

# Reduce VDI Dependency with Prisma Access Browser

Virtual desktop infrastructure (VDI) and desktop as a service (DaaS) are used to provide remote access to corporate resources by hosting virtual desktops on servers. They enable employees to access consistent desktop environments from various devices, providing organizations with security and control. However, these solutions come with significant drawbacks.

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## The Cons of VDI/DaaS Deployments

VDI and DaaS have long been used to provide remote access to corporate resources. While they offer certain benefits, these solutions come with significant drawbacks like:

- **High costs:** VDI and DaaS require substantial upfront investment in hardware and software, and ongoing maintenance.
- **Complexity:** Setting up and managing VDI and DaaS environments is complex, requiring specialized IT skills and resources.
- **Performance issues:** Users often experience latency and performance issues, especially when accessing resource-intensive applications remotely.
- **Scalability challenges:** Scaling VDI and DaaS to accommodate growing numbers of remote users can be difficult and costly.
- **Security concerns:** VDI and DaaS often fail to secure web applications, which attackers are increasingly targeting. Email is the primary method for introducing ransomware into IT environments,<sup>1</sup> further exposing these vulnerabilities.

## Introducing Prisma Access Browser

Palo Alto Networks provides the industry's only SASE solution with a natively integrated secure browser to create a secure workspace on managed and unmanaged devices. For the first time, users can enjoy consistent, frictionless Zero Trust access to SaaS and private applications on any device. By extending SASE's protective reach to any device in minutes, Prisma® Access Browser safeguards business applications and data against a spectrum of threats.

## Why Prisma Access Browser Helps Reduce VDI

Prisma Access Browser offers a modern solution that significantly reduces the need for traditional VDI deployments. Some key benefits include:

- **Cost-efficiency:** Experience a 79% decrease in total cost of ownership compared to traditional VDI solutions, thanks to Prisma Access Browser's efficient cloud-native architecture.<sup>2</sup>
- **Simplified management:** Get centralized control and visibility across all devices. Streamline IT operations and reduce administrative overhead with intuitive global policies.
- **Enhanced performance:** Ensure maximum uptime and faster application performance with Prisma Access Browser's fully distributed infrastructure. Give users the experience they need.
- **Scalability:** Deploy Prisma Access Browser in minutes without significant infrastructure changes. Make it easy to scale security as your organization grows.
- **Enhanced security:** Secure every user and device with Prisma SASE, the only SASE solution with a natively integrated secure browser. Protect against web-based threats and email-based ransomware, ensuring robust, comprehensive protection directly in the browser.

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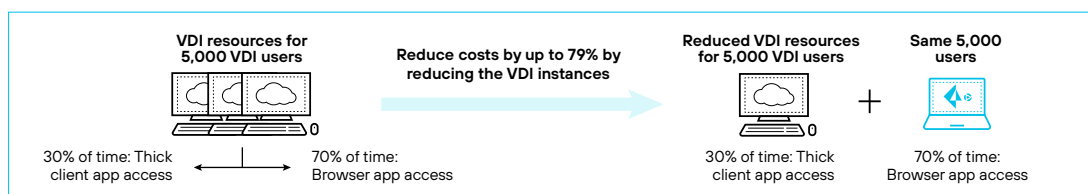
1. *2023 Data Breach Investigations Report*, Verizon, June 6, 2023.

2. Based on internal analysis with independent third-party review.

## VDI Reduction Examples

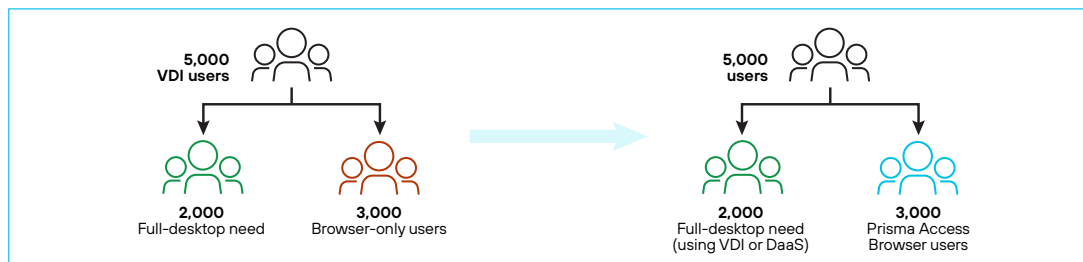
Prisma Access Browser significantly reduces the reliance on VDI resources by shifting regular browsing activities to the secure browser. Examples include:

- **Resource optimization:** Prisma Access Browser significantly reduces the need for VDI resources since all regular browsing activities shift to the secure browser. For instance, if a typical VDI user now spends 70% of their time using the browser and 30% on thick clients, VDI resources will only be required for 30% of that user's work.



**Figure 1:** With Prisma Access Browser, organizations can minimize their VDI deployments

- **Segmented user groups:** Not all users require full desktop or thick client application access. By categorizing users into browser-only and full-desktop groups, organizations can streamline VDI deployments, helping to reduce the expense of larger VDI deployments.



**Figure 2:** Prisma Access Browser enables organizations to only deploy VDI to users who require it

## Customer Experience

Snowflake, a leading data cloud company, adopted Prisma Access Browser as a strategic part of their approach to reduce reliance on VDI for privileged users accessing sensitive customer data. By integrating Prisma Access Browser, Snowflake enhances security and simplifies management for their privileged users, who often access their customers' extremely sensitive, internal Snowflake deployments, ensuring that these critical operations can be performed securely while moving away from the complexity and cost associated with traditional VDI setups.

## Conclusion

Prisma Access Browser revolutionizes remote access by providing a secure, efficient, and scalable solution that overcomes the challenges of traditional VDI. By leveraging Prisma Access Browser, organizations can enhance their remote work capabilities, improve user satisfaction, and achieve significant cost savings.



3000 Tannery Way  
Santa Clara, CA 95054  
Main: +1.408.753.4000  
Sales: +1.866.320.4788  
Support: +1.866.898.9087  
[www.paloaltonetworks.com](http://www.paloaltonetworks.com)

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