

# Strategic Planning for Cybersecurity: 2024 Trends

What will infosec departments focus on in 2024 to improve security and mitigate risks? Read on to discover tech leaders' top strategic priorities for cybersecurity.

**Data security, cyber resilience and vulnerabilities are the most common strategic priorities for infosec in 2024**

**Most respondents anticipate talent retention or talent shortages to be major hurdles to their infosec department's 2024 priorities**

**Many expect challenges due to the evolving landscapes of both cyberthreats and regulations**

Data collection: Sep 24 - Oct 10, 2023

Respondents: 144 IT and information security leaders involved in the process of setting annual strategic priorities for infosec

## About Gartner Peer Community One-Minute Insights:

Gartner Peer Community is for technology and business leaders to engage in discussions with peers and share knowledge in real time.

Surveys are designed by Gartner Peer Community editors and appear on the Gartner Peer Community platform. Once the respondent threshold is met, survey results are summarized in a One-Minute Insight.

The results of this summary are representative of the respondents that participated in the survey. It is not market representative.



## Data, resilience among top three infosec priorities for 2024

Nearly half (49%) of surveyed leaders indicate that **data security** is one of the top three priorities in their organization's 2024 cybersecurity strategy.

Based on your personal knowledge of your infosec department's goals, what are most likely to be the top three priorities of its 2024 cybersecurity strategy? Select up to three.

**49%**  
Data security

**34%**  
Cyber resilience (including business continuity)

**33%**  
Vulnerability management

Privacy program **27%** | IAM **27%** | New security tools **25%** | Tools/vendor consolidation **24%** | Cost efficiency **22%** | Security awareness and training **20%** | Incident response **19%** | Regulatory compliance **17%** | Risk management (including third-party risk) **15%** | Technical debt reduction **13%** | Training **10%** | Hiring **6%** | Not sure **1%** | Other **0%**

n = 144

**"Keep your landscape simple and remove technical debt. Be prepared for change."**

VP, utilities industry, 1,000 - 5,000 employees



**"Staffing and implementing some of the new Microsoft security stack will be our number one priority."**

Director, healthcare industry, 10,000+ employees



Question: Please share any final thoughts or personal opinions about your infosec department's strategic priorities and planning for 2024.

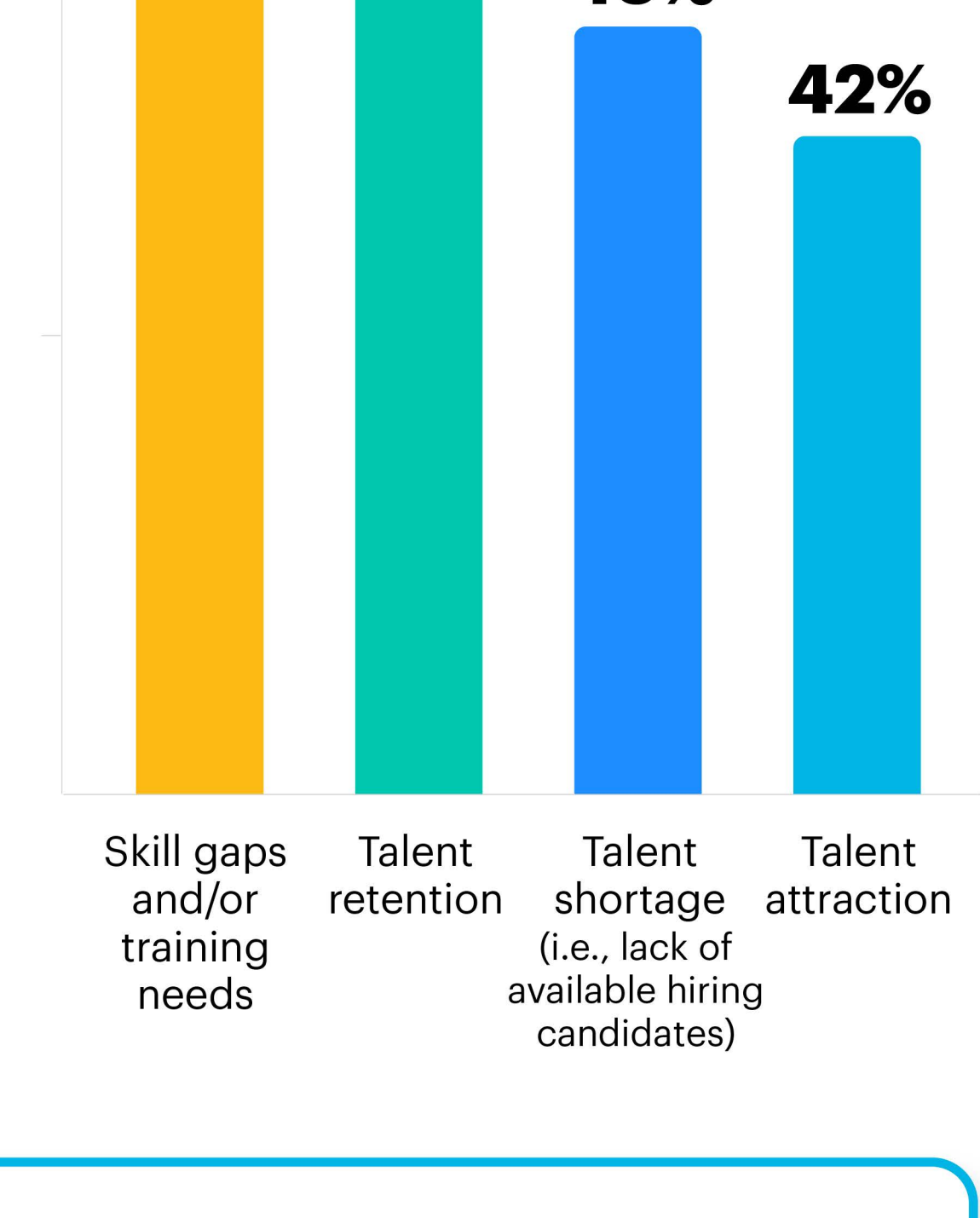
## Many foresee major challenges with both talent retention and hiring

The majority anticipate that **skills gaps and training needs (55%)** or **retention (53%)** could be key talent-related hurdles to achieving their 2024 strategic priorities for infosec.

Which talent-related issues, if any, do you think could pose the biggest challenge(s) to achieving your infosec department's top three strategic priorities for 2024? Select all that apply.

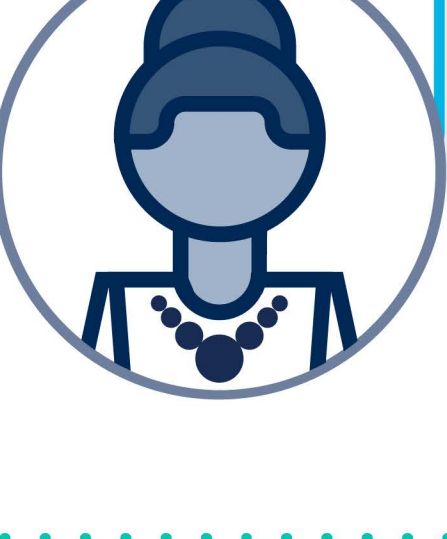
Succession planning and/or leadership development **26%** | Team morale **14%** | Diversity and inclusion **13%** | Employee engagement **13%** | Adjustment to in-office working requirements **8%** | None — I don't foresee any talent-related challenges **3%** | Not sure **0%** | Other **0%**

n = 144



**"Business sees easier-to-use tools as a means to increase workload and/or hire less skilled staff."**

C-suite, utilities industry, 1,000 - 5,000 employees

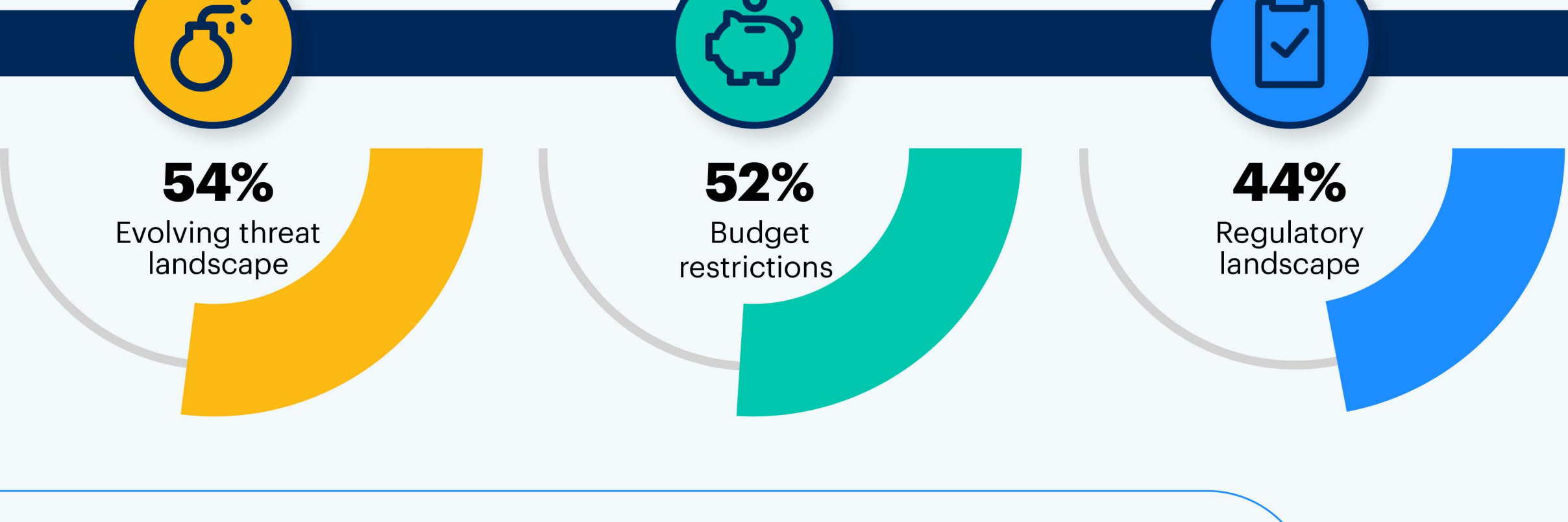


Question: Please share any final thoughts or personal opinions about your infosec department's strategic priorities and planning for 2024.

## Most expect budget limitations and regulations to be key hurdles in 2024

**54%** of surveyed leaders expect the **evolving threat landscape** to be one of the biggest challenges to their 2024 infosec priorities. Over half (52%) list budget restrictions among their biggest obstacles.

Apart from talent-related issues, which of the following do you think could pose the biggest challenge(s) to achieving your infosec department's top three strategic priorities for 2024? Select all that apply.



Organizational resistance to change **25%** | Enterprise risk appetite (e.g., increased or unclear appetite) **21%** | Prioritization issues **21%** | Technical debt **21%** | Geopolitical uncertainty **20%** | Lack of executive support **20%** | Misalignment with business strategy **13%** | Strategic plan is too ambitious **8%** | Strategic plan lacks flexibility **6%** | Not sure **1%** | Other\* **1%**

\*Other includes: Post-acquisition chaos

n = 144

**"Dealing with an impending acquisition, I have no doubts that 2024 will be extremely challenging for those employees who managed to stay with the company. Adopting the new company's priorities will take some time."**

Director, software industry, 10,000+ employees



Question: Please share any final thoughts or personal opinions about your infosec department's strategic priorities and planning for 2024.

## In their own words...

**"We have a very challenging environment at this time. Financially, we have to watch our budget. However, it is imperative that we strengthen our cybersecurity landscape."**

- VP, healthcare industry, 10,000+ employees

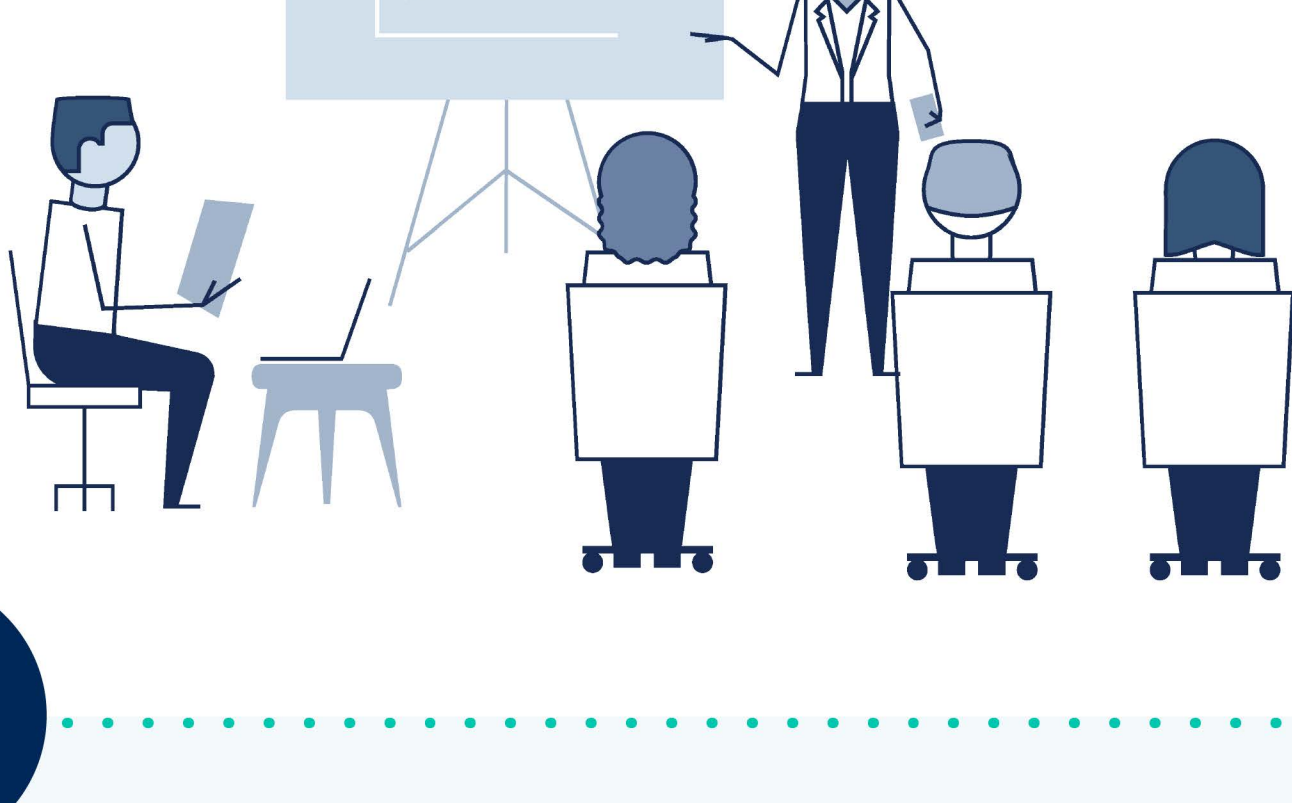
**"While priorities for 2024 will be in place, I expect those priorities will change by Q2. If we have an incident, then priorities will change even quicker."**

- Director, educational services industry, 1,000 - 5,000 employees

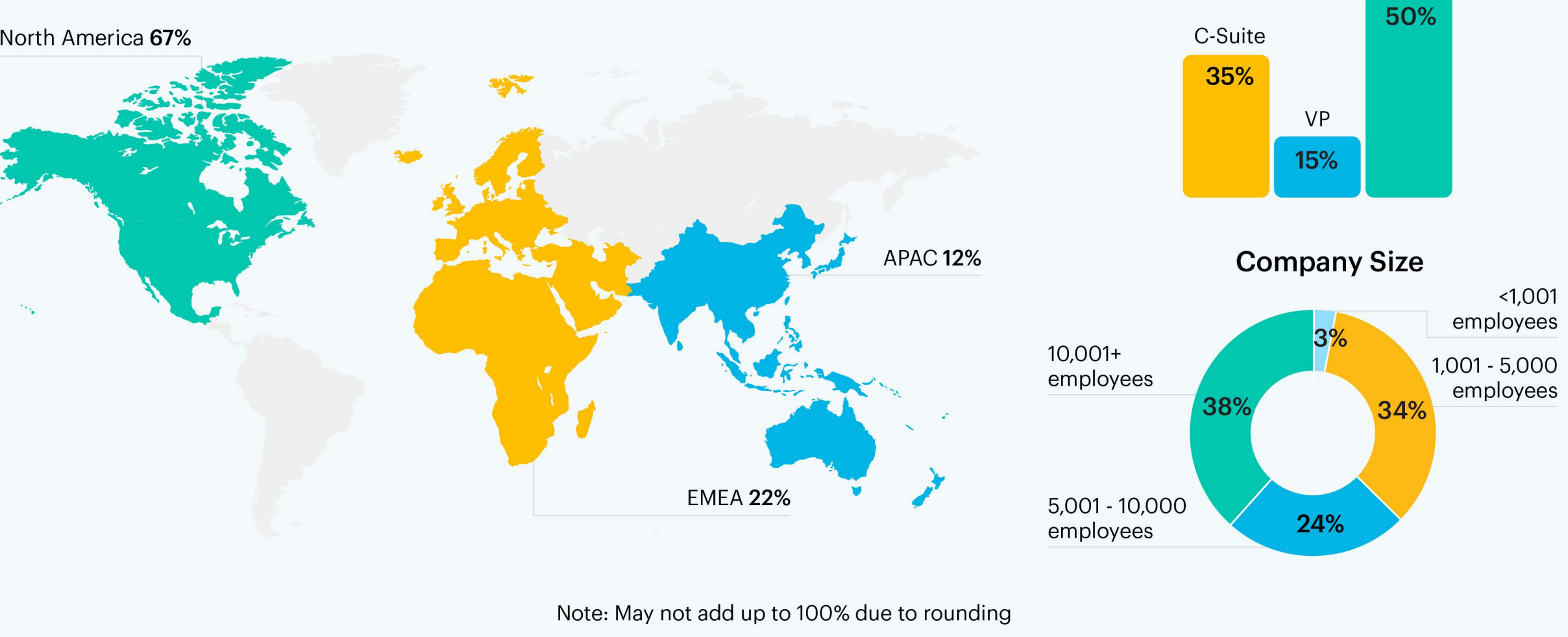
**"Fortunately, we get a lot of attention from the executives and board. That helps tremendously."**

- C-suite, transportation industry, 10,000+ employees

Question: Please share any final thoughts or personal opinions about your infosec department's strategic priorities and planning for 2024.



## Respondent Breakdown



Note: May not add up to 100% due to rounding  
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Source: Gartner Peer Community, 2024 Cybersecurity Strategy: Priorities and Challenges survey

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