**Introduction**

Completed100 XP

* 1 minute

Relational databases store data in relational tables, but sometimes the structure imposed by this model can be too rigid, and often leads to poor performance unless you spend time implementing detailed tuning. Other models, collectively known as *NoSQL* databases, exist. These models store data in other structures, such as documents, graphs, key-value stores, and column family stores.

Azure Cosmos DB is a highly scalable cloud database service for NoSQL data.

**Learning objectives**

In this module, you'll learn how to:

* Describe key features and capabilities of Azure Cosmos DB
* Identify the APIs supported in Azure Cosmos DB
* Provision and use an Azure Cosmos DB instance

**Next unit: Describe Azure Cosmos DB**