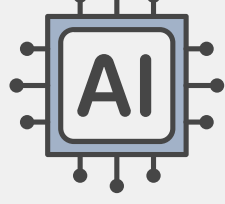


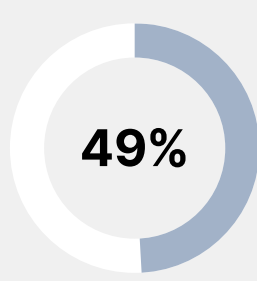
2025 Cybersecurity Skills Gap Global Research Report

Executive Summary

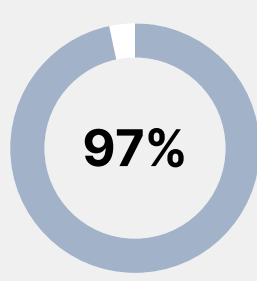
In 2024, cybersecurity strategies sharpened around risk management—driven by evolving threats, business continuity needs, and AI’s growing role in decisions. Organizations need to take a multi-pronged approach, combining awareness, certifications, and technology, with commitment from the boardroom down as employees remain prime targets for attack.



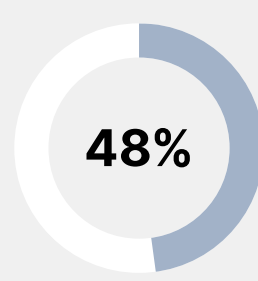
AI is seen as a threat, an opportunity, and a challenge



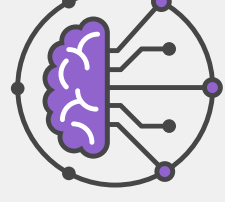
49% of respondents worry that AI use by bad actors will increase cybersecurity attacks.



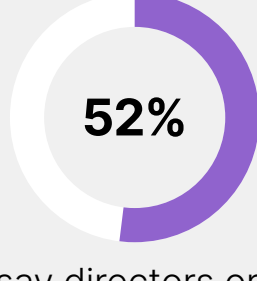
97% are using or plan to use a cybersecurity solution that leverages AI.



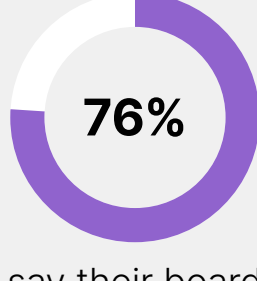
48% say lack of staff with sufficient AI expertise is the biggest challenge when it comes to implementing AI in cybersecurity.



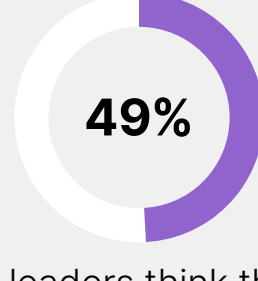
Boards lack cyber knowledge—even though it’s a priority



52% say directors or executives have faced fines, jail time, loss of position, or loss of employment following a cyberattack.



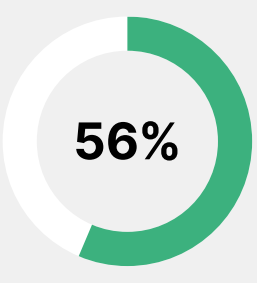
76% say their board has put more focus on cybersecurity.



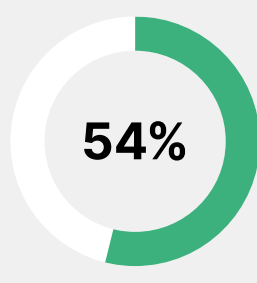
49% of leaders think their board members are fully aware of the potential risks posed by using AI.



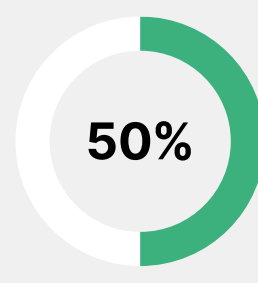
Lack of cybersecurity awareness and training remains the top cause of breaches



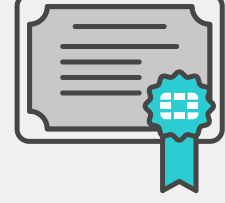
56% point to insufficient organizational or employee security awareness.



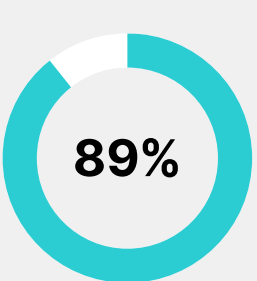
54% caused by lack of cybersecurity skills and training.



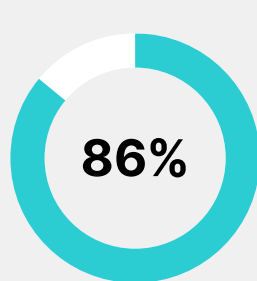
50% due to lack of cybersecurity products.



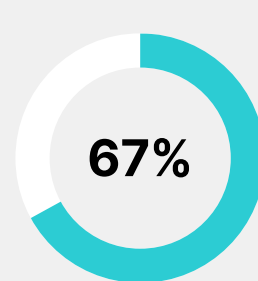
Organizations want cybersecurity personnel with certifications



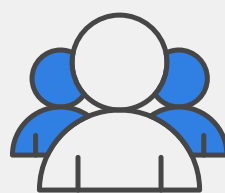
89% of organizations prefer to hire candidates with certifications.



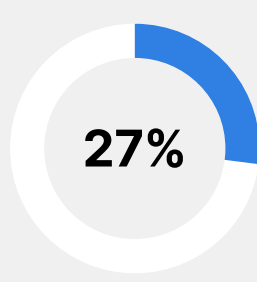
86% have someone on their team with a technology-focused certification.



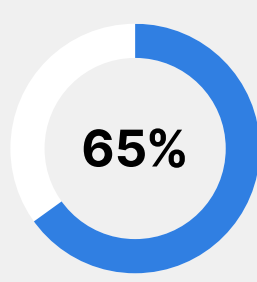
67% of respondents say it validates cybersecurity awareness and knowledge.



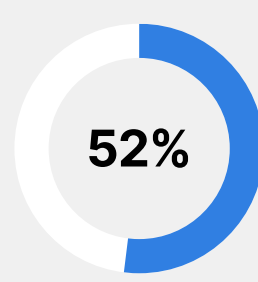
Potential talent pools are being overlooked



27% of employees on IT and security teams are women.



65% of respondents consider professional certifications when hiring.



52% consider whether a candidate has a four-year degree.

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