Scorecard: Assess Your Data Governance Maturity

Ensuring users have the data they need to run the business while minimizing risks is easier said than done. While Fabric can help organizations streamline data access by roles or lines of business, sound data governance stands as the bedrock of all that a data-first organization sets out to achieve, and remains even more critical as metadata proliferates, particularly when embarking on AI/ML capabilities or development.

3Cloud's data governance assessment helps businesses and organizations understand where they should focus to establish or improve governance, identifies gaps or opportunities to enhance governance strategies and offers guidance for future planning.

Review each statement and assign a score of 0 (none), 1 (low), 2 (moderate) or 3 (high) based on your agreement or progress in each area. Total your response scores for each section to identify areas of governance that require additional focus. Add each section score and then determine the average to arrive at your overall maturity level.

Pillar 1: Data Privacy

Score

Does your organization have a set of policies, procedures and tactics in place for consent management?

_____

Do you have a data retention and disposition strategy in place?

_____

Does your organization audit data access controls?

_____

Does your business effectively manage data classifications such as PII (Personal Identifiable Information)?

_____

Does your organization keep current with data privacy and compliance regulations and changes?

_____

Pillar 2: Data Quality

Does your organization have data management training programs in place?

_____

Does your organizational structure support data validation activities?

_____

Can most employees across your organization understand and communicate the value, use and meaning of data integrity?

_____

Has your organization standardized data formats?

_____

Pillar 3: Metadata Management

Do you have a set of policies and standards in place to manage metadata?

_____

Have you established a process for gathering business definitions?

_____

Has your organization developed a data dictionary?

_____

Has your business widely implemented a Data Asset Catalog tool?

_____

Has your organization established an inventory of systems and databases used?

_____

Pillar 4: Data and Information Architecture

Does your organization have policies in place for collecting, using, storing and managing data?

_____

Is your organization up to date on data security measures (policies, encryption, access, authentication)?

_____

Do you have the appropriate systems in place to leverage data to advance operational performance?

_____

Does your organization use business intelligence tools to analyze relevant data?

_____

Do your employees and teams have a unified understanding of the systems and tools available to perform data analytics?

_____

Pillar 5: Program Management

Is effective program management in place for data governance initiatives?

_____

How would you rate organization-wide data literacy?

_____

Does your organization have an organizational change management process in place?

_____

Is there company-wide understanding, and identification, of the data steward and data owner for different data assets?

_____

Does your organization understand data usage across all areas of the business?

_____

Overall Maturity Score (Add all section totals & divide by 5):   _____

What does your overall maturity score mean?

1 — Aware

Your organization is likely aware of the key issues and challenges surrounding data governance, but lacks the budget, resources and/or leadership buy-in to make meaningful advances. While lack of investment in new technology may contribute to your current maturity level, you may realize greater value by first addressing people and process challenges.

2 — Reactive

About 30% of 3Cloud assessment participants match this score. Your organization likely operates in a reactive mode, and has not addressed data issues until problems arise, in the form of significant business losses or shrinking competitive advantage. While your organization may desire to perform in a more forward-looking way, you may not be sure how to get there. Start with an agreed upon enterprise strategy that aligns to business goals.

3 — Proactive

About 40% of 3Cloud assessment participants match this score. Typically, your organization proactively addresses certain areas of data governance, but has not yet established a forward-thinking strategy. While you may understand that data governance plays a role in driving innovation, you have not yet aligned IT initiatives to business outcomes. Develop a roadmap that includes perspectives from key stakeholders within your organization, achieve agreement and alignment on business challenges as well as goals that can be influenced or achieved through data and analytics processes.

4 — Champion

Only about 15% of 3Cloud assessment participants achieve this score. Those that do are clear champions within their industry, using data and analytics strategically to outperform their peers and competitors. Your organization takes a decidedly managed approach to analytics, with effective people, processes and technologies, and stands ready to equip every department with self-service capabilities.

5 — Leader

Your organization stands as a true data governance leader, among fewer than 5% of organizations throughout the world. Consider this result proof that your organization has done everything in its power to succeed. Your organization should be emulated and serve as a model for how to effectively use data and analytics to your competitive advantage. You have a clear data ownership model, reliable data, rapid time to insight and streamlined operational efficiencies. You have the power to unify IT and your business behind common goals and foster cross-functional collaboration. Congratulations!

RECOMMENDED READING

3Cloud's white paper, "**The Streamlined Approach to Enterprise Data Governance**," outlines ways to establish a successful data governance program.