IDC research has measured the economic impact of Red Hat Enterprise Linux (RHEL) in three areas:

- Global business revenues touched by RHEL in 2019: $10.7 trillion
- Global business revenues touched by RHEL in 2023: $12.3 trillion
- Local investment in the RHEL ecosystem in 2019: $82 billion
- Local investment in the RHEL ecosystem in 2023: $177 billion

The RHEL ecosystem includes hardware, application software, and third-party distribution running on or supporting RHEL. The footprint is driven by the size and reach of the ecosystem whose products and services sit on RHEL. The economic benefit of using Red Hat Enterprise Linux (RHEL) in three areas:

1. **Increased revenue:**
   - 18% of RHEL’s footprint comes from IT infrastructure (including web, VDI, security).
   - 24% of RHEL’s footprint comes from CRM.
   - 28% of RHEL’s impact comes from ERM & Production workloads.

2. **Reduced costs:**
   - 16% of RHEL’s footprint comes from CRM.
   - 15% of RHEL’s footprint comes from ERM & Production workloads.
   - 33% of RHEL’s footprint comes from other workloads.

3. **Increased IT staff productivity:**
   - 15% of RHEL’s footprint comes from CRM.
   - 13% of RHEL’s footprint comes from ERM & Production workloads.
   - 33% of RHEL’s footprint comes from other workloads.

The Size and Reach of the Red Hat Enterprise Linux (RHEL) ecosystem, powered 1.7 million IT professionals who work on Red Hat-enabled systems for a total of 2.6 million in 2018.

For every revenue dollar made by Red Hat in 2019, the total ecosystem revenue in 2019 was $80 billion-plus, more than Red Hat’s corporate revenue. Overall – the RHEL ecosystem is 20x larger than Red Hat's footprint from both business and consumer economists.

The economic benefit of using Red Hat Enterprise Linux (RHEL) alone:

- 2018: $549 billion
- 2019: $578 billion
- 2020: $634 billion
- 2021: $676 billion
- 2022: $729 billion
- 2023: $778 billion

By 2023, net new ecosystem revenues will total $21.74 trillion, an increase in revenues from using RHEL, a decrease in expenses, or an increase in employee productivity.

For the full story, download the IDC white paper, "The Economic Impact of Red Hat Enterprise Linux: The Trillion-Dollar Impact of Yes, Trillions of Dollars," sponsored by Red Hat.

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