

NIST SP 800-53 and SP 80053A, Revision 5: What's New and Looking Ahead



NIST Special Publication (SP) 800-53 Series at a Glance

SP 800-53 Revision 5, *Security and Privacy Controls for Information Systems and Organizations*

- Summary of changes in Revision 5

SP 800-53B, *Control Baselines for Information Systems and Organizations*

SP 800-53A Revision 5, *Assessing Security and Privacy Controls in Information Systems and Organizations*

- Summary of changes in Revision 5

Future Revisions of SP 800-53

SP 800-53 at a Glance



CATALOG OF
**SECURITY &
PRIVACY** CONTROLS



USED AS PART OF A
**RISK
MANAGEMENT**
PROCESS



APPLICABLE TO
ALL TYPES
OF SYSTEMS &
ORGANIZATIONS



6 REVISIONS SINCE
2005



INTERNATIONAL
USE AND IMPACT



AVAILABLE IN
**MULTIPLE DATA
FORMATS**



ASSESSMENT
PROCEDURES
SP 800-53A



CONTROL BASELINES
SP 800-53B



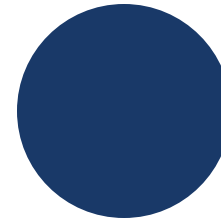
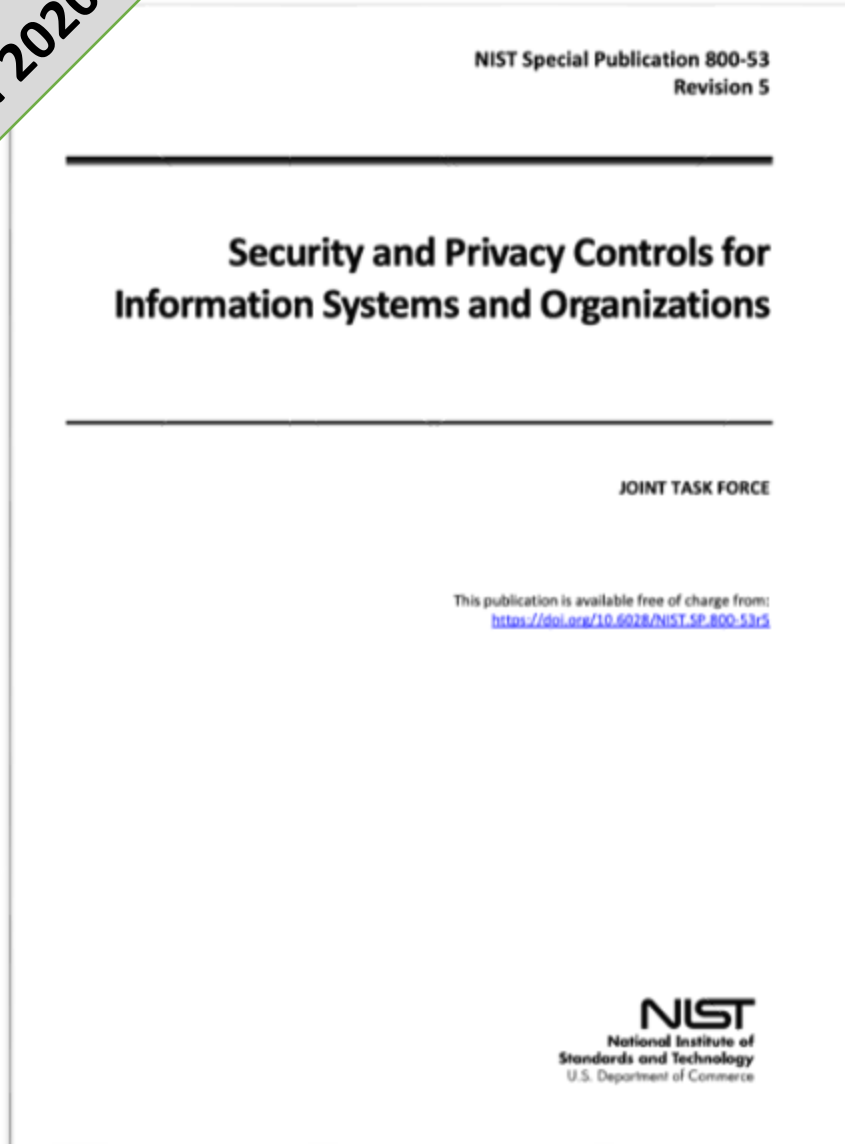
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NIST SP 800-53 Rev 5

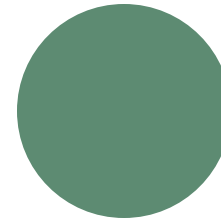
Security and Privacy Controls for Information Systems and Organizations



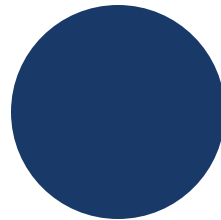
Published
September 2020



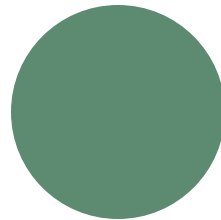
Catalog of **security and privacy controls** to protect organizational operations and assets from risk



Controls are **outcomes** that can be selected and implemented as part of an organization-wide process to manage risk



Controls are **applicable to any type of system**, including IoT, industrial control systems, communications & enterprise IT



SP 800-53 is part of a **suite of guidelines** to manage cybersecurity risk

Summary of Changes: SP 800-53 Rev 5



- Separation of **controls** from the **process**
- Controls are more **outcome-focused**



- Privacy and Supply Chain Risk Management controls added to the Program Management (PM) Family & incorporated into applicable controls throughout
- New Control Families: Personally Identifiable Information Processing and Transparency (PT) and Supply Chain Risk Management (SR)



- Control baselines, overlay & tailoring guidance **moved to SP 800-53B**
- Mappings and control keywords posted as **supplemental materials**



- Controls in spreadsheet format
- SP 800-53 control mappings to **Cybersecurity Framework, Privacy Framework, and ISO 27001**
- Collaboration template for security & privacy programs
- Analysis of **changes** between Rev 4 and Rev 5, Rev 4 and 800-53B

- Controls in **Open Security Control Assessment Language (OSCAL)**
 - Available in XML, JSON and YAML



Analysis of Changes Between Rev 4 & 5



Rev 5 Update	NIST SP 800-53 Rev 5 Controls	NIST SP 800-53B Control Baselines				More than editorial or administrative change? (Y/N)	Changed Elements	Change Details
AT-3	Role-Based Training	X	X	X	X	Y	Changes title Changes control text Adds parameter Changes discussion Adds to Privacy Control Baseline (SP 800-53B)	privacy incidents into training Adds parameter requiring role-based security and privacy training for personnel with specific roles and responsibilities Adds new control text with a parameter to update role-based training at a specific frequency Discussion adds examples of personnel to be trained as well as events that may precipitate an update to role-based training Incorporates role-based training elements of withdrawn App J control AR-5
AT-3(1)	Role-Based Training Environmental Controls					N	Changes discussion	Does not change intent
AT-3(2)	Role-Based Training Physical Security Controls					N	Changes discussion	Does not change intent
AT-3(3)	Role-Based Training Practical Exercises					Y	Adds control text Changes discussion	Adds privacy to control text, to imply training includes privacy, as well as security Discussion expanded to include examples of practical exercises for privacy
AT-3(4)	<i>Role-Based Training Suspicious Communications and Anomalous System Behavior</i>					Y	Withdrawn	Moved to AT-2(4)
AT-3(5)	Role-Based Training Processing Personally Identifiable Information	X				Y	New control enhancement Adds to Privacy Control Baseline (SP 800-53B)	Provide specific personnel or roles with initial and at a specific frequency training in the employment and operation of PII processing and transparency controls Incorporates training elements of withdrawn App J control UL-2
AT-4	Training Records	X	X	X	X	Y	Changes title Changes control text Changes discussion Adds to Privacy Control Baseline (SP 800-53B)	Title changed from 'Security Training Records' Adds privacy to control text, to imply training includes privacy, as well as security Discussion includes reference to NARA
AT-5	<i>Contacts With Security Groups and Associations</i>					N	N	Previously withdrawn in Rev4; Incorporated into PM-15

Thank you to MITRE Corporation & Director of National Intelligence for sharing a spreadsheet analysis of control changes

NIST SP 800-53B

Control Baselines for Information Systems & Organizations



Published
October 2020

3 security control baselines

- Low, Moderate, High Impact Levels
- *Minor updates between SP 800-53 Revision 4 and 800-53B*

Guidance on Tailoring Control Baselines and Developing Control Overlays

- Control candidates for downgrading
- Selecting compensating controls and supplementing baselines
- Reference to Security Control Overlay Repository online resource (<https://csrc.nist.gov/projects/risk-management/scor>)

New in SP 800-53B

Privacy Control Baseline

- Initial privacy control baseline to address **privacy requirements** and manage privacy risks from the **processing of PII based on privacy program responsibilities under OMB Circular A-130**
- **Independent of the security control baselines**

CONTROL NUMBER	CONTROL NAME CONTROL ENHANCEMENT NAME	PRIVACY CONTROL BASELINE	SECURITY CONTROL BASELINES		
			LOW	MOD	HIGH
PL-8	Security and Privacy Architectures	X		X	X
PL-8(1)	DEFENSE-IN-DEPTH				
PL-8(2)	SUPPLIER DIVERSITY				
PL-9	Central Management	X			
PL-10	Baseline Selection		X	X	X

SP 800-53A Rev 5

Assessing Security and Privacy Controls in Information Systems and Organizations



- Provides a methodology and set of customizable procedures for conducting assessments of security and privacy controls within an effective risk management framework.
- Includes information on building effective security and privacy assessment plans with a focus on analyzing assessment results.

SP 800-53 control assessments:



Determine overall effectiveness of implemented controls



Indication of quality of risk management process



Information about security & privacy strengths/weaknesses of the system/organization



Checklist for compliance



Simple pass/fail results



Paperwork exercise to pass inspections/audits

Summary of Changes: SP 800-53A Rev 5

- Updated assessment procedures to correspond with SP 800-53 Rev 5 controls
- First set of procedures for privacy controls
- Updated assessment procedure structure to:
 - Improve the efficiency of conducting control assessments
 - Provide better traceability between controls and assessment procedures
 - Better support the use of automated tools, continuous monitoring, and ongoing authorization programs
- Assessment procedures in PDF, CSV, spreadsheet, plain text, and OSCAL (XML, YAML, JSON) formats

Future Revisions of NIST SP 800-53



The screenshot shows the NIST CSRC website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the NIST logo, 'Information Technology Laboratory', 'COMPUTER SECURITY RESOURCE CENTER', and 'CSRC'. Below this, there are tabs for 'PROJECTS', 'NIST RISK MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK', and 'SP 800-53 CONTROLS'. The main content area is titled 'NIST Risk Management Framework RMF' and 'SP 800-53 Public Comments: Submit and View'. There are four sub-sections: 'Public Comment Home', 'More Information', 'User's Guide', and 'FAQ'. A table lists actions: 'New' (Suggest a new SP 800-53 control or control enhancement), 'Edit' (Suggest a change to an existing SP 800-53 control or control enhancement), 'Candidates' (View proposed changes to the SP 800-53 controls), and 'Awaiting' (View proposed changes awaiting release). Below the table, there is a search bar for 'Tracking Number' and a 'Find' button. A QR code is located on the left side of the page.



SP 800-53 controls, baselines, and assessment procedures* as a **machine-readable & web-based data set**



Suggest new controls, improve existing controls anytime.
Comment on draft controls and see feedback from others.



Receive status updates on your comments!



Preview planned changes in next revision.

<https://csrc.nist.gov/Projects/risk-management/sp800-53-controls/public-comments>



Risk Management Framework

<https://nist.gov/RMF>

RMF resources for implementers, controls & baselines search, 800-53 control downloads in multiple data formats, and 3-hour online intro to RMF course.



OSCAL on GitHub

<https://github.com/usnistgov/oscal-content>

OSCAL content for SP 800-53 controls (Rev 4, Rev 5, and draft baselines).

Available in XML, JSON, and YAML



NIST Computer Security Resource Center

<https://csrc.nist.gov>

NIST cybersecurity and privacy publications, project pages, events and other resources

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