Corporate Security Organizational Structure, Cost of Services and Staffing Benchmark:
Selected Highlights

SECURITY
LEADERSHIP
RESEARCH
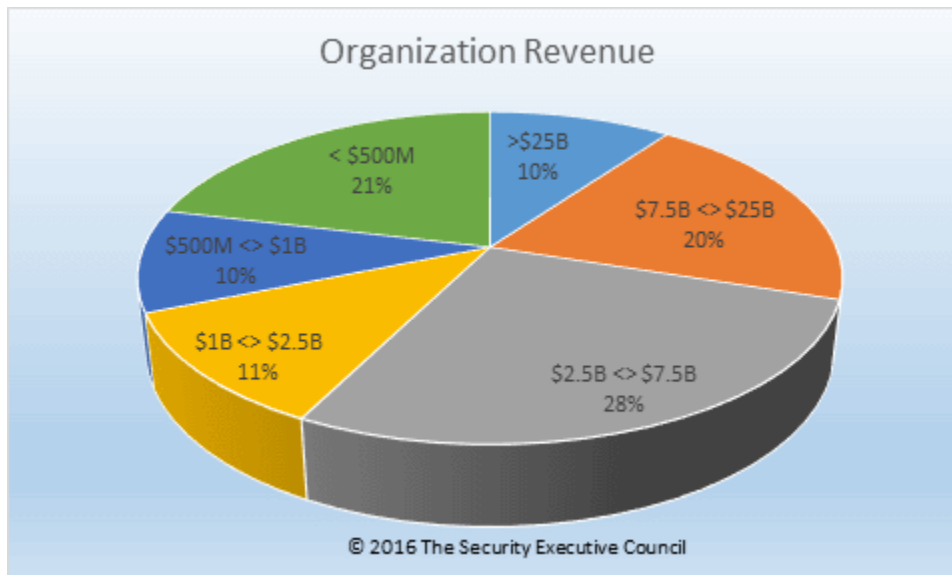# INSTITUTE

An SEC Initiative

ABOUT THIS RESEARCH

The data used in this analysis were provided from Security Leadership Research Institute (SLRI) members and Tier 1 Leaders™ of the Security Executive Council. They all are risk management practitioners comprising a broad cross-section of industries. The organizations represented come from public and private sectors; they range from small and medium sized businesses to some of the largest international corporations.

Results, when possible, are broken down into categories so participants can select specific metrics for comparison purposes. These details are provided when there is sufficient data to compare between categories or groups and when anonymity is assured.

Not all questions were answered by all participants. Data was only included when it was appropriate to do so; every attempt has been made to preserve the quality of the reported results. The SLRI strives to provide meaningful and useful information to its members.
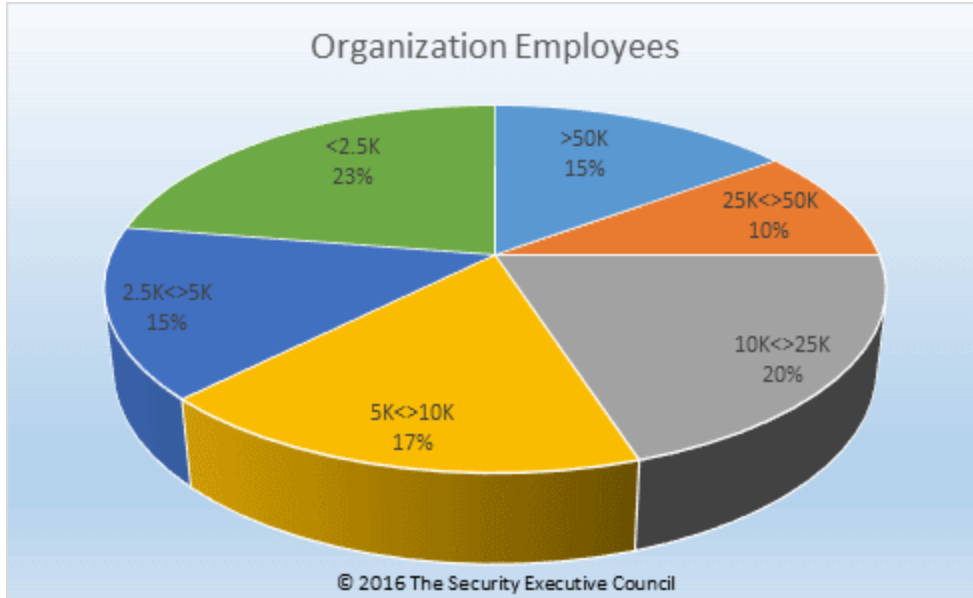
The number of participants accepted in this 2016 version of the research project stands to date at 106. The intent is to regularly update the results as more members join and share their information from all verticals, sectors and industries. We encourage participants to help refine this initiative and provide suggestions for other benchmarks. Please consider letting your peers at other organizations know about this effort – the more that participate the more valuable information we can provide participants: https://www.securityexecutivecouncil.com/about/research_institute.html

Demographics

Organization Revenue
- >$25B 10%
- $7.5B <> $25B 20%
- $2.5B <> $7.5B 28%
- $1B <> $2.5B 11%
- $500M <> $1B 10%
- < $500M 21%

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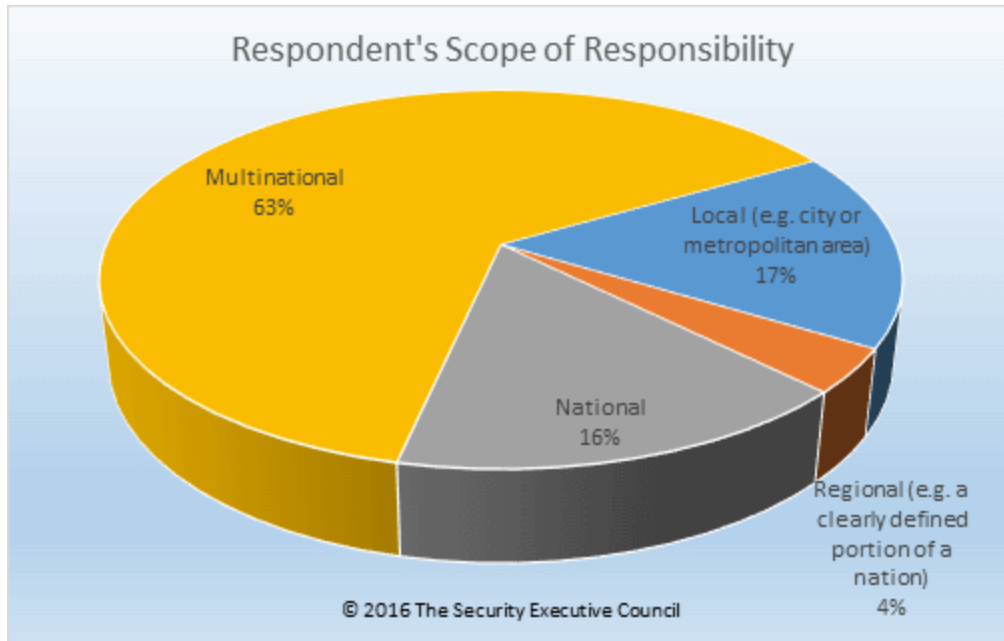*54% of respondents operated at Director level or above.*

65% of respondents report to Vice-President level or above.

59% of respondents are within two reporting levels of the senior-most operating executive.
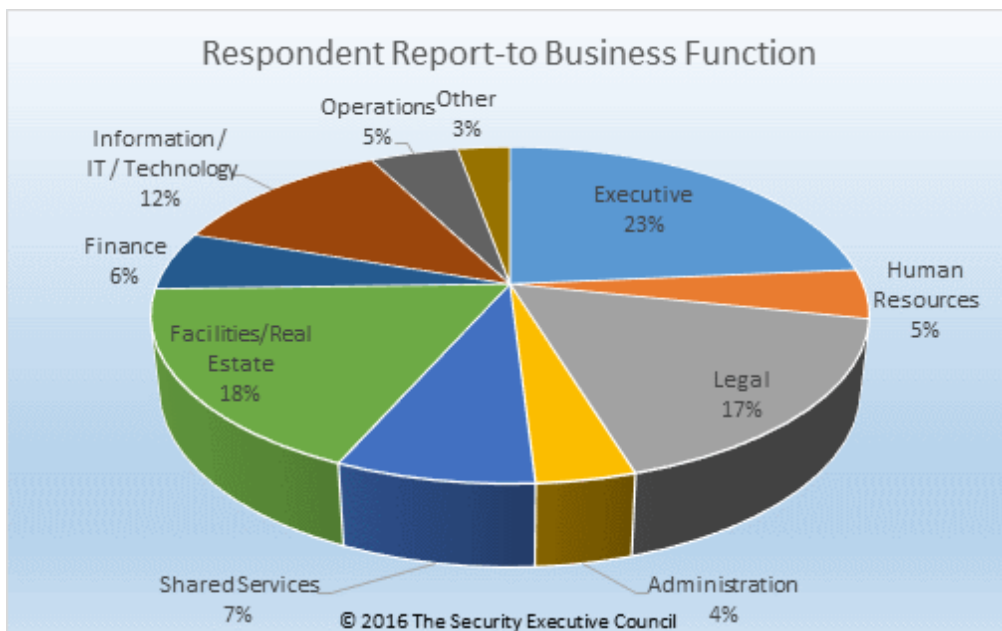
Security Budget

As each organization is different and characterizes the security budget in different ways we provide budget figures broken down across various categories. Our goal is to provide risk management professionals a way to obtain a rough estimate of typical security budget size.

Overall the average security budget reported was $10 million USD.

The security budget figures provided by participants spanned a very wide range. Overall averages can only be used to get a rough understanding of security budgets. The full report (available only to those that participate in the SLRI) provides further detail such as security budget by size/revenue of the organization, operating scope, title level of the respondent and other criteria.

Overall the average security budget per organization employee was $290 USD.

Overall the average security budget as a percentage of organization revenue was 0.09%.

Security Staffing

This research investigated typical security staffing. The full report delves into the detail by comparing staffing levels to several different criteria. A couple of highlights are provided here:

On average respondents reported one security employee for every 103 organization employees.

On average respondents (excluding those that reported into Information / IT / Technology) managed a staff made up of 75% uniformed security.

The Full Report

Additional information is included in the full report; participants are able log into a special SLRI site for the additional information, which will be updated with even more results over the coming months. To obtain more information than this summary, consider taking the current benchmark at:
https://www.securityexecutivecouncil.com/about/spotlight.html?sid=28151

About the Security Leadership Research Institute

The Security Leadership Research Institute (SLRI) provides independent and actionable research to the security and risk community. The SLRI was formed because of the need by the security industry to document the entire spectrum of corporate security risk mitigation through research. The SLRI conducts benchmarks like this one and many other forms of research such as practitioner quick polls, state of the industry and trend reports, and custom research for individual companies and security leaders.

Learn more about SLRI: www.securityexecutivecouncil.com/about/research_institute.html

About the Security Executive Council (SEC)

The SEC is the leading research and advisory firm focused on corporate security risk mitigation solutions. Having worked with hundreds of companies and organizations we have witnessed the proven practices that produce the most positive transformation. Our subject matter experts have deep expertise in all aspects of risk mitigation strategy; they strategize with security leaders to transform security programs into more capable and valued centers of excellence. Watch our 3-minute video to learn more. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6TEkl3b_BZQ

To learn more about the SEC's solutions and services reach us at contact@secleader.com or fill out our information inquiry form available at: www.securityexecutivecouncil.com