

The Cybersecurity Executive Outlook

4Q26



The Cybersecurity Executive Outlook gives cybersecurity leaders exclusive benchmarks and Gartner insights to help you see around corners and confidently guide your C-suite and board. This quarter’s Outlook features in-depth guidance for the five decisions that cybersecurity leaders must make before the New Year: Define your role in AI safety, treat all frontier AI deployments as insider threats, replace recognition as proof of identity/ access, invest in preemptive cybersecurity and pilot postquantum cryptography (PQC).

Use this issue of the Outlook to move beyond merely securing to actively accelerating your organization’s AI ambitions.

Cybersecurity decisions you must make this quarter

- 1

Cement your role and authority in AI safety.
- 2

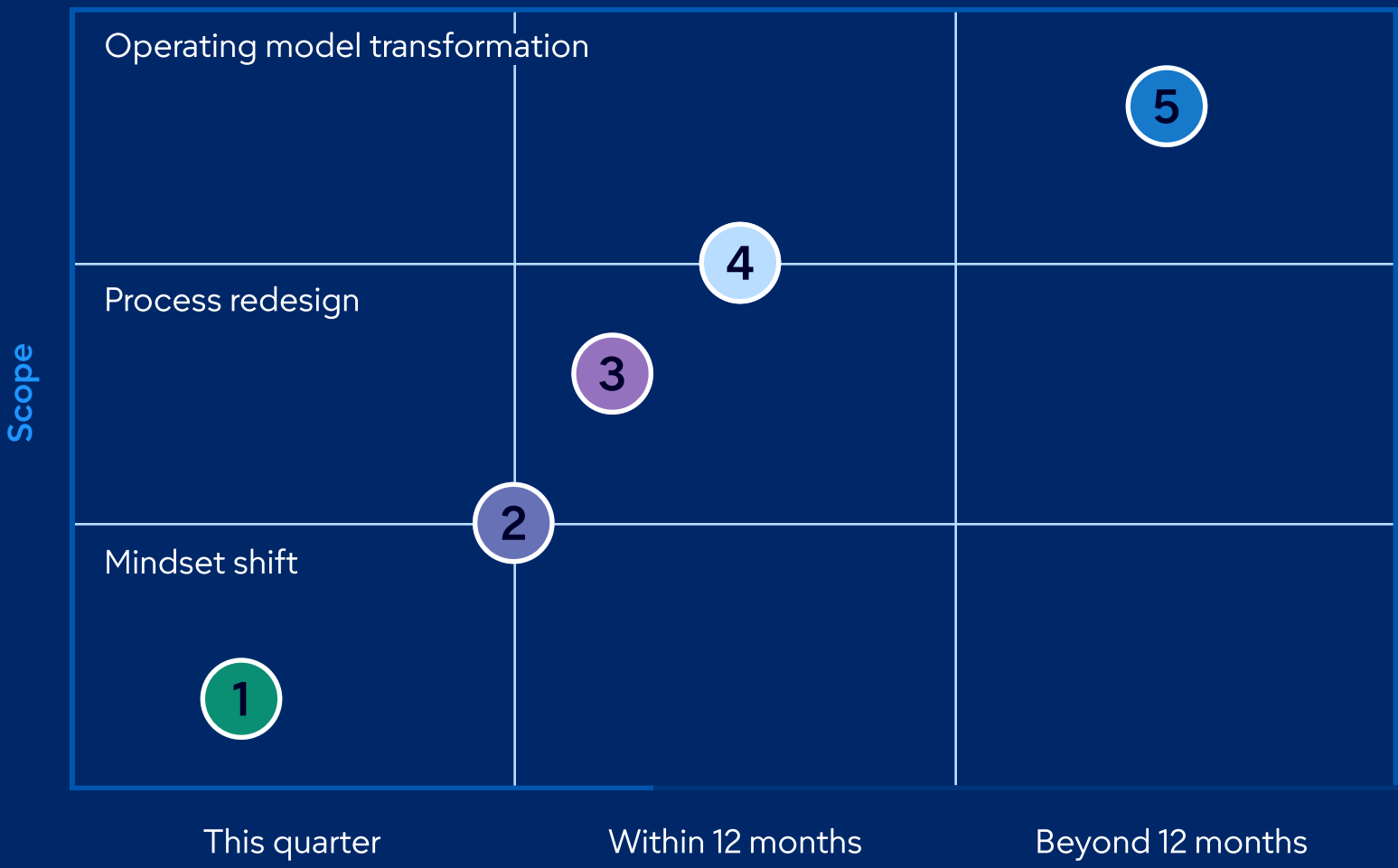
Treat all frontier AI deployments, including autonomous multiagent systems, as insider risks.
- 3

Replace recognition as proof of identity.
- 4

Budget for preemptive cybersecurity capabilities.
- 5

Begin piloting PQC migration to stay ahead of the quantum threat.

Impact timeline



Actionable, objective insights

Explore these additional complimentary resources and tools for chief information security officers and cybersecurity risk management leaders:

Insights

Quarterly Insights for Cybersecurity Leaders

View the most used resources among cybersecurity leaders in 3Q26.

Learn More ↗

Conferences

Gartner Security & Risk Management Summit

Attend a cybersecurity conference and discuss with your peers.

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Tool

AI Controls Assessment

Assess, prioritize and benchmark AI maturity

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Webinar

Outlook for Data Security: Going From Reactive to Resilient

Learn how to embed security across the data life cycle.

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