

Improving Software Developer Experience

How are software engineering leaders improving developer experience in their organizations? Find out which steps have been most successful.



Most respondents are actively trying to improve software developer experience



Automating tasks is a common step toward improving developer experience



Leaders have successfully improved developer experience by introducing automation and building a more collaborative culture

Data collection: Sep 26 - Oct 27, 2023

Respondents: 125 software engineering leaders who are involved in managing software developer experience

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.



Most respondents are actively trying to improve software developer experience

89% of all respondent organizations (n = 125) are taking steps to improve software developer experience.

Is your organization taking steps to improve software developer experience?



89%
Yes



7%
No



4%
Not yet, but we plan to

n = 125

“Developer experience should and can be constantly improved. Our organization constantly takes steps to find new and better tools and takes developer feedback to determine what we should be using.”

Director, software industry, <1,000 employees



Question: What are your final thoughts on measuring and improving software developer experience?

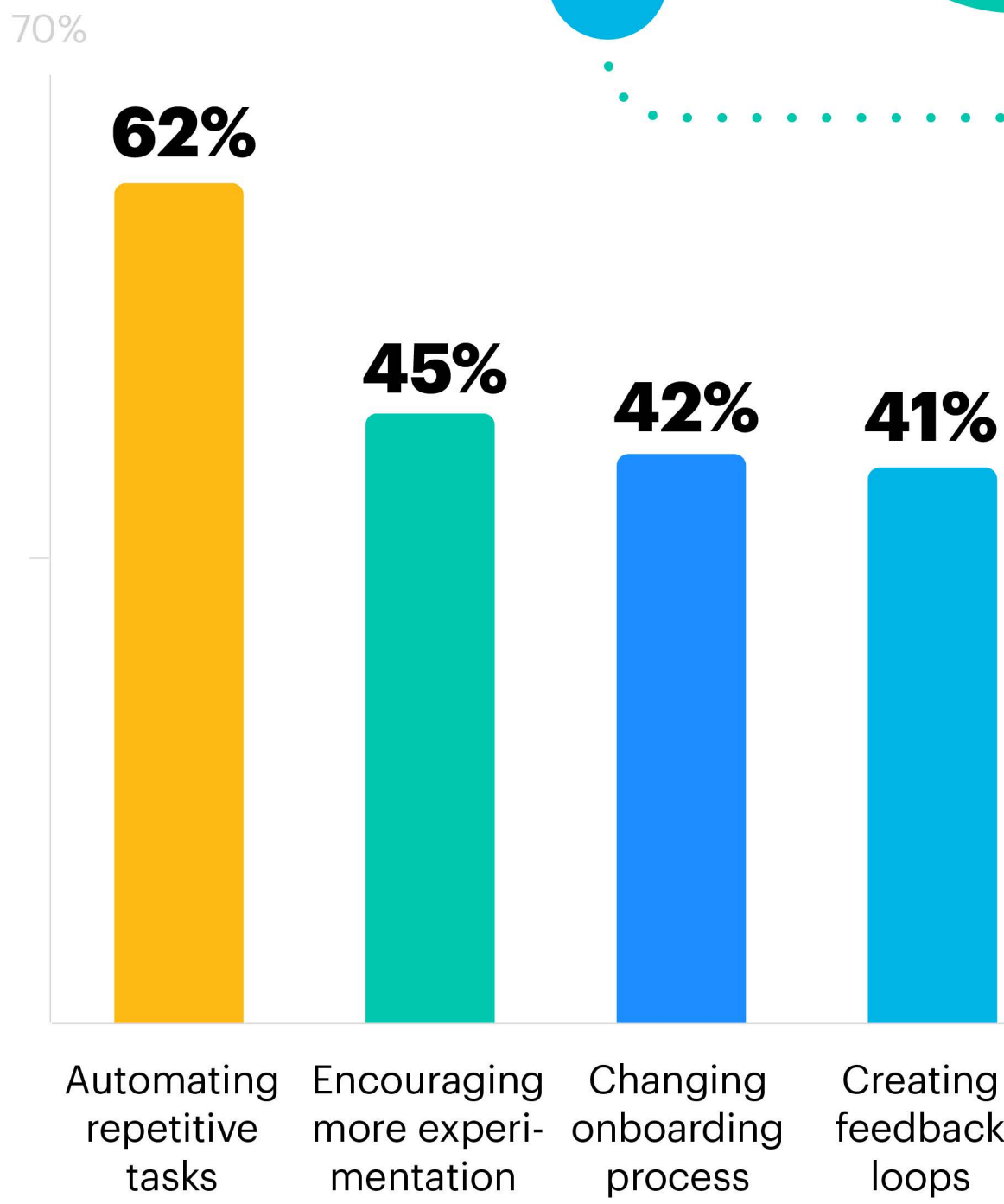
Automating tasks is a common step toward improving developer experience

More than half of respondent organizations that are taking steps to improve developer experience (n = 111) are turning to **automation of repetitive tasks (62%)** as a potential solution.

What steps is your organization taking to improve software developer experience? Select all that apply.¹

Cultivating a more collaborative culture **38%** | Adding new tools (e.g., generative AI coding tools) **38%** | Changing workflows (e.g., implementing DevOps) **38%** | Adding self-service portals **37%** | Establishing communities of practice **29%** | Training existing staff **28%** | Scheduling focus time **26%** | Adopting platform engineering **25%** | Hiring additional staff **12%** | Using browser-based IDEs **5%** | Don't know **2%** | Other* **1%**

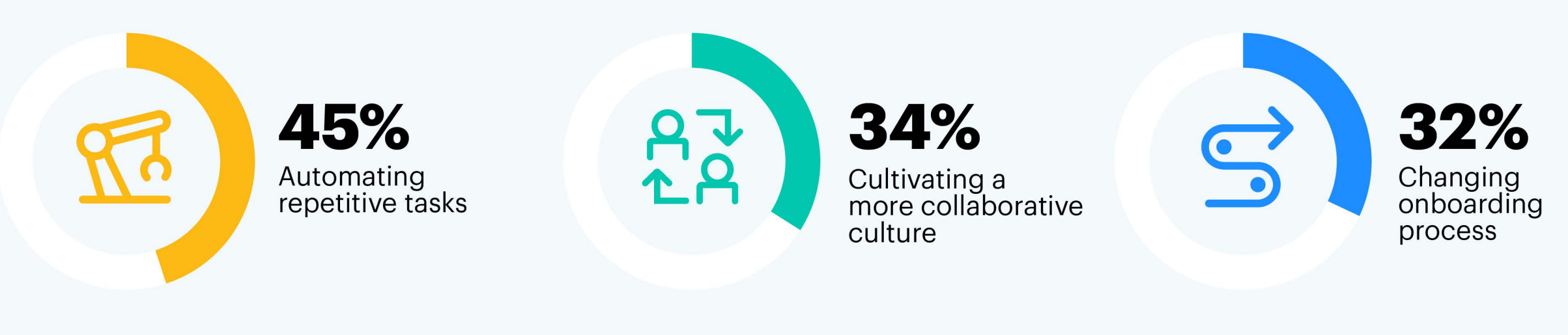
*Other includes: “Powerful hardware”
n = 111



Automation and collaborative culture have improved developer experience

45% of respondents at organizations pursuing better developer experience (n = 111) say **automating repetitive tasks** has proven to be one of the most effective steps to achieve this.

From the same list, which steps have proven to be the most successful at improving software developer experience in your organization? Select up to 3.¹



Changing workflows (e.g., implementing DevOps) **26%** | Adding new tools (e.g., generative AI coding tools) **25%** | Establishing communities of practice **23%** | Encouraging more experimentation **22%** | Creating feedback loops **22%** | Hiring additional staff **20%** | Scheduling focus time **18%** | Training existing staff **17%** | Adopting platform engineering **12%** | Hiring additional staff **10%** | Using browser-based IDEs **2%** | Don't know **1%** | Other **0%**

n = 111

In their own words...

“This can be difficult for organizations with small development teams to invest in. However, I think it is important for organizations of all sizes to work on improving [developer experience (DX)] — but this means that companies offering DX services need to have tools that fit within small organizational budgets when needed.”

- Manager, educational services industry, <1,000 employees

“Automation of repetitive tasks and adopting new GenAI technologies will surely help.”

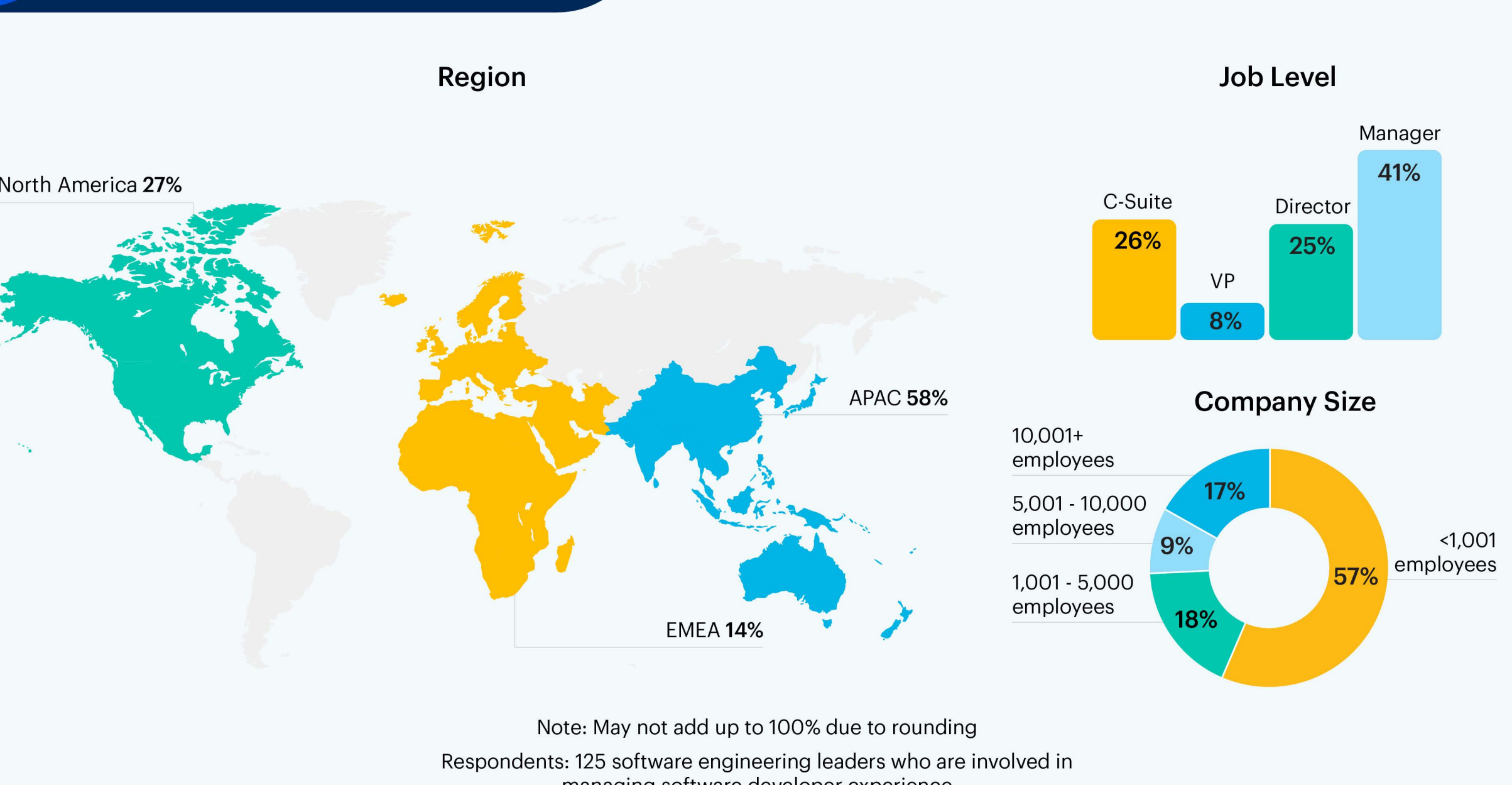
- Director, software industry, 1,000 - 5,000 employees

“Let the developer use the tools that make them the most productive; don't force them to use what the company thinks will make them productive. They are all different and all have different needs.”

- C-suite, software industry, <1,000 employees



Respondent Breakdown



Want more insights like this from leaders like yourself?

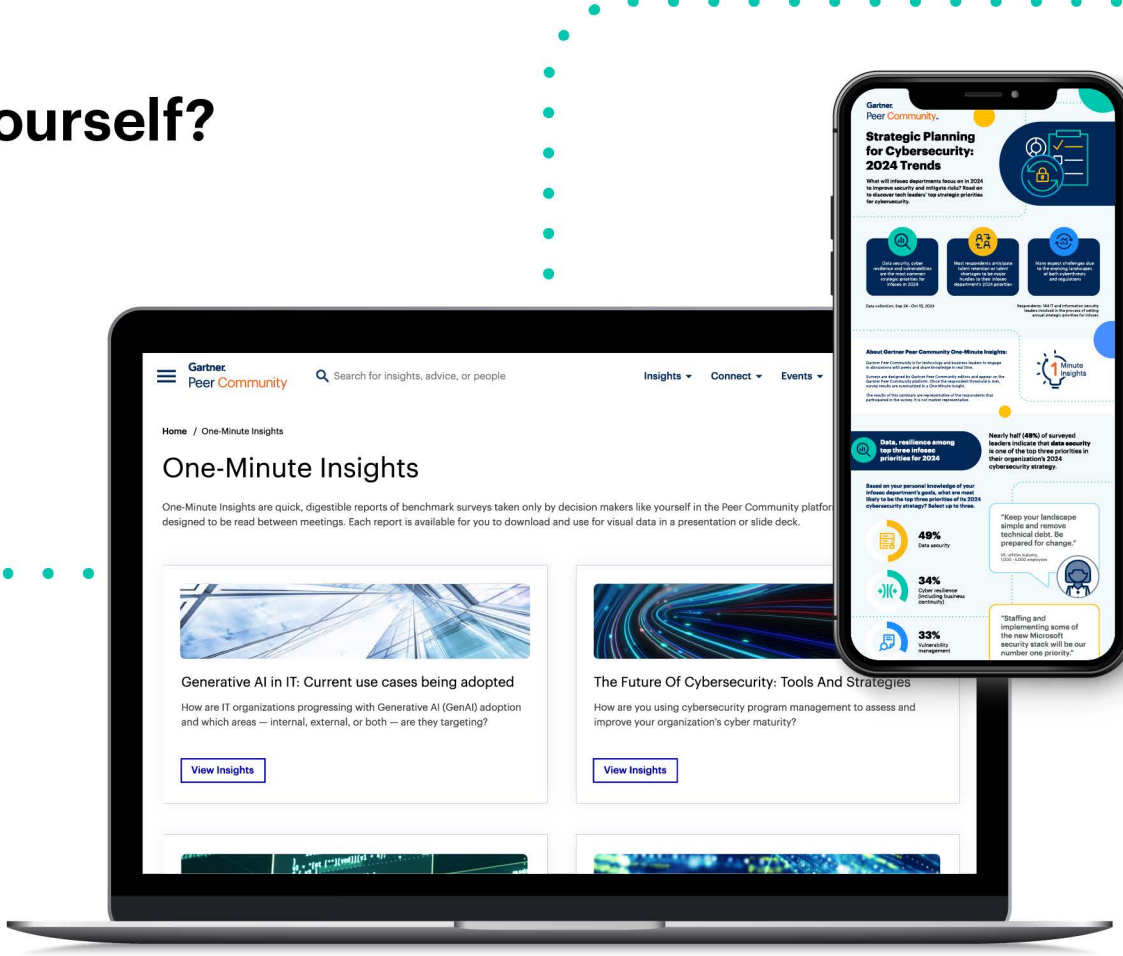
[Click here](#) to explore the revamped, retooled and reimagined Gartner Peer Community. You'll get access to synthesized insights and engaging discussions from a community of your peers.



This content, which provides opinions and points of view expressed by users, does not represent the views of Gartner; Gartner neither endorses it nor makes any warranties about its accuracy or completeness.

Source: Gartner Peer Community, Software Developer Experience (DX): Metrics and Improvement survey

© 2023 Gartner, Inc. and/or its affiliates. All rights reserved.



¹ Question shown only to respondents who answered “Yes” to “Is your organization taking steps to improve software developer experience?”