

# First steps to data provisioning maturity

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**An organization's deepest insights are often derived from sensitive data. Responsible organizations know they must ensure such data is safe for broad consumption.**

Privitar helps organizations embrace safe data analytics strategies that enable them to use their data to gain valuable insights. Many of these organizations face familiar challenges, including privacy risks, compliance concerns, inefficient workflows, and complex approval processes. Such roadblocks delay access to data, stifle innovation, and prevent the realization of maximum value from their data.

Leveraging our experience working with governments and the Fortune 500, Privitar created the Data Provisioning Maturity Model to help organizations understand the current level of maturity of their data programs. It shows business leaders where to make strategic improvements that deliver measurable business value.

This eBook outlines the first steps an organization can take to improve maturity across their data provisioning operations. The insight from this model should open up a larger conversation on how you could improve the ways your organization shares, protects, and consumes sensitive data.

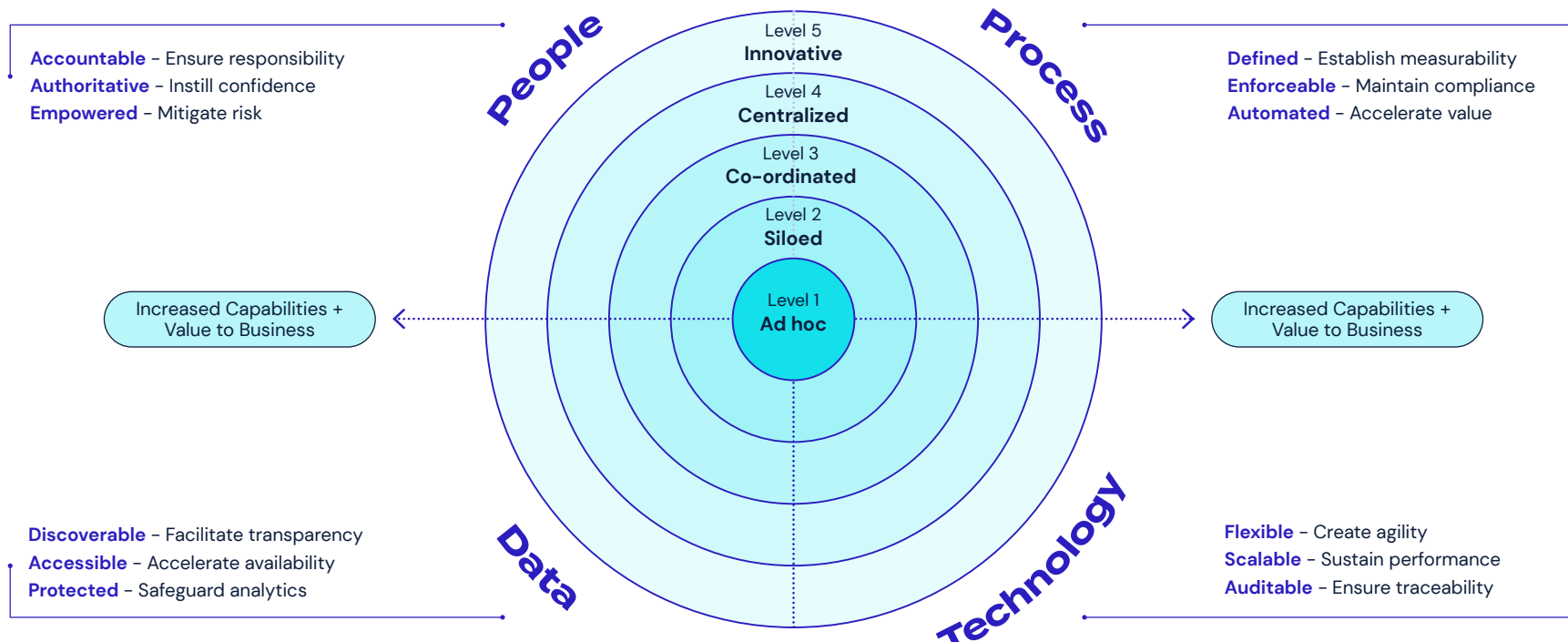


## The maturity model

Data provisioning processes accelerate consumption and deliver immense value when you build in privacy and accountability. You can multiply the economic value of data to new levels by streamlining data provisioning to enable broad, safe consumption.

The Data Provisioning Maturity Model illustrates the relationship between provisioning capabilities and business value across four equally important operational segments: people, process, data, and technology. A high level of capability corresponds with increased business value.

## The data provisioning maturity model



The Privitar Data provisioning maturity model shows four critical operational segments where enhancing your capabilities can enable faster time to value.



In each segment, an organization's current capabilities align with one of five levels of maturity:

1. Ad hoc, with little or no standardization
2. Siloed, with no coordination across the organization
3. Coordinated efforts take place across domains
4. Centralized data protection, governance, and accountability are in place
5. Innovative practices are realizing business value from data

The majority of organizations find they sit at level 1 or 2 in most segments today, but aspire to advance and extract maximum utility from their data. The greater an organization's maturity, the more it can leverage data assets widely and create real value for the consumers its data serves.

In this document, you will learn what organizations can do to improve their maturity in each segment.

## Why you need the model

The Data provisioning maturity model is a measuring stick and common framework for your organization:

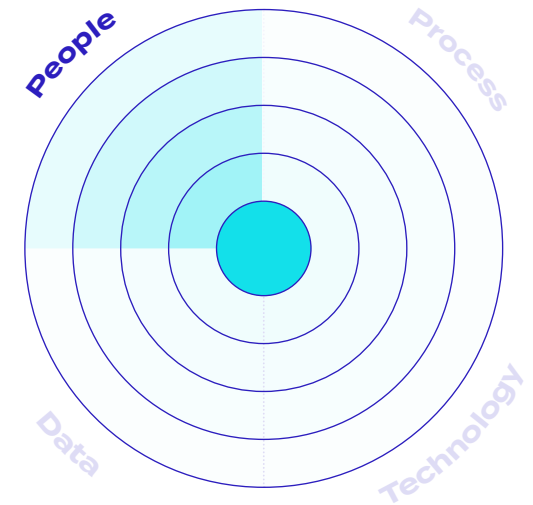
- Create a common language for communication across the organization
- Quickly assess the key areas to improve
- Define a strategy and goals to make improvements
- Adopt a standard to measure progress and resolve conflicts



## People

A strong people structure has a significant impact on how staff receive, use, and adhere to your enterprise data provisioning strategy. Improving your level of people maturity will deliver business value with its ability to:

- Ensure data can be used responsibly and ethically
- Instill confidence by knowing where to go for solutions and guidance
- Mitigate risk by empowering individuals to direct appropriate data use



### Accountable – Ensure responsibility

Transparent ownership is needed to manage and reduce risk. Leave no doubt about where to go when data is required from any domain in your ecosystem. This might mean appointing dedicated persons in each department.

**First steps:** Call out the roles of team members responsible for setting the bounds of data use, creating policies, and selecting the privacy techniques for protecting sensitive data. Define how they will interact with the wider organization so that all teams know whom to contact for help.



### Authoritative – Instill confidence

Involving each business unit will help organizations streamline approvals while reducing the risk of using data inappropriately. Strengthening existing data governance bodies is accomplished by adding or expanding the role of data owners and data guardians, who ensure consistency and have the authority to enforce the rules.

**First steps:** Document and define key personas and their span of control within the data provisioning process.

### Empowered – Mitigate risk

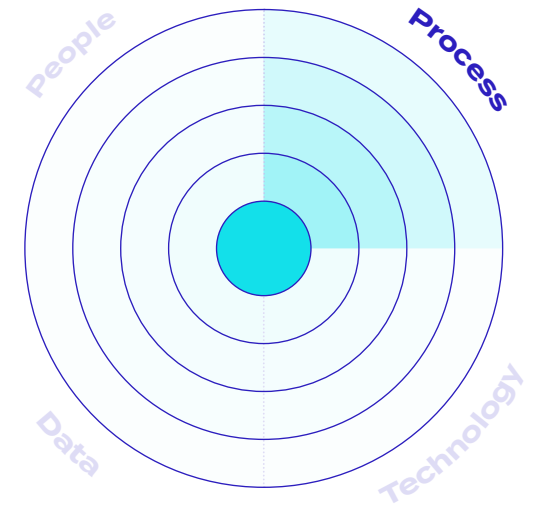
Risk intensifies when authority is unclear, inconsistent, or absent. Security and compliance should work closely with the broader organization to clarify accountability. Ensure those who enforce policies and procedures are known to everyone and empowered in their role.

**First steps:** Define who has the authority to direct the appropriate, safe, and ethical use of data across your organization. Document the scope of organizational influence and what enforcement mechanisms you will use to ensure compliance.

## Process

Well-defined processes will significantly improve your ability to drive an efficient, end-to-end data provisioning infrastructure. Improving your level of process maturity will deliver business value with its ability to:

- Establish measurability by defining metrics that show how data is used
- Maintain compliance by enforcing measures that follow regulations and standards
- Accelerate value by delivering data that meets business needs in minutes



### Defined – Establish measurability

The risk in any given process must be measured to manage it effectively. Mature organizations set up metrics to understand whether people are following the defined policies. Simple metrics can tell an organization whether a policy is effective.

**First steps:** Combine metrics with clear and concise workflows to improve data provisioning processes. Ensure the organization complies with evolving regulatory guidelines in your operating markets.

### Enforceable – Maintain compliance

Without focus and attention, some standards will be unenforceable or only enforced after failures occur. An automated, privacy-focused process provides the ability to track data, see all the policies applied to it, and support compliance.

**First steps:** Ensure processes are repeatable, sustainable, and easy to communicate across the organization—and monitor them wherever they are applied.

### Automated – Accelerate value

Many organizations still employ manual, disparate processes to meet data requests. Leveraging existing metadata tools and automation in your processes will help you tackle this problem. A descriptive, front-end data dictionary will help streamline provisioning.

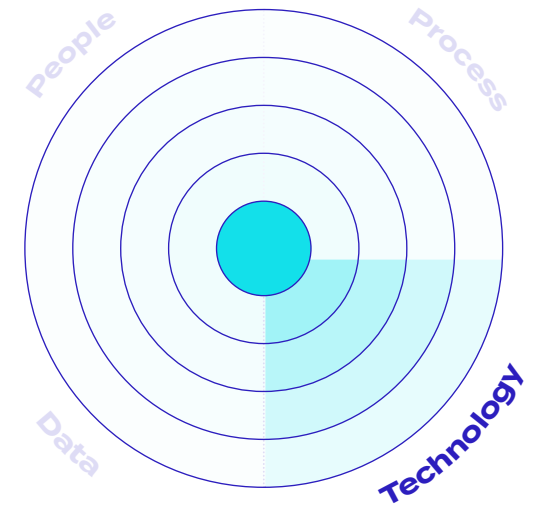
**First steps:** Automate data access workflows to approve requests and handle exceptions so that data is provisioned at the speed the business demands.



## Technology

Leverage proven technology to ensure your infrastructure can deliver and keep pace with business demands. Improve your level of technology maturity to deliver business value:

- Create agility through rapid and flexible integration into diverse ecosystems
- Sustain performance with efficient handling of any activity at peak loads
- Ensure traceability with insight into how data is used across your organization



### Flexible – Create agility

Complementary tools and approaches ensure safe data is provisioned at a speed dictated by customer needs. An initial deployment can lead to full use across platforms later, but underlying capabilities must be in place at the outset.

**First steps:** Pursue seamless integration across architectures, environments, and tools to easily adopt and cascade changes across your organization as needed.

### Scalable – Sustain performance

Data provisioning technology must support the varying needs of data consumers now and in the future. Successful platforms fulfill current requirements with the responsiveness to adapt when business and market forces demand.

**First steps:** Demand instant responsiveness to support growth in data volumes, number of requests, and number of users across varying consumption patterns.

### Auditable – Ensure traceability

Data provisioning solutions should support end-to-end data lineage and audit requirements, as well as integration with security, metadata, or catalog tools so you can track updates when needed.

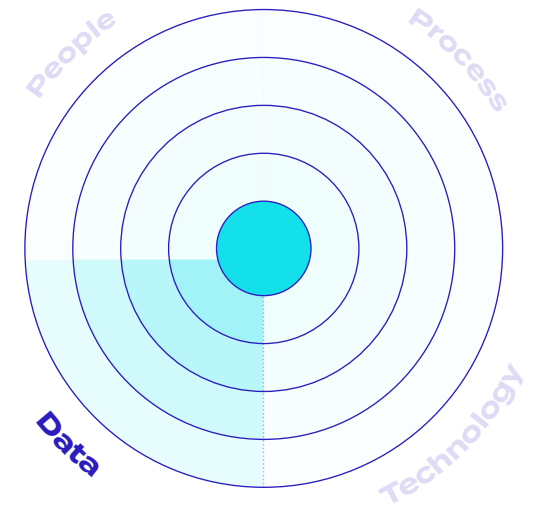
**First steps:** Use monitoring and reporting to understand who is using the data, how it is used, where it is used, and what business purpose it serves.



## Data

The ability to access all your data is a game changer that opens up opportunities to beat your competition and create new revenue streams. Improving your level of data maturity will deliver business value:

- Facilitate transparency to make data easy to find
- Accelerate availability by promoting instant access to data for strategic initiatives
- Safeguard data for use in analytics with protections that fit with business needs



### Discoverable – Facilitate transparency

Managing data, enhancing accessibility, and accelerating data provisioning are difficult if metadata and classifications are varied or incomplete. Move away from disparate data sources toward a complete, continuously refreshed inventory of protected data.

**First steps:** Streamline your approach to curating data assets. Create meaningful definitions and classifications so data is easily searchable, findable, and meaningful.

### Accessible – Accelerate availability

Data requests take too long when data consumers depend on manual queries or lengthy searches to find what they need.

A central service that provides access to data whenever needed is a hallmark of organizations with mature data provisioning processes.

**First steps:** Make your data readily available, usable, and shareable from a centralized location. Self-service, user-friendly access to data is necessary to gain widespread adoption.

### Protected – Safeguard analytics

Data should be approved, protected, and provisioned consistently across all local groups and teams. You should apply centrally managed, predefined policies when you need to protect data, reduce approval times, and accelerate the data provisioning processes.

**First steps:** Define policies and protection methods based on your business needs and data protection concerns, including regulatory compliance and data sovereignty requirements.





## About Privitar

Privitar empowers organizations to use their data safely and ethically. Our modern data provisioning solution builds collaborative workflows and policy-based data protection into data operations. Only Privitar has the right combination of technology, domain expertise, and best practices to support data-driven innovation while navigating regulations and protecting customer trust.

Take the assessment to find your [maturity level](#).

