

In the Virtual Floorplan, Security is a Team Sport

Insights from *The Virtual Floorplan: New Rules for a New Era of Work*

A new global survey of 7,600 IT decision-makers, HR decision-makers, business decision-makers, and employees—conducted by Vanson Bourne and commissioned by VMware—revealed that a prevailing shift towards hybrid work has brought with it a new “virtual floorplan.” This new paradigm carries new security risks for leaders to manage across a distributed workforce and multiplying endpoints.

Security fears temper enthusiasm around the virtual floorplan

The rise of remote work has led to an increase in new security risks. With organizations likely holding less direct control over apps, devices and networks, IT is navigating a brave new world where security is everyone’s responsibility.



REPORT THAT NEW SECURITY RISKS INCREASED SINCE MORE EMPLOYEES STARTED WORKING REMOTELY.



AGREE THAT THE SENSITIVITY OF THE DATA THEIR ORGANIZATION HANDLES HAS MADE THEM MORE CAUTIOUS TO EMBRACE REMOTE WORK LONG TERM.



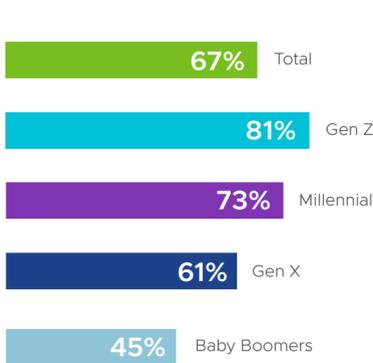
AGREE THAT THEIR ORGANIZATION ISN'T ABLE TO LET EMPLOYEES WORK IN OTHER COUNTRIES DUE TO CONCERNS ABOUT DATA PROTECTION.

The risks are clear but there’s a disconnect as to how severe

“NEW SECURITY THREATS HAVE INCREASED IN MY ORGANIZATION SINCE EMPLOYEES STARTED WORKING REMOTELY.”



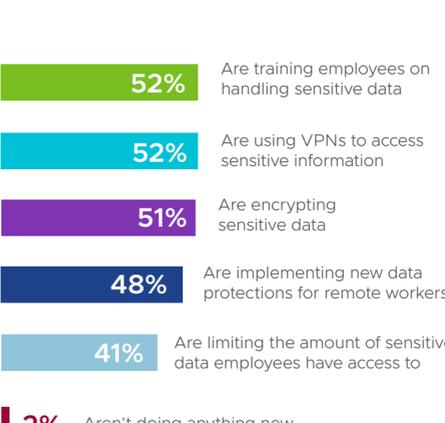
EMPLOYEES WHO HAVE USED A PERSONAL DEVICE TO CONNECT TO ORGANIZATION'S NETWORK OR HANDLE ORGANIZATION DATA OR FILES, BY GENERATION



“Proceed with caution” means something very different across functions and generations—something to consider for training efforts. But this gap in perceived risk cannot be tackled by employee trainings alone.

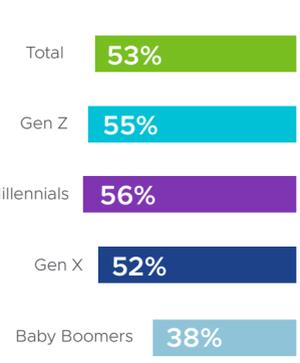
With threats on the rise, IT teams must expand their toolbox

ORGANIZATIONS ARE EMBRACING A RANGE OF EDUCATION, POLICY AND TECHNOLOGY SOLUTIONS IN ORDER TO MEET THE EVOLVING RISKS.

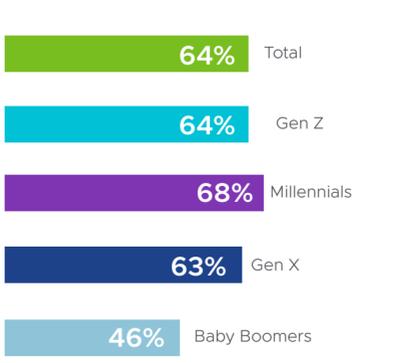


But some data protections are coming at the cost of efficiency

“I FEEL LOCKED IN BY RESTRICTIONS UPON WHICH TECHNOLOGY I CAN USE AS PART OF MY WORK.”



“IT SECURITY MEASURES IMPLEMENTED TO PROTECT REMOTE DEVICES HAVE SOMETIMES HELD BACK PRODUCTIVITY IN MY TEAM.”



Many respondents—younger generations especially—feel restricted by the data protection and network security measures organizations have implemented so far.

Navigating a New Security Paradigm

As the hybrid work landscape stabilizes, it's clear that many leaders still need to resolve the tension between security and productivity. A key focus for IT teams will be to identify tools and solutions that protect sensitive data without sacrificing employee efficiency. Mastering this balance will be crucial to securing the virtual floorplan as a business advantage for years to come.

[DOWNLOAD THE FULL REPORT](#)

Survey conducted between July and August of 2021.