

Why Federal Agencies Must Adopt a Proactive Approach to Risk

Threats are increasing in frequency, cost and complexity, making it harder for federal agencies to build resilience. The key is taking a proactive approach to risk mitigation. The **2024 OnSolve Global Risk Impact Report*** illustrates that most federal agencies still face challenges shifting to a proactive mindset.

96%

of federal leaders believe a proactive approach to threat mitigation is important or extremely important.

Yet only

6%

say they are **proactive** about identifying risk.

Why?

25%

of federal leaders say a lack of technology is the biggest challenge or obstacle to improving resilience.

Why does this matter?

100%

of federal government leaders said their agency experienced a physical threat in the last 24 months.

Federal agencies experienced these top physical threats

- 1 Crime - 41%
- 2 Natural Disasters - 39%
- 3 Geopolitical - 37%

With impacts in these top areas

- 1 Employee safety
- 2 Compliance
- 3 Agency reputation

Expect the Unexpected

Every physical threat can become a dynamic risk, with cascading and often unexpected impacts.

51%

of federal leaders reported that physical threats led to unanticipated impacts on their agencies “most of the time” or “always.”

Top Areas Affected by Unanticipated Impacts

- 1 Employee safety
- 2 Unplanned operational downtime
- 3 Compliance

Shift From Reactive to Proactive

Federal agencies need to move away from reactive risk management and adopt a proactive approach to physical threat mitigation built around rapid discovery and recovery. **We call this resilience management.**

5 steps federal agencies can take to be more proactive

- 1 Evaluate your current resilience program.
- 2 Identify vulnerabilities.
- 3 Harness data and analytics.
- 4 Invest in technology for early detection and response.
- 5 Build a strong framework to move from reactive risk response to proactive risk management.

Read the **2024 OnSolve Global Risk Impact Report** to learn more.

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*The data presented is from the 2024 OnSolve Global Risk Impact Report. The results reported here are based on a survey of 51 federal workers with leadership positions at U.S. federal organizations and agencies and the examination of more than 50 million reports of global risk events detected by OnSolve Risk Intelligence from January 1, 2020, to December 31, 2023.