Gartner IT Score for Security & Risk Management

Sample report excerpt

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Meet Gartner IT Score for Security & Risk Management

## Introduction to Gartner IT Score for Security & Risk Management

Functional leaders use Gartner IT Score for Security & Risk Management to measure the maturity of their function in key activities, prioritize areas of improvement and plot the function's path to improvement. This is an excerpt from a full report, which provides detail on a wide range of functional activities. Gartner IT Score for Security & Risk Management covers **30** functional activities across **7** functional objectives.

Here's how it works

1. **Measure the performance of the function in terms of:**

   - **Maturity.** We ask a series of yes/no questions about how your function approaches and executes each one of a range of key activities and objectives specific to your function.

   - **Importance.** We ask you to indicate how important each of those activities is for your function to meet its enterprise objectives.
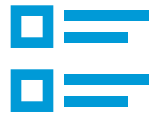
2. **Prioritize.**

   - **See your maturity levels at a glance.** On a simple bar graph, we plot the maturity level of each activity and its importance — and you get your first glimpse of where maturity and importance aren't aligned. For example, your function may be highly mature in activities that aren't very important to driving business priorities or highly immature in activities that are.

   - **See your priorities in rank order,** based on those gaps between maturity and importance. Immediately you can see what should be your highest priorities for improvement if your function is to drive business goals effectively. You also see which activities need less attention.

3. **Improve.** We provide you with steps to take on your path to improvement in whatever activities the data shows to be the biggest significant opportunities for improvement.

   - **"A Pathway to Maturity"** lists action steps required to reach the next level in each specific activity.

   - **Recommended related resources** provide associated insights. In some cases, a Gartner advisor delivers the report and helps with prioritization and action planning.

Read on for more insights and recommendations you might receive on an individual activity. A complete report shows you the current status and improvement path for all activities and objectives in your function.

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How mature are your functional activities?

Gartner IT Score for Security & Risk Management benchmarks your self-assessment to provide you with a current maturity score by activity.

Engage and Support Stakeholders 2+	Manage the Function 3-	Assess and Manage Risk 3-	Protect the Infrastructure 2	Manage Operations 3-	Deliver Assurance 3-	Manage People and Workforce Strategy 3-
Interact with CEO and Board 2+	Develop Strategy 3	Define and Conduct Risk Assessments 3	Secure Network Edges 2	Discover and Remediate Vulnerabilities 3	Support Privacy 2+	Conduct Workforce Planning 2+
Foster Collaborative Risk Relationships 3	Plan Budget 2+	Develop Controls 3	Secure the Endpoints 3-	Manage Security Events 3	Manage Compliance 3	Recruit Talent 2+
Enable Business Decisions 2+	Organize Structure 3	Manage Third-Party Risk 2+	Secure Applications 2	Respond to Security Incidents 2+	Support Audit 2+	Develop Skills 3
Drive Ownership and Accountability 2+	Design Architecture 2+	Monitor Risks 2+	Secure Data 2	Identify and Track Threats 3+	Assess Digital Transformation 3	Manage Behavior and Culture 3
	Manage Policy 3-					
	Measure Performance 3					

Legend:
- High Maturity
- Medium Maturity
- Low Maturity
- Not Assessed

n = 2

Maturity: Measured on a scale ranging from 1 (Low) to 5 (High), maturity measures how advanced an organization's development is in a functional activity relative to Gartner's best practice research. Maturity scores are refined with a (+) or (-) to indicate intermediate levels of maturity.
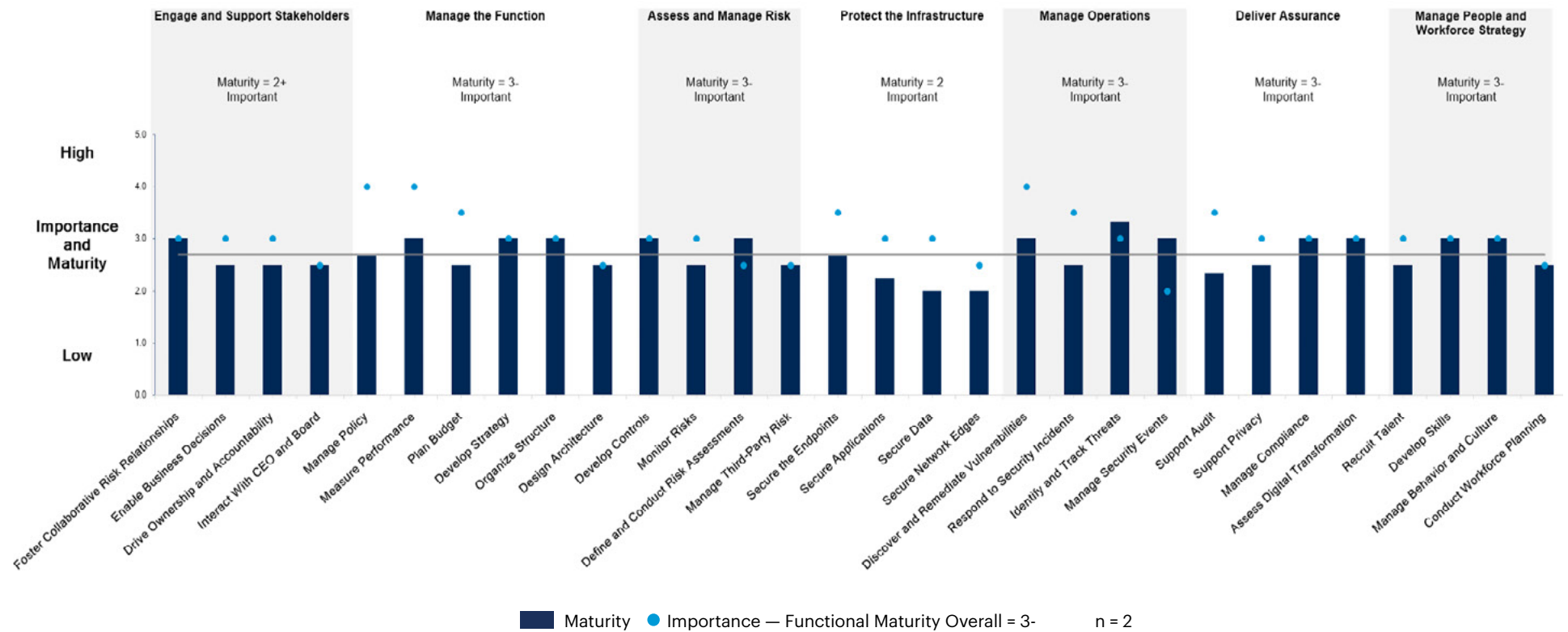
The set of activities as mapped here is subject to change.

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How do maturity and importance compare?

Gartner IT Score for Security & Risk Management plots your benchmarked maturity score against the importance you assign to that activity in terms of its criticality for your function to meet enterprise business objectives.

Engage and Support Stakeholders	Manage the Function	Assess and Manage Risk	Protect the Infrastructure	Manage Operations	Deliver Assurance	Manage People and Workforce Strategy
Maturity = 2+ Important	Maturity = 3- Important	Maturity = 3- Important	Maturity = 2 Important	Maturity = 3- Important	Maturity = 3- Important	Maturity = 3- Important

High

Importance and Maturity

Low

5.0
4.0
3.0
2.0
1.0
0.0

Foster Collaborative Risk Relationships, Enable Business Decisions, Drive Ownership and Accountability, Interact With CEO and Board, Manage Policy, Measure Performance, Plan Budget, Develop Strategy, Organize Structure, Design Architecture, Develop Controls, Monitor Risks, Define and Conduct Risk Assessments, Manage Third-Party Risk, Secure the Endpoints, Secure Applications, Secure Data, Secure Network Edges, Discover and Remediate Vulnerabilities, Respond to Security Incidents, Identify and Track Threats, Manage Security Events, Support Audit, Support Privacy, Manage Compliance, Assess Digital Transformation, Recruit Talent, Develop Skills, Manage Behavior and Culture, Conduct Workforce Planning

■ Maturity   ● Importance — Functional Maturity Overall = 3-   n = 2

Select Findings

Lowest Maturity
- Secure Data
- Secure Network Edges
- Secure Applications
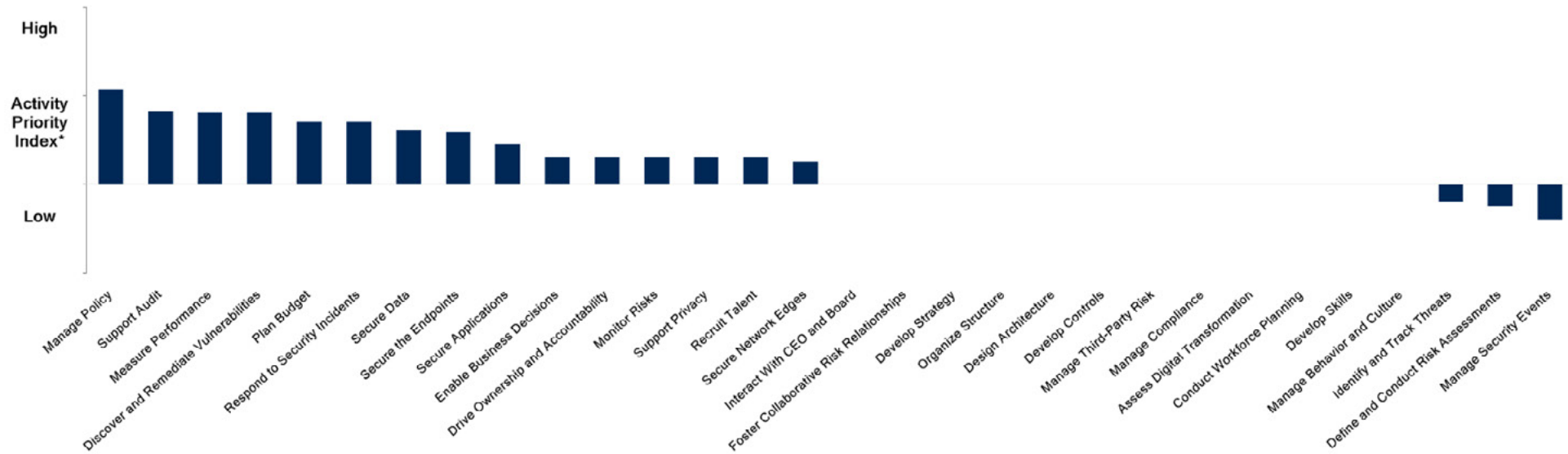- Suppport Audit

Highest Importance
- Manage Policy
- Measure Performance
- Discover and Remediate Vulnerabilities
- Plan Budget

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What are the high-priority areas for your function?

Gartner IT Score for Security & Risk Management rank-orders your improvement priorities, based on the gap between maturity and importance. The Activity Priority Index (API) identifies where the function is less mature in activities of greater importance. A higher API score indicates a greater priority to the organization.

The Activity Priority Index identifies where the function is less mature in activities of greater importance.

n = 2

Highest Priority

- Manage Policy
- Support Audit
- Measure Performance and More Activities

Lowest Priority

- Manage Security Events
- Define and Conduct Risk Assessments
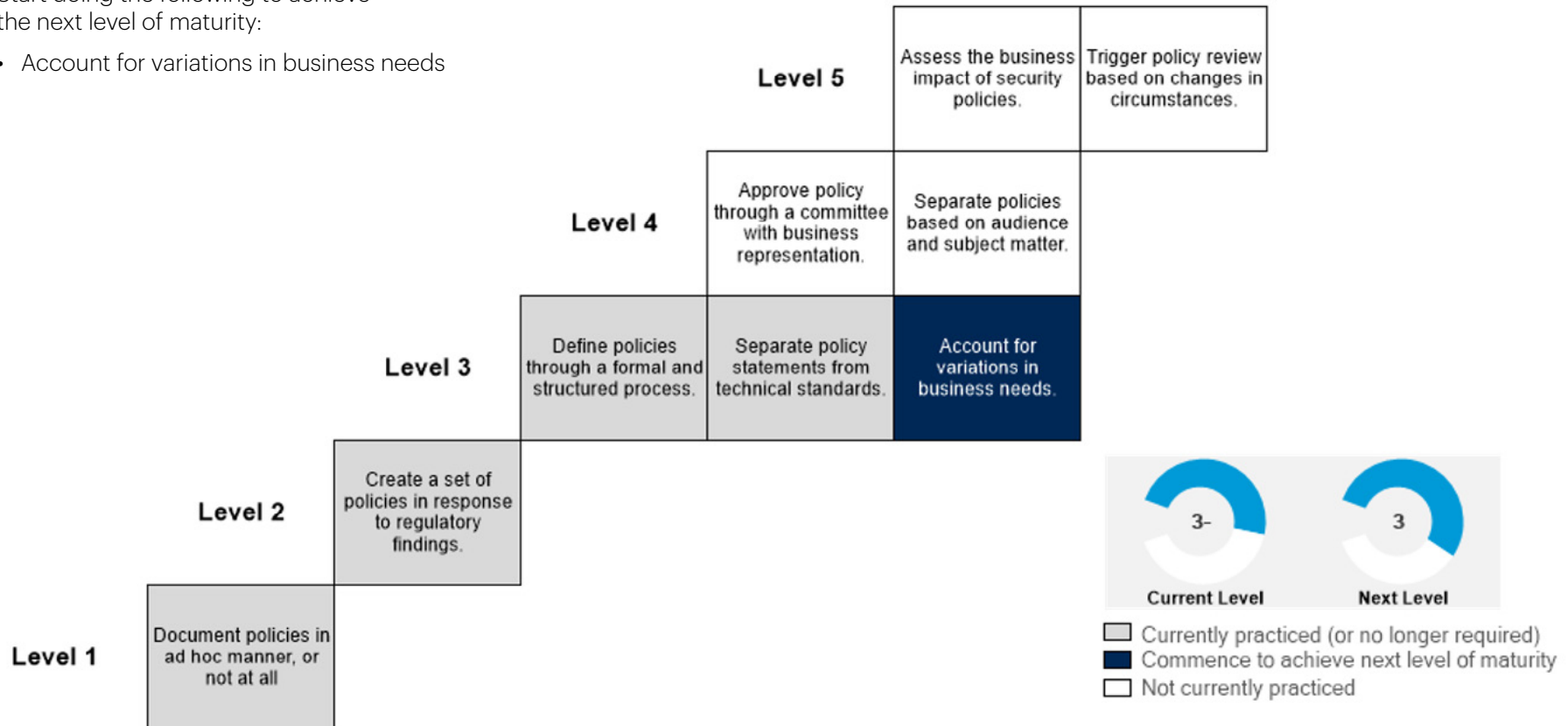- Identify and Track Threats

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High-priority area: Manage Policy

How the SRM function structures and documents a policy program to ensure business requirements are met

Path to Maturity

Start doing the following to achieve the next level of maturity:

- Account for variations in business needs

			Assess the business impact of security policies.	Trigger policy review based on changes in circumstances.
Level 5				
		Approve policy through a committee with business representation.	Separate policies based on audience and subject matter.	
Level 4				
	Define policies through a formal and structured process.	Separate policy statements from technical standards.	Account for variations in business needs.	
Level 3				
Create a set of policies in response to regulatory findings.				
Level 2				
Document policies in ad hoc manner, or not at all				
Level 1				

3– Current Level   **3** Next Level

☐ Currently practiced (or no longer required)
■ Commence to achieve next level of maturity
☐ Not currently practiced

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Manage Policy

Sample recommended resources

Featured resources

Information Security Policy Library
Download and use security policies based on peer practice.

Foundational practices

Ignition Guide to Drafting Information Risk Appetite Statements
Align policies with a commonly understood risk appetite statement to ensure risk mitigation efforts are in the company's best interests.

Progressive practices

IDEXX's Power User-Led Policy Development
Incorporate feedback from power users within the company in order to tune and update policies in line with how work is changing.

Usable Policy for Decision Makers (SRI International)
SRI's security and risk management leaders rethink information security policies as a tool to enable independent, informed risk decision making across the enterprise. To achieve this, SRI collects and implements real-time user feedback to make policies, standards and guidelines more usable.

Note: Some documents may not be available as part of your current Gartner subscription.

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