

Strengthening Cybersecurity Amidst Budget Cuts And Uncertainty

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AREAS OF PRIORITIZATION TO STRENGTHEN CYBERSECURITY

Under current budget constraints, cybersecurity leaders seek to strengthen the following:



55%
Threat detection



53%
Incident response



50%
Network infrastructure modernization



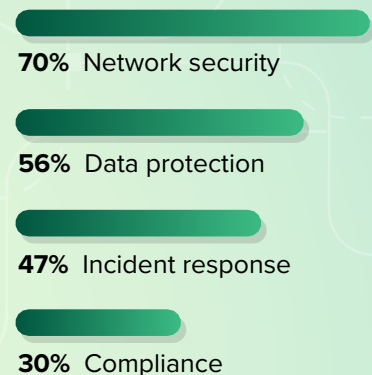
49%
Process automation



48%
Managed services

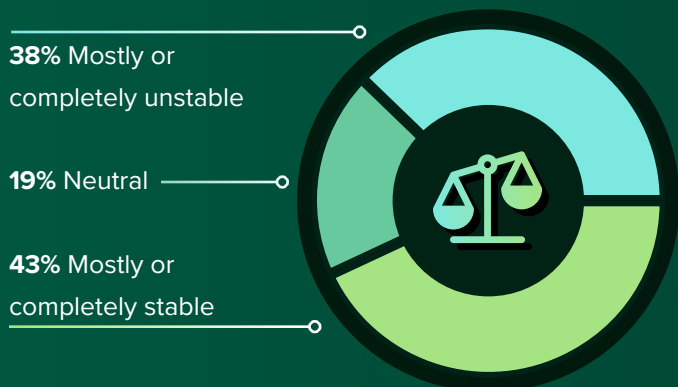
MOST VULNERABLE AREAS OF CYBERSECURITY UNDER CURRENT RESOURCE LIMITATIONS

Cybersecurity leaders must focus on the most critical areas of their environments, including:



CURRENT LEVEL OF FISCAL STABILITY AFTER 2025 BUDGET CUTS

Leaders' current sense of stability is mixed.



IMPACT OF BUDGET CONSTRAINTS ON SECURITY OPERATIONS

Budget constraints have had a negative impact most departments' ability to maintain security measures.



Note: Percentages may not total 100 due to rounding.
 Base: 212 cybersecurity decision-makers at US educational and government agencies
 Source: Forrester's Q1 2026 Public Sector Cyber Compliance Survey [E-66390]