



# AZURE ANNOUNCEMENTS NEWSLETTER

October 21, 2022 – October 28, 2022

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## Announcements Details

### Azure Service: App Services

#### Retiring Features

Node 16 LTS support is ending on 11 September 2023. Any applications hosted on Azure App Service that are still using it won't be supported after this. After 11 September 2023, your applications will continue to run unchanged but won't receive any patches.

Announcement: <https://azure.microsoft.com/updates/node16support/>

Documentation: [https://github.com/Azure/app-service-linux-docs/blob/master/Runtime\\_Support/node\\_support.md#how-to-update-your-app-to-target-a-different-version-of-node](https://github.com/Azure/app-service-linux-docs/blob/master/Runtime_Support/node_support.md#how-to-update-your-app-to-target-a-different-version-of-node)

#### Retiring Features

Because PHP 8.0 extended support will end on 26 November 2023, any applications hosted on Azure App Service that are still using it will not be supported after 26 November 2023.

Your applications will continue to run unchanged but won't receive any patches after 26 November 2023, since PHP will no longer be providing them for this version.

Announcement: <https://azure.microsoft.com/updates/php8support/>

Documentation: [https://github.com/Azure/app-service-linux-docs/blob/master/Runtime\\_Support/php\\_support.md#how-to-update-your-app-to-target-a-different-version-of-php](https://github.com/Azure/app-service-linux-docs/blob/master/Runtime_Support/php_support.md#how-to-update-your-app-to-target-a-different-version-of-php)

### Azure Service: ARC

#### Updated Features

Automatic Extension upgrade is now generally available for Arc enabled Servers using eligible VM extensions. With this release we are adding support for Azure Portal, PowerShell, CLI, and automatic rollback of failed upgrades. With auto rollback functionality, Azure Arc is able to minimize service impact from failed upgrade and provide high service availability. Azure Portal, PowerShell, CLI provides experience to view the extensions enabled for auto upgrade and options to opt-in/out as required. We have also fixed few bugs resulting in significant improvements to upgrade success rate which further improves service availability.

Announcement: <https://azure.microsoft.com/updates/auto-extension-upgrade-for-arc-servers/>

Documentation: <https://azure.microsoft.com/updates/auto-extension-upgrade-for-arc-servers/>

## Azure Service: Backup

### General Availability

The option to store the backup of the workloads protected by Azure Backup in zone redundant vaults is generally available. When you configure the protection of a resource with the zone-redundant storage (ZRS) vault, the backups replicate synchronously across three availability zones in a region. It enables you to perform successful restores and recover your data even if a zone goes down. For organizations governed by the compliance requirement of data not crossing the regional boundary, zone-redundant storage is the right and preferred choice for backups.

With the general availability of this feature, you have a broader set of redundancy or storage replication options to choose from for your backup data. Based on your data residency, data resiliency, and total cost of ownership (TCO) requirements, you can select either locally redundant storage (LRS), zone-redundant storage (ZRS), or geo-redundant storage (GRS).

Announcement: <https://azure.microsoft.com/updates/azurebackupzrssupport/>

Documentation: <https://learn.microsoft.com/azure/backup/backup-support-matrix#supported-regions>

## Azure Service: Cloud Services

### Retiring Features

On 31 August 2024, we'll retire the Cloud Services (classic) deployment model. Before that date, you'll need to migrate your services that were deployed using this model to Cloud Services (extended support) in Azure Resource Manager, which provides new capabilities, including:

Support for deployment templates.

Role-based access control.

Regional resiliency.

### Required action

In order to avoid service disruption and continue to use your cloud services that were deployed using Cloud Services (classic), you must migrate them to Cloud Services (extended support) in Resource Manager before 31 August 2024. Beginning 1st September 2024, your Cloud Service deployments would be stopped and deallocated, and data will be permanently lost.

Announcement: <https://azure.microsoft.com/updates/cloud-services-classic-retirement-announcement/>

Documentation: <https://learn.microsoft.com/azure/cloud-services-extended-support/in-place-migration-overview>

## Azure Service: Communications Services

### General Availability

SMS is one of the fastest growing methods of connecting with customers, and helps businesses deliver important information almost anywhere. With SMS from Azure Communication Services, developers can easily add text messaging capabilities to their applications with features like high velocity message support, bulk messaging, two-way communication, reliable delivery, and so much more.

SMS short codes, now generally available, are short numbers typically five or six digits long, that can only be used for sending text messages. Short codes are an addition to existing number types supported by Azure Communication Services. This is important for scenarios, like two-factor authentication, promotional campaigns, or appointment reminders. With this functionality, developers can register for a new short code through an easy, automated registration service, providing many benefits for driving customer engagement at scale.

Azure Communication Services SMS and short code functionality are also built to work with other Azure services. For example, businesses can reliably send messages while exposing deliverability and response metrics through Azure Monitor. SMS based workflows can be added into applications with a Logic Apps connector or receive SMS notifications with Azure Event Grid.

Announcement: <https://azure.microsoft.com/updates/generally-available-azure-communication-services-short-code-functionality-for-sms/>

Documentation: <https://techcommunity.microsoft.com/t5/azure-communication-services/ignite-2021-new-releases-for-azure-communication-services/ba-p/2909621>

## Azure Service: Container Apps

### Preview Features

With this feature, currently in public preview, container apps can communicate over a custom TCP port. Additionally, a container app can expose a TCP port externally.

Announcement: <https://azure.microsoft.com/updates/public-preview-tcp-support/>

Documentation: <https://learn.microsoft.com/azure/container-apps/ingress?tabs=bash>

## Azure Service: CosmosDB

### General Availability

Azure Cosmos DB for MongoDB now offers a built-in role-based access control (RBAC) that allows you to authorize your data requests with a fine-grained, role-based permission model. Users and roles residing within your database can be managed using the Azure CLI, Azure PowerShell, or Azure Resource Manager. With this feature, you can audit each of the user's actions via the Azure Cosmos DB diagnostic logs. Using this RBAC allows you access with more options for control, security, and auditability of your database account data.

Announcement: <https://azure.microsoft.com/updates/general-availability-azure-cosmos-db-for-mongodb-data-plane-rbac/>

Documentation: <https://learn.microsoft.com/azure/cosmos-db/mongodb/how-to-setup-rbac>

### Preview Features

Azure Synapse Link for Azure Cosmos DB is a cloud-native hybrid transactional and analytical processing (HTAP) capability enabling you with near real time analytics over operational data in Azure Cosmos DB. Initially available for CORE (SQL) and MongoDB APIs, if you use the Gremlin API, you can now also use Azure Synapse Link for BI, reporting, data science, and graph analytics like centrality, connectivity, shortest path, and community detection.

Announcement: <https://azure.microsoft.com/updates/public-preview-azure-synapse-link-for-azure-cosmos-db-gremlin-api/>

Documentation: <https://github.com/Rodrigossz/Synapse-Link-Key-Links/blob/main/README.md>

## Azure Service: Cost Management

### Pricing Updates

Azure savings plan for compute is an easy and flexible way to save significantly on compute services, compared to pay-as-you-go prices. The savings plan unlocks lower prices on select compute services when customers commit to spend a fixed hourly amount for one or three years. Choose whether to pay all upfront or monthly at no extra cost. As you use select compute services across the world, your usage is covered by the plan at reduced prices, helping you get more value from your cloud budget. During the times when your usage is above your hourly commitment, you'll be billed at your regular pay-as-you-go prices. With savings automatically applying across compute usage globally, you'll continue saving even as your usage needs change over time.

Announcement: <https://azure.microsoft.com/updates/general-availability-azure-savings-plan-for-compute/>

Documentation: <https://azure.microsoft.com/pricing/offers/savings-plan-compute/>

## Azure Service: Data Explorer

### New Features

Azure Data Explorer now supports ingestion of data from many receivers via the OpenTelemetry exporter.

OpenTelemetry (OTel) is a vendor-neutral open-source observability framework for instrumenting, generating, collecting, and exporting telemetry data such as traces, metrics, logs.

We are releasing Azure Data Explorer OpenTelemetry exporter which supports ingestion of data from many receivers into Azure Data Explorer allowing you to instrument, generate, collect, and store data using a vendor-neutral open-source framework.

Announcement: <https://azure.microsoft.com/updates/general-availability-opentelemetry-exporter-for-azure-data-explorer/>

Documentation: <https://learn.microsoft.com/azure/data-explorer/open-telemetry-connector>

## Azure Service: Database for PostgreSQL

### Preview Features

The read replica feature enables you to improve the performance and scale of read-intensive workloads. Read workloads can be isolated to the replicas, while write workloads can be directed to the primary. Read replicas can also be deployed in a different region and can be used as a read-write server in the event of a disaster recovery.

Replicas are updated asynchronously with the Postgres engine native physical replication technology. You can replicate from the primary server to up to five replicas.

Announcement: <https://azure.microsoft.com/updates/public-preview-read-replicas-for-azure-database-for-postgresql-flexible-server/>

Documentation: <https://learn.microsoft.com/azure/postgresql/flexible-server/concepts-read-replicas>

## Azure Service: DNS

### General Availability

Azure DNS Private Resolver enables you to query Azure DNS private zones from an on-premises environment and vice versa without deploying virtual machine-based DNS servers. Azure DNS Private Resolver now provides a fully managed recursive resolution and conditional forwarding service for Azure virtual networks. Using this service, you will be able to resolve DNS names hosted in Azure DNS private zones from on-premises networks as well as DNS queries originating from Azure virtual networks that can be forwarded to a specified destination server to resolve them.

This service will provide a highly available and resilient DNS infrastructure on Azure for a fraction of the price of running traditional IaaS VMs running DNS servers in virtual networks. You will be able to seamlessly integrate with Private DNS Zones and unlock key scenarios with minimal operational overhead.

Announcement: <https://azure.microsoft.com/blog/announcing-azure-dns-private-resolver-general-availability/>

Documentation: <https://learn.microsoft.com/azure/dns/tutorial-dns-private-resolver-failover>

## Azure Service: Event Grid

### Preview Features

Azure Event Grid now supports 220+ SAP S/4HANA events. With the availability of these events, you can now integrate your applications on Azure with SAP's using event-driven architectures.

Announcement: <https://azure.microsoft.com/updates/public-preview-sap-s4hana-events-are-now-available-on-azure-event-grid/>

Documentation: <https://api.sap.com/products/SAPS4HANA/events/events>



## Azure Service: Functions

### Preview Features

Azure Functions is releasing the V2 programming model for Python. This programming model is designed to provide a Functions development experience that is more familiar to Python developers. Key features include triggers and bindings declared as decorators, importing through blueprints, and in-editor support with easy to reference documentation.

With the V2 programming model, you will benefit from:

A simplified folder structure, where there will be fewer files within a function application. Multiple functions in the application can now be defined in the same file.

Triggers and bindings will be represented as decorators, eliminating the need for the 'function.json' configuration file.

Streamlined workflow with importing through blueprints. Blueprints will also promote logical grouping of functions within the application.

Documentation is more easily accessible with a new 'View Template' option in VS Code.

Leveraging the V2 programming model will provide an improved and seamless way to create functions, with the underlying deployment, debugging, and monitoring experience remaining the same.

Announcement: <https://azure.microsoft.com/updates/public-preview-v2-programming-model-for-azure-functions-using-python/>

Documentation: <https://github.com/Azure/azure-functions-python-worker/wiki/V2-Programming-Model-for-Azure-Functions-using-Python>

### Retiring Features

Node 12 is only supported by Azure Functions host version 3, which is ending support on 13 December 2022. Node 12 also reached the end of community support 30 April 2022.

As such, we recommend developers to update their functions apps to use Azure Functions host version 4 and Node 16. The Functions service will continue to run applications that are running Node 12 beyond 13 December 2022, but customers will be asked to upgrade to Node 16 if they need support.

Announcement: <https://azure.microsoft.com/updates/azure-functions-support-for-node-12-is-ending-on-13-december-2022/>

Documentation: <https://learn.microsoft.com/azure/azure-functions/language-support-policy>

## Azure Service: Kubernetes Service

### General Availability

CSI Extensible API for AKS is now GA. This allows you to enable or disable specific CSI drivers based on your workload requirements. You can use this to enable any drivers that are not preinstalled in your cluster including open-source options. You can also choose to disable any of the pre-installed drivers in case you do not plan to run any stateful workloads in your cluster.

Announcement: <https://azure.microsoft.com/updates/generally-available-csi-extensible-api-for-aks/>

Documentation: <https://learn.microsoft.com/azure/aks/csi-storage-drivers>

### General Availability

Starting with Kubernetes 1.25 on Azure Kubernetes Service (AKS), the operating system AKS uses for Ubuntu based node pools will be changing from Ubuntu 18 to Ubuntu 22.

Announcement: <https://azure.microsoft.com/updates/generally-available-aks-support-for-ubuntu-2204/>

Documentation: <https://github.com/Azure/AKS/blob/master/CHANGELOG.md>

### New Features

Premium SSD v2 is the next-generation Azure Disk Storage optimized for performance-sensitive and general-purpose workloads that need consistent low average read and write latency combined with high IOPS and throughput. With Premium SSD v2, you can independently provision and scale IOPS, throughput, and capacity based on workload requirements to cost-effectively run and scale transaction-intensive workloads. Premium SSD v2 is now available with the Azure Disk CSI driver to deploy stateful workloads in Kubernetes on Azure. Premium SSD v2 disk is the most flexible and scalable block storage for general purpose workloads.

Announcement: <https://azure.microsoft.com/updates/generally-available-premium-ssd-v2-disks-available-on-azure-disk-csi-driver/>

Documentation: <https://techcommunity.microsoft.com/t5/azure-storage-blog/azure-premium-ssd-v2-disk-storage-general-availability/ba-p/3649038>

## Preview Features

Mariner is an open-source Linux distribution created by Microsoft and is now available for preview as a container host on Azure Kubernetes Service (AKS).

Optimized for AKS, the Mariner container host provides reliability and consistency from cloud to edge across the AKS, AKS-HCI, and Arc products. You can deploy Mariner node pools in a new cluster, add Mariner node pools to your existing Ubuntu clusters, or migrate your Ubuntu nodes to Mariner nodes.

The Mariner container host on AKS uses a native AKS image that provides one place to do all Linux development. Every package is built from source and is validated, ensuring your services run on proven components. Mariner is lightweight, only including the necessary set of packages needed to run container workloads. It provides a reduced attack surface and eliminates patching and maintenance of unnecessary packages. At Mariner's base layer, it has a Microsoft hardened kernel tuned for Azure.

Announcement: <https://azure.microsoft.com/updates/public-preview-mariner-container-optimized-os/>

Documentation: <https://microsoft.github.io/CBL-Mariner/docs/#cbl-mariner-linux>

## Preview Features

AKS now supports Kubernetes version 1.25 in public preview. Kubernetes version 1.25 includes 40 enhancements as well as some major updates. These include the removal of PodSecurityPolicy and the graduation of Pod Security Admission to Stable.

Announcement: <https://azure.microsoft.com/updates/public-preview-k8s-125-support/>

Documentation: <https://kubernetes.io/blog/2022/08/23/kubernetes-v1-25-release/>

## Preview Features

Azure CNI powered by Cilium provides native support for the next generation Cilium eBPF dataplane in AKS clusters running Azure CNI. It offers Pod networking, basic Kubernetes Network Policies, and high-performance service load balancing. The eBPF dataplane is available in both VNet mode and Overlay mode of Azure CNI.

Announcement: <https://azure.microsoft.com/updates/public-preview-azure-cni-powered-by-cilium/>

Documentation: <https://techcommunity.microsoft.com/t5/azure-networking-blog/azure-cni-powered-by-cilium-for-azure-kubernetes-service-aks/ba-p/3662341>

## Preview Features

ASO makes it easy to manage database and connection

This integration makes it easy to create a database (for example CosmosDB), a managed identity, and use that managed identity for your service deployed in Kubernetes, all in a single YAML deployment.

This eliminates the need for manual configuration such as retrieval of clientIds or objectIds. You can also easily scale to multiple identities with multiple ServiceAccounts if desired. There's also no need to rollover credentials over time.

Announcement: <https://azure.microsoft.com/updates/public-preview-aso-makes-it-easy-to-manage-database-and-connection/>

Documentation: <https://azure.microsoft.com/products/kubernetes-service/#overview>

## Preview Features

Azure Kubernetes Service now supports configuring the kube-proxy mode setting to enable the IP Virtual Server (IPVS) load balancer.

The IPVS load balancer is built into the Linux kernel and provides greater configurability, scale, and performance at high service and pod counts. Configurable IPVS features in AKS include protocol-specific timeouts and connection schedulers like round robin or least connections.

Announcement: <https://azure.microsoft.com/updates/public-preview-ipvs-load-balancer-support-in-aks/>

Documentation: <https://learn.microsoft.com/azure/aks/configure-kube-proxy>

## Preview Features

It's common to use pipelines to build and deploy images on Azure Kubernetes Service (AKS) clusters. This process often doesn't account for the stale images left behind and can lead to image bloat on cluster nodes. These images can present security issues as they may contain vulnerabilities.

With image cleaner, we can detect and automatically remove all unused and vulnerable images cached on AKS nodes keeping the nodes cleaner and safer.

Announcement: <https://azure.microsoft.com/updates/public-preview-aks-image-cleaner/>

Documentation: <https://learn.microsoft.com/azure/aks/image-cleaner?tabs=azure-cli>

## Preview Features

Vertical Pod Autoscaler (VPA) is now supported in AKS. VPA is a Kubernetes native tool designed to provide a vertical scaling mechanism for Kubernetes controllers by automatically adjusting resource allocations for the containers that make up pods based on historical and current resource utilization patterns.

With VPA enabled on your cluster, you can reduce operational overhead by configuring VPA to provide recommended CPU and memory requests and limits which you can then either update yourself or configure VPA to automatically update the pods for you. You can also maximize cost savings and improve the stability of your cluster by ensuring pods have the optimal amount of resources using an automated approach, resulting in a decrease in unnecessary pod evictions, throttling, or failures due to out of memory errors.

Announcement: <https://azure.microsoft.com/updates/public-preview-vertical-pod-autoscaler/>

Documentation: <https://learn.microsoft.com/azure/aks/vertical-pod-autoscaler>

## Updated Features

Dapr is a developer framework for building cloud-native applications, making it easier to run multiple microservices on Kubernetes and interact with external state stores and databases, secret stores, pub/sub brokers, and other cloud services and self-hosted solutions.

The Dapr v1.9 release offers several new features, including pluggable components, resiliency metrics, and app health checks, as well as many fixes in the core runtime and components.

Announcement: <https://azure.microsoft.com/updates/dapr-extension-for-aks-and-arc-enabled-kubernetes-now-support-dapr-v190/>

Documentation: <https://blog.dapr.io/posts/2022/10/13/dapr-v1.9-is-now-available/>

## Azure Service: Load Testing

### Preview Features

Azure Load Testing now enables you to authenticate to application endpoints which require a client certificate for authentication. You can use your certificate stored in Azure Key Vault along with your load tests.

Announcement: <https://azure.microsoft.com/updates/public-preview-azure-load-testing-supports-authenticating-with-client-certificates/>

Documentation: <https://azure.microsoft.com/updates/public-preview-azure-load-testing-supports-authenticating-with-client-certificates/>

### Region Updates

Azure Load Testing is in public preview in West Europe.

Announcement: <https://azure.microsoft.com/updates/public-preview-azure-load-testing-in-west-europe/>

Documentation: <https://azure.microsoft.com/explore/global-infrastructure/products-by-region/?products=load-testing&regions=all&rar=true>

### Security Updates

We're committed to help you meet your compliance obligations across regulated industries and markets worldwide. The HITRUST common security framework (CSF) provides organizations globally a comprehensive, flexible, and efficient approach to regulatory and standards compliance and risk management.

Announcement: <https://azure.microsoft.com/updates/public-preview-azure-load-testing-is-now-hitrust-certified/>

Documentation: <https://azure.microsoft.com/products/load-testing/#overview>

## Azure Service: Logic Apps

### Retiring Features

In August 2021, we announced Azure Cloud Services (classic) will be retired on 31 August 2024. Because the integration service environment (ISE) feature in Azure Logic Apps is dependent on Azure Cloud Services (classic), we'll retire this option on 31 August 2024. Before that date, you'll need to export all ISEs to Logic Apps Standard, which provides the same capabilities as well as new features, including:

Deployment flexibility, including the ability to run Logic Apps standard on Azure App Services Environment v3 (Windows plans).

Support for App Insights, providing a single view of cross services dependencies, performance, and exceptions. A granular and elastic scale mode, which allows you to respond faster to changes on your workflow requirements.

The ability to locally develop and run workflows in your development environment without having to deploy to Azure, speeding up development time.

Beginning 1 November 2022, you'll no longer be able to create new ISE resources. However, resources created before that date will continue to be supported through 31 August 2024.

Announcement: <https://azure.microsoft.com/updates/integration-services-environment-will-be-retired-on-31-august-2024-transition-to-logic-apps-standard/>

Documentation: <https://learn.microsoft.com/azure/logic-apps/export-from-ise-to-standard-logic-app>

# Azure Service: Monitor

## Preview Features

Azure Monitor Application Insights is a cloud native application monitoring offering which enables customers to observe failures, bottlenecks, and usage patterns to resolve incidents faster and reduce downtime.

With the latest release of Azure Monitor OpenTelemetry packages for .NET, Node.js, and Python, we continue to build on OpenTelemetry's vendor-neutral APIs/SDKs, introducing new capabilities in four areas:

### Metrics

#### Sampling

#### Exceptions

#### Resiliency

### Metrics

OpenTelemetry-based metrics now flow to Application Insights. This includes metrics emitted by dozens of available OpenTelemetry Instrumentation Libraries or custom metrics you create using OpenTelemetry APIs. you can alert on user behavior that matters to your business, such as an "add to shopping cart" operation.

### Sampling

Sampling empowers you to better optimize cost. The custom sampler uses a sampling algorithm that populates an "itemCount" field that corrects for sampled out events. You can use it alongside existing Application Insights SDKs and traces will be preserved.

### Exceptions

Exception capture and correlation is available both when automatically collected by OpenTelemetry Instrumentation Libraries and when added manually to a span as a span event. For example, if your app calls out to database and fails, we capture the details and associate it to the relevant trace for end-to-end troubleshooting.

### Resiliency

Azure Monitor Exporters now include offline storage and automatic retries to minimize data loss in the event your service loses its connection with Application Insights, or the Application Insights service is temporarily unavailable.

Announcement: <https://azure.microsoft.com/updates/public-preview-new-metrics-capabilities-in-opentelemetrybased-application-insights/>

Documentation: <https://techcommunity.microsoft.com/t5/azure-observability-blog/opentelemetry-azure-monitor/ba-p/2737823>



## Azure Service: NetApp Files

### Preview Features

Azure regions and availability zones (AZ) are designed to help you achieve resiliency and reliability for your business-critical workloads. This Azure NetApp Files availability zone volume placement feature lets you deploy new volumes in the logical availability zone of your choice to support enterprise, mission-critical high availability (HA) deployments across multiple availability zones. This public preview of the feature is available in all availability zone-enabled regions with Azure NetApp Files presence.

Announcement: <https://azure.microsoft.com/updates/public-preview-availability-zone-volume-placement-for-azure-netapp-files/>

Documentation: <https://learn.microsoft.com/azure/azure-netapp-files/use-availability-zones>

## Azure Service: Redis Cache

### Preview Features

Several enhancements have been made to the passive geo-replication functionality offered on the Premium tier of Azure Cache for Redis. New metrics are available for you to better track the health and status of your geo-replication link, including statistics around the amount of data that is waiting to be replicated. With this feature, you can now initiate a failover between geo-primary and geo-replica caches with a single click or CLI command, eliminating the hassle of manually unlinking and relinking caches. A global cache URL is also now offered that will automatically update your DNS records after geo-failovers are triggered, allowing your application to only manage one cache address.

Announcement: <https://azure.microsoft.com/updates/public-preview-improved-passive-georeplication-for-azure-cache-for-redis/>

Documentation: <https://learn.microsoft.com/azure/azure-cache-for-redis/cache-how-to-geo-replication#initiate-a-failover-from-geo-primary-to-geo-secondary-preview>

## Azure Service: Sphere

### General Availability

Azure Sphere OS version 22.10 is now available in the Retail feed. This release includes bug fixes in the Azure Sphere OS only; it does not include an updated SDK. If your devices are connected to the internet, they will receive the updated OS from the cloud.

Fixed bugs and common vulnerabilities in the 22.10 release

This release includes general improvements that could result in an expected double-restart for some devices.

The 22.10 release does not include updates to mitigate against any Common Vulnerabilities and Exposures (CVEs).

Announcement: <https://azure.microsoft.com/updates/general-availability-azure-sphere-os-version-2210/>

Documentation: <https://learn.microsoft.com/azure-sphere/deployment/deployment-microsoft-feeds>

## Azure Service: SQL Database

### Preview Features

In late October 2022, the following updates and enhancements were made to Azure SQL:

Compute percentiles for a large dataset quicker by using approximate percentile in Azure SQL Database and Azure SQL Managed Instance.  
Enable T-SQL execution to add table constraints as online and resumable operations in Azure SQL Database and Azure Managed Instance.

Announcement: <https://azure.microsoft.com/updates/azure-sql-public-preview-updates-for-late-october-2022/>

Documentation: <https://azure.microsoft.com/updates/azure-sql-public-preview-updates-for-late-october-2022/>

### Updated Features

In late October 2022, the following updates and enhancements were made to Azure SQL:

Perform import and export using private endpoints in Azure SQL Database.  
Perform import and export operations on Azure SQL Database - Hyperscale.  
Improve your Azure SQL Managed Instance performance with new TempDB configurations.  
Auto-scale compute to higher limits with up to 80 vCores in selected regions using Azure SQL Database serverless.

Announcement: <https://azure.microsoft.com/updates/azure-sql-general-availability-updates-for-late-october-2022/>

Documentation: <https://azure.microsoft.com/updates/azure-sql-general-availability-updates-for-late-october-2022/>

## Azure Service: Storage

### General Availability

Attribute-based access control (ABAC) is an authorization strategy that defines access levels based on attributes associated with security principals, resources, and requests. Azure ABAC builds on role-based access control (RBAC) by adding conditions to Azure role assignments in the existing identity and access management (IAM) system. This release makes generally available role assignment conditions using request and resource attributes on Blobs, ADLS Gen2 and storage queues for standard storage accounts.

Role-assignment conditions enable finer-grained access control for storage resources. They can also be used to simplify hundreds of role assignments for a storage resource. This release enables you to author conditions for storage DataActions and can be used with built-in or custom roles.

Note: Azure ABAC using request and resource attributes for premium storage accounts and principal attributes for standard and premium storage accounts remains in preview.

Announcement: <https://azure.microsoft.com/updates/azure-storage-abac-ga/>

Documentation: <https://learn.microsoft.com/azure/role-based-access-control/conditions-overview>

### General Availability

SSH File Transfer Protocol (SFTP) support for Azure Blob Storage is now generally available.

Azure Blob Storage now supports SFTP, enabling you to leverage object storage economics and features for your SFTP workloads. With just one click, you can provision a fully managed, highly scalable SFTP endpoint for your storage account. This expands Blob Storage's multi-protocol access capabilities and eliminates data silos – meaning you can run different applications, requiring different protocols, on a single storage platform with no code changes.

Announcement: <https://azure.microsoft.com/updates/sftp-support-for-azure-blob-storage-now-generally-available/>

Documentation: <https://learn.microsoft.com/azure/storage/blobs/secure-file-transfer-protocol-support>

## Azure Service: Stream Analytics

### Preview Features

Stream Analytics now supports end-to-end exactly once semantics when writing to Azure Data Lake Storage Gen2. Your jobs now guarantee no data loss and no duplicates being produced as output. This simplifies your streaming pipeline by not having to monitor, implement, and troubleshoot deduplication logic.

Announcement: <https://azure.microsoft.com/updates/asa-exactly-once-adlsgen2/>

Documentation: <https://learn.microsoft.com/azure/stream-analytics/blob-storage-azure-data-lake-gen2-output>

### Region Updates

Azure Stream Analytics is now generally available in Qatar Central.

Announcement: <https://azure.microsoft.com/updates/generally-available-azure-stream-analytics-in-one-new-region/>

Documentation: <https://azure.microsoft.com/pricing/details/stream-analytics/>

## Azure Service: Virtual Machines Scale Sets

### Retiring Features

On 31 March 2023 Azure Continuous delivery setting of Virtual Machine Scale Set will be retired. Please start using Azure DevOps to directly create pipelines by that date.

Note that all the pipelines created will still be available and functional in Azure DevOps portal. Only the experience of creating/viewing the Azure DevOps pipeline from Azure portal will be retired.

We encourage you to make the switch sooner to familiarize yourself with the Azure DevOps portal and its extensive capabilities.

From now through 31 March 2023, you can continue to create and view pipelines from Continuous delivery setting of a Virtual Machine Scale Set in Azure portal. After 31 March 2023, this setting will not be available to use.

### Required action

To avoid disruptions to your workflow, start using Azure DevOps before 31 March 2023. You can familiarize yourself with the creation of customized pipelines using Azure DevOps.

Announcement: <https://azure.microsoft.com/updates/continuous-delivery-setting-of-azure-vmss-will-be-retired-on-31-march-2023-use-azure-devops-to-create-pipelines/>

Documentation: <https://learn.microsoft.com/azure/devops/pipelines/apps/cd/azure/deploy-azure-scaleset?view=azure-devops>

## Azure Service: Virtual Network

### New Features

Today we are excited to make announcements in multiple areas of Azure Virtual WAN (vWAN), networking as a service that brings networking, security, and routing functionalities together to provide a single operational interface. As enterprises increasingly adopt the cloud while reducing their costs, IT teams looking to consolidate, accelerate, or even revamp their wide area network should consider Azure Virtual WAN. You don't need to have all these use cases to start using Virtual WAN—you can get started with just one. With ease of use and simplicity built in, vWAN is a one-stop shop to connect, protect, route traffic, and monitor your wide area network. The following areas have key announcements:

Remote user connectivity (also known as point-to-site VPN).

Routing.

Branch connectivity (also known as site-to-site VPN).

Private connectivity (also known as ExpressRoute).

Third-Party Network Virtual Appliance Integrations.

Announcement: <https://azure.microsoft.com/blog/networking-needs-simplified-with-azure-virtual-wan/>

Documentation: <https://azure.microsoft.com/blog/networking-needs-simplified-with-azure-virtual-wan/>

### Region Updates

The ability to bring your own public IP ranges is now available in all US Government regions.

Additionally:

You can now bring your own IPv6 ranges to Azure. These ranges must be a /48 size and can be split into multiple regional /64 ranges, of which a subset of IPs can be used as Public IP Prefixes.

A regional commissioning feature now allows you to advertise a range internally within an Azure region prior to full global advertisement to the Internet, easing the migration process for a range that is already live outside of Azure.

Announcement: <https://azure.microsoft.com/updates/byoip-now-available-in-us-govt-regions/>

Documentation: <https://learn.microsoft.com/azure/virtual-network/ip-services/custom-ip-address-prefix>