



A Netrio Mid-Market AI Readiness Report

Spotlight: Financial Services



The Board Is Asking About AI. Is Your Security Team Ready to Answer?

A familiar scene is playing out across industries and especially in financial services: the board wants to know what your organization is doing with AI. And they want a reassuring, not just an enthusiastic, answer.

22.7%

INVEST IN AI DUE TO A
BOARD OR EXECUTIVE
MANDATE

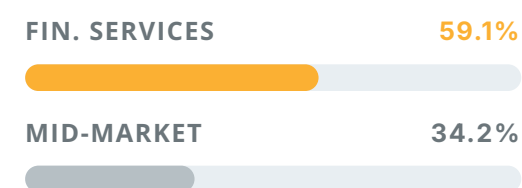
Among financial services IT leaders surveyed, 22.7% say their primary motivation for investing in AI is a board or executive mandate, which is more than double the 9.2% rate across all mid-market industries. In financial services, AI is a top-down expectation outside of the internal efficiency factor (which dominated across industries).

9.2%

rate across all mid-market industries

FINANCIAL SERVICES VS. MID-MARKET

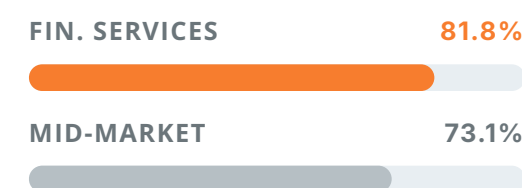
Feel most under-equipped on
architecture and guardrails



When asked where their organization feels most under-equipped to execute on AI, 59.1% of financial services IT leaders pointed to architecture and guardrails, which far outpaced the 34.2% overall average. That means firms are being given directives to activate AI faster than their security architecture can support it.

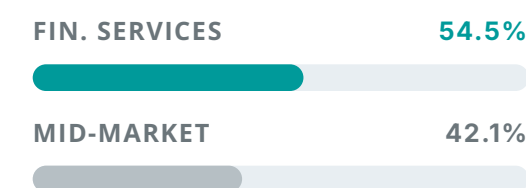
And the gap in readiness comes with a clear cost:

Had a confirmed AI security
incident or near miss



81.8% of financial services respondents said their organization has experienced a confirmed AI-related security or a near miss in the past 12 months, higher than the 73.1% that the mid-market at large has experienced. But that doesn't mean that financial services is lagging on the formalities: 54.5% report a formal AI policy with actively enforced controls, well ahead of the 42.1% for the mid-market as a whole.

Report a formal AI policy with
enforced controls



The formal policy is there. The secure architecture to support it is what's still catching up.

What Does This Mean for Your Firm?

The next step in AI value isn't adding another tool to your stack. What you need is a transparent look at whether your AI architecture, access controls, and governance structure can support what your leadership has committed to. With the right framework, you can get ahead today.

Want Netrio's expert AI Advisory to assess where you are today and how to elevate your AI value? Reach out and schedule a conversation at info@netrio.com.

SCHEDULE A CONVERSATION →