



QUIZ: How does your cyber discipline impact your risk?

95% of cybersecurity incidents are caused by failures in human performance!
Take this short quiz to assess the strength of your company's cyber discipline.

You have cybersecurity policies, controls, and operational procedures in place. But in increasingly complex IT environments, your team will make mistakes—and when they do, even your best protections can fail. Achieving a high level of cybersecurity operational excellence is a critical line of defense. Becoming a High Reliability Cybersecurity Organization ensures your processes are resilient and will not fail despite inevitable human errors.

This quiz is designed to provide CIOs and CISOs with a useful diagnostic that indicates how cyber discipline is impacting your overall level of cyber risk.



INSTRUCTIONS: Check the box for each statement that is true for your organization

TRUE

- 1** You have a comprehensive understanding of the relationship between your cybersecurity policies and all human-operated procedures required to enforce those policies
- 2** All human-operated procedures that affect cyber policies are formalized in operational runbooks
- 3** You are certain your operational teams consistently use your runbooks to execute critical procedures without relying on personal memory or experience
- 4** Your runbooks are designed to quickly catch and correct procedural mistakes
- 5** Your operational teams are incentivized to immediately reveal their procedural mistakes without fear of reprisal
- 6** Your team members routinely question what they don't understand and use a formal process to capture, evaluate, and respond to those questions
- 7** Operational cyber risk is reassessed when experienced team members depart
- 8** You are confident that new hires quickly adopt and operate in alignment with all past learnings of your organization
- 9** A formal root-cause review is performed for all identified mistakes
- 10** Human error, insufficient training, or unfollowed procedure are rarely cited as root causes of mistakes

CYBER DISCIPLINE QUIZ: Calculate your score

1

For any checked boxes on questions 1–5, add two points to your score



POINTS

2

For any checked boxes on questions 6–10, add one point to your score



POINTS

3

Add points from steps 1 and 2 to tabulate your final score



FINAL SCORE

QUIZ RESULTS: What is your cyber risk level?



**EXTREME
CYBER RISK**

SCORE: 5 OR FEWER POINTS

- Your organization lacks the basics of **Operational Excellence and cyber discipline**
- Very likely to have multiple cybersecurity incidents due to failure in human performance
- **Take action:** Immediate leadership action is needed to address critical gaps



**SIGNIFICANT
CYBER RISK**

SCORE: 6-10 POINTS

- Your organization has **low Operational Excellence and inconsistent cyber discipline**
- Highly susceptible to cybersecurity incidents caused by failure in human performance
- **Take action:** Immediate leadership action is needed to address critical gaps



**MODERATE
CYBER RISK**

SCORE: 11-14 POINTS

- Existing foundations of **Operational Excellence and cyber discipline need reinforcement**
- Your organization is moderately susceptible to a cybersecurity incident
- **Take action:** Make targeted interventions to strengthen weaker areas



**LOW
CYBER RISK**

SCORE: 15 POINTS

- Your organization is **actively leveraging Operational Excellence and cyber discipline**
- Operational discipline is proactively preventing cybersecurity incidents
- **Take action:** Remain vigilant and continue to reinforce the behaviors and processes that protect your organization from inevitable human performance errors



[Wilson Perumal & Company](#) offers unparalleled support to improve Operational Excellence and transform companies into High Reliability

Organizations (HRO). We use our deep expertise in technology complexity to help organizations implement HRO principles to reduce incidents and compliance risk.



[Download our Vantage Point article on transforming operational discipline to reduce cyber risk >](#)

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