

aws marketplace

Rocky Linux

Reviews, tips, and advice from real users



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Product Recap



Rocky Linux

Rocky Linux Recap

Rocky Linux provides enterprise-grade stability and seamless Red Hat compatibility, coupled with extensive community support. Known for easy setup and minimal maintenance, its open-source nature ensures cost-effectiveness, making it ideal for critical systems.

Rocky Linux is an open-source operating system valued for its compatibility with Red Hat Enterprise Linux, making it an attractive choice for organizations migrating from CentOS. It focuses on stability, security, and long-term support, crucial for critical systems. Users benefit from seamless integration with automation tools and its strong community backing. While it offers ease of setup and package availability, areas like software availability and faster updates need enhancement. The system's UX design supports productivity, with potential improvements in documentation and security integration helping to maintain competitive advantages.

What Are the Key Features?

- **Enterprise-Grade Stability:** Designed for reliability in mission-critical environments.
- **Red Hat Compatibility:** Ensures seamless integration with existing Red Hat setups.
- **Community Support:** Backed by a strong, active community providing assistance.
- **Ease of Setup:** User-friendly installation process for quick deployment.
- **Minimal Maintenance:** Requires reduced effort for upkeep.
- **Security and Clustering:** Advanced features for enhanced system security.

What Benefits Should Users Expect?

- **Cost-Effectiveness:** Open-source status reduces overall costs.
- **Improved Productivity:** UX design and package availability streamline workflows.
- **Scalability:** Supports growing business needs with long-term support.
- **Seamless Integration:** Compatible with automation and monitoring tools.
- **Migration Ease:** Smooth transition for CentOS users.

Rocky Linux is widely implemented across numerous industries as a server platform and backend OS, supporting web hosting, big data projects, and cloud infrastructure. Companies in IT environments like Nutanix data centers and high-performance computing choose it for its compatibility with open-source tools, making it favored for automation with Ansible and monitoring through Prometheus.

Valuable Features

Excerpts from real customer reviews on PeerSpot:

- ✔ “Rocky Linux has impacted my organization very positively because we migrated everything from CentOS and Windows servers to Rocky Linux, everything is clear, with good packaging, and now it's version 9.6, which is very important for us due to security problems since we are in Europe.”



Massimiliano Adamo

Linux architect at European Commission

- ✔ “When we moved from Red Hat to Rocky Linux, we saved around 70% of the cost which was used for subscriptions, and that money is now used for other things such as middleware applications and monitoring applications including DataDog and Dynatrace.”



BasilJiji

System Engineer at a retailer with 10,001+ employees

- ✔ “Rocky Linux performs excellently in low-latency live streaming and content packaging workflows, as we use it for optimizing compatibility with the streaming platforms, utilizing an optimized kernel for networking, tuning profiles, IRQ affinity, security, reliability, and hardware and driver support.”



DILIP BHARADWAJ

Senior System Engineer at Al Jazeera Media Network

- ✓ “Rocky Linux provides us with extended maintenance, security patches, and support lifecycle aligned with RHEL, making it highly reliable for critical systems.”



Verified user

CloudOps Engineer at a computer software company with 10,001+ employees

- ✓ “Rocky Linux is suitable for our needs... we have a very good team with high skills in Linux and development, and it works correctly with no enterprise cost or enterprise license.”



Walid Alioua

Network Infrastructure Manager at SAGEMCOM

- ✓ “Rocky Linux has positively impacted my organization by allowing us to migrate away from CentOS 7 as a result of the end-of-life for that operating system and then the end of CentOS 8, so we were able to move away from it without losing data and without having to rebuild VMs from scratch.”



Verified user

System Administrator at a computer software company with 5,001-10,000 employees

- ✔ “Rocky Linux has been a major driver for our cloud migration strategy and has proven to be one of the most cost-effective solutions for us, allowing us to save huge revenue while maintaining fantastic consistency with updates.”



Verified user

Technical Manager at a tech vendor with 10,001+ employees

What users had to say about valuable features:

“The best features Rocky Linux offers, in my experience, are its simplicity, which helps us troubleshoot effectively, along with enhanced security features, security hardening capabilities, and the ability to perform regular patches.

“My organization has seen positive impacts, particularly in security, as it is more secure and scalable. The commands are quite easy to use in the open-source environment, and scaling up or down is simple. Overall, it is more scalable and security-wise, it is good, and after using many commands, I become familiar with them..”

Verified user

Junior IT Infrastructure Engineer at a hospitality company with 1,001-5,000 employees

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“The best feature Rocky Linux offers is compatibility with Red Hat. This compatibility helps me because packages that aren't specifically available to the Rocky Linux repositories are able to be installed as long as the correct binary for the correct corresponding version of Red Hat and Rocky is selected.

Rocky Linux has positively impacted my organization by allowing us to migrate away from CentOS 7 as a result of the end-of-life for that operating system and then the end of CentOS 8, so we were able to move away from it without losing data and without having to rebuild VMs from scratch. The migration process went smoothly, with the main thing that stood out being the exchanging of repository links and the use of purpose-built scripts by our infrastructure and hosting team that took care of the heavy lifting..”

Verified user

System Administrator at a computer software company with 5,001-10,000 employees

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“The best features Rocky Linux offers include being 100% bug compatible compared to RHEL, providing enterprise stability for production workloads, meeting the need for reliability and long-term support, and being managed by the Rocky Enterprise Software Foundation, with its security and compliance features and migration tools making a significant difference for us.

“Rocky Linux performs excellently in low-latency live streaming and content packaging workflows, as we use it for optimizing compatibility with the streaming platforms, utilizing an optimized kernel for networking, tuning profiles, IRQ affinity, security, reliability, and hardware and driver support.

“Rocky Linux has positively impacted our organization; it works reliably and enhances our low-latency streaming workflows for our affiliates, performing well without noticeable glitches in our workflow. Since we started using Rocky Linux, we have drastically reduced low latency, especially across the public network, and we haven't seen much downtime, significantly decreasing downtime for the servers accommodating low live streaming workflows..”

DILIP BHARADWAJ

Senior System Engineer at Al Jazeera Media Network

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“The best features Rocky Linux offers are that it is much easier to use. Since it is open source, whatever issues we face, we can get answers from the community for each and every issue we encounter, so finding a solution for each problem is much easier, and that's the major feature I feel for Rocky Linux.

“When comparing Rocky Linux to Red Hat, it is more stable, as whatever issues arise, we can solve them quickly, and since there is an open community, we receive help from everybody who is using this.

“Rocky Linux has helped our organization significantly in terms of cost. If we were purchasing a Red Hat subscription, it would cost significantly more, but since Rocky Linux is open source and free, it has helped with cost reduction, allowing us to utilize those funds for other needed things.

“When we moved from Red Hat to Rocky Linux, we saved around 70% of the cost which was used for subscriptions. That money is now used for other things such as middleware applications and monitoring applications including DataDog and Dynatrace..”

BasilJiji

System Engineer at a retailer with 10,001+ employees

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“We are using Rocky Linux because it has strong security, compatibility with RHEL, and enterprise-grade stability, which is the main reason for choosing Rocky Linux. The plus point is that they regularly provide security updates and patches, which is very helpful to us.

“Rocky Linux offers strong security and enterprise-grade stability as its best features. These are the two main advantages compared to others.

“Enterprise-grade stability refers to the fact that it uses the RHEL source code, ensuring compatibility, and is suitable for servers, production environments, and critical applications, built to be a reliable, long-term support OS.

“In terms of security, we are getting regular security patches and updates, which is one of the best use cases I've noticed positively impacting Rocky Linux in my organization.

“Day by day, the vulnerabilities are decreasing, and as we have implemented good practices, there is less downtime..”

Verified user

Software Engineer at a comms service provider with 10,001+ employees

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“The best features Rocky Linux offers include not having to escalate privileges all the time, and it is binary compatible with RHEL systems, which means long-term support, making it much more predictable when it comes to updates. It also has a strong focus on enterprise workloads.

“Binary compatibility and long-term support features have made things simpler because you can easily integrate the two systems with your Red Hat kernel. The long-term predictable updates make it a clear choice because I know that whatever I'm implementing now is guaranteed to receive updates in the long term.

“Rocky Linux has positively impacted my organization by making things simpler, especially with not having to escalate privileges all the time using sudo as compared to Ubuntu flavors.

“I've experienced less downtime in terms of having to focus on updates, which improves the security posture. Rocky Linux is compatible with automation tools, including Ansible, whereby we can deploy the infrastructure using code. It easily integrates with other containers and automation tools, making it easier to push updates, particularly security updates, and upgrade packages..”

Bakang Khunou

Server & Cloud Engineer at a tech services company with 1-10 employees

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Other Solutions Considered

“I previously used CentOS, and the reason for the change to Rocky Linux was because of the end-of-life of CentOS 7 and 8 since those distributions were being discontinued and we needed a platform to move to that wasn't going to cost us an arm and a leg for licensing..”

Verified user

System Administrator at a computer software company with 5,001-10,000 employees

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“Previously, we were using CentOS, which reached its end of life, prompting us to switch to Rocky Linux because we found it is an LTS with stability and long-term support..”

Verified user

Software Engineer at a comms service provider with 10,001+ employees

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“I am not sure what solution we previously used before Rocky Linux, as I am new to the organization. I think they might have used VMware, but those were not on Rocky Linux, and the licensing cost was likely higher, which is why we changed to Rocky Linux in the Nutanix environment..”

Verified user

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Junior IT Infrastructure Engineer at a hospitality company with 1,001-5,000 employees

“We checked some enterprise-level OSs such as Debian before choosing Rocky Linux, but we found we were more inclined toward Rocky Linux as it gives LTS support and stability, so we moved to Rocky Linux..”

Verified user

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Software Engineer at a comms service provider with 10,001+ employees

“Before choosing Rocky Linux, we evaluated other options including Ubuntu, Oracle Linux, and a few other flavors, but since Rocky Linux has one-to-one binary compatibility with Red Hat, it was the best fit..”

Verified user

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Technical Manager at a tech vendor with 10,001+ employees

“We studied Rocky Linux through documentation and information on the internet. It's the successor of CentOS, which we used for five to seven years. When CentOS reached end of support, we tried to migrate. We got two alternatives, AlmaLinux and Rocky Linux. Rocky Linux is more similar to CentOS than AlmaLinux. AlmaLinux is based on binary, and we identified some latency when using our application. Two or three servers are working on AlmaLinux currently, and all the rest was migrated to Rocky Linux..”

Walid Alioua

Network Infrastructure Manager at SAGEMCOM

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ROI

Real user quotes about their ROI:

“I have seen a return on investment since there was definitely money saved at the time due to the lack of need for licensing since Rocky is available openly..”

Verified user

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System Administrator at a computer software company with 5,001-10,000 employees

“ROI has been good as we have significant open source community involvement. In fact, we have increased our footprints, allowing us to onboard more resources or employees, which is a positive sign..”

Verified user

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Technical Manager at a tech vendor with 10,001+ employees

“When it comes to return on investment, a lot of money is saved since we moved from a purchased license to the open source provided by Rocky Linux. Time is also saved since whenever an issue arises, we get resolutions from the community without needing to raise a ticket with the support team..”

BasilJiji

System Engineer at a retailer with 10,001+ employees


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“Regarding return on investment, we have chosen the same exact resource that we were using earlier, so there is no immediate return on investment. That needs to be identified if we can cut down our resources with a smaller instance, but that has not yet been figured out.

“I notice money saved as a return on investment..”

Verified user

CloudOps Engineer at a computer software company with 10,001+ employees

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Use Case

“My main use case for Rocky Linux is for the Nutanix environment, where we have a data center and everything is hosted there, including all the services and systems. Rocky Linux is the main OS of the Nutanix, which we use for hosting the servers.

“In the Nutanix environment, Rocky Linux makes security hardening easier because we have guidelines to follow for those processes as per their advice..”

Verified user

Junior IT Infrastructure Engineer at a hospitality company with 1,001-5,000 employees

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“My main use case for Rocky Linux is web hosting.

I have used Rocky Linux to host Drupal websites for my employer.

I don't have anything else to add about my use case or how I use Rocky Linux..”

Verified user

System Administrator at a computer software company with 5,001-10,000 employees

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“My main use case for Rocky Linux is the user-friendly commands and being able to work much easier on the RHEL supported flavor as compared to other flavors whereby you have to ask for escalation when you want to install something or change file permissions or anything of that sort.

“A specific example of how Rocky Linux has made things easier for me is that it has streamlined processes by not requiring privilege escalation all the time. Once I'm logged in as root, I don't have to escalate using sudo, which makes things much easier, especially since it's not a security risk when proper restrictions are set up in the perimeter with SSH and firewall rules and jump host, making it much smoother..”

Bakang Khunou

Server & Cloud Engineer at a tech services company with 1-10 employees

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“For the last two years, I have been using Rocky Linux for our project. I do all the things: installations of Rocky Linux, coding in Rocky Linux, and using Rocky Linux as a platform.

“We use Rocky Linux as a base OS for our project, and on top of Rocky Linux OS, we are building our project. We have chosen Rocky Linux because it supports long-term support.

“We are using Rocky Linux for one of our projects in CommScope, using it as a base OS, and on top of that, we are installing many RPMs and making it customized. We are adding numerous security patches, as Rocky Linux continuously provides security updates and patches, which is one of the best benefits we are getting. We are also using Rocky Linux for high availability purposes, with approximately 11 to 12 server clusters..”

Verified user

Software Engineer at a comms service provider with 10,001+ employees

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“My main use case for Rocky Linux is that all the applications used by our company are hosted in Rocky Linux servers, so we will be maintaining, remediating the vulnerabilities which are getting reported on the servers, patching the servers and making them up to date, and helping all the users who log into servers to use their applications without any issues.

“A specific example of an application where I'm using Rocky Linux in my company is the POS machines which are used by the customers, where all the POS related applications are hosted in Rocky Linux operating system, so that's where Rocky Linux came into the picture, and from the OS level, we will be giving all the support wherever it is necessary.

“The middleware packages such as Apache Tomcat, Java, HTTPD are all running on these Rocky Linux servers, so we ensure all those services are up and running without any issues..”

BasilJiji

System Engineer at a retailer with 10,001+ employees


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“My main use case for Rocky Linux is to use it as an enterprise server OS, providing a production-grade server platform equivalent to RHEL, running critical workloads, ERM, CRM, database servers like PostgreSQL and MySQL, and supporting broadcast and media workflows, where it serves as a stable OS for encoding, transcoding, and streaming platforms like Haivision and other OEM encoders, ensuring predictable performance for low-latency live streaming and content packaging workflows.

“My use case with Rocky Linux also includes web and application hosting, cloud and virtualization, media and streaming workflows, serving as a stable foundation for live encoders, packagers, and CDN nodes; we use it with platforms such as Titan Live, Near-live, Haivision, and Wowza for OTT delivery, high-performance computing, and security-sensitive workloads..”

DILIP BHARADWAJ

Senior System Engineer at Al Jazeera Media Network

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Setup

The setup process involves configuring and preparing the product or service for use, which may include tasks such as installation, account creation, initial configuration, and troubleshooting any issues that may arise. Below you can find real user quotes about the setup process.

“It has been a wonderful experience associating with Rocky Linux, and we would continue to use it full-fledged. I don't see that we have to choose any alternative OS in the near future..”

Verified user

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Technical Manager at a tech vendor with 10,001+ employees

“The initial setup of Rocky Linux is easy. It's well done. For my team, we haven't found any problems in the first initial setup. We work with an image with which we can reconstruct what we need of the virtual component..”

Walid Alioua

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Network Infrastructure Manager at SAGEMCOM

“The product's installation, setup, and deployment are easy to manage.

The solution is deployed on an on-premises model. My company also uses AWS, Ubuntu versions, Amazon Linux versions, and Red Hat, so the images are used by opting for a cloud provider..”

Mahesh Pansare

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Linux Administrator at Magna International

“The setup is straightforward, with minimal manual intervention. Depending on the customer's requirements, it is deployed on cloud-based systems or on-premises hardware.

The deployment typically takes about an hour. Virtual machines can be set up in this timeframe, with additional time needed for specific customer configurations.

I rate the process a nine and a half. .”

Tony Williams

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Managing Director at Midgard IT

“Rocky Linux is a product of CentOS, and I have experience using CentOS as well. I think CentOS and Rocky Linux are similar to each other, with almost all of the features being similar.

“The pricing, setup cost, and licensing for Rocky Linux are favorable because they come bundled with the Nutanix environment, making the costs and licensing cheaper than the VMware environment, which is why we chose the Nutanix environment..”

Verified user

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Junior IT Infrastructure Engineer at a hospitality company with 1,001-5,000 employees

“I decided to migrate those web servers specifically to Rocky Linux instead of another option because I actually tried both distributions, Alma and Rocky Linux, and I believe that the one that was most similar to how we used CentOS was Rocky Linux. This was the best choice after all.

If I recall correctly, I had some problems during the migration process, but it was not with Rocky Linux; it was with AlmaLinux installation. That was one of the main factors as because we had some bugs. Rocky Linux was a very good choice in the end and it is working efficiently..”

Rafael Dina

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IT / IAM Senior Specialist at a tech vendor with 10,001+ employees

Customer Service and Support

“We take customer support from Nutanix, and I think Nutanix support users are familiar with Rocky Linux, so I find the customer support to be very good..”

Verified user

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Junior IT Infrastructure Engineer at a hospitality company with 1,001-5,000 employees

“Rocky Linux is up to the mark; the solutions are really customer-focused and revenue-oriented, and the support level is extraordinary, providing on-time assistance, making it commendable..”

DILIP BHARADWAJ

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Senior System Engineer at Al Jazeera Media Network

“I have not had any experience with customer support so far because I usually research things on my own, and the documentation and community help significantly in those cases..”

Rafael Dina

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IT / IAM Senior Specialist at a tech vendor with 10,001+ employees

“I have not reached out to customer support for Rocky Linux. This has not yet been discussed with my security team, as this is recent, and the security team started checking on this..”

Verified user

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CloudOps Engineer at a computer software company with 10,001+ employees

“Regarding customer support, since it is open source, most of the solutions are available on the community page, but even if we raise a support ticket, we receive a resolution or a reply from the team within two business days.

“I would rate the customer support a seven..”

BasilJiji

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System Engineer at a retailer with 10,001+ employees

“First of all, there is in-house knowledge for handling technical support or community issues.

If I have specific issues that couldn't be resolved by myself, I either contact an outside ICT company with specialized engineers or contact the vendors.

We have not yet needed to contact a vendor regarding Rocky Linux..”

KRISTOF Laenen

[Read full review](#) 

Senior Network Engineer at KLC bvba

Other Advice

“My advice to others looking into using Rocky Linux is they should go for it. There isn't much difference compared to other flavors, and it is much closer to RHEL systems, so whatever commands you would use in your Red Hat, you would use in Rocky Linux. I rate Rocky Linux 8 out of 10..”

Bakang Khunou

Server & Cloud Engineer at a tech services company with 1-10 employees

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“When we encounter an issue, we look all over the internet, not only depending on the community, so whichever solutions provide us with proper resolution are considered.

“My advice to others looking into using Rocky Linux is that it is much easier to use, it's scalable, performance is good, and there is no cost involved in using it.

“I rate Rocky Linux nine out of ten..”

BasilJiji

System Engineer at a retailer with 10,001+ employees

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“If you are looking for a long-term support OS, an LTS, then I recommend choosing Rocky Linux, as they are releasing many patches and updates regarding security.

“Rocky Linux is best for someone who wants good scalability, enterprise-grade

stability, substantial community engagement, compatibility with RHEL, and strong security. I also feel there is good documentation with Rocky Linux, along with providing long-term support, which makes it better to choose Rocky Linux.

“On a scale of one to ten, I rate Rocky Linux a nine out of ten..”

Verified user

Software Engineer at a comms service provider with 10,001+ employees

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“My advice for others looking into using Rocky Linux is to be sure to look at tutorials on how to get started if they are new users to the Red Hat RPMs or if they are unfamiliar with Linux as a whole.

I think it's been a great operating system to use both professionally and personally, and I've been able to adapt Rocky Linux into my WSL environment on my personal computer running [Windows 11](#) and WSL Rocky.

I found out about the interview through LinkedIn.

On a scale of 1-10, I rate Rocky Linux a 10..”

Verified user

System Administrator at a computer software company with 5,001-10,000 employees

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“Rocky Linux has been a ready-to-use solution for us, so we don't need to have vendor dependency or vendor lock for any support or help. The community has been a great help in resolving all issues, and while from a monetary point of view, it has resulted in significant savings, we cannot provide the exact numbers as

some of this is company confidential.

“There is not much need for further improvements at this juncture.

“If you want to get a premium product with the best in-house community support, Rocky Linux would be the one solution.

“On a scale of 1-10, I rate Rocky Linux a 9 out of 10..”

Verified user

Technical Manager at a tech vendor with 10,001+ employees

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“The migration tools have been incredibly helpful; we use migrate2rocky.sh, a primary tool developed by the Rocky Foundation, which automates the conversion process of a compatible system to Rocky Linux, and applies it for log correlation and diagnosis of issues we encounter in our live streaming workflows.

“Rocky Linux has a long-term life cycle for 10 years, being minimal and customizable, with performance tuning tools and an enterprise hardware ecosystem that stand out for our team.

“My advice for others looking into using Rocky Linux is that if any organization is in search of a robust, stable, scalable solution in the broadcast media tech sector, they should definitely assess it, as they will likely achieve the desired results.


“Currently, we are just a broadcaster and not a partner or reseller for Rocky products; however, in the future, we will explore a partnership for a B2B relationship.

“We are currently satisfied with Rocky Linux, but if we encounter issues in the future, we will definitely highlight them.

“I rate Rocky Linux 9 out of 10..”

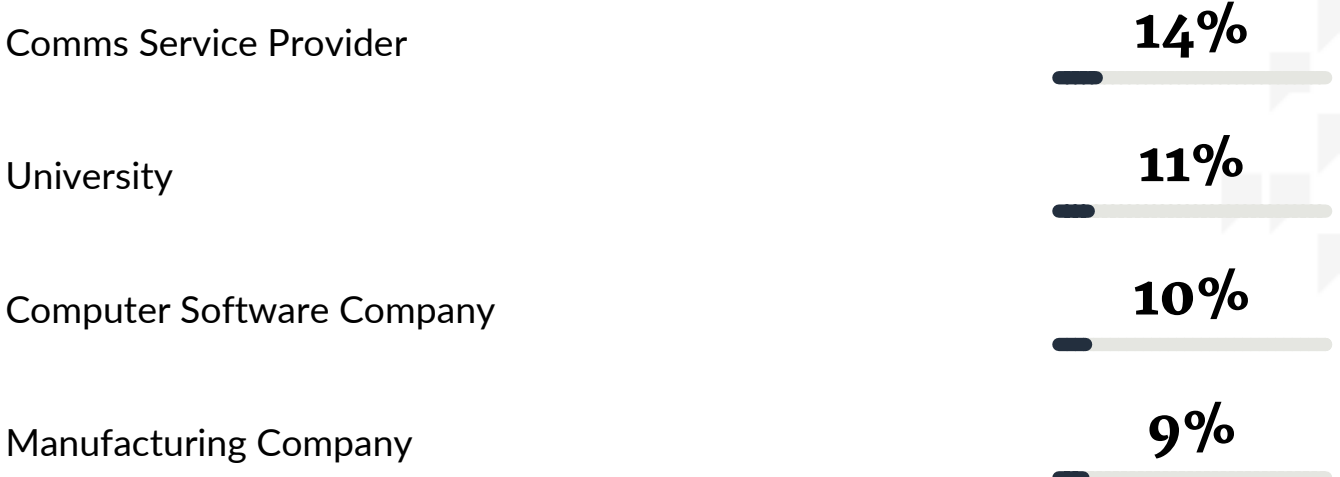
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Senior System Engineer at Al Jazeera Media Network

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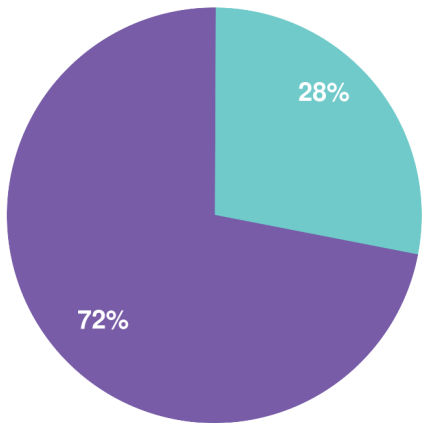
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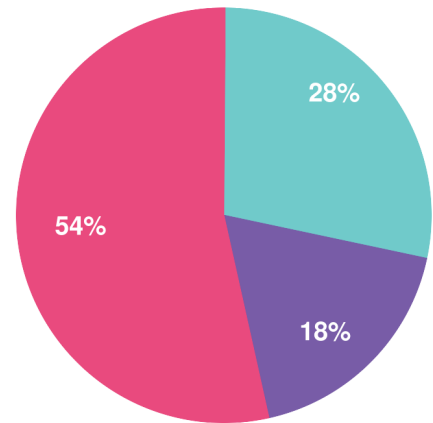


Company Size

by reviewers



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Large Enterprise Midsize Enterprise Small Business

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