

CONTINUUM GRC

Your Roadmap to Risk Reduction

2026

GRC AUTOMATION

BENCHMARK REPORT

AUTOMATE. INTEGRATE. ACCELERATE.

Benchmark data and real-world insights on GRC automation trends, capabilities, adoption drivers, and business impact across organizations of all sizes.

ASSESS

AUTOMATE

ASSURE

IMPACT

GRC AUTOMATION DASHBOARD

AUTOMATION ADOPTION

72% Organizations Automating

TOP AUTOMATED CAPABILITIES

Risk Assessment78%

Control Monitoring71%

Policy Management63%

Evidence Collection60%

Reporting & Analytics58%

EFFICIENCY IMPACT

47% Reduction in Manual Work

MATURITY DISTRIBUTION

Low15%

Medium35%

High50%

2026 GRC AUTOMATION BENCHMARK REPORT

Data, insights, impact.

CONTINUUM GRC

Your Roadmap to Risk Reduction

INCREASE EFFICIENCY

Streamline processes and reduce manual workloads.

IMPROVE ACCURACY

Minimize errors and ensure consistent, defensible data.

ENHANCE VISIBILITY

Real-time insights across risks, controls, and compliance.

DRIVE ADOPTION

Understand what's working and what's holding organizations back.

MAXIMIZE IMPACT

Stronger governance. Lower risk. Better business outcomes.

500+

Organizations Benchmarked

25+

Industries Represented

Global Insights

North America, EMEA, APAC

Trend Analysis

Year-over-year trends and emerging capabilities

Actionable Recommendations

Practical guidance to advance your GRC program

Continuum GRC · FedRAMP Authorized GRC Platform · Roadmap to Risk Reduction

2026 GRC AUTOMATION BENCHMARK REPORT

EVIDENCE, AUTHORIZING & OPERATING LEVERAGE

Download Report

54%

Average share of evidence collected by integration or schedule

74%

Package-assembly time cut in high-automation programs

92%

A.ITAMBot acceleration of technical writing and readiness authoring

\$47.6k

Median annual labor avoided at high automation + A.ITAMBot

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

31%

Programs at high automation (more than 70% of evidence automated)

220 → 48

Hours to assemble an evidence package, manual versus high automation

208 → 17

Hours of technical writing with A.ITAMBot versus a manual draft cycle

Automation in this sample is not binary. Most programs automate some collection and still write narratives by hand. The programs that pulled away combined three layers: scheduled or integrated evidence, a unified control map, and A.ITAMBot for authoring. That combination is where the 74% assembly reduction and the 92% writing reduction show up in the same cycle.

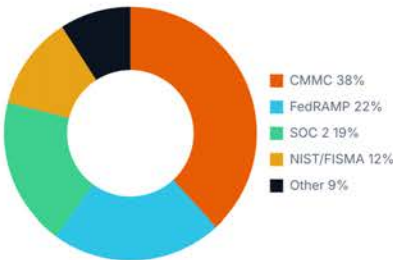
Labor dollars use a blended fully loaded rate of \$125 per hour. Figures exclude assessor fees, licenses, and control remediation. They measure only internal collection, mapping, monitoring, and writing time.

STUDY METHODOLOGY

Independent analysis of 275 active Continuum GRC customer programs from January 2025 through June 2026. Automation rate is the share of mapped artifacts created by integration, scheduled export, or workflow — not by ad hoc upload. Authoring time is taken from SSP, control-implementation, procedure, mapping-note, and POA&M writing cycles.

Maturity bands: manual (under 30% automated evidence), mixed (30–70%), high (over 70%). Mix: CMMC 38%, FedRAMP/StateRAMP 22%, SOC 2 19%, NIST 800-53/FISMA 12%, other 9%.

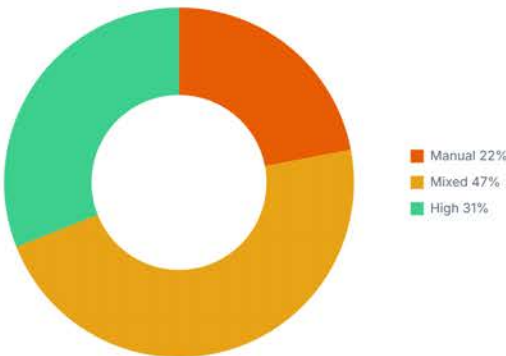
Sample mix by primary framework



AUTOMATION MATURITY

Nearly half the sample sits in the mixed middle: some integrations, still a large manual residue. The performance gap is between that middle and the high-automation third — not between mixed and fully manual.

Programs by automation band



Band	Share	Programs	Median auto rate
Manual (<30%)	22%	61	18%
Mixed (30–70%)	47%	129	51%
High (>70%)	31%	85	81%
All programs	100%	275	54%

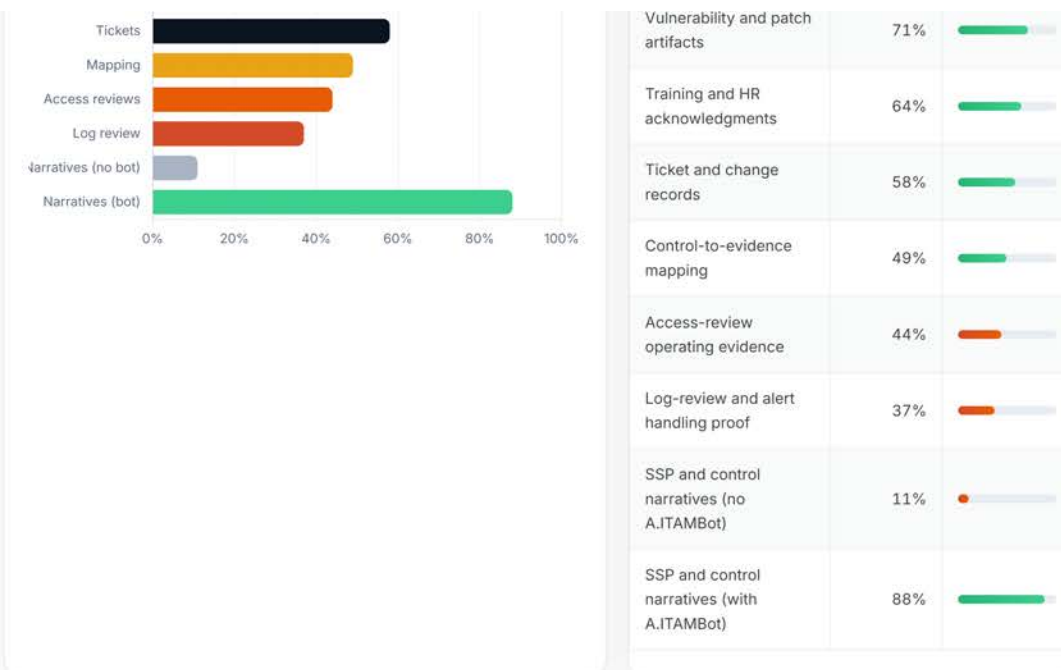
WHAT GETS AUTOMATED

Collection is ahead of authoring. Identity, endpoint, and cloud configuration evidence automate first. Log review, access recertification commentary, and SSP prose remain the last manual islands — unless A.ITAMBot is in use.

Share of work automated by workstream



Workstream	Avg automated	Coverage
Cloud / IdP configuration evidence	76%	



TIME, LABOR & COST

High automation changes the assessment calendar. Manual programs still spend more than two months assembling a package. High-automation programs spend just over two weeks — and most of that is review, not hunting.

172 hrs

Assembly hours avoided per cycle at high automation (220 → 48)

\$21,500

Labor saved on package assembly at \$125/hr

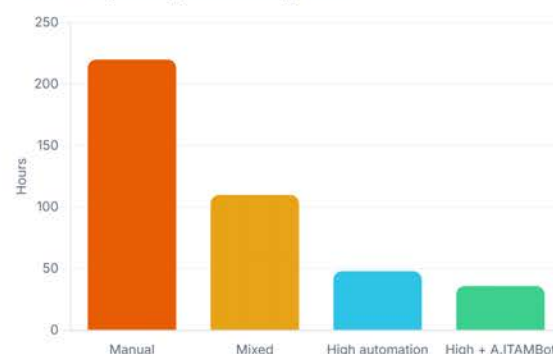
191 hrs

Authoring hours avoided with A.ITAMBot (208 → 17)

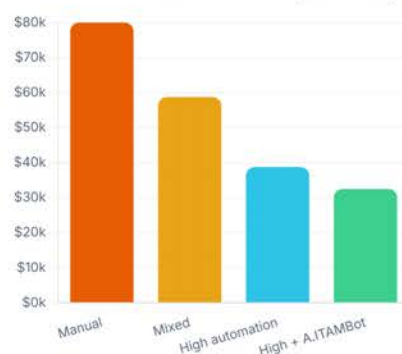
\$23,875

Labor saved on technical writing per cycle

Evidence-package assembly time



Annual internal labor cost by maturity



Maturity	Assembly hours	Annual sustainment hours	Annual labor	Versus manual
Manual	220	640	\$80,000	Baseline
Mixed	110	470	\$58,750	-27%
High automation	48	310	\$38,750	-52%
High + A.ITAMBot	36	260	\$32,500	-59%

Median annual labor avoided when a manual program reaches high automation plus A.ITAMBot: **\$47,500** (\$80,000 → \$32,500).

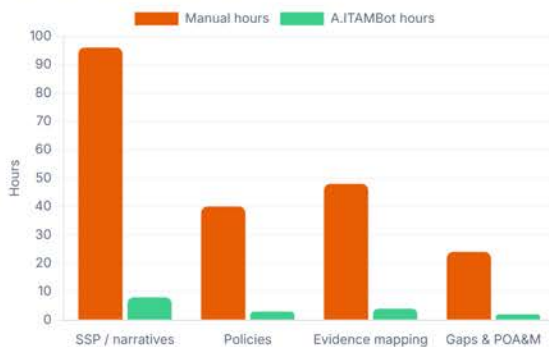
A.ITAMBOT™ TECHNICAL WRITING & READINESS

92%

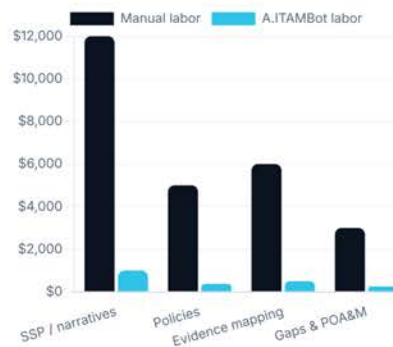
A.ITAMBot accelerates technical writing and audit readiness

Used in 39% of programs in this sample (107 of 275). Manual authoring baseline: 208 hours. A.ITAMBot-assisted baseline: 17 hours. That is the largest single-task gain measured in the

Authoring hours by task



Authoring labor cost at \$125/hr



Authoring workstream	Manual hours	A.ITAMBot hours	Time saved	Labor saved
SSP / control implementation narratives	96	8	88 hrs	\$11,000
Policy and procedure drafts	40	3	37 hrs	\$4,625
Evidence mapping statements	48	4	44 hrs	\$5,500
Gap write-ups and POA&M language	24	2	22 hrs	\$2,750
Total	208	17	191 hrs (92%)	\$23,875

What A.ITAMBot writes

- First-draft SSP and control narratives from mapped evidence
- Procedure language aligned to the live control record
- Consistent wording across stacked frameworks

What still needs a human

- Scope and inheritance decisions
- Acceptance of residual risk and POA&M dates
- Assessor walkthroughs and live demonstrations

Calendar effect

- Authoring compressed from about five weeks to about two days
- Reviewers edit a draft instead of building one
- Stacks with the 74% reduction in package assembly

WHAT STILL BLOCKS AUTOMATION

01

Operating evidence that lives in email, chat, or undocumented meetings

02

Inheritance and CRM records that are not treated as system-of-record data

03

Authoring left outside the GRC platform after collection is already automated

The 22% still in the manual band were not missing a platform. They were missing owners, a defined evidence standard per control, and a rule that recurring operational proof must be generated by a workflow. Automation failed most often on AU-family review evidence and account recertification — the same families that produce late assessor requests.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1 Measure automation rate as the share of mapped artifacts created by integration or schedule, not as “we have a GRC tool.”
- 2 Move identity, cloud, vulnerability, and training evidence first. Those four families already exceed 60% automation in this sample.
- 3 Do not stop at collection. The 92% writing gain only appears when A.ITAMBot sits on top of mapped, current evidence.

- 4 Give every operational control a dated artifact standard and an owner. Unowned review evidence stays manual.
- 5 Target the high-automation band: more than 70% automated evidence and authoring inside the same platform.
- 6 Report two KPIs monthly: percent of artifacts automated, and hours spent on last-cycle authoring.

CONTINUUM GRC AS THE **AUTOMATION LAYER**

Continuum GRC (IT Audit Machine®) and A.ITAMBot™ are built to automate the three layers that actually move the numbers in this study: evidence collection and hashing, control-to-artifact mapping, and technical writing. Programs that used all three sat at 36 assembly hours and 260 annual sustainment hours — 59% below the manual band.

GRC automation is not a dashboard. It is a reduction in hours between "the control operated" and "the assessor can see that it operated." That is the benchmark.

CONTINUUM GRC | Lazarus Alliance

Independent study. Anonymized aggregate data from 275 Continuum GRC customer programs, January 2025–June 2026.

For a program-specific automation comparison, contact Continuum GRC.

2026 GRC Automation Benchmark Report

REQUEST A PERSONALIZED DEMO

Speak with our team using the form below or call us at [1-888-896-6207](tel:1-888-896-6207) for assistance.

Name *

First

Last

Email *

Email

Confirm Email

Phone

Company *

How may we assist you? *

Do you want Managed Services, or Readiness Services? *

- ☐ Risk Management Services
- ☐ Compliance Management Services
- ☐ Readiness Services and Technical Writing
- ☐ Something not listed?

What type of subscription are you interested in? *

- ☐ MSP (Provider Managing Multiple Clients)
- ☐ Enterprise (Managing your Company)
- ☐ Subscribers (Limited Access to Pre-Configured Modules)
- ☐ Something not listed?

Did you want to become an integration partner?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

What questions do you have? *

What is your hosting preference?

- ☐ AWS Hosting (Commercial)
- ☐ FedRAMP Authorized AWS GovCloud hosting (Federal and State Government)
- ☐ AWS EU Hosting (Commercial)

Which services are you interested in? *

- ☐ GovRAMP
- ☐ FedRAMP
- ☐ SOC 1-2-3
- ☐ CMMC, NIST 800-171 & 800-172
- ☐ NIST 800-53, SCA-V
- ☐ PCI DSS QSA & SAQ
- ☐ ISO 27001
- ☐ ISO 27017
- ☐ ISO 27018
- ☐ ISO 27701
- ☐ ISO 22301
- ☐ ISO 9001
- ☐ ISO 90003
- ☐ ISO 42001
- ☐ HIPAA NIST 800-66
- ☐ CJIS
- ☐ IRS 1075
- ☐ IRS 4812
- ☐ ACAB LA DMF
- ☐ FDA 21 CFR Part 11 GxP
- ☐ MARS-E
- ☐ NIST CSF
- ☐ CBFP, FFIEC, SEC, NFA & FINRA
- ☐ C5
- ☐ Privacy, CCPA, CPRA, PIPEDA, DPIA, LGPD
- ☐ Risk Management
- ☐ COSO SOX
- ☐ NERC CIP
- ☐ CIS
- ☐ MPA Content Security Best Practices (TPN)
- ☐ FTC SafeGuards
- ☐ CTPAT
- ☐ ITAR
- ☐ EUCS
- ☐ SSDF NIST 800-218
- ☐ Something not listed

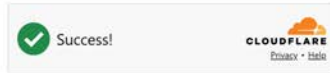
Which Governance & Policy subscription modules are you interested in? *

- ☐ GovRAMP
- ☐ FedRAMP
- ☐ SOC 1-2-3

- ☐ CMMC, NIST 800-171 & 800-172
- ☐ C5 ENS EUCS
- ☐ PCI DSS QSA & SAQ
- ☐ ISO
- ☐ HIPAA NIST 800-66
- ☐ Privacy, CCPA, CPRA, PIPEDA, DPIA, LGPD
- ☐ CJIS
- ☐ NIST 800-53
- ☐ NERC CIP
- ☐ SEC, NFA & FINRA
- ☐ Something not listed

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