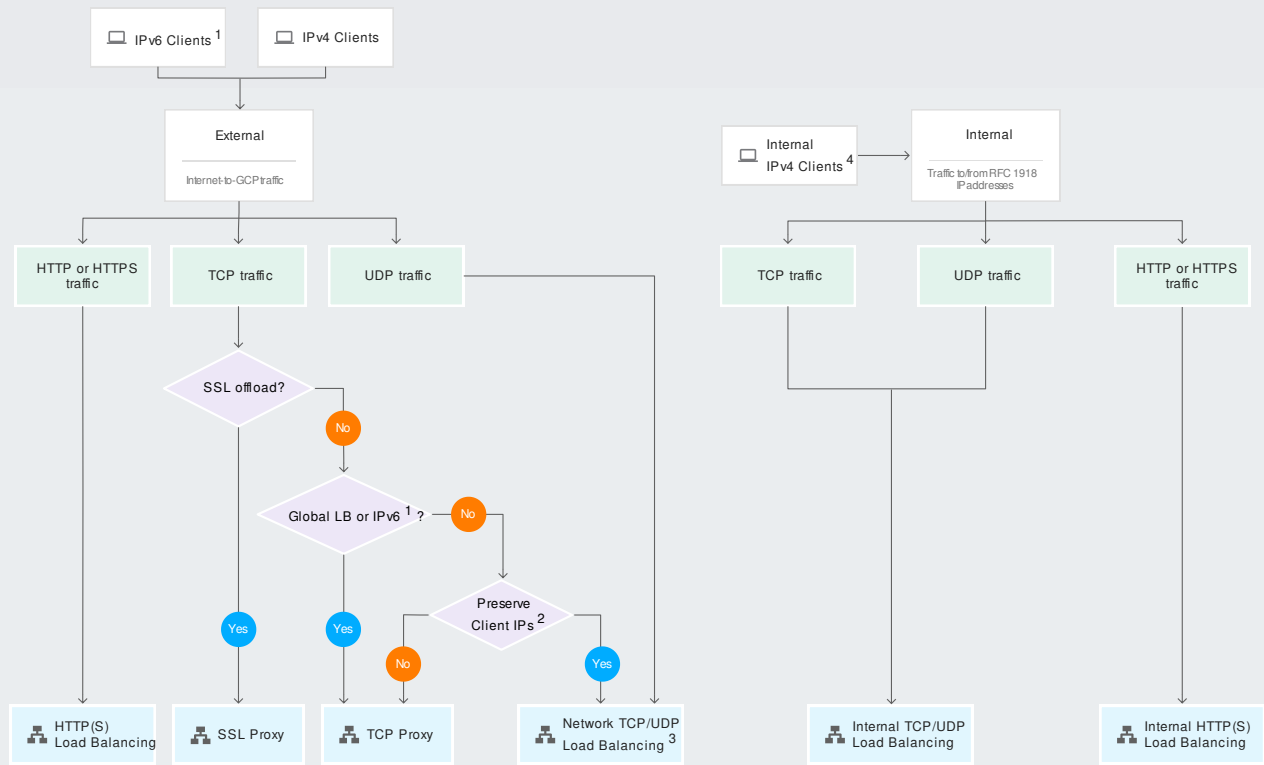

This document helps you determine which Google Cloud load balancer best meets your needs.

To decide which load balancer best suits your implementation of Google Cloud, consider the following aspects of Cloud Load Balancing:

- Global versus regional load balancing
- External versus internal load balancing
- Traffic type

For more information about these aspects, see [Load balancing overview](/load-balancing/docs/load-balancing-overview) (/load-balancing/docs/load-balancing-overview).

After you determine whether you need global or regional load balancing, external or internal load balancing, and what traffic type your load balancers must handle, use the following flow chart to determine which load balancers are available for your client, protocol, and network configuration.



Google Cloud Platform

¹ IPv6 clients are supported for TCP traffic if you configure the load balancer in Premium Tier. IPv6 clients aren't supported for UDP traffic.
² Another reason to choose Network TCP/UDP Load Balancing is if you need to ensure that the load balancer is located in a particular region.
³ Network TCP/UDP load balancers use regional external IP addresses that are accessible by clients anywhere.
⁴ Clients in a VPC network or in a network connected to a VPC network.

(/load-balancing/images/choose-lb.svg)

Flow chart for choosing a load balancer (click to enlarge)

The external HTTP(S) load balancer and SSL proxy load balancer terminate Transport Layer Security (TLS) in locations that are distributed globally, so as to minimize latency between clients and the load balancer. If you require geographic control over where TLS is terminated, you should use [Network Load Balancing](/load-balancing/docs/network/) instead, and terminate TLS on backends that are located in regions appropriate to your needs.

The following table provides some specific information about each load balancer.

Load balancer type	Traffic type	Preserve Client IP	Global or regional	Load balancing scheme	Load balancer destination ports	Proxy or pass-through
External HTTP(S)	HTTP or HTTPS	No	Global*	EXTERNAL	HTTP on 80 or 8080; HTTPS on 443	Proxy
Internal HTTP(S)	HTTP or HTTPS	No	Regional	INTERNAL_MANAGED	HTTP on 80 or 8080; HTTPS on 443	Proxy
SSL Proxy	TCP with SSL offload	No	Global*	EXTERNAL	25, 43, 110, 143, 195, 443, 465, 587, 700, 993, 995, 1883, 5222	Proxy
TCP Proxy	TCP without SSL offload	No	Global*	EXTERNAL	25, 43, 110, 143, 195, 443, 465, 587, 700, 993, 995, 1883, 5222	Proxy
External Network TCP/UDP	TCP or UDP	Yes	Regional	EXTERNAL	Any	Pass-through
Internal TCP/UDP	TCP or UDP	Yes	Regional	INTERNAL	Any	Pass-through

*Global in Premium Tier. Regional in Standard Tier.

- To select the appropriate load balancer based on your application needs, see [Load balancer features](/load-balancing/docs/features/) (/load-balancing/docs/features).