

# Five Nines

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**Five Nines** is the term used for describing the [availability](#) of a computer or a service at 99.999 percent of the time it is required. In other words, the system or service is only unavailable for 5.39 minutes throughout the year for planned or unplanned [downtime](#). Five nines is recommended and required for [mission-critical](#) requirements and for certain areas such as e-commerce. However, five nines availability has always been a challenge for a service or network and is often impossible to guarantee.

Table 1: Five nines in terms of availability

Number of Nines	percent	Availability Per Year
<b>1</b>	<b>9%</b>	332+ days of downtime per year
<b>2</b>	<b>99%</b>	3 days, 15 hours and 40 minutes downtime per year
<b>3</b>	<b>99.9%</b>	8 hours, 46 minutes downtime per year
<b>4</b>	<b>99.99%</b>	52 minutes, 36 seconds downtime per year
<b>5</b>	<b>99.999%</b>	5 minutes, 15 seconds or less of downtime in a year

Source: [Five Nines](#)

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Last update: **2021/10/04 13:40**

