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| |  | | --- | | MICROSOFT QUARTERLY HIGHLIGHTS, PRODUCT RELEASES, AND ENHANCEMENTS  Q3 FY20 | |  | |  | | Every quarter, Microsoft delivers hundreds of products, either as new releases or services or as enhancements to current products and services. These releases are a result of significant research and development investments, made over multiple years, designed to help customers be more productive and secure and to deliver differentiated value across the cloud and the edge.  Following are the major product releases and other highlights for the quarter, organized by product categories, to help illustrate how we are accelerating innovation across our businesses while expanding our market opportunities. | | Office 365 | | [Microsoft Editor](https://microsoftedge.microsoft.com/addons/detail/hokifickgkhplphjiodbggjmoafhignh?wt.mc_id=AID2409697_QSG_SCL_411702) is an AI-powered service that helps you communicate clearly and write with confidence in 20+ languages.  [New creativity tools](https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/microsoft-365/blog/2020/03/30/introducing-new-microsoft-365-personal-family-subscriptions/) were added to Word, Excel, and PowerPoint. Subscribers can access over 8,000 exclusive images and 175 looping videos from Getty Images, plus 300 new fonts and 2,800 new icons to create high-impact and visually appealing documents. Subscribers also get exclusive access to 200+ new [premium templates](https://templates.office.com/en-us/premium-templates/brochures) across Word, Excel, and PowerPoint.  Office 365 subscribers will receive [limited-time access to popular well-being, creativity, and enrichment apps and premium services](https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/partner-benefits) such as Adobe, Bark, Blinkist, Creative Live, Experian, Headspace, and TeamSnap. In the US these are valued at over $500 USD.  [The Office mobile app](https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/microsoft-365/blog/2020/02/19/new-office-app-android-ios-available/) is a fully redesigned experience to help you be more productive from anywhere. It combines Word, Excel, and PowerPoint into a single app, adds new capabilities to help you create content in uniquely mobile ways, and has integrated Actions that help you accomplish common mobile tasks.  [The XLOOKUP function in Excel](https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/microsoft-365/blog/2020/02/10/find-what-you-need-faster-xlookup-now-generally-available/) is available for all users across Windows, Mac, and Excel on the web. XLOOKUP helps users find what they need more efficiently with fewer limitations, from being able to look up a value vertically and horizontally (and to the left!) to supporting column insertions and deletions and more.  Through July 1, 2020, we will be temporarily enabling up to 100,000 attendees through [the Microsoft live events assistance program](https://techcommunity.microsoft.com/t5/microsoft-stream-blog/attendee-limit-increase-for-live-events-hosted-with-microsoft/ba-p/1265948). With Microsoft live events assistance, we can help you get more familiar with setting up and running a live event or be directly available during a live event to help if any questions or issues come up.  [New Yammer app for iOS and Android](https://techcommunity.microsoft.com/t5/yammer-blog/the-new-yammer-has-arrived-on-mobile/ba-p/1265486) and [Interactive Yammer emails in Outlook on the web are now available.](https://techcommunity.microsoft.com/t5/outlook-blog/interactive-yammer-emails-in-outlook-on-the-web-are-here/ba-p/1209420) The new mobile Yammer experience is now optimized for use while on the go. The app has a new layout and enables users to connect with coworkers, attend live events, discover communities, and stay engaged from anywhere. Outlook on the web users can now interact with Yammer conversations, polls, questions, and praise without leaving their Outlook inbox.  [Voice Dictation in Word is now available for the web](https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/microsoft-365/blog/2020/02/27/improve-collaboration-apps-customize-experiences-new-to-microsoft-365-in-february/), making it easier to use your voice in Word with a new dictation toolbar, suggestions experience, and auto-punctuation support. You can also now work in six new preview languages: Danish, Dutch, Finnish, Swedish, Norwegian, and Japanese.  [Visio for the web now allows collaborators to create, edit, and comment on drawings simultaneously](https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/microsoft-365/blog/2020/02/27/improve-collaboration-apps-customize-experiences-new-to-microsoft-365-in-february/). With live coauthoring and a simple presence indicator, teams can work seamlessly together to brainstorm and develop their ideas. Team members can also use these capabilities directly in Teams.  [Delegate Mailbox is now available in Outlook for mobile](https://techcommunity.microsoft.com/t5/outlook-blog/outlook-for-ios-and-android-personalize-how-you-get-things-done/ba-p/1174344). People with full access permissions to the mailbox of others in their organization will be able to get things done on someone else’s behalf in a safe and manageable way from Outlook for iOS and Android. Once you’ve been assigned permissions, as a delegate, you can simply add the mailbox to your Outlook mobile app.  You can now create [custom search results pages](https://techcommunity.microsoft.com/t5/microsoft-search-blog/creating-custom-search-results-pages-in-sharepoint-online/ba-p/1141515) in SharePoint Online. Use this new feature to control the layout and design of search results to tailor your SharePoint Online experience for your enterprise environment. | | Microsoft Teams | | [Microsoft Teams is available for everyone](https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/microsoft-365/blog/2020/03/05/our-commitment-to-customers-during-covid-19/)as part of Office 365. If your organization is licensed for Office 365, you already have it.  With [Targeted Communications](https://techcommunity.microsoft.com/t5/microsoft-teams-blog/what-s-new-in-microsoft-teams-3rd-anniversary-edition/ba-p/1234871) in Teams, you can create tags to organize users manually based on attributes such as role or location. You can message everyone assigned to a tag in a new chat or bring attention to a channel post by @mentioning the tag name.  [Read receipts](https://support.office.com/en-us/article/use-read-receipts-for-messages-in-teams-533f2334-32ef-424b-8d56-ed30e019f856)in private chats let senders know when their message was read by the recipient and allow recipients to communicate implicitly that they are not ignoring the sender but may just be busy and haven’t had a chance to read the message.  [New capabilities are available in Shifts.](https://techcommunity.microsoft.com/t5/microsoft-teams-blog/what-s-new-in-microsoft-teams-3rd-anniversary-edition/ba-p/1234871) Schedule filtering gives users the option to filter by team members or schedule groups, making it easier to manage large shift schedules. Recall shared schedule allows managers to recall single or multiple days of a shared schedule, to make any necessary changes. The “Your shifts” view makes it possible for team members to quickly access their shift information without needing to scroll through the entire team schedule.  Customers using leading third-party [workforce management systems—such as Kronos and JDA—for scheduling and time and attendance can now start integrating directly with Shifts](https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/microsoft-365/blog/2020/01/09/8-new-capabilities-microsoft-365-empower-firstline-workers) via Shifts Graph APIs and SDK. Supported scenarios include management of shifts, schedules, schedule groups, swap requests, time-off requests, and open shift requests. The JDA and Kronos connectors for Shifts are available on GitHub.  We’ve [improved user experience when networks are overloaded.](https://techcommunity.microsoft.com/t5/microsoft-teams-blog/what-s-new-in-microsoft-teams-3rd-anniversary-edition/ba-p/1234871) New features include:   * Offline and low-bandwidth support for Teams on Windowslets you read chat messages and write responses, even without an internet connection, making it easier to move things forward no matter where you are. * Great audio quality even under networks with high packet loss: When joining meetings over a poor Wi-Fi or cellular connection, high data packet loss can adversely affect the audio experience. With our new algorithmic improvements in Teams, you now experience greater audio quality even under congested and lossy networks. Through a combination of smart jitter buffer logic, burst loss detection, and triggering of redundant transmissions, we can ensure smooth audio playback, even under high burst loss.   [New third-party Microsoft Teams devices including the Yealink VC210 and the Poly CCX Series are available.](https://techcommunity.microsoft.com/t5/microsoft-teams-blog/what-s-new-in-microsoft-teams-3rd-anniversary-edition/ba-p/1234871)The Yealink VC210 is the first collaboration bar certified for Teams, and brings together speakers, microphones, a camera, and a native Teams experience to deliver a meeting experience for smaller conference rooms that is simple to install and easy to manage. The Poly CCX Series is a range of native Teams phones to help users transform the way they communicate. The series offers a range of models to choose from, starting with the CCX400 and up to the CCX600.  [Pin apps to the left-hand rail, or Teams app bar, for easy access](https://techcommunity.microsoft.com/t5/microsoft-teams-blog/four-more-reasons-to-love-apps-in-microsoft-teams/ba-p/1119114). Simply find the app, right-click the app icon, and select “pin.” Even after you navigate away, the app icon will remain so you can easily return to it.  You can now apply a [legal hold](https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/MicrosoftTeams/legal-hold)to preserve all message copies and help prevent tampering of content, which is vital for legal investigations in Teams private channels.  With [conversation reconstruction for eDiscovery,](https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/microsoft-365/compliance/conversation-review-sets?view=o365-worldwide) you can identify relevant chats by using targeted queries and include contextual messages in your collection. The individual messages are threaded together and presented in the review set. From this review set you can annotate, tag, and redact entire conversations or individual messages. This will help you efficiently review and export complete dialogues without having to conduct multiple searches to understand the context around messages. | | Windows | | To better enable remote work, we’ve released a [preapproved offer](https://microsoft.sharepoint.com/teams/MicrosoftRemoteWork/SitePages/WVD-Q4-Azure-Offer.aspx) for managed customers (including SMC) looking to stand up virtual desktops or expand their existing virtual desktop infrastructure with Windows Virtual Desktop on Azure. This offer is available through June 30, 2020.  Available for Windows, macOS, iOS, and Android in more than 90 languages, [the new Microsoft Edge](https://blogs.windows.com/windowsexperience/2020/03/30/the-top-10-reasons-to-switch-to-the-new-microsoft-edge/) provides more privacy, more productivity, and more value while you browse. New features include Enterprise new tab page, Internet Explorer mode, AAD support, Tracking Prevention, Immersive Reader, 4K Streaming & Dolby Audio, Inking in PDF as well as broad support for Chrome extensions. | | Security, Compliance, and Identity | | [Azure Sphere](https://www.microsoft.com/security/blog/2020/02/24/azure-sphere-microsoft-answer-iot-threats-reaches-general-availability/) delivers quick and cost-effective device security for OEMs and organizations to protect the products they sell and the critical equipment they rely on to drive new business value.  [Azure Sentinel updates](https://www.microsoft.com/security/blog/2020/02/20/free-import-of-aws-cloudtrail-logs-through-june-2020-and-other-exciting-azure-sentinel-updates/) include the ability to import your AWS CloudTrail logs at no additional cost until June 30, 2020; a new Azure Security Center for IoT connector that makes it easy for customers to onboard data from Azure IoT Hub-managed deployments (with this announcement Azure Sentinel is the first SIEM with native IoT support); new data connectors from Forcepoint, Zimperium, and Squadra technologies; SOC Prime Threat Detection Marketplace support for Azure Sentinel analytics rules; and new integrations ReversingLabs and Azure Lighthouse.  [Microsoft Threat Protection (MTP)](https://www.microsoft.com/security/blog/2020/02/20/microsoft-threat-protection-intelligence-automation/) delivers built-in intelligence and automation to help prevent, detect, and respond to sophisticated threats. It works across identity, endpoints, email, and apps to provide security operations teams with a single integrated solution. With identity as a core component, it is the only solution of its type designed for Zero Trust.  [Microsoft Defender Advanced Threat Protection (ATP)](https://blogs.microsoft.com/blog/2020/02/20/delivering-on-the-promise-of-security-ai-to-help-defenders-protect-todays-hybrid-environments/) delivers protection, post-breach detection, and automated investigation and response for Windows and macOS. It is now available for Linux.  [Microsoft 365 Advanced Audit](https://techcommunity.microsoft.com/t5/security-privacy-and-compliance/power-faster-and-more-effective-forensic-and-compliance/ba-p/1183488) powers faster and more effective forensic compliance investigations using one-year extended preservation, Management Activity API, and access to crucial events.  [Microsoft Insider Risk Management](https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/microsoft-365/blog/2020/02/20/leverage-ai-machine-learning-address-insider-risks/) leverages the Microsoft Graph and security services to analyze real-time native signals such as file activity, communications sentiment, and abnormal user behaviors to help quickly identify, detect, and act on insider threats.  [Communication Compliance](https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/microsoft-365/blog/2020/02/20/leverage-ai-machine-learning-address-insider-risks/) is available in Microsoft 365, which leverages machine learning to quickly identify and help you act on Code of Conduct policy violations in company communications channels, while also helping regulated organizations meet specific supervisory compliance requirements.  [Azure AD My Apps portal](https://techcommunity.microsoft.com/t5/azure-active-directory-identity/help-your-workforce-discover-and-connect-to-all-their-apps-with/ba-p/1144694) updates give end users a simplified and consistent app discovery and launching experience, for all the apps they have access to including SaaS, custom, and on-premises.  [Azure AD security defaults](https://techcommunity.microsoft.com/t5/azure-active-directory-identity/introducing-security-defaults/ba-p/1061414) is a set of secure default settings, managed by Microsoft, to protect organizations from common attacks like password spray and phishing. It requires all users and admins to register for multifactor authentication (MFA), risk-based adaptive access policies, and disabling of legacy authentication that cannot support MFA. Security defaults is available for all Azure AD editions, including our Free one. | | Dynamics 365 | | [Dynamics 365 Commerce](https://dynamics.microsoft.com/en-us/commerce/overview/) is a comprehensive omnichannel solution for retail and e-tail companies that unifies back-office, in-store, call-center, and digital experiences. Dynamics 365 Commerce can transform the customer experience—from the digital experiences that make shopping fun and rewarding to productivity and collaboration solutions that help retail employees provide outstanding customer service. In addition, intelligent systems provide deep insights to empower advanced decision-making and personalization, delivering the fully connected commerce solution retailers need to build brand loyalty, optimize operations and supply-chain efficiencies, and deliver better business outcomes.  [Dynamics 365 Human Resources](https://dynamics.microsoft.com/en-us/human-resources/overview/) provides the workforce insights needed to build data-driven employee experiences across compensation, benefits, leave and absence, compliance, payroll integrations, performance feedback, training and certification, and self-service programs. Dynamics 365 Human Resources will connect people and operations data to ensure businesses can optimize workforce costs and take better care of employees.  [IoT Intelligence for Dynamics 365 Supply Chain Management](https://blogs.microsoft.com/blog/2019/09/23/announcing-new-microsoft-dynamics-365-ai-driven-insights-applications-and-our-vision-for-the-future-of-retail/) can connect IoT signals from mission-critical assets with business transaction data, enabling manufacturers and distributors to proactively manage production and stock in real time, leverage predictive analytics to predict maintenance needs for business-critical equipment before downtime occurs, boost equipment performance and increase throughput, minimize waste, and improve business performance.  Helping contact centers support unprecedented demand, during the COVID-19 crisis [Dynamics 365 Customer Service](https://cloudblogs.microsoft.com/dynamics365/bdm/2020/03/26/resources-and-support-for-our-global-customers-impacted-by-covid-19/) (including Digital Messaging) is available free of charge for up to six months. | | Microsoft Power Platform | | [Power Platform Crisis communication template](https://powerapps.microsoft.com/en-us/blog/crisis-communication-a-power-platform-template/) combines capabilities of Power Apps, Power Automate, Teams, and SharePoint. It can be used on the web, mobile, or in Teams. Key features include:   * Employees can report their work status (e.g., working from home) and make requests. This helps managers coordinate across their teams and helps central response teams track status across an organization. * Admins can use the app to push news, updates, and content specific to their organization, and can provide emergency contacts specific to different locations. * The app includes the ability to add RSS feeds of up-to-date information from reputable sources such as WHO, CDC, or a local authority.   To support communities and organizations affected by the COVID-19 crisis, we’re making [Power Apps](https://powerapps.microsoft.com/en-us/), [Power Automate](https://flow.microsoft.com/en-us/), [Power Apps portals](https://powerapps.microsoft.com/en-us/portals/), and [Power Virtual Agents](https://powervirtualagents.microsoft.com/en-us/) available for a [free six-month product offer](https://cloudblogs.microsoft.com/dynamics365/bdm/2020/03/26/resources-and-support-for-our-global-customers-impacted-by-covid-19/) that includes all premium capabilities for customers in the healthcare, education, nonprofit, and government sectors.  [Power BI tab for Teams integration](https://powerbi.microsoft.com/en-us/blog/announcing-new-power-bi-tab-for-microsoft-teams/) adds support for reports in the new workspace experiences, Power BI apps reports, and paginated reports directly into Teams. | | LinkedIn | | LinkedIn’s [interview prep tools](https://nam06.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fblog.linkedin.com%2F2020%2Fjanuary%2F24%2Fhow-to-prepare-for-your-next-job-interview&data=02%7C01%7Cstcart%40microsoft.com%7C2abefb89ab05489967cc08d7e28e47df%7C72f988bf86f141af91ab2d7cd011db47%7C1%7C0%7C637226973026007535&sdata=V6m91v9OiK9bxZB53Ts8yYwsf2YpkXC%2F2LJsGSUG3VQ%3D&reserved=0) are updated to include role-specific tracks for job-seekers seeking positions within the sales and finance industries.  [LinkedIn Marketing Solutions](https://nam06.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fbusiness.linkedin.com%2Fmarketing-solutions%2Fblog%2Flinkedin-company-pages%2F2020%2Fnew-features-invite-to-follow-linkedin-live&data=02%7C01%7Cstcart%40microsoft.com%7C2abefb89ab05489967cc08d7e28e47df%7C72f988bf86f141af91ab2d7cd011db47%7C1%7C0%7C637226973026017489&sdata=Yo3edzl2ARgxqp9DyAL5S76zxtuf22Y3tleAYEEDAU8%3D&reserved=0) includes new features and tools to Pages to help marketers humanize their brand on LinkedIn. Page Admins can now grow their community through their own network with Invite to Follow, stream via LinkedIn Live and, alternate between posting as a Page or as a member with ease.  [Fair Chance Job Filter](https://nam06.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fblog.linkedin.com%2F2020%2Ffebruary%2Fnew-ways-to-bring-equal-access-to-opportunity&data=02%7C01%7Cstcart%40microsoft.com%7C2abefb89ab05489967cc08d7e28e47df%7C72f988bf86f141af91ab2d7cd011db47%7C1%7C0%7C637226973026027446&sdata=VubXmyeIjlRyUhVFwnZADTSJ4uVaq3KKFi4MGKbOHLc%3D&reserved=0) helps job-seekers easily identify employers committed to consider applicants with a criminal record, thus removing a major barrier from their job search process. The Fair Chance Filter is currently available on the web in the United States.  There is a new [Featured](https://nam06.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.linkedin.com%2Fhelp%2Flinkedin%2Fanswer%2F117363%2Ffeatured-section-on-your-profile-faqs%3Flang%3Den&data=02%7C01%7Cstcart%40microsoft.com%7C2abefb89ab05489967cc08d7e28e47df%7C72f988bf86f141af91ab2d7cd011db47%7C1%7C0%7C637226973026027446&sdata=XknjCe64OIa1WxztFqTUeEboHb8veTRYVRqSRQY1uug%3D&reserved=0) section on the LinkedIn profile where members can highlight work they’re most proud of, including posts and published articles on LinkedIn, and external media like images, documents, and links.  [LinkedIn Sales Solutions QPR](https://nam06.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.linkedin.com%2Fbusiness%2Fsales%2Fblog%2Fsales-navigator%2Freduce-time-spent-on-non-selling-activities-with-linkedin-sales-navigator&data=02%7C01%7Cstcart%40microsoft.com%7C2abefb89ab05489967cc08d7e28e47df%7C72f988bf86f141af91ab2d7cd011db47%7C1%7C0%7C637226973026037401&sdata=MqFcv3ci2lujhub2radkc%2Bgd8TrOGhxKsBQPd5OdQRI%3D&reserved=0) aligns with helping sales organizations cut down on day-to-day administrative tasks to build stronger relationships with customers and prospects. At the center of this QPR is another feature—Contact Creation—to add greater value to customers’ CRMs.  [Conversation Ads](https://nam06.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fbusiness.linkedin.com%2Fmarketing-solutions%2Fblog%2Flinkedin-news%2F2020%2Flinkedin-introduces-conversation-ads&data=02%7C01%7Cstcart%40microsoft.com%7C2abefb89ab05489967cc08d7e28e47df%7C72f988bf86f141af91ab2d7cd011db47%7C1%7C0%7C637226973026037401&sdata=dCeB9KfxcV%2F6lQuVOqSTwYBORxJv9hp2yiqh1WBWuyA%3D&reserved=0), the evolution of our Message Ads format (formerly Sponsored InMail), helps marketers reach their audiences through a “choose your own path” experience that delivers more personalized and richer content, tailored to where prospects are in the buying process.  [Glint 360s](https://nam06.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fnews.linkedin.com%2F2020%2Ffebruary%2Fglint-360s-will-help-organizations-develop-leaders-at-scale&data=02%7C01%7Cstcart%40microsoft.com%7C2abefb89ab05489967cc08d7e28e47df%7C72f988bf86f141af91ab2d7cd011db47%7C1%7C0%7C637226973026047359&sdata=%2FkpRGuEe69ro6Qo09FRIbbtLKrASHP503lhnuybd1rw%3D&reserved=0) is a modern approach to accelerating leadership development and to making feedback accessible, insightful, and actionable. Built to accompany Glint Engage and Glint Perform, Glint 360s empower individuals to create development goals that sit alongside their business and other goals, resulting in a connected experience across employee engagement, performance, and development. | | Azure | | Following is a select list of generally available Azure products, services, and enhancements for the quarter. A full list can be found at <https://azure.microsoft.com/en-us/updates/>. | | Azure Security and Management | | [Integration of Azure Security Center with Windows Admin Center is now available](https://azure.microsoft.com/en-us/updates/azure-security-centers-integration-with-windows-admin-center-is-now-generally-available/). It’s now possible to move your on-premises Windows servers from the Windows Admin Center directly to the Azure Security Center, which becomes a single pane of glass for viewing security information for all your resources.  Azure Security Center is [expanding its container security features to protect Azure Kubernetes Service (AKS)](https://azure.microsoft.com/en-us/updates/azure-security-center-s-threat-protection-for-azure-kubernetes-service-is-now-generally-available/). | | Azure Data | | [Azure Database for MySQL reserved capacity is available to reserve compute power](https://azure.microsoft.com/en-us/updates/3-years-reserved-capacity-now-available-mysql/) for your existing and future MySQL servers. Save up to 65 percent compared with the regular pay-as-you-go payment option for your MySQL server v-Cores for a three-year period using this new pricing option.  [Azure Database for PostgreSQL Single Server reserved capacity is available to reserve compute power](https://azure.microsoft.com/en-us/updates/3-years-reserved-capacity-now-available/) for your existing and future PostgreSQL servers for three years. Save up to 65 percent compared with the regular pay-as-you-go payment option for your PostgreSQL server vCores for a three-year period using this pricing option.  [Save up to 55 percent on your Azure Cache for Redis premium tier usage by prepurchasing reserved capacity](https://azure.microsoft.com/en-us/updates/azure-cache-for-redis-reserved-capacity-now-available/) for one year or three years. This reservation discount will automatically apply to your matching resources, so there’s no need to make changes to them to receive the reservation discount. Azure Cache for Redis reservations includes instance size flexibility enabled by default, which means that the reservation will continue to apply to your Azure Cache for Redis premium usage even if you were to resize the cache.  Customers creating new Azure Cosmos DB accounts [can get discounted pricing up to 33 percent off](https://azure.microsoft.com/en-us/updates/cosmos-db-multi-master-promo/) for accounts enabling multiregion writes (multimaster).  [Azure Cosmos DB free tier](https://azure.microsoft.com/en-us/updates/azure-cosmos-db-free-tier-is-now-available/). Use it to develop and test your applications, run small workloads in production for free, or simply apply a discount to your Azure Cosmos DB account. When free tier is enabled on an Azure Cosmos DB account, you’ll get the first 400 RU/s and 5 GB of storage for free for the lifetime of the account. Additionally, when using shared throughput databases, you can create up to 25 containers that share 400 RU/s at the database level.  Every Software Assurance customer of SQL Server now [can use three enhanced benefits for any SQL Server release](https://azure.microsoft.com/en-us/updates/new-cloud-disaster-recovery-benefit-for-azure-sql-virtual-machines/) still supported by Microsoft. Customers can install and run passive SQL Server instances in a separate operating system environment (OSE) or server for disaster recovery and high availability on-premises in anticipation of a failover event. | | Azure Analytics | | Fully supported distributions of Apache analytics projects such as Spark, Hadoop, and Kafka are now [available for HDInsight](https://azure.microsoft.com/en-us/updates/updates-to-azure-hdinsight/). Azure customers will benefit from Apache analytics frameworks deeply integrated with the Azure platform (storage, networking, security, and monitoring) and optimized for the cloud (agility, performance, and elasticity). All these innovations added to the Apache projects will be made available under the Apache license.  [Azure Data Factory (ADF) adds Managed Identity and Service Principal to Data Flows Synapse staging](https://azure.microsoft.com/en-us/updates/data-factory-adds-managed-identity-and-service-principal-to-data-flows-synapse-staging/). When transforming data with ADF, it is imperative that your data warehouse and ETL processes are fully secured and can load vast amounts of data in the limited-time windows your business stakeholders provide you. ADF Data Flows have added support for managed identity and service principal with data flows when loading into Synapse Analytics (formerly SQL DW) to fully support this scenario. Now, you can connect from ADF to your data in a secured manner from Source, Sink, and ADLS Gen2 Staging. | | Azure Serverless and App Dev Services | | [Regional VNET integration for Azure App Service](https://azure.microsoft.com/en-us/updates/app-service-regional-virtual-network-integration-is-now-available/) enables customers to restrict web apps on Azure to access resources only in their virtual network, securing all outbound traffic. This feature also enables customers to route all outbound traffic through their choice of network appliance for unified management.  [Regional VNET integration for Azure Functions Premium Plan](https://azure.microsoft.com/en-us/updates/functions-premium-vnet/) enables customers to restrict function apps to access resources only in their virtual network, securing all outbound traffic. This feature also offers customers the ability to route all outbound traffic through their choice of network appliance for unified management.  [Azure Functions runtime 3.0](https://azure.microsoft.com/en-us/updates/azure-functions-runtime-30-is-now-available/) brings new capabilities including the ability to deploy functions written in .NET Core 3.1 and Node version 12. It’s also highly backwards compatible, so most existing apps running on older language versions should be able to upgrade to the 3.0 version and run on it without any code changes. Running on this new version of the runtime in production will receive support for those apps.  [Azure API Management now supports integration with Azure App Service](https://azure.microsoft.com/en-us/updates/azure-api-management-now-supports-integration-with-azure-app-service/). With Azure API Management’s App Service extension, customers can seamlessly publish APIs deployed in Azure App Service and manage, protect, and secure these APIs in API Management. This can be done with a few clicks from the App Service extension in the Azure portal for API Management.  [OpenAPI v3 support in Azure API Management](https://azure.microsoft.com/en-us/updates/openapi-v3-support-in-azure-api-management-is-now-generally-available/) is the latest version of the broadly used industry standard for describing REST APIs, and support in Azure API Management is now generally available. With this support, customers can easily import, manage, and compose APIs from any OpenAPI specification.  [Azure App Configuration](https://azure.microsoft.com/en-us/updates/azure-app-configuration-is-now-generally-available/) is a managed service that helps developers centralize their application configuration and feature settings simply and securely. App Configuration reduces configuration-related application errors and enables developers to safely deploy new functionality behind feature flags so it can be rolled out to a small subset of users or disabled entirely if needed.  [Azure Functions support for Python 3.8](https://azure.microsoft.com/en-us/updates/announcing-general-availability-python-3-8-support/) enables developing, debugging, and deploying Function Apps for production scenarios using the tools of your choice, specifically Visual Studio Code, the Azure portal, Azure Functions Core Tools, and Azure CLI.   |  | | --- | | GitHub | | [GitHub One](https://github.com/enterprise#github-one) offers Enterprise customers the most comprehensive solution for modern software development through the combination of GitHub’s innovations in developer collaboration, DevOps, Insights, and Advanced Security in one product.  [GitHub Insights](https://github.com/features/insights) helps developers, managers, and executives optimize their software development processes with actionable metrics and research-backed guidance to pinpoint blockers and track progress toward goals.  [GitHub Classroom](https://github.blog/2020-03-12-github-teacher-toolbox-and-classroom-with-autograding/) featuring autograding saves time by automating parts of the grading process. Also in support of education, the Teacher Toolbox provides the industry’s best tools to teachers at no cost, including popular services like Arduino and Name.com.  With [GitHub for mobile](https://github.blog/2020-03-17-github-for-mobile-is-now-available/), you can stay in touch with your team, triage issues, and merge code from your mobile device. | | | Azure AI | | [Azure Databricks is certified for the HITRUST Common Security Framework (HITRUST CSF®)](https://azure.microsoft.com/en-us/updates/azure-databricks-is-now-hitrust-certified/). Azure Databricks provides an Apache Spark™-based analytics platform to accelerate and simplify building big data and AI solutions, backed by industry-leading SLAs. Azure Databricks joins many other Azure services in formal certification with the HITRUST CSF, enabling you to create and deploy cloud-based applications with confidence.  Encrypt customer data stored at rest by default using Custom Translator. If you want to use and manage your own encryption keys, [customer managed keys](https://azure.microsoft.com/en-us/updates/customer-managed-keys/) are now available to help meet your organizational security and compliance goals.  Benefit from the [latest improvements for Custom Translator](https://azure.microsoft.com/en-us/updates/ctjanuary2020/). Generate user access tokens programmatically for workflow or interactive solutions with a new C# code sample in GitHub. Get better support for bulk uploads with enhancements to the document upload pipeline. The Custom Translator training process has also been improved with enhanced resilience.  Azure IoT | | [Azure Sphere](https://azure.microsoft.com/en-us/blog/accelerating-innovation-start-with-azure-sphere-to-secure-iot-solutions/) is the end-to-end solution for securing IoT devices. Azure Sphere’s integrated hardware, software, and cloud services work seamlessly together and deliver active security by default. Every Azure Sphere device comes with over 10 years of security and OS updates. Microsoft builds, manages, and deploys these updates directly to the devices so that manufacturers can focus on customer applications and features and not managing a secured operating system.  [Azure Security Center for IoT](https://azure.microsoft.com/en-us/blog/azure-security-center-for-iot-rsa-2020-announcements/) was updated with support for Azure RTOS, connector for Azure Sentinel, and availability on US government regions. | | Azure Datacenter | | [The Microsoft Sustainability calculator](https://azure.microsoft.com/en-us/blog/microsoft-sustainability-calculator-helps-enterprises-analyze-the-carbon-emissions-of-their-it-infrastructure/) is a Power BI application for Azure enterprise customers that quantifies the carbon impact of each Azure subscription over a period of time and datacenter region, to see estimated carbon savings from running those workloads in Azure versus on-premises datacenters for reporting on and driving sustainability within their organizations.  [We now provide 101 Azure public services that meet US Federal Risk and Authorization Management Program (FedRAMP) High impact level](https://azure.microsoft.com/en-us/blog/all-us-azure-regions-now-approved-for-fedramp-high-impact-level/) to all our Azure public regions in the US, as we continue to drive to 100 percent FedRAMP compliance for all Azure services per our published listings and road map. Achieving FedRAMP High means that both Azure public and Azure Government data centers and services meet the demanding requirements of FedRAMP High, making it easier for more federal agencies to benefit from the cost savings and rigorous security of the Microsoft Commercial Cloud. | | Azure PlayFab (gaming) | | [Visual Studio Code Extension for Azure PlayFab](https://blog.playfab.com/blog/announcing-the-open-source-playfab-visual-studio-code-extension) lets you run PlayFab admin commands inside Visual Studio Code, so you can manage your code and configuration together. | | FastTrack for Azure | | [FastTrack for Azure](https://azure.microsoft.com/en-us/updates/fasttrack-for-azure-expanding-to-central-and-eastern-europe/) helps with the rapid and effective design and deployment of cloud solutions. It provides direct engagements with Azure engineers who provide proven practices and architectural guidance. FastTrack for Azure is available in all Azure commercially supported regions with some [exceptions](https://azure.microsoft.com/en-us/updates/fasttrack-for-azure-expanding-to-central-and-eastern-europe/). | | Gaming | | Moon Studios’ highly anticipated new game, [*Ori and the Will of the Wisps*](https://www.xbox.com/en-US/games/ori-will-of-the-wisps), launched on Xbox One, Windows 10 PC, and with Xbox Game Pass. The game is the sequel to 2015’s *Ori and the Blind Forrest.*  The new [*Minecraft Education Collection*](https://www.minecraft.net/en-us/article/free-educational-content-minecraft-marketplace-) is free for everyone in *Minecraft* to help with learning from home during the coronavirus pandemic. These educational worlds can be played on your own, or with your kids, parents, or friends.  Ninja Theory released [*Bleeding Edge*](https://www.xbox.com/en-US/games/bleeding-edge)on Xbox One, Windows 10 PC, Steam, and with Xbox Game Pass. *Bleeding Edge* isa team-based online brawler with fast-paced, fluid 4v4 combat and a heavy emphasis on solid teamwork and team synergy.  The Coalition released [*Gears 5 – Operation 3: Gridiron*](https://www.gears5.com/whatsup-operation-3), a mulitplayer update for all *Gears 5* players on Xbox One, Windows 10 PC, Steam, and with Xbox Game Pass. *Operation 3* introduces the titular mode, Gridiron—a new, single-life mode that pits two teams of five against each other to capture the flag and take it to the endzone.  Undead Labs released [*State of Decay 2: Juggernaut Edition*](https://www.stateofdecay.com/2020/02/14/state-of-decay-2-juggernaut-edition/) on Xbox One, Windows 10 PC, Steam, the Epic Games Store, and with Xbox Game Pass. *Juggernaut Edition* includes all three add-on packs released to date: *Independence Pack, Daybreak Pack*, and *State of Decay 2: Heartland*.  [*Wasteland Remastered*](http://s.majornelson.com/Proxy.ashx?TSID=98119&GR_URL=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.microsoft.com%2Fen-us%2Fp%2Fwasteland-remastered%2F9ngh1fk0rjgl%3Factivetab%3Dpivot%3Aoverviewtab) was released by inXile on Xbox One, Windows 10 PC, and with Xbox Game Pass. The remastered edition features the iconic gameplay of the original turn-based RPG, with new graphics and overhauled audio as you look to survive a radiated Earth in a society that’s just trying to survive any way it can.  The new [Xbox One Roblox Bundle](https://www.xbox.com/en-US/consoles/xbox-one-s/roblox-1tb) is available at participating retailers worldwide for $299.99 USD. Along with an Xbox One S console, the bundle comes with a free-to-play download of *Roblox*, three exclusive avatar bundles, three exclusive accessories, 2,500 Robux, and a one-month Xbox Game Pass Ultimate trial. | | Microsoft Search, Advertising, and News | | To help people stay up-to-date on the COVID-19 pandemic, [Bing released a COVID-19 Tracker](https://blogs.bing.com/search/march-2020/Stay-informed-on-the-coronavirus-pandemic-with-Bing-and-Microsoft-News) with comprehensive information on [case locations](http://www.bing.com/search?q=covid19&cvid=2f231baf3eae4ff78dab695624581b0d&PC=U531&form=MY01E1&OCID=MY01E1), [infection prevention](https://www.bing.com/search?q=coronavirus+prevention&cvid=556e7cd015f54b30b21b39990cb80634&PC=U531&form=MY01E2&OCID=MY01E2), and more. A search for “covid19,” “coronavirus information,” or a related term will generate a tally of the cases in a user’s geographic region (US only for now) as well as an up-to-date summary of global cases. The “additional info” tab includes links to reliable sources on relevant topics such as prevention, symptoms, and treatment.  The new Give with Bing program and the [Give Mode feature](https://blogs.windows.com/windowsexperience/2020/03/30/the-top-10-reasons-to-switch-to-the-new-microsoft-edge/) in Bing is a new way people can support the causes they care about. By searching in Bing, people can earn reward points for those searches as part of the Microsoft Rewards program. By turning on the new Give Mode feature within the rewards settings, people can donate reward points to the cause of their choice.  [Webmasters now have more tools](https://blogs.bing.com/webmaster/april-2020/Announcing-new-options-for-webmasters-to-control-their-snippets-at-Bing) and more control than ever to determine how their site is represented on the Bing search results page. [The Bing Maps Platform now offers a full suite of premium routing and logistics APIs](https://blogs.bing.com/maps/2020-03/new-enhancements-to-bing-maps-routing-and-logistics-apis)for fleet management and logistics applications and recently added a set of new APIs to support truck routing. [Microsoft PromoteIQ and Microsoft Bing for Commerce](https://about.ads.microsoft.com/en-us/blog/post/january-2020/empowering-retailers-for-the-future-of-digital-commerce) help empower retailers all over the world take advantage of this industry’s digital transformation. PromoteIQ helps retailers increase revenue from their digital vendor marketing programs. Bing for Commerce is an intelligent search, personalization, and product recommendation solution. [Responsive Search Ads](https://about.ads.microsoft.com/en-us/blog/post/january-2020/save-time-and-increase-ad-engagement-with-responsive-search-ads) (RSAs) make creating and testing ads easier by automating the creation of an ad. RSAs are available to all advertisers worldwide through Microsoft Advertising online, [Microsoft Advertising Editor](https://about.ads.microsoft.com/en-us/solutions/tools/editor), or with the [Microsoft Advertising API](https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/advertising/guides/responsive-search-ads?view=bingads-13).[New Product Group capabilities for Shopping Campaigns](https://about.ads.microsoft.com/en-us/blog/post/february-2020/explore-new-product-group-capabilities-for-shopping-campaigns) will save time when managing Shopping Campaigns, give enhanced visibility into account performance when making Product Group changes, and make it easy to automate bid changes. | | © Copyright Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved. | |
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