

Microsoft Vs Oracle

The customer case studies revealed two major findings. First, while the use of Oracle databases remained relatively similar to previous observations, both the number and size of Microsoft SQL Server databases had increased significantly in the majority of organizations. Second, the difference in Total Cost of Administration (TCA) became even greater for the two database platforms than in the original study. The customer case studies demonstrated that on average a Database Administrator (DBA) could manage over 65 mission critical Microsoft SQL Server databases, while Oracle Database implementations required one DBA per 15 critical databases. Factoring in slightly higher average salaries for Oracle DBAs, the corresponding annual cost for administration for these two databases comes out to \$1,605 per year per database for Microsoft SQL Server and \$7,385 per year per database for Oracle Database; a 460% difference in annual cost of administration per database.

Key Results Measure	Microsoft	Oracle
Average number of databases per company	1780	234
Average number of users per database ¹	165	216
Average database size (GB)	290	627
Mission critical databases	57%	53%
Web-based databases	54%	21%
Transaction-based databases	26%	47%
Decision-support databases	20%	32%
Databases supported per DBA ¹	15.2	65.4
Annual TCA per database	\$1,605	\$7,385

Table 1:

Overall, new Microsoft SQL Server databases were growing at 23.4% per year, while new Oracle Database deployments were growing by 8.8% annually.

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List price comparison: SQL Server is less than one-third the price of Oracle Database

Edition	Oracle DB	SQL Server	
Enterprise	\$95,000	\$27,496	3.5x
Standard	\$17,500	\$7,172	2.4x

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References & Additional Resources

Microsoft

[A Concise SQL Server 2012 Licensing Overview](#)
[Microsoft SQL Server 2012 Licensing Data Sheet](#)
[Microsoft SQL Server Website](#)

Oracle

[Oracle Software Investment Guide](#)
[Oracle Processor Core Factor Table](#)
[Oracle Technology Commercial Price List \(US; 1/15/2012\)](#)