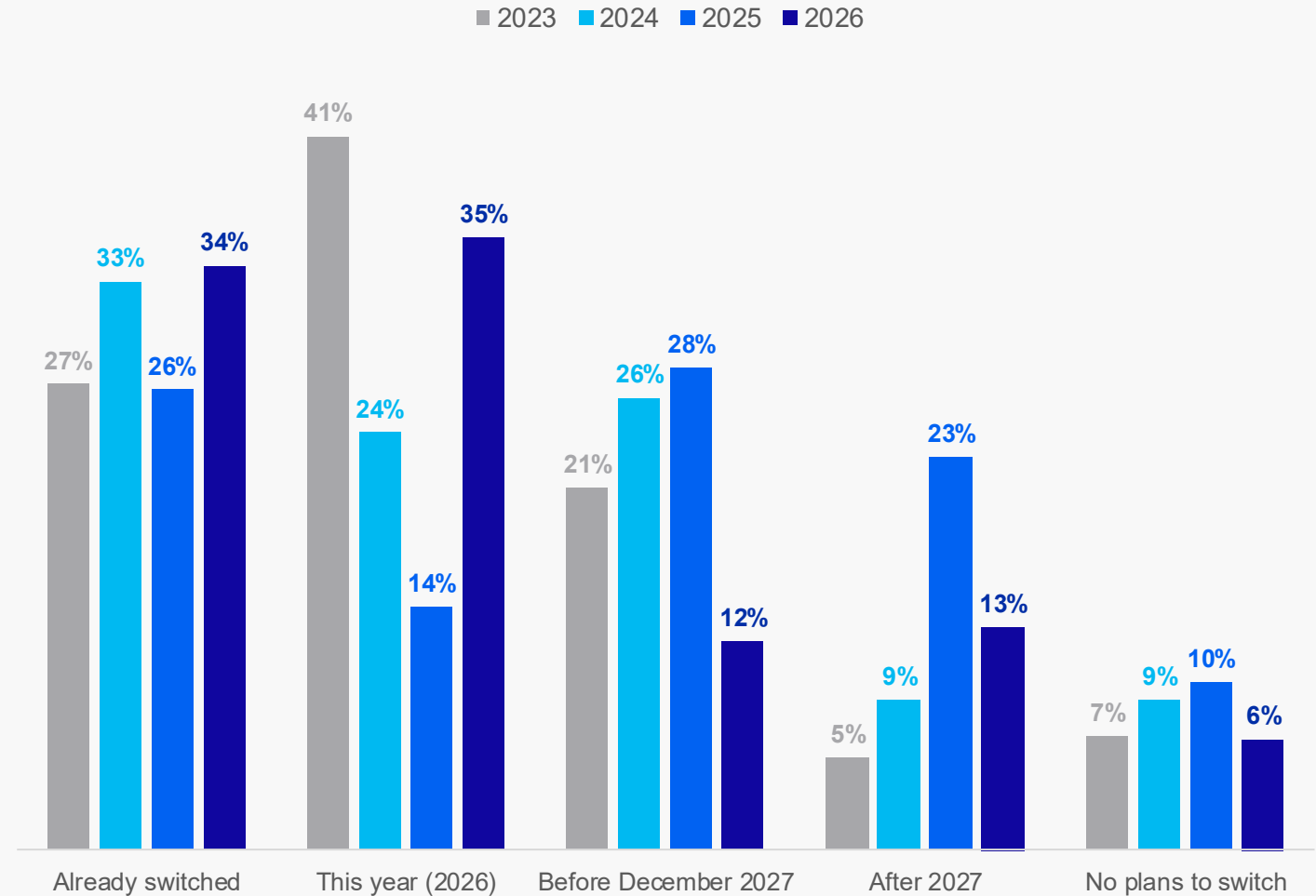
Current SAP S/4HANA Adoption Status



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While 55% of respondents report having already deployed a version of SAP S/4HANA or SAP S/4HANA Cloud, a smaller proportion have switched to the the product as their daily ERP system. This potentially reflects the complexity of existing environments and the need to run multiple systems in parallel for a period, but also that many organizations are running multiple ERP instances and a single deployment does not necessarily mean that the organization has completed switching all their operations to SAP S/4HANA.

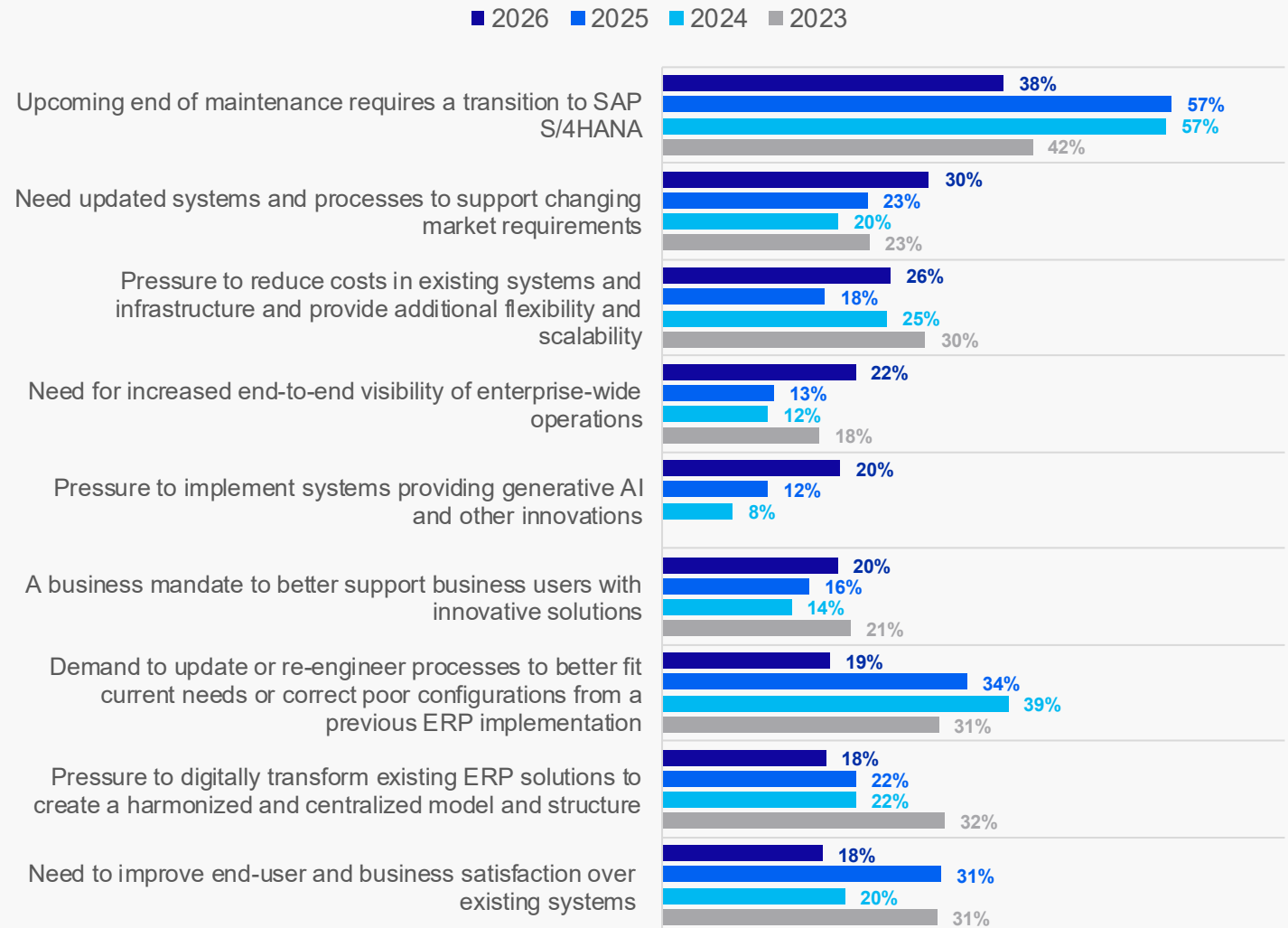
Timeline for Switching to SAP S/4HANA



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As has been the case for the last three years, the upcoming end of mainstream maintenance is the biggest factor driving ERP migration and transformation. However, the last year has seen a significant shift in the impact that generative AI has had on plans for ERP migration and transformation. Focus on accessing AI capabilities, combined with a need to reduce costs, have a growing influence on plans for ERP transformation. The 2027 deadline is still hugely important to SAP customers, but SAPinsiders must balance the demands of factors such as updating systems to support changing market needs, cost management, and pressure to implement AI.

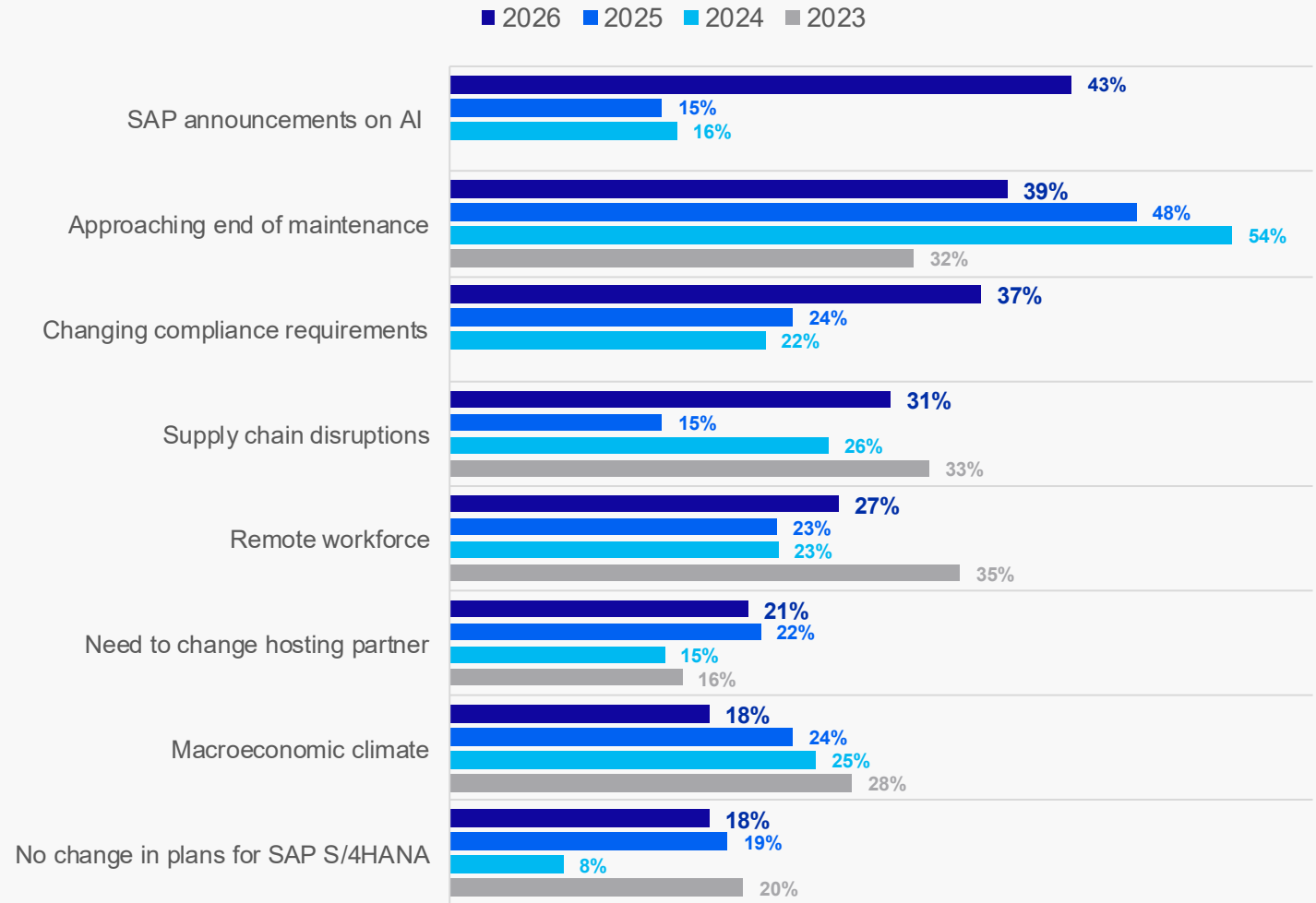
Factors Driving Strategy for ERP Migration and Transformation



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Reflecting the growing importance among SAP customers of having access to generative AI in ERP systems, nearly three times as many respondents this year reported that SAP announcements on AI are the biggest external factor impacting their ERP migration and transformation plans. Also seeing a significant increase in impact are changing compliance requirements, something that has been a major challenge for EMEA-based organizations, but supply chain disruptions also have a growing impact this year as organizations work to align with global macroeconomic trends.

External Factors Impacting ERP Migration and Transformation Plans Over the Last 12 Months

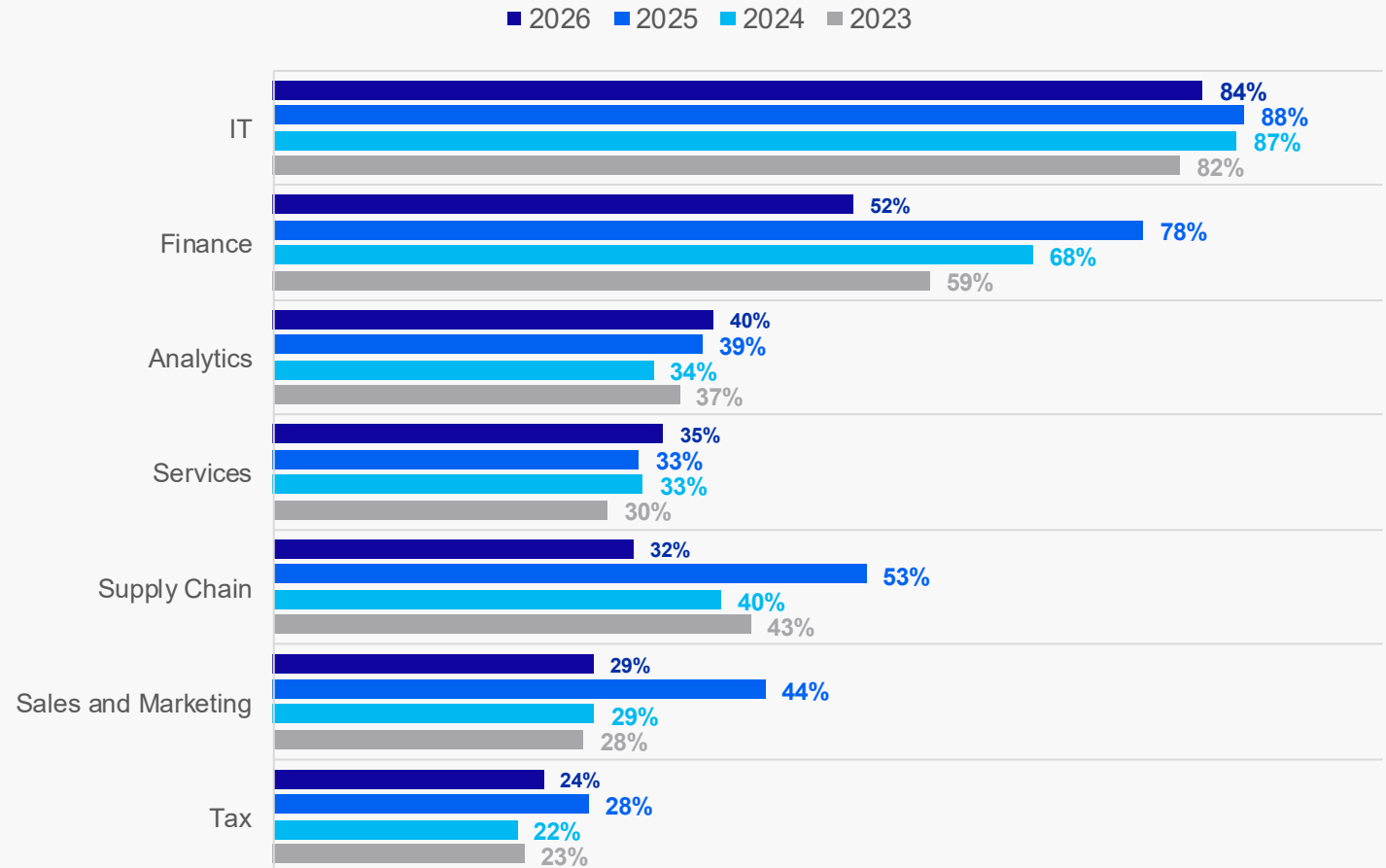


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Given the approaching end of mainstream maintenance, it is not surprising that decisions regarding ERP migration and transformation are being largely driven by IT teams that may be facing a mandate to ensure that they remain on systems that have mainstream maintenance. The role of line of business teams is not becoming less important but is being eclipsed by IT decisions in the short term.

While there may be a need for IT to drive decisions given the limited window before mainstream maintenance ends, failure to involve business teams in ERP transformation projects can significantly impact acceptance and adoption of the solution once deployed.

Internal Teams Involved in Decisions Regarding ERP Migration and Transformation



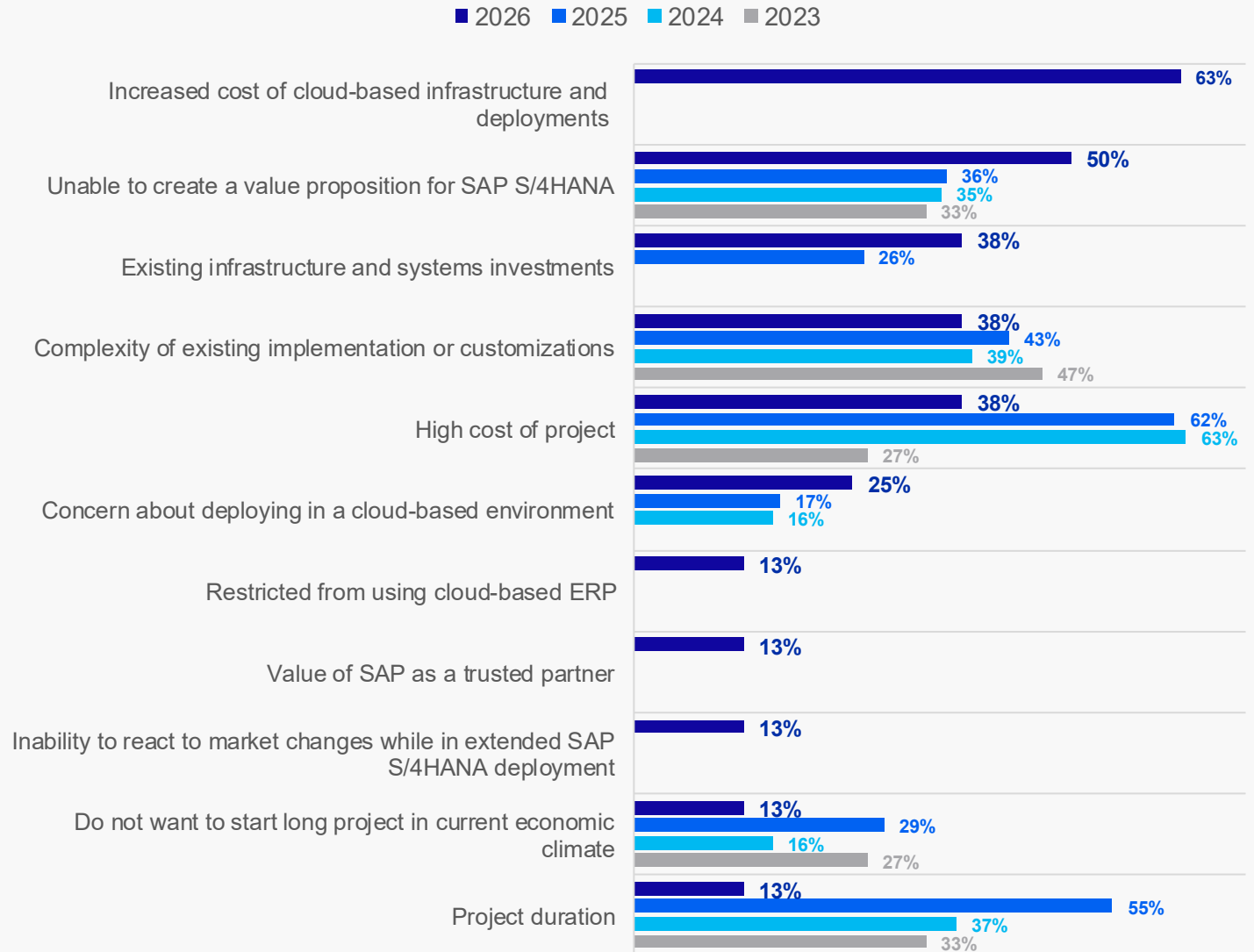
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This year’s research added several new answer choices when it came to the barriers to ERP migration and transformation. In addition, only respondents who indicated that their organization had no plans for SAP S/4HANA (5% of all respondents) answered this question.

The most significant challenges for respondents were the increased cost of cloud-based infrastructure and an inability to create a value proposition for SAP S/4HANA.

Initial cloud deployments can involve significant ramp-up costs as well as the need to educate internal teams which may lack specialized knowledge of cloud-based systems. Moreover, with some organizations feeling that they are only moving to SAP S/4HANA out of a need to remain compliant can make creating a solid business case difficult.

Barriers to ERP Migration and Transformation

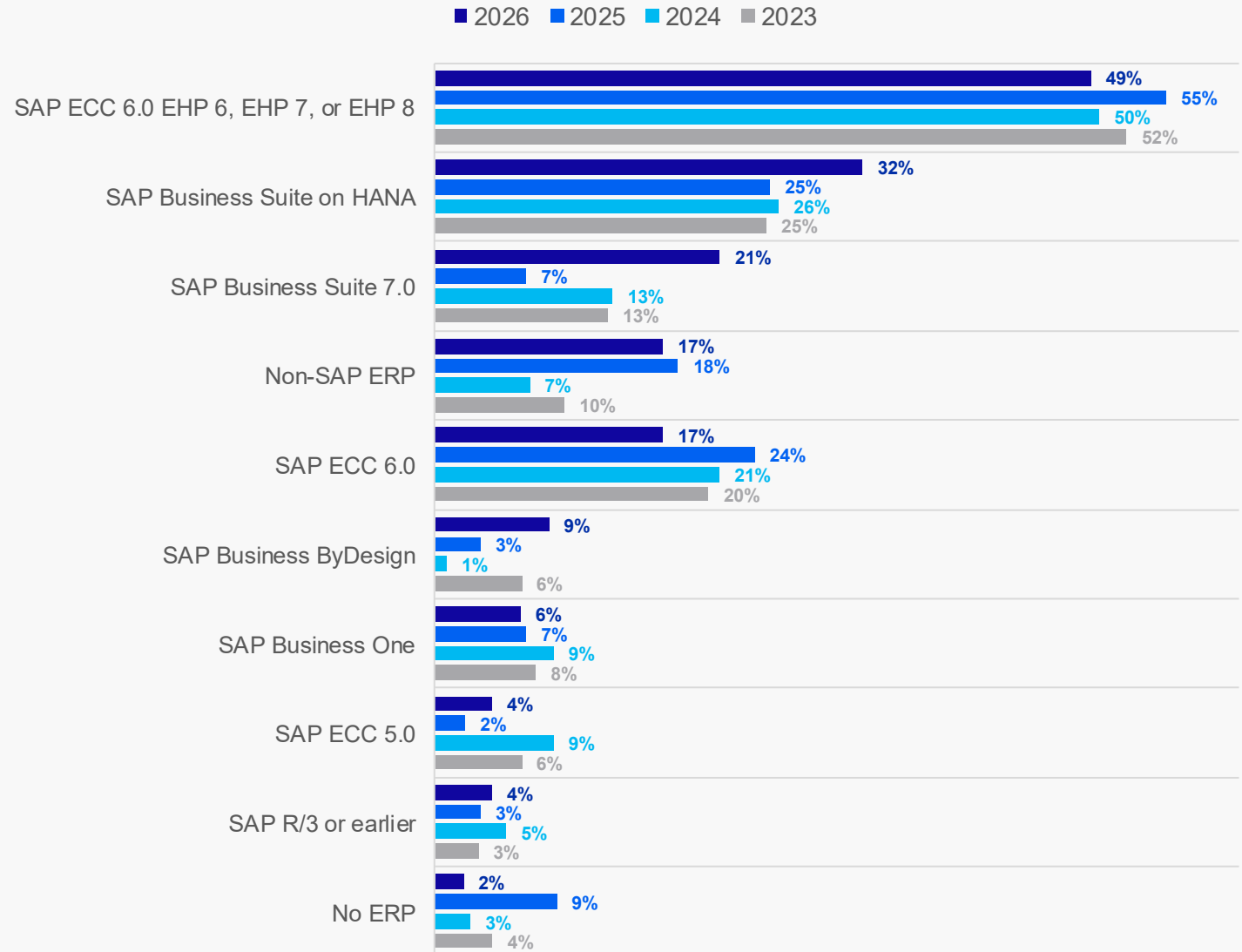


* Respondents that are currently have no plans for SAP S/4HANA

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For those that have not yet switched to SAP S/4HANA there is the expected mix of systems. Most customers are running a recent enhancement pack of SAP ECC 6.0, but other are running SAP Business Suite on HANA, SAP Business Suite 7.0, or even a non-SAP ERP system.

ERP Systems Currently in Use



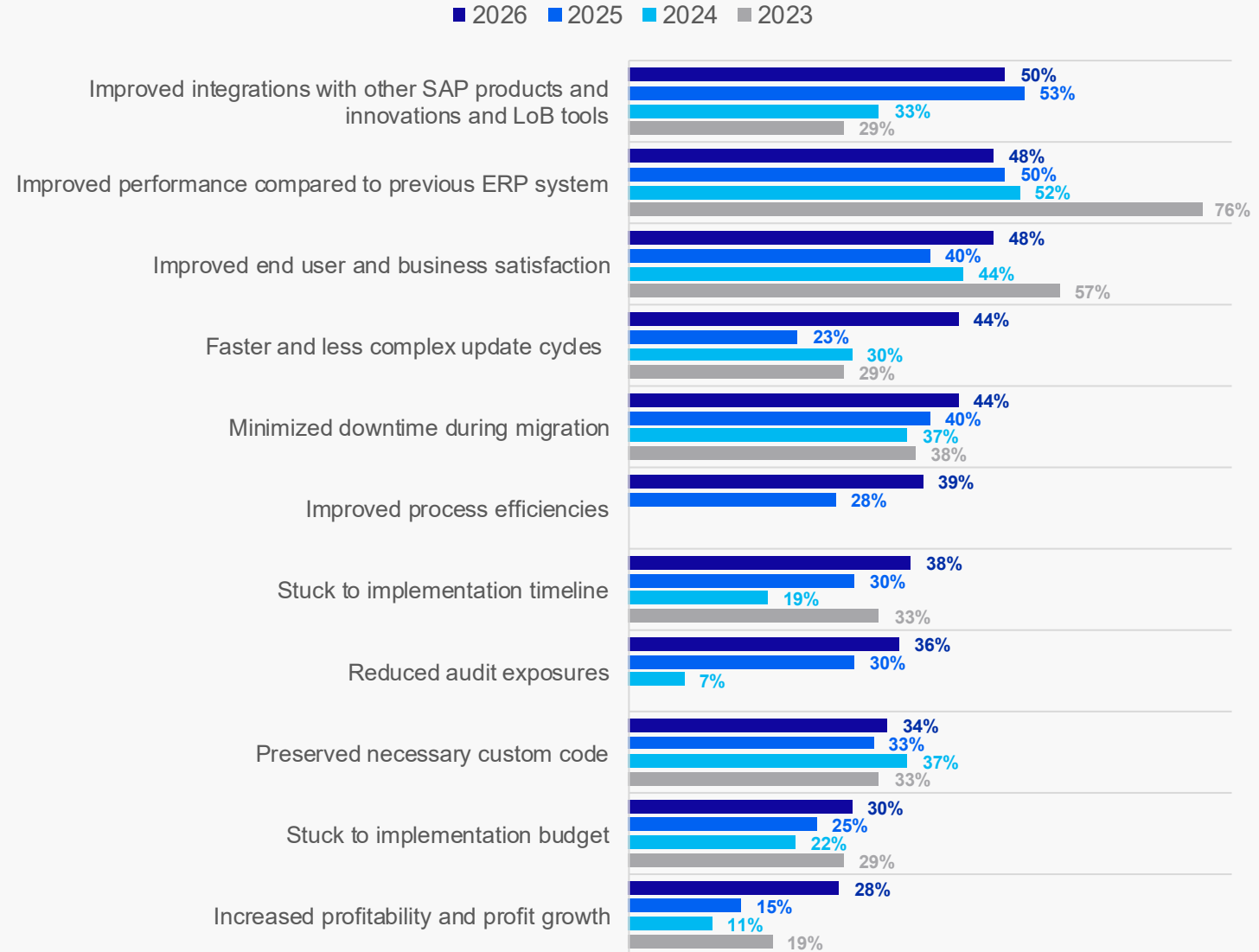
* Respondents that have not yet switched to SAP S/4HANA

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For those that have already moved to SAP S/4HANA, the biggest benefit continues to be improved integration with other SAP products and tools followed by improved performance compared to their previous ERP system.

This year, there was a significant increase in those reporting a benefit from faster and less complex update cycles than in the past. Organizations that have managed to minimize the number of customizations they are running and are following cleaner core principles are benefiting from faster upgrade cycles. This offers an advantage in terms of how quickly organizations can apply patches, enhancement packages, and updates.

Benefits Experienced From Moving to SAP S/4HANA



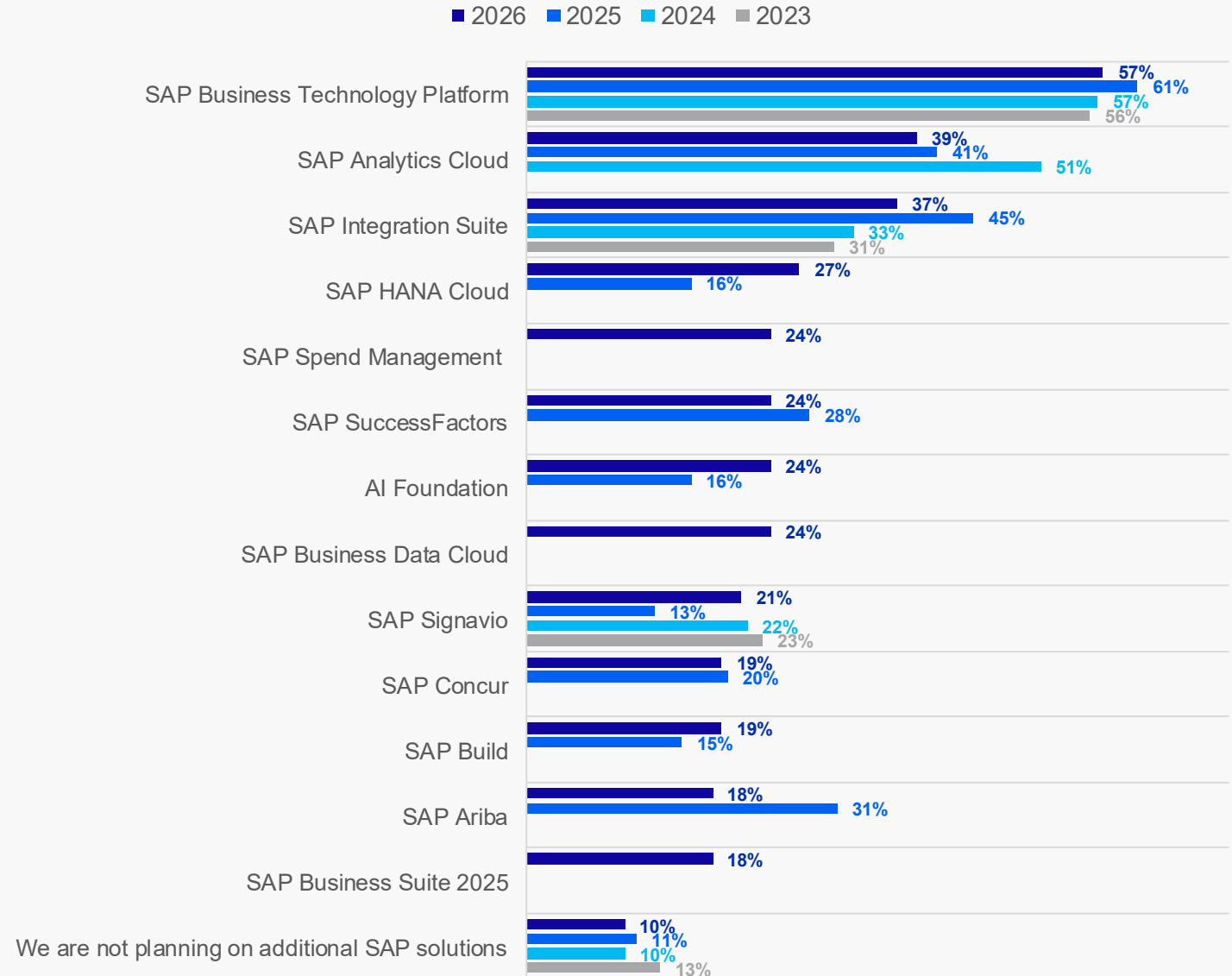
* Respondents that are already running SAP S/4HANA

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The most likely solution to be deployed by those who have already performed an ERP migration or transformation is that of SAP Business Technology Platform (BTP). Given the hundreds of services that it offers along with its role as the foundation for the new SAP Business Suite and many other applications, it is no surprise that SAP BTP is the focus for many SAPinsiders.

New to the list this year is SAP Business Data Cloud (BDC) which nearly a quarter of respondents say they plan to invest in. Given that SAP BDC was launched less than a year ago, this shows the importance of the offering.

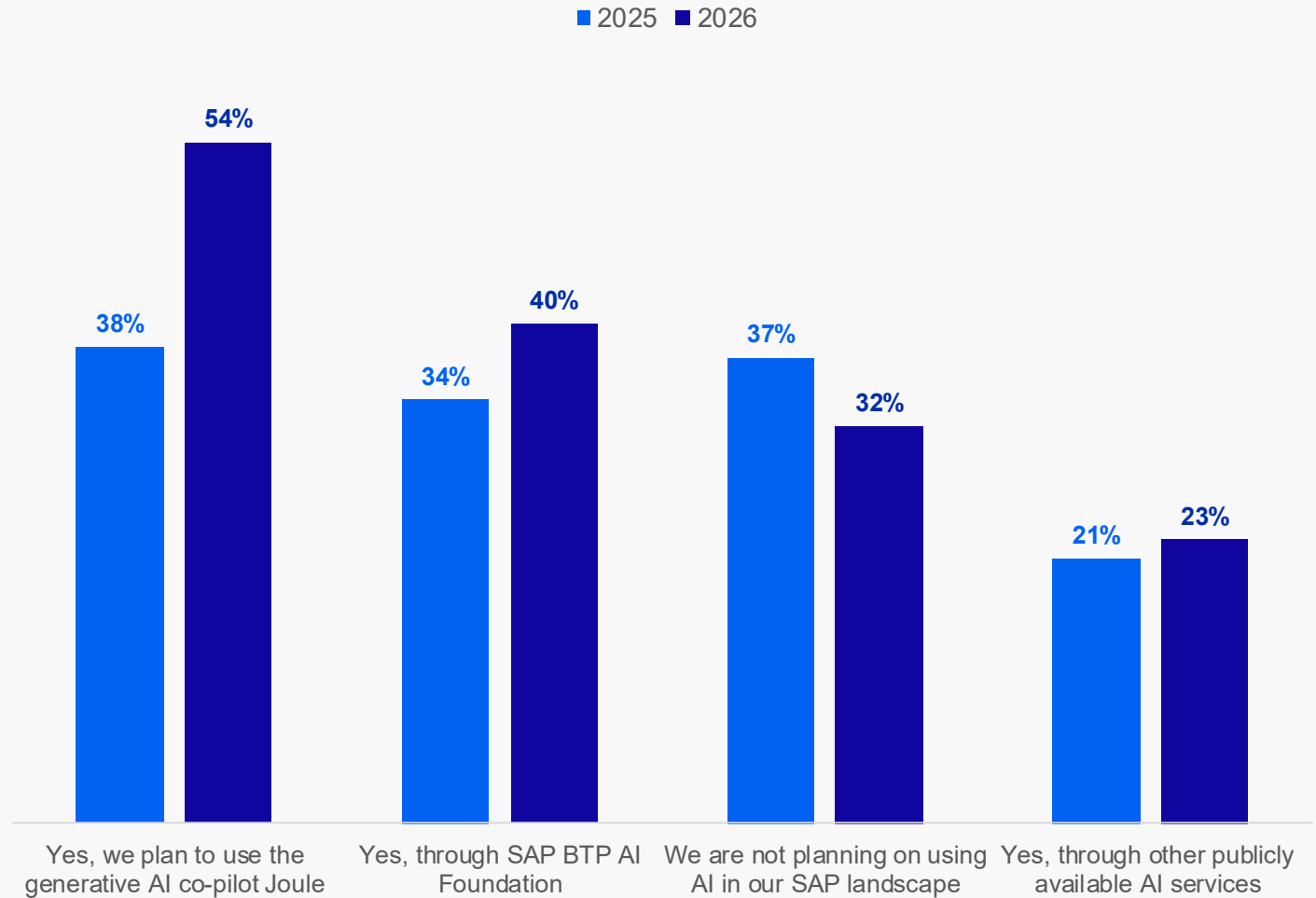
Additional Solutions Planned to Leverage ERP Investments



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Aligned with the impact of announcements from SAP related to AI it is no surprise that a growing number of organizations plan to use AI or generative AI in their SAP landscape. However, while these plans exist, current adoption within SAP systems is still relatively conservative as organizations look to understand where and how they can use these capabilities and the benefits that they offer. This is different to broader AI usage across organizations as many are using AI in ways that are connected to their SAP systems even if they are not yet using it in their SAP systems.

Plans for Using AI or Generative AI in SAP Landscapes

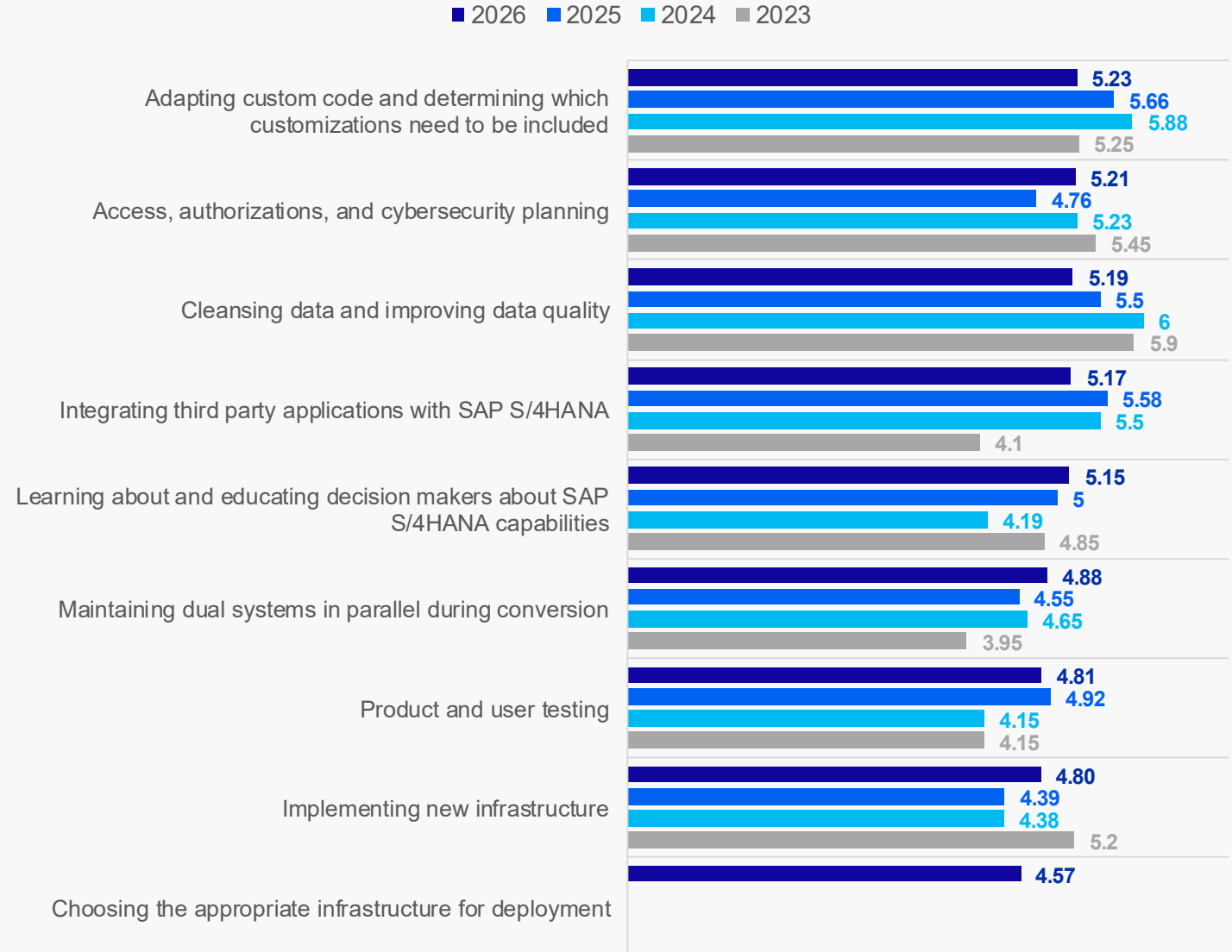


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For those that have already moved to SAP S/4HANA, the biggest challenge continues to be adapting and remediating custom code although other concerns such as access, authorizations, and cybersecurity planning have increased in importance this year. This likely reflects the increasing prominence of cyber attacks combined with the increase in the number of high severity patches released by SAP during 2025.

While not easy, organizations that have experienced the greatest benefits from moving to SAP S/4HANA have completed the move as part of broader transformation allowing them to leverage more rapid upgrades and use more standard features.

Challenges Faced in Moving to SAP S/4HANA

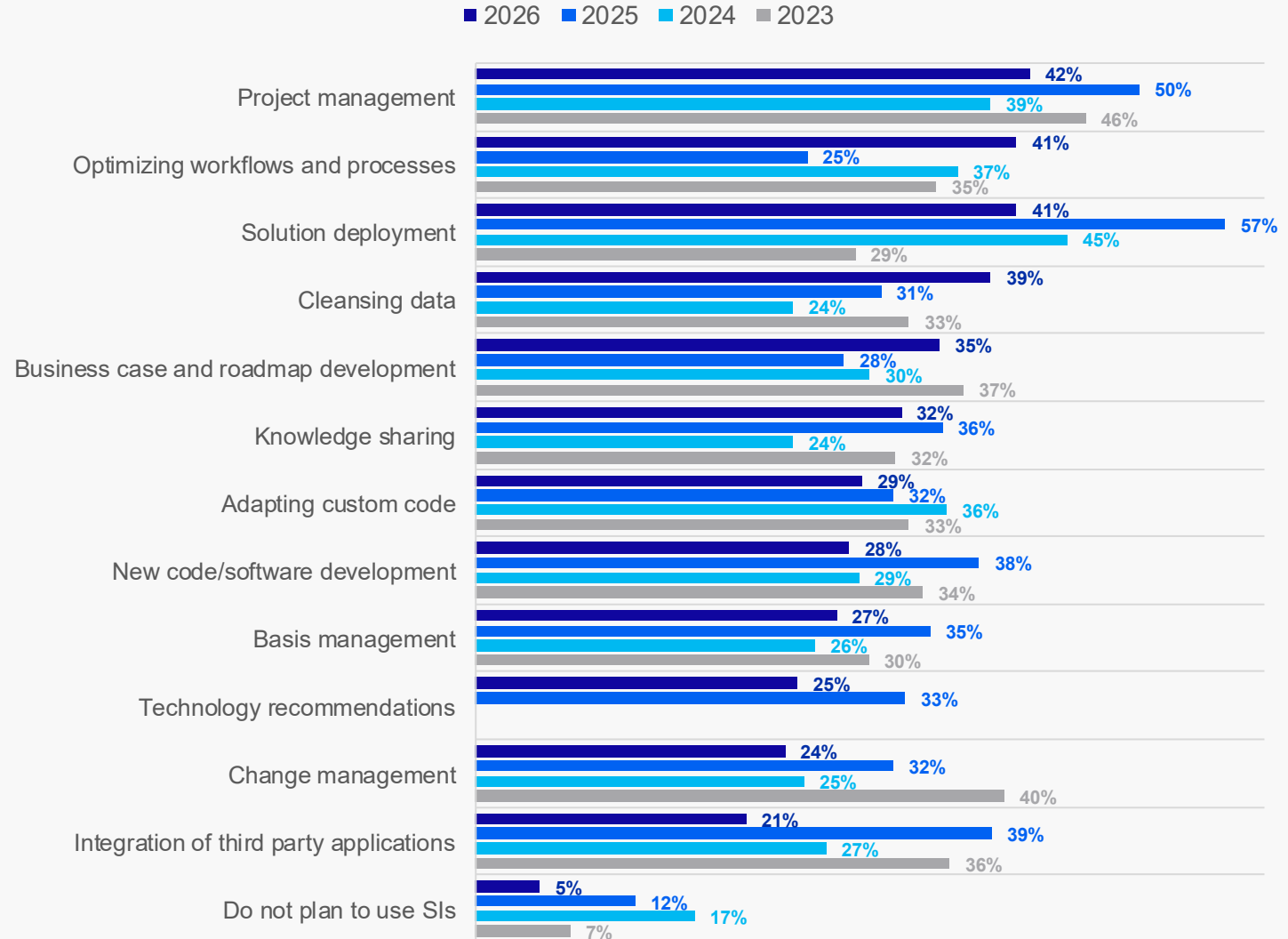


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System Integrators (SI's) and Consultants play a huge role in the ERP migration and transformation process. This includes doing everything from business case development to project management to solution deployment and knowledge sharing. With many organizations facing tight deadlines on their projects and having limited internal experience in internal teams, it is no surprise of the importance of system integrators.

Given the number of projects that are likely to be underway over the next three to five years, it is critical that organizations that are planning on using system integrators make plans to avoid potential resource bottlenecks for the SI's that they work with.

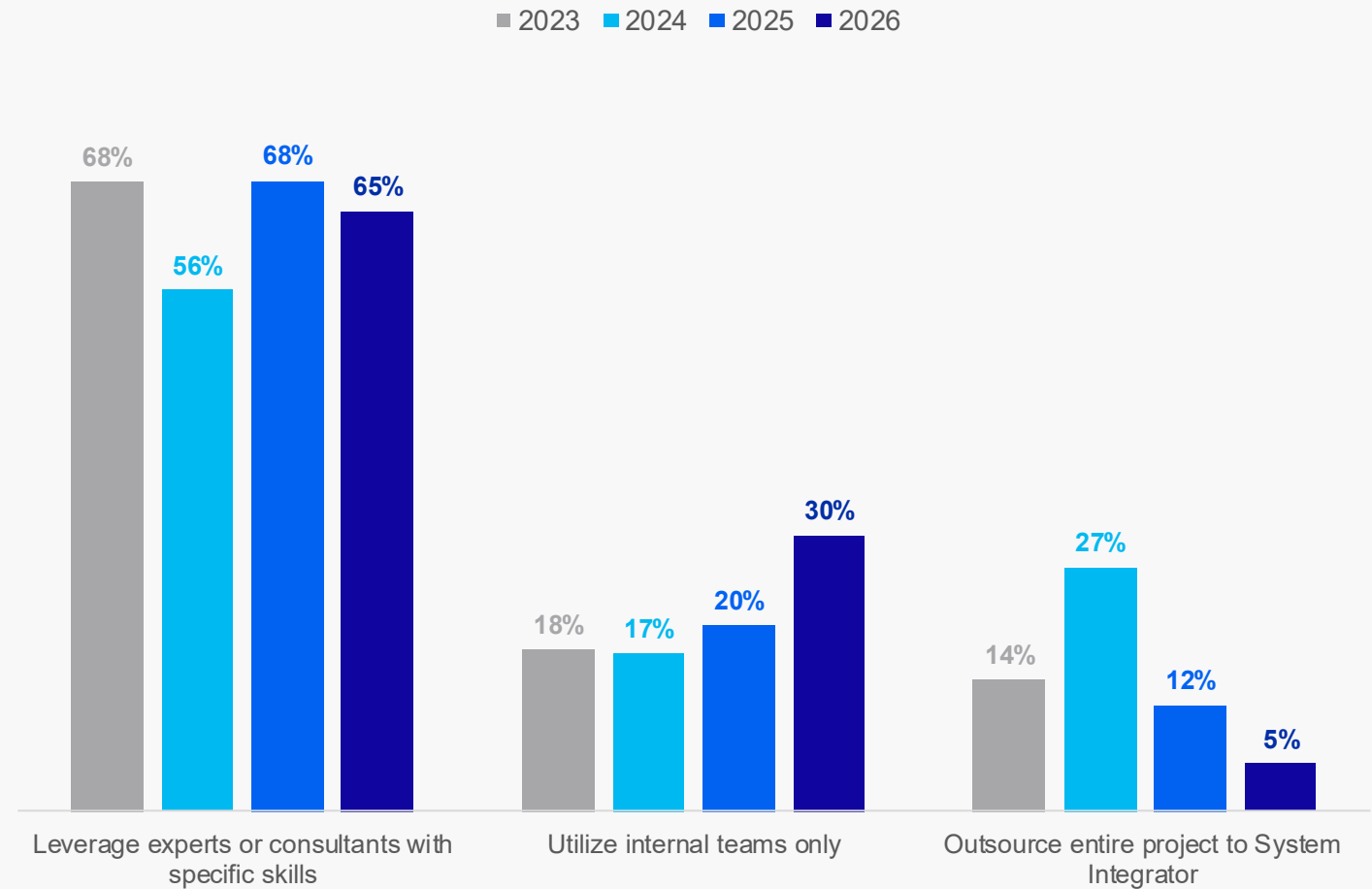
Planned Use of System Integrators in ERP Migration and Transformation



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This year saw an increase in the number of organizations planning on using internal teams to complete their ERP transformation projects. This is likely connected to the fact that a growing number of organizations are looking to move to SAP S/4HANA as quickly as possible as against a form of broader transformation. This type of deployment allows for a faster move, potentially allowing organizations to avoid the need to recruit consultants and experts.

Staffing Approach for ERP Migration and Transformation Projects



Strategy and Needs for ERP Migration and Transformation



DRIVERS

- Upcoming end of maintenance requires a transition to SAP S/4HANA (38%)
- Need updated systems and processes to support changing market requirements (30%)
- Pressure to reduce costs in existing systems and infrastructure and provide additional flexibility and scalability (26%)



ACTIONS

- Modernizing or eliminating custom processes to streamline transition and provide more agility for future updates (38%)
- Modernizing reporting and business intelligence strategies to provide faster access to business insights (36%)
- Implementing standardized end-to-end processes for core ERP tasks (32%)
- Deploying a flexible cloud-based or hybrid infrastructure that minimizes TCO and accelerates deployment of software instances in a compliant way (32%)



REQUIREMENTS

- Integrations between core ERP and line of business applications (82%)
- Fully compliant ERP system that supports both global and local regulations (82%)
- Minimal disruption to operations during the move to SAP S/4HANA (78%)
- Deploying supported ERP prior to the end of 2027 (77%)
- Cleansed and harmonized operational data across systems (75%)
- A partner with a proven track record implementing SAP S/4HANA (75%)



TECHNOLOGIES

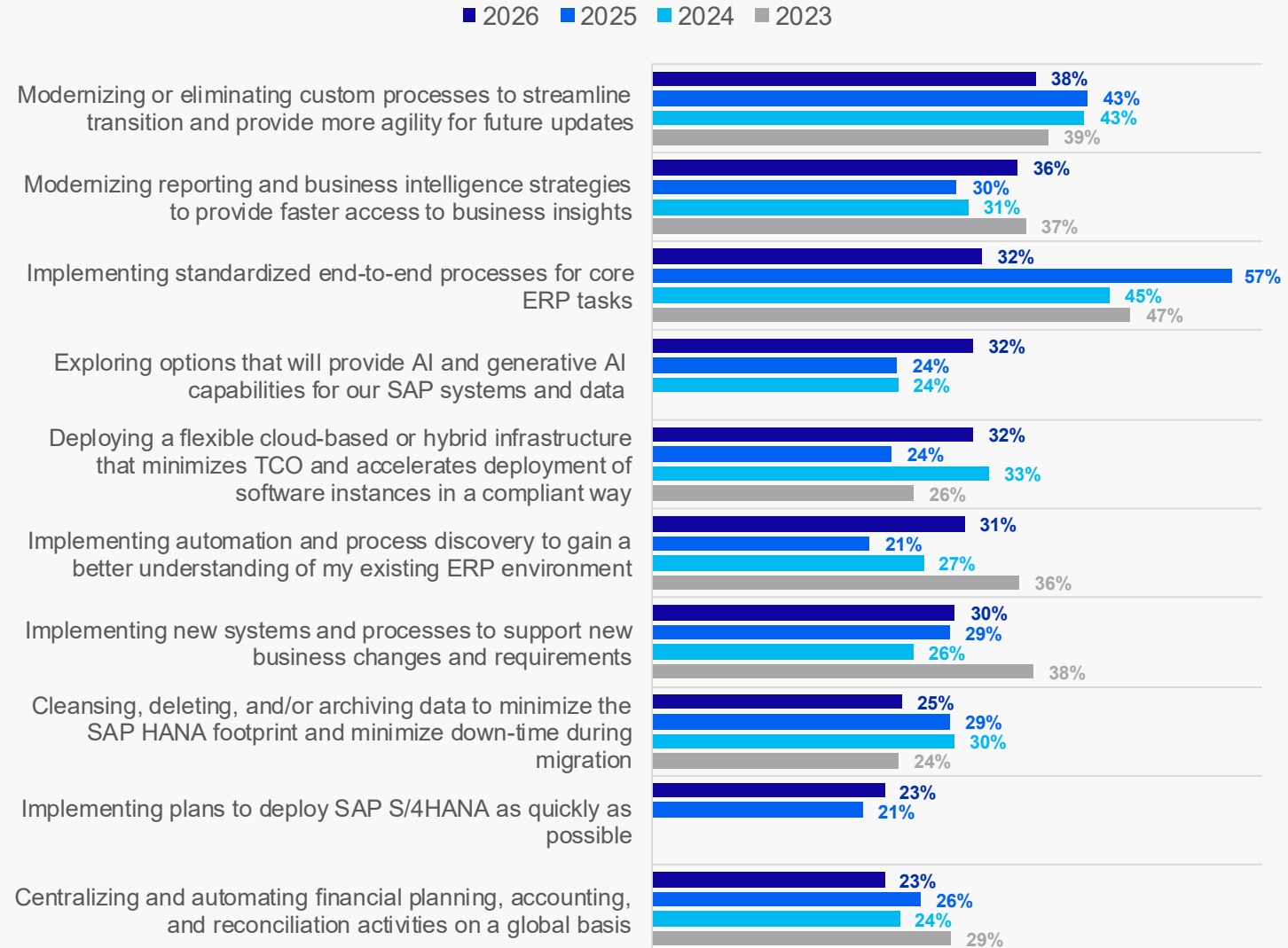
- SAP Readiness Check (48%)
- SAP BTP (47%)
- Managed infrastructure tools (38%)
- Integration tools and solutions (37%)
- Process Discovery for SAP S/4HANA Transformation (37%)
- Clean Core setup and analysis tools (33%)
- Change management solutions (32%)
- Business Process Modeling or Process Intelligence Tools (31%)
- Data cleansing tools (30%)
- Automated deployment and configuration tools (28%)
- Automated testing and validation tools (26%)
- Automated code remediation tools (20%)

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While implementing standardized processes is still an important strategy for ERP migration and transformation, this year organizations are focusing on modernizing or eliminating custom processes along with modernizing reporting and BI strategies in their overall ERP migration and transformation plans.

There is also a significant jump in those exploring AI or generative AI capabilities as part of their ERP strategy. This is also aligned with those implementing automation and process discovery, likely as a way of helping them better understand their existing environments. This is a key step in any sort of modernization and remediation process.

Strategies Being Used to Support ERP Migration and Transformation

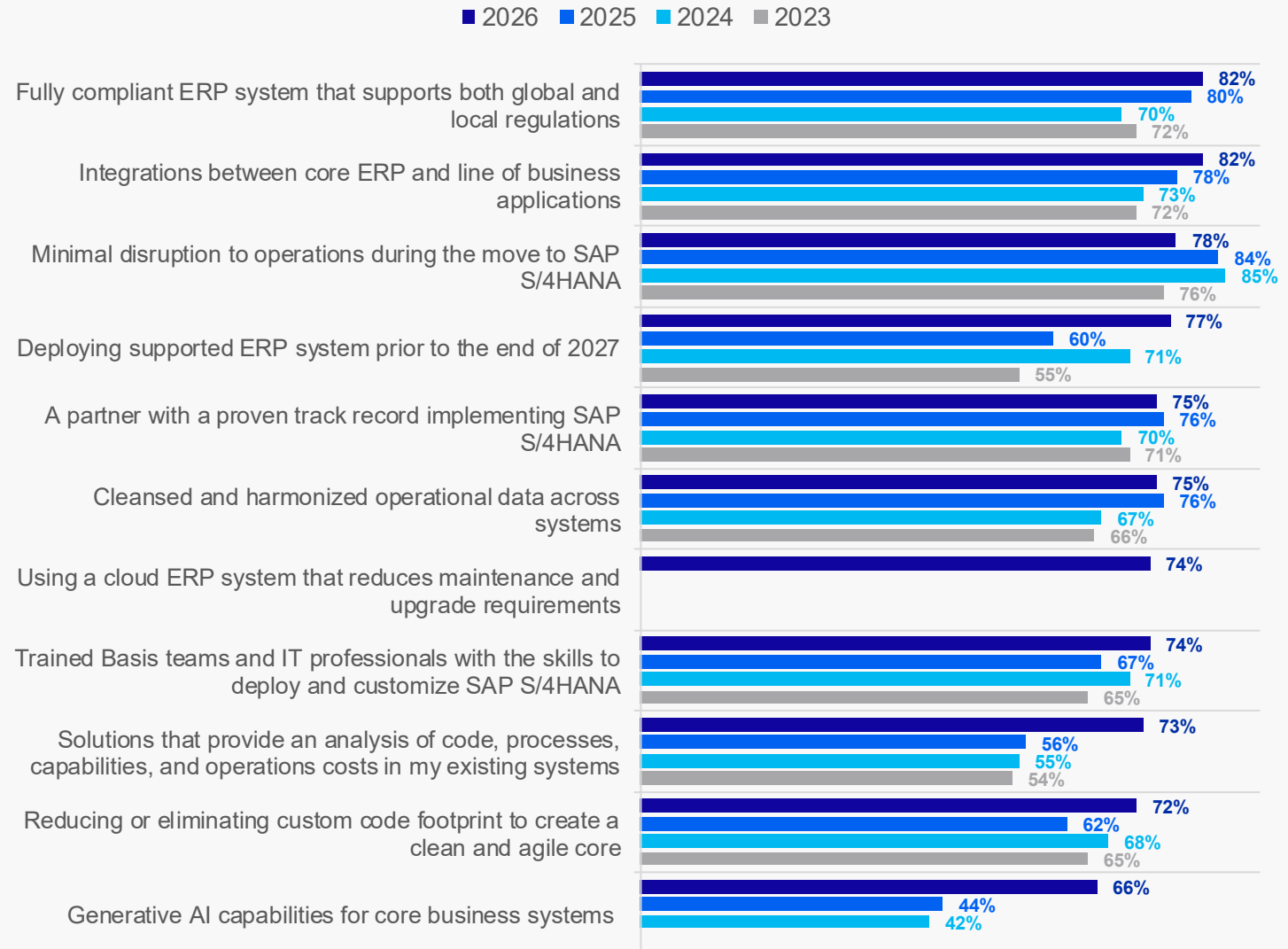


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Strategies are important, but organizations must fulfil specific requirements in the implementation of those strategies. This year, respondents emphasized a fully compliant ERP system that supports both local and global regulations in addition to integrations between core ERP systems and line of business applications as their key requirements for ERP migration and transformation. Also seeing a significant increase in importance is deploying a supported ERP system prior to the end of 2027.

Newly added as an answer choice is using a cloud ERP system that reduces maintenance and upgrade requirements.

Requirements for ERP Migration and Transformation

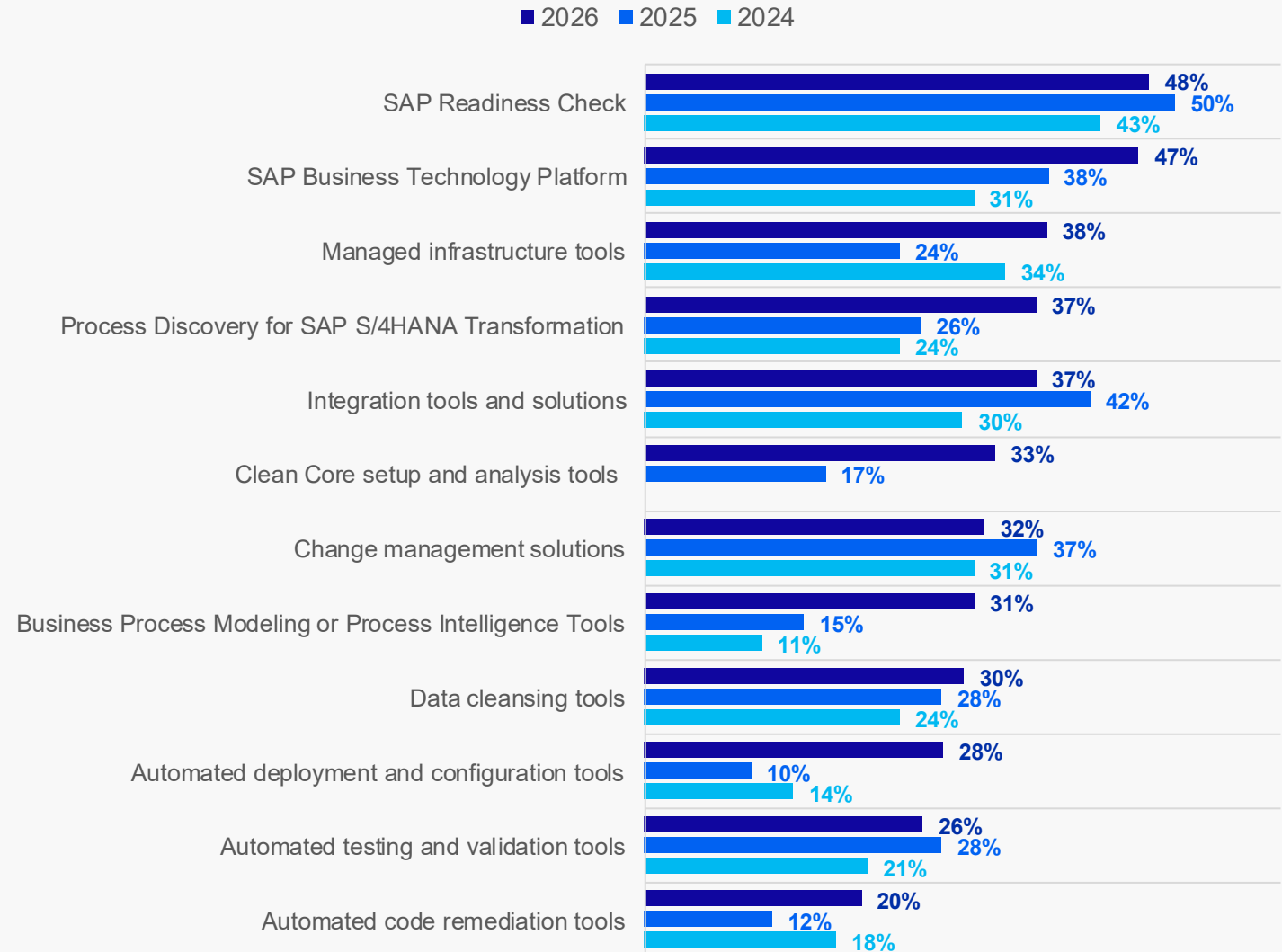


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Part of any ERP migration and transformation is putting in place the right technologies. This year, nearly half the respondents reported that they are using SAP Readiness Check, an important step for any system conversion, or SAP BTP. The latter can play a crucial role in understanding and remediating customizations and can be more important than SAP Readiness Check in that sense.

Increasing in use this year are managed infrastructure tools, Process Discovery for SAP S/4HANA Transformation, clean core setup and analysis tools, and process intelligence tools like SAP Signavio.

Technologies Used in Supporting ERP Migration and Transformation



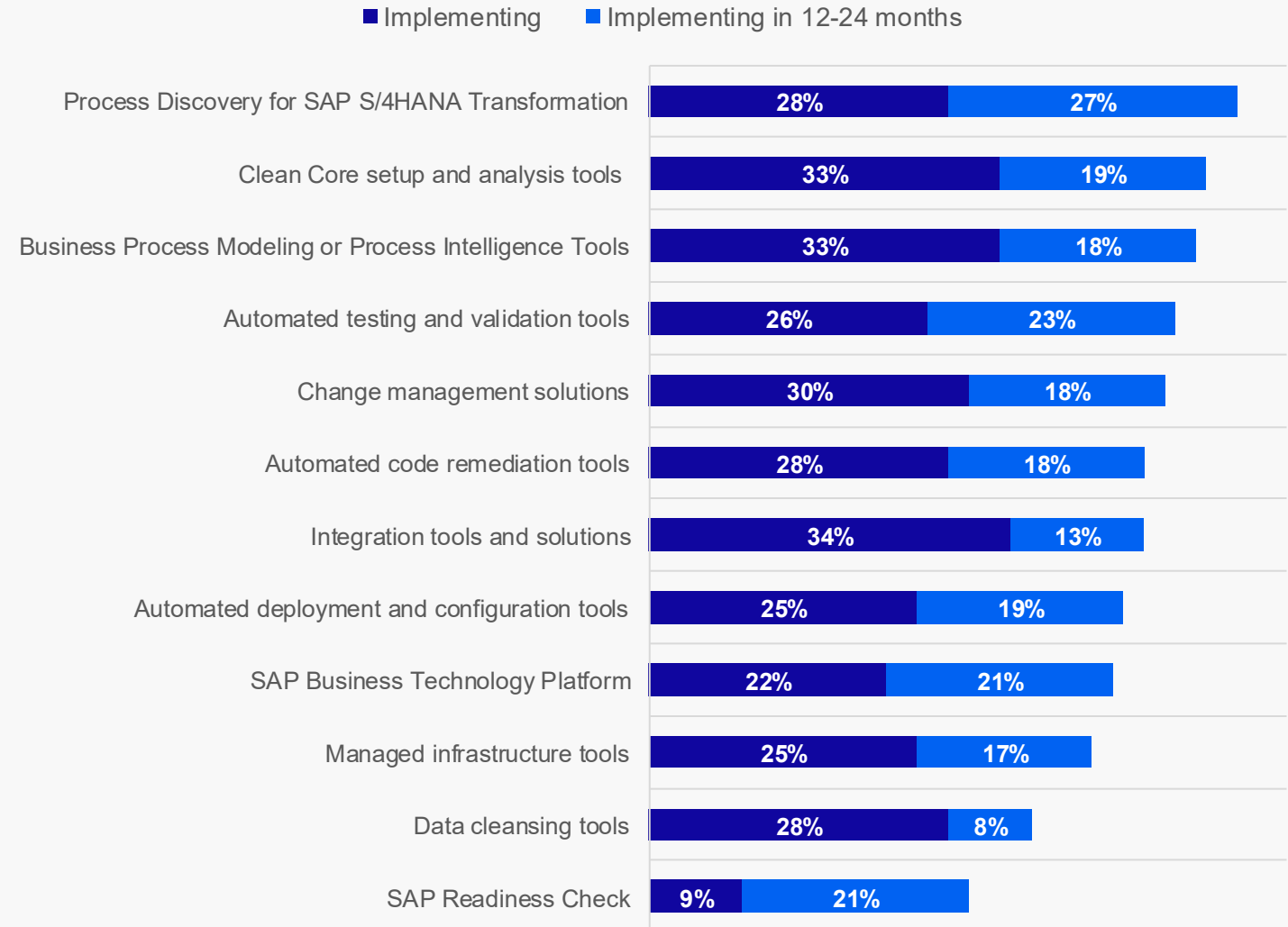
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Over the next two years, more than half the respondents plan to deploy Process Discovery for SAP S/4HANA transformation with nearly as many planning to implement clean core setup and analysis tools or process intelligence tools.

Also important are automated monitoring and testing tools, change management solutions, and automated code remediation tools.

Automation can have a major impact on streamlining the migration and transformation process, so it is no surprise that organizations are looking at these capabilities as part of their ERP transformation projects.

Technologies Being Implemented for ERP Migration and Transformation

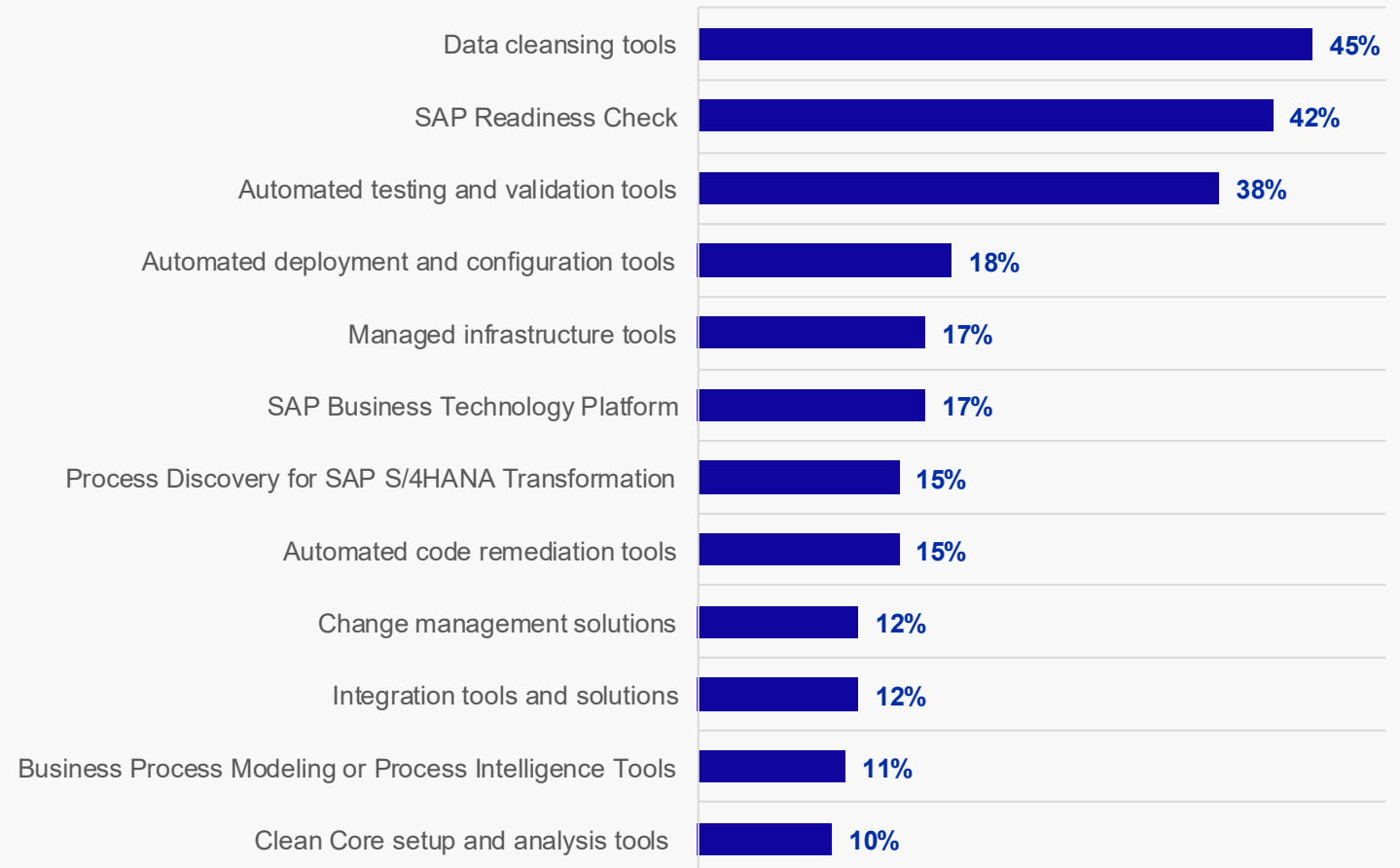


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In the future, data cleansing tools will play a major role as organizations prepare for the use of AI in their ERP systems. Automated testing and validation tools, part of SAP's integrated toolchain for innovation, are also being evaluated by a significant proportion of respondents.

Many other technologies are either in use today or will be implemented over the next two years leading to lower numbers of respondents considering these technologies.

Technologies Being Evaluated for ERP Migration and Transformation



THANK YOU

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