The Ultimate Guide to VDI and DaaS Cost Savings

Tired of unpredictable costs when it comes to your VDI and DaaS environments?

Well, you're not alone! Unfortunately, the complexity of the interdependencies in these stacks can quickly obscure true costs, leaving you scratching your head and checking your wallet.

Enhanced visibility into your organization's VDI and DaaS environment can help you better understand the factors that impact cost and make more efficient financial decisions—which is where Login Enterprise comes in.

With its ability to identify usage trends and predict future demand, you can finally take control of your resources and drive down costs. But, of course, getting a good grip on the origin of your VDI and DaaS costs is crucial before you can start reallocating resources. So, buckle up, and let's dive into VDI and DaaS costs together!

Understanding VDI and DaaS Costs

Below is an industry standard list of the costs associated with a VDI/DaaS deployment:

OpEx	CapEX
Host Server Hardware	Power and Cooling
Host Networking	Data Center Space
Storage Guest OS and Profiles	Software Maintenance
VDI Software	Host & Guest OS Management
Management Software	Hardware Maintenance
Host and Guest OS Licenses	SaaS Subscriptions
Third-Party Licenses	Third-Party Software Support
Professional Services (Consulting and Deployment)	Third-Party Integration
	IT Administrator Time

To Manage VDI Costs, Organizations Must:

To manage the costs associated with VDI and DaaS deployments, organizations must:

- Enhance cost visibility.
- Understand how much optimization can be applied.
- Streamline operations and monitor for deviations in cost.
- Surface new opportunities to save.

While a wealth of guidance is available to build foundational knowledge, calculators, blogs, and CPU-to-session ratios are general and do not consider your specific circumstances.

In addition to the direct cost of delivering and maintaining VDI and DaaS deployments, there are costs associated with service outages, capacity issues, and performance problems.

Reactive management of VDI and DaaS tools increases its related operating expenses, as each fire you and your team have to fight comes with a price tag.

Login Enterprise monitors the performance of VDI and DaaS deployments to protect end-user experience by enabling IT teams to understand the impact of changes, at scale, before committing.

Visibility and Clarity

To improve transparency in your stack, you first need an enterprise-level solution that provides clear, centralized visibility into your costs.

With a holistic picture of assets and expenses, you can quickly spot usage spikes and tie vendor license utilization to the cost and user.

With these insights, you can streamline and safely reduce costs. Login Enterprise is the ideal solution for an organization looking to surface and monitor VDI and DaaS costs.

Our cost and capacity dashboards allow IT and VDI service owners to manage the total cost of ownership and maximize return on investment for their VDI and DaaS deployments more efficiently and effectively.

With Login Enterprise, VDI and DaaS costs are transparent, which is why many teams use the platform to monitor trends in capacity and cost, improve resource availability, and help plan the their budgeting needs.

Cost Influencers

By analyzing hundreds of capacity planning exercises as well as monitoring subsequent performance, we see that the primary costs of VDI and DaaS Deployments fall into the following categories:

- Compute – 40-60%
- Licensing – 0-40%
- OS Disk Storage – 10-12%
- Profiles – 9-10%%
- Networking = 1-2%
- Other (Images, Backup) - 5%

The first three categories comprise

approximately 90% of the cost of VDI and DaaS deployments.

Optimization is crucial and can go a long way in controlling costs. Although networking is essential for solution performance, network optimization does not deliver cost savings. These numbers account for fixed costs, which can limit optimization capacity of a particular category.

Strategies for Streamlining Costs

Understanding what influences costs in each category offers ideas for areas you should focus your optimization efforts.

With 40-60% of VDI and DaaS costs attributed to computing, let's start there.

Power management This scenario emerges as a universal best practice for single-user scenarios; shutting down VMs that are not in use can result in the most significant return reducing costs around 65%.

Shutting down resources not in use, applies to multi-user scenarios. While things may be a bit more complex, in this scenario, the premise is straightforward: as autoscale adds VMs to support user demand, it should shut down no longer needed capacity.

This Just-In-Time provisioning ensures efficient use of computing; however, you must understand your actual capacity and the amount of "buffer" you want to provide to avoid excessive pruning.

In this tuning, monitoring idle resources and ensuring they are cleaned up in an interval allows low-density hosts to be recycled.

For example, if you enable users to idle for 24 hours, machines may not shut down and run nearly empty indefinitely. As we mentioned, this could cost you 65% more than expected.

Reserved Instance (RI) This is a standard recommendation that can save you significant money, but you want to be careful because you are committing to a size for 1 or 3 years. If you need a different size, you must either pay to convert the RI or find it a new home.

Licensing is a double-edged sword. Going native – where possible – puts the burden of management on IT teams. Whether you pay for it in VDI software or the expense of stitching together the layers of deployments, you can count on paying for it somewhere. Be sure you account for futures like Hybrid or Multi-Cloud, to ensure no vendor lock-in.

Storage an area where cost optimization can happen. Default images in cloud marketplaces over-allocate the amount of disk that comes with the image. The difference is compounding in terms of the extra percentages over a number VMs or downstream services like a backup. Rightsizing storage for host and guest OSes and profiles can yield significant results.

While these are just a few strategies of many out there, regardless of which you pick, you want to start with a clear view of your stack to understand where your costs originate from.

Login Enterprise helps you optimize costs wherever you are in your VDI and DaaS journey.

For example, we can help you choose the right blend of on-demand and always-on virtual machines, determine optimal cloud storage, or evaluate usage and infrastructure in on-premises environments to spot cost savings.

A Better Way to Optimize Costs

Understanding the price tag of maintaining VDI and DaaS environments can make or break your organization's success.

Login Enterprise's groundbreaking approach to cost optimization, enables you to break apart your stack for see a granular view to understand each layer's impact.

Using Login Enterprise you can assign costs to each layer, hunt for cost-savings opportunities, and validate changes that drive down the cost of each component.

Our cutting-edge technology offers an acute awareness of VDI and DaaS costs, which allows you to easily manage changes and eliminate any wasteful inefficiencies.

Are you ready to regain control of your virtual desktops and applications?

Connect with a Login Enterprise expert today to learn more.