

The Top 3 Cybersecurity Projects to Prioritize for Risk Reduction and Resilience

Gartner®

# CIO Edge

Strengthen your influence and impact

Between resource constraints from shifting tariffs, staffing shortages, and a dizzying array of new AI-driven technologies, you and your team have your hands full prioritizing and executing the right cybersecurity strategies. Our first piece of advice: Start with initiatives that align with the organization's broader objectives.

100%

...of storage products will include cyberstorage capabilities focused on active defense beyond recovery by 2029, up from 20% in early 2024.

[Read More ↗](#)

"Security teams facing challenges in prioritizing investments among technology, personnel, and processes need to focus on projects that will most effectively reduce organizational risk and increase resilience."

**Wayne Hankins**

Sr. Director Advisor, Gartner

## Reduce risk and increase resilience

The pressure for your cybersecurity team continues to intensify. Prioritize these three 12-month projects:

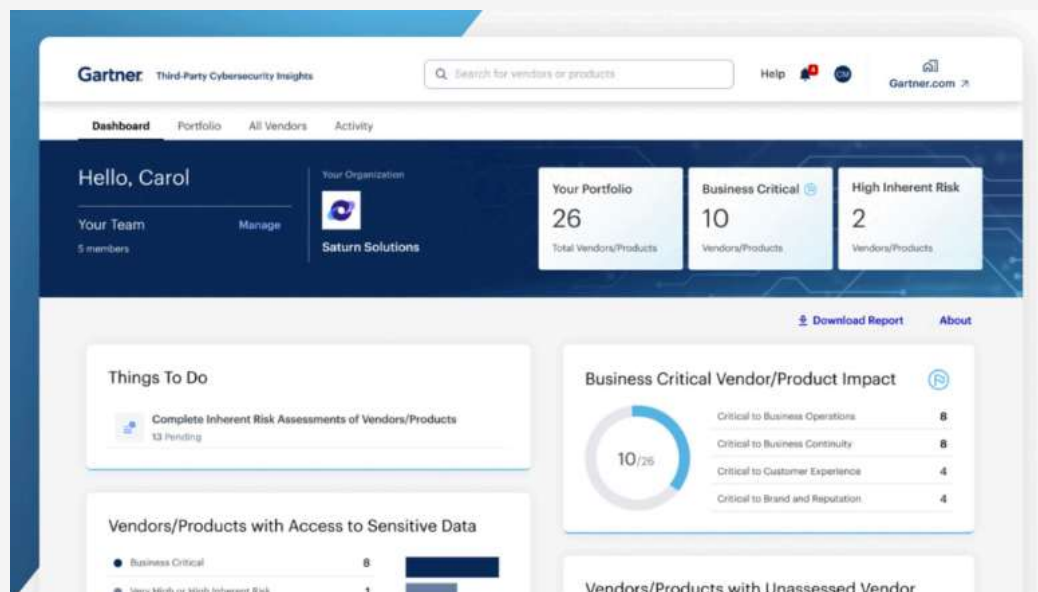
1. *Embed cybersecurity considerations into Gen AI governance* - with short, medium, and long-term goals to create policy, monitor for compliance, and address future gaps.
2. *Prepare unstructured data for Gen AI adoption* - by implementing a data governance program that reduces risk, ensures compliance, and maintains transparency.
3. *Use cyberstorage to enhance data cybersecurity layers* - rather than focusing on just network and endpoint security.

**[Prioritize the right cybersecurity initiatives.](#)**

## Assess and act on third-party cyber risk

Today's cybersecurity risks are not limited to those found within your organization. Understanding potential threats from third-party vendors is critical. **The Gartner Third-Party Cybersecurity Insights platform** allows you to explore, assess, and take action.

- **Explore** - Use expert research, peer perspectives, vendor-supplied data, and industry updates to understand your vendor's cybersecurity profile.
- **Assess** - Run quick inherent risk assessments to identify high-risk vendors.
- **Take action** - Streamline your vendor questionnaire process, track incidents on critical vendors, and align on action plans across the IT team.



**Make more informed vendor risk decisions.**

## What's top of mind?



Wayne Hankins is a Senior Director Advisor who works with high-performing CIOs and their teams. Here's what CIOs are asking him:

**Q: How should CIOs and their security teams integrate cybersecurity considerations into how they govern GenAI adoption?**

**A:** Determine the most effective way to influence the organization by creating short, medium, and long-term goals for defining and implementing GenAI governance:

1. **Short term:** Augment existing governance artifacts to include GenAI guidance; create GenAI policy, standards, procedures, and usage guidelines to cover security issues unique to GenAI.
2. **Medium term:** Monitor for compliance; identify governance deficiencies.
3. **Long term:** Improve governance by collaborating with business leaders to address gaps produced by evolving GenAI adoption and deployment models.

## Strengthen zero trust data strategies

As security threats evolve, protecting data requires more than traditional zero trust approaches. [This Gartner security webinar](#) for security architects and technical professionals reveals how to shift to a data-centric zero trust strategy that safeguards your organization's most valuable asset. In this session, you'll learn how to:

- Understand zero trust fundamentals & what it means for your security posture
- Implement the zero trust data pillar to enhance data protection
- Apply practical strategies to strengthen data security in today's digital landscape

[Watch Here ↗](#)

### Now on Gartner Peer Community™:

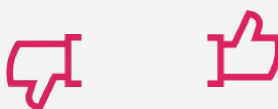
How can CISOs influence (or perhaps even contribute to) the business's AI adoption strategy?

Join timely peer discussions around this topic and others on Gartner Peer Community™. Powered by 100,000+ members, this exclusive network of leaders and executives provides peer connections, conversations and actionable advice.

[Join the Conversation ↗](#)

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