

Global AI Data Center Switch Market: Analysis By Type (InfiniBand & Ethernet), By Enterprise Size (Large Enterprises & Small & Medium Enterprises (SMEs), By Region, Size and Trends with Impact of COVID-19 and Forecast up to 2029

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Abstracts

The integration of AI into data centers revolutionizes data transmission, storage, and processing. AI applications, with their data and compute intensive workloads distributed across multiple servers and processors, create a high-density data flow within data centers, posing networking bottlenecks and inefficiencies, necessitating upgrades in switch protocols, bandwidth, and software. Traditional centers adapt swiftly to meet AI application demands, birthing AI Data Center Switches. These advanced switches, designed for AI workloads, prioritize fast connectivity, minimal latency, and precise data processing. The surge in AI adoption fuels unprecedented demand for these switches. Enterprises and cloud providers rush to enhance networking capacity to match AI-driven workload needs. AI Data Center Switches become vital in modern data infrastructure, driving innovation and efficiency in AI computing. This dynamic landscape underscores their critical role in the ever-evolving realm of AI-enabled computing. The global AI data center switch market was valued at US\$2.78 billion in 2023, and is expected to be worth US\$19.38 billion in 2029.

In the rapidly evolving landscape of AI data center switches, several trends are poised to shape the market. One significant trend is the increasing demand for AI-driven automation and optimization capabilities to manage the growing complexity of data center networks efficiently. AI-powered switches are expected to offer more advanced features such as predictive analytics, self-learning algorithms, and automated network optimization, enabling data center operators to streamline operations and improve performance. Moreover, there's a rising focus on enhancing network bandwidth and

speed to support the burgeoning data traffic generated by emerging technologies like 5G, IoT, and AI applications. Ethernet switches with bandwidths of 600+ gigabits per second (Gbps) are gaining traction as they provide the necessary throughput to handle large volumes of data with low latency, facilitating smooth and reliable data center operations. The global AI data center switch market is expected to grow at a CAGR of 38.23% over the years 2024-2029.

Market Segmentation Analysis:

By Type: The report identifies two segments on the basis of type: InfiniBand and Ethernet. Over time InfiniBand switches have enjoyed widespread adoption due to their swift and effective communication pathways between AI data center switches and storage systems. However, the Ethernet switches are gaining significant traction in the AI data center networking market and are expected to become the dominant technology. Cloud service providers are increasingly considering Ethernet, particularly RDMA over Converged Ethernet (RoCE), as a substitute for InfiniBand due to factors like economies of scale, a broader supplier base, and interoperability. InfiniBand and Ethernet are both expected to be utilized in the back-end, with the choice influenced by customer and vendor preferences. The ongoing debate between InfiniBand and Ethernet for AI deployments is expected to persist, with valid arguments on both sides such as performance versus economies of scale. However, it's noteworthy that the deployment of high-bandwidth Ethernet data center switches is projected to grow at a double-digit rate regardless of AI deployments.

By Enterprise Size: The global AI data center switch market by enterprise size can broadly be divided into two segments namely, large enterprises and small & medium enterprises (SMEs). Large enterprises accounted for the highest share in the AI data center switch segment. Large enterprises typically comprise established organizations with extensive infrastructure requirements and complex networking needs. They often operate multiple data centers or large-scale cloud environments to support their operations. Factors driving the growth of AI data center switches in large enterprises include the need for high-performance, scalable, and resilient network infrastructure to handle massive data volumes, diverse workloads, and demanding applications. Simultaneously, small & medium enterprises segment is anticipated to exhibit the fastest CAGR during the forecasted period.

By Region: In the report, the global AI data center switch market is divided into four regions: North America, Europe, Asia Pacific, and ROW. North America remains a powerhouse in the global AI data center switch market, driven by a mature technology

landscape, substantial investments, and a concentration of leading tech companies. The US, with Silicon Valley at its core, is a major influencer in AI data center switch development and adoption. The competitive nature of industries in North America, especially in areas like e-commerce, social media, and autonomous vehicles, intensifies the need for cutting-edge AI infrastructure. The synergy of 5G, IIoT, and advanced technologies within the expansive cloud ecosystem in the region not only signifies a technological evolution but also underscores the pivotal role of cloud services in shaping the future landscape of the AI data center switch market in the country.

Asia Pacific region is expected to grow at the fastest CAGR during the forecasted period. The demand and adoption of the cloud in the Asia Pacific are forecasted to exceed the rest of the world, as the effects of COVID-19 linger and businesses look to lay a foundation for increased agility and resilience. There is a steady increase in the percentage of IT spending that is devoted to the cloud. The AI data center switch market would witness rapid growth in the forecasted period, spurred by a rise in cloud computing usage by companies. The Asia Pacific (APAC) region stands out as a significant driver of the global AI data center switch market, characterized by a dynamic and rapidly expanding tech landscape. China, with its ambitious AI development plans, is a major contributor to the growth, leveraging AI data center switches in applications ranging from smart manufacturing to facial recognition systems. The country's focus on becoming a global AI leader is reflected in the substantial investments in AI research and development. The Chinese government has launched a three-year plan for the data center industry that requires new facilities to have a PUE (power usage effectiveness) of 1.3 and a utilization rate of 60% by the end of 2023. In addition, nations throughout the region are deploying ARM-based services. These factors generate demand for AI data center switches, likely stimulating market expansion.

Market Dynamics:

Growth Drivers: The market has been growing over the past few years, due to factors such as increasing adoption of AI and machine learning (ML), favorable government regulations, GPU acceleration, surge in data generation, demand for high-performance computing and need for scalability and flexibility. The surge in AI and machine learning (ML) tech adoption fuels growth in the AI data center switch market. Organizations leverage AI and ML to analyze vast data for insights, driving demand for high-performance computing infrastructure. AI data center switches enable seamless integration of AI applications, providing low-latency, high-bandwidth connectivity for massive data transfer. Offering features like deep packet inspection and traffic prioritization, they optimize network performance. With AI and ML initiatives expanding

across sectors like healthcare and finance, the market anticipates substantial growth ahead.

Challenges: However, some challenges are also impeding the growth of the market such as lack of advanced data center infrastructure and high upfront investment required for deploying AI-enabled switches. The AI data center switch market faces a significant hurdle due to outdated infrastructure. Traditional architectures lack the scalability, agility, and intelligence needed for AI workloads. This leads to performance bottlenecks and latency issues as conventional switches struggle with the vast data volumes. Legacy setups may not seamlessly integrate with AI-driven technologies like intent-based networking and advanced security measures. This mismatch hinders AI switch adoption, forcing organizations to choose between costly upgrades or compromising AI deployment efficiency.

Trends: The market is projected to grow at a fast pace during the forecast period, due to various latest trends such as edge computing and distributed AI, rising cloud adoption, increasing bandwidth size, increasing adoption of intent-based networking (IBN), programmable switching fabrics, rise of new generative AI applications, sustainability and green data centers and increasing focus on energy efficiency. Edge computing entails deploying computational power closer to data sources, slashing latency and enabling real-time decisions at the network edge. This shift demands AI data center switches adept at managing data flows between edge devices and centralized repositories, ensuring smooth connectivity and resource use. Distributed AI models, spreading tasks across edge devices and data centers, rely on intelligent networking for effective communication. AI switches are pivotal in enabling edge computing and distributed AI, furnishing connectivity, scalability, and security. This convergence fuels demand for flexible networking tech, optimizing performance and integrating with cloud AI seamlessly.

Impact Analysis of COVID-19 and Way Forward:

The COVID-19 pandemic profoundly altered the global AI data center switch market, presenting both challenges and opportunities. Supply chain disruptions and manufacturing delays impacted hardware production, causing shortages and price hikes for AI data center switches. Meanwhile, the pandemic spurred demand for cloud services, remote work solutions, and digital transformation, increasing the need for robust switches. With AI's expanding role in sectors like healthcare and finance, enhancing data center capabilities became a priority. Furthermore, the rise of edge computing and 5G networks escalated demand for switches to manage edge-generated

data.

Competitive Landscape:

The AI data center switch market is dominated by three major players, holding approximately 90% of the market share. These leaders utilize their expertise in networking technologies, AI algorithms, and software-defined networking (SDN) to create advanced AI-powered switches with improved performance, automation, and security features. Strategic partnerships, acquisitions, and investments play a significant role in shaping the competitive landscape, facilitating product portfolio expansion, innovation acceleration, and market presence reinforcement.

The key players of the global AI data center switch market are:

Nvidia Corporation

Cisco Systems, Inc.

Hewlett Packard Enterprise Company

Dell Technologies Inc.

Huawei Investment & Holding Co. Ltd.

Broadcom Inc.

Arista Networks, Inc.

Juniper Networks, Inc.

Celestica Inc.

Marvell Technology, Inc.

Quanta Computer Inc. (Quanta Cloud Technology (QCT))

Currently, the datacenter switching market is engaged in a debate over the dominant technology protocol, with InfiniBand, proprietary to Nvidia, challenging Ethernet by promising significant cost savings at scale. While InfiniBand currently leads, Arista and Ethernet are poised to benefit, albeit with some delay. Additionally, Cisco and HPE are positioned to gain traction as AI adoption expands beyond large cloud environments. Arista's strength in Ethernet and Nvidia's dominance in InfiniBand, along with commendable offerings from Cisco, HPE, and Ethernet, present promising opportunities for growth in the Ethernet-based AI switch market.

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