



Scaling responsible innovation with AI governance

Thursday, 14 May
08:00–09:00 PDT
11:00–12:00 EDT
17:00–18:00 CEST



Optro & AI Governance

The future is AI Governance

“The work of the company is increasingly going to shift to monitoring and overseeing all of the AI systems and agents running the company.”

- Jack Clark, Co-founder Anthropic

AI Governance growth

5-10x

Increase in search for AI Governance frameworks and tools in the last year

35-45%*

CAGR in AI Governance spending / market

% of S&P 500 companies that disclose material AI risks in financial filings

**72%
(2025)**

34%

Higher op profits for orgs who invest in AI Gov (IBM, 2025)

\$500M

Investment \$ in AI Governance & Safety startups in 2025

**12%
(2023)**

*Market growth from several hundred million today to single digits billions in 2030 to \$20b-\$30b by 2035 as AI agents become ubiquitous

AI Governance has two-sided ROI

AI Governance
as an enabler to
build trust in AI,
move faster

AI Governance
reduces business
and regulatory risk

The growing risk of ungoverned AI

AI is everywhere...

Third party tools

Are racing to bake new AI into their tools, sometimes without informing customers

Employee AI usage

Half of US employees use AI tools for work, whether AI is sanctioned or not*

Internal model builds

Data scientists & developers are building AI systems for internal use or sale

...and the risks are growing



Data & Security

According to a Q4 2025 study, "40% of files uploaded into GenAI tools contain PII or PCI."

More than 26% of "agent skills" in tools like Github have at least one vulnerability, e.g., prompt injection



Regulations & Legal

GenAI lawsuit filings have increased by 978% between 2021 and 2025.

Dozens of global regulations, including the EU AI Act, going into effect in 2026-27 (27 new AI bills passed in past 2 years by G20 countries alone)

The AI regulatory landscape is already complex



Global Requirements

- **GDPR** Automated individual decision making (Article 22)
- **EU AI Act** (prohibitions + GPAI)
- **EU AI Act** (high-risk systems)
- **EU AI Product Liability Directive**
- **South Korea AI Basic Act**
- **China Synthetic Content Rules**
- **China Measures for GenAI**

US Federal and State

- **U.S.** Executive Order 14179
- **Colorado AI Act**
- **California GenAI Training Data**
- **California ADMT Rules**
- **Connecticut AI Act**
- **Maine Chatbot Transparency**
- **Utah AI Policy Act**
- **Texas TRAIGA**
- **Illinois Human Rights Act 3773**

Industry-Focused

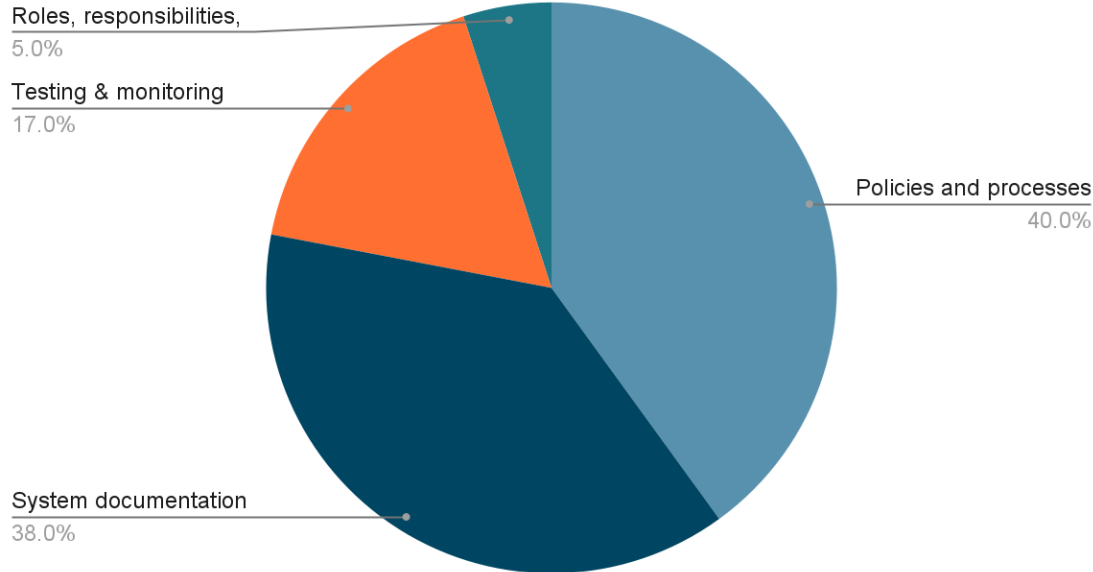
- **California Employer ADS Rules**
- **California Healthcare services AI**
- **NYC Local Law 144**
- **Illinois Video Interview Act**
- **Colorado Insurance SB 21-169**
- **Colorado AI in Healthcare**
- **Maryland HB 1202**
- **Texas AI in Health Records**
- **FDA AI-Enabled Device Guidance**
- **NAIC Use of AI by Insurers**
- **SR 26-2 Model Risk Guidance**
- **Canada Guideline E-23**

Voluntary Standards

- **ISO/IEC 42001**
- **NIST AI RMF**
- **OECD AI Principles**
- **Singapore Fwk for Agentic AI**
- **Australia AI Safety Standards**
- **Hong Kong Ethical AI Framework**
- **Japan AI Utilization Guidelines**

The EU AI Act: an update

EU AI Act controls breakdown



Digital Omnibus Amendments

GenAI Systems & Content

Feb. 2, 2027 → Dec. 2, 2026

Accelerated 3 months

- Transparency & watermarking rules
- “Reasonable safety measures” on any image/video system to prevent misuse

Standalone High-Risk AI Systems

Aug. 2, 2026 → Dec. 2, 2027

Delayed 16 months

- Compliance requirements for most developers & deployers **did not change**
- Extended simplified requirements to small-mid companies (750 employees)

High-Risk Systems in Regulated Products

Aug. 2, 2027 → Aug. 2, 2028

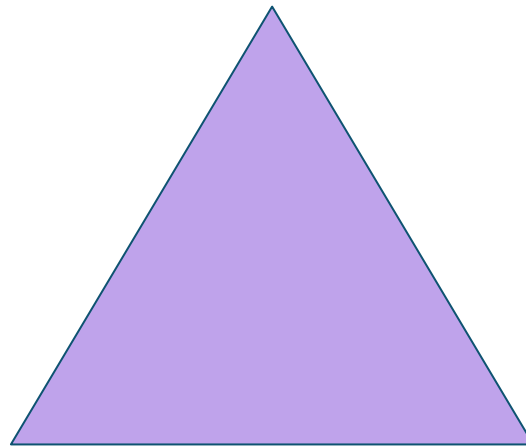
Delayed 12 months

- Most machinery now exempt
- Other regulated products - guidance to come from EU

The business risks of AI

Cybersecurity & Data:

Data leakage, data privacy, security,
prompt injection, data poisoning



Performance & Integrity:

Performance drift, bias,
hallucinations, reliability,
toxicity

Transparency:

Transparency, explainability,
auditability

The era of AI risks

- The real-world cost: reviewing the 12-month surge in AI-related data breaches (27%), regulatory actions (26%), and legal claims (22%).

FIGURE 3

Incidents reported in past 12 months



Human risk

- The "human layer" risk: addressing the workforce as the most significant, yet least governed, risk surface.

Primary drivers of risky behavior

34%

cite inputting sensitive data into AI systems as the top employee risk concern.

21%

say insufficient training accounts for the majority of risky behavior, not malicious intent.

21%

note pressure to move quickly is cited equally as a primary driver of unsafe AI use.

AI Governance is the set of policies, processes, and people that help you ensure responsible deployment of AI

Policies

- Compliance with external regulations and standards
- Development of and compliance with internal policies and guardrails

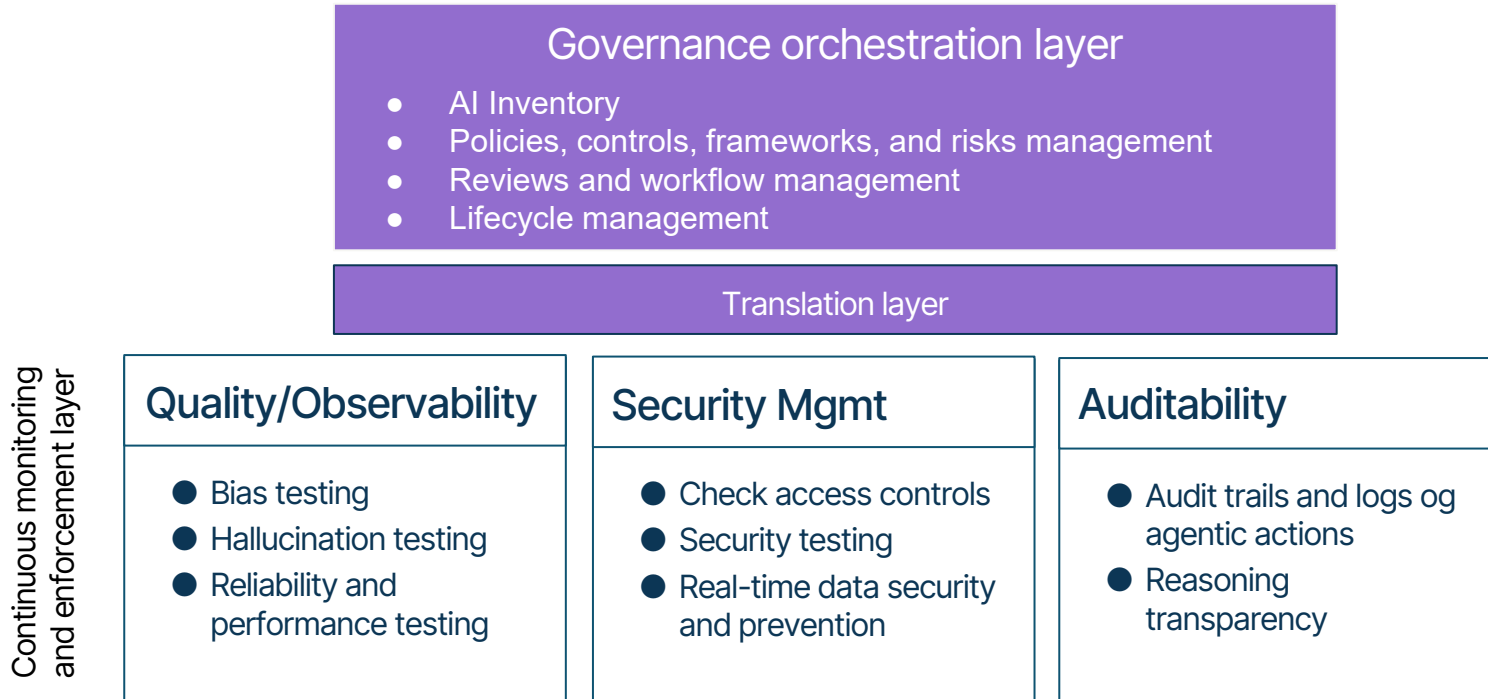
Processes

- Registry of AI systems and metadata
- Risk assessments
- Life cycle management
- Testing and monitoring
- Regular risk reviews
- Documentation

People

- Key stakeholders defined
- Roles and responsibilities defined
- AI governance training

Full-stack AI Governance will require continuous monitoring, orchestration, and human over-the-loop



While every company needs AI Governance, the urgency is higher for some

Geography:
North America
and EU due to
regulatory
expectations

*Regulated
industries:*
Financial
services,
Healthcare, HR,
gov't, telecom

*Vendors looking
to demonstrate
trust (e.g. ISO
42001)*

Every company will need AI Governance

AI Governance is a team sport

First line: Eng./AI/Business

- Eng./AI: Focus on testing, monitoring
- Business: Focus on risk vs value trade-offs for specific AI use cases

Second line: CISO / Risk / Legal

- CISO: Focus on data and AI security, data privacy and governance;
- Risk: Focus on overall risks and compliance with controls
- Legal: Focus on regulatory requirements

Third line: Audit

- Audit: Responsible for internal auditing of AI

Board / C-Suite: Responsible for final accountability

Common AI Governance failures fall into three categories

Lack of clear responsibilities and accountability

Fragmentation of tools

Lack of continuous visibility

Companies fall into four buckets when it comes to AI Governance maturity

1

Behind

Not using AI or not planning to and/or not thinking about governance at all

2

Starting

Understand the importance of AI governance but are struggling to get started on policies, controls, and responsibilities,

3

Optimizing

Have a governance process in place but are looking to optimize the efficacy and efficiency of their program

4

Leading

Have a robust AI governance program but need to keep up with changing AI technology and risks

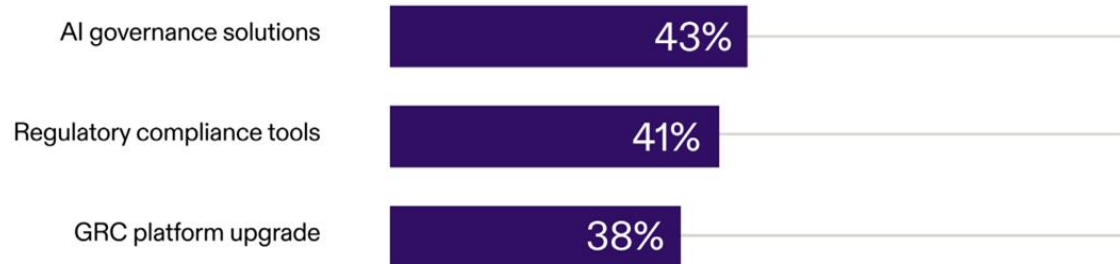
Investment signals

- **Budgetary trends:** why 72% of organizations are increasing GRC technology spend.
- **Top priorities:** AI governance solutions, regulatory compliance tools, GRC platform upgrade

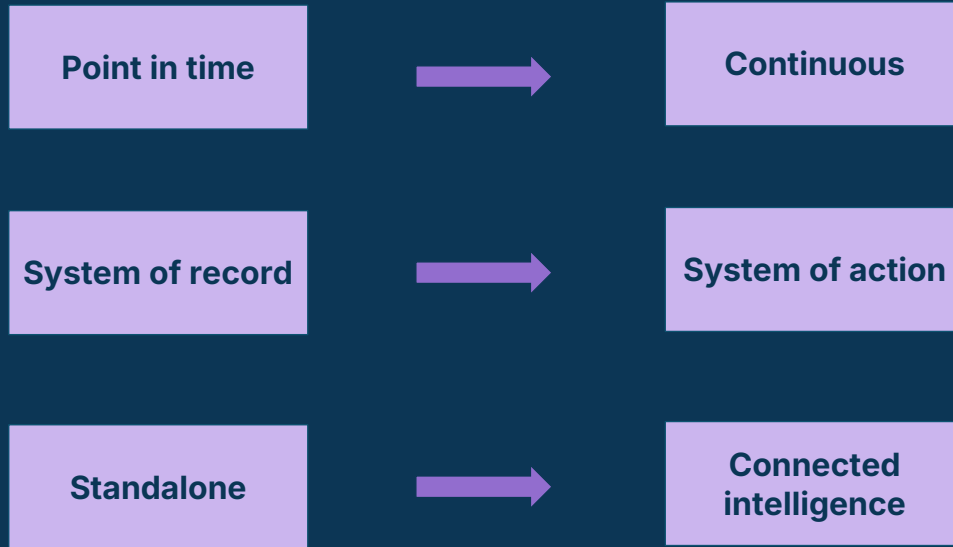
FIGURE 7

72% expect GRC technology budgets to increase

TOP INVESTMENT PRIORITIES



The architectural shift in GRC towards continuous, automated, and connected



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