

Top 5 ways Identity Governance strengthens security

Proactively reduce vulnerabilities and secure access

With over 77% of breaches timed to identity issues¹, and 25% of SaaS applications underutilized², a modern identity governance solution is no longer a luxury but a necessity. By using identity and proper governance as the foundation of your security strategy, organizations can reduce vulnerabilities, enforce least privilege, and maintain compliance. Here are the top five ways Okta Identity Governance can help proactively secure sensitive resources and prevent costly security incidents.

Access Certification

Eliminate orphaned and inactive accounts

Why it matters

Orphaned accounts create open pathways for unauthorized access, putting sensitive data and systems at risk. Reducing these accounts minimizes your organization's exposure to attacks.

Why now

With cyberattacks escalating and the average breach cost reaching record highs (USD 4.88M in 2024)³, every inactive account is a potential entry point. Proactive account management is more critical than ever.

How OIG helps

Okta Identity Governance (OIG) automates identifying and deprovisioning orphan accounts, reducing risks from unmonitored access. certifications can be dynamically triggered by events (e.g., user role changes), adding real-time responsiveness to complement traditional time-based reviews.

Entitlement Management

Enforce least privilege access

Why it matters

Overly broad access increases your risk, as users can access more resources than they need, making compromised accounts more damaging.

Why now

Privilege escalation attacks are surging, and every excess permission is an open door for attackers. Implementing least privilege now prevents your organization from being an easy target.

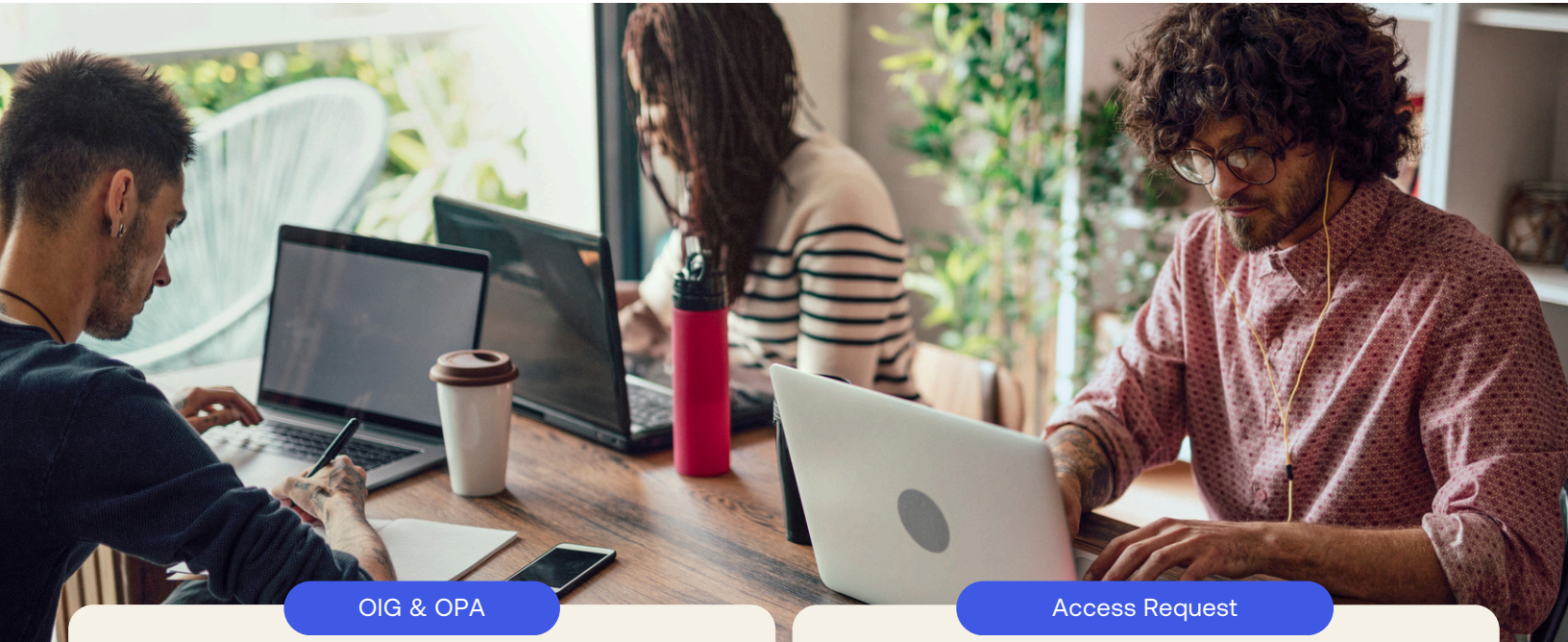
How OIG helps

OIG feature, Entitlement Management, lets organizations discover, manage, and assign fine-grained entitlements in one view. Attribute-based policies enforce least privilege, while integrations with Access Request and Access Certification features streamline permission management and ensure full control.

[1] [Verizon 2024 Mobile Security Index](#)

[2] [Gartner: Why Are You Wasting Your SaaS Expenditure?](#)

[3] [IBM Cost of a Data Breach Report 2024](#)



OIG & OPA

Access Request

Strengthen control over critical infrastructure

Why it matters

Users who access Admin accounts, shared accounts, and infrastructure are prime targets for attackers. Protecting, managing, and monitoring these accounts holistically, with identity as the foundational security, can help prevent catastrophic security incidents.

Why now

Compromised privileged identities account for 33% of security incidents.⁴ Protecting high-risk accounts is no longer optional. Tightening control now limits your exposure to major threats.

How OIG helps

Okta Privileged Access (OPA) extends passwordless access to critical infrastructures and provides visibility to local accounts on servers and SaaS apps. Seamlessly integrating with OIG, it enables security teams to create access request workflows that must be approved before granting resource access.

Ensure secure, compliant access requests

Why it matters

Shadow IT and unauthorized access requests increase security risks and can lead to data breaches or compliance failures if unmanaged.

Why now

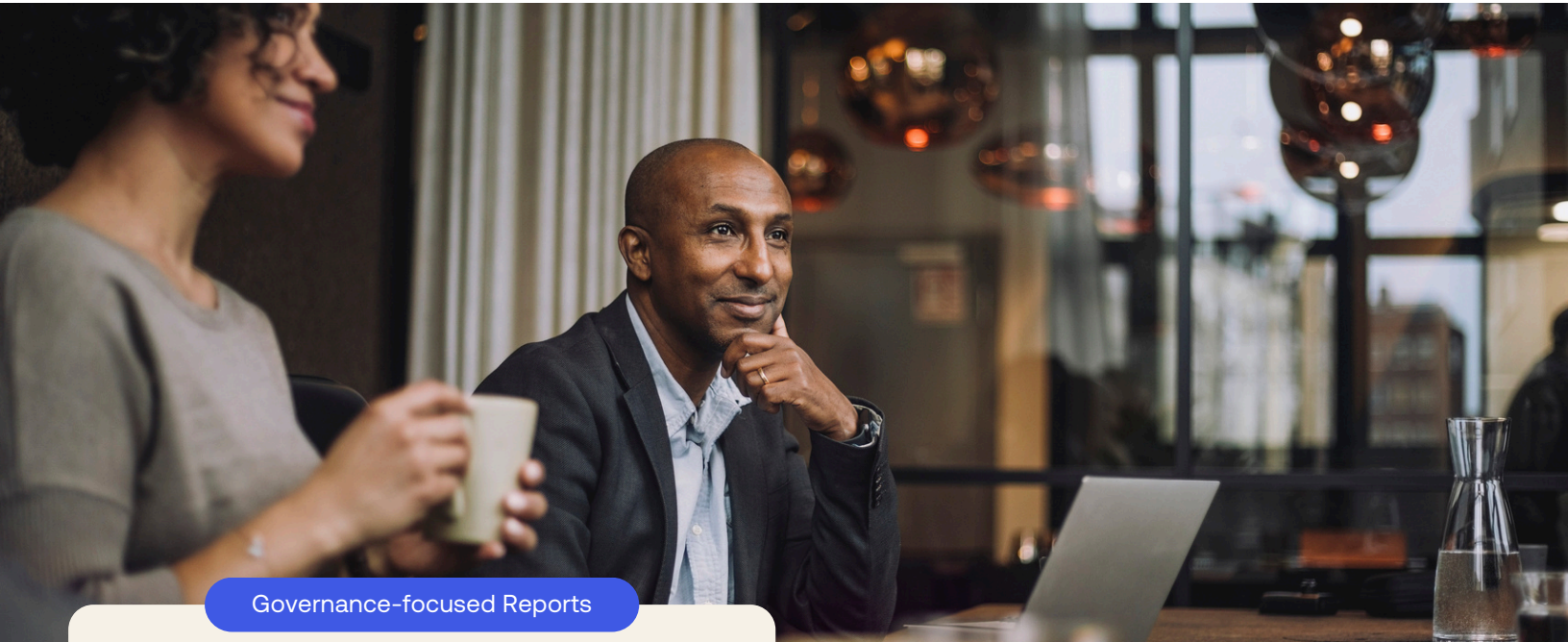
Remote work and SaaS use are at an all-time high, with SaaS spend more than doubling since 2020,⁵ amplifying the risk of unauthorized access attempts. Securing access requests today reduces risk by bringing them under compliant, monitored control.

How OIG helps

OIG Access Request offers a secure, easy way to request access, minimizing shadow IT and ensuring compliance. Automating requests to resources—apps, groups, and entitlements—OIG routes requests to approvers for action, enhancing security, reducing errors, and improving IT productivity.

[4] Identity Defined Security Alliance 2024 Trends in Securing Digital Identities

[5] Gartner Forecasts Worldwide Public Cloud End-User Spending to Surpass \$675 Billion in 2024



Governance-focused Reports

Maintain compliance with real-time reporting

Why it matters

Without continuous reporting, hidden security risks and compliance violations can go unchecked, leading to breaches and costly regulatory penalties. Having the ability to prove that you have the right governance and policies in place is essential not only for audits but also for building trust with stakeholders.

Why now

Compliance requirements are tightening, and failing an audit is more costly than ever. Implementing real-time reporting today strengthens your security posture and keeps you audit-ready.

How OIG helps

With OIG, Okta delivers governance-focused reporting with real-time insights into user access, entitlements, and policies. Integrated with Access Request, Access Certifications, and Entitlement Management, it helps detect anomalies, validate compliance, and streamline audit preparation.

As part of a broader unified identity platform, Okta Identity Governance centralizes visibility across critical roles and resources and discovers over-permissioned users so security teams can enforce least privilege principles for critical applications before risks turn into breaches.

Don't wait for vulnerabilities to become threats. Reach out today to see how Okta Identity Governance can elevate your security and protect what matters most.

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[Okta Privileged Access](#)

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[Meeting regulatory, framework, and standards obligations with Okta Identity Governance](#)

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About Okta

Okta is The World's Identity Company™. We secure Identity, so everyone is free to safely use any technology. Our customer and workforce solutions empower businesses and developers to use the power of Identity to drive security, efficiencies, and success — all while protecting their users, employees, and partners. Learn why the world's leading brands trust Okta for authentication, authorization, and more at okta.com.