

Securing Variables with Terraform Cloud



Keep Your Secrets Out of Code

Why should we centralize our variables?

- Avoid putting sensitive information in your Terraform code
- Information is stored in the state file, which may not be secure
- Helps prevent committing sensitive information to your code repo



Cloud Credentials



API Tokens



Infrastructure Secrets



Setting Workspace Variables



- Variables can be set per Workspace
- If you have variables that are intended to be reusable e.g., cloud provider creds, API tokens you can create a Variable Set
- Variables Set can be used applied across Workspaces

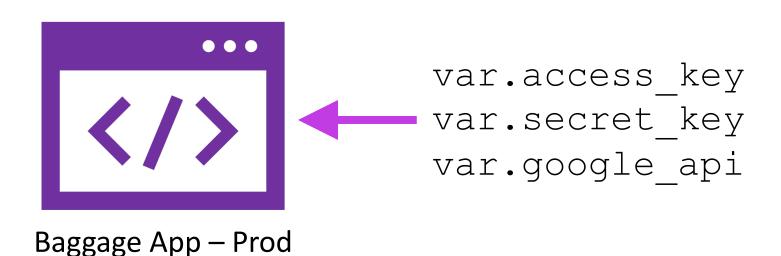


Workspace Variables vs. Variable Set



Variables

Workspace



These variables are ONLY available to the Baggage
App-Prod workspace



Workspace Variables vs. Variable Set

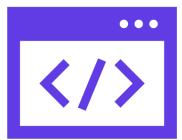


Variable Sets

Baggage App



Boarding App



Pick a Seat App



Variable Set var.subscription
var.client_key

var.prod_database

These variables are available to any of these workspaces



Variable Types



- Terraform Cloud allows configuring two types of variables within each workspace:
 - Environment variables
 - Terraform variables (contents of terraform.tfvars files)
- Variables can be marked as sensitive, in which case they will <u>not</u> be displayed in the UI on subsequent visits.
- Variables can be marked as HCL, allowing the user to define structured and typed values (maps, lists, etc.).



Setting Values using TFVARs



- You can use a auto.tfvars file to set non-sensitive variables for your
 Terraform configuration
- Workspaces using Terraform v0.10.0 or later can also load default values from any *.auto.tfvars files in the configuration. You may want to use the Terraform Cloud Provider or the variables API to add multiple variables at once



Order of Precedence



- Files ending with *.auto.tfvars
- Variable Sets
- Workspace-specific Values
- Local Values
 - Command Line Arguments
 - TF_VAR environment variables

*.auto.tfvars or *.auto.tfvars.json

Global Variable Sets

Non-Global Variable Sets

Workspace-Specific Variables

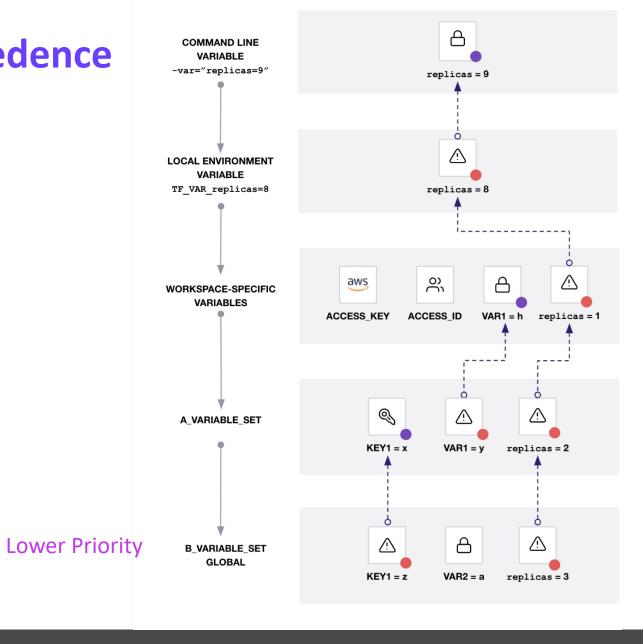
TF_VAR environment variables

Command Line: -var and -var-file

Order of Precedence



Order of Precedence





Recommendation



- Only use *.auto.tfvars files for your non-sensitive variables
- If you have sensitive variables, set the values inside the Workspace in the Variables section





END OF SECTION