

The leading threat to mainframes?



Overconfidence.

Only 41%

are taking the steps needed to **actively secure the mainframe.** IT leaders are more focused on network and vendor security. They often confuse “secure” and “securable” for mainframes. Just because a mainframe is readily securable does not mean it is inherently secure.

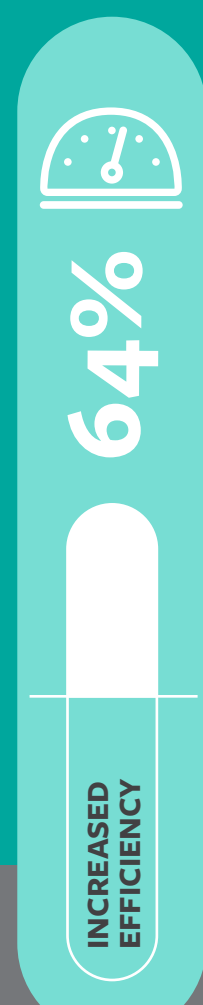


Over 80% claim they have the tools but still experience major security events

Organizations are plagued with mainframe tools that do not meet their needs, negative perceptions to battle, and major gaps in the talent pool.

Mainframe security maturity drives clear benefits of reduced risk and increased efficiency

More mature organizations with an active approach to mainframe security report these key benefits as a result of their efforts.



52% still uncover issues through audits

Although 85% are confident that an audit would show their environment meets all requirements, more than half admit an audit has uncovered significant security compromises.

61% find protecting the mainframe from cyberattacks very or extremely challenging

This is puzzling given the confidence in tools and skills to secure mainframes. Perhaps they aren't the right tools, or they aren't in use? This may also be why 84% report they look to managed services to help manage mainframe cybersecurity.



Increasing security for the mainframe is a top priority for IT leaders in the next 12 months

61% said increasing security for the mainframe is a top priority. Although very securable, the mainframe is like any other system and IT leaders are recognizing their need for improved security practices.



“I think mainframes are inherently more secure just because of the architecture and whatnot, and they are more securable. . . . That isn't to say they can't be hacked. Anything can be hacked.”

Chief of mainframe systems at federal government department

“Our security modernization effort is focused all across the board. Some people are much more focused on one area — like cloud — than other areas — like mainframes — because they think a hack is less likely. But our concern is equal. We do not believe in security through obscurity.”

Manager of mainframe computer operations at a transportation/logistics company

Source: A False Sense Of Mainframe Security - How Overconfidence And Complacency Leave Companies Vulnerable To Attack - Forrester Research Commissioned By BMC, July 2020

Want to restore your security confidence?

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Learn the best-practices of active mainframe security.